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Councillor Keith Morris
Leader of the Council

Direct Line: (01304) 872090
Our Ref: AN/KM/DJD
Date: 15 February 2019

Dear Richard

RE: Application by RiverOak Strategic Partners for an Order Granting Development Consent for the upgrade and reopening of Manston Airport – *Written Representation*

Thank you for notifying Dover District Council (DDC) of the acceptance of the application for Development Consent Order regarding the proposed upgrade and re-opening of Manston Airport. The District Council has set out below its position in respect of the reopening of Manston Airport project:

Principle of the Proposed Development

DDC welcomes and offers its full support to RiverOak Strategic Partners' (RSP) proposal to re-open Manston Airport as an operational freight-focused airport and recognises the positive contribution it would make to the regeneration of the East Kent economy, as well as the UK's aviation economy.

The proposed development is supportive of the following motion passed by the District Council in July 2014 in relation to the former Manston Airport site:

"The Council supports the campaign to retain Manston as an operational airport, recognising the role and place it can have in the UK aviation industry, making better use of regional capacity in accordance with the views of the South East Local Enterprise Partnership, while making a significant contribution as on the strategic priorities for regeneration of the East Kent area."

Maximising the potential of East Kent's location as a gateway to continental Europe and its fast links to London, as well as a significant economic sub-region is essential in providing a strong platform for growth and responding effectively to the implications of a post-Brexit environment.

The location of the proposed development site to Discovery Park and Kent County Council's (KCC) proposed Thanet Parkway Railway Station at Cliffsend, combined with commitments in investing in key infrastructure (e.g. strategic network improvements), will offer the opportunity to further enhance domestic and international connectivity and attract inward investment to East Kent. The District Council wishes to work closely with the Applicant in maximising the economic potential of the proposed development for the Dover District, its businesses and residents, in particular to help support innovation, productivity and skills development across the wider east Kent sub-region.

Technical Matters:

Economy	<p>The District Council supports the Applicant's commitment to work closely with local councils to help to promote job opportunities for local people and wishes to build on this to ensure that the development of skills is supported to help deliver East Kent priorities.</p> <p>Since the commencement of the examination process, further engagement has been undertaken regarding the scope of work anticipated to ensure that the economic benefits of the proposed development for East Kent can be realised.</p> <p>With regard to the forecast generation of 2,655 jobs and 30,000 jobs by years 2 and 20 respectively, DDC notes the submission of the Employment Land and Housing Technical Report (Document 7.2: Planning Statement) and would welcome the opportunity to work closely with the Applicant and the relevant neighbouring authorities in assessing the implications of project employment growth on development requirements for East Kent.</p> <p>Matters regarding the socio-economic benefits of the proposed development on the local economy and wider East Kent economy are set out in the draft Statement of Common Ground between DDC and RSP submitted at Deadline 3.</p>
Traffic & Transportation	<p>DDC relies on the expertise of KCC – as Local Highway Authority – in assessing the impacts of the proposed development on the strategic highway network and the identification of associated mitigation measures.</p>
Landscape	<p>The District Council concurs with the proposed sensitivity assessment for Landscape Character Areas within its administrative boundary as set out in the Environmental Statement (Document 5.2-2).</p> <p>With regard to the height of structures proposed as part of the development proposal (e.g. new Air Traffic Control facilities at 27m, cargo facilities at 20m and aircraft recycling hangars at 23m), DDC wishes to further engage with the Applicant as the DCO process advances to assess the landscape and visual impact of the proposals and alternatives from receptors located in the Dover District and to identify any mitigation measures, where required.</p> <p>To date, there has been no further correspondence on this matter beyond the formal consultation process, as set out in the draft Statement of Common Ground between DDC and RSP submitted at Deadline 3.</p>
Noise	<p>Adverse noise effects have been identified in 5 locations including West Stourmouth (located in the Dover District) where noise would increase to a point where there would be a perceived change in quality of life.</p> <p>Matters regarding noise impacts of the proposed development on the Dover District are set out in the draft Statement of Common Ground between DDC and RSP submitted at Deadline 3.</p>
Ecology	<p>DDC relies on the expertise of KCC Ecology, Natural England and the Environment Agency in assessing the ecological impacts of the proposed development on designated sites.</p>
Heritage	<p>DDC relies on the expertise of Historic England and KCC Heritage Conservation to assess the potential impact of the proposed development on the historic environment.</p>

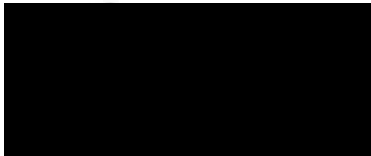
Planning Performance Agreement

Since the commencement of the examination process, the District Council, Thanet District Council and Canterbury City Council have finalised a Planning Performance Agreement with RSP to ensure joint working and optimal outputs throughout the DCO process.

I trust that you find all of the above comments useful and the District Council very much looks forward to continue to be fully involved in the plans by RSP to reopen Manston as a fully operational airport.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further clarifications at this point.

Yours sincerely



Keith Morris
Leader of the Council