

Tom Hawkes

From: Stuart Heaver [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 October 2025 21:07
To: Consultations
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Councillor objections - Draft Canterbury District Local Plan: Focused consultation 2025

--Email From External Account--

Objections and concerns of local Councillor in Whitstable

Site N20 Land east of Chestfield Road (150 homes)
Site N21 Golden Hill (70 homes)
Site N24 Land to the east of Golden Hill (traveller site)

Dear Sir/Madam

Having spent significant time listening carefully to local residents and community groups in my ward and my KCC division, I wish to register the following strong objections on their behalf to the development sites in the reference.

These proposed sites cannot be assessed fairly in isolation but must be viewed as part of the cumulative impact of intensive recent development on greenfield sites along the Thanet Way in south Whitstable. This includes adjacent sites currently still under construction (Whitstable Heights 400 homes) those included from the 2017 Local Plan allocation (Site 7, Thanet Way site (296 homes) and Site 12, land south of Ridgeway (279 homes). It must also consider those 1,870 proposed new homes already consulted on as part of the previous Secion18 consultation including Site W4 Brooklands Farm (1350 homes), W5 land south of Thanet Way (200 homes) and W6 Bodkins Farm (250 homes). In this regard, the map accompanying the document on the Canterbury City Council website is highly misleading as it treats the sites in this focused consultation in isolation.

There is almost universal objection in my ward and division to these proposals for a cumulative total **3,065 new homes** (including those already under construction) and for south Whitstable being turned into a vast suburban sprawl of housing estates. This proposed development equates to a population increase of more than 7,000 people over the next 19 years or about 22%. This is a massive scale of development and naturally there are huge concerns about the cumulative impacts on the character of this heritage coastal town and the strain on already fragile infrastructure, as this ‘parasite’ town grows on Whitstable’s margins.

The specific concerns and objections to N20 and N21 are those raised time and again by residents and local campaign groups:

- Inadequate water infrastructure- water supply outages and endemic sewage pollution are already at unacceptable levels with no plans to tackle existing sewage pollution levels and water supply concerns.

- Highway safety.
- Overloading local health and education services.
- Damage to the environment including two local SSSIs
- Traffic congestion and air pollution
- Loss of farmland and green space- all but 16 homes in Whitstable on this plan will be built on greenfield sites and farmland.

I would also like to register another more general concern. Many residents in Whitstable tell me that they do not feel listened to. More than 2,000 local people took the trouble to register valid concerns about Site W4 Brooklands Farm in the previous S18 consultation. People feel very strongly this is an inappropriate site for development and there are posters all over the town objecting to it. The response to that public feedback was for the W4 site to be extended in this focused consultation via sites N20 and N21. It is not surprising that so few local people still have confidence in this consultation process and so many consider it to be a box-ticking exercise.

Yours faithfully

Stuart Heaver

Councillor

Green Party

Gorrell Ward, Whitstable (CCC)

Whitstable West (KCC)

