Alexander Gunyon

From: craig phillips

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District Resident

My comments are in relation to Chapters 1, 2, 5 and 6 of the Draft Local Plan and in particular to policy C12 of Chapter 2.

I object to the Plan concerning the building of a new town with 2000 dwellings on prime agricultural land that is crucial for local biodiversity and shares an eco-habitat with ancient forests. Before paving over the countryside, brownfield sites in the District should be given precedence for developments of this scale. Where that is not possible at scale, the Council should urgently seek an exemption from housebuilding targets from Central Government, based on the district's exceptional rich natural assets and heritage. In advancing the C12 proposal, the Council is going against their own policies by rashly advancing a feeble case in a manner that indicates it has been rushed at the last minute without sufficient preparation.

The bridleway along the Crab and Winkle Line and surrounding areas are cherished for their recreational value, offering residents and visitors (some who come from abroad to experience its natural beauty) opportunities for walking and cycling. The introduction of a busy road would not only compromise these activities but also significantly increase noise pollution, affecting the learning environment of nearby schools and the tranquility of residential areas.

The Great Crested Newts, requiring specific breeding conditions provided by the reserve, would be at risk if their habitats were compromised by urbanization. Their local population made the object of a long running historic study. They are now threatened by the bulldozers.

The hillside development will lead to waterlogging in the clay-rich fields, increasing flood frequency and severity for North Canterbury residents.

Altering the narrow, weight-regulated Rough Common Road for massive construction lorries and increased Canterbury commuters threatens residents' peace, safety, and home integrity.

The financial burden of relocating the school and accommodating students elsewhere is substantial, potentially diverting funds from other critical educational resources.