

Self-employed against Manston Cargo Hub

We are a community group made up of independent professionals and the self-employed.

We are concerned about the risks to the sustainability and growth of the self-employed and independent professional sector in and around Ramsgate due to the proposal by RSP to build an entirely unnecessary cargo hub at Manston.

The facts as we see them:

Many in our group are people operating within local, national and international business environments. We are surprised and concerned that the diligence, accountability and ethical standards that govern our everyday working practises are simply not being adhered to or understood by the applicant, for example:

1. There is no evidence of funding to make the scheme viable
2. We have searched through many documents but cannot find a credible business plan
3. The proposal is built on a flawed report (Azimuth), widely criticised by credible and well respected aviation experts
4. Worst case scenario planning, that would be totally normal practice in any well run and socially responsible organisation, it is entirely lacking in this proposal
5. The case for an NSIP and associated DCO has simply not been made

None of this would concern us if:

1. There wasn't a significant risk to our environment
2. Our health and well being weren't going to be totally ruined by toxic aviation waste, the worst environmentally damaging particulates and noise pollution (40,000 population in Ramsgate alone subject to corporate negligence on an industrial scale)
3. People's fundamental human rights were protected
4. Our future work and investment in jobs and industry weren't going to be decimated
5. Our children's well-being and education weren't so easily dismissed by the applicant

As we have mentioned before, if the DCO were to be successful and the cargo hub went ahead, the growth in tourism and self-employed workers coming to the area would go into sharp decline. The economic impact would be a disaster and would turn Ramsgate in particular, into a zombie town.

We sincerely hope that common sense thinking will prevail.

Regards,

Jonathan Bradley.

For and behalf of the self-employed against Manston Cargo Hub