

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Manston Airport](#)
Subject: For the attention of the Manston Airport Case Team
Date: 25 June 2021 11:44:38

As Nethercourt residents living 1.75km from the end of the runway we would be particularly affected by plans for a 24/7 cargo hub at Manston with planes at approx. 135m almost directly overhead.

RSP plans are far larger than any previous airport at the site and with many more flights both day and night.

Ramsgate (Nethercourt) starts at 1.3km from the runway, not 4km stated by RSP. New houses are planned even closer at 1km. There is no Public Safety Zone in RSP's plans. Our homes and indeed our lives could be at serious risk from this development in the event of an accident.

Having experienced previous flights we know it is impossible to hold a conversation (even indoors) or watch TV when planes go over. We would be unable to open windows due to noise, woken from sleep, unable to enjoy being outside in our gardens. Elderly people and children would be the most badly affected.

We were told at the consultations that there would be NO night flights, but the application allows for late arrivals with no cap on numbers or hours.

We would be badly affected by noise (day and night) pollution (especially particulates etc) vortices and vibrations as there is no option to alter flight paths to avoid our area or indeed the whole of Ramsgate. Site construction and trucking of goods / fuel will also increase pollution at a time when the UK government has acknowledged that we are in a global climate emergency.

Many studies prove that aircraft noise significantly impairs health, including a statistically significant association between exposure to aircraft noise and risk of hospitalisation for cardiovascular disease, particularly among older people living near airports of which Thanet has a higher than average population.

Children living under flight paths have been shown to have deficits in long-term memory and reading comprehension and there are many schools under the flightpath at least 3 at approx. 2.5km. Lessons would have to stop when planes went over further disrupting children's education already badly affected by Covid.

Having experienced previous operations at Manston we know that effects have been underestimated due to methods of modelling used.

The residents of Ramsgate relied on PINS to thoroughly investigate RSP not only regarding the points detailed above but also the speculative nature of this application, their poor business case, lack of funding transparency, dubious economic viability (3 previous failures) no track record of aviation experience except insolvency, numerous reports concluding Manston is too far from London to succeed, contradictory numbers of flights quoted, lack of fuel pipeline and effects on wildlife. More jobs would be lost than created as employment figures have been vastly overstated. It would negatively affect Ramsgate's Heritage areas, parks, beaches and the currently expanding tourism industry to list just a few others. It is not only a Ramsgate problem, these detrimental effects would also be felt in other areas that would be overflown by the planes.

As a result of Covid, aviation is in dire straits and unlikely to recover short term so who would want to invest in such a risky new venture that multiple experts say will fail?

There is a new government target to reduce CO2 by 78% by 2035 compared to 1990 levels. This has been made law this month. Aviation needs to be reduced not expanded if there is any likelihood of this target being met.

RSP describe the airport as being "green" but this fails to take pollution from the planes into account which is plainly absurd as they are the main culprits. Electric planes and eco fuels are not realistic in the short to medium term and freight tends to be shipped on older more polluting planes that have reached the end of their lifespan as passenger vehicles and it would be many years before there would be any reduction in the amount of particulates etc that we would be exposed to.

Surely it cannot be right that the DCO inspectors spent a considerable amount of time assessing the impacts both for and against the scheme using documents from RSP and local residents (who have invested a great deal of time / effort and their own money on research) and overwhelmingly concluded that there are many reasons that the application should be refused including the fact that there is enough existing capacity elsewhere, only to be overruled by the SOS for Transport.

As lifelong residents of Ramsgate we are fully prepared to further support the Judicial Review should this ill-conceived venture be given the go ahead against all the evidence, and we are far from alone in that respect. If increasing pollution is allowed to continue climate, change will go beyond the point of recovery and the lives of everyone on the planet will be affected. The Government has pledged to reduce it, now is the time to step up and make the only sensible decision on airport expansion.

NO TO MANSTON AIRPORT.

Mrs Susan Holton



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