From: Manston Airport

Subject: For the attention of the Manston Airport Case Team

Date: 29 June 2021 17:27:09

Hello,

I'd like to offer my support (again) for the re-opening of Manston Airport as a commercial airfield as proposed by River Oak Strategic Partners.

I am one of the long term supporters of the airfield and probably one of the few that do not live in Thanet, but I have family that do live in Thanet. I can therefore see the impact that the closure and re-opening could have on wider-Kent. The benefits of reopening are immense and very much needed in East Kent, in terms of employment opportunities, as not everyone wishes to commute westwards to Canterbury, Medway or London, by road or train. There is a dearth of blue and white collar roles in Thanet and the airport will offer the potential for hundreds or thousands of these directly and in the wider 'food chain'.

In the last round of enquiry and comment, it was clearly accepted that Britain needs the extra airport capacity and that environmental concerns can be addressed (I and keen on electrification of vehicle fleets) and that the impact from new Manston would be negligible, I feel the opportunity to build a new airport within an hour of London (via HS1) is within our grasp and should not be missed, if it is missed, it will be gone forever.

The pandemic was unforeseen and terrible for aviation, but one thing we did all learn is that in times of global struggle, air-cargo kept us going with vital supplies of time-bound nature (PPE flight, without which how many more would have perished?) and as such huge demand on cargo capacity, this will only continue to grow and Brexit trade negotiations continue, moving product around has huge potential and UK plc cannot afford to miss out through lack of capacity.

I sincerely hope that the airport lives to fight another day for Great Britain as it has done in the past.

Regards

Matt

Matthew Gee