

From: [REDACTED]
To: ManstonAirport@pins.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: DCO Manston Cargo Airport
Date: 15 February 2019 18:40:27

Deadline 3

Dear sirs

This is my submission.

It is my belief that RSP's proposal for a mainly cargo airport is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project because the need for more freight outlets will be naturally increasing when we leave the European single market. The existing runway at Manston is ideally suited for such exports due to its very close proximity to Europe, and quicker routes to the Middle East, Africa and Asia. The emphasis on perishable goods for same day delivery from the countries of origin, makes perfect sense for the markets in London and the South East. Also, high end tech products rely on quick delivery and this is critical in our Just In Time world, as has been stressed by business during the Brexit negotiations. Air transport can provide this service.

It is also my opinion that the airport will provide an increase in tourism, as a quick and reliable inlet for visitors to access local amenities as well as not just London, but also the many tourist attractions of the South East such as Canterbury Cathedral, Leeds Castle and beyond.

However, the need for this airport is also a selfish one. This area in East Kent has been starved of inward investment for many years, in fact all my life and I am 67 years of age. An over-reliance on seasonal tourism has kept local wages low and this means that most people have to work away from the area to get meaningful work, as I did for most of my working life, which put a strain on my family life.

The scope of this Manston development will create a wide variety of jobs, both technical, engineering, manual and services, and RSP's consultations with educational establishments to create suitable training courses has been very well received. The current unemployment rate in Thanet is one of the highest in the country, which means the young are currently being starved of opportunity. The development of Manston Airport will be a game-changer for this region.

Thank you for listening to me

Michael Redmond [REDACTED]

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