



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

## Canterbury Local Plan

1 message

16 January 2023 at 12:17

To: consultations@canterbury.gov.uk

My attention has only recently been drawn to the Local Plan and I have a number of concerns that I would like to register. I am a resident of CT1 since [REDACTED] and have lived, worked and raised a family here. I am very conscious of the problems of traffic in the City (from both the perspectives of pollution and getting to where you need to be) and welcome the discussion on how the situation can be improved.

The objective to have a sustainable and thriving City for residents and commerce for many years to come is an important one. Our increasing awareness of the impact of climate change and the importance of biodiversity must inform the choices we make, alongside being sympathetic to preserving the unique aspects of an historic City such as Canterbury.

The plan as presented currently is troubling in many regards:

1. The bypass and circulation systems are hugely disruptive to implement and not guaranteed to achieve the hoped-for results. If, as reported, a minority of traffic is through traffic then congestion in the City is still an issue.
2. Closing all car parks and stopping people from getting into the City will deter visitors I'm sure, but this will be a massive negative for the businesses in the centre that rely on people coming to them.
3. Similarly zoning and charging for moving around the City appears unworkable. It is a small area and if you live here you need to be able to access all parts of the City regularly – shopping, gyms, parks etc. Charges disproportionately affect the less well-off in the community.
4. The cost of the road building, I understand, is to be funded by allowing housing developments over and above that which is needed. This in turn will (in some reports I have seen) double the population and add to pressures on infrastructure – not just roads but water and sewage too. Dependence on developers in this way will constrain decision-making to consider their needs rather than the best for the local area.
5. Nor is it clear that these housing developments will deliver the social and low-cost housing most urgently needed by our local population – particularly the young who are struggling to get their own homes. Experience suggests the focus from developers will be on larger 'executive' style properties, out of the price range of most people.
6. The road and housing developments will have a hugely detrimental effect on the local area. Destroying important environmental areas and surrounding villages for unproven results.

I sincerely hope that CCC will take note of the new guidance from Michael Gove and re-think the proposals to properly take into account the views of the local community in the plans.

Regards,

Sharon Hunt

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