

Fwd: Draft Local Plan consultation

CCC Planning <planning@canterbury.gov.uk>

9 August 2021 at 08:03

To: Michael Bailey [REDACTED]

Regards,

Planning Team
Canterbury City Council
01227 862178



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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bob Long** [REDACTED]
Date: Sun, 8 Aug 2021 at 15:41
Subject: Draft Local Plan consultation
To: <planning@canterbury.gov.uk>

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write with regard to the above, I have tried to use your online form, but found it confusing, obscure, and not fit for the purpose intended.

Also, I do not know whether my attempt even succeeded.

I also find the present proposals to be so vague/opaque as to render comprehensive response impossible with any detail.

Thus, for the avoidance of doubt, I now seek to elucidate in writing by email, my views in outline on some of the proposals, and in particular with reference to:-

The proposed western by pass through Dukes Meadow etc.;

The proposed park and ride at Harbledown;

The proposal to build a further 17,000 homes;

The proposed eastern by pass.

Please note that I vehemently object to each of the above.

It seems to me that these proposals, individually and collectively, amount to wanton vandalism and an attempt to destroy the heart and soul of the Canterbury area.

The proposed western by pass route is much loved quiet and peaceful area, used throughout the year by a huge number of people, and is one of the few remaining green spaces in the City area. It will destroy habitat, running through old woodland, fields, meadows, and will be an ugly and unnecessary scar on the landscape. There is also absolutely no need for such a route to run parallel to an existing road through Rough Common. It will cause more traffic congestion, not ease it. More roads invariably lead to more traffic. This will increase pressure

on Giles Lane significantly as well, which will be used as a rat run. It is already a difficult road to use in places for both vehicles and pedestrians. It will make school trips a very hazardous affair, not only for the 2 schools adjacent thereto (Kent College and St Edmunds), but also the many young children who walk/cycle to Blean school using Dukes Meadow area in particular. At a time when parents are encouraged to get their children to school on foot or by cycle, this will make it dangerous and thus a huge disincentive.

I most vehemently object;

Likewise, the Harbledown park and ride scheme is neither needed, nor appropriate for such a beautiful rural area just on the outskirts of the city. It will cause more traffic congestion, not ease it. My understanding is that this proposal has been previously considered and rejected, rightly so. The proposal is an abomination. **I most vehemently object;**

The suggestion of a further (up to) 17,000 new homes is mind boggling! It will effectively double the size of Canterbury, will destroy the unique atmosphere of the area, and create huge problems in an area unsuited for such development due to it's location, and doubtless bring with it large city problems (Violence, behaviour issues, drugs). Again, it will destroy valuable habitat and green space, and effectively make the city an urban sprawl – effectively no more than a London suburb. The city and it's location is not able to manage the infrastructure necessary to cope with such a gross intrusion. The development would magnify the traffic requirement hugely, increasing rather than decreasing present pressures. It will destroy the quality of life for a huge number of residents. The concept is madness. **I most vehemently object.** ;

Similar comments apply to the eastern by pass, which will create a swathe of concrete/tarmac through beautiful countryside, ruin green space and habitat (at a time when we should be conserving such things as woods, trees, green fields etc., not destroying them, particularly in light of obvious and damaging climate change). The road will, of necessity it seems, affect (amongst others) the Stodmarsh Nature reserve, which is home to vast and valuable numbers of birds and mammals which are already under severe threat. Kent is known as the Garden of England. No more - that will cease if these abhorrent proposals proceed. **I most vehemently object.**

I am frankly staggered that **ANY** of the above four points are seriously being mooted for this area. I cannot believe that those elected to represent their districts, or those that work for the city council, could even contemplate such measures.

I await with interest the outcome of these matters.

An acknowledgement of receipt of this email would be welcome.

Yours truly

Robert Long

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]