

Swale Borough Council (SBC) thank you for the continued opportunity to comment on the Draft Canterbury Local Plan to 2041. As previously requested in our response to the last Regulation 18 consultation on the draft Canterbury Local Plan, SBC would welcome early and continued engagement on any proposed changes to the development strategy that may occur as part of preparing any further versions of Canterbury's Plan.

Specifically, where development allocations are proposed near to or adjacent to the SBC area boundary or of a scale that would impact on the provision of infrastructure within SBC and potential environmental impacts.

SBC note the relevant changes proposed Draft Canterbury Local Plan that are of strategic interest including:

- the plan period being reduced from 2045 to 2040/41
- a fall in the number of new homes proposed by a total of 4,149 – from 13,495 to 9,346 over the life of this plan compared to the previous draft plan
- removal of the proposal for an Eastern Movement Corridor, better known as the Eastern Bypass, in Canterbury and removal of the proposed strategic sites to the east of Canterbury and,
- a new freestanding settlement on land to the north of the University of Kent in Canterbury

Whilst the new freestanding settlement north of the University of Kent is still some distance from the Canterbury and Swale administrative boundaries the proposal will likely have impacts on the strategic road network. Subsequently SBC would like to continue to be informed of any transport modelling carried out to support a submission version of the Canterbury Local Plan and would welcome opportunities to discuss any cross border issues or impacts on this matter. With specific emphasis on where the A299 and A2 roads intersect with Junction 7 (Brenley Corner) of the M2. The Junction 7 intersection is a major transport node of connectivity to the wider north Kent region and any development within Canterbury Local Authority particularly within the west, could have further capacity impacts on this junction.

SBC continues to look forward to early and continued engagement on the outputs of any transport modelling and proposed mitigation for the Regulation 19 version of the Canterbury Local Plan, with specific emphasis on any implications on the junction 7 of the M2 and the A2 road corridor within SBC and any associated air quality impacts. SBC also acknowledge the Statement of Common Ground in relation to Strategic Highways (A2/M2 corridor) that has been signed between Kent County Council

Highways, SBC, Canterbury CC and Dover District Council and look forward to progressing the next steps of this work.

Kind Regards

Stuart Watson

Project Manager (Policy)