

| Government News | Ministerial Announcements |
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| <p>28 May 2012 - Boris Johnson claims the government is tip-toeing back to third runway Boris Johnson accused the government of trying to kick a decision about a new airport into "the long grass" until past the next election while the coalition leadership tried to "appease their ideological environmental wing" of both parties. He stated, "They want to keep every ball in the air until past 2015. That's the strategy as far as I understand it." Mr Johnson has urged the government to discard the coalition agreement and consider expanding at Stansted or Gatwick as a 15 to 20 year interim solution ahead of any new airport built in the South East.</p> <p>1 June 2012 - British Airways Ltd demands EU 'reduce scope' of emissions trading British Airways Ltd (BA Ltd) has demanded the European Union restrict the emissions trading scheme (ETS) for airlines to European airspace to head off growing opposition from non EU-governments and carriers. BA Ltd head of environment Jonathon Counsell said: "There is a high risk of non-compliance and retaliation and we have to find a way through."</p> | <p>31 May 2012 - DfT - Passengers views sought on new rail franchise for London and the South Passengers across London, the South East, Sussex and the South Coast are being asked for their views to help shape a major new franchise for train services across their area, Rail Minister Theresa Villiers has announce. Theresa Villiers said: "This new franchise will be a key part of public transport in London and the South of England. Before we set the terms of the franchise and choose who will operate it, we want to hear a wide range of views on the services passengers want. "We are also seeking views on how to maximise the benefits of the Thameslink upgrade and how they should be shared between different communities along the line. "This consultation outlines a number of standards we expect any new operator to deliver as a matter of course, including improvements to stations, better ticket-buying facilities and passenger information and good levels of punctuality. But we also want passengers, and anyone else with an interest in improving the railways, to tell us about other ways in which they think services could be better." The combined franchise is due to start in September 2013 and run for a minimum of seven years. The consultation commences on 31 May 2012 and closes on 23 August 2012.</p> |
| SASIG 2012/13 Meeting Dates | House of Lords Questions |
| <p>Thursday 14 June 2012 The Aviation Minister, Theresa Villiers, shall be attending.</p> <p>Friday 9 November 2012 Friday 1 March 2013.</p> <p>Meetings are held between 11am and 1pm, at Local Government House, Smith Square, SW1P 3HZ, with lunch provided afterwards; location map.</p> | <p>Assessments made of night flights at Heathrow - Baroness Kramer, 28 May 2012</p> <p>Decreasing number of flight departures from London airports over the next five years - Lord Laird , 23 May 2012</p> |