From: Church, Alan WM (DFRMO-DFTDC-Inst14)

To: <u>Manston Airport</u>

Subject: Re-Opening of Manston Airport.

Date: 05 February 2019 11:59:30

Hi – I have only been in Thanet for the last 10 years but moved here fully aware that there was a fully operational airport capable of accommodating most types of aircraft. I have raised my family in this area for the last 10 years and was hugely disappointed when sell the airport on for development. Heathrow and Gatwick airports constantly talk of overcrowded airspace and further runway development possibilities yet there is a solution to most of their issues here at Manston. The re-opening of the airport for freight and some passenger flights can only help boost the local economy and increase the number of associated jobs that a freight hub could bring. The development of Thanet Parkway rail station also seems to go hand in hand with the re-opening of freight from the area. The last thing that Thanet needs is more houses, severely impacting on the local infrastructure that is already stretched at present. Houses would only bring in commuters from a more prosperous area, whereas the airport could make this area more prosperous. We need to look to make the area a place where our children can realistically look to remain when they seek employment, rather than being forced to commute elsewhere for work. Making Thanet a commuter belt for the Medway towns and the Capital will just cause house prices to rise out of the range of those who would wish to live and work in the area. Those residents that are of the Not In My Back Yard stance should remember that there has been aircraft flying out of Manston for over 100 years and all moved here or were bought up here knowing that fact.

Regards

AD Church

AD Church ADI GIFireE | Watch Manager | Instructor Defence Fire Training & Development Centre Manston | Ramsgate | Kent | CT12 5BS MIL: 95236 6243 Civ: 01843 823351 Extn 6243

DFRMO-DFTDC-Inst14 (Church, Alan WM)

Alan.Church699@mod.gov.uk