

## To Habib Tejan

I am writing this letter with regard to the recent news breaking about Peel Port plans to completely close Chatham Docks and sell this site for Housing Redevelopment in 2025.

I was born in Chatham and grew up in the Medway Area, as a young man I remember the closure of Chatham Dockyard in the early 1980s and the devastating effect this had on my family and thousands of families in the Medway Towns, major recession soon followed in the area.

I represent **Connect Personnel Limited** as the Regional Manager. We have Branches in Chatham, Dartford, Gravesend and Sittingbourne. Connect Personnel can have up to 700 workers out over the Kent area a day, with over 300 workers daily working on long term contracts from our busiest Branch in Chatham, 23 Military Road. Connect Personnel has had a large visible Branch in Chatham Town Centre for over 10 years now, still remaining very loyal to a reclining High Street. So as such we are a major investor in local Medway people for local Medway jobs.

Yearly our Workers payroll exceeds £6 Million, the benefits to Central Government and the local Council is obvious.

If Chatham Docks does close for industrial use in 2025 this will massively effect our busiest Branch in Chatham Town Centre. Connect Personnel has over the last 7 years built very strong relationships with some truly thriving companies based in Chatham Docks, even as I write this letter in February, most other companies in Kent are very quiet, but as usual the large companies in Chatham Docks are employing large numbers of staff, paying well over the minimum wage, with huge upcoming contracts for the future.

Connect Personnel sends over 100 – 150 workers per day, on ongoing contracts to work for various companies operating in Chatham Docks.

If Chatham Docks was to close for Redevelopment for Housing in 2025, Connect Personnel would regrettably be forced to pull **OUT OF CHATHAM AND THE MEDWAY AREA**, after 15 years of support to an already declining High Street.

As a professional in Employment in Kent for over 20 years, new developments are already being built, Wiffen Way Car Park, Chatham Riverside and others – BUT the High Street is dying – if this goes ahead – Chatham High Street and Employment in Medway will NEVER RECOVER- These Companies WILL MOVE UP NORTH NOW AFTER BREXIT – SAVE CHATHAM DOCKS

Yours sincerely

Shaun Stockdale

**Regional Sales and Development Manager** 

Chatham-Dartford-Gravesend-Sittingbourne