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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 June 2024 21:24
To: Consultations
Subject: Consultation for Canterbury District Local Plan to 2040

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To whom it may concern.

I strongly object to Policies W3 and W4 (Brooklands Farm) of the draft local plan to 2040. There are many reasons why this development would be severely detrimental for Whitstable and the impact on the surrounding area.

The main reason that I wish to focus on is the impossibility of the current primary health care provision in Whitstable being able to cope with the thousands of extra patients who would need to register and receive care. Kent and Medway already have the worst GP-to-patient ratio in the whole country. The average for the country is 60 GPs for every 100,000 people. In Kent this is just 38 GPs for every 100,000. It is proving very difficult to recruit new GPs in Kent, older GPs are retiring and the problem will likely get worse.

If patients are struggling to register, and then have to book an appointment, with a GP this will lead to increased pressures on the hospitals, which are already completely overloaded. A person who has one or more chronic health conditions needs to have optimal health care to manage the condition. When an acute problem occurs, or a flare of their chronic condition, they need to access medical care. If a person isn't able to access health care in a timely manner, or indeed they can't access the care they need, their health will suffer.

There are multiple other reasons why this development would impact negatively on the health of the local population: increased traffic and pollution, decreased green spaces and places people may exercise, increased sewage in a system not able to cope and being spewed out into the sea.

Ultimately all of this means increased burden of disease and shortened life expectancy. If this development is allowed to continue it would lead directly and indirectly to reduced quality of life and to potential loss of life. This would be the responsibility of those who allowed it to go ahead, who steamrolled over any and all objections, concerns and contravening of government policy!

This is not even touching on all the other reasons this development is an exceptionally bad plan. The loss of this beautiful countryside and the wildlife there in, increased crime rates and impact on local economy as Whitstable becoming a far less desirable place to live. I am sure that many others have brought far greater detail on these reasons.

As a Whitstable resident, concerned health care professional and worried parent I appeal to your conscience to consider the long term and far reaching implications of the decisions being made.

Many thanks for considering my objection.

Yours Faithfully

Mrs Elisabeth Barrett