Dear Alex

Re: Proposed Modifications to Shepway District Council’s Core Strategy Consultation and the Secretaries of State decision of the 10th April 2013 (ref. PP/L2250/V/10/2131934, APP/L2250/V/10/2131936) to uphold the Planning Inspector’s recommendation to grant planning permission for the runway extension and the erection of a passenger terminal and car park at London Ashford Airport, Lydd.

Further to Kent County Council’s (KCC) letter of the 3rd December 2012 responding to the proposed modifications of the Shepway District Council’s Core Strategy (SDCCS) 2011 KCC has further comments to make in the light of the recent Secretaries of State decision at London Ashford Airport at Lydd.

Paragraphs 5.115 and 5.114 of the document detail the background of the airport’s role and potential for expansion (two applications); recognising the positive economic implications for the area if indeed expansion occurs. Footnote (16) on page 102 makes clear that the outcomes of the applications will be fully reflected in the adopted SDCCS. Now that the applications have been approved it is anticipated that paragraphs 5.115 and 5.114 will indeed be amended to state the present position and comment on the increased economic potential of the airport for the Kent and the more local economy of the location.

Notwithstanding this change KCC has some further comments to make in relation to this matter in other parts of the SDCCS 2011 proposed submission document.

Paul Crick
Director of Planning and Environment
KCC is of the view that the adopted SDCCS should reflect the change to the areas aviation infrastructure with modification of the following:

- The ‘Key aims of the Shepway Transport Strategy’ box on page 62, where is reads:

  **Ports and Airports** - to promote connections to existing ports and airports within and outside the district, such as by new rail and coach services, and to support improved access to London Ashford (Lydd) Airport subject to no adverse environmental consequences.

  Should be amended (as emboldened) to reflect the expansion of capacity to London Ashford (Lydd) Airport with wording such as “...access to London Ashford (Lydd) Airport to facilitate the planned expanded capacity of the airport subject to no adverse environmental consequences”.

  The Inspector may wish to consider whether or not Figure 4.2, The Key Diagram, page 37, should be amended to identify the importance of the planned expansion of London Ashford (Lydd) Airport as a key part of the area’s aviation transportation infrastructure. KCC has previously suggested including a safeguarding policy specifically for the site but appreciate that the opportunity for this has passed.

  I hope that the above comments are helpful and would be pleased to discuss further.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

On behalf of the Director of Planning and Environment