

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Manston Airport](#)
Subject: TR020002: Manston Airport Updates
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Dear Manston Airport Planning Inspectors

TR020002: Manston Airport Updates

The recent DfT's commissioned report (Draft) by the Ove Arup Group into the need for a new airport at Manston fails on many points to take into account the need for the economic renaissance of the deprived area of East Kent, of which Thanet is in dire need of investment in sustainable quality industries. Aviation is the key driver to this aim.

It mentions Heathrow expansion, East Midlands and Stansted Airports meeting the needs of future airborne freight. The UK is a free enterprise society which means healthy competition is the bedrock of our economy.

The report is very biased towards protecting the economic viability of those three airports mentioned in the draft. Indeed, Heathrow has been targeted by a Chinese Investment Fund (CIC) with investment to the sum of 10% (ref; BBC news report) Overall investment has been mentioned in the press totalling £18 Billion. (report by: fDi Intelligence - Financial Times) There alone is a reason to protect that investment by hindering any competition from a competitor.

Throughout the deliberations it could be assumed the Government and its agencies have consistently ignored, rebuffed and hindered the reopening of Manston Airport. Was the original writing of the DCO drafted in such a way as to be so weak and open to challenge it was known a Judicial Review would result in the DCO having to be quashed?

The Ove Arup & Partners report seemingly looks like a copy and paste exercise from the original ExA report? This is not taking into account the views of leading figures in the area or for that matter people of the area that are in favour of the investment into the reopening of the airport. It appears to take more account of those opposing Manston. (ASA on behalf of Ramsgate Town Council also consider that there is spare capacity at Stansted, even with the new 16,000 cargo ATMs per annum cap, for additional freighter flights).

Ramsgate T C state the airport would damage the holiday trade to the town - please come to Ramsgate and witness the holiday trade. Remembering that this minor trade is weather and seasonally dependant. Whereas an operational airport is 24/7 365 (Barring the night operations)

It is time the DfT to explain their intentions regarding Manston and state why it is appearing to stall the investment by a private company, a company that is not reliant of taxpayer's money to create something worthwhile for the area and the country as a whole.

Manston closed 15th May 2014 and it is taking far too long to reach a decision. This delay is sending out the wrong message to those that want to invest in this country.

Regards

Andrew Wilson

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