

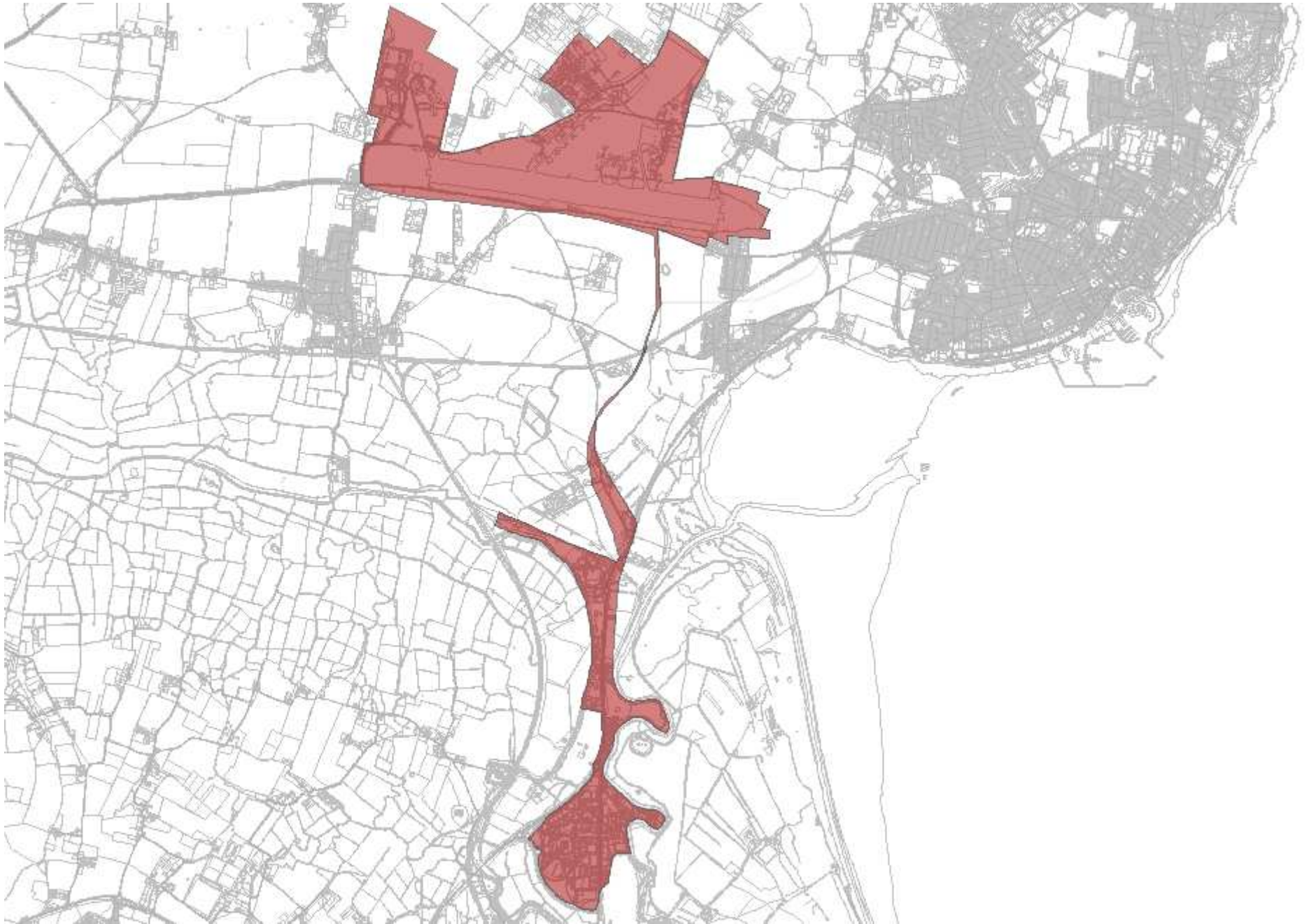
MANSTON AIRPORT

The Question

“What Strategy is TDC taking to mitigate the impact of the possible closure of Manston International Airport?”

A motion to the Kent Leaders and to the Thanet Regeneration Board to propose that the Enterprise Zone be extended from Discovery Park to cover Manston Airport and Business Park, including the Richborough Corridor





This was carried forward as an 'ask' to Government in the South East Local Enterprise Partnership Strategic Economic Plan which went to Government at the end of March for negotiation until May/June. (Page 28 Grow Deal and Strategic Economic Plan)

TDC is committed along with the MP's, and Kent County Council working with other relevant departments as part of a task force to support the retention of the airport.

The Council is holding regular meetings with the representatives of the airport to try and identify timescales and things that the Council could do to support.

Through engagement with the Thanet Regeneration Board we understand that Jobcentre Plus are available and ready to support anyone who is put at risk of being redundant and will need to find a job.



We issued a press release and contacted the business network to help identify businesses that would be impacted by the potential closure of the airport either due to their location on airport land or if they formed part of the supply chain.



One company is in talks with Locate in Kent and EKO to look at opportunities to expand, we have offered support and are in contact with LiK and EKO about the support they are providing.

Contact has been made with a company that are reliant on being near an airfield, we are providing contact details for Expansion East Kent and monitoring the situation with them.

We have been contacted by two businesses, we are meeting them to discuss possible expansion plans, funding and procurement opportunities.

Another company has asked us to keep in contact with them following the press release because they are based at the airport.

