

Review of meetings and ways of working

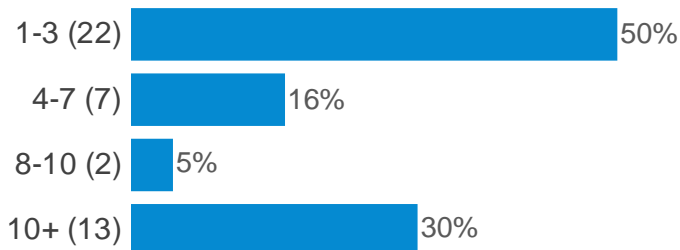
This report was generated on 20/02/17. Overall 81 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

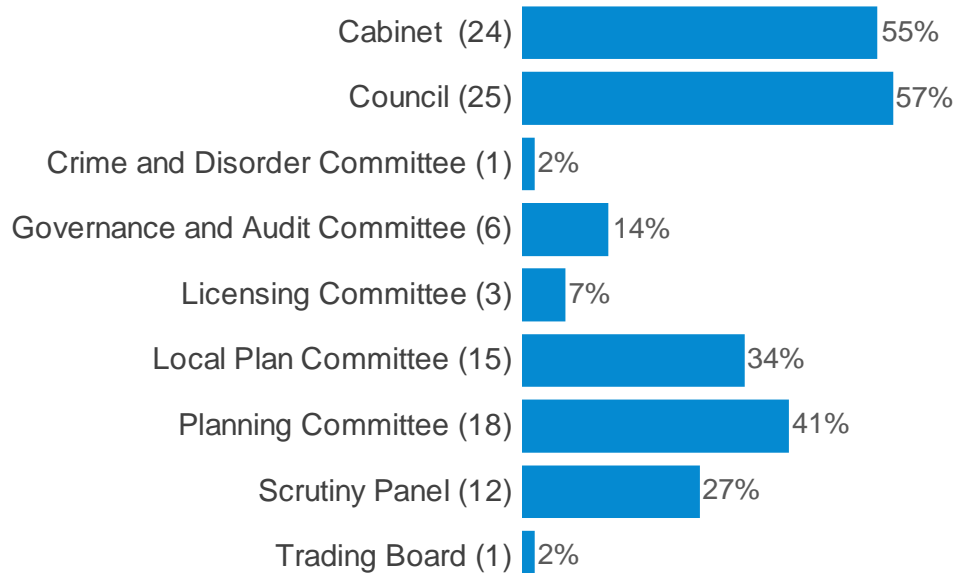
Have you attended a Colchester Borough Council Committee meeting?



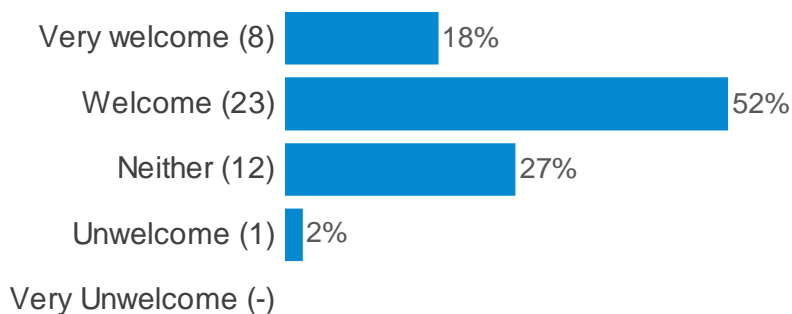
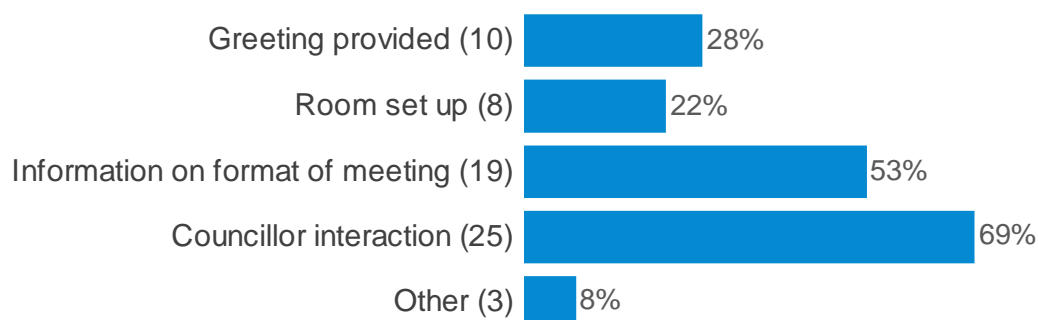
How many meetings have you attended?



What types of meeting have you attended?



Review of meetings and ways of working

How welcome did you feel when you arrived at the meeting? ()**How could we improve this aspect, and make you and others feel more welcome?****If you selected 'other' please specify in the space below how we can improve**

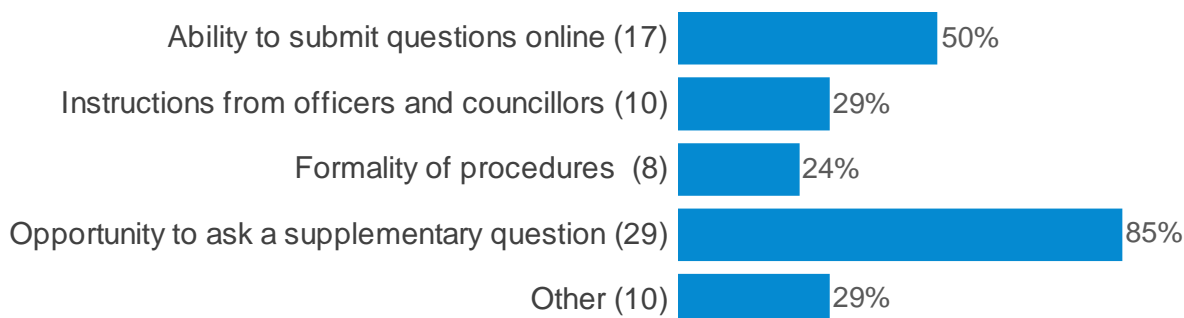
Actually being listened too and Cllrs acting on residents wishes.

Re-arrange room - inclusivism

Lack of time given to representative of local parish council.

Did you feel that the time you had to speak as part of "Have your say" was adequate?**Do you feel that the 'Have your say' arrangements could be improved?**

Review of meetings and ways of working

How could this be improved?**If you selected 'other' could you specify how this can be improved?**

Right of reply, even if brief

Have your say is literally that. You get to speak and have no further interaction when council chooses not to answer, deflect, fob off or plain old lies in response.

Councillors listen

It is pointless putting forward a coherent and logical case when a single councillor just says, without any factual justification, that the council will continue regardless.

Having the facility to answer the Councillor's reply.

Much longer to speak and chance to quiz councillors. A proper dialogue and accountability.

Definitely more time required to make comments / ask questions / challenge councillor statements

Councillors to relate answer to question.

Once I was stopped after only 3 minutes! As councillor this should not have happened.

To be able to question officer views at the meeting and their conclusions.

What steps could Colchester Borough Council undertake to encourage you to attend?

Later start times mid week, Saturday Sunday meeting

Notice period increased, better social media. Immunisation to alert us. More socially acceptable time. A vast majority work in London. Also provide free parking if you register to attend

Share meeting agendas more widely

Vary the times and days of the week they happen, there are people who are unable to attend due to work. Record/stream the meetings.

Later starts

A lot more notice. I would really like to attend but an NHS consultation about the Walk-In Centre is on the same date& time in Colchester. Tiptree is too far away without a car.

Give good easy to access public knowledge

Take place later evenings or weekends

Publicise better, record for posterity better

Free parking

None - they haven't been on anything I care enough about. If I wanted to go I would already.

I have spent almost 40 years in Local Government and have not seen the need to attend meeting at Colchester

Make them later in evening

Timings of meetings - need to provide childcare

Review of meetings and ways of working

What steps could Colchester Borough Council undertake to encourage you to attend?

Live Stream Meetings

Give the impression that attendance would be worthwhile and any comments under Have Your Say would be taken into account

perhaps hold some of the meetings around the borough, rather than just in Colchester

Being seen to support, not just talk

None

better advertising of them would be a help, either in local paper or by mail shots or email.

Advertise meetings well in advance

Give the peace of mind that attendees are listened to and respond to requests even if the answer is no

Maybe more leaflets which contain comprehensive information and list the relevant benefits to the local residents. This is to enable and attract people's attention and interests to participating more.

Publish agenda in advance. Make system fairer for members of public to speak by allocating the same amount of time to councillors as members of the public. Allow public to respond.

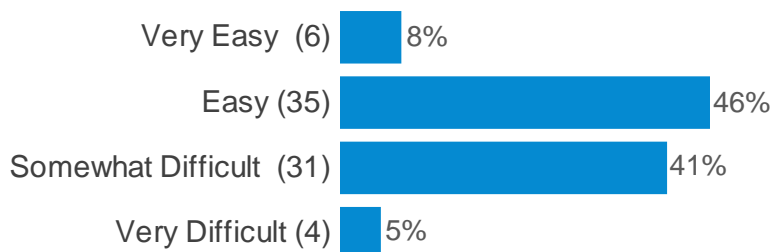
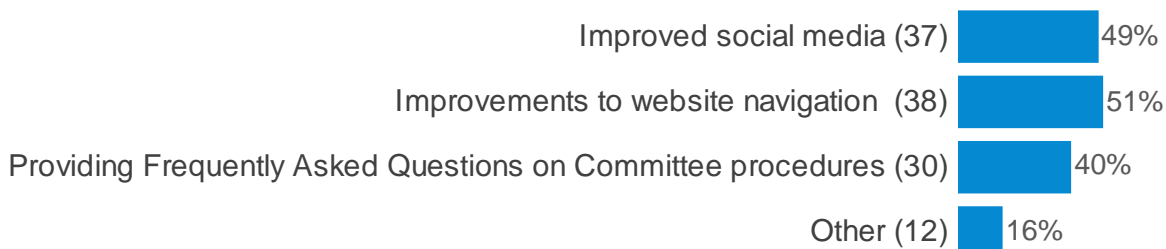
I didn't even know we could attend meetings.

Evening meetings:- refreshments

Would come if items of interest are on the agenda

At more convenient times - currently no good when you commute outside of borough for work

Provide well publicised pre committee documentation so that I can make an informed voice about whether to attend.

How easy is it to access Colchester Borough Council Committee information, such as meeting dates, agendas and items that are discussed?**How could we improve the accessibility of agendas?**

Review of meetings and ways of working

If you selected 'other' could you provide an example of how we can improve accessibility.

Less jargon and technical language in agendas

Set up pop-up information points in town centres such as Red Lion & Culver & other places also at public events such as music, food, education, arts events & hand out dates & times. An app for those who prefer phones.

Council should offer a single calendar view of all council meetings in a format which allows residents to easily access and create reminders in their own on-line calendars e.g. format as for Google Calendar

Have them available in print form in public buildings. Use them as the screen saver on public access computers for those who don't have access to their own PCs. Promote and publicise agendas amongst voluntary agencies and GP surgeries where the public can see them

Do an edited summary showing what would be of interest to the public rather than pages of turgid waffle.

The agendas are easily accessible - I think the main problem is general apathy and lack of interest

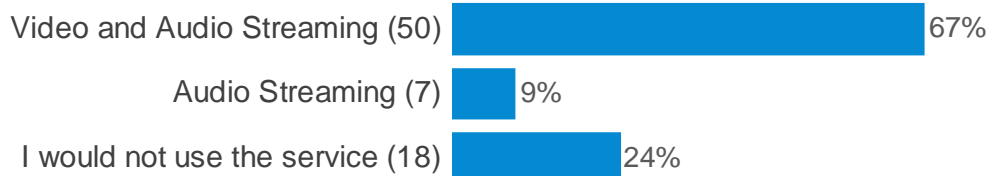
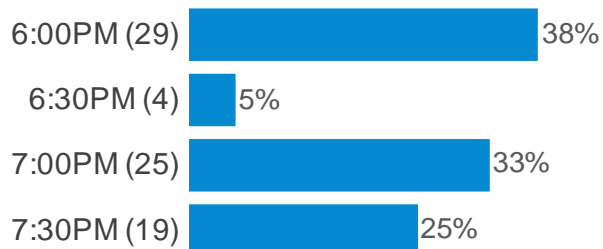
Major initiatives affecting most residents, eg waste policy, should be set out in an annual letter sent to all households with the council tax bill. This would alert people to issues that may be of concern to them.

Notices in Local Newspapers

e-book publication

Problems with councillor emails

Notification e-mails

If Colchester Borough Council live streamed its Committee meetings (live broadcast of meetings online), would you find this service useful? if so would you prefer a video or audio stream?**Currently Committee meetings start at 6:00PM. Out of the following, which start time would be preferable to you?**

Review of meetings and ways of working

If you have any further comments on how to improve our Committee meetings, space has been provided below for you.

Right to reply to cllr response to have your say

As well as video and audio streaming committee meetings feedback needs to be obtained which can be done quickly through the use of hash tags on social media etc.

Location....take meetings to the public. Outdoor meetings. Get passers by interested

It's good that you are doing this. You need to teach people that they are part of the council too not see you as the enemy. Perhaps invite people to raise an issue they would like to see addressed& illustrate from start to finish how it gets dealt with at committees?

Audio streaming service would be appropriate and should avoid everyone becoming too worried about appearance - and discouraging members of the public attending and contributing. HOWEVER, slides and documents need to be included if they are to be discussed. Suggest there is a blog with each meeting akin to the Gazette reporter notes but with a few more snaps when material is being presented.

As the majority in colchester commute daily to London weekend meetings would be better

Have a link councillor who liaises with members of the public attending meeting to welcome them and find out a bit about them

Allow the public to record, broadcast, use social media

Colchester Council has repeatedly refused to discuss their failed project the Visual Arts Facility and refused to consider more financially beneficial uses of the so called "Cultural quarter". Colchester Council permitted the sordid Lexden sex club to operate despite repeated warnings of planning breaches, verbal abuse and assaults. They even refuse to let me speak at committee meetings about this as it is apparently not in the "terms of the committee". So instead of speaking for three minutes inside I now stand outside for an hour before every council meeting shaming this arrogant and incompetent body. I have been shocked at the council neglect of some of their property assets. For example the council refuses to let the Spring Lane nursery be used to grow plants for public troughs. Colchester Bloom what be keen but repeated refusals ensure it is only used to store one rubbish container. Councillor Dave Harris is aware but his approach was rejected by the parks dept. Clearly the present committee system only reflects the turgid mindset of the council and is not working as an effective communication tool

I'll make a written submission and call in on the 21st Jan

In Planning meetings the public have the opportunity to speak on a PA to be determined. On more than one occasion the officers and sometimes the ward councillors get their facts wrong and inaccurate information is given to the planning committee members. There is no opportunity given to the public to correct these inaccuracies when they occur. In particular when a designated Parish Councillor speaks on a PA they are not given a right of reply to officers or ward councillors, yet are generally the most qualified attendee on local matters.

Generally meetings are well organised but restrictions on the number and time allowed to make points is sometimes frustrating particularly at planning meetings

better audio quality in the Council chamber and all other rooms in the building would be very helpful especially for those with a hearing impairment

please stream meeting visual and audio , you need to engage more on social media. perhaps set up a separate twitter account to the @yourcolchester account solely for this purpose and not advertising events etc...

Have Your Say - no opportunity for interaction.

I would really appreciate a more interactive meeting agenda list, findings from the meetings and broadcasts on social media. It is where I spend most of my time when I want to know more about my community and feel that the council could improve their usage of social media forums.

Right to reply to cllr's response

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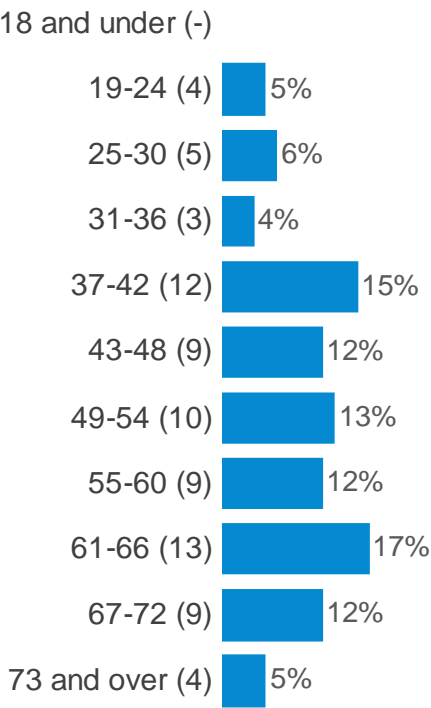
Less political 'tit for tat'

If you would like to be added to our Committee newsletter list, which provides details of Committee meeting agendas, please provide your e-mail contact information below.

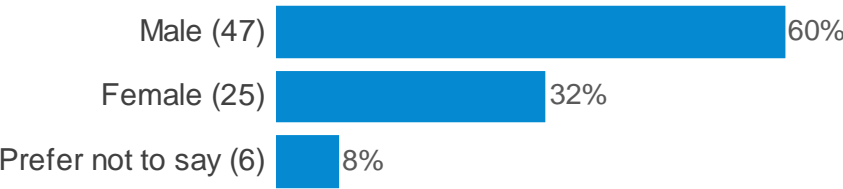
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What is your age?



What is your gender?



Where do you live (Please provide the first three digits of your postcode)

CO4	CO3	CO1	CO3
CO3	CO2	Co1	co5
Co4	CO3	Co5	Co4.
CO1	co4	CO3	CO4
CO1	CO1	CO4	CO3

Review of meetings and ways of working

Where do you live (Please provide the first three digits of your postcode)

CO1	CO3
co7	CO5
CO3	CO3
CO7	CO5
Co5	CO1
CO1	CO5
CO6	CO5
Co4	CO5
CO1	CO5
CO1	CO5
CO2	CO5
CO6	CO5
CO6	CO1
CO3	Co3
co4	CO3
Co4	
CO2	
New Town	
Co3	
Co6	
CO2	
co2	
CO4	
CO4	
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CO3	
Co3	
Wivenhoe	
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Tiptree	
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