

From: [REDACTED]
To: manstonairport@pins.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: Objection to Manston Airport
Date: 15 February 2019 07:54:26

Good morning,

I am a resident of Broadstairs and am therefore extremely concerned about the proposed development at Manston. I have a number of objections to an air freight hub:

1. The organisation pursuing this compulsory land purchase have no strong or credible evidence with regards to immediate nor sustainable funds. Indeed the dubious credit history and failed previous businesses of participants cannot be ignored. In addition the proposal provides no detailed evidence of a need for air freight - there is no evidence of a strong and sustainable client base.
2. There have been many claims that a cargo air hub will bring jobs and economic benefits to Thanet. These claims have no detailed supporting evidence and I have to ask whether other options for the land wouldn't actually be more economically beneficial. Surely Thanet should be playing to its strengths of tourism and attractive housing, both of which will provide much needed and sustainable wealth. A cargo hub will negatively affect tourism - nobody wants to sit on a beach with cargo planes flying overhead nor with roads clogged with freight lorries. Many users of the airport will be transient so their wealth will not be used to boost local funds, rather to benefit individual owners of the airport who, according to public record, do not live locally. If alternative options for the land such as housing were considered, simple economic principles will increase share of wealth, boost local shops and services and increase numbers of local tax payers.
3. The roads around the airport will need developing in order to allow for the inevitable increased heavy lorries needed to transport cargo to and from the airport which is situated between a number of villages. The roads are difficult to negotiate in a car, therefore they will be impossible for heavy freight to use. Who will pay for this? Income from the airport cannot possibly cover the cost. Will funding therefore come from local taxpayers who will subsequently see no financial benefit from a privately owned airport?
4. I have previously lived near the flight path of a relatively small airport. Planes flew between all day, stopping at 12pm until 4am and the noise pollution was intolerable. As I suffer from multiple sclerosis, sleep and a stress free life is very important. I can tell you from personal experience that people will leave Thanet once flights commence, taking with them their much needed wealth. These beautiful seaside towns and villages will become run down and deserted while the private owners of the airport will be the sole beneficiaries.

On these simple economic grounds I ask that this request is rejected.

Kind regards,
Catherine Gardiner

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

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