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ABERDEEN
CITY COUNCIL

10 March 2010

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Sue Bruce

Membership of the Aberdeen Airport Consultative Committee

Thank you for your letter of 5 March.

I will inform the Council's Leadership Board of the Consultative Committee's decision and I will also bring to their attention the issues you raise regarding attendance at meetings.

Yours sincerely

SB **Sue Bruce**
Chief Executive

copy Roderick MacBeath, Head of Democratic Services

SUE BRUCE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



09 MAR 2010

*Aberdeen
Airport
Consultative
Committee*

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5 March 2010

Mrs Sue Bruce
Chief Executive
Aberdeen City Council
Town House
Broad Street
ABERDEEN AB10 1AQ

Dear Sue

MEMBERSHIP OF THE ABERDEEN AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

During the autumn last year, the Secretary to the Airport Consultative Committee received a request from the City Council, asking that we agree to increase the number of City Council members on the Committee from the current three to four.

The present constitution was approved before the introduction of multi-seat wards, and allowed for the City Council and Aberdeenshire Council each to have two seats, with the City in addition having one extra seat specifically for the councillor in whose ward the airport is located. We are given to understand that the Council is now seeking a fourth seat, following the change to multi-seat wards, so that all four members representing the ward in which the airport is located are able to be members of the Consultative Committee.

The Consultative Committee has previously explained that we see ourselves as representing the interests of the whole of the City and Shire – and beyond – and not the interests simply of the areas most adjacent to the airport and its operations. However, I am pleased to inform you that, at our meeting earlier today the Committee agreed to grant the request of the Council, that four seats should be available to the City Council. I therefore look forward to receiving the name of the additional representative.

I was asked, though, to express the concern of the Committee, through you, at the consistently low levels of attendance by the current City Council representatives, of whom Councillor Ron Clarke is the most frequent to attend. Whilst we appreciate that from time to time members may be unable to attend due to pressure of other business, the constitution of the Committee does allow for the appointment of substitutes. City Council members have used this device from time to time, but not on a regular basis. The outcome is that, today for example, there was no representative at elected member level from the City Council, despite the importance

of the airport to the economy of the City and the relationship which the two bodies should have in relation to economic development, transport policy, and planning and building control.

The Committee sincerely hopes that, especially with the granting of this request, the City Council will be more consistently represented, and that where a member is not able to attend, he or she will appoint a substitute.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Smart". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dr Peter Smart

CHAIRMAN

ABERDEEN AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE