From: David Hamond <

**Sent:** 25 February 2015 10:27

To: Planning Policy

Subject: Orchard behind Irvine Road

I wish to object most strongly to the proposed destruction of the above orchard in favour of housing. It would be nothing short of vandalism to grub out this valuable urban refuge and replace it with bricks and mortar. Ancient orchards are one of the natural world's most effective examples of biodiversity, combining a productive crop with countless benefits to the natural environment. Approving this development would brand Colchester as a typical unthinking organisation pandering to the requirements of a greedy society.

**David Hammond**