

From: [Cllr Martin Goss](#)
To: [Connell-French, Brendan](#)
Subject: Boundary Review Colchester
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Dear Brendan,

I am the Group Leader for the Lib Dems in Colchester writing in response to the impending boundary review for Colchester City Council from 2026.

Having consulted the Lib Dem Group and also looking at the projected growth across Colchester up to 2030 it would be prudent to not reduce the number of Cllrs as clearly the workload is going to increase as the electoral numbers increase.

Following a recent survey of all 51 Cllrs, it was clear that a high number are spending many hours on casework or other related duties which will only increase as wards and the city get bigger.

We did settle on suggesting **a minimum of 51** or ideally **an increase to 54 Cllrs (preferred)** from 2026 given the increased boundary numbers and imbalance across Colchester where Mile End will continue to increase given the current housebuilding taking place.

There will also be increases in Greenstead and Wivenhoe as the Garden Community starts to come onstream. This would mean the creation of a new 3 member ward either in North Colchester or to the East of Colchester.

Colchester is building an average of 930 houses per annum and this figure is signed off in the Local Plan.

It is important to ensure that wards stay geographically located particularly areas like Mile End where the Myland Community Council covers all of Mile End Ward and also 1/3 of Highwoods Ward.

Mile End and Highwoods for instance have their own unique boundary and therefore to carve them up as the numbers no longer equate shouldn't be the approach otherwise this will leave areas unaligned from an historic boundary point of view.

The same can be said for Greenstead and Wivenhoe,

The danger is if we make this purely a numbers exercise that chunks of Colchester will end up in rural or unaligned parts of Colchester which make no sense from a

community of neighbourhoods point of view.

If you require any further information at this stage please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Regards

Cllr Martin Goss

Group Leader

Colchester City Council

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