

**From:** David Roberts [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 19 October 2025 13:24  
**To:** Consultations  
**Subject:** Policy C12

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my full and unequivocal support for the proposed deletion of Policy C12, Land north of the University of Kent, from the Local Plan.

Having reviewed the details and the technical assessments associated with this policy, I firmly agree with the reasons cited for its removal and these are along the same lines as my own response to the proposal. In particular, I share the deep concerns regarding the adverse impact such a development would have on the local road network, which is already under considerable strain. Introducing a large-scale development in this area would only exacerbate existing traffic congestion, increase pollution, and significantly diminish the quality of life for nearby residents.

Furthermore, the impact of such a development on the local and nationally significant ancient woodland is unacceptable. These irreplaceable natural habitats are vital for biodiversity, carbon capture, and the wellbeing of our communities. Destroying them for development would represent a short-sighted decision with long-term environmental consequences.

Equally troubling is the potential demolition of the outstanding Blean Primary School, an essential part of the local community. The cost—both financial and social—of replacing this school cannot be justified, particularly when alternative development sites may exist that do not involve such severe trade-offs.

I would like to add that given Policy C12, I was shocked and disappointed by the response of the University of Kent, in which they confirmed that, despite the deletion of Site C12 from the draft Local Plan, they have decided to reject working with local stakeholders on the proposed Blean Biopark—a project that would offer significant environmental, educational, and community benefits. Instead, the University has stated that they intend to continue pursuing a residential development of up to 2,000 houses that goes against the council's decision.

This approach appears to ignore the very serious concerns raised during the consultation process and shows a worrying disregard for the views of the local community, as well as the environmental and infrastructural limitations of the area. It is deeply regrettable that a respected institution such as the University of Kent is choosing to pursue such a course of

action rather than collaborating with the community on a more sustainable and visionary alternative.

These concerns are not minor or technical in nature—they go to the heart of what we value in our communities: sustainability, environmental stewardship, and the preservation of vital public infrastructure. I believe these same concerns would apply to any similar future proposals for large-scale development on this site.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the councillors and planning officers who have taken the time to consider the voices of local residents and other stakeholders. Your responsiveness to these important issues is greatly appreciated, and I hope it continues to guide decision-making as the Local Plan evolves.

Yours faithfully,

Dr David L Roberts

