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Sent: 17 May 2026 15:55
To: Consultations
Subject: Fwd: Comments on the draft local plan

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Hello team,

I wish to comment on the draft local plan specifically to object to the proposed Brooklands Farm development.

I have commented previously to Canterbury CC and my concerns remain the same namely:

1. Increased traffic congestion on roads that already experience serious congestion at peak times, especially on the A2990. A new junction has been specified for this development but developers don't always carry out the specified mitigation works, arguing lack of funds. An example of this is that the promised bus service for the new homes at Whitstable Heights is yet to be delivered.

2. Inadequate water supply as a consequence of this development as mentioned in local news:

<https://www.kentononline.co.uk/canterbury/news/now-water-firm-warns-it-will-struggle-to-supply-new-homes-in-337698/>

3. Lack of health service infrastructure

Local health services are already struggling to cope with existing demand eg A critical incident was declared at the QEQM Hospital in Margate in January 2026 due to the high demand, and from April the East Kent Hospitals Trust is placed on an Intensive Recovery Programme to attempt to tackle the ongoing challenges.

While I understand there is a housing crisis, mass building of new homes brings with it its own set of wider social problems unless the necessary health and social

care infrastructure is developed alongside the increase in users of local health and social care services.

4. Sewage management and control

There is already a serious issue with water safety due to Southern Water releasing sewage into the local sea when they say the existing system cannot cope, such as when it rains. This affects those

who wish to swim in the sea, locals and visitors alike, as well as the risk to eating shellfish for which Whitstable is famous. This affects the reputation of the town which relies heavily on tourism for its local economy as well as those who live here and wish to enjoy swimming safely in the sea. There were several cases in the news of people falling sick after swimming at local beaches <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-62725019>

SOS has run a high profile campaign to highlight these concerns <https://www.kentonline.co.uk/whitstable/news/protesters-dress-as-flies-in-demo-against-sewage-spills-339514/>

There is little evidence that improving the Swalecliffe Treatment works will have a significant impact on the current sea pollution issues, let alone the added impact of a large scale development such as Brooklands Farm

5. Reduction of green spaces

It is well documented that there are alternatives to using green spaces to address the housing crisis eg <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2025/sep/24/almost-15m-homes-could-be-built-on-brownfield-sites-in-england-report-finds>

The UK is also experiencing overload on its mental health services and here is but one case for maintaining greenspaces to alleviate the pressure on the NHS and other mental health providers

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/our-work/research/nature-how-connecting-nature-benefits-our-mental-health>

Finally, I fully support the more detailed response provided by the Save Brookland Farm campaign.

Kind regards,

Julie Harrison



