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15 January 2023

Canterbury City council

Dear Sirs

### **Canterbury District Local Plan to 2045 - Consultation**

I wish to make a number of comments regarding the Canterbury District Local Plan to 2045.

The secret to lowering transport emissions is to have housing near where there is work, in order to minimise distance commuting. There is little available work in Canterbury and therefore little need for additional housing.

The proposed accelerated rate of building will massively increase CO<sub>2</sub> emissions over the current levels, both through construction and when in occupation.

Much work in Canterbury is related to retail, food and tourism. There is danger that the plan will spoil the remaining charm and character of Canterbury, reducing its desirability and with it, jobs for the existing community. Risk to World Heritage Status is real.

The plan does not give confidence with respect to sustainability. Water supply is both vulnerable to pollution and in short supply. Sewage infrastructure is thought to be near to limits.

Improvements to cycling provision are commendable. Be aware that most journeys out of the City are up-hill (unlike Ghent) making walking or riding home with shopping hard work. I prefer to leave the car at home most of the time, but there are occasions when a car is required for heavy or awkward goods. The "Circulation Plan" sector in which I live has only a limited range of shops. To access others, a significant journey, long in distance and time, would be required. Journeying on to Ashford or Dover becomes an interesting option.

In summary, the plan appears fundamentally flawed. Before progressing, would it not be best to wait for the forthcoming Levelling Up Bill to be understood, as changes to the plan are likely to be required, not just reviewed?

Yours Faithfully

Martin Jarvis