

## **Recent Developments at Lydd Airport**

London Ashford Airport (Lydd) is located in the heart of one of the fastest growing regions of the UK. The airport has already been heavily invested in, and this will continue in the development of modern air and landside facilities, all of which will provide the aviation industry with a new opportunity to operate efficiently in the Southeast region of the UK. This whilst also providing local communities with a convenient and well-connected airport facility that meets all their travel requirements.

Most importantly the investment will play a significant role in the regeneration of the Marsh, and will establish new sources of employment and economic development for many years to come. At the same time, management at the airport work very hard to ensure that all aspects of continued development will be conducted in a sound and environmentally responsible manner. A 3 year environmental impact assessment has been carried out by environmental specialists and covers a wide range of areas that were recognised in the scoping report provided by Shepway District Council. Just some of the issues covered include noise pollution, air quality, ground use, bird conservation and. This document will shortly be available in local schools and libraries around the Marsh as no such detailed study has ever been conducted on the Marsh and we believe it will be a good reference text.

Over £20 million has already been spent developing and upgrading Lydd airport's facilities. The 1,505m runway has recently been re-surfaced, and a new 13 acre aircraft parking apron completed capable of holding up to 8 individual 737 aircraft. Executive air services provider, FAL Aviation UK, was launched and has been operating successfully since 2005, and the airport now boasts a fully licensed ATC as well as upgraded fire fighting facilities. The latest development is the installation of an Instrument Landing system which will further improve efficiency and safety for landing aircraft. All this as well as a newly refurbished terminal building, including up to date security and check-in facilities and a modern departure lounge. As it stands today the airport is capable of handling up to 300,000 passengers per annum and this is limited only by the current capacity of the terminal building.