

4 Villages' Conservation Society

Draft Canterbury District Local Plan Focused Consultation 2025. Last date for comment is Tuesday 21st October.

We urge members to have their say in this consultation.

On line: Canterbury City Council Planning

Scroll down to 'New Local Plan'.

Then, 'About the new Local Plan 2040', and that will bring you to the page with the information about the current focused consultation. It tells you how to respond.

What concerns us most is the proposed spread of development towards Littlebourne. Sections most relevant are the 'Changes to the existing strategic site allocations' and the 'Proposed new site Interactive map' which shows the exact areas.

Briefly, the Canterbury District (Canterbury, Whitstable, Herne Bay and the Rural areas) is expected to provide 23,000 homes during the delivery of the Plan. The biggest sites coming between Canterbury and Littlebourne are N4 and N5. Roughly, they form a wedge between the Bekesbourne to Canterbury Railway line and the A257. It includes the Canterbury end of the narrow Bekesbourne Lane and on the A257 comes out in the direction of Woolton farm and Court Wood (not reaching them yet!) The whole area is a greenfield site. We believe that the Council should search for brownfield sites.

While the focused consultation does not give a further opportunity to comment directly on the proposed site allocations at The Hill and Court Hill (Littlebourne - referred to as "Policies" R7 and R8 within the Draft Local Plan), it does however ask for suggestions about how the Local Plan could ensure improvements to water infrastructure, such as wastewater treatment, sewerage capacity and fresh water supply, can be considered earlier in the planning application process

to support the delivery of development in a sustainable manner. Members may therefore wish to consider including comments in the relevant part of the consultation in regard to say, regular disruptions in villages due to road tankers, restrictions on toilet use, surface flooding and occasional pumping of sewage into the chalk stream.

See:

<https://haveyoursay.canterbury.gov.uk/draft-canterbury-district-local-plan-focused-consultation-2025> which includes broad consultation issues especially Section 1, page 7 which you can access from the above link by selecting Consultation document: Local Plan Focused Consultation 2025.

Final reminder! Illustrated talk 'All Roads Lead to Rome' and the Richborough to Canterbury Road which ran through our parishes. Friday 17th October, 7pm, Wickhambreaux Village Hall. To book email: elderson2018@gmail.com. Coffee and cake. Members free.