

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Manston Airport](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed reopening of Manston Airport  
**Date:** 11 November 2021 13:17:37

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Dear Sir/Madam

With the world watching the UN climate summit currently taking part in Glasgow, it is beyond belief that we are still debating whether a previously bankrupt airport should be re-opened in Manston. As Boris Johnson himself said, “the clock is ticking to the furious rhythm of hundreds of billions of pistons and turbines and furnaces and engines with which we are pumping carbon into the air faster and faster.” The irony of this proposed cargo hub is that it would increase the UK’s carbon output, despite the fact that, according to numerous government and external reports, there is no proven need or viability. There are claims from our local MP that hydrogen planes would be used but this is clearly not true and was not even presented in the land owners’ proposals.

Living in Thanet, I am completely aware of the shortage of jobs for young people. There have been many false promises made about the jobs that would be created by this cargo hub. When Manston was last running as an airport, (at a loss), the maximum number of people working there was 150 (not the 20,000 promised by the cargo hub investors). This number of jobs would have little impact on our unemployment figures, indeed the land could be used for numerous projects that would create many more jobs. By putting all their hopes and faith in to this cargo hub, our council is simply helping a small number of investors to increase their wealth while preventing growth in other industries while decimating a thriving tourist industry.

I am at a loss to understand why Grant Shapps’ department is still considering this proposal, over-ruling all advice from his own government colleagues and most recently from the Ove Arup report. It would be environmentally disastrous, has no proven need and would have a terrible financial impact on other industries in this coastal area of the country.

Yours faithfully,  
Catherine Gardiner