



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

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## Objections to the Draft Canterbury Local Plan

1 message

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**Barnaby Riggs** [REDACTED]

13 February 2023 at 15:57

To: consultations@canterbury.gov.uk

I live in Fordwich with my family. I fully support the representations submitted today on behalf of Fordwich Residents and the Town Council.

Rather than repeat the objections contained with those representations and topic papers, I wish to highlight my own specific concerns.

Fordwich is blighted by the excess traffic that uses the town as a rat run and a solution to this is desperately needed. Fordwich's roads and historic buildings cannot cope with the thousands of cars that pass through every day. Whilst a solution is desperately needed, the Eastern Bypass is not it. Whilst it may alleviate one blight, it would simply replace it with another that robs Fordwich of much of its history and character that makes it worth preserving. There are many other ways that traffic can be alleviated if proper consultation were to take place with Fordwich residents through its Town Council - ANPR for one, as contemplated in part in the Local Plan, but without the bypass.

The Eastern Bypass would sever the town and community in two. It would increase car usage and thus pollution in the immediate vicinity of Fordwich -greenhouse gases and light and noise pollution. It risks eliminating any separation between Fordwich and Canterbury leading to urban sprawl and removing character worth preserving, as pointed out by Canterbury City Council itself when extending the Fordwich Conversation Area in 1993.

The Eastern Bypass will decimate the ancient woodlands surrounding Fordwich and destroy their irreplaceable habitats. And it beggars belief that the proposed route ploughs straight through the protected woodlands of Sandpit Wood as well as Trenley Park Wood. And all of this to avoid the Chequers Wood SSSI "at all costs". Losing these woodland areas should be unthinkable for CCC, given its strategic priorities.

The Draft Local Plan is clearly ill-conceived given the concerns that we have highlighted that have been given scant regard in the preparation of the Plan. This was typified by CCC's Director of Strategy and Improvement denying to me personally that the proposed route would cut Fordwich in two - he was clearly unaware of the extent of the Parish of Fordwich or the Conservation Area.

I also wholeheartedly object to the proposed Zoning Scheme for Canterbury which is also as ill-conceived and wholly inappropriate for a City the size of Canterbury with its limited infrastructure. The CCC committees I have attended would seem to suggest that Council Officers are being bold for boldness' sake.

I am happy to discuss all of these points in person and I hope you will scrap this plan and start again, but this time with appropriate consultation.

regards  
Barnaby Riggs

