

Release Date: 4th April 2008

Issued on behalf of Local Opinion



Local Opinion

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86% OF MAIDSTONE SAYS “NO” TO KIG

Independent Kent research initiative Local Opinion, has found that 86% of Maidstone residents believe Bearsted is the wrong site for the Kent International Gateway.

Of the 86% opposed to the plans, 79% believe that it will ruin Bearsted’s environment and 76% believe that if the road-rail freight depot is built, it will result in unacceptable levels of 24 hour light and noise pollution.

Maidstone residents also believe they are not being reliably informed of the full details of the AXA Group’s proposals; with 70% of residents saying the information available is inadequate.

Nearly three quarters (74%) said it is the council’s duty to ensure that Maidstone’s population is informed of the details surrounding the proposed development.

Local Opinion research executive, Julie Thompson, said: “This shows the strength of feeling there is about KIG in Maidstone. Those involved in the proposed development cannot afford to ignore the opinions of local residents.

“Everyone can have their say on this and other topics affecting their communities by registering with Local Opinion.”

Surveys run every two to three months and can be completed online, by phone or by post and the results will appear on the Local Opinion website.

A total of 634 Kent residents were interviewed as part of the Local Opinion Survey, with 293 interviewed in Maidstone.

To register:

Visit: www.localopinion.co.uk

Email: info@localopinion.co.uk

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ENDS

Notes to editors:

- Local Opinion complies with the highest market research standards
- Reportage of these results must include the sample size – 293.
- Respondents are free to withdraw from Local Opinion's survey pool at anytime

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