

## Tom Hawkes

---

**From:** Emma Smitherman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 21 October 2025 09:50  
**To:** Consultations  
**Subject:** Draft Canterbury District Local Plan

**Categories:** awaiting reply

[REDACTED]

**--Email From External Account--**

I am horrified to learn that the Council are considering the Thanington recreation ground for a 900 space park & ride!

The Open Space Strategy for Canterbury City Council states clearly that 'open spaces contribute to the health, well-being & movement for people & wildlife' & that there is a real need for 'open spaces close by'. The Council should protect these spaces & work to enhance them & not concrete them over to the detriment of local residents & nature!

The Thanington recreation ground is of vital importance to the Thanington Resource Centre & its staff who work tirelessly to support some of the most under-privileged residents. The Centre is a hub of social activity for all ages & offers the younger residents a range of activities to keep them entertained & to give them a sense of purpose. I fear that the Centre will not survive the disruption of having the recreation ground destroyed, it will leave residents without anywhere to socialise & it may lead to an increase in crime rate in an already deprived area.

I ask you to reconsider the plan, to find an alternative & to Save the Recreation Ground.

Regards

E.Smitherman