

Written Representation

Laura Marks

Noise Specific Hearing Friday 22nd March 2019

To me, noise seems like the Cinderella of the law. To the lay-person it is inaccessible and worrying. There is no legislation we can meaningfully engage with. However, we don't need acoustic science to know that a flight over my head this low would be catastrophic to my health and wellbeing.

This proposed level of noise will ruin Ramsgate.

For ten years I lived ten miles as the crow flies from Heathrow airport, directly under the landing flight path in Putney. Every day, every 90 seconds from 5am to 11pm a plane went over my house. Every morning without fail, I was woken up at 5 am, whether I wanted to wake up or not, that's what time the planes start coming in. Often they'd stray in even earlier. Even being 10 miles from the airport generated a compromise in my sleep levels and I was glad when I moved away.

Fast forward a number of years and here I am enjoying being a part of the Thanet regeneration, and enjoying being a part of my new home community in Ramsgate, a beautiful area on the slow climb upwards in commercial regeneration. A commercial and tourist growth we can correlate with the closure of the airport. I have found the noise mitigation documentation of this application a little like trying to navigate a house on sand, with ever moving content and an impenetrable number of technical legalistic replies far from plain English. Night flights, no night flights, quotas, no quotas. We residents are living this experience and it's hugely worrying.

I still can't see from the application whether you think I live under a flight path but as I live opposite Chatham & Clarendon school I know I do. We should have a list of every street impacted as TDC has repeatedly asked. You should be telling people of this noise threat to their existence. It is also not reasonable to suggest because schools haven't come forward with concerns that they are not concerned. It is the responsibility of the applicant to make contact.

This airport noise would ruin our town and ruin our health and ruin our recovering economy. For anyone in support of the airport to think it's a good thing for people to wave at the pilots overhead and to receive a wave back seems hugely concerning to me.

I object to all flights that low over our town. Night flights. Day flights. Any flights. This application has no evidence of need, no evidence of viability and every ounce of evidence that a routine flight that low every 10 minutes is simply out of the question.

I feel that to propose this level of noise injury to our town is a gross insult to Ramsgate. There are real people and real lives at stake here. We need help. We need protection.