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## Canterbury District Local Plan | Opposition to Policy N3

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From Barbara Wenner Grogan [REDACTED]  
Date Tue 9/9/2025 4:06 PM  
To Consultations <Consultations@canterbury.gov.uk>

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing as a concerned resident to formally express my strong opposition to proposed plans to replace the Thanington Recreation Ground with a Park and Ride (Policy N3). The proposal came to my attention following the Canterbury City Council Cabinet meeting on Monday 8 September and I have since reviewed the Local Plan. This proposal has deeply troubled many within our neighbourhood, as it threatens to remove a cherished and vital community asset.

The Thanington Recreation Ground stands at the heart of our community, serving as an essential gathering space for a wide array of local groups and organisations. It provides invaluable services not only for adults but also for our youth, who regularly use the sports facilities, play park, and pump track. These amenities foster both physical activity and social engagement, contributing directly to the health and well-being of our residents.

Importantly, this recreation ground represents the only significant green space within our locality. To lose it would deprive our community—particularly our children and young people—of equitable opportunities for outdoor recreation, exercise, and mental health support. Such green spaces have repeatedly shown to improve quality of life, promote inclusion, and encourage healthy lifestyles.

Furthermore, as residents who pay high property taxes, we rightly expect access to quality recreation and community services. The existence of the Thanington Recreation Ground is a core part of the social contract between residents and local government. Its removal would not only diminish the amenities available to all but would also send a disheartening message about the priorities of our council.

I urge you, in the strongest possible terms, to reconsider the current plans. The Thanington Recreation Ground and Resource Centre must be protected—not only for present users but for generations to come. I respectfully request that the council explores alternative sites for a Park and Ride facility, ensuring that the needs of commuters do not come at the expense of the well-being of our local community.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I trust you will consider the voices and needs of your constituents.

Yours sincerely,  
Barbara Grogan

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