From: <u>Jason Jones-Hall</u>

To: <u>Manston Airport</u>; <u>Manston Airport</u>

Cc:

Subject: Submission for Deadline 7a in response to TR020002-004023-AS

Date: 24 May 2019 18:18:41

Dear Sirs

Submission for Deadline 7a in response to TR020002-004023-AS

We have noted Save Manston Airport association's, (SMAa), late submission to Deadline 6, (pending Examination Library reference, this appears as reference TR020002-004023-AS), in response to our DL6 submission, (REP6-070).

Whilst we appreciate that SMAa have indeed engaged in fundraising and commercial activities in order to help support the financially-challenged Riveroak Strategic Partners' DCO application, Dr Webber's reply appears to corroborate our initial concerns that SMAa members are indeed being paid to submit representations to PINs, as follows:

"some members of SMAa have day jobs which require them to submit representations to PINS and they they will do so in support of the RiverOak DCO".

This begs a number of important questions relating to the issue of whether or not the many submissions made by SMAa are genuinely expressing the authentic and independent views of the local community.

Alternatively, it might also suggest a lack of transparency and/or impropriety with regards to one or more of the public bodies, statutory bodies or local government officials as these are perhaps the only individuals whose "day jobs might require them to submit representations to PINS". If any such individuals are also 'required' to make submissions "in support of the RiverOak DCO" then this is indeed deeply troubling.

Perhaps there is some other explanation that we are missing, but in any case we strongly feel there needs to be some clarity in this matter. We respectfully request that the ExA might enquire as to the following:

- 1) What day jobs and in which organisation(s) does SMAa refer to that "might require them to submit representations to PINS"?
- 2) Can SMAa identify which individuals and/or which submissions have been made to PINS under any such requirement?
- 3) Dr Webber maintains that these submissions are also "in support of the RiverOak DCO". Who is the employer and/or client that is placing such a requirement on these submissions?
- 4) In what way does this refute our suggestion that the evidence "appears to strongly confirm that members of SMAa are being paid to make representations to the Examining Authority"?

We note that the very close relationship between Riveroak and SMAa has previously been called into question in a meeting note and Section 51 Advice to the Applicant from the Planning Inspectorate dated 19th July 2016 with regards to SMA's role during Riveroaks' consultation events. At this time, "the developer explained that some members of the group had volunteered to assist". We would ask that the ExA again question what, exactly, is the nature of the relationship between Riveroak and SMAa.

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