

**COLCHESTER CITY COUNCIL
REGULATION 18 CONSULTATION
PROPOSED NEW HOUSING FOR
WEST MERSEA - PREFERRED
OPTIONS LOCAL PLAN 2025
CLOSING DATE 14th JANUARY 2026**

This leaflet is a notice from West Mersea Town Council inviting local residents and all those concerned with West Mersea, to participate in the above consultation process.

The new plan Policy PP23 allocates 300 dwellings to the east of Dawes Lane for West Mersea. (This is in addition to the 200+ houses allocated in the present local plan 2021-2033).

West Mersea is considered a Large Settlement in the hierarchy of town and villages and therefore suitable for further growth as a sustainable hub. Based on a desktop assessment of its facilities and infrastructure.

The Town Council has expressed strong objections to this due to multiple concerns. We encourage all residents to make their views known by responding to the consultation.

The City Council will consider all the comments made during this consultation and could potentially increase the current proposed 300 dwelling allocation for West Mersea. Therefore, your views are of very great importance at this time.



THE CONCERNS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL RELATES TO:

- Our unique island location and tidal flooding of the road impacting access on and off.
- Environmental concerns affecting the Blackwater estuary include wastewater treatment issues and failures to carry out legally required environmental impact assessments, both of which affect shellfish and bathing waters.
- Commitment to increase capacity of the medical facilities still not achieved and the list for new patients closed.
- Limited public transport which is regularly affected by flooding on the Strood.
- Further impact on our already strained utility infrastructure.

West Mersea Town Council has made clear it is not opposed to limited development for local people, including affordable starter homes, but believes that additional housing on the scale that is proposed is not sustainable.

The City Council has decided that it will plan for 20,800 new homes - 1,300 new houses for each year between 2025 and 2041.