

The Canterbury Society

Development Control
Canterbury City Council
Military Road
Canterbury CT1 1YW

30 July 2010

Proposal for student accommodation between Dover Street and St George's Place (CA/10/00813)

I am writing on behalf of the committee of the Canterbury Society because we are concerned about the proposals which have been put forward for this site. We have three main concerns.

First, we suggest that the scheme as proposed is an over development of the site. The proposal for 206 student rooms and 10 family houses is far too many for this very small space. In addition the proposed buildings are too tall, and will tower over St George's Place and over the lower buildings on each side. For people living in Dover Street the effect could be very oppressive.

Secondly, the scheme as proposed does not seem to make enough allowances for the fact that the accommodation is intended for students. We welcome the plans for a student centre on the site and for a warden (though we would want to be reassured that the warden will be on-site late at night and at weekends). However, we are concerned about open space. There should be enough open space for the residents to relax and to kick a football about, since most will be young people and this part of the city is already known to be under-provided with outdoor leisure space.

Thirdly, we are concerned about the implications for car parking. Not providing car parking spaces will not prevent the residents owning cars. They will simply park elsewhere in the city centre. If the scheme goes ahead it should be made clear that no parking permits will be issued to anyone living on this site.

Jan Pahl
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