

Roy Rix , [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Local Plan

Canterbury City Council

Military Road

Canterbury CT1 1YW

16<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Sir

I am writing to register my objection to the proposed local plan 2045, in particular the Canterbury Circulation Plan section as set out below.

The City centre is currently in slow decline, reaching a point where empty shops are rapidly coming close to outnumbering active retail uses. Previous Council initiatives have sought to solve the traffic congestion problems by provision of Park and Ride hubs. There is clearly an acceptance now that this solution has not worked and these facilities are now being closed.

The current limited central area parking is well used and the Local Plan makes provision for nearly all to be redeveloped leaving only minimal provision for disabled users within the central area.

The principle of traffic zones and forced use of an outer circulation ring road serving another generation of more distant Park and Ride hubs in order to allow enhanced active central area access will only benefit a limited number of City visitors. The many permanent residents who are not sufficiently active to be able to cycle or walk to the centre and have need for vehicle access between zones (carrying goods, collecting goods, accessing businesses etc) will be forced into long vehicle journeys round the outer ring road causing more air pollution, an additional drain on energy reserves and simply move the current traffic congestion.

This policy can only lead to an acceleration of local residents visiting alternative Kent town centres, a general exodus started following the earlier "Park and Ride" experiment.

Far from assisting in reviving the City centre I believe it will further fuel it's reputation for Burger bars, Fast food outlets, Bars, Nail parlours and Hair dressers. This may suit students and some visitors but totally at the expense of the local residents.

Yours Sincerely

Roy Rix

