

DIRECTORATE OF PLACE

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Date: 28th April 2025



By email - manstonairport@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION ON NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO MANSTON AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for providing the opportunity for Thanet District Council to comment on the proposed changes to the Development Consent Order (DCO) for Manston Airport. The proposed changes are summarised below:

1. To extend the deadline for the exercise of compulsory acquisition and temporary possession powers from one calendar year to five calendar years

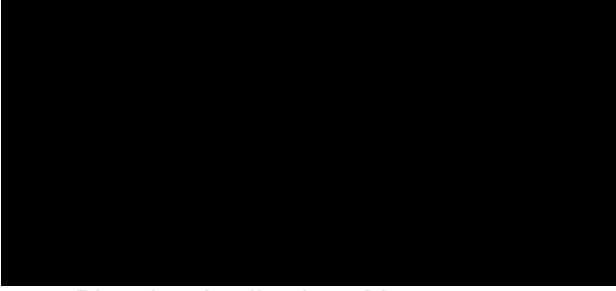
It does not appear that the Council has been consulted directly on the proposed change to the DCO and therefore our response is on the basis of the information publicly available via the Planning Inspectorate's website.

The applicant's submission applies the tests outlined in the Department of Communities and Local Government document "Planning Act 2008: Guidance on Changes to Development Consent Orders" (December 2015)." The submission responds to 4 examples in the guidance document of where changes are likely to be considered material; where the need to update the Environmental Statement, a need for a new Habitat Regulations Assessment, the change would authorise the compulsory acquisition not authorised through the DCO, and when there is a potential impact from the proposed changes on local people and businesses.

The Council agrees that the proposed change does not affect the first 3 characteristics within the guidance, however the change could be considered to have an effect on "local people and business" by increasing the period of uncertainty regarding compulsory purchase. It is noted however that the proposed timeline for compulsory acquisition and temporary possession powers would align with Requirement 2 of the DCO, where the authorised development must commence no later than the expiration of five years beginning with the date of the order coming into force. In addition, there is acknowledged precedent cited in the Examining Authorities report at 9.8.160 for the time period for executing the compulsory acquisition process being 5 years. On this basis and applying the published guidance, the Council does not raise an objection to the application for a non-material change.

The Council respectfully requests that the views of local residents are taken into account in reaching a decision on the proposed change.

Yours faithfully,



Planning Applications Manager