

Conservative MSP criticises independence 'obsession'

Lothian MSP Gordon Lindhurst says the SNP must not let their independence obsession affect any plans to boost Scotland's exports.

The Scottish Conservative and Unionist MSP, who is his party's spokesman on trade, highlighted the Scottish Government's new trading plan aims to grow Scotland's exports by a quarter, is set against the backdrop of the SNP desire for another independence referendum.

He also stressed again the need to support Edinburgh Airport's expansion into further international markets, following the recent decision to cancel plans for a cut in air departure tax.

Commenting Gordon Lindhurst MSP said: "There is a certain irony in the SNP planning to boost Scotland's exports, while at the same pressing ahead with their independence dream.

"While the recent trading plan from the SNP Government was welcome, we must see a focus to seize the opportunities in many new markets in the coming years, rather than creating the uncertainty of a further discussion on independence.

"The recent decision to U-Turn on a cut in air departure tax, while important in tackling climate change, was simply reactionary and left our airports including Edinburgh in the dark.

"There has to be a clear sense of leadership when it comes to boosting exports, rather than the air of uncertainty the SNP

have created at the moment, with further legislation on independence."