

The Rt Hon Grant Shapps
 The Secretary of State for Transport
 Department for Transport
 Zone 1/18 Great Minister House
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BY EMAIL:

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26th January 2020

Dear Sir

Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

Application by RiverOak Strategic Partners Limited (“the Applicant”) for an Order granting Development Consent for the reopening and development of Manston Airport in Kent.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

Unilateral Undertakings

Q3. ‘the acceptability and adequacy of the Applicant’s contribution of £139,000 per year for affected schools for 20 years to mitigate and minimise the noise effect on schools.’

I wish to argue that the sum of money aforementioned will do little to remedy the disruption to lessons from frequent large, noisy freight aircraft flying overhead during the school day. I have researched the number of schools directly affected by the flight path arriving and leaving from Manston; I list them below:

School	Pupil Nos*
SMALL HAVEN SCHOOL (SEN)	36
CHILTON PRIMARY	414
NEWINGTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY	702
CHRISTCHURCH C OF E JUNIOR	255
PRIORY INFANT SCHOOL	180
ELLINGTON INFANT SCHOOL	238
ST LAURENCE-IN-THANET JUNIOR	246
RAMSGATE ARTS PRIMARY	217
DAME JANET PRIMARY ACADEMY	465
MINSTER C OF E PRIMARY	420
MONKTON C OF E PRIMARY	102
HERNE BAY JUNIOR	470
HAMPTON PRIMARY	693
RECVLVER C OF E PRIMARY	467
ST NICHOLAS AT WADE PRIMARY	205
LALEHAM GAP (SEN)	200

CHATHAM HOUSE & CLARENDEN GRAMMAR	1451
THE ROYAL HARBOUR ACADEMY	837
HERNE BAY HIGH	1564
LITTLE SCARECROWS NURSERY	25
MINSTER DAY NURSERY	83
ST BARTS AT SMILES NURSERY	28
MOTHER GOOSE NURSERY	62
EXPLORERS NURSERY	61
FLEDGLINGS NURSERY	104
GROWING TOGETHER NURSERY	73
MONKTON UNDER FIVES NURSERY	15
THE GRANGE MONTESSORI NURSERY	180
GOLDFINCH NURSERY	86
BELTINGE DAY NURSERY	34
ABC PRE SCHOOL	21
31 affected schools	9934 total

*Pupil numbers taken from most recent OFSTED reports.

The sum of money proposed by the applicant may help with providing some noise-reducing glazing etc but as the money is proposed over a 20-year period, many of the schools will not receive any assistance in the short term. Some may have to wait until the full period is almost up before receiving any help – small comfort for those generations of children whose education will be severely affected by the daily disruption to their lessons.

The proposed sum of money does not address the noise experienced during outside lessons such as Sports, Forest School and other outdoor pursuits. Summer Sports Days will be ruined by the deafening sound every few minutes. Children are encouraged to enjoy breaktimes by running around outside and socialise but how will they want to do so with these planes constantly flying overhead and conversation stifled? I have not mentioned the increase in air pollution in this letter, but this is also a very real concern for the children, and indeed for anyone living in close proximity along the flight path.

And what of sleep deprivation? Many of the children (and staff) live close by their designated school and will be certainly affected during their bedtimes. The applicant states that their daytime flying hours will be from 6:00-23:00. The NHS** recommend that children should get the following hours of uninterrupted sleep:

- 3 years 11-12 hours
- 4 years 11.5 hours
- 5 years 11 hours
- 6 years 10.75 hours
- 7 years 10.5 hours
- 8 years 10.25 hours
- 9 years 10 hours
- 10 years 9.75 hours
- 11 years 9.5 hours
- 12 years 9.25 hours
- 13 years 9.25 hours
- 14 years 9 hours
- 15 years 9 hours
- 16 years 9 hours

** (Data taken from <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/sleep-and-tiredness/how-much-sleep-do-kids-need/>)

As these results show, the 7 hour 'quiet window' does not allow enough time for the children affected to recharge for full health benefits. The money proposed by the applicant does not address these very real problems.

Taking the above information into account, I urge you to reject the application.

Yours faithfully

Lizbeth Langston

