

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am contacting you with regards to the Davies inquiry into potential airport sites.

As a long-term resident of the Isle of Grain, I am truly horrified at the idea of a new hub airport at this site. This area has been misrepresented in the media as a vast brown site wilderness, whereas the truth is that much of it is pristine marshland that is a precious habitat for vast numbers of overwintering birds as well as being a green 'lung' only 40 miles from the capital. Since I moved to the area over 20 years ago, I have noticed the return of bird species that have long been extinct in this area, thanks to conservation work by organisations such as the RSPB. Large numbers of Little Egrets have taken up residence here, and rare species such as Spoonbills and Marsh Harriers are making a return. It would seem to fly in the face of all current wildlife policy to concrete over such a valuable site for rare and threatened birds. It also seems to have escaped Mr Johnson's notice that Grain houses Europe's largest liquid gas plant, currently supplying much of London's present needs. Is it intended that this too is flattened to make way for runways?

I just want to add my voice to the many residents of this area who feel that once again we are being seen as a derelict backyard that is ripe for development regardless of our wishes.

Yours sincerely