



ALDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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19th January 2026

Councillor Andrea Luxford Vaughan
Portfolio Holder for Planning & Sustainable Development
Colchester City Council

Dear Councillor Luxford Vaughan,

Colchester Local Plan Review Preferred Options

As the Chairs of seven Parish Councils on the west side of Colchester we have agreed the attached Joint Statement in response to the challenges we all face in meeting the growth proposed in the Local Plan Preferred Options.

Marks Tey Growth Area impacts directly on four parishes around Marks Tey and indirectly on all seven parishes who each have their own substantial allocations. The cumulative impact of this, together with proposed development on the east side of Braintree District, affects us all. We all share the A120 and A1124 as our principal routes for travel and bear the consequences of traffic using unsuitable rural roads and lanes to avoid congestion. In addition, the impact on education, GP surgeries, green space and public transport needs to be looked at cumulatively to prevent piecemeal and/or premature decisions.

The Joint Statement is driven by a recognition that we need a collaborative approach with the City Council to ensure we are all involved in the final shape of the Reg.19 Draft Plan.

We trust you will be able to endorse and support the initiative to help us work with the Council to achieve the best possible outcomes for our communities.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Mike Lambert, Chair of Aldham Parish Council and on behalf of

Cllr Sue Chamley, Chair of Chappel Parish Council
Cllr Graham Barney, Chair of Copford with Easthorpe Parish Council
Cllr John Jardine, Chair of Eight Ash Green Parish Council
Cllr Tim Frances, Chair of Gt Tey Parish Council
Cllr Martin Smith, Chair of Marks Tey Parish Council
Cllr Peter Chillingworth, Chair of Wakes Colne Parish Council

cc. Ward Councillors for Lexden & Braiswick, Marks Tey & Layer and Rural North

Simon Cairns & Karen Syrett, Joint Heads of Planning

Brian Butcher, Chair of Colchester Association of Local Councils