

From: [REDACTED]
To: ManstonAirport@pins.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: TR020002 : Manston Airport : Deadline 3 : My Reference 20013545
Date: 13 February 2019 22:14:44

My Reference : 20013545

Dear Sirs,

Please find below my submission in support of the Reopening and Regeneration of Manston Airport. I do hope this will be acceptable in this form. Many thanks.

Submission in support of the return and regeneration of Manston Airport

The Local Need

I should like to see Manston Airport open for business, for cargo and later passenger travel as soon as possible. This area is crying out for employment and investment. Thanet needs Manston Airport, properly developed with huge investment and the skilled and well-paid jobs and education opportunities that go along with such a project and which are so badly needed in Thanet.

Good links with Educational establishments locally and also skilled training which would be available, will be a positive and welcomed investment in the young people of Thanet particularly.

In the Azimuth report, Volume 4, Section 6, the issue of investing in skills / education and skills shortages is addressed. The programme proposed by the regeneration of a re-opened Manston Airport would enable, especially, younger people to advance employment prospects and see themselves in the workplace instead of being just another number on the unemployment list. If Education and Training which included Engineering, Technical and Professional training and also "business-focused PhD, masters, undergraduate and commercial research projects to support local companies." were to be incorporated into local Further and Higher Education facilities, this would benefit the whole county of Kent and not just the local area. East Kent College and Canterbury Christ Church University have sites and campuses all around the county of Kent, including Medway.

Through various published works and particularly in the intense research that has taken place, particularly in RiverOak Strategic Partners' submission reports, it has been shown that a cargo and later passenger airport at Manston has huge potential for success. The report states that upwards of 20,000 jobs could be created in the future; in a region of high unemployment and deprivation

.RSP predict the following at Manston Airport: Table 4 : Forecast job creation & Table 5
Estimated job creation : by the Manston airport operator by function

Year	Freight Tonnage	Passenger Numbers	Jobs by RiverOak	Direct Jobs	Total Jobs
Y5	173,741	686,672	697	2,150	15,266
Y10	212,351	975,591	761	2,749	19,517
Y20	340,758	1,407,753	1024	3,419	23,215

APP-085 RiverOak Strategic Partners Ltd. 7.4 Azimuth Report:

“Regeneration of the area Airports attract business. Inflow of new businesses brings money to the area which in turn encourages improvement. RiverOak will be investing nearly £0.5 billion in infrastructure in Thanet and East Kent, which will have an immense effect, even before the additional money from jobs. The people of Thanet are eagerly awaiting this regeneration of the Isle.85% or more of them support Manston returning for Aviation”

“Education & Training The key step to also making the aviation and related jobs accessible to the

people of East Kent and Thanet, is education and training. SMAa (Save Manston Airport association) and KNMA (Kent Needs Manston Airport) are extremely pleased that RiverOak have a very pro-active approach to employing local people where possible, and to that end, putting in place relevant education and training. SMAa & KNMA members have used their local knowledge and contacts to facilitate this process, and are spreading the news of these possibilities to the people of Thanet.”

(The above statement: **Regeneration of the Area**, and **Education and Training** was Researched and produced by the SaveManston Airport association(SMAa)-<http://bit.ly/SMAa-Info-Kit> and Kent Needs Manston Airport (KNMA) -<https://www.facebook.com/KentNeedsManstonAirport>)

Unemployment numbers in Thanet are much higher than all the surrounding areas and the county of Kent overall.

In April 2018 these were the following figures:

Unemployed number : 3,790 compared to 1,495 in Canterbury, 2,155 in Dover, 1,615 in Shepway and Overall 18,265 in Kent

Unemployment 18 – 24 : 6.9% : compared with 1.3% in Canterbury, 5.4% in Dover, 4.0% in Shepway and 3.1% in Kent overall

Area of land in hectares : for Thanet is 11,071 : compared to Canterbury : 32,079, Dover: 32,046, Shepway: 36,050 and the whole of Kent: 362,236 This means that Thanet has the highest unemployment in these areas on the smallest size of land. Source: **ONS**

The National Need

A cargo airport at Manston would relieve pressure on both Heathrow, Gatwick Airports. This will be particularly essential after Brexit when we will need extra cargo capacity to forge our links with the rest of the world.

The need for cargo movement can only go up over the coming years. Even if a new runway were to be added to Gatwick or Heathrow, this would not be operational in the foreseeable future and a regenerated Cargo Airport at Manston could help ease the capacity requirement

The loss of this airport has affected not only Thanet but it has affected people in Kent in general. To get to Heathrow, Gatwick, Luton or Stansted Airports, travellers from East Kent contribute to much additional pollution which is added on this time-consuming journey. The level of pollution is such an issue all over the country, it cannot be right for this level to just rise and rise on these roads as the years go by. An airport at Manston would ease the increased pollution caused by the additional traffic on the Heathrow/Gatwick/Luton/Stansted Airport motorways/roads.

I, and many of my family and friends, used to use the old Kent International Airport to fly to a variety of destinations. Anyone in this area has to travel to Gatwick or Heathrow and one only has to do this trip a few times to realise that the motorway system up to and around these airports is at absolute breaking point. An airport back in Thanet would ease congestion on the approaches to all these other airports. The infrastructure is already in place, with good dual carriageways and motorways from the area

The Local plans purports to “Support the sustainable development and regeneration of Manston Airport to enable it to function as a local regional airport” In a recent vote, the overwhelming majority of Thanet District Council voted to keep Manston as an airport

I maintain that the return of aviation to Manston can only be a positive and forward-looking decision and one that should be taken with all speed for the good of the people of Thanet and also the rest of the country.

Lesley Robertson,
13th February, 2019

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