

Tom Hawkes

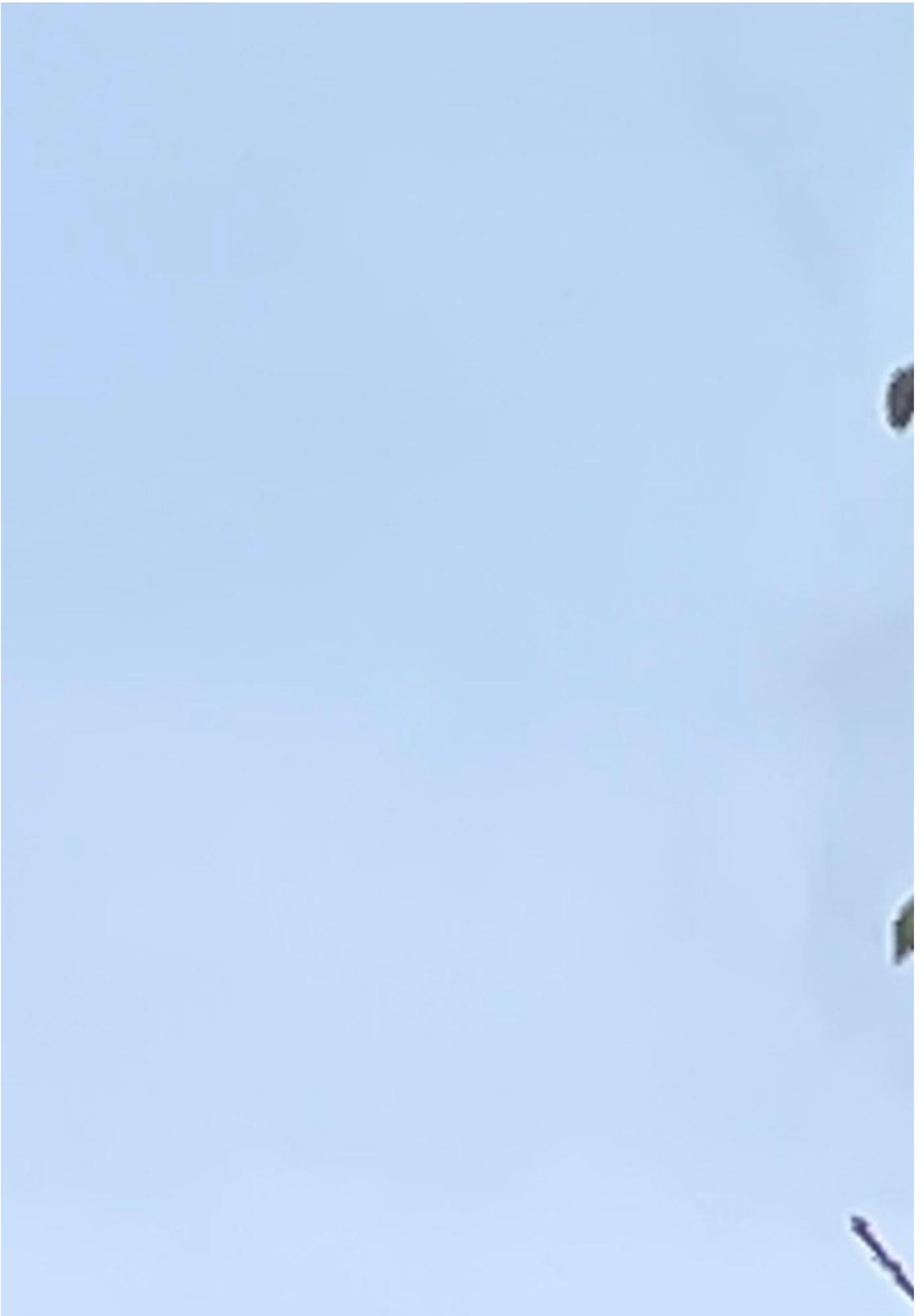
From: Michaela Heath [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 October 2025 16:59
To: Consultations
Subject: Fw: Draft Canterbury District Local Plan: Focused consultation 2025

[REDACTED]

--Email From External Account--

Further information

attached



[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Begin forwarded message:

On Tuesday, October 21, 2025, 4:24 pm, Michaela Heath [REDACTED] wrote:

16:18



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Canterbury, England - 1

16:18



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Dear Canterbury City Council

Re: Canterbury District Local Plan focused consultation 2025

Please reconsider your proposals to develop on the green spaces as detailed in your local plan. Reasons for objection are as follows:

People's Health - The city is without an acute hospital. Hospitals in Ashford and Margate are already exceeding capacity with the need to convert cafeteria into a ward. Increase population would put more pressure on the hospitals, ambulance and endanger lives as it is people living in Canterbury have to travel so many miles (delay) for treatment. Then wait in a corridor or on a make shift ward.

Pollution - destruction of plants and trees that help reduce pollution (many plants and trees absorb toxins from our atmosphere). An increase in population together with less green space would mean that pollution levels greatly rise and will have an impact on people's health.

Impact on nature - Areas of natural habitat for bees and other insects, invertebrates, mammals and birds would be lost. Endangering protected species on the UK's biodiversity action plan list.

The area mapped on your policy N12 in Bawden Close maybe a small area but is vast in biodiversity. Priority species recognised on the UK biodiversity action plan list have been recorded here, these are hedgehogs, tree sparrows, yellowhammers, nightingales, bats and newts as well as butterflies and moths. I have recorded birds using the Merlin app as well as photographed butterflies and moths. Please see attached documents. This area is a natural habitat for a large variety of invertebrates, birds, insects and mammals who forage, shelter and nest here.

Green spaces are vital for wildlife and beneficial for our mental health as well as physical health.

Some of the plant species in this area and how they support the wildlife are:

Bristly oxtongue can provide important habitat for wildlife. Its leaves and seeds are a food source for many bird species, and its flowers attract a range of pollinators. Additionally, its dense growth can provide cover and nesting sites for small mammals and insects.

Yarrow is a fantastic plant for wildlife, featuring on the RHS Plants for Pollinators list and supporting over 100 species of insect. These include numerous beetles, flies and true bugs, particularly aphid-eaters, as well as common blue, painted lady and heath fritillary butterflies. It is especially attractive to moths and micro-moths, with the cinnabar, ruby tiger, mullein wave and frosted orange moth among the 42 species that use it as a food plant.

Dogwood. The leaves are eaten by the caterpillars of some moths, including the case-bearer moth, while the flowers are visited by insects and the berries are eaten by many mammals and birds.

Dog-rose plant. Dog rose flowers are an important nectar source for insects and its fruits are a food source for birds such as blackbirds, redwings and waxwings.

Holly bushes, the berries are an important food source for many birds like Redwings and Fieldfares.

Creeping Thistle is a valuable plant for wildlife, providing food for a range of invertebrates, including caterpillars of the painted lady butterfly. Its flowers provide nectar for moths and butterflies, including the small tortoiseshell, white letter hairstreak, peacock and meadow brown, and nectar and pollen for bees. Its seeds are also an important food source for a variety of farmland and garden birds, including goldfinches, greenfinches, siskins and lesser redpolls, many of which also use the thistledown for nest building.

Common Ivy grows like a blanket covering the ground, luscious, yet misunderstood. Ivy has long been accused of strangling trees, but it doesn't harm the tree at all, and even supports at least 50 species of wildlife. Beyond its role in providing shelter and sustenance, ivy is also a key player in carbon capture, helping to absorb CO2 from the atmosphere.

Common ragwort is one of the most frequently visited flowers by butterflies in the UK and more than 200 species of invertebrate have been recorded on it.

List of birds recorded using the Merlin app from 2023 are:

House Sparrows, Eurasian Tree Sparrows, Eurasian Blackcaps, Eurasian Blackbirds, European Robins, Eurasian Green Woodpeckers, Eurasian Jackdaws, European Goldfinches, European Greenfinches, Eurasian Blue Tits, Coal Tits, Great Tits, Long-tailed Tits, Magpies, Starlings, Dunnocks, Chiffchaffs, Chaffinches, Eurasian Wrens, Song Thrushes, Nightingales, Tawny Owl, Yellowhammers, Firecrests, Woodpigeons, Doves, Pheasants, Herring and Yellow-legged Gulls, Crows, Western Marsh Harrier, Buzzards, Linnets, Meadow Pipits, Firecrests, Goldcrests, Western House Martins, Eurasian Siskins, Redwings, Pied Wagtails/White Wagtails, Eurasian Skylarks.

Moths and Butterflies in this area: Woolly Bear Caterpillar, Garden Tiger, Jersey Tiger, Box Tree moths, Clouded Yellow butterfly, painted lady butterfly, large white butterfly, Gatekeeper butterfly, green emerald moth, Red Admiral, are some of the species that I have photographed here.

These are sources of food for birds and bats. The bats fly around this area.

I find connection with nature of huge benefit to my mental health. An inspiration for art too.

I would like to ask how are the council going to manage antisocial behaviours in this area? (as there are ongoing issues).

The road has limited amount of parking. Bus timetables have been reduced and buses are full during rush hour commute to and from work. If too packed then the driver does not allow any more people on.

Noise pollution- the flats and houses are already in close proximity and noise at times can be a nuisance especially when trying to sleep. Adding 5 additional dwellings in an already overcrowded area is a concern.

Delivery drivers use the pavements as a highway, riding their motorcycles to make deliveries around here. More people, will mean more fast food ordering hence more deliveries and more risk to anyone that happens to be walking on a pavement up here.

Thank you for considering my comments. I could not upload all the Merlin recordings, videos and photographs as there were size restrictions. If you require any further information please contact me. Thank you.

Kind regards
Michaela Heath

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