

E: Colin.Cook@gov.scot

Richard Leonard
Public Audit Committee
Room T3.60
The Scottish Parliament
EDINBURGH
EH99 1SP

17 December 2025

Dear Mr Leonard,

Publication of the Economic Impact Assessment of Glasgow Prestwick Airport

As you are aware, Scottish Ministers have recently undertaken a market testing exercise in relation to Glasgow Prestwick Airport.

As part of this wider work, the Strategic Commercial Assets Division worked with commercial advisers PwC to estimate the economic impact of Glasgow Prestwick Airport. This followed a commitment to the Public Audit Committee to carry out an independent review of the Economic Impact of the airport to both the local and Scottish economy.

This work has confirmed Glasgow Prestwick Airport's role as a vital national and regional aviation and economic asset. Some key highlights of the report include:

- Significant socio-economic benefits from core aviation activities, generating £26.6m GVA and 524 FTE jobs
- Secondary benefits generated by activities hosted on the site and in close proximity to it which add £161.4m–£230m GVA
- Wider impacts including tourism and apprenticeships contributing £65.4m–£65.8m GVA and an estimated 1,830 jobs.

The airport also fosters regional development via its Aerospace Cluster and strategic diversification into cargo, specialist handling, and tenant growth.

We decided not to publish the report whilst the sales process was ongoing, but now that the process has concluded, I am pleased to confirm that the report has now been published. A link is provided below:

[Glasgow Prestwick Airport: economic impact assessment - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/economic-impact-assessment-of-glasgow-prestwick-airport/pages/1-2-introduction-to-the-report/)

I hope that the Public Audit Committee find the report useful and would, of course, be more than happy to explore any of the issues raised in greater detail.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colin Cook', followed by a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line that extends to the right.

Colin Cook
Director of Economic Development