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## **CALL FOR EVIDENCE ON AIRSIDE LICENSING AT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS IN ENGLAND AND WALES**

I am writing to inform you that the Government has published a Call for Evidence on the issue of drunk and disorderly airline passengers at international airports in England in Wales. The Call for Evidence is now publicly available on [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk).

The Government has launched the Call for Evidence following the House of Lords Select Committee on the Licensing Act 2003 (“the Act”) recommendation that the exemptions from the Act that apply to 24 international airports in England and Wales be revoked.

The Call for Evidence will ensure that all relevant parties affected by the proposed extension of the Act have a prior say on the advantages and disadvantages of the Committee’s recommendation. This approach will also enable the Government to identify the true scale of the problem, examine the effectiveness of the present statutory powers and various industry led measures in tackling the problem, understand potential economic and administrative implications of the recommendation and to what extent, if any, the Act in its current form would help reduce the problem of drunk and disorderly airline passengers. The findings of the Call for Evidence will be published next year.

The Government is also taking a wider look at how the issue of disruptive airline passenger behavior could be managed during the development of the new UK Aviation Strategy.

I would like to thank the Select Committee for bringing this important issue to the Government's attention.

I am placing a copy of this letter in the Library of the House.

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Victoria Atkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Victoria Atkins MP**  
**Minister for Crime, Safeguarding and Vulnerability**  
**Minister for Women**