

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Manston Airport](#)
Subject: Manston Airport
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Dear Sirs,

Whilst I have previously made representations to yourselves I should like to re-emphasise these points and add a few more.

The economy of Thanet is in a very poor state, probably level with that of the North East of England. We have lost many industries, which have not been replaced. The Pfizer exit was particularly painful. Airports are capable of supporting numerous jobs with other airport related businesses being created.

Whilst previous ventures have failed, these operations were based on passengers. River Oak intend to concentrate on freight, followed by engineering and then passengers.

The freight operation is in a prime location to take some pressure away from Heathrow and Gatwick Airports, which may help to ease their saturation. There are several examples of very successful freight only airports around the world.

Our offices are underneath the flight path. Whilst the airport was in operation, we rarely heard the aircraft as the types being used were very quiet. Manston is perfectly located for incoming/outgoing aircraft. Being on the edge of Kent take off and landings are mainly over the sea.

River Oak is the only organisation who is prepared to invest in Manston, and should be given the opportunity to exploit it's potential and bring some prosperity to a very deprived area. Moreover, airfreight will only increase not decrease.

Manston has been an airport for almost 100 years and is the third longest runway in the country. There is ample room for expansion and development. It has also been used as a major diversion airport. Owing to the lack of infrastructure and utilities it is most unsuitable for housing development. Without the airport there is little employment opportunities to support any development.

Thanet has a major asset being surrounded by 270 degrees of sea. Pollution would be minimal.

There is a College nearby who has stated that they are prepared to run courses and work with River Oak to tailor the engineering and other skills required by the operation of an airport. This will help to create a skilled workforce which this Government is striving to produce.

Brexit has caused logistic problems on the Continent particularly with France. The airport operation would be able to bypass this.

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