



21/6/21



For the attention of the Manston Airport Case Team

Good Morning,

I am writing in support of my case to re-open and re-develop Manston Airport and have set out my views below.

1. The reopening of Manston is a matter of national importance. The recent problems experienced by UK imports due to Brexit, Covid and vaccine supplies demonstrate the need to reduce reliance on transport by sea, particularly via roll on/roll off ferries using ports on the Kent coast. The need for air freight to the UK will increase due to post Brexit global trade deals and Manston will add much needed capacity. This may also help to remove cargo from Heathrow, reducing the need for a third runway with all the related problems in the London area.
2. Manston has excellent road links with the rest of the UK, unlike Heathrow or Gatwick, much of these not requiring lengthy distances on the M25. These links will be enhanced if the planned extra Dartford crossing goes ahead. Whilst these links are important for cargo, the resumption of passenger flights from Manston will allow travellers to reach the airport by road without long journeys on M25. There are also excellent passenger rail links and the high speed rail means it is quicker to travel to Manston from many parts of London than by Underground to Heathrow.
3. Thanet and East Kent are relatively deprived areas and the development of Manston will bring £100millions of infrastructure investment, high quality employment and the education and training to support these roles.
4. The re-building of Manston from the current base has the massive advantage of allowing the development to be as green as possible, both in the building and in its operation. The developers plan to make extensive use of solar, electrical and hydrogen power. In their submissions to re-open the airport, the developers have stated that there will be no night flights and use will be made of the latest quiet and clean planes.

Yours sincerely,

David Lister