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7th August 2021

Andy Gambrill
Head of Planning
Canterbury City Council

Dear Mr Gambrill

Local Plan 2040

I am writing to express my concern at the proposal to build up to 17,000 new homes in Canterbury with the inevitable impact that such an increase will have on traffic flows round the city.

Canterbury has yet to feel the full force of traffic flow caused by the existing housing developments such as those at Wincheap and the Barracks. I am unaware of any plans to alleviate the future traffic problems which these developments will cause, and yet the council is proposing a further substantial increase in the number of houses with the inevitable increase in cars and traffic.

The plan appears to indicate a new road, on the western side of the city. The position of this road is vague but seems to start near Hales Place, traverses the grounds of Kent College before joining the Whitstable - Canterbury Road.

The purpose of the road is unclear; in the absence of further information, one might assume that traffic is diverted from the A2 to join the traffic on the Whitstable Road in the direction of the City Centre. It is disappointing that there appears to be no plans for a continuous outer ring road, which would remove through traffic from the inner ring road and the city centre.

I would have expected that a future plan for 2040 would have addressed more fundamental issues linked to traffic flow and the provision of local amenities, with options backed by good data. I remain to be convinced that the present project has been based on sound analysis and subjected to the full rigour of internal debate. In short, it lacks credibility and, therefore in my mind requires substantial clarification and further work.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Geoffrey Parsons