

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Manston Airport](#)
Subject: FW: RE-DETERMINATION of the application by RiverOak Strategic Partners Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the upgrade and reopening of Manston Airport
Date: 04 December 2021 15:12:13
Importance: High

Did this reach you? I had no acknowledgement. I am concerned as original posted in time; please see below. A P WEBSWTER

[REDACTED]

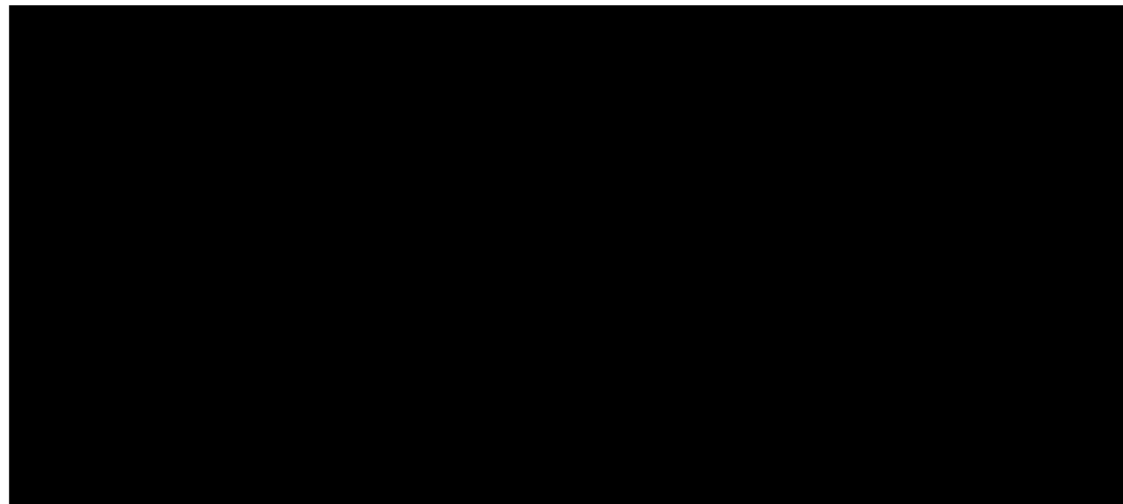
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 December 2021 07:03


[REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: RE-DETERMINATION of the application by RiverOak Strategic Partners Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the upgrade and reopening of Manston Airport

ManstonAirport@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Annie Webster [REDACTED]
Date: Fri, Dec 3, 2021 at 5:54 AM
Subject: RE-DETERMINATION of the application by RiverOak Strategic Partners Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the upgrade and reopening of Manston Airport
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: <manstonairport@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>



 RE-DETERMINATION of the application by RiverOak Strategic Partners Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the upgrade and reopening of Manston Airport

Snapshot of the item below:

RE-DETERMINATION of the application by RiverOak Strategic Partners Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the upgrade and reopening of Manston Airport

Unique Reference: 20014235 (Interested Person)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I write of the NEED to retain our airport and, as a resident of Ramsgate, in support of RSP's plans for Manston Airport and in response to the Secretary of State's request for feedback and comment on the report by ARUP.

I wish to make the point that unemployment is very high in this area, particularly amongst the young. When people talk about the NEED, I wish to emphasise this point; that the proposals for reopening and developing this former Royal Air Force base, include a dedicated air freight hub, executive travel, salvage, maintenance, servicing and aircraft engineering services as well as exciting educational, training and apprenticeship schemes.

In my opinion, the number of actual contributors to the costs of the Judicial Review is at odds with the number of residents/constituents in Thanet. It is also a bone of contention that Ramsgate Town Council pledged £5,000 - £10,000 of ratepayers' money towards the cost of the Judicial Review without the prior knowledge or consent of the people. Indeed, it is worthy of note, I feel, that the MPs for both Thanet North and Thanet South are both supporters of retaining Manston Airport, suggesting, I submit, a majority throughout the Isle of Thanet in favour of restoring/retaining Manston as an airport.

I think that the ExA's contention "that there is a substantial gap between capacity and demand for general air freight within the South East at present" is somewhat out of date! Recent events have highlighted the need for additional capacity, especially since the advent of Brexit. Throughout the world we have seen ships marooned in queues, container ships detained or delayed, containers piled high in ports and depots, queues of lorries, threats of low or no stock in shops and an absence of long-haul drivers and too few with a HGV licence. Contracts with other countries, now that we have left the EU, will increase the need for freight capacity, particularly where fresh produce and perishables are concerned. Let's not forget any reciprocal agreements we may have with other nations to deliver our exports to them!

I submit, the return of passenger flights to Manston Airport will be most welcome. There is a large catchment area of people who take 2-3 hours to get to Heathrow or Gatwick (longer with traffic jams - I can confirm ~ when delayed due to a 'pile-up' on the motor-way we made our flight to China with 15 minutes to spare!!). Bearing in mind we must be at the airport 2 hours before take-off, this can mean an additional 5 hours on our journey. If we drive, we must pay for car-parking until our return. If we go by cab it costs more than £100 (one way!); if we stay overnight in a hotel because of flight times it is even more expensive. Manston airport would not only alleviate such difficulties, congestion on motorways would be eased, less fuel would be used and imagine the pollution lessened with fewer cars on the road! Also, please remember, take-off and landing

at Manston Airport is mostly over the sea; yet another bonus! The ExA and ARUP give the impression that cargo planes at Manston are resident in Manston and don't go to or come from anywhere else! Remember, her planes will COLLECT from as well as DELIVER (from and to) ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD!! (Surely?)

Some of us have long held the belief that Manston could be Heathrow's third runway; saving a lot of time and money; OR Heathrow could have an ADDITIONAL runway for passenger flights and the Manston Hub could deliver cargo previously bound to/from Heathrow?

Please be mindful of our history and that Thanet residents have only ever known Manston as an airport. It is designated as such in our Local Plan and the majority of people have voted for it to be so. We have a fine history of 'the little ships' and a museum dedicated to 'the few' of WWII who fought so bravely and gave their lives that we may be free.

The advent of two-engined airliners could result in reduced bellyhold space, leaving less or no spare capacity for freight and needing to be replaced by dedicated freighter services. I wish to reiterate Rev Stuart Piper's point that "Covid and Brexit have highlighted the potential problem of a temporary closure to the Port of Dover and the potential for future blockades. This is a major problem for perishable goods (...) Dedicated freighters would alleviate this problem" (page 6). To which the ARUP report does say "The brief closure of the Port of Dover in December 2020 certainly did pose a temporary risk to the import and export of perishable goods including food and medicines" but adds "there is no sign yet that Brexit has generated or will generate similar closures." Though it acknowledges ".....the provision of increased freight airport capacity can provide resilience against unforeseen events which would otherwise disrupt trade through restrictions on capacity elsewhere or sudden increases in demand leading to demand for air freight rather than road, rail or sea." Finally, I would like to add that this part of our country often feels 'cut off'; the area is very poor and the streets and schools are overcrowded. We are said to be the poorest area in Kent. HOPE is what we need! We need investors and investment! RSP want to invest £300m? Three hundred million pounds??? Really? Can you imagine? They WANT to invest in Thanet? Really? After all this time? After opposition and rejection ... They are STILL here. WOW! They must really believe in this venture! They promise a 'State of the Art' airport; exciting plans; new technology; maybe a space-ship one day (!) they definitely have vision; they definitely have commitment. I pray our Secretary of State for Transport will share that vision and Save Manston Airport!

Annie Webster

