

K. D. Barton BA (HONS) DIPARCHThe Planning InspectorateRoom: 4/02, Temple Quay House2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN

Dear Inspector Barton

The Status of the Shepway District Council Decision at the Inquiry

LAAG and Matthew Horton QC understood that you ruled in favour of allowing oral submissions on February 22nd with regard to the above topic.

We believe that your new position is procedurally incorrect. The matter is being handled for LAAG by Matthew Horton - he is not available until next week as he has a High Court case.

LAAG does not wish to be confrontational but believes strongly that the evidence is relevant and that it is in the public interest for it to be heard orally.

LAA in point 9 of its opening statement state: An objective and scientific analysis of the sort that SDC conducted reveals the strong benefits of the proposal and the lack of substance to the objections that have been made. At the advent of a new planning era, under which localism will underpin the new world, that support is of particular significance. If such weight is to be placed on localism it is in the public interest for any corruption of the decision making process by a public body to be aired to the local community that it serves.

Yours sincerely

Louise Barton MCSI
Lydd Airport Action Group
The Hook
Madeira Road, Littlestone
Kent, TN28 8QX,
01797 361 548
blmbarton@aol.com, www.lyddairportaction.co.uk



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LAAG understands that you have already ruled on this matter in favour of oral submissions. We believe this ruling should be upheld.

LAAG has been advised by Matthew Horton that the law governing procedure at public inquiries requires that the proceedings should be conducted fairly. A fundamental element of fairness is that a party should be allowed to cross examine on any matter that is relevant to the decision to be taken. Until we view the evidence of Kevin Webb we cannot be certain of the issues that he wishes to raise.

We have been advised that provided a matter is relevant it would be procedurally unlawful not to allow cross examination on it.

Yours Sincerely

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