

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Manston Airport](#)
Subject: Ove Arup Report
Date: 23 October 2021 09:16:04

To whom it may concern

In response to the recently published independent report commissioned by the Secretary of State for Transport and subsequent invitation for comments; I would like to place on record the following.

The report by Ove Arup makes clear (as has many other such examinations) that the case for Manston fails in almost every respect, the need is simply not there. To judge otherwise flies in the face of the huge weight of evidence and the considered findings presented by industry leading bodies in each report.

RSP's proposals are at best fanciful and appear to be reliant on a very different aviation/air cargo landscape than the one we see today. In addition RSP seemingly continue to fail to meet various conditions set out by the Secretary of State and the CAA which in my opinion puts into question their whole approach to the project.

In recent years several major cargo and airport operators alike have made huge investments into their operations; thereby ensuring the UK's principle air hubs (geographically located much more strategically than Manston) continue to meet the demands of the air cargo industry now and well into the future.

"Levelling Up" has been a recent and often used refrain from the Government; permitting the reopening of Manston as a 24/7 Air Cargo operation would do exactly the opposite. It would cause serious harm to the burgeoning economies of Thanet's coastal towns and inflict untold damage on the health and wellbeing of its residents; ecological sites are sure to be impacted also.

In closing I urge the Secretary of State for Transport to end this interminable process, think of the future and note the "levelling up" that is happening organically through the last two years of the Pandemic. Yes Manston does have a future but not as an cargo air hub, but surely one more akin to the former proposal of Stone Hill Park Ltd which considered a mixed range of housing (desperately needed in Thanet) modern industries and leisure.

Yours Sincerely

Mario Portelli

[REDACTED]