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This is my response to the new draft Local Plan - Policy C12 - Blean, Tyler Hill and Rough Common area.

I am VERY STRONGLY against this plan for the following reasons:

Impact on traffic: I am amazed that there has not been a traffic assessment completed prior to this application. This is a car dependent area, public transport is not reliable to Tyler Hill and is not frequent. 2000 houses could potentially mean 3000 cars +. Tyler Hill Road is a small rural road, just barely passible for two cars and only one in places; it is often used as a cut through to get to Canterbury and Blean. There have been a lot of road closures recently which has greatly impacted on the amount of traffic in the area. It does not have a sensible speed limit which is dangerous to pedestrians - cars often not slowing down or giving enough space when someone is walking a long the road. Surely with a new school being built if walking to school is to be encouraged, this is not going to be safe for families? The draft plan mentions that traffic will be minimised a long Tyler Hill Road, how? I understand there is going to be a new sewage plant located near this road - surely that will increase traffic, in particular HGVs - the roads have a weight limit. Maybe the plan is to 'minimise' traffic when the development is finished - however, what about during construction? The noise, the impact of extra vehicles on the road, pollution and safety are all of a huge concern to me.

Doctors surgeries: The surgeries are greatly overstretched with patients having difficulty, initially getting through on the phone to speak to someone and then having to wait a long time for an appointment. The same with A and E at the hospitals and dental surgeries. Surely with so many houses being built this is going to have any even bigger detrimental effect on the NHS in Canterbury and the surrounding areas.

Schools: the fact that children will be taught in temporary structures whilst the new schools are being built and impact on their education whilst the building is in progress as they will be surrounded by distractions.

Footpaths and the rural landscape: being a dog owner I walk the fields everyday. During construction - how is this going to effect the footpaths , will they have to be closed for safety reasons? The Crab and Winkle is due to have an access road running across it - how is that going to work when it is consistently

being used by runners, cyclists, families walking to and from Blean school, dog walkers, just general ramblers and walkers? Apart from the safety issue, how awful it will be walking through a housing estate rather than appreciating the nature all around is - this makes this area unique and very special. Tyler Hill and Blean will be merged together and will lose their uniqueness and identity.

Agricultural: The effect on local agriculture - I thought we were supposed to be promoting the growing of crops.

Heritage, wildlife and biodiversity: the proposed planning around the Church of St Cosmus and St Damian along with the other heritage sites, conservations sites around the area is of huge concern too. The thought of the church being surrounded by buildings is shocking. Have the planners been along and seen the wonderful skylark field in front of the church? Have they read the information in front of the church stating the facts about the area and the wildlife that lives there? The area is abundant with different types of wildlife and I thought in this day and age this was to be encouraged not ripped apart. Hedges are of such importance to wildlife - will we lose all the hedges in the area because of the construction? I thought the Council's policies were to encourage the connections of areas of woodland and to protect and promote its wildlife, I know the Kent Wildlife Trust have been working hard to do just that.

Water: I am also concerned about waste water. Where is all the waste water going to go, back into the rivers - a concern especially with sewage being discharged into the sea and rivers and polluting them. We regularly have hosepipe bans here - my concern is the pressure another 2000 houses will put on the whole system. Will the infrastructure of the area be able to cope with 2000 extra houses when it seems to be pushed to the limit at the minute. The land is also liable to flooding.

I thought that some of the land was sold to the university with the understanding that it would not be used for housing; that CCC and the University have policies in place to protect nature, enhance biodiversity, support local agriculture, safeguard local heritage, promote sustainability and to listen to the views of the local communities. I also understand that previous plans were deemed unsuitable for development for reasons of biodiversity; wildlife corridors; green space; agricultural land, lack of access and limited public transport; poor drainage and flood risks; risks to nature and cultural heritage and historic buildings - so how has this now changed?

Please do not pass this planning the effect on the local area will be catastrophic.

Yours faithfully

June King