

## Alexander Gunyon

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**From:** Simon Kirchin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 26 May 2024 09:58  
**To:** Consultations  
**Subject:** Blean Consultation - submission

**Categories:** Blue category

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Hello,

Please find below my submission regarding your current consultation about building on the land in the Blean.

Best wishes, Simon

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Name: Prof. Simon Kirchin

Address: [REDACTED]

I am responding as a nearby resident to Canterbury and a frequent visitor to the Blean. (We are due to move house in Summer but will return frequently to visit friends and family.)

The comment below is in response to Chapter 1 of the Council's Local Plan.

**I oppose the proposal to build a new town of 2,000 houses on rural land north of Canterbury.** Public services are already overburdened by the existing housing in the district. The area between Blean and Tyler Hill, with its rural charm, valuable agricultural land, importance for biodiversity, and lack of accessibility without new roads, is not the appropriate place for the construction of 2,000 houses.

Below is a response to Chapter 2, Policy C12

The Plan does not provide a clear indication of how the proposed development can be anything other than a car-dependent community, requiring road building, increased traffic flow into Canterbury, and a deterioration in quality of life due to noise and air pollution. All existing roads are narrow rural routes, ill-equipped to handle the additional traffic generated by the thousands of planned homes. There is a lack of evidence suggesting that campaigns to stimulate greater bus patronage in the Canterbury district have been successful, making it highly questionable whether this strategy will prove effective in alleviating traffic-related challenges. The C12 proposals are at odds with the "2021 Land Character Assessment", which should serve as the foundation for any current or future "Local Plan". The proposed development contravenes policy SS1.10, as it is surrounded by various sections of the "National Nature Reserve", which is home to numerous rare and endangered species. The SS1.10 policy outlines the Council's commitment to collaborate with associates to broaden and improve the connectivity of the "Blean Woodland Complex".

Yet, this development proposal would make connectivity unfeasible. The suggested construction would harm the local flora and fauna, which are of immense value for my family and me.

END

[Redacted]

**Simon Kirchin**

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