

Mrs Anna Brazier

Email: [REDACTED]

13/01/2023

The Planning Department,
Canterbury City Council,
Council Offices,
Military Road,
Canterbury,
CT1 1YW

Hello,

My name is Anna Brazier, and I am a resident of South Street Whitstable and the plans you propose will directly affect the farming land behind our home and the surrounding area. Whilst I have no objection to providing housing to those people in need, I do have objections when the plans impact the surrounding environment and will have a significant impact on the fragile infrastructure within the community, which will have a direct and negative impact on the current residents.

Whitstable's last population update (21/03/2021) from the census recorded 32,196 residents. The NHS England constitution states that patients have a right to consultant led treatment within 18 weeks of referral or request. Current wait time statistics for East Kent Hospital's University NHS Trust provided by NHS England provides the following data that of 71,655 patients only 58.1% of patient's waiting to start treatment were seen within the 18-week period (The NHS operational standard is 92%). Surrounding Trusts such as Medway NHS Trust also fell short with only 62.3% of 34,433 patients receiving treatment within the 18-week period.

Does it therefore make any sense to increase the strain on our ever-struggling NHS system by providing an additional 1300 homes to manage and treat within our local trusts, when we are already falling significant short of the current residents' constitutional rights?

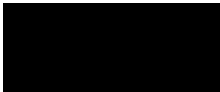
It is a well-known and documented fact that Whitstable and the North Kent coast has experienced significant damage to our marine eco-system from the consistent sewage leaks into the sea over a number of years. Sewage leaks infiltrate the nearby waterways and lead to an excess of nutrients, pathogens, parasites and heavy metals, that can destroy our coastal ecosystems putting both human health at risk and cause death to our sea life. The cause of these sewage leaks is due to several factors including dry ground, which has the inability to readily absorb the excess surface water and also a lack of undeveloped rural land which can help to absorb increased rainfall.

During heavy rainfall, and significantly drier periods during the summer, (which is likely only to increase because of Global Warming), the current storm drain system in Whitstable has the inability to manage to the increased surface water, resulting in continual sewage dumps into the sea to prevent flooding into homes and roads. I can only implore you to be realistic as to how the further development of green, rural land will have such a huge negative impact on the drainage infrastructure. Leading Whitstable to be a town that can no longer safely enjoy it's coastline, leading to a reduction in tourism and also irretrievable damage to our historical Oyster and fish industries.

Additionally, amongst my many other concerns is the increased effect on our highway system. Whitstable was founded as a small coastal fishing town and although the population continues to grow, the public services and maintenance of the roads has not. At the top of Millstrood Road Whitstable, a main entry road into Whitstable town centre, there have been repeated roadworks due to damaged pipes, with traffic lights in place for the past two to three years at a minimum. With an additional 1300 homes at the South Street site alone and most homes having at least one car per family. The traffic delays and inconvenience to residents will only increase under the sheer weight of traffic. Also lending itself to increased air pollution, greater parking difficulties and a likely increase in Council or road tax to cover the work costs incurred.

I want this letter to stand as a strong objection to the development of the South Street and additional Thanet way housing development plans for the reasons above.

Kind regards,



Anna Brazier