

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Manston Airport](#)  
**Subject:** For the attention of the Manston Airport Case Team  
**Date:** 29 June 2021 18:21:37

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Dear Sir

Manston Airport's proximity to Europe make it the ideal airport for both outgoing and incoming freight movements. Brexit and the Covid 19 pandemic have highlighted a major problem with freight crossing the English Channel at Dover. Not only did France demonstrate this in December last year but there have been numerous episodes of strikes over several years on the French side which has meant Operation Stack on the M20 for days at a time. There exists potential problems of temporary closure to the Port of Dover and the potential for future blockades. This would be a major problem for perishable goods. Dedicated freighters flying in and out of Manston would bypass all these problems plus freight movement would be overall quicker by air.

Leaving the EU has enabled the UK government to make trade deals with other countries and Manston would be well placed for both imports and exports from all over the world.

Manston would provide much needed jobs for Thanet and as always it would have a knock-on effect for other aviation based companies in the south east. Removing freight from passenger aircraft landing at Gatwick to Manston would be beneficial insomuch that jobs would be created here and we have excellent road links to motorways.

Modern freight aircraft are quieter and it has already been noted that, unless there is an emergency no night flights would take place.

Although I am retired I was born in Ramsgate and have lived most of my life in Broadstairs, so I have witnessed the unhappy employment decline in Thanet. I am 73 years young and remember the American B52 Bombers at Manston and when they flew over your house the windows rattled!! Freighters are very different today and I would happily welcome the return of a working airport offering employment, not just handlers but admin staff, professional pilots and the various members of staff required to keep the airport functioning.

Please heed genuine concern to open Manston Airport, Rover Oak would not still be here fighting their corner if they did not think they could operate a viable operation. There are people who have moved into this area for various reasons including those that have sold and made a substantial profit on their homes enabling them to buy with little or no mortgage or for their retirement and they have no idea of our aviation history and appear not to be prepared to understand the need for much needed regular, substantial employment for all working age people.

I personally do not have access to public funds to fight this corner but I am genuinely concerned that those who 'shout the loudest' drown out those who do not have, shall we say monetary backing.

Thanet needs Manston Airport!

Kind regards

Christine M Philpott (Mrs)