

Risk ID	Category / Element	Risk Short Title	Description	Desired Outcome	Current Situation	Proposed Strategy
C00278 □	R8 Political / Government	Susceptibility of Maldon District Council to influence by financial contributions	There is a public perception that approval of the latest application, after earlier refusals, may have been influenced by developer financial contributions (e.g., S106/CIL) rather than solely by planning merits. This concern focuses on transparency and integrity of the decision-making process, without alleging wrongdoing.	Clear, evidence-led decisions with full transparency of any financial obligations; each contribution demonstrably linked to specific, evidenced mitigation and compliant with the CIL Reg 122 tests. What Could Go Wrong? Erosion of public trust; increased risk of legal challenge or complaint; reputational damage to the authority; reduced confidence in future planning decisions.	Third iteration approved following previous refusals; residents have raised questions about the role and disclosure of developer contributions and how they were weighed in the planning balance.	Publish full Heads of Terms and any viability summary; explicitly set out in the officer/committee report how the planning balance was reached independent of contributions; minute declarations of interest; invite Monitoring Officer/governance review of process compliance.

Risk (three-part) Statement			Current Risk			Response Type	Manageability	Residual Risk	Risk Owner	Due Date	Close Date	Last Review Date	
Cause	Risk Event [uncertainty]	Consequence	Probability	Impact	Score (PxI)							Notes	
Emphasis on developer financial contributions during determination (perceived).	Planning approval granted after previous refusals, with contributions referenced alongside the decision.	Perception of undue financial influence undermines legitimacy of the decision and may trigger formal complaints or legal proceedings.	5	4 H-1 C-1 Q-1 S-1	20	Mitigate	5	16	Winter, David	16Jan26	Open	21Sep25	

Mitigating Actions / Response					
ID	Actions				Action OwnerDue DateClose Date
#1	Publish full Heads of Terms and any viability summary; explicitly set out in the officer/committee report how the planning balance was reached independent of contributions; minute declarations of interest; invite Monitoring Officer/governance review of process compliance.				Winter, David20Nov25Open

Last 10 RM Events (Meetings/Interviews/Workshops).

Mtg.	Date	Title / Person / Department	Objective	(0 Events held.)
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Comments

History

Top RiskSummary

Susceptibility of Maldon District Council to influence by financial contributions

Top Risk Mitigation

Publish full Heads of Terms and any viability summary; explicitly set out in the officer/committee report how the planning balance was reached independent of contributions; minute declarations of interest; invite Monitoring Officer/governance review of process compliance.