

**WRITTEN SUBMISSION REGARDING ROGER GALE MP'S
WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT**

TO PINS BY CHRISTABEL BRADLEY

(ref: 20014727)

Deadline 5: 29 March 2019

It is imperative and urgent to draw PINS' attention to the written question to the Department of Transport on 27 March 2019 by Roger Gale, MP for North Thanet.

The following is taken from Hansard's record for that day.

Roger Gale, Conservative, North Thanet:

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport if he will confirm the commitment given by his Department to reinstate Manston Airport following the cessation of the use of that airfield as a potential lorry park after the UK leaves the EU.

Jesse Norman Minister of State (Department for Transport) replied:

The Town and Country Planning (Manston Airport) Special Development Order 2019 came into force on 24 January 2019, updating the SDO from 2015, and extends planning permission for the use of Manston as an emergency lorry holding facility until 31 December 2020.

S.5(2) of the Order states that the land must be restored to its condition before the date of the Order coming into force, prior to the Order expiring on 31 December 2020. The Department will do this.

The following questions must be answered:

1 What is the 'commitment' to which he refers?

2 If a 'commitment' has already been made by the Department to 'reinstate Manston Airport', why is there a DCO under current investigation?

3 If there is an existing 'commitment', why have PINS and the local people not been told about it?

4 How is it possible to 'reinstate' an airport that ceased to exist in 2015?