

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [ManstonAirport@pins.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ManstonAirport@pins.gsi.gov.uk)  
**Subject:** Comments re amendments to operating hours in Manston  
**Date:** 23 June 2019 12:29:25

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Dear Examiners

As a resident in Thanet that supports the opening of Manston Airport, I have followed the process and would like to comment that I do not see any issues with the recommended flight times. Unfortunately, with the many new homes being built in and around Thanet, where each property has at least one car and the majority of children are driven to school, I also try to avoid driving round Thanet between 8:00 - 9:00 as the infrastructure has not been updated to include the additional homes.

I would like to take this opportunity to advise you of a recent holiday where I travelled from Broadstairs to Heathrow. My drive to Heathrow was on a Sunday which was not too stressful and I only encountered one traffic jam. However, returning on a Monday lunch time I genuinely feared I may not arrive back in Broadstairs safely. It was on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June when we had heavy rainfall, due to the amount of flights arriving at Heathrow the surrounding roads were heavy with traffic. When I eventually reached the M25 there were restricted warning signs advising to drive at a set speed limit, unfortunately these were ignored, and as always on the M25 cars and lorries had no regard for the highway code or weather conditions, it was a nightmare. Along the hard shoulder I passed several minor accidents or vehicles broken down. By the time I had reached the M26 things improved, however there was a long traffic jam trying to get onto the M20 due to road works.

My flight time was 9 hours from the USA, it took me 4 hours from leaving Heathrow to reach Broadstairs. This is also taking into consideration that I passed the M23 for Gatwick and Clacketts services which is a hotspot for accidents.

Whilst sitting in the traffic, it made me wonder how much of the traffic would have been able to travel up the M2 avoiding the M25 completely. I personally do not know of anyone in Thanet, who prefers more houses than a local airport. I travel to the USA on average every two years to visit relatives and I would much prefer to change flights from Manston than travel to the airport the day before and book into a hotel just to feel confident that I will get my flight. I have tried travelling by public transport, but again you have to go the previous day as there is always problems with strikes or works on the lines. Unfortunately you can't book flights taking into consideration what may be happening on that day.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email, in todays climates with Brexit etc I hope there is one government department that can do what is right for the public and not the governments pockets.

Kind regards  
June Kelly

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