

**From:** Oliver Reeve [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 17 October 2025 17:47  
**To:** Consultations  
**Subject:** Policy N31 - Chartham Paper Mill

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Dear Sirs/Madam,

I write in the capacity as a local resident in Canterbury, also a Member of the Tonford Flyfishing Club.

The potential redevelopment of this site at Chartham Paper Mill offers a once in a generation opportunity to improve the appearance, river ecosystem, river flow and habitat for biodiversity.

Key points I would like to set out for consideration:

- Increased houses will generate increased sewage & groundwater runoff, this needs to be addressed by adding capacity and modernising the plants receiving it. The current system and STW at the site need to manage this capacity and filter additional harmful chemicals because of the additional ground water generated from this site and moreover in anticipation of future housing estates planned in the near vicinity. The water quality and temperature flowing back into the river must be addressed to get the river ecosystem back to good health.
- Policy N31 - the Chartham Paper Mill Site . The current redundant Paper Mill historically impounded and altered the river to suit its use. The need for these obstructions of weirs, sluices and barriers is gone and the obsolete structures should be removed and the river restored to its natural state (re wiggling could be employed). The Great Stour Chalk stream and Horton Leat habitat and native fish including Eels, Brown Trout, Sea Trout and historically Salmon (now likely extinct from the Stour) need to be able to move freely up stream to the spawning redds and downstream to the sea (Eels go the other way). These species are endangered and are at-risk of extinction, they need to be

protected. Sea Trout from the Stour have been documented in The Compleat Angler a well known book by Izaak Walton, first published in 1653. Fly life in the river system is key to the food chain which depend on water quality and temperature to survive.

- Tonford Fly Fishing Club who actively manage the river habitat in this area , The Stour Fisheries Conservation Association who own the fishing rights and riparian owners of the river are all keen to see the restoration of the river as part of these proposals. They are already working with other interested parties like the SE Rivers Trust, Environment Agency Fisheries and Drainage departments, The Wild Trout Trust , The Kentish Stour Countryside Partnerships conservation group and their 'Our Stour' Group, together with many more. This River Restoration Action Group is hoping to actively assist the development of these proposals in due course.
- Policy N3 - Thanington Recreation Ground Park and ride proposal for parking for 900 cars also includes opportunities for cycling and walking. The Tonford Fly Fishing Club lease the fishing rights on the stretch of the Great Stour affected by this proposal from the river owner. The club wishes to be consulted over these proposals as they have a right to Quiet enjoyment that the cycling and walking needs to respect. As the appointed river keepers, they are also keen to see the risk of run and pollution mitigated in the proposals.

As you may appreciate a chalk stream is a global rarity with 6 within the Stour Catchment with the Great Stour impacted by these plans, please consider future generations and the impact of rising temperatures and how little by little our precious eco system is being clipped, it would be great to see this opportunity embraced to improve this section of our wonderful river, you won't regret it.

Warm regards, Oliver

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**Oliver Reeve**

Director

Oliver Reeve & Partners Ltd

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