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No home for open space

PLANS to rezone open space in Earlwood into residential use have been rejected, however, the owner has refused to sell the land.

Canterbury Council has unsuccessfully tried to obtain the land at 5 Pine Avenue via the Department of Planning and Infrastructure.

A letter of offer was sent to the owner in 2009, which required the removal of asbestos related materials.

The owner, who initiated contact with the Department, did not respond.

The Department, however, would not disclose details of the offer.

"We will not be giving the value of the offer to purchase," a spokesperson said.

Council says the land is a "valuable addition" to neighbouring Gough Whitlam Park.

Attempts by successive owners of the vacant land over the past 25 years to have the open space reservation lifted have been unsuccessful, particularly due to its flood prone nature.

Council has proposed to write to the Office of Strategic Lands to further pursue negotiations with the owner.