

Canterbury District Local Plan

1 message

Kevin Molony [REDACTED]
To: consultations@canterbury.gov.uk

8 August 2021 at 20:59

Dear Sir or Madam

The link to provide a response on line has not worked, and so I would like to make a few general points:

1. Canterbury is already densely populated and losing its special character. Any new housing development should be kept to the minimum.
2. The government should be reminded of its levelling up policy, and so economic growth such as building new housing should be steered towards areas less densely populated and in need of increased economic activity.
3. Our roads are already too crowded, making cycling dangerous. New roads have been shown to increase traffic and not reduce congestion. This reflects over development and so new housing should be kept to a minimum and only in town centre brownfield sites.
4. Affordable housing should not be subsidised housing, especially if it leads to higher prices having to be paid by new build buyers relying on mortgages, This is not fair on those buyers and it keeps existing housing stock prices artificially high by removing price competition. All housing should be valued for rent or sales on an open market basis. There should not be any distortions by subsidies of any kind. Financial assistance should only be provided on a proven need and regularly reviewed and withdrawn when no longer a justifiable burden on other rate/tax payers.
5. Water is likely to be in short supply and so new development is to be resisted to avoid water shortages.
6. Parking prices need to be kept affordable to save our city centres from decaying through lack of customers for goods and services.
7. Not all students wish to live in halls of residence throughout their degrees and so shared houses in central locations should remain available to them to rent.
8. Farmland should be kept for agriculture. Any solar panels should be on roofs of buildings only,
9. More cycle lanes are needed for both leisure and commuting to reduce environmental impacts.
10. Secure parking facilities for bicycles are needed in town centres as cycles are vulnerable to being stolen. Ideally the storage should be a lock up cage so lights and helmets etc can be left on the bicycle.

I would be pleased to expand on these ideas and views further.

Kind regards

Kevin Molony