



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Rachel Reeves MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
HM Treasury
The Correspondence & Enquiry unit
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

Our Ref: BC64621

11 November 2025

Dear Rachel,

Re: Taxing private jets

I am writing to raise the concerns of my constituents about the under-taxing of private jet flights.

I was pleased that last year's Budget included a commitment to increase the higher rate of Air Passenger Duty (APD) for private jet flights by 50% in 2026–27. However, I was shocked to learn that, even after the proposed increase, the higher rate of APD on private jet flights will still be just £142 for journeys up to 2,000 miles.

To put into perspective how insignificant this is, even short journeys by private jet can cost tens of thousands of pounds, while longer flights can cost £20,000 per hour. This means the tax rate on these flights is incredibly low.

In addition, most private jet passengers are not paying the higher rate of APD. Only around a quarter of private jets carry passengers paying the highest rate of APD, while three quarters of private jet passengers pay the same APD as premium economy passengers or pay no APD at all.

This allows for the possibility that someone driving to work pays more tax on their journey than a billionaire does for a private jet flight. This is both unfair and represents a serious loss of potential revenue that could be funding the public services our constituents depend on.

The upcoming Budget offers the perfect opportunity to correct this. There are several mechanisms the Treasury could consider, including:

- A much larger increase to the higher rate of APD for private jet flights;
- Closing the loophole that allows the majority of private jets to pay no APD at all;
- A new super-high APD band for the most polluting aircraft; and
- The introduction of a high rate of kerosene tax on private jet fuel.

Together, these measures could raise significant additional revenue while sending a clear message that the UK is serious about fiscal responsibility, fairness and tackling

emissions. By ensuring that the wealthiest individuals and the most polluting sectors pay their fair contribution, we could help cut emissions, reduce inequality, and raise vital revenue for our public services.

For the benefit of my constituents, the country and the public services we rely upon, I urge you to include a fair, effective tax on private jet flights in the upcoming Budget, and to end the tax exemptions that allow the most polluting and wealthiest travellers to pay so little or nothing at all.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bambos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bambos Charalambous MP