

Commission for Aviation Regulation
3rd Floor Alexandra House
Earlsfort Terrace
Dublin 2

31 July 2014

Re: Response to Airports Charges Draft Decision Paper

Dear Commissioner

Tourism Ireland welcomes the opportunity to input into the Commission for Aviation Regulation Airports Charges Draft Decision Paper. The comments below focus on the areas relevant to Tourism Ireland's specific remit to grow overseas tourism revenue and visitor numbers to the island of Ireland.

- As an island, direct, convenient and competitive access services are critical to achieving tourism growth in terms of both visitor numbers and revenue, and there is a proven direct correlation between access to the island of Ireland and growth in visitor numbers.
- The removal of associated barriers e.g. high travel taxes, visa restrictions etc. and the development and promotion of unique advantages e.g. consistent pre-clearance facilities can add significantly to the attractiveness of Ireland as a destination.
- The collective approach between Tourism Ireland, airports and other stakeholders towards convincing airlines to restore and grow strategically important capacity for inbound tourism, as first identified in Tourism Ireland's Corporate Plan 2011-2013 and restated in the 2014 – 2016 edition, has proven to be successful and should continue.

Yours sincerely



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Chief Executive

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