



RiverOak Strategic Partners

# Manston Airport Draft Statement of Community Consultation

NOTE: This draft has been prepared in accordance with section 47(2) of the Planning Act 2008. Dates and locations will be confirmed in the published Statement of Community Consultation and, as such, this draft is subject to change before publication.

February 2017







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# 1 About this document

- 1.1** RiverOak Strategic Partners ('RSP') is proposing to reopen Manston Airport in Kent, primarily as a cargo airport ('the Project'). This Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) sets out how RiverOak will consult on its proposals with the local community.
- 1.2** The airport will include the ability to handle at least 10,000 air freight movements per year, which means the project is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project by the Planning Act 2008 ('the Act'). As a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, we must make an application under the Planning Act 2008 for a permission known as a 'Development Consent Order' ('DCO') to construct and operate Manston Airport. The application will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate which will examine it and make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Transport, who will then make a decision on whether the Project can go ahead.
- 1.3** The Act requires that consultation is carried out with the local community before an application is submitted. This SoCC sets out how we will consult in line with section 47 of the Act.
- 1.4** As part of the development of this SoCC, we have consulted Thanet District Council and Kent County Council on the contents of this document and have taken into account their comments and accommodated their suggestions where possible. We have also consulted Dover District Council, Canterbury City Council and 11 nearby parish and town councils as we are aware that this project is of wide interest.



# 2 The project

- 2.1** Manston Airport first operated as an RAF base in 1916 and most recently operated as a passenger airport (known as Kent International Airport) until it was closed by its current owners in May 2014. We are proposing to secure the future of this valuable national asset by redeveloping and reopening it as a successful hub for international air freight which also offers passenger, executive travel and aircraft engineering services ('the Project').
- 2.2** The application site is situated to the west of Ramsgate in Kent and comprises approximately 296 hectares (732 acres). **In summary, our proposals include:**
  - an area for cargo freight operations (able to handle at least 10,000 movements per year);
  - a passenger terminal and associated facilities;
  - an aircraft teardown and recycling facility;
  - a flight training school;
  - ancillary highways works;
  - a base for at least one passenger carrier;
  - a fixed base operation for executive travel; and
  - business facilities for aviation related organisations.
- 2.3** Our proposals also retain and enhance the existing RAF Manston and Hurricane and Spitfire museums.
- 2.4** Our masterplan includes proposals for both the use of the existing airport infrastructure and the introduction of new facilities. Improvements and upgrade works to the existing infrastructure will ensure these facilities can accommodate the intended number of aircraft movements. New facilities will include aircraft stands, cargo buildings, internal access roads and parking areas. The design solution proposed ensures these facilities can be developed through a phased approach. The proposals include a new, permanent, dedicated airport access on Spitfire Way which will help to reduce airport related traffic on the local road network.
- 2.5** Manston Airport no longer has an aerodrome licence. The Airport will need a new licence from the Civil Aviation Authority, and potentially other consents, to be brought back into aviation use. The process of obtaining these consents will run alongside the DCO application process and a decision on them will be made by the Civil Aviation Authority rather than the Secretary of State.





## 3 About RSP

**3.1** RSP is a UK-registered company which owns all rights and interests and has assumed financial and operational responsibility for the DCO in respect of Manston Airport and the anticipated reopening and operation of the airport.

RSP is fully resourced and funded to accommodate all costs arising from the DCO application to acquire and reinstate Manston as a fully operational airport.

Shaping a stronger economic future for East Kent

RSP



## 4 Consultation

**4.1** Statutory consultation under section 47 of the Act will take place between [tbc] May 2017 and [tbc] July 2017.

**4.2** This covers a period of six weeks (42 days). The minimum required under the Act is 28 days.

**4.3** This statutory consultation will provide an opportunity for the public to scrutinise and comment on our proposals, which include more detailed information than was available during our earlier, non-statutory, consultation in 2016. It will include the potential benefits and impacts of the Project, as well as how we propose to deal with them.

**4.4** We are not consulting on the Government's policies regarding airports as set out in the Draft Airports National Policy Statement, or the policies of Thanet District Council and Kent County Council.

**4.5** In line with Regulation 10(a) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009, the Project team will need to carry out an environmental impact assessment. We will therefore be including preliminary environmental information as part of the consultation.

## 5 Publicity

**5.1** We will promote the consultation in a number of different ways, including:

- sending our Consultation Leaflet to all residential and business addresses within a consultation boundary that includes those who either live within one kilometre of the airport, or one kilometre of those who may be significantly affected by noise, extended in some places to logical boundaries such as main roads. These addresses will be drawn from the Royal Mail database. A map of this area can be found in Appendix 2. Information will be sent by first class post;
- advertising in the Thanet Gazette during the first and second weeks of the consultation;
- sending emails to those who have previously expressed an interest in the Project and provided us with an email address;
- sending letters and/or emails to elected representatives in the area including MPs, MEPs, Thanet District and Kent County councillors;
- sending letters and/or emails to local community groups and organisations who we are aware are active in the area and for whom we have contact details. A list of these community groups can be found in Appendix 2;
- providing information about the consultation on our website: [www.tbc].
- issuing press releases to local press. This will be done once at the start of consultation and once later in the consultation to encourage people to get involved; and
- using Twitter ([@account]) and Facebook ([page reference]) to send out updates during the consultation period. Please note, feedback will not be accepted through social media. More details of how to provide feedback can be found in section 9 of this SoCC.

# 6 Consultation documents

## 6.1 The suite of consultation documents will include:

- a Consultation Leaflet giving an overview of the proposals and details of where more information about the project can be found;
- a Feedback Form in order to collect responses to the consultation;
- an Overview Report giving a summary of the proposals including the potential benefits and impacts of the Project, how we propose to mitigate impacts, and a non-technical summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR);
- a PEIR containing preliminary information on the likely environmental effects of our proposals as we have ascertained them so far, including noise, transport, air quality and so on, and how we propose to minimise these effects, as well as how we propose to maximise the benefits of the project;
- a Masterplan for Manston Airport;
- an independent report on the Air Freight Capacity in the South-East of England;
- an Outline Business Case;
- this Statement of Community Consultation; and
- an Interim Consultation Report, setting out the details of the first stage of consultation and how feedback has been used to help develop the proposals.

# 7 How we will make the documents available

## 7.1 The consultation documents will be made available in the following ways:

- published on our website [www.tbc] for the duration of the consultation [dates tbc];
- printed copies will be available at consultation events to review. Copies of the Feedback Form and Overview Report will be available to take away; and
- printed copies of all consultation documents will be placed in the libraries listed below for review for the duration of the consultation period. We will check on a fortnightly basis that the full suite of consultation documentation remains available and intact at each of these locations.



## Libraries with consultation documents

Name	Address	Opening hours
<b>Note:</b> All libraries can be contacted by telephone on 03000 41 31 31 and are closed on public holidays. Opening hours are correct at the time of publication.		
<b>Birchington Library</b>	Alpha Road, Birchington CT7 9EG	Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 9am-6pm Sat: 10am-2pm, Wed, Sun: closed
<b>Broadstairs Library</b>	The Broadway, Broadstairs CT10 2BS	Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri: 9am-6pm Thu: 9am-8pm, Sat: 9am-5pm, Sun: closed
<b>Cliftonville Library</b>	Queen Elizabeth Avenue, Margate CT9 3JX	Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 9am-6pm Sat: 10am-2pm, Wed, Sun: closed
<b>Deal Library</b>	Broad Street, Deal CT14 6ER	Mon-Fri: 9am-6pm, Sat: 9am-5pm Sun: 10am-4pm
<b>Herne Bay Library</b>	124 High Street, Herne Bay CT6 5JY	Mon-Fri: 9am-6pm, Sat: 9am-5pm Sun: closed
<b>Margate Library</b>	Thanet Gateway Plus, Cecil Street, Margate CT9 1RE	Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri: 9am-6pm Thu: 9am-8pm, Sat: 9am-5pm, Sun: closed
<b>Minster-in-Thanel Library</b>	4A Monkton Road, Minster, Ramsgate CT12 4EA	Mon: 2pm-6pm, Tue, Thu: 9am-1pm and 2pm-6pm, Fri: 9am-6pm, Sat: 10am-2pm, Wed, Sun: closed
<b>Newington Library</b>	Marlowe Academy, Marlowe Way, Ramsgate CT12 6NB	Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 9am-6pm Sat: 10am-2pm, Wed, Sun: closed
<b>Ramsgate Library</b>	Guildford Lawn, Ramsgate CT11 9AY	Mon-Fri: 9am-6pm, Sat: 9am-5pm, Sun: closed
<b>Sandwich Library</b>	13 Market Street, Sandwich CT13 9DA	Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 9am-6pm, Sat: 10am-2pm, Wed, Sun: closed
<b>Westgate Library</b>	Minster Road, Westgate-On-Sea CT8 8BP	Mon, Wed: 9am-5pm, Tue, Fri: 9am-6pm, Sat: 10am-2pm, Thu, Sun: closed

**7.2** We will provide one copy of each of the consultation documents, free of charge, to those unable to access them via the internet or the deposit locations, with the exception of the PEIR. We will also have USB sticks containing all of the consultation documents available at consultation events and on request.

Due to the size of the PEIR, a charge may need to be included to cover printing and delivery costs. **Please call our helpline (xxxx xxxx xxxx) or email us at (xxxxxxx) to request documents.**



# 8 Consultation events

**8.1** During the consultation period we will hold a series of events where anyone who is interested in the Project can attend, read the consultation documents, see visual displays of our proposals, talk to our professional team, and leave feedback. The events will take place as follows:

Location	Address	Date and time
Broadstairs	<b>The Pavilion</b> Harbour Street, Broadstairs, CT10 1EU	[tbc]
Canterbury	<b>ABode Canterbury</b> 30-33 High St, Canterbury, CT1 2RX	[tbc]
Herne Bay	<b>The King's Hall</b> Beacon Hill, Herne Bay, CT6 6BA	[tbc]
Margate	<b>The Sands Hotel</b> 16 Marine Drive, Margate, CT9 1DH	[tbc]
Ramsgate	<b>Comfort Inn</b> Victoria Parade, Ramsgate, CT11 8DT	[tbc]
Sandwich	<b>The Guildhall</b> Sandwich, CT13 9AP	[tbc]

In addition, we will offer individual presentations to each of the 11 parish and town councils surrounding the airport site. These would preferably take place during the consultation period or, if not feasible, shortly thereafter.

This will enable residents who cannot make the consultation events to have an additional opportunity to hear about our plans, collect a feedback form and ask questions.

These individual presentations would not be statutory consultation events, but all feedback submitted at them, or as a result of them, would be considered as part of the consultation, provided the feedback is received by a pre-agreed date.



# 9 How to respond to the consultation

**9.1** There are various ways that you can respond to the consultation. All consultation responses must be received by 11.59pm on the last day of the consultation, [tbc] 2017, or we may not be able to take them into account.

- **by post:** Feedback Forms and any other consultation responses can be posted to [tbc];
- **online:** A copy of the Feedback Form is available to fill in at our consultation website [www.tbc];
- **by email:** Consultation responses can be emailed to [tbc]; and
- **at the consultation events:** Feedback Forms will be available at the consultation events referred to in Section 8 and can be left at the event or returned by post.

**9.2** Please note that unless there are exceptional circumstances, the Project team will not accept oral feedback given either at events or via our helpline. All feedback must be provided in writing as set out above.

**9.3** We will provide an acknowledgement for consultation responses that include an email address or postal address.

# 10 Hard to reach

**10.1** We have identified a range of community organisations with a potential interest in the project, including representatives of local 'hard to reach' groups. To ensure that 'hard to reach' groups are encouraged to get involved in the consultation, the materials will be prepared to be accessible, clear and relevant.

**10.2** In addition, we will ensure that:

- the telephone number and email address are prominent on all published material (including this SoCC) and enable individuals to contact the team directly with questions or requests;
- the Consultation Leaflet, Feedback Form and Overview Report can be made available in alternative forms on request (e.g. large print, Braille, languages other than English);
- events are held at times and places that are convenient and as accessible to as many people as possible. Anyone who has special requirements to attend an event can contact us via the communication channels shown on advertising materials;
- information will be sent directly to people's addresses within the area identified in appendix 2; and
- representatives of the identified community groups and organisations will be contacted directly with details about the consultation.

# 11 Next steps

- 11.1** We will also be carrying out statutory consultation with statutory consultees, local authorities and those with an interest in the land under sections 42, 43 and 44 of the Act; and publicising the Project in local and national publications under section 48 of the Act.
- 11.2** We will carefully consider all of the issues raised in the feedback and will take this into account when finalising the DCO application.
- 11.3** If, as a result of the feedback, the Project changes to the extent that it is necessary to undertake further statutory consultation, this will be undertaken, with those likely to be affected, in accordance with the principles set out in this SoCC.
- 11.4** As part of the DCO application, we will submit a Consultation Report which sets out how we carried out consultation, the issues raised in the feedback received, and how we took them into account in developing the Project.
- 11.5** We intend to submit our DCO application later in 2017. The application will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate who will examine it by seeking evidence from us and other interested parties over a period of six months. The Planning Inspectorate will then make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Transport, who will make a decision on whether the Project can go ahead.
- 11.6** Further information about the DCO process is available on the Planning Inspectorate’s website at <http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk>
- 11.7** If there are any queries about this consultation they can be made to our email address [tbc], telephone [xxxx xxx xxx] or postal address [tbc].



# Appendix 1

Below is a list of community groups and organisations, over and above statutory consultees, that we are contacting directly with details of the consultation.

**Manston Airport interest groups**

- Kent Needs Manston Airport
- KIACC
- Manston Pickle
- No DCO for Manston
- No Night Flights Over Ramsgate
- Save Manston Airport
- Save Manston Airport association
- Supporters of Manston Airport
- Think Support Manston
- Why Not Manston?

**Further/Higher Education**

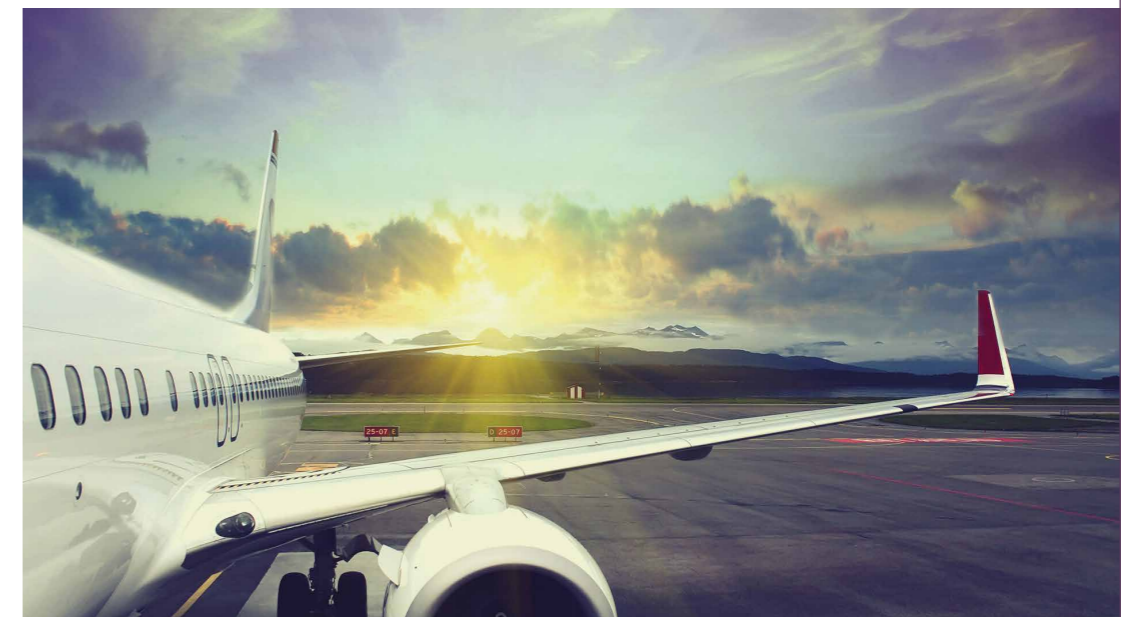
- Canterbury Christ Church University
- Canterbury College
- East Kent College
- Kent University

**Parish/Town Councils**

- Acol Parish Council
- Birchington Parish Council
- Broadstairs Town Council
- Cliffsend Parish Council
- Manston Parish Council
- Mayor and Charter Trustees of Margate
- Minster Parish Council
- Monkton Parish Council
- Ramsgate Town Council
- St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council
- Westgate-on-Sea Town Council

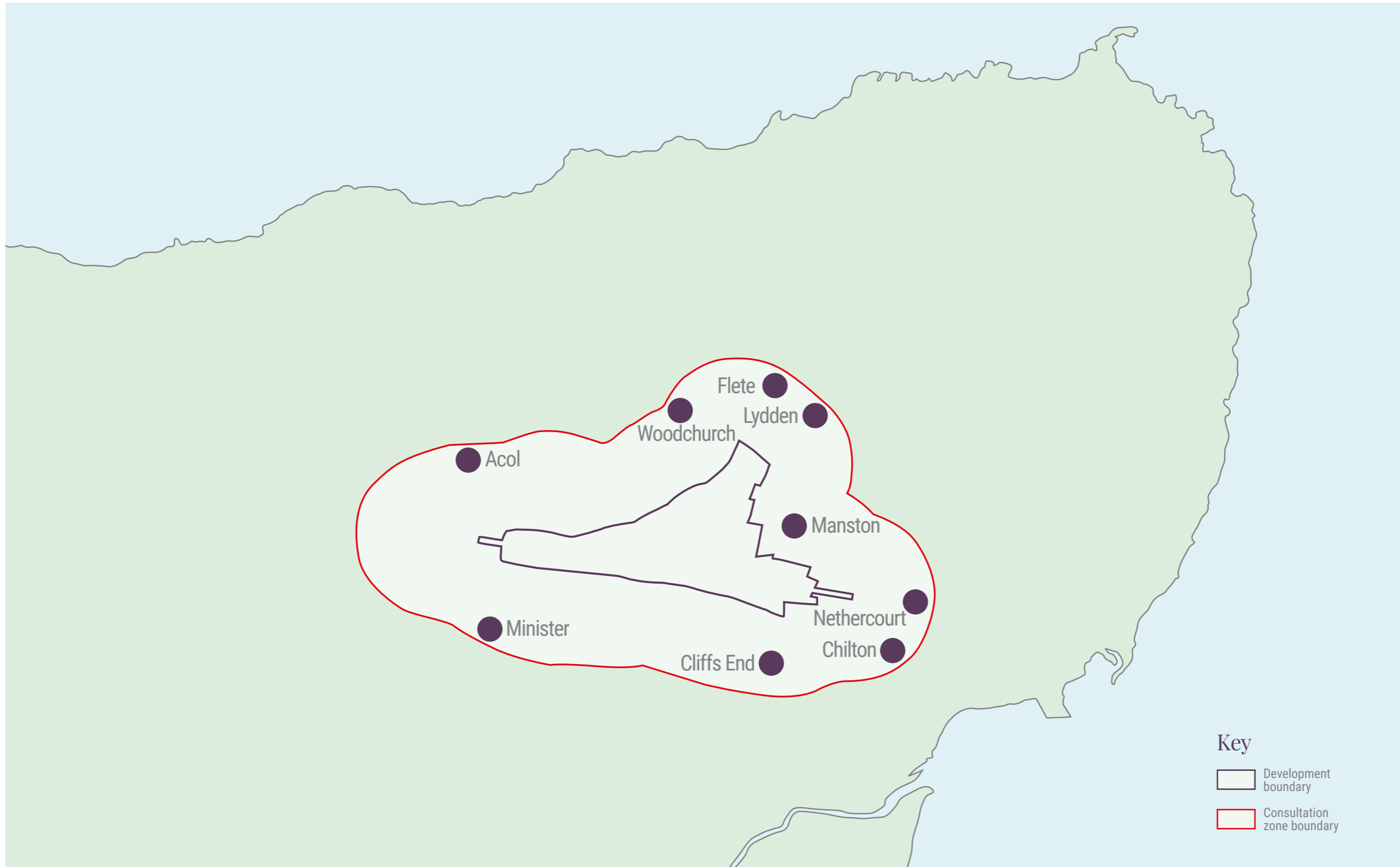
**Business organisations**

- Federation of Small Business
- Kent Invicta Chamber
- Thanet & East Kent Chamber
- Thanet Premier Business Group



# Appendix 2

Below is a map showing the area within which residential and business addresses will be sent notification of the consultation by post.





Realising  
Strategic  
Potential

with the reopening  
of Manston Airport

RSP

Contact us at:

Email – [tbc] Telephone – [tbc] Visit – [www. \[tbc\]](http://www.[tbc])