

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Manston Airport](#)  
**Subject:** Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010  
**Date:** 04 July 2021 11:39:00

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**For the attention of the Manston Airport Case Team**

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Dear Sirs

I have written previously concerning the above and again feel concerned enough to stress the importance of reopening Manston Airport.

I have lived in and around the Isle of Thanet for most of my long life and have seen its gradual decline with sadness. The notion of the 'affluent South East' does not apply to this corner of England and it will continue to decline without massive investment in the very near future.

That is why the reopening of Manston Airport is so important. Housing is understandably a prerequisite of any urban area of England but, and it is a big but, communities must be sustained by employment for housing to be needed.

The employment opportunities realised with the reopening of Manston Airport would not only be with the initial building and development involved but would introduce long term employment in all areas of a busy freight airport. The advent of Covid-19, together with Brexit, has vastly altered the world of freight and cargo operations and here is the greatest opportunity to bring employment and opportunity to an almost forgotten corner of our great country.

Manston Airport is situated in a singularly important position geographically to encourage and exploit all imports and exports throughout the UK and the world. The unfounded suggestions of night flights and complaints of supposed aircraft noise and pollution are none starters as we are all aware of the noise generated during WW11 and nobody complained about our glorious RAF. Similarly, when the airport was operating as a commercial airport many of those today who complain were very happy to make use of the quick and relatively cheap flights abroad. Also, it is extremely important to understand that today's cargo and freight planes are completely different in terms of noise and air pollution to those of even 20 years ago.

I am speaking as a layperson obviously, with the future of the Isle of Thanet and surrounding areas at heart. I have read about the technicalities surrounding the proposed reopening and must leave that to the experts to define.

I hope the Secretary of State will look at this clearly and positively and look to the future of airfreight which will continue to rapidly expand. I hope and pray he does not miss this opportunity.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Jan Hirst  
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