

From: neil kuhl [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 January 2019 20:14
To: Manston Airport
Subject: MANSTON Airport DCO application

Hi, I would like firstly to say Thank You for allowing me to have a voice over MANSTON and that I believe MANSTON should undoubtedly be reopened as an airport.

The reason for my belief is as follows.

We moved to Thanet from London 10 years ago now and loved watching the planes from our house in Westgate-On-Sea and never once were we bothered by any noise related to the aircraft over head. We took our children to watch our first Kent Air Show at Margate (for which MANSTON was used as their base) when my son was 9. Just as I was he was mesmerized by the craft and especially the Red Arrows, it was at this point he decided he wanted to join the RAF as a pilot. Dreams of a child we believed but he went on to join the Air Cadets at Manston and earned a flying scholarship with TG Aviation. He is now a Cadet Warrant Officer (the highest rank he can achieve), and is aiming to get his PPL this year with TG even though they had to move to Lydd when Manston closed.

He is due to sign up for the RAF later this year being 18 now (showing how strong an affect Manston had on him)

I believe strongly that had it not been for Manston his path may have been very different.

There are many youngsters who have joined the Air Cadets in Thanet due to Manston and it's multi use ie military, cargo, passenger and private craft.

However since Manston has closed there has been quite a dramatic reduction in New cadets joining, although I have no factual evidence to support this both 2433 and 438 Squadrons believe this to be the case.

I believe that reopening Manston as an airport WILL bring many opportunities for people young and the more mature of Thanet, be it as jobs or education. I strongly believe that it will bring monetary value to an area that is suffering badly from lack of investment.

As an area we are crying out for airport expansions such as Gatwick and Heathrow yet we have a perfectly viable solution in an airport ready and waiting to take the strain of cargo from them, freeing up slots that are desperately needed there.

It is a clear and simple solution but that is in your hands and I pray that you will grant the DCO application presented to you.

Thank You again for allowing me my voice.

Yours Sincerely

Neil Kuhl.
[REDACTED]

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