

Regional News

25 May 2012 - [Councillors reject Manston Airport's night flight plans](#)

Manston Airport's plans to run flights during the night have been rejected in a vote by councillors at Thanet District Council because councillors decided the proposed scheduled flights would be too noisy and have too great an environmental impact.

Manston wants some planes taking off and landing between 11pm and 7am to help increase air capacity. However, a consultation found three quarters of people living nearby did not want night flights.

28 May 2012 - [Newcastle airport set for sale auction](#)

Copenhagen Airports inviting bids for its 49% stake in Newcastle airport. The northeast airport has attracted interest from various infrastructure firms including 3i, Antin and Australian fund IFM. Seven local councils will retain their 51% holding in the airport. The airport's owners are also in talks over restructuring its debts with a £320 million repayment due in December 2013.

29 May 2012 - [BAA Ltd wins permission to appeal ruling on Stansted Airport sale](#)

The owners of Stansted Airport, BAA Ltd have been given permission to appeal against a competition ruling that forces it to sell off Stansted Airport. BAA said it "look[s] forward to presenting our arguments before the Court of Appeal" after it was allowed to fight against the Competition Appeal Tribunal's February ruling.

29 May 2012 - [Town and Country Planning Association report suggests Heathrow site is developed into garden city](#)

The vision for Heathrow Garden City has been drawn up by Graeme Bell, vice president of lobby group the Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA). The [Heathrow Garden City](#) document consider the future for the Heathrow site if the government decided to close the airport and build a new replacement airport hub elsewhere.

Industry News

24 May 2012 - [Office of Fair Trading fines British Airways a reduced sum of £58.5m for fuel surcharge cartel](#)

The Office of Fair Trading (OFT) announced on 19 April 2012 that British Airways (BA) would be fined £58.5m for its involvement in a cartel to fix fuel surcharge pricing on long-haul passenger flights to and from the UK between August 2004 and January 2006. During this period, BA co-ordinated fuel surcharge pricing with Virgin Atlantic Airways (VAA) through the exchange of pricing and other commercially sensitive information in response to rising oil prices.

1 June 2012 - [Aviation experts rubbish Thames estuary replacement for Heathrow](#)

Chris Chalk, director of aviation at engineering and development consultancy Mott MacDonald, said, "People have written off Heathrow without fully comprehending its importance" at a Westminster Energy, Environment and Transport Forum.

Medway Council director of regeneration, community and culture Robin Cooper said "Forty thousand people with homes or livelihoods in the area [of the new airport] would be displaced. We build about 750 houses a year in Medway. The airport would require 170,000."

Press Release

29 May 2012 – [Court of Appeal agrees to hear another Stansted appeal - Stop Stansted Expansion](#)

SASIG 2012/13 Meeting Dates

Thursday 14 June 2012 The Aviation Minister, Theresa Villiers, shall be attending.

Friday 9 November 2012 and Friday 1 March 2013.

Meetings are held between 11am and 1pm, at Local Government House, Smith Square, SW1P 3HZ, with lunch provided afterwards; [location map](#).