



CCC Consultations &lt;consultations@canterbury.gov.uk&gt;

## Comments on the draft Canterbury District Local Plan to 2045

1 message

**kristin wade** [REDACTED]  
To: consultations@canterbury.gov.uk

15 January 2023 at 16:39

To whom it may concern,

At the outset I should say that I am in a position to comment only on Canterbury and its environs although the housing targets for the whole district appear to be a considerable overestimation of need and based on what evidence is not clear. It would therefore be wise to delay all new housing proposals until Michael Gove has published his review.

Canterbury, where I have lived for over 40 years, has already outgrown itself, as witnessed by the massive increase in circulating traffic and the resulting impact on air and life quality.

The wheel and spoke design of the city leaves little room for improving the flow of traffic into, out of and around it. Whilst the aim of making public transport more user friendly is a good one, it is difficult to see how it can be improved substantially and is unlikely to be taken up by families with young children who will occupy the houses in, for instance, Mountfield Park. A large percentage of families with children have not just 1 car but 2. There are few details about the basis on which it is claimed that Canterbury residents will feel inclined to switch to active travel when air pollution remains high and roads can be difficult to manoeuvre safely for cyclists. The idea of constructing a green bridge over NDR ( and ODR?) is a good one in terms of helping school children to circulate safely. On a related matter, there needs to be more emphasis and clarity on establishing linked up Green corridors so crucial for the reasons just mentioned as well as for wildlife. Indeed a map of these interlinked Greenways should be the central focus of the masterplan for the District, NOW. With so much development planned, it would be a wasted opportunity not to do so.

Linked to the above is the impact of development on our water quality. Standards have slipped badly nearly everywhere it seems but if Canterbury wishes to single itself out as a wonderful place to live, work and bring up a family, it must take a lead on improving its waste disposal systems. More stringent water quality measures need to be put in place and, crucially, complied with. To do this there needs to be automatic digital monitoring of water quality at appropriate points along waterways and action taken immediately where standards are not met.

As for the city of Canterbury itself, I welcome the general aim to diversify what is available in terms of different kinds of entertainment in order to attract more people. All the European cities I have visited have wonderful markets. Ours needs to stay together in one place selling goods and produce of high quality. A good museum, a sound and light ( son et lumiere) show on the cathedral, street entertainment, bowling alley etc would all help to attract both residents and tourists.

Kristin Wade,  
[REDACTED]