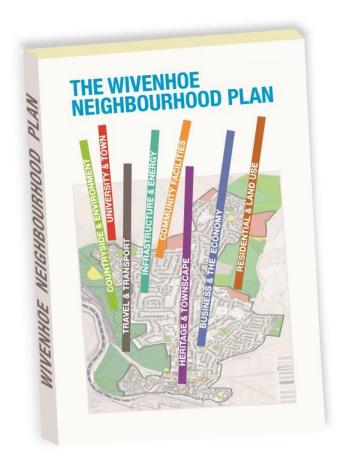
## **WIVENHOE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

This document provides responses of Wivenhoe Town Council (WTC) and the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan Group (WNP Group) to the various representations and objections which have been received by Colchester Borough Council to the Regulation 16 Consultation on the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan dated October 2017 and that concluded on the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

The objections to the Plan made by Colchester Borough Council are considered in Section 1 and all other objections are dealt with in Section 2.

Wivenhoe Town Council
12<sup>th</sup> June 2018



## <u>Section 1 - Colchester Borough Council's response to Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan Submission</u> <u>Consultation (Regulation 16)</u>

The table below highlights the wording changes recommended by Colchester Borough Council to the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan with a brief explanation of the reason for suggesting the change. Only those policies / paragraphs which are suggested for any change are included in detail in the table.

In the table below the WTC / WNP Group's reaction to the Colchester Borough Council response are shown in red. The Group is happy to accept some of the Borough's proposals but not all.

Policy (or Paragraph) in Submission Version of Wivenhoe NHP	Recommended change by CBC	Reason
Throughout the NHP update the Plan period to be consistent with the Local Plan	Change end date of Plan period from 2032 to 2033 throughout	To be consistent with the emerging Colchester
	WNP group agrees to this	Borough Local Plan.
Policy WIV 1- Wivenhoe Town Settlement Boundary	No change	
Policy WIV 2 Development within the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan area to the north of the A133 Development within the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan area to the north of the A133 must provide adequate school, health and other community facilities on the site at an early stage to serve this new community to mitigate any impact resulting from large scale development on the services and facilities in Wivenhoe.	No change	
Policy WIV 3 Settlement Coalescence All development proposals should, where appropriate: (i) retain the physical separation of the Wivenhoe settlement area from the University of Essex campus as shown in the Wivenhoe Proposals Map; and (ii) demonstrate that the proposal does not contribute to the coalescence of the Wivenhoe settlement with the University of Essex campus or potential settlements/settlement expansion in Tendring District.	No change	

Policy WIV 4 Protecting the Setting of the River Countryside that contributes vistas of high value towards the River Colne and its estuary, or that can be clearly viewed from the river or land on the Rowhedge and Fingringhoe side of the river as shown on the Wivenhoe Proposals map (River Colne Special Character Area) should be protected from development which significantly detracts from these vistas or views. Any development proposal should satisfy the following conditions: (i) Demonstrate a need to be located in the The River Colne Special Character Area; and (ii) Be safe from flooding and not have an unacceptable impact on the estuarine coast; and (iii) Not significantly impact on the landscape character, on important nature conservation, or on maritime uses; and (iv) Have economic and social benefits important to the well- being of the estuarine coast; and (v) Take into account the effects of climate change; and (vi) Must not hinder any proposed coastal path.	No change but consider changing name of designation to something like River Colne Special Character Area, to make it more locally specific and relate directly to the local evidence.  WTC / WNP Group agrees to the change of name	Note the key in the Proposals Map will need to be changed to new name
Action- Land to the South and West of Boundary Road The designation of land for University expansion to the south and west of Boundary Road as shown on the Borough Council's Proposals Map should be removed and the land protected from development in accordance with Policies WIV3 and WIV4.	The Neighbourhood Plan supports the emerging Local Plan in the removal of designation of land for University expansion to the south and west of Boundary Road as shown on the Borough Council's Proposals Map (current adopted Local Plan) should be removed and supports the land being protected from development in accordance with Policies WIV3 and WIV4  The WNP group accepts this wording	Need to reflect status and ability of the NHP to influence this
9.17 First Paragraph The adopted Colchester Borough Local Plan proposes the expansion of the University of Essex on to land south and west of Boundary Road. This area is of high landscape value as evidenced in the Open Countryside Assessment Report and has been highlighted as an area of importance to the actual and perceived separation of Wivenhoe from the University of Essex campus. It also contains a wooded wild life site. As a result the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group have been in discussions with the University of Essex and Colchester Borough Council regarding the future development plans of the University.	9.17 First Paragraph The adopted Colchester Borough Local Plan proposes the expansion of the University of Essex on to land south and west of Boundary Road (although it is proposed to remove this allocation in the emerging Local Plan). This area is of high landscape value as evidenced in the Open Countryside Assessment Report and has been highlighted as an area of importance to the actual and perceived separation of Wivenhoe from the University of Essex campus. It also contains a wooded wild life site. As a result the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group have been in discussions with the University of Essex and	Update to reflect the latest position in relation to the emerging Local Plan wording proposed through a SoCG to be a Modification to Section One Local Plan

	Colchester Borough Council regarding the future development plans of the University.	Final wording to be agreed between
	The WNP group accepts this amended paragraph	CBC / Uni and the WNP Group
9.17 Second Paragraph From those discussions it seems that the University has a preference to accommodate its existing expansion plans within its current site and do not require the use of land south and west of Boundary Road. Therefore in agreement with the University and Colchester Borough Council, the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan proposes the removal of this designation from the adopted Colchester Borough Local Plan 2001 - 2021. This University expansion designation is referenced in the Core Strategy as a proposed development in the East Colchester Growth Area and specifically in the Site Allocations DPD under Policy EC7. Following the removal of this proposed expansion site the land should revert to protection from development in accordance with Policies WIV3 and WIV4 of the Wivenhoe Neighourhood Plan relating to settlement separation and landscape impact, respectively.	Replace 9.17 second paragraph as follows;  Whilst the development of the Campus is constrained by a number of environmental and heritage issues, the University is of the view that it should be able to accommodate its growth needs, up to 2024 / 2025, within its existing land ownership. However, and beyond that date, it is likely that it will need to expand beyond its current boundaries. Discussions with the University have revealed that it is willing to forgo the expansion allocation, as set out in the adopted Colchester Local Plan, provided that an appropriate, replacement, allocation is made. (as proposed in the emerging Local Plan) Therefore, in agreement with the University and Colchester Borough Council, the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan proposes the removal of this designation from the adopted Colchester Borough Local Plan 2001 – 2021 and would support the identification of a replacement allocation in the emerging Local Plans or any subsequent DPD relating to the proposed Tendring Colchester Garden Community see para 13.12). The current University expansion designation is referenced in the adopted Core Strategy as a proposed development in the East Colchester Growth Area and specifically in the Site Allocations DPD under Policy EC7. Following the removal of this proposed expansion site, the land should revert to protection from development in accordance with Policies WIV3 and WIV4 of the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan relating to settlement separation and landscape impact, respectively	To update to reflect the latest position in relation to the emerging Local Plan wording proposed through SoCG to be a Modification to Section One Local Plan Final wording to be agreed between the CBC / Uni and the WNP  There is no disagreement that a replacement allocation is needed but as ou NP is hopefully going to referendum before the Local Plan is approved we do not want to make our recommendations dependent on something that
	The most recent e-mail suggested	might not actually come forward. It
	Therefore, in agreement with the University and Colchester Borough Council, the Wivenhoe	is just possible the Inspector

	Neighbourhood Plan proposes the removal of this designation from the adopted Colchester Borough Local Plan 2001 – 2021 and the identification of a replacement allocation as part of the emerging DPD for the proposed Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community. (see para 13.12). The current University expansion designation is referenced in the adopted Core Strategy as a proposed development in the East Colchester Growth Area and specifically in the Site Allocations DPD under Policy EC7. Following the removal of this proposed expansion site, the land should revert to protection from development in accordance with Policies WIV3 and WIV4 of the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan relating to settlement separation and landscape impact, respectively.  This has introduced "proposed" before Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community but does not allow for the possibility of a direct allocation if the TCBG does not get the go ahead.	could turn down the TCBGC proposal so we want to make our recommendation more robust. If the TCBGC does not happen it would still be possible for allocations to be made under the Colchester or Tendring Part 2 Local Plans.  As we do not have the power to allocate all we can do is "support"
Policy WIV 5 University Marshes This area of land which is a designated wild life site and which also contributes to the Green	No change	
Corridor between the Wivenhoe Settlement area and Colchester		
should be protected from development.  Policy WIV 6 Access to the River Colne	No change	
Policy WIV 6 Access to the River Coine  Policy WIV 7 Protection of open spaces, places areas, sports fields and allotments  Those areas shown as Open Space, Play Areas, Sports Fields and Allotments on the Wivenhoe Proposals Map (Section 19) shall be protected from development unless:  (i) the proposal would not result in the loss of an area important for its amenity, including its contribution to the green infrastructure network and to the townscape character of the area; and  (ii) alternative and improved provision is provided in a location well related to the functional requirements of the relocated use and its existing and future users.	Policy WIV 7 Protection of open spaces, places areas, sports fields and allotments Those areas shown as Open Space, Play Areas, Sports Fields and Allotments on the Wivenhoe Proposals Map (Section 19 Fig 21) shall be protected from development unless:  (i) the proposal would not result in the loss of an area important for its amenity, including its contribution to the green infrastructure network and to the townscape character of the area; and	Correct reference

Policy WIV 8 Provision of Additional Sports Pitches, Play Areas and Allotments Development proposals in Wivenhoe Parish will be supported which satisfy the following:  (i) Contribute to the cost of providing additional sports facilities in the Wivenhoe Parish to mitigate the impact of development through Section 106 contributions and or secured through a Community Infrastructure Levy as appropriate; and  (ii) Provide amenity space within the development area equal to at least 10% of the site area where the development is of 25 or more dwellings.	(ii) alternative and improved provision is provided in a location well related to the functional requirements of the relocated use and its existing and future users.  Policy WIV 8 Provision of Additional Sports Pitches, Play Areas and Allotments  Development proposals in Wivenhoe Parish will be supported which satisfy the following:  (i) Contribute to the cost of providing additional sports / recreation land and / or sports facilities in the Wivenhoe Parish to mitigate the impact of development through Section 106 contributions and or secured through a Community Infrastructure Levy as appropriate; and  (ii) Provide amenity space within the development area equal to at least 10% of the site area where the development is of 25 or more dwellings.	To provide flexibility to match the evidence/ justification and intended role of the Policy  Addition suggested to make clear that this policy does not relate to general community facilities which are covered in WIV 14, WIV15
Policy WIV 9 Local Green Spaces That part of Ferry Marsh (as shown on the map in Fig. 22) and the area of land opposite Millfields School (as shown on the map in Fig. 23) shall be designated as Local Green Spaces.	Policy WIV 9 Local Green Spaces That part of Ferry Marsh (as shown on the map in Fig. 22) and the area of land opposite Millfields School (as shown on the map in Fig. 23) shall be designated as Local Green Spaces as defined in the National Guidance WTC / WNP Group agrees this change	To provide the policy context
Policy WIV 10 The Goods Shed Station Yard Wivenhoe Development proposals for commercial, residential or leisure uses will be supported subject to the historical features of the building being respected otherwise the remains of this building must be removed and the space be used for additional car parking.	Policy WIV 10 The Goods Shed Station Yard Wivenhoe Development proposals for commercial, residential or leisure uses will be supported where they demonstrate the protection and enhancement of subject to the historical features of the building. being respected-Otherwise the remains of this building must be removed and the use of the space-bed for additional car parking will be strongly supported  WTC / WNP Group agrees to change the policy as follows:	To improve clarity of wording  We are not sure if the Borough agreed to our suggested new wording. We were not happy with "strongly supported" as a developer could

	Development proposals for commercial, residential or leisure uses will be supported where they demonstrate the protection and enhancement of the historical features of the buildingOtherwise the remains of this building must be removed and the space be used for additional car parking or as an amenity area	ignore this and apply to redevelop the site. We want to guard against development proposals which do not involve restoring the building
Policy WIV 11 The Quay at Wivenhoe Proposals for development in the Quay area (from Bath St to Walter Radcliffe Way) will be supported which: (i) recognise its designation as a BOAT (Byway Open to All Traffic); and (ii) recognise its location within the Wivenhoe Conservation Area; and (iii) promote the area as a place of heritage value and of importance to residents and visitors to Wivenhoe; and (iv) protect and enhance people's safety when walking without fear for their personal safety or that of their children from cars, motor-bikes or cyclists; and (v) do not impede the view of the river or from it; and (vi) do not lead to additional car parking spaces on the Quay; and (vii) contribute to the enhancement and maintenance of the Quay's surface to ensure it is safe and accessible to all pedestrians.	Policy WIV 11 The Quay at Wivenhoe Proposals for development in the Quay area (from Bath St to Walter Radcliffe Way) as shown on the proposals map (Fig?) will be supported which: (i) recognise its designation as a BOAT (Byway Open to All Traffic); and (ii) recognise its location within the Wivenhoe Conservation Area; and (iii) promote the area as a place of heritage value and of importance to residents and visitors to Wivenhoe; and (iv) protect and enhance people's safety when walking without fear for their personal safety or that of their children from cars, motor-bikes or cyclists; and (v) do not impede the view of the river or from it; and (vi) do not lead to additional car parking spaces on the Quay; and (vii) contribute to the enhancement and maintenance of the Quay's surface to ensure it is safe and accessible to all pedestrians.	Consistency and to show spatially as for other proposals.  Amend Map (Fig 24?)  We do not have the technical expertise to change the Proposals map which was produced for us by Chris Downes
WIV 12 Infill and Backland Development on Garden Sites  WIV 13 Townscape Character Conservation  Development proposals will be supported where they:  (i) Ensure extensions and conversions of residential properties are designed to conserve features of existing streets and estates where these contribute positively to the townscape; and  (ii) Protect greenswards adjacent to the highways.	No change  No change	

WIV 14 New Indoor Community Facilities
Financial contributions from development sites
of Wivenhoe for new indoor sports and recreat
should be used to provide additional facilities v

s within the Parish tional facilities within or immediately adjacent to the Settlement Area to address both the existing shortfall and to provide for the needs of an increased population.

#### **WIV 14 New Indoor Community Facilities**

Financial contributions, required to mitigate the impact of **new** development within the Parish of Wivenhoe, for new indoor sports and recreational facilities should be used to provide additional facilities within or immediately adjacent to the Settlement Area to address both the existing shortfall and to provide for the needs of an increased population.

For clarity and consistency with the NPPF

# WTC / WNP Group agrees with revised wording

#### **WIV 15 Indoor Community Facilities**

Support will be given to the provision of new or improved indoor community facilities.

Proposals that would result in the loss of an indoor community facility will only be permitted if alternative and equivalent indoor community facilities are provided or if there is strong evidence that the facility is surplus to requirements or economically unviable, including evidence that it has been properly marketed for at least 18 months.

Proposals for development which result in the loss of indoor community facilities will be required to provide alternative facilities and meet the following criteria:

- (i) the layout and scale of any proposed facility should be suitable for the same or a wider range of activities as the existing facility; and
- (ii) in respect of its opening hours and restrictions of public use, the availability of the facility should be at least equal or where possible enhanced: and
- (iii) the location of the alternative provision should be in close proximity to the existing facility and easily accessible by foot.

#### **WIV 15 Indoor Community Facilities**

Support will be given to the provision of new or improved indoor community facilities.

Proposals that would result in the loss of an indoor community facility will only be permitted if alternative and equivalent indoor community facilities are provided or if there is strong evidence that the facility is surplus to requirements or economically unviable, including evidence that it has been properly marketed as agreed with the Local Planning Authority

for at least 18 months

The WTC / WNP group does not agree with the text in bold but would accept "including evidence that it has been properly marketed for at least 12 months"

Reason: A marketing period of 18 months was included in the Policy in response to the recommendation in the NPEIRS review that a definite time period should be stated. This period was suggested by CBC in their advice on how to respond to the NPIERS review. Our own review of other Neighbourhood Plans suggests that 12 months is more commonly advocated and WTC would be willing to specify a 12 month period. We believe a definite period should be

To provide clarity and retain some flexibility

stated for clarity and it should not be left to the discretion of CBC officers.

Proposals for development which result in the loss of indoor community facilities will be required to provide alternative facilities and meet the following criteria:

- (i) the layout and scale of any proposed facility should be suitable for the same or a wider range of activities as the existing facility; and
- (ii) in respect of its opening hours and restrictions of public use, the availability of the facility should be at least equal or where possible enhanced; and
- (iii) the location of the alternative provision should be in close proximity to the existing facility and easily accessible by foot

WTC / WNP : An alternative suggestion has been made for the wording

Retain the first paragraph then Keep the first part but put a full stop after this part:

"Proposals that would result in the loss of an indoor community facility will only be permitted if alternative and equivalent indoor community facilities are provided or if there is strong evidence that the facility is surplus to requirements or economically unviable."

Then change the rest to:

"Surplusage and non-viability as a community facility must be demonstrated by evidence that the property has been marketed at a reasonable price for that use for a continuous period of at

	least 12 months and no interest in acquisition has been expressed."	
	(this is adapted from the Clutton NP)	
WIV 16 The University of Essex  The growth of the University within the campus area and the Knowledge Gateway business park will in general be supported subject to proposals demonstrating that new development will not adversely harm the existing residents of Wivenhoe. In particular support will be given to development proposals which improve the relationship between the university and existing residents, for example through the provision of shared facilities.	WIV 16 The University of Essex The growth of the University within the campus area and the Knowledge Gateway business park will in general be supported subject to proposals demonstrating that new development will not adversely harm the amenity of existing residents of Wivenhoe. In particular support will be given to development proposals which improve the relationship between the university and existing residents, for example through the provision of shared facilities.  WTC / WNP Group agrees	To provide clarity
Action  The land on the north side of the A133 is considered by Colchester Borough Council as a strategic development site. Some of this site should be zoned for University expansion for academic uses and / or Knowledge Gateway expansion, of at least an area equivalent to that zoned for University expansion to the south and west of Boundary road.  2. The current University expansion area in the Coastal Protection Belt to the south and west of Boundary Road will no longer be zoned for University academic expansion provided an area of at least equivalent size is allocated in the north side of the A133.  Note: See Fig.16 for the map.	Section 13 - page 59  Action  1. The land on the north side of the A133 is considered by Colchester Borough Council /  Tendring District Council as a strategic development site. The Neighbourhood Plan favours that some of this site should be zoned for University expansion for academic uses and / or Knowledge Gateway expansion, of at least an area equivalent to that zoned for University expansion to the south and west of Boundary road (as in the current Adopted Local Plan).  WTC / WNP Group agrees to the above change.	To update to reflect the latest position in relation to the emerging Local Plan wording proposed through SoCG to be a Modification to Section One Local Plan Final wording to be agreed between the CBC / Uni and the WNP
Note. See Fig. 10 for the map.	2. The Neighbourhood Plan supports the emerging Local Plan with the current University expansion area in the Coastal Protection Belt to the south and west of Boundary Road no longer being zoned for University academic	As argued above the NP should not necessarily assume that the TCBGC will get

	expansion provided an area of at least equivalent size is allocated through the master planning for the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community (emerging DPD). The Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan has a preference for this to be on land to the north side of the A133. Note: See Fig.16 for the map  WTC / WNP Group: The last text in bold should be replaced with "through the emerging Local Plans or any subsequent DPD relating to the proposed Tendring Colchester Garden Community	the go ahead and so be flexibly worded
Paragraph 13.12 Whilst growth in the University will largely be accommodated on land already owned by the University, it will need to expand beyond the boundaries of Wivenhoe Park in the future. A logical place for it to expand is on the other side of the A133. This site can already be reached safely on foot by a tunnel under the A133 as well by a controlled crossing at the Knowledge Gateway junction. Access to this site for vehicles could be easily by achieved by amending the existing junction to access the Knowledge Gateway.	Whilst it is expected that the growth of the University will largely be accommodated on land already owned by the University up to 2024/2025, it will need to expand beyond the boundaries of Wivenhoe Park at some time in the future. An new allocation for University expansion will be identified as part of the emerging Tendring Colchester Borders DPD for the new garden community or as a direct land allocation in the emerging Colchester and / or Tendring Local Plans / DPDs. The University's preference is that the replacement allocation should be to the south of the A133 and the east of the B1028. However, the Wivenhoe preference is that it should be located on land within the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan Area to the north of the A133.	To update to reflect the latest position in relation to the emerging Local Plan wording proposed through SoCG to be a Modification to Section One Local Plan Final wording to be agreed between the CBC / Uni and the WNP
		WTC / WNP Group: Just saying "direct land allocation" does not make it clear that this could be a direct land allocation in the

		emerging Local Plans
WIV 17 Traffic in Wivenhoe	No Change	
WIV 18 Improvements to Pedestrian and Cycle Provision	No Change	
WIV 19 General Employment Proposals to convert present business or commercial properties into residential properties will be supported where it can be demonstrated that:  (i) the commercial premises or land in question has not been in active use for at least 12 months; and  (ii) the commercial premises or land in question has no potential for either reoccupation or redevelopment for employment generating uses as demonstrated through the results both of a full valuation report and a marketing campaign lasting for a continuous period of at least 12 months.  Proposals to build or redevelop properties within the Wivenhoe Settlement area as well as on sites designated on the Proposals Map suited for retail, small business services or light industrial or engineering activities (Use classes A and B1) will be encouraged subject to them:  (a) being sympathetic in design and layout to the area in which they are proposed; and (b) not creating noise, dust or smell directly or indirectly from excessive vehicle movements.	WIV 19 General Employment Proposals to convert present business or commercial properties into residential properties will be supported where it can be demonstrated that:  (i) the commercial premises or land in question has not been in active use for at least 12 months; and  (ii) the commercial premises or land in question has no potential for either reoccupation or redevelopment for employment generating uses as demonstrated through the results both of a full valuation report and a marketing campaign to be agreed with the Local Planning Authority, lasting for a continuous period of at least 12 months, or any other agreed timescale as appropriate.  Proposals to build or redevelop properties within the Wivenhoe Settlement area as well as on sites designated for employment use on the Proposals Map suited for retail, small business services or light industrial or engineering activities (Use classes A and B1) will be encouraged subject to them:  (a) being sympathetic in design and layout to the area in which they are proposed; and (b) not creating noise, dust or smell directly or indirectly from excessive vehicle movements.  (c) Proposals for retail / town centre uses will also need	WTC / WNP Group:  We believe (c) should be deleted as it is not relevant to Wivenhoe.
WIV 20 The Brook Street Business Centre The Business Centre at Brook Street is an important place for small businesses and provides valuable local employment opportunities and must be designated as an employment zone.	to demonstrate that that are no sequentially preferable sites where they exceed xx sq m  WIV 20 The Brook Street Business Centre The Business Centre at Brook Street as shown on the proposals map fig 29 is an important place for small businesses and provides valuable local employment opportunities and is must be designated as an employment	To clarify the intention of the policy. Amend Proposals map

WIV 21 Cedric's site  Proposals for redevelopment of this site will be supported providing they are sympathetic in design and layout to the surrounding area. Proposals to include a mix of uses would be supported.	zone and as such will be safeguarded for employment uses.  WTC / WNP Group: Agree to changed wording  WIV 21 Cedric's site  Proposals for redevelopment of this site, as shown on the proposals map Fig x will be supported providing they are sympathetic in design and layout to the surrounding area.  Proposals to include a mix of uses would be supported, subject to meeting other policies in this plan and the Colchester Local Plan where appropriate  WTC / WNP Group – see further comments about this site in Section 2 of this document on page 23.	The Brook Street Business Centre is on the proposals map To add clarity Amend Proposals map
WIV 22 A Commercial/Light Industrial Business Centre	No Change	
WIV 23 Additional Dwellings in Wivenhoe Parish	No Change	
WIV 24 New Infrastructure Proposals for new residential development will be supported which provides evidence that local infrastructure will be provided and/or improved relative to the size and scale of the development proposed. This requirement will apply to all infrastructure, including education provision and flood prevention (fluvial, sea and surface water.	No Change	
WIV 25 Residential Care Home Proposals for a residential care home (Use Class C2) within the Neighbourhood Plan area will be supported.	WIV 25 Residential Care Home Proposals for a residential care home (Use Class C2) within the Neighbourhood Plan area will be supported, where appropriate.	Add clarity
WIV 26 Flooding Risk and climate resilience Proposals for development will be supported where it: (i) Is located to minimise the risk of fluvial or surface water flooding; and (ii) Provides sustainable drainage, as outlined in the Essex County Council SuDS Guide. Wherever possible this should be designed using above ground drainage features to help ensure robust treatment to improve the quality of water entering into local water bodies. The system should	WIV 26 Flooding Risk and climate resilience Proposals for development will be supported, if they accord with other policies and where they: (i) Are located to minimise the risk of fluvial or surface water flooding; and (ii) Provide sustainable drainage, as outlined in the Essex County Council SuDS Guide. Wherever possible this should be designed using above	Add clarity

also promote wildlife habitats as well as green and blue corridors in relation to any new development; and (iii) Maximises the use of permeable surfaces wherever possible; and (iv) incorporates, at the build stage, technologies, such as solar panels, which reduce reliance on fossil fuels.	ground drainage features to help ensure robust treatment to improve the quality of water entering into local water bodies. The system should also promote wildlife habitats as well as green and blue corridors in relation to any new development; and (iii) Maximise the use of permeable surfaces wherever possible; and (iv) Incorporate, at the build stage, technologies, such as solar panels, which reduce reliance on fossil fuels.  WTC / WNP Group agrees	
WIV 27 Design and Access	No Change	
WIV 28 Land off Croquet Gardens	No Change	
WIV 29 Land Behind Broadfields		
WIV 30 Land at Elmstead Road		
WIV 31 Land Behind the Fire Station Colchester Road		
WIV 32 Recreation Avoidance from New Housing in	WIV 32 Recreational disturbance Avoidance and	To update on the
Wivenhoe and Mitigation Strategies	Mitigation from New Housing in Wivenhoe and Mitigation	progress of the
Any proposed Recreational Avoidance and Mitigation Strategies	Strategies	RAMS & for
will apply to development in Wivenhoe and any levy on new	T. T. O. (A. 18)	consistency with
housing as part of these Strategies will apply to the new	The Essex Coast Any proposed Recreational disturbance	Section 1 of the
developments proposed as part of the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood	Avoidance and Mitigation Strategyies (RAMS) will apply to development in Wivenhoe and any levy on new housing	Local Plan.
Plan.	as part of thisese Strategyies will apply to the new	Building on
Paragraph 18.7	developments proposed as part of the Wivenhoe	discussion with NE
To address the issues of the impact of a population increase in the Colchester Borough, together	Neighbourhood Plan.	at Examination
with Tendring District Council and Braintree District Council areas, are to begin work on a	Troighbourhood Fidin	wording has come
Recreational Avoidance and Mitigation Strategies in the summer of 2017. The strategies will identify where recreational disturbance is happening and the main recreational uses causing the	All residential development within the zones of influence	from discussions
disturbance. The strategies, where necessary, will require new residential development, that is likely to affect the integrity of the Colne, Blackwater and Stour European Sites, to pay for the	of Natura 2000 sites will be required to make a financial	and this is required
implementation of the mitigation. The appropriate mechanism will be identified in the strategies	contribution towards mitigation measures, as detailed in	as likely to be
and will be implemented by Colchester Borough Council as the local planning authority. As an alternative, developers may choose to implement bespoke mitigation measures, which will need to	the Essex coast RAMS, to avoid adverse in-combination	Adopted before the
be agreed by Natural England and Colchester Borough Council.	recreational disturbance effects on Natura 2000 sites.	Local Plan.
	In the interim period, before the Essex Coast RAMS is	These changes
	completed, all residential development within the zones	seem to reflect the
	of influence will need to deliver all measures identified	Rep from NE (need
	(including strategic measures) through project level	to fully consider

Habitat Regulations Assessments, or otherwise, to mitigate any recreational disturbance impacts in compliance with the Habitat Regulations and Habitats Directive.

but it makes ref to wording linked to Section One which is consistent)

### Delete paragraph 18.7 and replace with the following:

The WTC / WNP group responses to this section are covered in the Section 2 of this list of objections on page 26.

Colchester Borough Council is working with ten other Greater Essex local planning authorities, and Natural England, on a Recreational disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (RAMS) for the Essex coast. RAMS is a strategic solution to protect the Essex coast from the recreational pressures of a growing population. A RAMS is usually driven by challenges and opportunities arising from planning issues. RAMS generally applies more broadly than at a single designated European site, provides strategic scale mitigation and enables the development of a generic approach to evidence collection and use.

Financial contributions will be sought for all residential development, which falls within the zones of influence, towards a package of measures to avoid and mitigate likely significant adverse effects in accordance with policy SP2b of the Shared Strategic Section 1 Plan and policy ENV1 (Environment) of the Section 2 Colchester Borough Local Plan. This includes development allocated in Neighbourhood Plans within Colchester Borough. Details of the zones of influence and the necessary measures will be included in the Essex Coast RAMS Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

In the interim period, before the Essex Coast RAMS is completed, proposals within the zones of influence for recreational disturbance to European sites will need to carry out a project level Habitat Regulations Assessment and implement bespoke mitigation measures to ensure that in-combination recreational disturbance effects are avoided and/or mitigated.

Amend 'NATURA' in paragraph 18.2 to 'Natura'.  Amend paragraph 24.3 of Appendix 4:	
Colchester Borough and Tendring District Councils are working with nine other Greater Essex local planning authorities on a intending to introduce Recreational disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategyies for the Essex coast to address the recreational impacts of increased population on the various Natura 2000 sites in Essexthe vicinity.	

# **Section 2 – Other Representations**

This section deals with all other representations made regarding the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan and gives the responses from Wivenhoe Town Council and the WNP Group.

WTC / WNP response
The Neighbourhood Plan is subject to a vote. Not all Wivenhoe
residents know about Borough policies and Section 106
contributions /CIL so including this policy clarifies the position for
residents.
It is also included to make clear that the site specific provision of
facilities is not a substitute for Section 106/CIL
Wivenhoe has already met the housing requirements set out in
the current Local Plan. The allocation of sites for 250 new
dwellings in Wivenhoe in the Parish Area in the period up to
2033 is in accord with the emerging Local Plan for Colchester
(See Policy SS16 in Part 2 of the Publication Draft Local Plan for
Colchester)
The 250 houses for Wivenhoe is not stated as a minimum in
Table SG2. This 250 refers to the Parish Area of Wivenhoe;

the Draft Local Plan to replace the 2014 Local Plan at Examination also expresses the housing requirement for the period 2013 to 2033 as a minimum (18,400 homes) at Policy SP3. This is followed through at Table SG2 of the Plan where a 250 homes figure for Wivenhoe is expressed as a minimum.  7. Against this background, we note that Policy WIV23 refers to the sites at WIV28-31 "with a capacity of 250 dwellings". We would suggest that this policy and preceding paragraph 16.17 should be explicit in stating these figures "as a minimum" or "at least" to be consistent with the development plan and national	housing within that part of the proposed Garden Settlement (1,250) also lies within the Neighbourhood Plan Area.  The draft Local Plan policy SS16 -, Wivenhoe, requires the Neighbourhood Plan to deliver 250 houses in Wivenhoe. In addition there is likely to be additional housing in the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan area as part of the Proposed Garden Settlement.
planning policy. We also note that paragraph 17.13 still states that the 250 dwellings is a maximum. This reference should be removed.	We agree that the wording of 17.13 should be changed to avoid reference to a maximum and to read "250 new dwellings are proposed in the Wivenhoe Parish Area"
8. As indicated in our representation of 6th September 2016, this approach does not mean that "any development goes" and that policies in the NP and those set out nationally and locally would still control development. Expressing numbers as a minimum would not mean that additional sites would need to be allocated so long as the Borough Council are satisfied that the allocations shown meet the needs arising from the adopted/emerging strategic policies of the development plan.	The Neighbourhood Plan working group wished to control the type of housing built in addition to the overall numbers. There was evidence both from the survey and an analysis of the housing stock that a redress in the balance of the current stock was required with more smaller homes for younger buyers and for the retired wishing to down size. To specify the housing mix it is necessary to fix a number for each of the four sites and to allocate housing according to type on these sites in a manner that would be fair to all the landowners concerned. In terms of overall housing numbers for the Colchester area and meeting national policy requirements the Borough will have some flexibility in the type of housing and build rate in the proposed Garden Settlements.
Policies WIV30 and 31  9. As indicated above, our client is the landowner of the sites proposed for allocation at Land at Elmstead Road and Behind the Fire Station, given the references WIV30 and 31.	

- 10. We are broadly supportive of the objectives of the WNP for the two sites. As set out in our representations of  $6_{th}$  September 2016, we continue to have reservations that, as drafted, the policies are over prescriptive and inflexible. In response to our previous representations, we note that the Consultation Statement (December 2017) indicated that "A review of the WNP will be undertaken against the background of all comments received" (page 40). However, there is little perceptible difference between the Draft of May 2016 and the Submission WNP. We therefore have to reiterate and add to the comments previously made in terms of :
- Practicality and deliverability of all aspects of the components of the proposed development as set out in the policies.
- The scale of the likely planning obligations and other costs associated with each of the two sites.
- 11. By way of explanation, the delivery of the very specific detailed requirements on tenure/mix and size of units, whilst informed by the work on establishing local needs for the draft WNP, will also need to take account of the Strategic Housing Market Assessment prepared by HDH Planning and Development for Colchester Borough Council, Braintree District Council, Chelmsford City Council and Tendring District Council (2015) as well as advice in the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), including that relating to market signals (paragraph 16). It is considered important to establish or make a distinction whether all the specific requirements are necessary so as to be expressed within the policy itself or desirable which ought to be expressed in the supporting text. This would ensure flexibility and provide certainty on the acceptability and achievability of development having regard to the local market considerations in particular.
- 12. In terms of viability it will be important to ensure that the planning obligations necessary or sought as part of the policies are realistic, achievable and clearly expressed, so as not to compromise the deliverability of the development in accordance

The Plan policies are deliberately prescriptive in order to achieve the aims of the Neighbourhood Plan. It was also felt that the obligations for each site should be clearly specified so that developers would be aware of these when bidding for the sites and that subsequent pleas of "non-viability should not come forward.

The Plan was reviewed in light of the comments made before the final submission. The wording on the Cemetery was altered to make clear what the developer's responsibilities are. The responses to the September 2016 consultation are given in the Consultation Statement.

This is a Neighbourhood Plan and the details of tenure/mix and size of units was determined in the light of local needs. There need be no inconsistency with the overall requirements for Colchester. Mention is made of market signals. It is probable that there would be a strong demand for executive size larger homes in Wivenhoe but as mentioned in a previous paragraph it was concluded that there was need to redress the housing size balance in order to create a balanced community. Expressing requirements as "desirable" in the text would not be adequate to achieve the objectives of the Plan.

This is in accordance with some of NPPF 184 which is supportive of precisely this point: Neighbourhood planning provides a powerful set of tools for local people to ensure that they get the right types of development for their community

The policies lay down quite precisely what is expected for each site.

It is suggested that the wording on the cemetery is not clear. The current wording states

with the PPG. There is some ambiguity and uncertainty with the policies so far drafted. For instance, on the Land at Elmstead Road it is suggested that the allocation is subject to a cemetery and associated works be given to Wivenhoe Town Council. It is still not clear whether the developer is responsible for provision or is it intended that the land is provided? We would certainly suggest that this should be reworded to require land for a cemetery to be provided (assuming it is suitable for such purposes). The developer should not be responsible for the implementation of the cemetery.	<ul> <li>(iii) a cemetery of a minimum of 1.5 hectares in size be given to Wivenhoe Town Council that is provided with off-road parking for 12 cars, is suitably fenced on all sides, incorporates a suitable footway through it and has a cold water supply to a stand-pipe;</li> <li>We propose to change this wording to:</li> <li>(iii) a cemetery of a minimum of 1.5 hectares in size, provided with off-road parking for 12 cars, suitably fenced on all sides, incorporating a suitable footway through it and having a cold water supply to a stand-pipe be given to Wivenhoe Town Council;</li> </ul>
13. Furthermore, and in relation to the cemetery requirement, my client still remains to be convinced that the land identified for such purposes, at Figure 37, is the most appropriate site for such a development when considered against other alternatives. Whilst my client is willing to assist the Parish meet this objective, further land in his ownership and directly opposite the Football Club (as indicated on the plan attached) would present a better site where facilities (such as parking) could be shared with the Football Club.	The Neighbourhood Plan Group had thought that the Cemetery site had been agreed with the landowner. Moving it further to the north so that it is immediately opposite a football stadium and adjacent to the busy Brightlingsea Road would not provide a sufficiently tranquil setting. The proposed site is opposite open space and backs on to fields. For large funerals it is possible that some use of the parking at Broad Lane Sports Ground could be negotiated but the cemetery itself requires dedicated parking for a dignified funeral.
14. As indicated above, we continue to have concerns that the policies as drafted are more prescriptive than is necessary and there would almost certainly be other approaches which would be consistent with achieving sustainable development. Certainly, it is best practice that the wording of policies in Neighbourhood Plans should be reasonably flexible to meet the Basic Conditions. Our detailed comments and suggestions in relation to policies WIV30 and 31 are set out below. Elements shown in italics are where we consider changes should be made to the Policy. Elements shown	

in [] are where we suggest the requirements should be omitted and/or referred to in supporting text.  16. WIV31 – Land behind the Fire Station - The land behind the Fire Station shown in Figure 39 totalling 3.06 hectares of which 2.7 hectares is allocated for a minimum 80 dwellings. Development will be expected to accord with the following criteria:  (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi) [The mix expressed in the policy as drafted is presumptive and should be expressed as a guideline rather than part of a policy for the site. This could include reference to some self-build plots.]  (vii) [Whilst there are no objections to land being set aside for allotment provision, the access to it, shown on Figure 40 and referred to in the policy, is unnecessary. Detailed planning for the site can provide for an access through the new development proposed by the Policy to meet the objectives vii) and viii).]  (viii) [Refer to 4 above.]  (x) and (xi) [These are matters that would be a normal requirement of a planning application and should be deleted or referred to in the supporting text.]	The Policy expresses a precise number for reasons set out above.  For the reasons stated above the Policy is prescriptive on housing types. The problem with guidelines is that they can be ignored. In particular with regard to (i) the Plan group had good reason to believe that the landowner had agreed to donate land for 5 almshouses.  The track needs to have an all-weather surface. It needs to be made clear to a developer that this is required so that no subsequent arguments about viability arise.  We don't propose to change the WNP wording.
17. We have no objections to the additional area of land adjacent to the site allocated for housing to be a potential site for a care home. However, it is considered that the area should form a firm allocation on the Proposals Map. In this regard, we made representations to the Colchester Borough Council Local Plan in August 2017 making the case that this area of land should be included within the settlement boundary. A copy of those representations is attached. The Local Plan Examination is yet to be scheduled. It is considered that the WNP Proposals Map 1 at page 94 should be amended to include the site for the care home within the settlement boundary for the reasons set out in the representations to the Local Plan.	The Care Home is shown as a land allocation on the Wivenhoe Proposals Map. It has been deliberately excluded from the settlement area. This is to prevent the site coming forward at a later date for general housing on the grounds that it was infill.

18. As indicated above, we consider that several of the site specific criteria set out in the policies that have to be satisfied contained within the wording of the policies or the allocations would or will be normal requirements of Borough Council planning policy (e.g. highways, pedestrian and vehicular accessibility wildlife surveys, landscaping, lifetime homes). Such matters ought to be referred to in the supporting text.

It is possibly the case that some of the requirements are normal Borough Policy but they are included for clarity and to inform the residents of Wivenhoe who will be asked to vote on the Plan.

Objection by:	Objection	WTC / WNP response
East of England Co-op (via	It is noticed that the Policy (WIV 21), specifically relating to the Cedric's Garage site, has altered slightly from the previous Pre-Submission stage of Consultation and now includes the following in respect of wording:	In October 2017 we had changed the Policy wording to:
their agent Boyer)	Submission Consultation - Policy WIV21: Cedric's Site	Proposals for redevelopment of this
	"Proposals for redevelopment of this site will be supported providing they are sympathetic in design and layout to the surrounding area. Proposals to include a mix of uses would be supported."	site will be supported providing they are sympathetic in design and layout to the
	The policy wording has removed previous references to the extant permission, which has been replaced with a greater focus on support for mixed use development. This is of considerable concern and we would suggest represents an unjustified material change to the policy.	surrounding area. Proposals to include a mix of uses would be supported.
	The express reference to mixed use development triggers uncertainty as to how alternative, solely residential, proposals that would both reflect the site's existing	WTC / WNP are willing to change this policy to:

consented use and accord with the Government's thrust for achievement of sustainable development would be viewed.

Further, as set out in previous representations, the East of England Co-operative Society, as owners of the site, have particular concerns that mixed use development (by definition including commercial elements) would not be economically viable. This view has been reached having regard to the particular circumstances of the site, including high costs involved in site clearance and remediation, which are known to be required.

This economic viability has been both discussed with the Council and heavily referred to within previous representations submitted to the Parish Council during the course of the Neighbourhood Plan process.

We also consider that the supporting text is overly restrictive, and in particular, the following text:

"This site could also accommodate three-storey flats with businesses on the ground floor and dwellings above."

We consider that this element of the supporting text is not consistent with National Planning Policy, particularly in respect of paragraph 21 of the NPPF, which requires policies to be "flexible enough to accommodate needs not anticipated in the plan and to allow a rapid response to changes in economic circumstances".

It is also considered that the restrictive nature of the policy, as currently worded, also fails to comply with paragraph 173 of the NPPF, which requires Councils to apply careful attention to viability and costs in plan-making and ensuring that plans are deliverable.

It is therefore requested that a more flexible approach to development of the site is included in the Plan, both in the policy wording itself, as well as supporting text, giving equal weight of support for either residential or mixed use developments.

In this regard, we propose, and would be grateful if you would be able to give consideration to the following wording:

This site has extant permission for housing. Proposals for a mixed use scheme that is sympathetic to the surrounding area would also be supported on this site.

	"Policy WIV21: Cedric's Site  This site currently benefits from extant permission for housing development. As such proposals for either any alternative residential or mixed use schemes sympathetic to the surrounding area would also be supported."	
	Supporting Text - To remove the following:	
	"This site could also accommodate three-storey flats with businesses on the ground floor and dwellings above."	
	It is in our view that the above suggested wording and removal of wording better reflects support for residential development, whilst ensuring that any future schemes for the site will be viable and deliverable. We consider that, without the above changes to the policy wording, the policy remains unjustified and inconsistent with National Planning Policy, therefore failing to meet the required test of soundness.	
238112 Natural England	Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 01 February 2018 which was received by Natural England on the same date.	WTC / WNP Comments:
Response	Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.	

## 1 Neighbourhood Plan

**1.1 Para 7.2 Objective 2** - Natural England would recommend changing the word "foster" to "enhance" as this is more meaningful and sets out more clearly the overall ambition for the natural environment.

We do not have any specific "enhancement" policies. The policies relating to the environment are designed to safeguard what we have so "foster" would seem more appropriate.

WTC / WNP agree to the change in the WNP to say enhance.

# 1.2 Section 18 and Policy WIV 32 Recreational Avoidance from New Housing in Wivenhoe and Mitigation Strategies.

Natural England advises that as currently worded this policy is not compliant with the Habitats Regulations. However, Natural England understands that Colchester Borough Council have prepared some wording for inclusion in the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan to ensure compliance with the Habitats Regulations and the Essex Recreational disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (Essex RAMS). Natural England agrees with this wording and provided that this text (as detailed in Appendix 1 of this letter) is inserted into this section of the Neighbourhood plan we would be satisfied that the plan would be compliant with the Habitats Regulations.

The Borough in its comments and NE are not completely identical. Here are the differences:

For Policy WIV 32 the Borough has suggested:

WIV 32 Recreational disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation from New Housing in Wivenhoe and Mitigation Strategies

The Essex Coast Any proposed Recreational disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategyies (RAMS) will apply to development in Wivenhoe and any levy on new housing as part of thisese Strategyies will apply to the new developments proposed as part of the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan.

ΑII residential development within the zones of influence of Natura 2000 sites will be required to make a financial contribution towards mitigation measures, as detailed in the Essex coast RAMS, to avoid adverse incombination recreational disturbance effects on Natura 2000 sites. In the interim period, before the Essex Coast RAMS is completed, all residential development within the zones influence will need deliver all measures identified (including strategic measures) through project level Habitat Regulations Assessments, otherwise, to mitigate any recreational disturbance impacts in compliance with the Habitat Regulations and Habitats Directive. It is not clear if the highlighted text was intended by CBC to be part of the Policy wording or to supplementary text. WTC / WNP agree that we should adopt the wording put forward by CBC as this specifically states the RAMS will apply to Wivenhoe whereas the NE version is not Wivenhoe specific. CBC suggests replacing para 18.7 with:

Borough Colchester Council is working with ten other Greater Essex local planning authorities, and Natural England, on a Recreational disturbance **Avoidance and Mitigation** Strategy (RAMS) for the Essex coast. RAMS is a solution strategic protect the Essex coast from the recreational pressures of a growing population. A RAMS is usually driven by challenges and opportunities arising from planning issues. **RAMS** generally applies more broadly than at a single designated European site, provides strategic scale mitigation and enables the development of a generic approach to evidence collection and use. Financial contributions will be sought for all residential development, which falls within the zones of influence, towards package of measures to avoid and mitigate likely significant adverse effects in accordance with policy SP2b of the Shared Strategic Section 1 Plan policy and ENV1 (Environment) of the

Colchester Section 2 Borough Local Plan. This includes development allocated in Neighbourhood **Plans** within Colchester Borough. Details of the zones of influence and the necessary measures will be included in the Essex **RAMS** Coast Supplementary **Planning** Document (SPD). The text of the NP currently says: 18.7 To address the issues of the impact of a population increase in the Colchester Borough, together with Tendring District Council and We would also recommend that the specific action listed in paragraph 18.5 of erecting a **Braintree District** notice board which requires owners to keep their dogs on leads should also be part of Council areas, are to policy WIV 32. begin work on a Recreational Avoidance and Mitigation Strategies in the summer of 2017. The strategies will identify where recreational disturbance is happening and the main recreational uses causing the disturbance. The strategies, where necessary, will require new residential development, that is likely to affect the integrity of the Colne, Blackwater and Stour European Sites, to pay for the implementation of the mitigation. The appropriate mechanism will be identified in the strategies and will be implemented by Colchester Borough Council as the local planning authority. As an alternative, developers may choose to implement bespoke mitigation measures, which will need to be agreed by Natural England and Colchester Borough Council.

However NE suggests for the para which the WTC /
WNP agree:  Habitat Regulations Assessments have been completed for Colchester Borough Council's Section 1 Local Plan and Section 2 Local Plan. Both of these assessments identified that the in- combination effects of the Section 1 and Section 2 Local Plans (including the in- combination effects of the Section 2 allocations), together
with neighbouring local planning authorities Local Plans and neighbourhood plans are likely to adversely affect the integrity of European designated nature conservation sites ('European Sites').
In view of that Colchester Borough

Council is working with
eleven other Greater
Essex local planning
authorities, and Natural
England, on a
Recreational
disturbance Avoidance
and Mitigation Strategy
(RAMS). RAMS is a
strategic solution to
protect the Essex coast
from the recreational
pressures of a growing
population. A RAMS is
usually driven by
challenges and
opportunities arising
from planning issues.
RAMS generally applies
more broadly than at a
single designated
European site, provides
strategic scale
mitigation and enables
the development of a
generic approach to
evidence collection and
use.
Financial contributions
will be sought for all
residential

development, which falls within the zones of influence, towards a package of measures to avoid and mitigate likely significant adverse effects in accordance with policy SP2b of the Shared Strategic Section 1 Plan and policy ENV1 (Environment) of Section 2 Colchester Borough Local Plan. This includes development allocated in Neighbourhood Plans within Colchester Borough. Details of the zones of influence and the necessary measures will be included in the Essex Coast RAMS Supplementary **Planning Document** (SPD). In the interim period, before the Essex Coast RAMS is completed,

proposals within the zones of influence for recreational disturbance to European sites will need to carry out a project level Habitat Regulations Assessment and implement bespoke mitigation measures to ensure that incombination recreational disturbance effects are avoided and/or mitigated. WTC / WNP agree to adopt the NE wording in view of the fact that NE firmly believe there will be in-combination effects. WTC / WNP does not agree that the specific action listed in paragraph 18.5 of erecting a notice board which requires owners to keep their dogs on

leads should become part of policy WIV 32. Reason: WTC would have no power to require dogs to be kept on a lead as they do not own the land and most of the land is in **Tendring District** anyway. It is for this reason that erecting an informational notice board is an action rather than a policy. 2 SEA Report and Addendum (including HRA Screening) WTC / WNP group comment as follows. 2.1 Paragraph 4.4.1 Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan HRA Screening Assessment -Whilst para 4.4.1 in the Natural England's advice was that there would be no likely significant effect alone but SEA does not mention there would be a likely significant effect in combination - this section of the HRA needs in-combination effects to be updated accordingly. and only suggests that the extra 250 homes 2.2 Provided the policy wording is strengthened in line with the our comments above we proposed on additional have no further comments to make on the SEA or the Habitats Regulations Assessment sites in the Wivenhoe Parish area will not have a likely detrimental impact on Natura 2000 sites, para 4.4.2 does go on to discuss the potential damage from

in-combination effects.

		1
		In the WNP we have already proposed some mitigation measures that are within the capacity of WTC to deliver. Paras 4.4.3 and 4.4.4 go to consider this issue at some length.
		Therefore WTC/ WNP Group do <u>not</u> feel any further changes to the WNP or the SEA are required.
		See also WTC / WNP comments in red in the previous section (pages 26 – 36) concerning Policy WIV 32.
		effect.
	This concludes Natural England's advice at this stage which we hope you will find helpful.	
Cllr Mark Cory (a Wivenhoe ward Cllr)	The area outlined for development 159 on figure 31 page 77, is too large. Residents are concerned about the impact upon amenity, the natural environment and existing infrastructure. What protection will be given to adjacent properties on Heath Road and Broome Grove? Furthermore, what guarantees do we have over the protection of the land adjacent between the Fire Station and the University?	WTC / WNP Comment:  No one wants building adjacent to their properties. However if

The plan should incorporate steps towards a fields in trust or Country Park legal status to protect this land and the land North West of Colchester road (to the South of the A133). The Neighbourhood plan is not strong enough on such protection issues.

land is to be efficiently used this is sometimes necessary. New development needs to be integrated with the existing settlement area. The NP provides some improvements for infrastructure in that a cycle path to the Broad Lane Sports Facilities is included. Also there is a provision for extra sports fields. The access road to the proposed development should be adequate to cope with the extra traffic.

#### Comment 1

Whilst a "fields in trust" status would be desirable it is not obvious that there would be funding available for this. The land in question is protected in the NP by being designated as a separation break and by

being excluded from the settlement area. Comment 2 The site proposed adjacent to Feedhams Close lies opposite existing development and would seem an appropriate area for extension of the settlement area. The land further to the North West is opposite designated open green space. Disconnected small developments are not an efficient use of land. Locating the cemetery immediately opposite a football stadium would not provide a sufficiently tranquil location for a cemetery.

ECC - Spatial
Planning
Essex

# Re Minerals and Waste

(Letter 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018)

ECC is responsible for minerals and waste planning in the area proposed to be covered by the Plan. In respect of mineral planning issues, extant policy is set out within the Essex Minerals Local Plan (MLP) (adopted 2014). In respect of waste planning issues, extant policy is set out within the Essex and Southend-on-Sea Waste Local Plan (WLP) (adopted 2017). The WLP includes site allocations and policies to guide future waste development in Essex up to 2032.

During preparation of the WLP, Site W13 - Wivenhoe Quarry Plan Area was considered for allocation as a permanent site suitable for recycling of inert waste. This allocation was removed at the request of the operator, and instead a section of the neighbouring mineral site (Sunnymead, Elmstead and Heath Farms – WLP reference L(i)5) was instead allocated for this purpose. See appendix A for a map of this site and the relevant policy allocations and planning permissions.

The following comments are made on the Plan policies.

The site referred to at Sunnymead lies outside the WNP area though the haul road is within it.

Is it necessary to say that development outside the settlement area is subject to the Essex MLP and the Essex and Southend on sea WPL. This caveat could be included if the Examiner thinks it necessary.

#### Policy WIV 1

The MLP and WLP are part of the development plan in Essex. Therefore in addition to the need for future development to be in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan and the Colchester Local Plan, it is necessary to include reference to the Essex MLP and the Essex and Southend-on-Sea WLP.

Land off Croquet Gardens (p 78)

ECC welcome the amended text included in para 17.17 as this reflects previous comments from the County Council.

Policy WIV 28

Reflecting the changes to para 17.17, ECC welcomes the update to clause iv).

Draft Policy WIV 29

ECC welcome the amended text included in para 17.42 as this reflects previous comments from the County Council.

# **Education**

Policy WIV7 and Table 2 (pp 43-44)

The inclusion of the two primary schools in Table 2 and the restrictions policy WIV7 place on these sites are unacceptable as they would hinder any necessary expansion of these facilities to meet future demand.

Paragraph 12.13 (p 57)

The point about the school sites is a fair one. The table identifies spaces in Wivenhoe and it is appropriate that the school playing fields should be shown.

It is strongly recommended that a policy supportive of meeting education need and improving the environment around schools should follow paragraph 12.13. Guidance regarding content can be found in section 6 of the ECC 'Local and Neighbourhood Planners' Guide to School Organisation'.

Policy WIV 24 (p 71)

Policy WIV24 should recognise that ECC's expectations are set out in our 'Developers'

Policy WIV 24 (p 71)

Policy WIV24 should recognise that ECC's expectations are set out in <u>our 'Developers'</u> Guide to Infrastructure Contributions' and it should be clear that these developer contributions are in addition to any specifically mentioned in policies WIV28-31.

The need for additional school places should be monitored by reference to forecasts set out in ECC's document 'Commissioning School Places in Essex'. For information, 250 houses would likely generate demand for approximately 75 primary and 50 secondary school places.

WTC / WNP Group agrees to modify policy WIV 7 as follows.

Add

(iii) in the case of the school playing fields at Broomgrove School and Millfields some of the land is required for school expansion

Re Para 12.13

WTC / WNP agree to add to the text of 12.13:

"An additional reception class was added to Millfields School for the academic year 2017-2018. An expansion of Millfields School to make it a permanent 2 form entry school would be supported if projected pupil numbers justify this."

If the Examiner considers it necessary we could add to WIV24. **Existing POLICY WIV** 24 - New Infrastructure: Proposals for new residential development will be supported which provides evidence that local infrastructure will be provided and/or improved relative to the size and scale of the development proposed. This requirement will apply to all infrastructure, including education provision and flood prevention (fluvial, sea and surface water. WTC / WNP agrees to add "Developments will need to meet the expectations set out ECC's 'Developers' Guide to Infrastructure Contributions'

#### Sustainable Travel

It is recommended that the Plan include information regarding Travel Planning. Residential Travel Plans (RTPs)

- Ensure that travel plan conditions are applied to all development applications in line with ECC's RTP thresholds. The current thresholds are as follows, however are subject to change in conjunction with updates/amendments to the ECC Developers' Guide to Infrastructure Contributions:
  - 1 to 249 dwellings Residential Travel Information Pack (including bus/train tickets/vouchers where applicable)
  - 250+ dwellings TP Monitoring Fee, Full Residential Travel Plan, and Travel Information Pack (plus tickets/vouchers where applicable)
- All sites above the full RTP threshold should appoint a Travel Plan Coordinator to deliver/manage the Travel Plan.
- Residential sites should provide on-site electric vehicle charge points where possible.
- Neighbourhood Car Club(s) should be considered.

Comment: If Residential Travel Plans are EEC policy then it will apply anyway as part of the normal planning process.

WTC / WNP agree that we could incorporate provision of car charging points as part of our Policy WIV27 Design and Access although this could be handled by introducing a specific policy at the Local Plan level to cover all new homes in the Local Plan area.

WTC does not have the resources to conduct traffic surveys or monitor travel plans.

# Workplace Travel Plans

- Travel Plan conditions should to be applied to workplace/commercial applications of 50 employees or above, with the addition of Travel Plan Monitoring Fees.
- Workplaces should appoint a Travel Plan Coordinator to manage/deliver Travel Plans.

General Comments (Residential and Workplace Travel Plans)

- Travel Plan targets should be agreed with ECC.
- Regular travel/traffic surveys should be conducted in line with ECC protocol.
- Undertake regular review of Travel Plans.
- Promote walking, cycling, public transport, electric vehicles, car sharing and other sustainable modes of travel.
- Conduct Personalised Travel Planning to help inform residents/employees of sustainable alternatives.

#### Historic Environment

The Plan discusses ways in which to conserve and enhance Wivenhoe's heritage assets, and protect and improve positive features which contribute to the townscape (Objective 4). This is applauded, however the remainder of the document largely concentrates on specific built heritage assets with no reference to the Historic Environment and specifically non-designated heritage assets, including below ground archaeological remains.

A summary of the historic environment of Wivenhoe should be included within the document. Wivenhoe contains sand and gravel deposits that have high potential for Palaeolithic archaeological remains and there is aerial photographic evidence for linear features and enclosures of unknown date which are indicative of historic or prehistoric activity. The HER for Colchester should be consulted for further information.

Within Chapter 11 Heritage and Townscape Policies a summary of the historic environment of Wivenhoe should be added, and it is recommended that the additional text below would bring the document in line with NPPF requirements:

'Any designated heritage assets or their equivalent in the Parish and their settings, will be conserved and enhanced for their historic significance and their importance with particular regard to their local distinctiveness, character and sense of place.'

'Proposals for development that affect non-designated heritage assets will be considered taking account of the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.'

#### **Historic Buildings**

Re Policy WIV 1 (v) To allow better protection of both the natural and historic environment, it is recommended that this is split into two policies, particularly if the policy is being tested at a public inquiry. It might also be more NPPF compliant to phrase the historic environment policy as:

'Preserve or better reveal the significance of designated and non-designated heritage assets, including the contribution made to the assets' significance by their setting.'

WTC / WNP note this but don't propose any changes.

The wording of the policies has been subject to several consultations before this final submission consultation. It is our view that policies should be deliverable rather than including aspirations without reference to how these could be met.

We also did not feel it necessary to repeat NPPF requirements and to duplicate existing Borough Policies.

#### Re Policy WIV 10:

The building was clearly considered to be of national importance for its architectural and historic significance, reflected in the fact that it was historically listed grade II. In its current state it is still a building of historic and architectural significance, albeit diminished, and must be considered to be a non-designated heritage asset. The current policy as proposed would seem to be contrary to paragraph 135 of the NPPF, and does not encourage the preservation of the heritage asset in a manner appropriate to its significance. A more appropriate suggestion would be to suggest the adoption of an SPD, and whilst the current proposed uses might be the most appropriate, this should not preclude other uses would preserve the architectural or historic significance of the building.

## Policy WIV 12:

It would be beneficial to specifically include subsections requiring that all backland or infill development:

- 1) Where applicable, preserves or enhances the character and appearance of the Conservation Area
- 2) Does not have a detrimental impact on the contribution made by their setting to the significance of designated and non-designated heritage assets

#### Paragraph 17.7

The assessment of the proposed site allocations needs to have shown that it has considered the impact of proposed allocations on the significance of the significance of heritage assets (designated and non-designated) and on the wider historic environment.

## **Housing**

Mention is made in paragraph 16.5 on page 69 that housing design should achieve Code for Sustainable Homes Level 6, whilst the Policy WIV 27 refers to Lifetime Homes design standards. It should be noted that the Code was withdrawn by Government in March 2015 and should no longer be used as a planning condition for new approvals.

All energy/sustainable development requirements are now contained within the Building Regulations which are set at a level equivalent to the former Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4. This includes all new homes to be 'zero carbon' in terms of their 'regulated' emissions (space & water heating, fixed internal lighting). Therefore the reference to Codes for Sustainable Homes should be removed and replaced with 'should be in line with Building regulations with the aim to be zero carbon and to meet Lifetime homes standard'.

WTC / WNP note these comments but don't propose altering in the WNP.

Electric car points as suggested could be mentioned in the WNP Design and Access policy but we think this issue should be covered in Local Plan policies to apply Borough-wide.

# Renewables and Energy Efficiency

It is positive that Policy WIV 26: Flooding risk and climate resilience (p 73) includes and supports proposals that incorporate the use of technologies, such as solar panels to reduce the reliance on fossil fuels at the build stage. The NPPF states that it recognises all communities have a responsibility "to contribute to energy generation from renewable or low carbon sources" and supports community-led initiatives. The Plan could mention other renewable energy technology for domestic and commercial developments, such as wind turbines, battery pods and community renewable heat initiative.

A separate renewable policy is a way of communicating the communities' position for renewable energy and the type of technology that could be considered. The Plan policies can provide and add detail to the policy on renewables within Colchester's Local Development Plan.

Useful documents and guidance include

- Low Carbon Neighbourhood Planning guidebook updated January 2018 produced by the Centre for Sustainable Energy
  - https://www.cse.org.uk/downloads/reports-and-publications/policy/community-energy/energy-advice/planning/renewables/low-carbon-neighbourhood-planning-guidebook.pdf
- Planning practice guidance for renewable and low carbon energy Department of communities and Local Government – <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment">https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment</a> data/file/2256

89/Planning Practice Guidance for Renewable and Low Carbon Energy.pdf

#### **Electric Vehicles**

Under Chapter 14: Getting Around Wivenhoe (page 60) there could be mention of the provision for electric vehicles charging points within the new developments. Paragraph 35 of the NPPF promotes sustainable transport under the Sustainability Objectives states that "developments should be located and designed where practical to…" (bullet point 4) "incorporate facilities for charging plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles".

The installation of wiring (installed at the same time as the general wiring for any new dwelling e.g. utilities) can provide provision for external EV charging facilities. This will not only help to mitigate potential air pollution from the growth of cars, but will represent a measure of "future proofing" to meet the growing demand as Government is committed to ban the sale of new diesel and petrol vehicles from 2040 in UK. Several car manufactures have announced they will only produce electric vehicles from 2019/20 onwards, such as Volvo and Jaguar/Land Rover. Currently just over 2% of all new car sales are either plug-in hybrid vehicles or pure electric vehicles. This figure is expected to be around 10% by 2025. The industry anticipates that by 2025 it will be cheaper to buy an EV than an internal combustion vehicle so at that point even without Government subsidies the share of EVs will continue to rise.

The Neighbourhood Plan could consider including a statement that supports the installation of a certain percentage of active spaces and passive provision for all developments. Active spaces are fully wired and connected, ready to use, EV charging points at parking spaces. While passive provision requires the necessary underlying infrastructure wiring (e.g. the capacity in the connection to the local electricity network and electricity distribution board, as well as cabling to parking spaces) to enable simple installation and activation of a charge point at a later date.

To address this point, the plan could include either a separate policy or an additional bullet point within the Policy WIV17 on page 60 as:

'The installation of EV charging point's infrastructure (active or passive) in accordance	I
'The installation of EV charging point's infrastructure (active or passive) in accordance	
with agreed minimum standards will be strongly encouraged and supported at all	
developments (domestic and commercial) with parking facilities.'	

#### Green Infrastructure

Although the plan has policies that can be recognised at being part of the Green Infrastructure (GI) network, there is an opportunity to include a policy encompassing the GI as a whole, recognising the value of wider multi-functional GI for both people and wildlife. An opportunity to identify GI deficiencies, which can be addressed through planning, such as improved connectivity to existing and new green spaces and types of green facilities in need (i.e. play park, Sustainable Urban Drainage), as well as the provision of new open space as part of the new development. The Neighbourhood Plan has already identified GI of value on page 43. This will provide opportunity to improve and enhance existing green spaces. It also gives scope for any developments to contribute to improvements to a green space based on community need. An example policy is provided below.

Policy WIV: Green infrastructure and development

Proposals will be encouraged that seek to enhance the green infrastructure of the parish, demonstrating how they:

- Protect and enhance designated green spaces (listed on page 43) and/or create new green/open spaces where appropriate.
- Improve the connectivity between wildlife areas and green spaces through green corridors and/or improvements to the Public, Rights of Way, and cycle and footpath networks.
- Enhance the visual characteristics and biodiversity of green spaces in close proximity to the development.
- Ensure their landscape schemes, layouts, access and public open space provision and other amenity requirements contribute to the connectivity, maintenance and improvement of the GI Network.
- Take into consideration the principles of Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDs), which will enhance biodiversity and ecosystems.
- Consider the multi-functional use of local green spaces as part of the GI network.

Neighbourhood Planning: Local Green Spaces by My Community is a useful guide on how Neighbourhood Plans can address green spaces and GI.

WTC / WNP group note the aspirational nature of these comments. We feel though that policies which are relevant should be at the Local Plan level and apply Borough-wide.

	https://mycommunity.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/NP_Green-Space_0217.pdf	
	•	
Gladman	Dear Sir/Madam,	WTC / WNP comment as
Developments	This letter provides Gladman Developments Ltd (Gladman) representations in response to the	follows:
Ltd	submission version of the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan (WNP) under Regulation 16 of the	
	Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. Gladman requests to be added to the Council's	The purpose of the
(Letter 19 <sup>th</sup>		specification of a
March 2018)	consultation database and to be kept informed on the progress of the emerging neighbourhood plan.	
	This letter seeks to highlight the issues with the plan as currently presented and its relationship with	settlement boundary is to
	national and local planning policy.	protect the countryside
	Legal Requirements	from unplanned urban
	Before a neighbourhood plan can proceed to referendum it must be tested against a set of basic	sprawl and to preserve
	conditions set out in paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4b of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as	settlement coalescence
	amended). The basic conditions that the WNP must meet are as follows:	Both the current and the
	222.2	<u> </u>

(a) Having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the order.

The making of the order contributes to the achievement of sustainable development.

The making of the order is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area).

The making of the order does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations.

#### **National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance**

The National Planning Policy Framework (the Framework) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. In doing so it sets out the requirements for the preparation of neighbourhood plans to be in conformity with the strategic priorities for the wider area and the role in which they play in delivering sustainable development to meet development needs.

At the heart of the Framework is a presumption in favour of sustainable development, which should be seen as a golden thread through both plan-making and decision-taking. For plan-making this means that plan makers should positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of their area and Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change. This requirement is applicable to neighbourhood plans.

The recent Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) updates make clear that neighbourhood plans should conform to national policy requirements and take account the latest and most up-to-date evidence of housing needs in order to assist the Council in delivering sustainable development, a neighbourhood plan basic condition.

The application of the presumption in favour of sustainable development will have implications for how communities engage with neighbourhood planning. Paragraph 16 of the Framework makes clear that Qualifying Bodies preparing neighbourhood plans should develop plans that support strategic development needs set out in Local Plans, including policies for housing development and plan positively to support local development.

Paragraph 17 further makes clear that neighbourhood plans should set out a clear and positive vision for the future of the area and policies contained in those plans should provide a practical framework within which decisions on planning applications can be made with a high degree of predictability and efficiency. Neighbourhood plans should seek to proactively drive and support sustainable economic development to deliver the homes, jobs and thriving local places that the country needs, whilst responding positively to the wider opportunities for growth.

Paragraph 184 of the Framework makes clear that local planning authorities will need to clearly set out their strategic policies to ensure that an up-to-date Local Plan is in place as quickly as possible. The

draft Local Plan provide for the definition of settlement boundaries and contain policies on any development outside these. The draft Local Plan requires the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan to define the settlement boundary. The housing provision for the Wivenhoe Parish has been agreed with CBC and is considered the total that is sustainable given environmental constraints and restrictions resulting from the Essex Minerals and Waste Plan. It should be noted that the draft Local Plan provides for additional new housing within the Neighbourhood Plan Area as part of the proposed new garden settlement to the north of the A133. We consider that the NP is consistent with both National Policy and the wider strategic needs of the area.

Neighbourhood Plan should ensure that it is aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider area and plan positively to support the delivery of sustainable growth opportunities.

#### **Planning Practice Guidance**

It is clear from the requirements of the Framework that neighbourhood plans should be prepared in conformity with the strategic requirements for the wider area as confirmed in an adopted development plan. The requirements of the Framework have now been supplemented by the publication of Planning Practice Guidance (PPG).

On 11th February 2016, the Secretary of State (SoS) published a series of updates to the neighbourhood planning chapter of the PPG. In summary, these update a number of component parts of the evidence base that are required to support an emerging neighbourhood plan.

On 19th May 2016, the Secretary of State published a further set of updates to the neighbourhood planning PPG. These updates provide further clarity on what measures a qualifying body should take to review the contents of a neighbourhood plan where the evidence base for the plan policy becomes less robust. As such it is considered that where a qualifying body intends to undertake a review of the neighbourhood plan, it should include a policy relating to this intention which includes a detailed explanation outlining the qualifying bodies anticipated timescales in this regard.

Further, the PPG makes clear that neighbourhood plans should not contain policies restricting housing development in settlements or preventing other settlements from being expanded. It is with that in mind that Gladman has reservations regarding the WNP's ability to meet basic condition (a) and (d) and this will be discussed in greater detail throughout this response.

#### **Relationship to Local Plan**

To meet the requirements of the Neighbourhood Plan Basic Conditions, neighbourhood plans should be prepared to conform to the strategic policy requirements set out in the adopted Development Plan. The current adopted plan that covers the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan area and the development plan which the WNP will be tested against consists of the Colchester Core Strategy which was adopted in December 2008 covering the plan period up to 2021. The Council undertook a focused review of the Core Strategy in July 2014. However, this review only assessed certain aspects of the Development Plan.

To meet the requirements of the Framework, the Council has commenced work on a new Local Plan. Part 1 of the emerging Local Plan has been prepared jointly with Braintree and Tendring Districts

We don't propose to make any changes to the WNP. We encourage Gladman Developments to read our Basic Conditions Statement which deals with all the points they have raised.

Councils, and provides strategic policies for the North Essex Area. Part 2 of the Local Plan, deals specifically with local policies for the Colchester Borough. Within the emerging Plan, Wivenhoe is identified as a sustainable settlement and expected to accommodate at least 250 new dwellings over the plan period.

On 9th October 2017 the Councils submitted the Local Plan and its accompanying documents to the Planning Inspectorate. Part 1 Examination in Public began on the 16th January 2018, with additional hearing sessions scheduled for May 2018. Part 2 Examination is yet to commence. As such, given that the Plan is still undergoing formal examination, there remains considerable uncertainty over what level of development that Wivenhoe may need to accommodate to assist the Council in meeting its OAN for housing. Accordingly, the Plan will need to ensure that it allows for sufficient flexibility to ensure that it is able to react to changes that may arise through the emerging Local Plan Examination.

Gladman note that the plan period for the emerging 2 part Local Plan is 2017 through to 2033. The WNP plan period ends in 2032. We recommend that the WNP seeks to amend the plan period to be in full conformity with the emerging Local Plan.

#### Policy WIV 1: Wivenhoe Town Settlement Boundary

Policy WIV 1 seeks to define a settlement boundary for the town of Wivenhoe. Development outside the settlement boundary is to be restricted to that which demonstrates a specific need.

Gladman do not consider the use of settlement boundaries to be an effective response to future development proposals if it would act to preclude the delivery of otherwise sustainable development opportunities, as indicated in the policy. The Framework is clear that development which is sustainable should go ahead without delay. The use of settlement limits to arbitrarily restrict suitable development from coming forward on the edge of settlements does not accord with the positive approach to growth required by the Framework and is contrary to basic condition (a).

Policy WIV 2: Development within the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan area to the north of the A133 Policy WIV 2 states that within the area to the north of the A133, development proposals must provide adequate school, health and community facilities. The policy further sets out that these amenities must be provided at an early stage of development.

Gladman are concerned that there is not sufficient flexibility built into this policy to deal with potential viability issues that might arise. We refer to paragraph 173 and 174 of the Framework in this respect. Paragraph 173 states:

"Plans should be deliverable. Therefore, the sites and scale of development identified in the plan should not be subject to such a scale of obligations and policy burdens that their ability to be developed

viably is threatened. To ensure viability, the costs of any requirement likely to be applied to development, such as requirements for affordable housing, standards, infrastructure contributions or other requirements should, when taking account of normal costs of development and mitigation, provide competitive returns to a willing landowner and willing developer to enable the development to be deliverable."

#### **Policy WIV 3: Settlement Coalescence**

Policy WIV 3 states that all development proposals should seek to retain the physical separation of the Wivenhoe settlement area from the University of Essex campus. In line with this policy, the proposals map identifies a 'Coalescence break', between the two areas.

This is considered a strategic policy beyond the remit of neighbourhood plans that would have the effect of imposing a near blanket restriction on development to the north of Wivenhoe. It would effectively offer the same level of protection as Green Belt land without undertaking the necessary exceptional circumstances test for the designation of new areas of Green Belt. As stated by PPG paragraph 0741, a neighbourhood plan should not attempt to introduce strategic policies, such as this, which would undermine the strategic policies set out in the development plan.

Gladman have been unable to identify any specific evidence to support the inclusion of this policy in the Neighbourhood Plan. It is vital that all of the evidence that underpins policies within the plan are available for review by anyone wishing to comment on the consultation.

Further, the PPG makes clear that neighbourhood plans should not contain policies restricting housing development in settlements or preventing other settlements from being expanded. Accordingly, the WDP will need to be updated so that it takes into account the latest guidance issued by the Secretary of State so that it can be found in compliance with basic condition (a), (d) and (e).

#### Policy WIV 27: Design and Access

Policy WIV 27 requires that all developments determined to require a Design and Access Statement, adhere to a list of 10 defined principles.

Whilst Gladman recognise the importance of high quality design, planning policies should not be overly prescriptive and need flexibility in order for schemes to respond to sites specifics and the character of the local area. There will not be a 'one size fits all' solution in relation to design and sites should be considered on a site by site basis with consideration given to various design principles.

Gladman therefore suggest that more flexibility is provided in the policy wording to ensure that a high quality and inclusive design is not compromised by aesthetic requirements alone. We consider that to do so could act to impact on the viability of proposed residential developments. We suggest that regard should be had to paragraph 60 of the NPPF which states that: "Planning policies and decisions should

not attempt to impose architectural styles or particular tastes and they should not stifle innovation, originality or initiative through unsubstantiated requirements to conform to certain development forms or styles". **Conclusions** Gladman recognises the role of neighbourhood plans as a tool for local people to shape the development of their local community. However, it is clear from national guidance that these must be consistent with national planning policy and the strategic requirements for the wider authority area. Through this consultation response, Gladman has sought to clarify the relation of the WNP as currently proposed with the requirements of national planning policy and the wider strategic policies for the wider area. Gladman is concerned that the plan in its current form does not comply with basic conditions (a) and (d). The plan does not conform with national policy and guidance and in its current form does not contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. Gladman formally request to participate at the hearing session(s) should the Examiner decide it necessary to discuss these issues in a public forum. Gladman hopes you have found these representations helpful and constructive. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me or one of the Gladman team. Yours Faithfully,

# **Environment** Agency

#### **Ground Contamination**

Operators of cemeteries should take appropriate measures to manage their sites to ensure they do not cause an unacceptable risk to groundwater quality. These measures are set out in our comments below. The Local Planning Authority should consider whether they wish to secure specific measures through appropriate planning conditions. The development of new cemeteries in high vulnerability areas should be avoided, except where the thickness and nature of the unsaturated zone, or the impermeable formations beneath the site, protect groundwater; or where the long-term risk is mitigated by appropriate engineering methods.

We recommend that reference should be made to cemetery section in the Environment Agency's Groundwater Protection: Principles and Practice and information on the Natural Death Centre website. You may need to produce a hydrogeological risk assessment to show that there are minimal risks to the environment either at time of burial, or in the future. Reference should be made to our document "Assessing the Groundwater Pollution Potential of Cemetery Developments". Relevant best practice

WTC / WNP group note these comments.

	guidance must be followed and the design should be appropriate for the local circumstances, and should be based on site investigation.  In principle any new cemetery or the extension of any existing cemetery must:  ② be at least 250 metres from a well, borehole or spring used to supply water that is used for human consumption, or for use in dairy farms;  ② be at least 30 metres from any other spring or watercourse and at least 10 metres from any field drain;  ② have at least one metre of subsoil below the bottom of the burial pit, allowing a hole deep enough for at least one metre of soil to cover the remains  ② have at least one metre of unsaturated zone (the depth to the water table) below the base of any grave. Allowance should also be made to any potential rise in the water table (at least one metre should be maintained)  Flood Risk  We agree with objective 10 which includes 'to minimise the potential impact of flooding.' As per our letter dated 30 April 2014, this can be done via the implementation of sequential testing and flood defences. (that letter was received and is on file)	
From Mr Paul Griffith (Wivenhoe Resident)	4.3, 4.4: The population figures for 2011 don't appear to add up correctly. 2,124 + 7,637 != 10,025.	There is some typo or poor arithmetic on the population figures. Unfortunately the ONS no longer supports its Neighbourhood statistics data base.  Let us assume the 4.4 figure for the Parish area should read 7,629 rather than 7,637 i.e. that the numbers in 5.25 are the correct ones.

	5.3: Last sentence is repeated	Re 5.3 This duplicated
		sentence needs to be removed
	5.25: Population figures seem to contradict those in 4.3	
	4.4. Non-parished area does not appear to be defined.	
	Page 60, 2nd Action Point: Also consider providing passing places, for example on the B1028 near to Rosabelle Avenue	
	15.9: 25 car parking spaces is inadequate	
	I have carefully read the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan Draft. Apart from the minor comments listed above, I am in complete agreement with the plan and fully support it.	
Mr Robert Priseman (Wivenhoe resident)	I have read the 'Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan' fully and wholeheartedly support all the recommendations and action points it proposes.  It strikes me as a thorough and well researched document.	Noted.
National Grid, Specific Comments	An assessment has been carried out with respect to National Grid's electricity and gas transmission apparatus which includes high voltage electricity assets and high pressure gas pipelines, and also National Grid Gas Distribution's Intermediate and High Pressure apparatus.	

	National Grid has identified that it has no record of such apparatus within the Neighbourhood Plan area.	
Network Rail	Thank you for consulting Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd on the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan Submission consultation.  We have the following comments to make.  Policy Wiv 10 states:  The Goods Shed, Station Yard, Wivenhoe  Development proposals for commercial or leisure uses will be supported subject to the historical features of the building being respected otherwise the remains of this building must be removed and the space be used for additional car parking.  It is understood that previous redevelopment proposals from Network Rail have been looked upon unfavorably at the pre-application stage due to the demolition elements of the scheme. In the interests of redeveloping the site in future it is suggested that at the end of this policy the wording 'subject to viability' is added. This is to ensure that the site is not blighted from redevelopment in future.	WTC / WNP group do not agree to the insertion of the phrase 'subject to viability'

	Level Crossings	There is considerable
	In general the need to close level crossings should be considered where any development is likely to increase or change the nature of usage at a crossing. Closure of level crossings will help improve safety, reduce the number of accidents and also help to increase capacity of the network and maintain a robust railway timetable.	opposition in Wivenhoe to the Network Rail proposal to close the Paget Road level crossing as it provides a
	In the nineteenth century, when the railways were constructed, many level crossings were provided  Network Rail Infrastructure Limited Registered Office: Network Rail, One Eversholt Street, London, NW1 2DN Registered in England and Wales No. 2904587 www.networkrail.co.uk because they were the cheapest form of making good the interruptions in land and public highways that resulted.	important link in the footpath network.
	Level crossings were acceptable on a low speed steam-powered railway, but trains have become faster, quieter, and more frequent, and the law and society have rightly become more concerned with safety.	
	Level crossings collectively pose the greatest risk to safety on the railway network. That is to say, almost half of non-suicide deaths (or injury equivalents) on the railway network are attributable to level crossings.	
	It is widely acknowledged that closure of level crossings is the most effective way to remove the risk. It is therefore Network Rail policy to close level crossings where possible, and this is set out in the document Transforming Level Crossings 2015–2040 (attached). It is Office of Rail and Road (ORR) policy that Network Rail must work to reduce level crossing risk by 25% by 2018, including through closure of crossings.  As a result, to aid in achieving the Governments targets of level crossing closures Network Rail would welcome a policy to support level crossing closures within the Local Plan. We are happy to discuss specific level crossings further if this would aid policy formation and justification.	
Mrs Vivien Squires for	Tarmac have been operating at the Wivenhoe Sand & Gravel Quarry for many years. As extraction ceases and restoration commences, Tarmac support the inclusion of an area of	

Tarmac	land (2 ha) allocated as an employment in the Neighbourhood Plan. Policy WIV 22 refers. A	
Trading	plan of Tarmac's land ownership is provided. Support is also given for Policy WIV 28, Land off Croquet Gardens. The allocation of 25 dwellings will benefit the local community and move towards the intended target. Should the opportunity arise to extend the area of the allocation or promote it for housing, Tarmac will be supportive in future discussions.	

The JTS
Partnership
LLP

## **Comment & proposed changes:**

The University notes, and very much welcomes, the support given to its presence, and the contribution that it makes to local economic and cultural life, as set out in the Draft Plan (principally paragraphs 13.1 to 13.14). It is, however, concerned that the Draft Plan proposes to delete the area of land to the south, and west, of Boundary Road, which is identified for further University expansion in the Colchester Borough Local Plan 2001-2021.

The University has ambitious plans to expand, so that it can accommodate some 20,000 students across its three campuses at Colchester, Southend and Loughton, by 2024/2025. The great majority of this expansion will take place at the Colchester Campus. Whilst the University believes that there should be enough land, within the existing boundaries, to accommodate its needs up to 2024/2025, development is constrained by, among other matters, landscape, heritage and ecological issues.

Accordingly, and in order to achieve its growth targets, it may need to expand outside of its existing land holdings before 2024/2025. After that date, and if it is to continue to grow, it will almost certainly need to expand beyond its current boundaries.

The University's medium and long term expansion plans are acknowledged, and supported, by the Colchester Borough Local Plan 2001-2021, which allocates land to the south and west of Boundary Road for future growth. This land lies adjacent to the heart of the campus and is ideally suited to meet the University's medium

This response should be read in conjunction with what we said to the objections raised by CBC and dealt with at the beginning of this document.

WTC / WNP group do not agree that we should accept the wording:

The current University expansion in the Coastal Protecton Belt to the south and west of Boundary Road will no longer be zoned for University academic expansion provided an area of at least equivalent size is allocated as part of the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community.

This is dependent on the TBGC coming forward. Land can be allocated by CBC/Tendring as part of their Local Plans without

to long term needs. The University is willing to consider alternative allocations but, and in the absence of any specific proposal being set out in either the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, or the emerging Colchester and Tendring Local Plans, it has to make an objection to the deletion of the current allocation (as set out at paragraphs 9.17 & 13.12, together with the Action on page 33) and the additional protection given to the land in Policies WIV3 & WIV4.

Although not as well located to the Campus, the University is willing to look at an alternative site for future expansion, to the east of the B1028 and south of the A133. The University has had extensive discussions with both Colchester and Tendring Councils, in relation to their emerging local plans and the proposals for the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community. As a result, a Statement of Common Ground has been agreed which allowed the University to withdraw its objection to both the emerging Colchester and Tendring plans.

The University has recently met with Wivenhoe Town Council, in order to try and achieve a similar outcome. Following these discussions, the University confirms that, if paragraphs 9.17 and 13.12, together with Policy WIV16 and the Action point on page 59, are amended along the lines set out below, then it will be able to withdraw this objection to the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan Draft.

9.17 Second Paragraph

there necessarily being a new garden community.

See comments on the University section in our response to CBC

Whilst the development of the Campus is constrained by a number of environmental and heritage issues, the University is of the view that it should be able to accommodate its growth needs, up to 2024 / 2025, within its existing land ownership. However, and beyond that date, it is likely that it will need to expand beyond its current boundaries. Discussions with the University have revealed that it is willing to forgo the expansion allocation, as set out in the adopted Colchester Local Plan, provided that an appropriate, replacement, allocation is made. Therefore, in agreement with the University and Colchester Borough Council, the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan proposes the removal of this designation from the adopted Colchester Borough Local Plan 2001 – 2021 and the identification of a replacement allocation (see para 13.12). The current University expansion designation is referenced in the adopted Core Strategy as a proposed development in the East Colchester Growth Area and specifically in the Site Allocations DPD under Policy EC7. Following the removal of this proposed expansion site, the land should revert to protection from development in accordance with Policies WIV3 and WIV4 of the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan relating to settlement separation and landscape impact, respectively.

#### 13.12

Whilst it is expected that the growth of the University will largely be accommodated on land already owned by the University up to 2024 / 2025, it will need to expand beyond the boundaries of Wivenhoe Park at some time in the future. An new allocation for University expansion will be identified as part of the new garden community or as a direct land allocation in the emerging Colchester and / or Tendring Local Plans. The University's preference is that

the replacement allocation should be to the south of the A133 and the east of the B1028. However, the Wivenhoe preference is that it should be located on land within the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan Area to the north of the A133.

The growth of the University within the Campus area and the Knowledge Gateway Business Park will in general be supported subject to proposals demonstrating that new development will not adversely harm the existing residents of Wivenhoe. In particular, support will be given to development proposals which improve the relationship between the University and existing residents, for example through the provision of shared facilities. Support will also be given to the identification of land for future University expansion as part of the emerging proposals for the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community.

#### **ACTION**

- The land on the north side of the A133 considered by Colchester
  Borough Council as a strategic development site. Some of the site The
  land being considered by Colchester Borough Council for the Tendring
  Colchester Borders Garden Community should include an allocation be
  zoned for University expansion for academic uses and / or Knowledge
  Gateway expansion. The allocation for University expansion should be
  of at least of an area equivalent size to that currently zoned for
  University expansion to the south and west of Boundary Road.
- The current University expansion in the Coastal Protection Belt to the south and west of Boundary Road will no longer be zoned for University academic expansion provided an area of at least equivalent size is allocated in the north side of the A133 as part of the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community.

# WTC/12June2018