



Colin Wiles

I live in Sandwich and grew up in Ramsgate. I was a pupil at the Duke of York's Royal Military School from 1968 until 1975. I took an honours degree in environmental science at the University of East Anglia and worked in the affordable housing and planning sector for 45 years, for two local authorities in London and Cambridge and for three housing associations, ending as the chief executive of a housing association in Cambridge. For the last ten years of my career I was an independent housing and planning consultant working for dozens of local authorities, housing associations and charities. My focus was on governance and regulation. I wrote numerous articles and blogs for the housing press, The Guardian and other publications and wrote a number of research reports for the Chartered Institute of Housing and the Intergenerational Foundation.

I was elected to Sandwich Town Council in a by-election in 2022 and again in 2023. I have been Chair of the Planning Committee and the Finance and General Purposes Committee and am currently Deputy Mayor and Chair of the Human Resources Committee. Sandwich Town Council has an annual expenditure of £500,000 but is also trustee of two charities with combined share and property assets in excess of £7 million.

I represented the Town Council at the government inquiry into the Dover District Plan, which was adopted in 2024.

I am married to Petra and I paint, walk and keep an allotment.

I would be very pleased to be able to contribute to my old school and I am amazed at the progress that has been made since I was there in the sixties and seventies.