



AUTHORITY MONITORING REPORT **2017**

December 2017



Spatial Policy
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All references to the county of Essex are to Essex as it is currently constituted i.e. without the unitary authorities of Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock.
All references to 'Colchester' refer to Colchester Borough unless stated otherwise, e.g. Colchester town.

1. INTRODUCTION

Background to the Report

1.1 This Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) contains information about the extent to which the Council's planning policy objectives are being achieved. The report covers the period from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017.

Introduction

1.2 The Localism Act removed the requirement for local planning authorities to produce an annual monitoring report for Government, but it did retain an overall duty to monitor planning policies. Authorities can now choose which targets and indicators to include in their monitoring reports as long as they are in line with the relevant UK and EU legislation. Their primary purpose is to share the performance and achievements of the Council's planning service with the local community. The monitoring report also needs to demonstrate how councils are meeting the requirement to cooperate with other authorities on strategic issues.

1.3 Information on the timetable for preparation and adoption of plan documents is contained in the Local Development Scheme which is updated on a regular basis, most recently November 2017. While the Council is in the process of finalising a new Local Plan which was submitted for examination in October 2017, the AMR measures progress on the adopted Local Plan. The overall strategic policies for Colchester contained in the Core Strategy were found to be 'sound' by a Government-appointed Inspector and the Document was adopted by the Council in December 2008. Two further Local Development Documents, Development Policies and Site Allocations, were found sound and adopted in October 2010. Selected Core Strategy and Development Policies were modified by a Focused Review in July 2014. The AMR also reports progress on Neighbourhood Plans, including the Boxted and Myland/Braiswick plans adopted in December 2016 and those other plans now underway in a number of neighbourhoods across the Borough.

1.4 The development of a new Local Plan has involved an initial Issues and Options consultation, carried out in January/February 2015; a Preferred Options document consultation, carried out from 9 July - 16 September 2016; and a Publication Draft Consultation carried out from 16 June – 11 August 2017. The plan is comprised of a strategic Section 1 which provides policies shared by Braintree, Colchester and Tendring Councils along with a locally specific Section 2 which contains policies and allocations specific to Colchester. Both sections of the plan are now under examination, with hearings programmed for mid-January 2018 on the Strategic Section 1 of the plan.

Monitoring Information

1.5 This report includes information on the progress the Council is making on a number of key areas. The information provided reflects the monitoring requirements set forth in the Localism Act 2010, the National Planning Policy Framework and associated regulations and guidance. The format focuses on key areas of delivery, in line with guidance highlighting the importance of monitoring progress in plan making and in assessing the success of policies concerned with delivery of housing and employment development. Additionally, the AMR includes relevant measurable indicators for the

thematic areas covered by the Local Plan of transport and accessibility; environment and rural communities; and energy, resources, waste water and recycling.

Duty to Co-operate

1.6 The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 require that the local planning authority's monitoring report must give details of what action has been taken during the monitoring year to satisfy the duty to cooperate. CBC has met this requirement by holding a number of meetings on cross-border, sub-regional and regional issues with relevant stakeholders. The [Duty to Cooperate Statement submitted with the Local Plan](#) provides detailed information on how the duty to cooperate requirement has been met in preparing a new Local Plan. Partners have included district councils, the County Council, Essex-wide bodies such as the Essex Planning Officers' Association and Essex Chief Executives' Association, and the Haven Gateway Partnership covering north-east Essex and south-west Suffolk. CBC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Essex, Tendring District Council and Essex County Council in April 2014 which sets out a framework for collaboration on employment and training opportunities, growth and improved infrastructure.

1.7 In November 2016, Colchester Borough Council signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with Braintree and Tendring District Councils and Essex County Council confirming that the Councils are collaborating on joint Local Plan work to identify an agreed strategic approach to the allocation and distribution of large scale housing led, mixed use development, including employment opportunities and infrastructure provision, in the form of Garden Communities. Consideration of how potential cross-boundary settlements should be handled, including the potential for development of settlement based on Garden Settlement principles, is being informed by [jointly commissioned studies with Braintree and Tendring](#).

1.8 As part of the evidence gathering work for the Local Plan, the Council has been meeting with providers of key infrastructure to identify any major constraints or issues to consider in the generation of growth options and the identification of a preferred option. The Council has spoken to providers of roads, rail network and rail services, bus services, education, health, water and sewerage, environmental protection, electricity, and gas. The [Infrastructure Delivery Plan](#) submitted as part of the Evidence Base for the Local Plan documents the requirements for infrastructure generated by development proposed in the Local Plan.

1.9 Cooperation around the production of an evidence base has also included the Council's participation in Essex-wide work on population forecasts and on a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment. The Council jointly commissioned work to establish an [Objectively Assessed Housing Need target](#) along with Braintree, Chelmsford and Tendring to provide a consistent approach to the development of identifying housing need across local authority boundaries.

1.10 Joint planning work is continuing with the preparation of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) for each of the two Garden Communities affecting Colchester which will provide detail on their location and design. An [Issues and Options consultation](#) on DPDs for the Tendring/Colchester Borders and Colchester/Braintree Borders Garden Communities is running from 13 November 2017 -22 January 2018.

Statistical Profile of Colchester

Indicator	Data	Source
HOUSING		
Number of dwellings	78,610 as at 1 st April 2016	Valuation Office Agency
Affordable Homes delivered for the year 2016 - 17	100	CBC
Average household size (persons)	2.33	2011 Census
Average household price (£)	£286,000 as at March 2017	Hometrack
Lower quartile house price (£)	£190,000 as at March 2017	Hometrack
Empty properties	There were 1,506 empty properties as at 8 th May 2017	CBC
Households on the Housing Register	As at 31 st March there were 4,839 households	Gateway to Homechoice
Homelessness households	For the year 2016-17 CBC accepted a homeless duty for 333 households	CBC
Households in temporary accommodation	As at 31 st March 2017 there were 204 households in temp accommodation.	CBC
Further information on housing in Colchester	Colchester Housing Strategy	http://www.colchester.gov.uk/housingstrategy
EMPLOYMENT		
Economically active population	97,700 (Jul 2016 – Jun 2017)	Annual Population Survey, ONS
In employment	92,600 (as above)	As above
Total employees	77,500 (as above)	As above
Self-employed	15,100 (as above)	As above
Unemployed (model-based)	4,100 (as above)	As above
JSA/Universal Credit claimants	1,325 (September 2017) (1.1% of the resident population aged 16-64)	ONS Jobseeker's Allowance with rates and proportions, Nomis, ONS
Economically inactive population	21,000 (Jul 2016 – Jun 2017)	Annual Population Survey, ONS
Employed workforce composition:		
• Full-time employees	50,000 (2016)	Business Register and Employment Survey, ONS
• Part-time employees	31,000 (2016)	As above
Number of businesses (total)	6,995 Enterprises (2017), accounting for 8,265 "Local units"	Inter Departmental Business Register (ONS)
Visitor trips	5,169,000 Day visits; 262,000 Staying visitor trips;	Cambridge Economic Impact Model analysed by

	939,000 Staying visitor nights.	The South West Research Company Ltd (2014).
Educational achievement	65% of Colchester school students achieved 5 or more GCSEs at A*-C in 2012/13	Colchester Borough Local Profile, ECC (Insight and Analysis).
Further information on Colchester's economy	Colchester Economic Strategy	http://www.colchester.gov.uk/article/11571/Colchester-Economic-Development-Strategy-2015---2021
ENVIRONMENT		
Area of Ancient Woodland	568 ha.	Ancient Woodland Inventory
Number of houses at risk from surface water flooding within Critical Drainage Areas	3,299 (1 in 100 years event risk level)	Surface Water Management Plan 2013
Number of Neighbourhood Plans	2 adopted (Myland and Braiswick, Boxted) 8 being prepared	Colchester Borough Council
Number of Air Quality Management Areas	4	Colchester Borough Council
Number of Conservation Areas	22	Colchester Borough Council
Number of Listed Buildings	2,056	Essex County Council
Buildings at Risk	36	Essex County Council
Number of Historic Parks & Gardens	4	Historic England
Nationally designated sites Special Sites of Scientific Interest (SSSIs)	8 SSSIs- Abberton Reservoir, Marks Tey Pit, Roman River, Upper Colne Marshes , Wivenhoe Pit, Colne Estuary, Bullock Wood, Tiptree Heath, Cattawade Marshes Upper Colne Marshes Colne Estuary	Environment Agency
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	1 (Dedham Vale AONB)	Colchester Borough Council
Internationally Designated Sites	Essex Estuaries Special Area of Conservation – 46,410ha	Environment Agency
	Abberton Reservoir Special Area of Conservation	Environment Agency
	Colne Estuary Mid Essex (Phase 2) Special Protection Area – 2719ha	Environment Agency
	Abberton Reservoir Special Protection Area -718ha	Environment Agency

	Blackwater Estuary (Mid Essex Coast Phase 4) Special Protection Area – 4,403ha	Environment Agency
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Planning Applications

1.11 The level of planning applications provides a useful backdrop against which the effects of policies can be considered.

Planning Applications from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017	
The total number of applications determined	1,705
The number of applications approved	1378
The number of applications refused	143
The number of appeals made	44
The number of appeals allowed	19 (0 Partial, 0 Withdrawn & 20 Dismissed)
The number of departures	0 (for determinations within the period)

1.12 The total number of applications received between 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2017 of 1,705 shows a slight increase on last year's total of 1,680, but is below the pre-recession figure of 2,015 in 2007-08. Decision rates show continuing high rates with 94% of minor applications decided within 8 weeks compared to 85% in the previous year and 86% in the year before that. Performance in the 'major applications' category was at 93% compared to 89% in the previous year and 88% in the year before that. This improvement reflects successes in the Council's implementation of project management measures for applications, including pre-application advice and Planning Performance Agreements which enhance consistency and quality in processing applications. 'Other applications' also exceeded the 80% national target with 96% being achieved, exceeding the rates of the previous two years.

2. 2016-17 AMR PROGRESS ON PLAN PREPARATION

2.1 The published LDS sets out the programme for plan preparation between 2017-2020 (available on the Council's website, www.colchester.gov.uk/localplan and the project chart is available in Appendix D to this report). The table below summarises the progress of the documents in that LDS and identifies any relevant updated key milestones. The LDS also includes information on the evidence base documents used to inform plan preparation, including timetables for their production and updating. Table 1 below reflects key plans which are now programmed for preparation as part of the Development Plan as indicated in the revised LDS.

2.2 A number of Neighbourhood Plans are listed with key milestones during the 12 months between 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2017. Table 1 summarises the current position on these NHPs together with additional NHPs which have been designated or discontinued in the last 12 months.

TABLE 1

Development Plan Document	Progress / Current stage Comments	Target Date / key milestones
Local Plan Focussed Review	Adopted July 2014	
New Local Plan	Issues & Options Consultation Feb / March 2015, Preferred Options Draft and Consultation July-September 2016	Submission plan consultation June-August 2017, adoption 2018
Community Infrastructure Levy	Draft Schedule / Delay to align with the New Local Plan, Consultation on Draft Schedule Evidence Base February 2016	Schedule to align with Local Plan adoption 2018
Planning Obligations SPD	Draft to align with New CIL	Adoption to align with Local Plan adoption 2018
Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)	Revised and Adopted 2013. Review built into LDS but not carried out as Adopted SCI remains compliant with NPPF and current legislation not need for Review.	No review programmed unless legislative changes render the current SCI not fit for purpose.
Strategic Growth DPD(s)	Planning Framework Document(s) related to strategic growth areas will need to be aligned with New Local Plan and	Programmed for adoption in 2019

	comply with Duty to Co-operate with neighbouring authorities.	
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2.3 Neighbourhood Plans

Neighbourhood Plans for Boxted and for Myland and Braiswick were made in the monitoring period. A further Neighbourhood Plan Area has been declared for Great Tey in the 2017-18 monitoring period. These are included in the table below, together with a summary of progress on the Neighbourhood Plans identified in the LDS.

Table 2

Neighbourhood Plan	Area Designated Progress / Comments	Current stage Target Date / key milestones during 2016-17
Boxted	October 2012	Adopted December 2016
Messing	Withdrawn by NHP Forum July 2015	N/A
Myland and Braiswick	January 2013	Adopted December 2016
West Bergholt	July 2013	Development of Draft Plan
Wivenhoe	July 2013	Development of Draft Plan
Tiptree	February 2015	Development of Draft Plan
Stanway	June 2014	Evidence gathering / Consultation
Eight Ash Green	June 2015	Evidence gathering / Consultation
Copford	Withdrawn by NHP Group June 2016	N/A
Marks Tey	September 2015	Evidence gathering / Consultation
West Mersea	November 2016	Evidence gathering/Consultation
Great Tey	June 2017	Evidence gathering/Consultation

3. Key Theme: HOUSING INDICATORS

Housing Indicator 1	Housing Delivery	Indicator for Core Strategy Policy H1
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3.1 Colchester’s adopted Core Strategy provided that the Borough needs to allocate and build 19,000 homes between 2001 and 2023, an average of 830 homes a year. In line with national policy contained in the 2012 National Planning Policy Framework, the Council is required to ensure sufficient housing land is supplied to meet local housing needs. The Council has developed a new Objectively Assessed Need target for the submitted Local Plan of 920 houses a year which takes into account the requirements of national policy and will ensure the Borough provides a 5 year supply of specific deliverable sites and identifies a supply of specific developable sites or broad locations for growth, for years 6-10 and, where possible, for years 11-15.

3.2 The target of 920 homes a year reflects a comprehensive evidence base which includes the following;

- Objectively Assessed Housing Need Study produced by Peter Brett Associates (PBA) in July 2015 and updated November 2016 for Braintree, Chelmsford, Colchester and Tendring Councils.
- Review of the SHMA work in Chelmsford, Colchester, Braintree and Tendring to bring it into compliance with the NPPF and PPG - HDH Planning and Development Ltd, December 2015.

3.3 The majority of the housing programmed for delivery in the 2001-2023 period has already been accounted for by previous Local Plan allocations, housing completions and planning permissions. Colchester delivered 14,489 new homes between 2001/02 and 2016/17 at an average rate of 905 dwellings per year.

3.4 Table 3 below shows that a net of 912 homes were built between 1 April 2016 and 31st March 2017. This is similar to last years total of 933 and demonstrates good local market conditions. The delivery of 929 homes per year on average over the last three years provides reassurance on target delivery. In the context of delivery rates across other Essex authorities, Table 4 below illustrates that Colchester continues to demonstrate high delivery rates.

3.5 Colchester’s build rate has been on target in recent years. When taking an average of the past three years Colchester has provided a net additional 929 new homes per year. In addition to locational and market factors, this reflects the Council’s willingness to work with developers to bring schemes forward, including a flexible approach to scheme cost appraisals. The Council accordingly expects to be able to continue a sufficient rate of delivery to achieve a target of at least 920/year over the plan period.

3.6 The Core Strategy figure of 830 houses a year was used as the target for the period 2001/2 – 2013/14, while the figure from current OAN work of 920 is used for targets for the Council’s fifteen year housing land supply to 2028/29. In addition, the Council incorporates a 5% buffer in the first 5 years of the supply, as required by the NPPF.

3.8 The Council is projected to deliver 5,216 new homes over the five year period 2017/18-2021/22, which is a yearly average of 1043. This projection exceeds the Council's duty to maintain a five year supply of housing land in line with national planning policy requirements. Details of the Council's 15 year housing land supply are contained in the Housing Land Supply document which is updated regularly.

Table 4 (overleaf) Housing Delivery 2016-17

Planning Ref	Site location	Ward	Site net total	Site remaining	Completed
130930	22A NATHAN COURT, BLACKHEATH, COLCHESTER	Berechurch	1	0	1
131385	10 WILLIAMS WALK, COLCHESTER	Castle	3	0	3
145687	1-3 QUEEN STREET, COLCHESTER	Castle	3	0	3
150770	25 EAST HILL, COLCHESTER	Castle	2	0	2
161269	CHURCH HOUSE, 7 CHURCH WALK, COLCHESTER	Castle	5	0	5
146507	58 HIGH STREET, COLCHESTER	Castle	3	0	3
90851	97 HIGH STREET, COLCHESTER	Castle	9	0	9
131901	ANGEL COURT, 133 & 137 HIGH STREET, COLCHESTER	Castle	4	0	4
145806	ANGEL COURT, 135-136 HIGH STREET, COLCHESTER	Castle	2	0	2
136244	ANGEL COURT, 136-137 HIGH STREET, COLCHESTER	Castle	31	0	17
150839	EXT TO COACH HOUSE, 49 EAST ST, COLCHESTER	Castle	6	0	6
146295	COACH HOUSE, 49 EAST ST, COLCHESTER	Castle	12	0	6
150536	1 BANK PASSAGE, COLCHESTER	Castle	1	1	1
136248	NORTHGATE HOUSE, ST PETER'S ST, COLCHESTER	Castle	20	0	20
160921	34 EAST STOCKWELL STREET, COLCHESTER	Castle	5	0	5
145389	TELEPHONE HOUSE, WEST STOCKWELL ST, COLCHESTER	Castle	51	0	51
144746	152 ST ANDREW'S AVENUE, COLCHESTER	Greenstead	1	0	1
145981	59 BROMLEY ROAD, COLCHESTER	Greenstead	1	0	1
160360	46 HAZELTON ROAD, COLCHESTER	Greenstead	1	0	1
160654	UNIT 1, BLOCK A, HAWKINS ROAD, COLCHESTER	Greenstead	4	0	4
150062	37 HARWICH RAD, COLCHESTER	Greenstead	1	1	1
150863	45-47 LEXDEN RD, WEST BERGHOLT	Lexden & Braiswick	4	0	4
131538	18 CHITTS HILL, COLCHESTER	Lexden & Braiswick	14	13	1
146172	20 ST CLARE ROAD, COLCHESTER	Lexden & Braiswick	1	0	1

Planning Ref	Site location	Ward	Site net total	Site remaining	Completed
151336	6 SUSSEX ROAD, COLCHESTER	Lexden & Braiswick	3	0	3
135948	FMR ECC OFFICES, PARK RD, COLCHESTER	Lexden & Braiswick	8	8	8
145494	WYVERN FARM, LONDON ROAD, STANWAY	Marks Tey & Layer	358	269	89
130239	99 & 105 LONDON ROAD, COPFORD	Marks Tey & Layer	8	0	6
146582	61 MALTING GREEN ROAD, LAYER DE LA HAYE	Marks Tey & Layer	1	0	1
111115	GATEHOUSE FARM, SCHOOL ROAD, BIRCH	Marks Tey & Layer	1	0	1
146330	LAND ADJ SCHOOL ROAD, MESSING	Marks Tey & Layer	3	0	3
152040	RED HOUSE SCHOOL ROAD, MESSING	Marks Tey & Layer	1	0	1
130411	82 COAST ROAD, WEST MERSEA	Mersea & Pyefleet	1	0	1
151804	98 FAIRHAVEN AVENUE, WEST MERSEA	Mersea & Pyefleet	1	0	1
130296	AKHURST COURT, MELROSE ROAD	Mersea & Pyefleet	5	0	5
140366	LAND ADJ 57 VICTORIA ESPLANADE, WEST MERSEA	Mersea & Pyefleet	1	0	1
151107 151597	10 BROOK HALL RD, FINGRINGHOE	Mersea & Pyefleet	1	0	1
131447	ROMAN RIVER HOUSE, CHURCH RD, FINGRINGHOE	Mersea & Pyefleet	1	0	1
150287	1 CHURCH FARM WAY, COLCHESTER	Mile End	1	0	1
150020	78-82 TURNER ROAD, COLCHESTER	Mile End	1	0	1
100502	FORMER SEVERALLS HOSPITAL PHASE 1, COLCHESTER	Mile End	248	35	51
121272	CHESTERWELL, COLCHESTER	Mile End	1600	1495	98
VARIOUS	TURNER VILLAGE/NORTHFIELDS, TURNER RD, COLCHESTER	Mile End	432	0	80
152641	12A MERSEA ROAD, COLCHESTER	New Town & Christchurch	1	0	1
145127	27 MERSEA ROAD, COLCHESTER	New Town & Christchurch	1	0	1
145976	6 ST JOHNS GREEN, COLCHESTER	New Town & Christchurch	1	0	1
152210	LAND REAR OF 90 WIMPOLE ROAD, COLCHESTER	New Town & Christchurch	7	7	7
101983	LAND REAR OF BROOK STREET, COLCHESTER	New Town & Christchurch	110	0	12

Planning Ref	Site location	Ward	Site net total	Site remaining	Completed
152487	THE TWIST, 25 MILITARY ROAD, COLCHESTER	New Town & Christchurch	2	0	2
151697	14 CREFFIELD ROAD, COLCHESTER	New Town & Christchurch	1	0	1
150250	19 OXFORD ROAD, COLCHESTER	New Town & Christchurch	3	0	3
150317	19A ALEXANDRA ROAD, COLCHESTER	New Town & Christchurch	1	0	1
142460	56 IRVINE ROAD, COLCHESTER	New Town & Christchurch	1	0	1
72906	12 LEXDEN ROAD, COLCHESTER	New Town & Christchurch	1	0	1
151229	7 OXFORD ROAD, COLCHESTER	New Town & Christchurch	1	0	1
152840	78 MALDON ROAD, COLCHESTER	New Town & Christchurch	1	0	1
152262	9 OXFORD ROAD, COLCHESTER	New Town & Christchurch	1	0	1
132771	152 OLD HEATH ROAD, COLCHESTER	Old Heath & The Hythe	1	0	1
150400	23-25 ABBOTTS RD, COLCHESTER	Old Heath & The Hythe	3	0	3
160214	CEMEX HOUSE, WHITEHALL RD, COLCHESTER	Old Heath & The Hythe	28	0	28
144808	MULBERRY BUSINESS CENTRE, HAVEN RD, COLCHESTER	Old Heath & The Hythe	9	0	9
144693	ROWHEDGE PORT/WHARF, HIGH STREET, ROWHEDGE	Old Heath & The Hythe	170	170	18
146334	HALLFIELDS FM, MANNINGTREE RD, DEDHAM	Rural North	17	0	17
140493	CORONILLA, LITTLE HORKESELEY ROAD, WORMINGFORD	Rural North	1	0	1
132764	CHERRY TREE FARM, LONDON ROAD, GREAT HORKESELEY	Rural North	1	0	1
145673	GREENGATES, BRICK KILN LANE, GREAT HORKESELEY	Rural North	7	0	5
151527	SUTTONS FARM, PENLAN HALL LN, FORDHAM	Rural North	1	0	1
121371	HIGH ACRE FARM, TEY ROAD, ALDHAM	Rural North	1	0	1
142167	15 DUNCAN ROAD, COLCHESTER	Shrub End	1	0	1
142134	25 JOHN KENT AVENUE, COLCHESTER	Shrub End	1	0	1
151948	15A BLACKBERRY RD, STANWAY	Stanway	2	2	2
151092	25 PEACE ROAD, STANWAY	Stanway	3	0	3

Planning Ref	Site location	Ward	Site net total	Site remaining	Completed
146380	39-43 LONDON ROAD, STANWAY	Stanway	8	0	8
120848	RAILWAY SIDINGS, HALSTEAD ROAD, STANWAY	Stanway	123	62	58
151101	LAKELANDS PHASE 2 (NR9), STANWAY	Stanway	40	18	22
111739	31 ST ANNE'S ROAD, COLCHESTER	St Anne's & St John's	1	0	1
145710	LAND REAR OF 489-493 IPSWICH ROAD, COLCHESTER	St Anne's & St John's	6	2	4
145132	BETTS FACTORY, IPSWICH ROAD, COLCHESTER	St Anne's & St John's	127	0	80
150893	LAND ADJ THATCHED COTTAGE, VINE ROAD, TIPTREE	Tiptree	2	1	1
144762	36 GROVE ROAD, TIPTREE	Tiptree	1	0	1
151915	79 MALDON ROAD, TIPTREE	Tiptree	1	0	1
160542	HOLLY TREE FARM, 232 MALDON ROAD, TIPTREE	Tiptree	1	0	1
160479	14 STANLEY ROAD, WIVENHOE	Wivenhoe	1	0	1
101059 / 120098	GARRISON DEVELOPMENT - A1	New Town & Christchurch	545	0	61
80712	GARRISON DEVELOPMENT - B1B	New Town & Christchurch	138	105	33
80634	GARRISON DEVELOPMENT - J2	New Town & Christchurch	80	0	4
145075	4-6 SHORT WYRE STREET, COLCHESTER	Castle	5	0	5

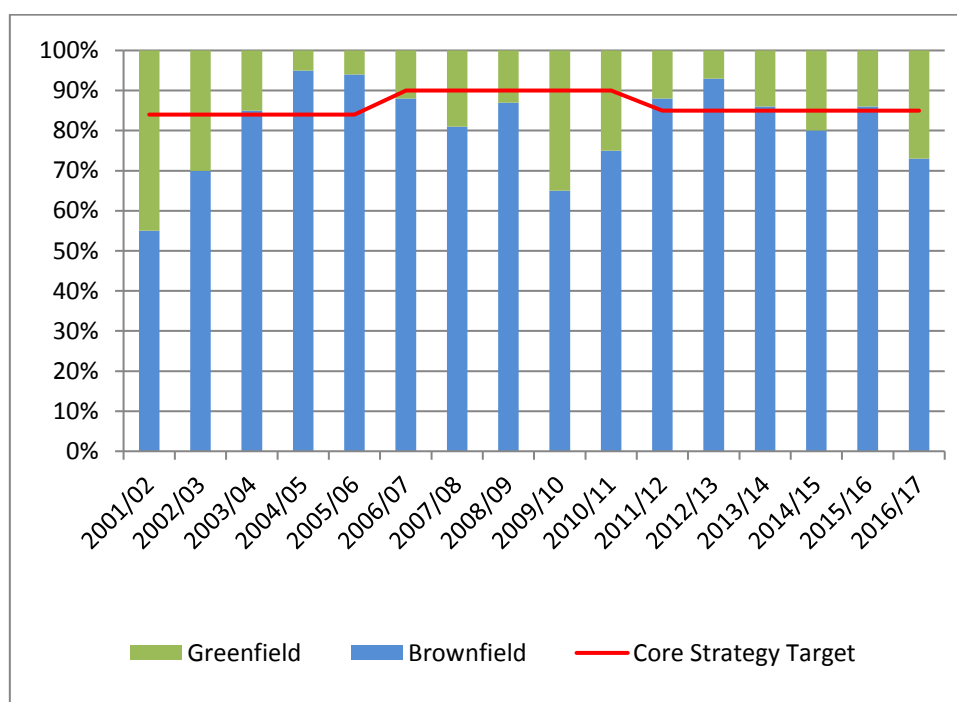
Essex Local Authority Housing Delivery (Table 4)

Information Source – Essex County Council, Spatial Planning, Colchester BC

Authority	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Total Units 2001/2 – 2016/17
Basildon	622	119	679	593	412	5970
Braintree	176	182	409	523	291	7746
Brentwood	213	105	159	111	150	3055
Castle Point	75	168	202	116	114	2298
Chelmsford	274	471	826	792	1002	9517
Colchester	617	725	943	933	912	15396
Epping Forest	115	299	229	267	149	3665
Harlow	152	74	201	225	340	2964
Maldon	124	76	68	248	243	2213
Rochford	43	243	167	148	117	2470
Southend	254	210	138	551	Not Available	4932*
Tendring	244	209	276	236	658	5914
Thurrock	311	323	309	987	603	8202
Uttlesford	540	390	463	554	722	6910

Housing Indicator 2	Percentage of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land (brownfield)	Indicator for Core Strategy Policies SD1, H1 and UR1
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3.11 During 2016/17 there were 912 net additional dwellings completed across the Borough, of these 665 units were completed on previously developed land (brownfield), which accounts for 73% of the total. The chart below illustrates the historic delivery of new dwellings on PDL and greenfield land along with the Core Strategy target throughout the corresponding plan period.



3.12 Paragraph 111 of the NPPF encourages local authorities to seek the effective reuse of brownfield land, provided that it is not of high environmental value. As the chart above illustrates that brownfield redevelopment has amounted to the majority of completions within the last decade. Though the Council seeks to continue to make brownfield sites a priority for redevelopment within the Borough, many of the larger, less constrained sites have now been redeveloped. A further 18 applications are in the pipeline for redevelopment from office to residential with a total of another 226 homes potentially being provided.

3.13 Within the monitoring year the Borough had 232 homes provided from direct conversions from offices and a further 12 homes from the demolition and redevelopment of previously office based sites.

3.14 As of the 31st of December 2017 the Council will be required to publish and maintain a Brownfield Land Register. The Council has complied with this requirement

and has published a register which is intended to provide up-to-date and consistent information on brownfield sites that local authorities consider to be appropriate for residential led development. Registers will be in two parts, Part 1 will comprise all brownfield sites appropriate for residential development and Part 2 those sites granted permission in principle. The Council has not yet granted any permissions in principle for brownfield sites. Registers will be published locally as open data and will provide transparent information about suitable and available sites. The council accepts submissions to the Brownfield Register throughout the year to inform an annual review.

Housing Indicator 3	Affordable housing completions	Indicator for Core Strategy Policies H4
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3.15 During the monitoring year 2016/17 100 affordable housing units were delivered, 65 were affordable rent and 35 were shared ownership. This amounts to 10.96% of all new homes delivered. The comparable figures for the previous two years were 106 (11.4%) in 15/16 and 259 (26.2%) in 2014/15. This year's total compared to last year reflects the challenging national climate for affordable housing where it has been difficult for Registered Providers to deliver affordable housing led developments and therefore the council has been more reliant on delivery being through Developers Section 106 obligations. For the year 2016/17, £276,000 was received in commuted sums for affordable housing. This money was provided to meet requirements for affordable housing in lieu of affordable dwellings within some permitted schemes.

Housing Indicator 4	Percentage of affordable housing in rural areas	Indicator for Core Strategy Policies H4 and ENV2
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3.16 There were 11 affordable housing completions in rural areas between 2016 and 2017. The rural completions were: Hallfields Farm, Dedham, comprising 9 affordable rent homes and 8 market sale homes and School Road, Messing, comprising 2 affordable rent homes and 1 market sale home.

Housing Indicator 5	Gypsy and Travellers Provision	Indicator for Core Strategy Policy H5
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3.18 The Council worked with other districts to produce an Essex Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) to help provide an assessment of current provision and future need for pitches in the Borough. (Published in July 2014, with September 2014 revisions and a Colchester specific report in June 2017). The GTAA established that Colchester had 12 local authority pitches at Severalls Lane, 15 private pitches, and one site where the use was tolerated and considered lawful due to the length of time it had occurred.

3.18 Council monitoring established that in July 2017 there were 64 caravan/mobile units, including 18 on the Local Authority Site on Severalls Lane. These figures represent the total permitted number of pitches/caravans in the Borough. The actual

number of caravans present in the Borough may vary at any point in time and explain any differences between the number of caravans permitted by planning applications and the number of caravans recorded in the caravan count.

3.19 The Council amended Core Strategy Policy H5 (Gypsies and Travellers) in its Focused Review (July 2014) to clarify that it will use national policies to help determine planning applications for gypsy and traveller sites prior to the adoption of a new Local Plan. The development of new policies and allocations for gypsies, travellers and travelling show people has been guided by the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment work noted above, which found that the Council will need to provide 15 further pitches to meet demand to 2033, including both pitches for nomadic travellers as well as the need to accommodation for those identifying as gypsies and travellers.

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4. Key Theme: ECONOMIC GROWTH INDICATORS

Employment in Colchester

Economic Growth Indicator 1	Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type (sqm).	Indicator for Core Strategy Policies CE1, CE2 and CE3
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4.10 The 2015 Employment Land Needs Assessment stated that the Borough recorded moderate amounts of new development over the last few years, mainly relating to industrial (B1c/B2/B8) uses. At the same time, the Borough has been losing significant amounts of B class space, as a result of permitted development, to the extent that permitted overall net floorspace has been negative in recent years.

4.11 This indicator shows the amount and type of employment floorspace (gains and losses and net balance) granted permission during the 2016-17 monitoring year.

	B1(a) m²	B1(b)-B8 m²	Total
Gains	2261	1838	4099
Losses	-16729	-10977	-27706
Net balance	-14468	-9139	-23607

4.12 In line with the findings of the Employment Land Needs Assessment, the table shows there has been a potential net loss of commercial floorspace across the Borough from planning permissions issued in the monitoring period. Most of this potential loss is B1(a) office floorspace as a direct result of the 2013 national changes to permitted development rights allowing the change of use from offices to residential. 16,232 square meters of office floorspace was permitted to change to residential use following this change to regulations. The applications for office to residential permitted and potentially to be implemented equates to a net gain of 209 dwellings from office conversions. The majority of the loss in floor space and net gain in dwellings is accounted for by 3 applications as shown in the table below which if implemented would amount to approximately 176 dwellings. Please note that last year's report saw Equity House adjacent Colchester North Station gain permission for 62 new apartments, while this year's report shows a scheme for 67 units.

APP Ref	Description	Address	Ward	B1A
162607	Change of Use of Office Building B1(a) to 67 Self Contained Apartments;(C3 Use) and the erection of additional floor and alterations to the; buildings external appearance.	Equity House, 2 Bergholt Road, Colchester	Mile End	-7284
161318	Prior notification for conversion of offices into 19 x one bed and 1 two bed apartments.	Victoria Place, Colchester	Castle	-1042

163227	Prior approval for a proposed change of use of building from office; use (Class B1 (a)) to dwelling houses (class C3)	North Station Road, Colchester	Mile End	-5382
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Economic Growth Indicator 2	Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type, which is on previously developed land (PDL) (sqm).	Indicator for Core Strategy Policies SD1, CE1, CE2, CE3, UR1
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4.13 The purpose of this indicator is to show the amount and type of employment floorspace (gross) granted permission on previously developed land (PDL) during the 2016/17 monitoring year.

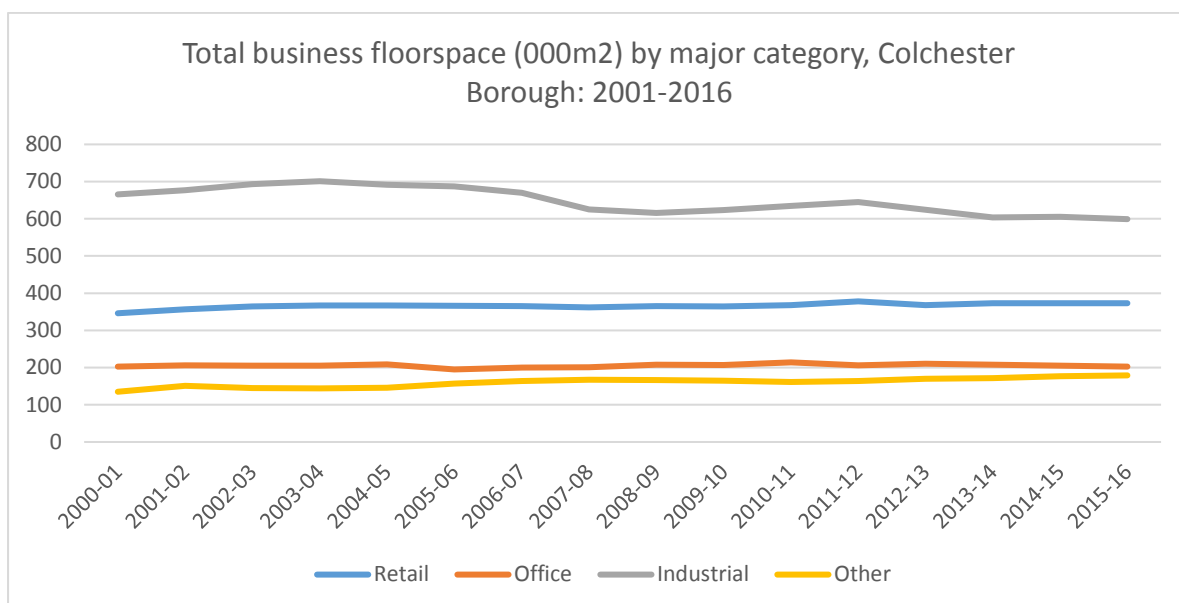
	B1(a)	B1(b)-B8	Total
Gross on PDL	1866	1553	3419
Gross on Greenfield	350	285	635
% on PDL	84%	84%	84%

4.14 For the monitoring year it was apparent that most of the applications received were for previously developed sites and few of the applications submitted were for new construction on green field sites. This is partially due to the high volume of the applications that amounted to a change in employment land being for a change in use class order in existing buildings as oppose to actual change in sqm of employment land.

Economic Growth Indicator 3	Employment land available	Indicator for Core Strategy Policies CE1, CE2 and CE3
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Floorspace data by major category: 2001-2012

4.15 Floorspace data from the Valuation Office Agency provides the areas occupied by major categories of rateable commercial premises over 2001-2016 and changes in the stock of space. This recent data release by the Valuation Office Agency supersedes the previous run of data from 2001-2012. Revised allocations of floorspace to sector codes means that the entire series from 2001-2016 is now consistent. The evolution of the allocation of business floorspace can be seen in the chart below:



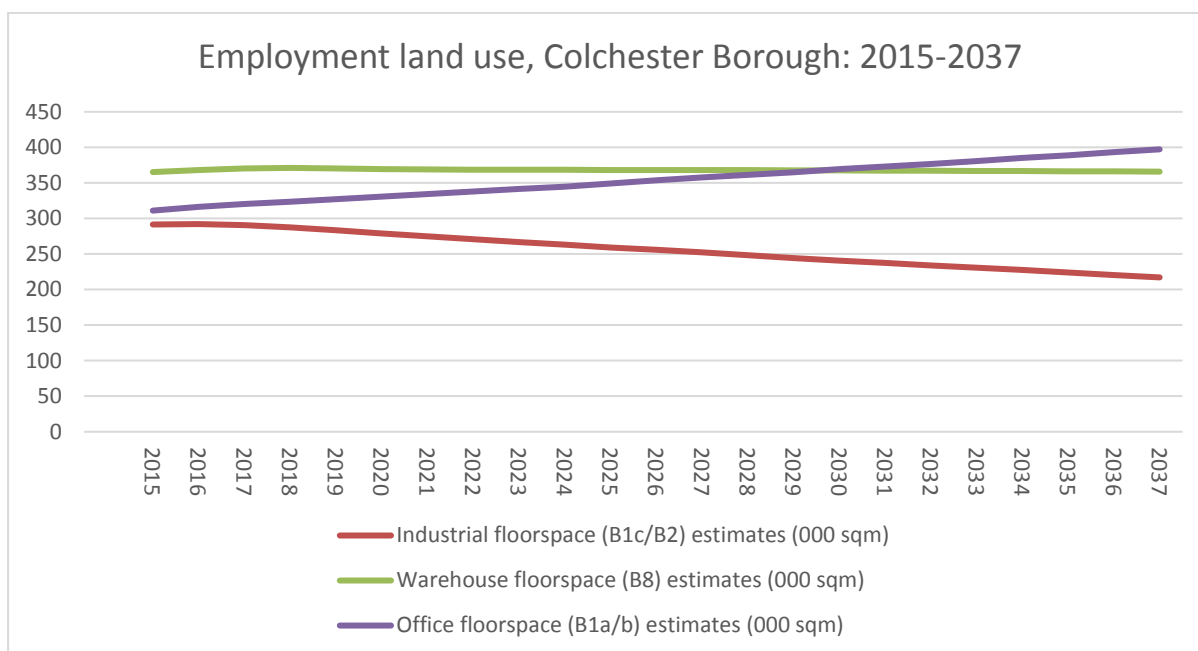
Source: VOA Statistics, 2016

4.16 For Colchester this means that the total business floorspace across the Borough has increased from 1,349,000m2 to 1,354,000 m2 between 2000/2001 and 2015/2016: a rise of only 0.37 %. Within this extremely marginal overall increase over the period, the rates of change by each sector are as follows:

- Industrial floorspace has declined by 10.1%
- Retail floorspace has increased by 7.8%
- Office floorspace has remained static
- Other floorspace has increased by 32.6%

4.17 While the amount of office floorspace in Colchester has clearly been affected this year by office to residential use permissions, the longer term position is a “standstill” position which reflects changes to the office market with increasing intensity in the use of space to accommodate more staff, new methods of working such as home-working, flexi-working and the introduction of mobile communications. Retail floorspace has shown increases over the previous period, but will be affected in future by changing patterns of supply and demand. Industrial floorspace has declined but is holding up well while Other (warehouses, including retail warehouse, restaurants, etc.) has increased, reflecting both new development and reuse of existing premises.

4.18 The Council’s May 2017 [Employment Land Supply Delivery Trajectory Report](#) provides an assessment of the availability and deliverability of sites identified by the council as having the potential to contribute towards meeting future office and industrial floorspace requirements identified in the Local Plan currently under examination which covers the period to 2033. The report concludes that Colchester has sufficient employment space in overall quantitative terms to meet the needs associated with growth over the plan period. The report considers 15 identified sites in detail but also notes that there will be other sites that make some contribution to meeting future needs including emerging proposals for new Garden Communities.



Source: EEFM, January 2016

Economic Growth Indicator 4	Total amount of floorspace for 'town centre uses' (sqm)	Indicator for Core Strategy Policy CE2a
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4.18 The purpose of this indicator is to show the amount of floorspace (gross and net) for town centre uses within (i) the town centre area and (ii) the local authority area which has been permitted the last monitoring year. (NB in previous years, the indicator related to completed floorspace, but difficulties in obtaining reliable data means that the data below only relates to planning permissions granted).

(i) Town Centre area				
	A1-A2	B1(a)	D2	Total
	Retail	Offices	Leisure	
Gains	313	0	1482	1795
Losses	-6280	-225	0	-6505
Net balance	-5967	-225	1482	-4710

(ii) Local authority area				
	A1-A2	B1(a)	D2	Total
	Retail	Offices	Leisure	
Gains	3443	2261	4505	10209
Losses	-7615	-16954	-242	-24811
Net balance	-4172	-14693	4263	-14602

While AMR figures show losses of retail floorspace within the Town Centre, the redevelopment of the Williams and Griffins department store and Lion Walk shops provides a more positive view longer term prospects of the Town Centre. Additionally, the office property market for Town Centre floorspace is buoyant.

Economic Growth Indicator 5	Number of jobs in rural areas	Indicator for Core Strategy Policy ENV2
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Rural and urban employee jobs, Colchester Borough: 2003-2014

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Rural	14193	14117	14257	14720	16065	15961	15924	15755	17304	17561	17560	18163
Urban	56401	56902	55991	54858	54951	55636	57154	59361	56708	57354	57977	60273
Total	70592	71018	70244	69578	71016	71939	73078	75116	74012	74915	75537	78436

Sources: Annual Business Inquiry, ONS; BRES, ONS.

4.21 Rural employment has increased in absolute terms as much as urban employment over the period 2003-14. (Figures for later years are not currently available). Consequently, rural jobs are increasingly significant for the rural population share which is one-third of the Borough's population. Moving from 20% of jobs in the rural area in 2003, rural employment has increased to just over 23% of all jobs in 2011, with the same percentage (23%) achieved in 2014.

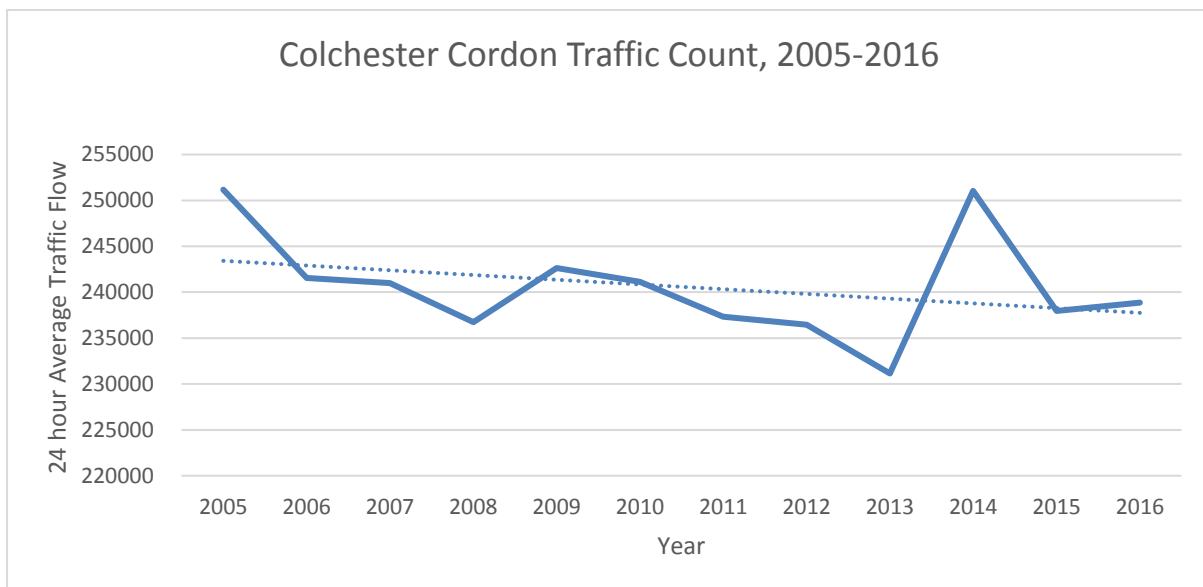
5. Key Theme: TRANSPORTATION

Overview

5.1 Continuing engagement with the community has illustrated that transportation and traffic issues are still very high up on the public's list of priorities. The Core Strategy sets out the Borough Council's approach to transport, which seeks to change travel behaviour to manage demand, especially of peak hour car traffic.

5.2 The Colchester Cordon traffic count is based on data from 17 count sites in the urban area, to give a 24 hour traffic flow. Traffic increased by 0.4% in this monitoring year, from 237,973 vehicles crossing the Colchester urban count cordon in 2015 to 238,854 vehicles in 2016.

5.3 The 24 hour average traffic flows from the year 2005 to 2016 can be seen below. Further research is required but the higher flows recorded in 2005 and 2014 are abnormally high. However, over a ten year period, traffic counted across the cordon is 1.1% lower in 2016 than it was in 2006 and the linear trend is downwards. This is against a background of continued population, employment and housing growth.



Source: Essex County Council.

Walking and Cycling in Colchester

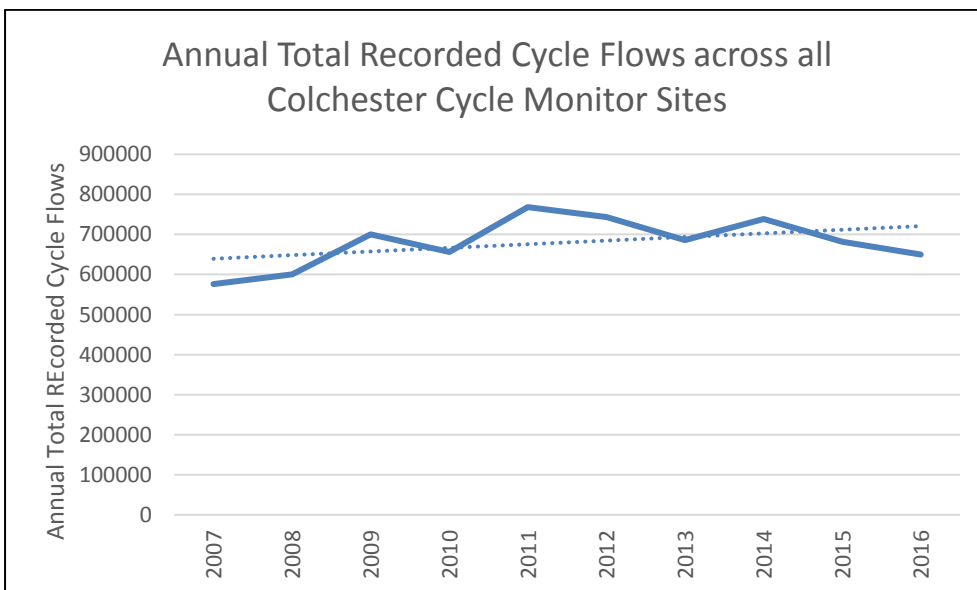
5.4 A number of pedestrian and cycle facilities have been provided or upgraded during 2016/17. These include:

- Balcerne Bridge replacement – replaced footbridge with a widened bridge deck to safely accommodate both cyclists and pedestrians as a shared footway/cycleway facility. Work included alterations to the adjacent footways and the installation of new cycle route directional signs.
- Lower Castle Park Footbridge replacement – replacement of the bridge in Castle Park to provide a wider shared structure and remove the need for cyclists to dismount.

- Winstree Road cycle route – new shared unsegregated cycle/footway provided by widening footway of Winstree Road for the entire length.
- Mile End Road cycle improvement scheme – shared footway/cycleway along Mile End Road from Braiswick Lane to Bruff Close. In addition, drainage, street lighting and resurfacing work to the existing footway.
- Wivenhoe to University cycle link – shared unsegregated cycle and footway, approximately 800m in length running along the western side of Colchester Road. The road has been widened and realigned to accommodate the new route. Drainage has been upgraded to ensure the route does not suffer with flooding. Toucan crossing installed on route to enable pedestrians and cyclists to cross the road in safety.
- Colchester Town Centre Passageway Improvements – improved pedestrian facilities which form a direct link between the High Street and other retail areas in Colchester. The work included new paving, lighting and accessibility improvements to Bank Passage, Pelhams Lane and St Nicholas passage, as well as improved route signage.

5.5 A number of training and promotional campaigns have also been delivered to encourage residents to take up cycling. Bikeability courses have been on offer during school holidays to adults and children to develop cycle skills. Cycling was promoted at 10 events across Colchester via an information stall, childrens’ activities and pulp friction, a pedal powered smoothie maker. A monthly e-newsletter updating on local cycling matters is also sent out.

5.6 Cycle movements are counted at 12 locations in urban Colchester. The chart below shows the annual recorded flows over these 12 sites. Over the period 2007 to 2016, cycle movements have increased by 13%. The highest recorded flows were in 2011 and 2014. Flows have decreased in 2016 compared to 2015. However, the linear trend over the period for recorded levels of cycling is upwards.



Source: Essex County Council.

Transport Infrastructure

5.7 A number of transport infrastructure projects have been undertaken in 2016/17. These include:

- Brook Street signals – existing roundabout replaced with a signalised junction. Existing zebra crossing removed on Brook Street and the incorporation of a pedestrian phase at the new signals. The road was fully resurfaced as part of the project.
- Colne Bank Avenue widening – reduction of pinch point pressure by widening the carriageway to two lanes each way between Colne Bank roundabout and the Albert roundabout. Works included strengthening works to Temple Bridge and Temple subway, re-waterproofing the bridge deck and introduction of an enhanced shared footway/cycleway to the southern side of Colne Bank Avenue.

5.8 In 2016/17 Colchester Borough Council formally adopted Healthier Air for Colchester – Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) 2016-2021. This AQAP was produced in partnership with Essex County Council and outlines the ambitious set of measures the Council proposes to take to improve air quality in Colchester between 2016 and 2021. In addition, a Low Emission Strategy (LES) for the Borough was developed. This was funded by a £50,000 DEFRA grant and is just the sixth strategy of its type in the UK. The aim of the LES is to provide the Council with an overriding strategy to tackle road transport emissions and contains actions which the Council will adopt to reduce its own contribution to air pollution, for example with fleet management.

Travel Change Behaviour

5.9 The Borough Council still works closely with the train operating company under the Station Travel Plan. The Borough is still a partner in the Community Rail Partnership scheme.

5.10 The Best Foot Forward project was a travel change behaviour project delivered between April 2016 and spring 2017. The project was focused on the Mile End area. Play walks to encourage exploration of local green spaces, Bikeability, social health walks and health coaching were some of the offers to the local community to encourage Active Travel. A good working relationship was built up with the four Primary Schools in the area.

5.11 The loveurcarcolchester (LUC) car share scheme continued to grow in popularity. Offering preferential clearly marked spaces in the key car parks in the town centre for car-sharers holding a LUC car share permit, over 1000 people had applied for a space by March 2017 (scheme started in November 2014). Four free (up to 8 hours max) LUC spaces were also launched at Colchester Station in partnership with Greater Anglia in 2016.

Transport and Accessibility Indicators

5.12 A number of the indicators below are linked to data collected for the Essex Local Transport Plan (LTP) or the Local Area Agreement. Previously, the Council had access to journey to school and bus passenger levels, and to public transport

accessibility data, but as this data is no longer available at a Borough level, these indicators are no longer included in the AMR.

Transport Indicator 1	To obtain an agreed Travel Plan for all major commercial/community developments	Core Strategy Indicator for Policy TA1
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5.13 In total 11 establishments were accredited through the ECC Travel Plan Accreditation Scheme during 2016/17. Travel Plans are accredited against a list of travel plan measures, employee engagement and a set of specific targets. The accreditations for 2016/17 were:

Business Travel Plan Accreditations – 2016/2017

- Colchester Borough Council – Gold
- Colchester Sixth Form College – Gold
- Colchester Institute – Silver
- Gilbert School – Bronze
- Babcock – Gold
- Colchester United FC Stadium – Bronze
- University of Essex – Gold
- The Oaks Hospital – Bronze
- Fenwick – Bronze
- The Maltings (student accommodation) – Bronze
- Colchester Hospital – Bronze

5.14 The Colchester Travel Plan Club (CTPC) has continued to work closely with CTPC members and Essex County Council (ECC) to retain or improve members' accreditation to ECC's Business Travel Plan Accreditation and to further develop their travel plans. As well as working closely with Colchester Hospital, Colchester Institute, The Maltings and the University of Essex, a number of further businesses have joined the Travel Plan Club including Whitehall Resources and St Helena Hospice as full members, and Fenwick, Birkett Long and Provide as associate members.

5.15 A total of 85 Residential Travel Information Packs have been provided to new residents of residential developments in Colchester in 2016/17 as detailed below:

Residential Travel Information Packs issued in 2016/2017		
Development Name	Borough	Number of packs provided
Land West 58 Queens Road, Wivenhoe	Colchester	1
The Garrison	Colchester	40
Land adj. to Chapel Road, Tiptree	Colchester	39
Manor Road	Colchester	5

Transport Indicator 2	Comparison of long and short stay car parking demand and duration in public car parks in the Town Centre	Core Strategy Indicator for Policy TA5
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5.16 Colchester Borough Council is still seeing a rise in the use of its car parks as residents and visitors take advantage of the range of competitive parking offers. Refurbishment of Priory Street car park was undertaken in 2016/17 including resurfacing, new layout to improve vehicle and pedestrian access, improved landscaping and lighting. The majority of Sheepen Road car park closed in February 2016 for the construction of an office development although a small car park of 54 spaces remains alongside the Coach & Lorry Park at the rear.

6. Key Theme: ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

6.1 The natural environment of the Borough has been shaped by both physical process and land management over time. These processes have created the high quality landscapes and diverse habitats and biodiversity/geodiversity found throughout the Borough. These include internationally significant areas of coastal and intertidal habitats, mudflats and salt marsh and shell banks, which constitute some of the features of interest within the Mid Essex Estuaries Special Area of Conservation (SAC). New development has the potential to fragment or lead to the loss of habitat. The Council seeks to conserve and enhance Colchester's natural environment, countryside and coastline as well as preserving its archaeological and built heritage through the protection and enhancement of sites of international, national, regional and local importance.

6.2 The Borough Council will continue to direct development away from land at risk from all types of flooding and will also seek to ensure that new development does not increase the risk of flooding either on or off site through the increased use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) where appropriate.

Environment Indicator 1	Number of planning applications approved contrary to Environment Agency advice on flood defence or water quality grounds	Core Strategy Indicator for Policy ENV1
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6.3 Between April 2016 and March 2017 no planning applications were approved contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency. A new indicator monitoring the number of Sustainable Drainage schemes (SUDS) will be developed for the new Local Plan.

Environment Indicator 2	Number and area of Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) Local Sites (LoWs) within Colchester	Core Strategy Indicator for Policy ENV1
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6.4 No new Local Nature Reserves were designated during the monitoring period. A review of the Local Sites (formerly Local Wildlife Sites) was commissioned in June 2015.

Site	2014/2015
Local Sites (LoWS)	168 sites covering 1957 hectares
Local Nature Reserves (LNR)	7 LNRs covering 175.39ha (Spring Lane, Bull Lane, Lexden Park, Salary Brook, Welsh Wood, Colne and Hilly Fields).

Environment Indicator 3	Amount of development in designated areas (SSSI, AONB)	Core Strategy Indicator for Policy ENV1
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6.5 Policy ENV1 seeks to protect the Borough's biodiversity within designated sites. None of the 114 applications approved with the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (43) or close to other designated sites (71) resulted in direct harm or loss of the above designated sites.

Environment Indicator 4	Increase in areas of public open space	Core Strategy Indicator for Policy PR1
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6.6 Colchester Borough covers an area of 33,400 hectares, 2,028 hectares of which is accessible natural greenspace. The Borough is above the County average in terms of the provision of green space for all of Natural England's Accessible Natural Green Space Standards (ANGSt) categories.

6.7 The Council did not adopt any additional areas of open space during the monitoring year 2016/17.

Environment Indicator 5	Recorded loss of listed buildings Grade I and II+ (by demolition), Scheduled Monuments or nationally important archaeological sites and assets on the Colchester Local List to development	Core Strategy Indicator for Policy UR2
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6.8 In the 2014/15 monitoring period, one Listed Buildings (Grade I & II) was lost due to fire damage. Battleswick Farm, Rowhedge was added as a Grade II building to the register of Listed Buildings. No Scheduled Ancient Monuments were lost as part of development proposals. 3 new assets were added to Colchester's Local List during this period. Due to resourcing issues at Essex County Council, the Buildings at Risk register has not been updated since 2013/14.

Heritage Asset	2016/17	Comment
Recorded loss of any of Borough's 2057 Grade I & II Listed Buildings	1	Goods Shed Wivenhoe Station – Grade II severely fire damaged and de-listed
Recorded loss of any of Borough's 45 Scheduled Ancient Monuments	0	No change
Number of buildings on Buildings At Risk register	37	Not monitored since 2013
Number of assets on Colchester's Local List	765	20 added at Local Plan Committee in March 2017
Number of Conservation Areas	22	1 new Conservation Area proposed but not yet progressed

Environment Indicator 6	Percentage of household waste recycled and composted	Core Strategy Indicator for Policy ER1
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6.9 Waste sent for disposal is a wasted resource that results in a cost rather than a potential for income from recycling for the Council. As a result this is an important indicator to achieve. It is also an important indicator to see how much waste, when put alongside the amount being recycled, is being generated by households in the Borough.

Activity	2016/17
Waste collected or recycled or composted	Target: 400kg/household, achieved: 422kg/household. Target: 48% of waste recycled, achieved: 44.90%.
Increase in total tonnage waste collected for recycling	Residual waste increased overall by 924 tonnes compared with the figure for 2015-2016. Dry recycling overall was down by 24 tonnes compared with 2015-2016. There were slight increases and decrease across the range of materials collected. Garden waste was 694 tonnes higher than the previous year. This rise in residual waste was a trend which was seen across Essex, further details will be available and a comparison with other Districts and Boroughs will be undertaken when the Essex Waste Partnership data is presented to see if this performance continues to reflect performance across Essex

7. Key Theme: ACCESSIBLE SERVICES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Overview

7.1 Accessible services and facilities are vital to the development and maintenance of communities. Community facilities should be located within or near centres and other accessible locations to maximise community access and build a sense of local community identity. The Council supports the retention and enhancement of existing community facilities that can provide a range of services and facilities to the community at one accessible location. In addition, the Council will work with local partners, such as Parish Councils or Community Associations, to plan and manage community facilities.

7.2 The Borough Council will safeguard existing facilities and will work with partners including the local community to bring together funding from a variety of public and private sources to deliver new community facilities. Development proposals will be required to review community needs (e.g. Health Impact Assessment) and provide community facilities to meet the needs of the new population and mitigate impacts on existing communities.

Community Indicator 1	Recorded losses of community facilities as a result of development	Core Strategy Indicator for Policies SD1, SD2, UR1, PR1, TA3, and TA4
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7.3 No community facilities were lost as a result of new developments during the monitoring period April 2015 - March 2016.

Community Indicator 2	Key infrastructure projects delivered (SD)	Core Strategy Indicator for Policies SD1, SD2, UR1, PR1, TA3, and TA4
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7.4 Table 6d in Section 6 of the revised 2014 Colchester Core Strategy identifies a number of key infrastructure projects which have been subdivided into the categories 'necessary' and 'local and wider benefit'. Many of the projects are tied to development programmed for later in the plan period, but the following progress is noted for projects delivered during the monitoring period or scheduled for delivery in 2016/17:

Infrastructure projects	Completion date
Necessary:	
Camulos Academy	Opened September 2016
Local & Wider benefit:	
Stanway Village Hall improvements	Reopened September 2017
Winstree Road widening	January 2017
Wivenhoe –University shared use path	April 2016
Colchester Town Centre Passageways Improvements	September 2016
Mile End Road Cycle Scheme	August 2016
Balkerne Bridge replacement	March 2017

Brook Street roundabout upgrade to signals	May 2016
Lower Castle Park footbridge replacement	November 2016

Contributions secured towards Open Space Sport & Recreation

7.5 Core Strategy Policy PR1 seeks to ensure the protection and enhancement of Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities and Community Facilities. All relevant developments are strictly subject to unilateral undertakings, and Section 106 agreements are prepared in accordance with adopted Supplementary Planning Documents. Contributions are being collected, monitored and allocated to local projects for the benefit of the increasing residential numbers.

7.6 The contributions secured towards the provision of open space, community facilities, travel planning and over the monitoring period are set out in the table below:

Facilities	Amount secured during the 2016-17 monitoring period
Open Space, Sport & Recreation	£2,395,178.07 towards provision, enhancement of equipment and maintenance.
Community Facilities	£76,066.66

8. Key Theme: Climate Change

Overview

8.1 Colchester Borough Council is a leading carbon cutting Council in the UK and is committed to promoting efficient use of energy and resources and promoting the development of renewable energy generation alongside waste minimisation and recycling. The Council signed up to the Nottingham Declaration in 2008, and took the next step in its on-going public commitment by signing up to the LGA Climate Local in 2015. The LGA Climate Local action plan published on the Council's website (<http://www.colchester.gov.uk/energyreports>), offers a framework that can reflect local priorities and opportunities for action. It supports Councils' efforts both to reduce carbon emissions and to improve their resilience to the anticipated changes in the climate. The Council's Local Authority Carbon Management (LACM) Plan was completed by bringing all viable projects forward, with predicted savings of 400tCO₂ per annum.

8.2 The Council published and adopted an Environmental Sustainability Strategy in January 2015 (<http://www.colchester.gov.uk/article/15782/Environmental-Sustainability-Strategy>). A Progress report for 2016/17 has been published, along with an updated delivery plan and evidence base.

Climate Change Indicator 1	Carbon emissions and Climate Change	Supporting Indicator for Policy SD1
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8.3 During 2016/17 Colchester Borough Council saw a decrease in tCO₂e emissions to 5,631 compared to 6,175 in 2015/16 and 6,533 tonnes in 2014/15.

8.4 The Council achieved a 55% reduction in its carbon emissions from the baseline year of 2008, exceeding the 40% target three years ahead of schedule. A report showing progress is published on the Council's website (<http://www.colchester.gov.uk/greenhousegasreport>).

8.5 Staff travel has increased to 47tCO₂ from 41tCO₂ in 2015/16. Staff travel does fluctuate and it is difficult to identify reasons for this. The Council implement a travel plan which encourages sustainable modes of travel, more car sharing and more efficient travel planning by staff.

8.6 Now that all viable projects in the Local Authority Carbon Management Plan have been completed the challenge for Colchester is to have a wider influencing role so that carbon reduction work takes place across the Borough and not just on Council buildings, services and operations.

Climate Change Indicator 2	Climate Change Adaptation	Supporting Indicator for Policies SD1, ENV1 and ER1
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8.7 During 2016/17 the Council reviewed its progress in implementation of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy. The strategy focuses on developing existing initiatives within the Council and supporting/empowering communities to take action to reduce carbon emissions. A new environment group has been formed to include 30 organisations from various sectors (including voluntary, commercial, education and health) working across Colchester to engage residents in environmental sustainability. The group is looking at ways to develop collaborative projects and partnership opportunities that link to improving health and education through volunteering opportunities.

8.8 The Council successfully applied for Government funding from the Heat Network Investment Project (HNIP) pilot to deliver a District Heating scheme in the Northern Gateway. This is one of only 9 schemes that have been awarded funding as part of the pilot. The scope to deliver District Heating within East Colchester is also being investigated.

Climate Change Indicator 3	Renewable energy installed by type	Core Strategy Indicator for Policy ER1
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8.9 Between April 2016 and March 2017, the following renewable energy applications were approved: Solar 4, Biomass 0, Ground Source 0 and Wind Turbines 0.

8.10 Part 40 of The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (England) Order 2008 gives permitted development rights to the installation of domestic microgeneration equipment. Planning permission is only required for a limited number of renewable energy technologies. This means that the number of renewable energy installations may be higher than that indicated by the number of planning applications. The number of renewable energy applications may decrease due to the recent government reductions in the tariff payments for energy produced from renewable sources.

8.11 BRE has developed the Home Quality Mark (HQM) as part of the BREEAM family of quality and sustainability standards. HQM will enable developers to showcase the quality of their new homes, and identify them as having the added benefits of being likely to need less maintenance, cheaper to run, better located, and more able to cope with the demands of a changing climate. The HQM demonstrates a home's environmental footprint and its resilience to flooding and overheating in a changing climate, highlights the impact of a home on the occupant's health and wellbeing, and evaluates the digital connectivity and performance of the home. This is a new scheme and the Council will support developers who choose to register under this scheme. Reference is made to the Home Quality Mark in emerging policy DM25. The

Home Quality Mark is optional and the Council is not aware of any new dwellings or approvals being registered under the scheme in 2016/17.

Appendix A – Local Plan Policies

Core Strategy Policies

Sustainable Development Policies	
SD1	Sustainable Development Locations
SD2	Delivering Facilities & Infrastructure
SD3	Community Facilities
Centres and Employment Policies	
CE1	Centres and Employment Classification and Hierarchy
CE2	Mixed Use Centres
CE2a	Town Centre
CE2b	District Centres
CE2c	Local Centres
CE3	Employment Centres
Housing Policies	
H1	Housing Delivery
H2	Housing Density
H3	Housing Diversity
H4	Affordable Housing
H5	Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople
H6	Rural Workers Dwellings
Urban Renaissance Policies	
U1	Regeneration Areas
U2	Built Design and Character
Public Realm Policies	
PR1	Open Space and Recreational Facilities
PR2	People Friendly Streets
Transport and Accessibility Policies	
TA1	Accessibility and Changing Travel Behaviour
TA2	Walking and Cycling
TA3	Public Transport
TA4	Roads and Traffic
TA5	Parking
Environment and Rural Communities Policies	
ENV1	Environment
ENV2	Rural Communities
Energy, Resources, Waste, Water & Recycling Policy	
ER1	Energy, Resources, Waste, Water and Recycling

Development Management Policies

DP1	Design and Amenity
DP2	Health Assessments
DP3	Planning Obligations and the Community

	Infrastructure Levy
DP4	Community Facilities
Centres and Employment	
DP5	Appropriate Employment Uses and Protection of Employment Land and Existing Businesses
DP6	Colchester Town Centre Uses
DP7	Local Centres and Individual Shops
DP8	Agricultural Development and Diversification
DP9	Employment Uses in the Countryside
DP10	Tourism, Leisure and Culture
Housing	
DP11	Flat Conversions
DP12	Dwelling Standards
DP13	Dwelling Alterations, Extensions and Replacement Dwellings
Urban Renaissance	
DP14	DP14 Historic Environment Assets
Public Realm	
DP15	Retention of Open Space and Indoor Sports
DP16	Private Amenity Space and Open Space Provision for New Residential Development
Transport and Accessibility	
DP17	Accessibility and Access
DP18	Transport Infrastructure Proposals
DP19	Parking Standards
Environment and Rural Communities	
DP20	Flood Risk and Management of Surface Water Drainage
DP21	Nature Conservation and Protected Lanes
DP22	Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
DP23	Coastal Areas
Energy, Resources, Waste, Water and Recycling	
DP25 Renewable Energy	Renewable Energy

Site Allocations Policies

SA CE1	Mixed Use Sites
Housing	
SA H1	Housing Allocations
SA H2	Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation
Urban Renaissance	
Town Centre and North Station	Town Centre and North Station
SA TC1	Appropriate Uses within the Town Centre and North Station Regeneration Area
East Colchester	
SA EC1	Residential development in East Colchester

SA EC2	Development in East Colchester
SA EC3	Area 1: Former Timber Dock
SA EC4	Area 2: King Edward Quay
SA EC5	Area 3: Magdalen Street
SA EC6	Area 4: Hawkins Road
SA EC7	University of Essex Expansion
SA EC8	Transportation in East Colchester
Garrison	
SA GAR1	Development in the Garrison Area
North Growth Area	
SA NGA1	Appropriate Uses within the North Growth Area
SA NGA2	Greenfield Sites in the North Growth Area
SA NGA3	Employment Uses in the North Growth Area
SA NGA4	Transport measures in North Growth Area
SA NGA5	Transport Infrastructure related to the NGAUE
Stanway Growth Area	
SA STA1	Appropriate Uses within the Stanway Growth Area
SA STA2	Phasing of Greenfield sites in Stanway Growth Area
SA STA3	Employment and Retail Uses in Stanway Growth Area
SA STA4	Transportation in Stanway Growth Area
SA STA5	Open Space in Stanway Growth Area
Tiptree	
SA TIP1	Residential sites in Tiptree
SA TIP2	Transport in Tiptree
SA GAR1	Development in the Garrison Area

Appendix B – Glossary

Affordable Housing – This breaks down into two subcategories: social housing where rent levels are set in line with the Government's rent-influencing regime. And intermediate housing: a mix of low-cost home ownership products (e.g. shared ownership) and other reduced-cost rental products primarily in the form of key worker housing. More recently the Government has been promoting Starter Homes as 'affordable housing'.

Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) – The Authority Monitoring Report sets out how well the Council is performing in delivering the objectives of its Local Development Framework. It was previously called the Annual Monitoring Report.

Brownfield (also known as Previously Developed Land (PDL)) – Previously developed land that is unused or may be available for development. It includes both vacant and derelict land and land currently in use with known potential for redevelopment. It excludes land that was previously developed where the remains have blended into the landscape over time.

Community Facilities – Buildings, which enable a variety of local activity to take place including, but not limited to, the following:

- Schools, Universities and other educational facilities
- Libraries and community centres
- Doctors surgeries, medical centres and hospitals
- Museums and art galleries
- Child care centres
- Sport and recreational facilities
- Youth clubs
- Playgrounds
- Places of worship
- Emergency services

Some community activities can also be provided via privately run facilities (e.g. pubs and village shops).

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – The Community Infrastructure Levy is a planning charge, introduced by the Planning Act 2008 as a tool for local authorities in England and Wales to help deliver infrastructure to support the development of their area.

Core Strategy – The Core Strategy sets out the long-term vision for the sustainable development of Colchester and the strategic policies required to deliver that vision. It provides for the enhancement of the environment, as well as defines the general locations for delivering strategic development including housing, employment, retail, leisure, community and transport, which are then given precise boundaries in the Proposals Map. The Colchester Borough Core Strategy was adopted by the Council in 2008.

Development Policies – A document that the Council have produced alongside the Site Allocations document to guide future development within the Borough. The Policies contained within this Development Plan Document, along with other relevant national and Core Strategy Policies, replaced the 2004 Local Plan policies in the determination of planning applications.

Evidence Base – The evidence base for Colchester's Local Development Framework includes all the documents used to inform its policies and allocations, including studies, strategies, and national, regional and local policies. Evidence Base documents can be viewed via links on the Council's LDF website page.

Flood Risk Assessment – An assessment of the likelihood of flooding in a particular area so that development needs and mitigation measures can be carefully considered.

Greenfield – Land which has never been built on before or where the remains of any structure or activity have blended into the landscape over time.

Local Development Scheme (LDS) – This is the project plan for a three year period for the production of documents including the Local Plan, Supplementary Planning Documents and Neighbourhood Plans.

Natura 2000 – The European network of protected sites established under the Birds Directive and Habitats Directive (SPA, SAC).

Neighbourhood Planning - Neighbourhood planning is a new way for communities to decide the future of the places where they live and work. The government introduced this new tier of planning through the Localism Act 2011.

Planning Contributions – the principle of a developer agreeing to provide additional benefits or safeguards, often for the benefit of the community, usually in the form of related development supplied at the developer's expense.

Previously Developed Land (PDL) – See Brownfield.

Private Open Space – Open spaces usually in private ownership that can fulfil similar functions as public open spaces but which tend to have significant access restrictions to the members of the public imposed through ownership rights or a requirement to pay to use facilities.

Proposals Map – The Proposals Map shows all boundaries and designations specified in a Development Plan Document (DPD) such as the Core Strategy, Site Allocations or Development Policies. The Colchester Borough Proposals Map was adopted by the Council in 2010.

Public Open Space – includes all spaces of public value, usually in public ownership, which are generally accessible to the public and which provide important opportunities for sport, outdoor recreation as well as fulfilling an amenity function.

Public Realm – Public realm relates to all those parts of the built environment where the public has free access. It encompasses all streets, square and other rights of way, whether predominantly in residential, commercial or community/civic uses; open spaces and parks; and the public/private spaces where public access is unrestricted (at least during daylight hours). It includes the interfaces with key internal and private spaces to which the public has normally has free access.

Ramsar Site – An area identified by an international agreement which supports endangered habitats.

Town and Country Planning Regulations ('The Regulations') – The identification of a consultation stage in relation to a Regulation, i.e. Regulation 25, 27, etc. refers to the relevant section of the June 2008 amendments to the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004. The Regulations cover the various stages in preparing and consulting on Local Development Framework documents.

Travel Plan – These provide information and incentives for new residential and employment sites to use public transport. Travel Plans typically include the issuing of travel pack to new residents and businesses which may include vouchers for 12 months free or discounted travel on public transport.

Site Allocations – The Site Allocations document sets out the criteria for the boundaries shown on the Proposals Map and provides area and use specific allocations. The Site Allocations DPD was adopted by the Council in 2010.

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – A SSSI is an area that has been notified as being of special interest under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. They include the best examples of the Country's wildlife habitats, geological features and landforms.

Special Area of Conservation (SAC) – A site of European Community importance designated by the member states, where necessary conservation measures are applied for the maintenance or restoration, at favourable conservation status, of the habitats and/or species for which the site is designated.

Special Protection Area (SPA) – A site designated under the Birds Directive by the member states where appropriate steps are taken to protect the bird species for which the site is designated.

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) – This document sets out the standards that the Council intend to achieve in relation to involving the community and stakeholders in the preparation, alteration and continuing review of the Local Plan in the determination of significant planning applications.

Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) – The SHMA is a study carried out every few years to appraise the local housing market area and identify the need and demand for different housing types and tenures within that area.

Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA) – The SLAA is a collective term for housing and employment land availability assessments. This is a process carried out as part of Local Plan preparation to identify new sites for housing and employment uses, required by national policy.

Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) – A document produced by the Council to add further detailed guidance and information on a particular subject. An SPD is subject to a formal consultation period and then is used as a material consideration when determining planning applications.

Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) – A range of techniques for managing the runoff of water from a site. They can reduce the total amount, flow and rate of surface water that runs directly to rivers through storm water systems.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA) – An appraisal of the economic, social and environmental effects of a plan from the outset of the preparation process, so that decisions can be made that accord with sustainable development.

Sustainable Development – Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Appendix C – Local Development Scheme 2017-2020

Local Development Scheme 2017 - 2020

