From: Manston Airport

Subject: For the attention of the Manston airport case team

Date: 09 July 2021 16:33:55

Dear Secretary of State

Thank you for the opportunity to allow me to have my say on the matter. There are many submissions that have been sent in going into much more detail than I could ever give on the consequences should the DCO be granted. As a parent living in Ramsgate I am frustrated and disappointed that this saga has rumbled on for such a long time and I feel it needs to be put to bed.

The UK is striving to emerge from Brexit as a leading nation but projects like this just show up our incompetence. We have declared a climate emergency which is in full swing now, just look at all the events happening in 1st world countries such as Canada and the USA. Yet our talk on tackling this to protect our way of life is just that, 'talk'.

If Manston is approved, which existing airport is going to have their carbon budget reduced? Manston has no fuel line, so will instantly be less carbon friendly than other established airports as the fuel will need to be trucked in. Goods will instantly be more expensive as the cost of trucking them to market will need to be covered by the consumer, that's not going to make Brexit look good as we have been told things will be better.

The flight path into Ramsgate encompasses a number of schools. With education levels low and deprivation high in the vicinity it's not going to help tackle that issue which we keep being promised (by our MP) will improve.

Your request is for answers to the need for the airport. My answer, has there ever been evidence to show their is a need for it? I have searched long and hard and can only find reports to show there is no need. Established airports already have any growth in need covered and already have sophisticated support services in place to manage the distribution of goods far more efficiently than Manston could ever achieve. The council has promoted the site a number of times with no actual investors coming forward except RSP whose leader has failed at this venture already. The supposed investors RSP have 'identified' have never come forward to reassure residents that there is genuine interest in investing.

We are seeing investment in other areas to build battery giga factories, yet Thanet an area of high unemployment is passed by, despite being a safe seat for Tories. The younger generations are getting tired of the lack of opportunities and the talk of building back greener when nothing comes to fruition. This is an opportunity to be on the right side of history, so I wouldn't squander it.

Yours sincerely Sara Spark