

## **Ben Smith**

Director

**Aviation, Department for Transport (DfT), United Kingdom**

Ben has recently been appointed as Interim Director of Aviation at the Department for Transport. He leads the Department's interaction with airlines and international relations in respect of aviation, including on covid recovery. His other responsibilities include the Department's policy on aviation decarbonisation, consumers, aviation security, safety and general aviation.

Prior to this role, Ben was the Department's 'place' lead and oversaw the Department's relationship with local and regional transport authorities across the UK.

He joined the Department for Transport in 2002 and has spent most of his career working on a range of transport policy areas including rail, EU policy and the early stages of the Crossrail project and spent time as Private Secretary to the Secretary of State for Transport.



Between 2008 and 2015 he led on a range of aviation policies including the Civil Aviation Act 2012, regional airport policy and the Government's response to the Airports Commission's 2015 report. He returned to the Department for Transport in March 2018 from the Ministry of Justice where he was leading the Ministry's response to the EU Referendum.