



We are members of a small community which include a number of listed buildings and our properties lie between 250 to 800 metres south of the Manston runway. Having attended some of last weeks hearings, we would like to add the following comments on noise.

In RSP's documentation the comments on some of our houses were that "Modern background noise is likely to be limited and asset may be sensitive to changes in background noise." We live on a no-through road, so have little traffic and the dominant noise in our gardens is that of birdsong. Therefore, with a very low background noise, any increase has a much larger effect than in a busy urban environment. Listed buildings are not able to have double glazing installed (although in theory secondary glazing is possible) and according to RSP's information some of our houses lie within the 60db noise contour, and all within the 54db contour. The £10,000 for sound insulation for the closest properties we do not believe would not cover the full cost, and we remain sceptical as to the effectiveness of the insulation. We also feel that even with no night flights, our sleep would be severely impaired with a window only from 11.00pm to 6.00am. This does not take account either of young children who would go to sleep much earlier.

A Cargo Hub Airport would blight people's lives, damage house prices and put businesses and tourists off the area. Numerous studies have found that people who live near airports suffer more from respiratory and cardiac problems due to air pollution. Noise also causes stress and hypertension, particularly at night. Research has also shown significant effects on children's cognitive levels as well as an increase in dementia in the elderly.

Reports have shown that aircraft noise levels of 60 dB in the daytime and 45 dB(A) at night are associated with an increased incidence of hypertension. Also exposure to 50 dB in the daytime can affect learning in schoolchildren. Even RSP have made clear that "aircraft noise would increase to a point where there would be a perceived change in the quality of life for occupants of buildings in these communities". The blight of a nearby Cargo Hub airport dramatically transforming the character of our hamlet, house prices would be bound to fall. Even as uncertainty hovers over the project, homeowners in the area who are attempting to sell their properties are already experiencing difficulty in attracting buyers.

We therefore urge PINs to reject this Proposal on the grounds that it is not viable, and if implemented would blight this tranquil area.