

**Tom Hawkes**

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**From:** Jane Elder [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 October 2025 17:28  
**To:** Consultations  
**Subject:** Draft Canterbury District Local Plan

[REDACTED]

--Email From External Account--

Dear Consultations Team,

I am writing as a long term resident of Wincheap. Whilst I appreciate that the city council has a difficult task ahead to provide new homes for a growing population, the scope of plans for the proposed Merton Park area are far too intensive and extensive for this part of the city.

Obviously I would regret the LOSS OF OPEN SPACES that have been enjoyed by local residents for generations and which are an extremely valuable asset to the local community for physical and mental health. The effect on the biodiversity of the area would be immense and the loss of so much green space incomprehensible. Further, the revised plan has dropped the provision for a number of new allotments in the scheme. Why? Presumably to allow for more homes.

More than that, I cannot see how the area can cope with such an increase in housing and consequently TRAFFIC. The removal of the formerly proposed slip road from the coastbound A2 means that the transport and access strategy for Merton Park is now untenable. At peak times, especially during the school run, local roads are already dangerously busy. To add potentially 2,000 more cars (at least one per new household) would be unsustainable. The removal of the proposed A2 slip road has also had the knock on effect of putting the future of the Thanington recreation ground at risk with the move of the proposed park and ride at Merton Park to the rec. In my opinion the reinstatement of sliproads on the coastal bound A2 is a necessary prerequisite to any development at Merton Park.

Yours faithfully,  
Jane Elder

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Sent from my iPad