

CBC Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation

Dedham Parish Council responses to selected and relevant questions.

February 19th. 2015

1.Overarching Local Plan Issues and options.

Q 3. Sustainability is identified as a key objective. But planning for roads, rail services, public transport and schools is the responsibility of central government and Essex CC. There is no policy for agreeing and implementing a strategy to deliver these services in an effective and timely manner. Co-ordination with the authorities which have the powers and the finances to deliver these services is fundamental to achieving sustainability. (see Q21 and Q22).

2. Employment.

Key issue v). Development of policies which support tourism, leisure etc., with tourism estimated as worth £244m. to the Borough economy in 2012.

CBC proposes to cancel cleaning services for public conveniences in Tiptree, West Mersea, Wivenhoe and Dedham from April 1st. 2015. How does this policy support tourism?

3. Local Plan Themes-Rural Colchester.

Q15. Support the proposal to review settlement boundaries but suggest that any changes be supported by strengthening planning rules to prevent unsuitable development.

Changes could create significant financial gains for a fortunate few; should CBC introduce conditions, such as CIL and S106 levies, to ensure that the local community shares in the benefits?

4. Sustainable Transport and Accessibility.

Q21 & 22. These objectives will not be delivered by CBC alone (see the response to Q3 above). Borough residents suffer daily from the failure to plan comprehensively, particularly in large housing developments. Please include practical and achievable policies to work with the relevant authorities to provide high quality services from the outset.

The provision of cycle and pedestrian routes is admirable and should be supported, but the car is with us and will not disappear, especially in rural communities. Planning policies require two parking spaces for new homes. 3 bedroom and larger new homes should provide at least three parking spaces in order to help reduce on-street parking.

5. Natural Environment.

Q27. We strongly support and emphasise the “ need to protect the significance and setting of important landscapes, particularly the Dedham Vale AONB.”