

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Manston Airport](#)  
**Subject:** For the Attention of the Manston Airport Case Team  
**Date:** 09 July 2021 15:25:57  
**Attachments:** [Thames-Estuary-Growth-Board\\_logo-header\\_white\\_cb0f0662-295b-4b53-b879-bb9033e75f16.png](#)  
[linkedin\\_logo\\_f838e3bd-567f-4708-a3cb-026c680c6fa2.png](#)  
[twitter\\_logo\\_8d1271e5-0310-42d3-9042-bd2432399c4c.png](#)  
[Homes-England-Were-in-a-Good-Place-banner\\_dbbf696e-e8d8-41a4-bbac-274cdd32cbe5.png](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP  
Secretary of State for Transport  
Manston Airport Case Team  
c/o Planning Inspectorate  
National Infrastructure Planning  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Temple Quay  
Bristol BS1 6PN

By email: [manstonairport@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:manstonairport@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

Dear Secretary of State,

**Re-determination of the Application by RiverOak Strategic Partners Limited (“the Applicant”) for an Order granting Development Consent for the reopening and development of Manston Airport in Kent**

We are pleased to respond to the Statement of Matters consultation on the proposals for Manston Airport in Kent as published on 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. In particular, we believe it important to respond to your request to indicate “any other matters arising since 9 July 2019” which may be relevant.

The Thames Estuary Growth Board was established by Government in 2019 through the [Secretary of State’s response](#) to the [Thames Estuary 2050 Growth Commission](#) chaired by Sir John Armit. Reaching from Central London to the Essex and Kent coasts, the Thames Estuary includes Manston Airport.

Sir John’s report set out that by 2050 the Thames Estuary will generate an additional £190 billion Gross Value Added and 1.3 million new jobs, with at least 1 million new homes delivered to support this growth. The Thames Estuary Growth Board was created to oversee the delivery of this vision and to champion the Thames Estuary with key stakeholders. An independent Estuary Envoy was appointed to chair the Board in November 2019.

In its ambition to drive economic growth, the Thames Estuary Growth Board published its [Green Blue Action Plan](#) in June 2020. This is being delivered through a series of workstreams with progress closely monitored by the Board and by Government.

Recognising the opportunities presented by the work of the Growth Board, RSPManston has participated in consultations on Thames Estuary workstreams aligned with their ambitions. These include the development of Hydrogen and Digital investment strategies for the Estuary and our studies on both Infrastructure Planning and the potential of delivering a modal shift of freight from roads to river, linked also to our support for the Thames Freeport.

In supporting economic growth, opportunity and levelling-up within the Estuary, we look forward to a speedy decision to remove existing uncertainty and deliver new investment.

With best wishes.

Yours faithfully,

Kate Willard.

**Kate Willard OBE**

Thames Estuary Envoy and Chair

**Thames Estuary Growth Board**



[ThamesEstuary.org.uk](https://www.thamesestuary.org.uk)

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