

CCC Consultations <consultations@canterbury.gov.uk>

Local Plan 2045

1 message

Jackson

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To: consultations@canterbury.gov.uk

COMMENTS ON LOCAL PLAN 2045

We have been residents of Canterbury for over 50 years and are currently living in the Local Plan are restricted to how it would impact on our neighbourhood and local area and on our daily life moving around the City.

We are opposed to the building of so many unnecessary houses on the south side of Canterbury. The plan proposes (C12-C15) over 2000 new dwellings adjacent to Littlebourne Road. These are in addition to the 200 dwellings planned for the St Martin's Hospital site and the enormous development at Royal Parade. Traffic from all these developments will flow onto the A257 Littlebourne Road, an already extremely busy and dangerous road. We are also concerned about the management of water supply and sewage from these large developments.

The proposed EMC (C16) would cut across our neighbourhood with drastic consequences. It would cut us off from Fordwich and the A257 and it destroy valuable farmland, important archaeological sites and unique wildlife habitats. The single carriageway proposed would cause light and noise pollution and the traffic generated by the new housing developments and the Zoning plan would produce extensive congestion. The building of the EMC is riskily dependent on developer funding and seems not to take into account rising costs, etc.

The Zoning plan is ill-thought through, untested and unworkable in a city like Canterbury. It would divide neighbourhoods and communities and make vehicle journeys longer and therefore more expensive. The premise that many more people will walk or cycle around Canterbury is ludicrous; even fit people who might be willing to do this (occasionally) need to use their cars to carry heavy shopping, large items etc. The proposed closure of city centre car parks would deter shoppers and visitors alike.

The plan to cut traffic congestion in the City is laudable, but surely the Council should be taking action now to tackle this problem, before embarking on more drastic developments. There should be much better, frequent bus services, together with increased Park and Ride facilities and incentives to use them, eg reduce the parking fee at peak times to a level that is really attractive. (Incidentally, we wonder how the Sturry Road P&R closure helps to reduce pollution.) The increase in electric vehicles and other non-polluting forms of transport will also help reduce pollution levels in the future. These measure would make the EMC, and therefore the extensive new housing developments, unnecessary.

It is important to encourage local people, visitors and tourists to come to Canterbury and also to preserve its World Heritage status. We feel the current proposals will make this extremely difficult.

Professor Emeritus David Jackson

Mrs Valerie Jackson