

Please ask for: Iain Livingstone  
Direct Line: 01843 577140  
Date:15/02/19



Dear Mr MacDonald,

### **Application by RiverOak Strategic Partners to upgrade and reopen Manston Airport**

#### **Formal Written Representation of Thanet District Council**

This letter forms the written representations of Thanet District Council as the host authority for the Application for a Development Consent Order for the upgrade and reopening of Manston Airport. The Council is separately submitting a Local Impact Review (LIR) as a technical document setting out an evidence based assessment of the impacts of the proposal on the communities affected. This written representation will set out the current administration's view on the application.

The future of the Manston Airport site has been a hugely divisive issue within the district for a number of years. As outlined in the Council's relevant representation, Thanet District Council has made significant efforts to support a functioning aviation use on the site, and the administration strongly supports the use of the site for aviation. We recognise the extensive work carried out by the applicant in producing the application that has been accepted by the Planning Inspectorate for examination.

The development of Manston Airport will bring direct and indirect employment to the local area and we welcome the potential local training opportunities that the project would bring. We will work with the applicant to secure these through a legal obligation under Section 106 of the Planning Act.

It is important for the proposal to provide the required infrastructure to support the full extent of the masterplan for the site, whilst coordinating with the Thanet Transport Strategy which supports the new Thanet Local Plan deposited with the Planning Inspectorate. This includes the provision of the Manston to Haine road link within the northern section of the site, required for the road network to support both the development of the site and the Local Plan until 2031.

A functioning cargo airport will cause an impact on the living conditions of some residents in the district and it is vital that the project provides adequate mitigation to those most affected by aircraft noise. The Council will analyse the mitigation proposed by the applicant within our LIR.

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The Council has not allocated the Airport site in the deposited Local Plan to ensure that the current process is not prejudiced. The proposal to reopen the airport is supported by the current administration of the Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a written representation for the project under consideration.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Bob Bayford  
Leader of the Council  
**Thanet District Council**