

From: Karen Rynston [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 October 2025 15:24
To: Consultations
Subject: Objection to Policy W4 Canterbury Local Draft Plan 2025

--Email From External Account--

Dear Canterbury City Council Consultations / Planning Teams,

I am writing to formally object to Policy W4 in the Canterbury Local Draft Plan, which proposes development at Brooklands Farm, Whitstable.

I strongly oppose this policy for the following reasons:

1. Landscape and Environmental Impact

Brooklands Farm lies within an Area of High Landscape Value. Development here would irreversibly damage the rural character of the area and threaten local biodiversity, including protected species and habitats. The open land serves as a buffer between neighbourhoods and provides ecological value.

The continued development on greenfield sites in and around Whitstable and the pressure this places on resources like water supply is of significant concern with Whitstable already struggling with flooding and untreated sewage discharges into the sea / on the beaches at Swalecliffe and Tankerton.

2. Infrastructure Concerns

Whitstable's infrastructure is already under pressure. Local roads are congested, schools are oversubscribed, and healthcare services are stretched and operating at near capacity. The proposed development would exacerbate these issues and 1400 new homes will place an unsustainable burden on these services, without adequate mitigation.

3. Overdevelopment and Housing Distribution

Whitstable has absorbed significant housing growth in recent years. Further expansion risks unbalancing development across the district - the continued focus on Whitstable for large-scale housing allocations risks undermining the town's sustainability and liveability.

4. Traffic, Highway Safety and Pollution

The construction of houses on this site would unacceptably increase traffic on A2990 Old Thanet Way and worsen existing highway safety problems around the Long Reach roundabout and further west along the A2990 to the A299.

Increased vehicle use from new residents would worsen air quality and contribute to noise pollution - if (and when!) a planned new A299 junction at Radfall is constructed, it is likely to trigger additional development along the A299 corridor.

5. Community and Heritage

The proposal does not reflect the character or needs of the local community. It risks eroding the identity of Whitstable and its surrounding villages, which are defined by their coastal charm, heritage architecture and tight-knit social fabric. The scale and nature of the proposed development would fundamentally alter the town's atmosphere, replacing it with generic housing estates that fail to respect the area's distinctiveness. Whitstable is not just a location — it's a unique community.

I request that these concerns are taken into consideration during the decision-making process and urge the Council to reconsider Policy W4 and explore alternative sites that do not compromise our natural environment, infrastructure, or community wellbeing.

Yours faithfully,

Karen Rynston

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[Redacted contact information]

21/10/25