

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Manston Airport](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Response
Date: 09 July 2021 20:24:46

Dear Sir or Madam

I am going to keep this brief, I am a resident of Ramsgate and also an elected District and Parish Councillor representing the ward of Central Harbour in Ramsgate, stood as a Green Party candidate on an anti-Manston airport mandate. I moved here in 2010 when the airport was already in trouble, in fact it has never been viable, it is simply in the wrong place and as PINS found prior to Covid there was 'no evidenced need'. I therefore find it absolutely 'mind boggling' that we are still here, still considering the reopening of an airport that has failed on so many occasions.

As a ex-teacher I am certainly no aviation expert but the facts are plain for all to see, so I will speak in simple terms but with a common sense approach to the issues:

1. The site as an airport has a long history of failure, that is fact.
2. The location is a difficult one, surrounded by water on 3 sides and offering limited routes out, all of which I have found are simply compromised by the 'school run'. A location that is one of the most extreme easterly locations and would require the use of the QE2 crossing to access the rest of the country. I have regular personal experience of this when visiting my family in East London, it is not a pleasant trip and is always congested. RSP's claims of being the closest to London are simply not true and access makes this journey even more difficult.
3. RSP acknowledged in its own documentation that Ramsgate will experience 'adverse affects' and at a recent members briefing for Thanet District Councillors on Tuesday 6th July this week, RSP were allowed to make what I can only describe as 'wild claims and present misleading information'. Please request the slides they presented so you can see the lengths to which this company is misleading people. I have images if you want them. As an elected official I tried to express my concerns over allowing RSP to present while an active 'national decision' was ongoing, sadly I was shut down, something I am very concerned about given the opposing view was not allowed representation. During this 'briefing' RSP claimed aircraft would fly no lower than 600 to 700 feet and yet that is simply not true. PINS visited the house of a friend of mine, their roof was badly damaged by a cargo plane coming in as a number of others were. At the lowest point they aircraft come in less than 300 feet over residential areas.
4. The Leader of Thanet District Council Cllr Ash Ashbee, a councillor who has a long association of support for RSP, attending their fund raisers failed to declare this in her response to this process on behalf of Thanet District Council. As a councillor representing the ward likely to be totally blighted by this airport, I have not been consulted and neither have the residents I represent, indeed, councillors and residents were only aware of it once it had been published. This is not the way a country which prides itself on being one of the most democratic in the world should be operating.
5. The impact of Covid has plunged the aviation industry into free fall, existing airports are facing extreme difficulties and so the introduction of a new airport is in simple terms 'madness' and doomed to fail, as it has many times prior to the present situation.

I feel certain as a teacher that if a group of Year 11 students were to study this situation, like PINS they would come to the same conclusion, 'there is simply no evidenced need, it

is in the wrong place, has failed several times before and will blight the residents and environment of Ramsgate'. It is time to take a deep breath and 'put this baby to bed once and for all', after all the experts at PINS did.

In summing up, giving this airport the 'go ahead' would be like opening a '3rd rate fish and chip shop with limited access near a world famous Harry Ramsdens fish and chip restaurant'.

Kind regards

Cllr Becky Wing
Central Harbour Ramsgate