

Earls Colne Neighbourhood Plan

Summary of Regulation 16 Representations

Below is a summary of representations received during the Regulation 16 consultation. The Regulation 16 consultation attracted 46 responses, the general points of which are summarised below.

The main topics raised are:

- **Housing and Development:** Balancing new housing needs with community resources and infrastructure.
- **Environmental Protection:** Emphasizing biodiversity, water quality, and flood risk management.
- **Community and Safety:** Ensuring new developments are safe, secure, and enhance community cohesion.
- **Economic Growth:** Recognizing and supporting local business and employment areas.
- **Sustainable Design:** Advocating for energy-efficient and environmentally sustainable development practices.

Full versions of the responses can be seen below.

Consultee Responses:

1. **General (Earls Colne)**
 - **Age Profile Changes:** Highlights the increase in the 5-14 and 45-74 age bands, suggesting future housing needs for these groups.
 - **Housing Developments:** Advocates for suitable land pockets for new villagers and affordable housing, while addressing stretched resources like GP surgeries and schools.
2. **Feering Parish Council**
 - **No Comments:** Acknowledges previous comments at Regulation 14 stage have been considered.
3. **Colchester Natural History Society**
 - **Green Structure and Biodiversity:** Recommends stronger language for biodiversity net gain (BNG) and independent ecological reports.
4. **Environment Agency**
 - **Water Quality and Flood Risk:** Emphasizes the need for policies addressing water quality and flood risk, which were not included in the plan.
5. **Hertfordshire County Council**
 - **No Impact:** States the plan does not impact their services and offers no comments.
6. **National Gas Transmission**

- **No Asset Impact:** Confirms no assets are affected by proposed allocations within the plan area.
- 7. **National Grid (Electricity)**
 - **Asset Identification:** Lists assets within the plan area and provides guidance on development near infrastructure.
- 8. **National Highways**
 - **Limited Growth Impact:** States the plan's limited growth will not significantly impact the Strategic Road Network (SRN).
- 9. **Natural England**
 - **Environmental Considerations:** Suggests consulting local ecological advisors for potential environmental impacts and the need for Strategic Environmental Assessments.
- 10. **Historic England**
 - **Historic Environment:** Recommends including a historic environment section and policy map for heritage assets.
- 11. **Anglian Water Services Limited**
 - **Infrastructure and Biodiversity:** Supports policies on water infrastructure, biodiversity net gain, and sustainable drainage systems (SuDS).
- 12. **Ceres Property**
 - **Development Restrictions:** Criticizes the plan's restriction on development within the village boundary, suggesting inclusion of adjacent sites for sustainable growth.
- 13. **Essex Police**
 - **Safety and Security:** Encourages Secure By Design principles for new developments to enhance safety and community cohesion.
- 14. **Essex Bridleways Association**
 - **Horse Riders' Needs:** Advocates for improvements to access routes for horse riders, including upgrading footpaths to bridleways.
- 15. **British Horse Society**
 - **Equestrian Safety:** Highlights the importance of designing new developments to protect and improve equestrian facilities.
- 16. **Essex County Council Spatial Planning**
 - **Various Policies:** Provides detailed comments on design, environment, climate change, biodiversity, and movement routes, emphasising sustainable development and net zero carbon standards.
- 17. **Hobbs Estates**
 - **Business Park Recognition:** Criticizes the plan for not adequately recognizing Earls Colne Business Park's role in the local economy and suggests modifications to include it.
- 18. **CPREssex**
 - **SWOT Analysis:** Suggests the SWOT analysis should focus on specific opportunities for Earls Colne rather than generic benefits of having a Neighbourhood Plan.