

Dear Policy and Strategy Team,

As a Canterbury resident I wish to express my opposition to the proposed Merton Park development. This site is wholly unsuited for the size of project proposed. I am concerned about the loss of green space which was a vital lifeline to so many local people during the Covid-19 lockdowns. In addition, I fear the cost to biodiversity cannot be mitigated adequately and there is a high risk of flooding downhill of this development. The additional traffic created, particularly by the proposed football stadium, will destroy the peace that is so valuable in this area. I spend a significant amount of my free time wandering the orchards and value this space as an accessible green space which is of benefit to both my physical and mental health. I do not believe that the reality of this project will see sufficient social housing to justify the loss of this green space.