
Regulation 19 Representation-Draft Canterbury District Local Plan (2024/43) . Objection to Site C10 (Land at Merton Park)

From [REDACTED]
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To Consultations <Consultations@canterbury.gov.uk>

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5 May, 2026

The Policy Team
Canterbury City Council,
14 Rose Lane, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2UR
Email: consultations@canterbury.gov.uk

Dear Sirs,

Regulation 19 Representation - Draft Canterbury District Local Plan (2042/43)
Objection to Site C10 (Land at Merton Park)

I have lived in the **Wincheap** area for over fifty years and have used the surrounding orchards and fields for recreation, exercise and dog walking with friends and family on an almost daily basis. These landscapes are an important part of everyday life for local residents and contribute

significantly to health, wellbeing and community identity. I was therefore distressed to read of the Draft Canterbury District Local Plan, particularly the proposed allocation of **Site C10 (Land at Merton Park)**, which I consider to be **unsound**.

Canterbury is already heavily congested, and the Local Plan provides no clear explanation as to how Site C10 would be safely or sustainably accessed. The site is currently served only by narrow rural lanes and roads, which are wholly unsuitable for the scale of development proposed. In addition, the Draft Plan does not adequately address the impacts of pollution, drainage, sewerage capacity or water supply. The loss of orchards, hedgerows and agricultural land would be highly damaging to wildlife and would significantly reduce environmental quality for existing communities. National planning policy requires development plans to protect valued landscapes and recognise the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the proposal for Site C10 fails to do so.

The open fields and orchards around Wincheap and Merton Park are highly valued by the local community and provide access to footpaths and outstanding views of **Canterbury Cathedral**, which form part of the city's historic setting. These landscapes also function as an important rural gap between the city and surrounding villages. Once this land is developed and built over, it will be lost forever and cannot be reinstated. The Draft Local Plan does not demonstrate how the irreversible harm arising from Site C10 is justified or consistent with planning policy. For these reasons, I object to the allocation of Site C10 and request that it is removed from the Local Plan, in order to make the Plan sound.

Yours faithfully,

Clair Marsh