



Policy C12

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Subject: Response to Policy C12 – Land North of the University of Kent

Dear Sirs,

I am responding to the question: ***Do you have any comments on the proposed deletion of land north of the University of Kent (Policy C12)?***

I welcome the City Council's decision to remove this site from the renewed Local Plan proposals. The suggested allocation of 2,000 houses north of the University was never sustainable and the surrounding villages and rural road network could not have supported the traffic movements associated with a development of this scale.

The land in question is environmentally sensitive, including productive farmland and areas of ancient woodland. Its loss would have been contrary to both environmental and community interests. We are pleased to see the Council's recognition of the importance of protecting such areas and its focus instead on including more brownfield areas, as reflected in the recent call for sites and their inclusion in the latest draft.

We hope the University will now be encouraged to consider the future of this land in ways that fits with its campus masterplan of emphasising environmental sustainability and meaningful engagement with the local community. This location has never sat comfortably with the Council's commitment to increasing public transport use, nor with wider sustainability objectives.

Given that this site has now been rejected in both the current draft and a previous plan, I trust this will finally draw a line under any future proposals for development here.

Yours faithfully,

Simon Docherty

