

From: 
To: [Manston Airport](#)
Subject: Manston Airport
Date: 29 June 2021 18:26:26

Dear Sir

I am writing to you on behalf of myself and the RAF Manston History Museum for whom I am a director.

The RAF Manston History museum fully supports the reopening of Manston airport for the following reasons..

The museum has seen a 30% decrease in visitor numbers since the closure of Manston airport in 2014, despite the decrease in visitor numbers we are still one of the top 2 tourist attractions in Thanet, the other being the Hurricane and Spitfire Museum.

With the help of Riveroak (who have very generously donated a large amount of money to the museum) we have been able to use the closure of the museum due to the Covid pandemic to completely renovate and expand the museum.

Manston 2748 meter runway is ready and waiting to be used and it ideally positioned being outside London's busy airspace.

The reopening of Manston will provide much needed employment in the Thanet area,

Thanet has an unemployment rate of 9.4% - the highest in Kent. Well above the Kent average of 5.67%.

Thanet has the highest unemployment rate of 14.9% amongst 18-24year olds in Kent. - well above the national average.

Thanet has the highest unemployment rate of 10.6% amongst 25-49 year olds in Kent.

Thanet has the highest unemployment rate of 6.7% amongst 50-64 year olds in Kent.

The Covid pandemic and brexit has shown the need for additional cargo slots which a redeveloped, reopened Manston could provide.

As an ex assistant air traffic controller at Manston I was able to see first hand Manston's potential being under utilised for years, airlines were turned away without reason, investment in everything from staff to ground handling equipment was next to none and poor business decisions were the norm, with the right business plan and investment Manston could become a world class cargo hub.

The vast majority of local people fully support the reopening of Manston.

Yours Faithfully

Adam Cowell