

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Manston Airport](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: For the attention of the Manston Airport Case Team
Date: 21 June 2021 14:32:02

Dear Sirs,

I write with regard to the quashing of the decision to grant development consent for the upgrade and reopening of Manston Airport.

Thanet and East Kent are desperately in need of both the direct and indirect employment that the re-opening of Manston airport can bring to the area.

Thanet is building thousands of new houses and the resulting increase in population will create the overwhelming necessity of jobs. Thanet is already considered a 'deprived' area of high unemployment and the influx of thousands of residents (many from the poorer London boroughs) will only exacerbate the problem. Thanet's demise as a tourist destination means industry and retail must create the jobs without which the area will most certainly decline further. Therefore any and all (within reason) regeneration investment in the area must be given priority.

Surrounded as it is by water on three sides there are severe limitations as to where any regeneration can take place. Thanet council openly boasts that the Turner centre has rejuvenated tourism in Thanet but a few rather nasty café's and junk shops which now make up the bulk of the old Marketplace do not create any real appeal for tourists to visit Thanet other than the odd day trip. Industry is the only sustainable and long-term answer.

Brexit has clearly demonstrated that the EU, and particularly the French, are determined to punish the UK at every possible opportunity. The regular blockading of channel ports by the aggrieved French causes untold problems in East Kent vis: Operation Stack and port closures and damages both the national and local economy. Having already threatened to "cut the power" to Jersey, It is my opinion that there are no depths to which the French will not stoop to disrupt the UK at every opportunity. We must therefore find alternatives to the trade we previously enjoyed from the EU and look to trade further afield. An international freight hub such as Manston is a necessity for opening up of these new trade routes. Recent trade agreements such as CANZUK further amplify these reasons.

Manston already has the necessary infrastructure links being only a few minutes' drive from the end of the M2 motorway and subsequently the entire UK motorway network.

Sadly, we are unable to count on any real support from our local Member of Parliament who only gives lip-service to the re-opening of Manston being a French property owner and "remainer" at heart.

Please give my views due consideration. I have been a businessman and employer in Thanet for nearly 40 years, as is my brother and our father before us. I am an importer and exporter both to the EU and rest of the world. I understand the importance of international trade.

The opponents of Manston airport are largely Nimby's and extremists (Extinction Rebellion) who wish nothing more than to return Thanet to the dark ages. Without air transport where would they obtain their avocados? (that was my tongue-in-cheek attempt at humour).

Yours faithfully,

John Greves
Accent Printers