

To: PINS, Manston Airport  
From: Unrepresented Thanet Residents Against a cargo-hub

Dear Sirs,

As your examination into the DCO on the disused airfield at Manston nears its conclusion, I would like to remind you that the group 'Unrepresented Thanet Residents Against a cargo-hub' continues to fear that a large-scale freight operation at Manston would have an extremely negative impact, not only on the 40,000 people who live close to the flight path in Ramsgate, but to many others in Thanet and beyond, especially Herne bay. RSP's own documentation states it would have a 'significant adverse effect' on the town (of Ramsgate).

In the face of such a threat to their way of life, the natural first point of contact for extremely concerned residents would be their MP. Yet both Thanet MPs remain steadfast in their support for RSP's DCO application, despite the alarm bells that have rung ever more loudly throughout RSP's DCO campaign.

These alarm bells include, but are not limited to:

- \* RSP's lack of adequate consultation process, with many residents under the flight path receiving no notification, and inaccessible, obscure documentation.
- \* RSP's failure to present adequate environmental assessment, noise mitigation and financial compensation.
- \* RSP's continued failure to provide transparency over their finances and what they truly propose regarding night flights.

### **Are our MPs listening to what's going on?**

The proposal to subject the town of Ramsgate, with its excellent climate, beaches, schools, historic harbour, splendid architecture and steadily growing economy, to the noise and pollution of an industrial-scale cargo airport is the most serious issue facing the area, yet our MPs have been conspicuous by their absence at DCO hearings, although they seem to show up at specifically pro-airport gatherings providing encouragement and support for the few who wish to see this application succeed. Do our MPs actually have any detailed knowledge of what is going on? If so, who is briefing them?

When contacted by constituents their replies fail to address the deep worries, specific and general, expressed by the people they represent in Parliament. Their support for RSP appears to be undiminished despite the poor quality of the DCO application and RSP's inadequate responses to the examiner's questions.

We have read RSP's documentation and listened to its responses during the DCO process and found nothing to persuade us that our quality of life is of any great concern to RSP. We have to suppose - as evidenced by their support for this plan - that our parliamentary representatives share a similar lack of concern.

Many of us remember the noise and air pollution by day and night when the airport was open for commercial operations and we are horribly aware that the current proposals are on a completely different scale to those relatively infrequent flights. One of our members thinks that the number of flights RSP proposes would potentially be greater in one 24-hour period than previously experienced in one year.

The UK has never been more aware of the dangers of air pollution and we are concerned about the consequences of inhaling particulates, along with increased stress level and lack of sleep associated with life near an airport.

Thank you.