From:
To: Manston Airport
Subject: The ongoing question
Date: 13 May 2019 14:22:57

Dear sir/madam.

I find myself submitting pretty much the same question in respect of the Manston airport application every time a round of responses is published.

I've been through the published accounts of each of the Riveroak companies. Many of them are described as dormant companies. The only one where any significant sum of money seems to have been processed is Riveroak Operations Limited. In the previous round of questioning you asked that up to date accounts for this company be provided by the 3rd May deadline. This wasn't done.

The applicants are making claims that they have spent millions of pounds on this application but the accounts of their companies do not yet bear this out. Moreover, they have not provided a proper explanation for the ultimate source of this money. Initially, they cited the source as a company called M.I.O. Investments in Belize. Now, they have changed this to a company in the British Virgin Islands.

It's all very confusing but I still can't see where the money which they claims to have spent on this project has come from. It must have come from somewhere. There isn't a magic money tree, is there?

The money spent to date pales into insignificance compared to the money which the applicants claim to have available to deliver the project. The ultimate source of these funds is as unclear as the source of the money spent to date.

I appreciate that the Planning Inspectorate has been asking questions about the funding throughout the process. However, it is my perception that every time you ask for clarity another layer of complexity emerges. These are questions for you. What is the point of the deadlines in your process? Does it make a blind bit of difference if the applicant fails to meet the deadlines which you set? Does it matter to you where this money is coming from or whether it really exists? Does the lack of clarity about funding make any difference whatsoever to this application? If the Secretary of State is making the ultimate decision, can he not just ignore where the money is coming from and rubber-stamp it anyway?

Kind Regards,

**Peter Binding**