## BLAKE STEPHENSON MP

Member of Parliament for Mid Bedfordshire



**Rt. Hon. Heidi Alexander MP** Secretary of State for Transport

Dear Heidi,

I trust this letter finds you well and I welcome you to your new role.

I am writing to express my disappointment at the announcement that the decision on whether to expand Luton Airport has been further delayed to April 2025. Luton Airport is in a nearby Bedfordshire constituency and supports the livelihoods and aspirations of many Mid Bedfordshire constituents. This announcement comes on the back of a previous delay in the Autumn and will cause further uncertainty for people throughout Bedfordshire.

Given the government's central mission to grow our economy, it is not clear why government has again kicked a decision on the expansion of Luton Airport further into the long grass. The expansion of the airport would bring new investment, provide jobs for people living in Mid Bedfordshire, and presumably play a supporting role in securing investment from Universal Studios into the UK.

Luton airport, investors, local businesses, and constituents need certainty - not least in the context of job losses expected to arise from Stellantis' decision to close its Luton operations – and I would be grateful if you could therefore confirm that a decision will be made promptly and at the very latest by the new deadline of April 2025.

Yours sincerely,

**Blake Stephenson MP** 

Member of Parliament for Mid Bedfordshire