



BritishAmericanBusiness

Finsgate, 5-7 Cranwood Street, London, EC1V 9EE
Tel: 020 7290 9888
52 Vanderbilt Avenue 20th Floor, New York, NY 10017
Main line: 212 661 4060 Fax: 212 661 4074
Website: www.babinc.org

**The Right Honourable Boris Johnson
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
10 Downing Street
London
SW1 2AA**

2nd April 2021

Letter to the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from the leadership of BritishAmerican Business regarding the safe restart of transatlantic travel

Dear Prime Minister,

On behalf of the member companies of BritishAmerican Business (BAB), which represent a significant portion of transatlantic trade and investment, we are writing to ask for your support in reopening safe air travel between the UK and the U.S. as quickly as possible, leveraging the significant progress both countries have made in their fight to control COVID-19 and vaccinate their populations.

The UK and the U.S. are two of the world's greatest trading nations, and air travel is a vital ingredient in ensuring this source of prosperity for both countries. Estimates of the economic losses for both countries from the continued closure of the air corridor are staggering and will translate into job losses beyond the aviation and hospitality sectors which have already been devastated.

The impact is felt most severely by small- and medium-sized businesses that do not have extensive teams in the other market. These companies rely heavily on traveling to see their customers and their suppliers, and are most likely to delay or cancel investment if they are unable to visit in person.

Both countries have done a remarkable job in getting their populations vaccinated and now have the chance to lead the world again in demonstrating how safely to re-open a crucial air corridor. While business fully understands the need for any re-opening to be safe and not increase the rate of infection in either country, we encourage you to evaluate the feasibility of updating the quarantine requirements on American citizens entering the UK and ideally removing these restrictions. We have similarly encouraged the U.S. President to re-evaluate the ban on UK citizens from visiting the U.S. The aviation industry, and the broader travel and hospitality sector, are ready to work with your team to ensure robust and evidence-based measures are implemented before, during and after transit.

No two countries are better positioned to prove that trade matters and that the world will not be beaten by this pandemic. To do so, we must safely re-open the UK-U.S. corridor to business travellers as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

<p>Duncan Edwards, CEO BritishAmerican Business</p> 	<p>Bob Garrett, Chair of the Board New York Office Managing Partner, KPMG LLP</p> 
<p>Anna Marrs, Co-Chair of Advisory Board President, Global Commercial Services, American Express</p> 	<p>Dan Glaser, Co-Chair of Advisory Board President & CEO, Marsh McLennan</p> 

CC:

The Right Honourable Grant Shapps MP, Secretary of State for Transport of the United Kingdom