



CCC Consultations <consultations@canterbury.gov.uk>

Local Plan Consultation

1 message

Chris & Heather Briggs [REDACTED]

4 January 2023 at 14:46

To: "consultations@canterbury.gov.uk" <consultations@canterbury.gov.uk>

Dear Sir/Madam,

We would like to contribute the following comments re. the proposed draft Local Plan 2020-2045 with particular reference to the South West of Canterbury:-

1. It is not obvious that sufficient analysis has been carried out with regard to the type of housing required in the area such that the most pressing needs of the existing community are met. This may well result in a plethora of housing driven by the commercial needs of the developers.
2. Although plans refer to provision for schools and medical services it is clear that other basic structures such as adequate sewage disposal are not met. In a district which already suffers with constant illegal release of sewage by our water providers this is of paramount importance.
3. Transport problems are clearly not resolved by just the creation of a ring road and the assumption that the public will be happy – if they are able – to either walk or cycle. Industry will not be attracted to the area unless they can be convinced that workers and suppliers can travel easily to work sites. One Park and Ride has already closed due to lack of viability so how confident can you be that creating more will encourage usage and be financially viable?
4. Green spaces are of paramount importance to the public as the recent covid epidemic showed. Unfortunately many of the well used walks in the country around the South West of Canterbury will be covered in buildings! The plan appears to make a few suggestions as to where green spaces can be created but there are no firm plans for large scale parks or planting areas. This requirement is too important to ignore.
5. The expansion of the city begs the question as to how the populace will support themselves in work. Clearly some will use Canterbury as a dormitory city and will travel to London on the train. However, this does nothing to attract employers to the area and the district is not a high industry catchment spot. We are unaware of any extensive plans to encourage industry to relocate to this area and, indeed, doing so may well substantially change the very nature of the old city of Canterbury.
6. Finally, what is not clear from these proposals is how they will assist the lives of the current population of the district. There is a feeling that the document has been produced purely with fiscal policy in mind and not, as should be, a development of communities which interlock to enhance the lives of those already in the area. Indeed, most of what has been proposed will result in a total change to the foundations of the city as a small, historical gem which attracts thousands of tourists each year.

We hope these points can be taken alongside other contributions to the public consultation on the Local Plan

Yours faithfully,

Christopher and Heather Briggs

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows