

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Manston Airport](#)
Subject: Attention of the Manston Airport case team
Date: 21 June 2021 20:56:56

Dear Sir/Madam,

Manston airfield/ airport has existed for over 100 years, it has played an important part in both World Wars and has supported the civilian community throughout.

I feel the time is right to re-activate the site with an up-to-date modern international airport that will be environment friendly and be of major importance to our national economy and I therefore support the plans of Riveroak Statagic Partners.

The pandemic has shown that there is a huge need to bring in much needed medical supplies quickly and Manston could play a major part in that should the need arise again. Moreover, with existing airfreight hubs under extreme pressure to handle such cargoes Manston could well play a vital part in the supply chain.

Airfreight movements have increased considerably over the last 18 months which has exposed the lack of slots and airspace around the UK, developing Manston would relieve that pressure and provide rapid access to major populations centres across the UK. It occupies a unique position on the edge of the country where its long runway could accommodate the largest of quiet cargo aircraft coupled with the latest cargo handling machinery to provide a first-class cargo facility. With the UK now out of the European Union and trade deals being struck with countries further afield it has become even more important to ship goods in and out of the UK by air to avoid the delays at congested seaports.

Eventually there will be a need for passenger services again and with the population of South East England expanding at a huge rate, Manston will be well placed to offer services to European hubs and to the wider world. It has excellent road access from London and can be reached within 90 minutes of most parts of Kent/Essex and Sussex. In addition to cargo and passenger services I understand that facilities to recycle older aircraft are planned for the site. With the advent of electric aircraft and more economical and quiet craft, the need to dispose of the older models will become even more important and add to the current limited number of such facilities available across the country.

Of course, with a modern airport there will be the provision of much need quality jobs and apprenticeships for the local area which currently has limited opportunities. In addition to direct jobs provided by the airport there will be many indirect jobs and businesses created to support it, I feel that the economic benefits to Thanet and East Kent should not be overlooked.

It would be a national tragedy to allow this historically and strategically important site to be used for low quality housing for a population with no jobs and therefore I sincerely hope that the Inspectorate will do its due diligence and grant the DCO to allow the plans of RSP to be realised.

Yours faithfully

Peter Davenport

