



# Department for Transport

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To:

All Interested Parties

30 July 2021

cc:

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Dear Sir/Madam

## **Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010**

**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.**

### **PUBLICATION OF RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT OF MATTERS**

1. In its Order dated 15 February 2021 the High Court quashed the decision of the Secretary of State for Transport dated 9 July 2020 to grant development consent for the Manston Airport project in Thanet, Kent (“the Development”). The Secretary of State is now taking steps to re-determine the application submitted to the Planning Inspectorate by RiverOak Strategic Partners Limited on 17 July 2018 (“the Application”).
2. On 11 June 2021, the Secretary of State issued a statement setting out the matters to be considered further in the re-determination of the Application (“the Statement of Matters”) and invited Interested Parties to submit further representations on the Statement of Matters by 9 July 2021 (“the First Round of Consultation”).
3. As set out in the Statement of Matters, the Secretary of State has appointed an independent aviation assessor to advise him on matters relating to need for the Development and to produce a report summarising those findings. The independent aviation assessor’s draft report will be published on the Planning Inspectorate’s website in due course and will take into consideration the evidence provided by Interested Parties in response to the First Round of Consultation.
4. Once the draft report is published the Secretary of State will initiate a further round of consultation (“the Second Round of Consultation”) inviting Interested Parties to submit representations on the draft report. As part of the Second Round of Consultation, the

Secretary of State will also invite comments from Interested Parties on the representations received in response to the First Round of Consultation.

5. To provide Interested Parties with the opportunity to consider the representations received in response to the First Round of Consultation before the Second Round of Consultation commences, representations from the First Round of Consultation responses have been published at:
  - <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/manston-airport/?ipcsection=docs&stage=6&filter1=Re-determination>
6. Interested Parties with any comments on the responses to the First Round of Consultation that they wish the Secretary of State to treat as a formal consultation response should submit those comments when the Second Round of Consultation commences. All Interested Parties will be notified by the Planning Inspectorate when the Second Round of Consultation starts.
7. Correspondence received between the close of the First Round of Consultation and commencement of the Second Round of Consultation will be treated as “re-determination correspondence” and will be published as such at the end of the re-determination process.
8. This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State’s re-determination of the application for the Manston Airport application and his decision whether or not to grant development consent for the reopening and development of Manston Airport, and nothing in this letter is to be taken to imply what that decision might be.

Yours faithfully

Natasha Kopala  
Head of Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit