

# The BA Former Staff Liaison Council Report

## Spring 2014

by Chris Walker

### Vacancies on the BA Former Staff Liaison Council

The Council has 4 vacancies for membership to serve until June 2017.

Candidates should have a strong desire to help their former BA colleagues. All Former Staff, and Current Staff who have a leaving date, are eligible to stand for selection.

The Council meets 4 times a year at the Concorde Club. It represents the 48,000+ former staff of BA.

To apply, please email the Selection Administrator at the Council for an application form and a copy of our constitution. The address is

Liaison.1.council@ba.com

Your application must be proposed and seconded by two other former (or current) BA employees and all three of you must sign the completed application form.

Preferably e-mail your completed application form to us, or post it to the address below, so that you can get an acknowledgement.

The closing date for application is 10 May 2014, with a further week allowed for completed and fully signed paper forms to reach us, by post, at the address supplied with the form.

The interview panel will be held at the Concorde Centre on 4 June 2014.

More information about the Council can be found on the BA Touchdown website ([www.ba-touchdown.com](http://www.ba-touchdown.com)) and in the FAQs.

### Last Council meeting, March 20<sup>th</sup> 2014

### The BA CLUBS Hotline project

This is intended mainly for those who will lose their staff travel on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014. When you lose your staff travel and thus your Former/Retired staff intranet log-in, a new way of accessing the Hotline system will be available through and managed by BA Clubs. Access will be via the BA CLUBS website and is available for use now.

Over 27,000 letters have been posted by BA Clubs to introduce retired and former staff losing their travel concessions to this BA CLUBS Hotline system.

BA Pensions currently do not hold up to date addresses for some 6,000 former staff on deferred pensions who would have to have served a minimum of 10 years to qualify for Hotline. If you think you are one of those people and do not receive a letter within the next couple of weeks, please make contact with BA Clubs either by

email: [enquiries@baclubs.com](mailto:enquiries@baclubs.com) or telephone on 0208 - 513 2000.

The new web address is <http://www.hotline-baclubs.co.uk>

Please register on the above site to join the programme. An annual subscription to use this service will cost £30. In the first 2 days over 200 'signed up'.

If you are unsure when your staff travel eligibility comes to an end log in to <https://my.baplc.com> (staff Travel Website). In the ESS (home page) page under “News for former staff” view my travel eligibility end date on ConcessionsOnline. This will be of interest to the many retirees who have not seen this website entry before.

**Hotline Advice:** A Hotline ticket is a full commercial ticket. If a problem occurs to your planned service when using it, do NOT mention ‘Hotline/Staff Tickets’ to any staff – you should be treated as any other commercial passenger.

## Former Staff Re-union Day

The 5<sup>th</sup> Former Staff Reunion will take place on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2014. Doors open at 11.30am. A hot buffet lunch will be served at 12.30pm with complimentary tea & coffee. Tickets will be £12.50 and are available from BA Clubs Reception on 0208 – 513 2000 or by e-mail to [batouchdown@baclubs.com](mailto:batouchdown@baclubs.com)

## Private Healthcare Schemes

Xafinity (healthcare consulting company) briefed the Council about this year’s negotiations with BUPA for 2014/2015 and the private medical insurance market in general.

In case any retirees in the BA group BUPA scheme are not sure of its value, the total discount to ‘open market’ BUPA rates is just under 50%.

## Westbase (WB) car park at LHR

The WB parking facility is being used by Former Staff and is doing well, indeed all 20 available ‘passes’ are being used.

As you might expect this facility depends entirely on ‘users’ returning their passes to the Touchdown offices promptly, so that other staff travellers can use them. The Touchdown Team administer and issue these passes on our behalf and full information is on the Touchdown website. - [www.ba-touchdown.com](http://www.ba-touchdown.com)

## ARPB

If you are interested in rebate travel after losing your BA staff travel concessions then you might want to check out ARPB (Airline Retirees Pass Bureau) or one of a number of other sites offering cheap tickets. For further information you should visit their website <http://www.airlineretirees.com>

Please note that the Liaison Council has no connection to ARPB, nor can we accept any responsibility for them, so anybody contacting them directly does so at their own risk and under ARPB terms & conditions. It is also worth mentioning that while a number of airlines seem to be making reduced tickets available to retirees, the BA deal mentioned on the ARPB website is a commercial deal not available to BA retirees who are better served by the BA Hotline offer.

You can e-mail the Council at - [liaison.1.council@ba.com](mailto:liaison.1.council@ba.com)

or write to us at:-

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BA Clubs, Concorde Centre,  
Crane Lodge Road, Cranford,  
Middlesex. TW5 9PG