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Our Ref: GG/djw/CBC
Your Ref:

08 August 2017

Dear Matthew

Re: Response to Colchester Borough Local Plan consultation

Further to the Section 1 and Section 2 Local Plan consultations of the North Essex Authorities, Officers have considered Colchester Borough Council's Local Plan proposals and the Leader of the Council has agreed that TDC makes the following submission:

Having regard to the Duty to Cooperate, Tendring District Council (TDC) has worked closely with Colchester Borough Council (CBC) in the preparation of their joint (including Braintree District Council) and individual Local Plans.

In response to the joint public consultation for the Submission Plan stage, TDC has reviewed the Colchester Borough proposals with particular regard to those aspects most likely to affect Tendring District residents, businesses and visitors and offers general support for its policies and proposals.

Transportation is a key issue for Tendring District's residents, businesses and visitors, with the most heavily used routes (road and rail) providing access to and from the District being from the west, at Colchester. TDC welcomes CBC's commitment to continued partnership working with the North Essex Authorities, government departments, statutory agencies and other partners to better integrate all forms of transport and improvements to infrastructure.

TDC welcomes CBC's proposed policy measures to improve road, rail, bus, cycle and pedestrian infrastructure in East Colchester, bordering onto Tendring District. In particular, the potential for future developments in the area to provide the opportunity and demand for a rapid transport system is recognised in the context of the Garden Community and Knowledge Gateway proposals.

TDC welcomes CBC's acknowledgement of the District's diverse economy and acknowledges that for the Manningtree area – including Lawford and Mistley, its relative close proximity to Colchester and relatively good transport links to London are important locational considerations for many residents.

Although Tendring District is seeking to promote the vitality and viability of its own main town centre of Clacton-on-Sea, the Council recognises that the size and proximity of Colchester will, in practice, mean that many of Tendring residents will continue to rely upon Colchester for relatively easy access to larger shopping facilities and other services, which exist due to Colchester's greater local population size. In this context, the Council supports Colchester's aim to retain its own vitality and viability, which will help to ensure that Tendring District's residents do not necessarily have to travel further afield; to Ipswich or Chelmsford, for example.

On a similar basis, TDC welcomes CBC's support for the protection and provision of sports and recreation facilities, some of which do not exist – and would not be viable – within Tendring District and therefore also serve Tendring District residents.

TDC also welcomes CBC's commitment to ensuring that growth is sustainable, helping to address the causes and effects of climate change and protecting the natural environment, including ensuring that new developments would not have significant adverse effects upon designated sites within Tendring District.

TDC is committed to continue its partnership working with CBC and BDC to produce a Strategic Growth Development Plan Document for the Tendring/Colchester Borders Garden Community and Recreational Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy, to positively address any other cross-border issues

Best regards

Gary Guiver
Planning Policy Manager