

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Manston Airport](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: For the Attention of the Manston Airport Case Team  
**Date:** 08 July 2021 13:48:05

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Unique Reference MANS-S57441

Dear Sir or Madam

I'm writing in again to oppose RSP's plans to re-open Manston Airport as a Cargo Hub.

I find the decision taken by the government Transport Minister Andrew Stephenson to approve this farce of a DCO utterly shameful! I don't understand how Andrew Stephenson can clearly disregard his own government's Examining Authority findings, and I find it completely unbelievable that he made this statement 'That there is a clear case of need for the development which existing airports would not bring about to the same extent or at all'. What does Andrew Stephenson know that the Examining Authority doesn't? The ExA have spent 2 years examining the plans by RSP, they have written a 1097 page report of their findings but this seems to have been completely ignored by Andrew Stephenson - who seemingly knows better!

A few of the ExA conclusions (taken from their in depth report) :-

Recommends that the SoS should not grant development consent.

Applicant has failed to demonstrate sufficient need for the Proposed Development.

That there are impacts of the Proposed Development in terms of air quality.

That there are impacts of the Proposed Development in

terms of biodiversity.

That there are impacts of the Proposed Development in terms of climate change which way against making the proposed order.

That there are impacts of the Proposed Development in terms of heritage and archaeological assets.

That there are impacts of the Proposed Development in terms of noise, operational, socio-economic, transport and water quality impacts.

Recommends that the proposed development would have an adverse effect on tourism in Ramsgate.

That noise is a matter which weighs against giving Development Consent.

Around 20% less jobs than what RSP forecast.

That the proposed interference with the Human Rights of individuals is not justified in the public interest and the degree of interference would not be proportionate.

Has had regard to the HRA1998 and consider that the interference with rights is not proportionate and in the public interest.

No need for airport others can easily handle RSP Proposals.

Therefore, that on balance the benefits of this proposal would not outweigh its impacts.

The Transport and Infrastructure Unit stated in June 2021 'The Secretary of State has now appointed an Independent aviation assessor to advise him on matters relating to the need for the Development and to produce a report summarising those findings'. Surely the new independent aviation assessor's findings will be the same as the government's own ExA findings, seeing as the ExA was made up of 4 very qualified people, and if these qualified inspectors have got the Manston Development outcome wrong, then one would have to ask what other DCO's have they reached poor decisions on, and why are they working for the government?

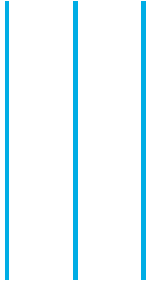
We recently held the G7 in Cornwall, where we made very bold statements to the world that we would be leaders in climate change. Granting this development goes clearly

against the government's own statements. Why should thousands of peoples' health be put at risk from breathing in harmful emissions, noise, sleep deprivation (which can lead to heart disease and hypertension) to name but a few. RSP can make all the claims in the world when saying that their development will be so green. Maybe on the ground it will be green, but 17,000 old freighters a year, flying in from 6am to 11pm certainly will not be green!

I understand that Thanet needs jobs, but the volume of jobs that will be created at Manston will be lost from other airports, the ferry industry, and from tourism, so realistically there is no job creation. If you cycle around the coast of Thanet you would see how beautiful our coast line and beaches are. This is Thanet's greatest asset. If only the government could see this and inject some money into the area, it would thrive again. We need to fly less in this country to help with climate change. We need to be thinking about the environmental impact of stag/hen parties, weekend breaks etc to foreign countries for a few days away. We should be encouraging people to come to Thanet's beaches, spending their money within the UK to boost our economy and to help save the environment from dirty emissions that come with all types of aeroplanes, something highlighted by the reduction in CO2 emitted during the Covid pandemic.

I listened to Thanet North MP Roger Gale on BBC Kent the other morning, and he seemed to be trying to scare people into supporting this cargo hub. He said words to the effect that if we don't support it the site will be used for housing as an overflow for the London boroughs. It is absolutely disgusting that a MP can speak such untruths to the people of Thanet, but unfortunately there are many people that believe this man! Andrew Stephenson and the government should be putting the health and well-being of their people and the environment first before a dirty cargo hub proposal from RSP, which the ExA has clearly stated is not needed anywhere in this country, especially given the current environmental and climate crises. How does building a new airport and adding increased traffic volume onto Kent's already busy roads help with the Carbon Budget Legislation?

Do the right thing for your people and the environment and refuse this ludicrous development proposal once and for all.



Yours faithfully

Suzanne Horne