



ecpr

Harbour House

Use of ECPR's Colchester headquarters by its groups and other affiliates

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ECPR at Harbour House

ECPR's headquarters is Harbour House, a large Grade II listed building (the old Customs House) dating from the 1700s. In 2014 ECPR carried out an extensive refurbishment of the building to provide the space needed for staff, and for meeting rooms and facilities which could be made available to ECPR Groups and Member affiliates.

Harbour House is used daily by ECPR's staff. It also frequently hosts Executive Committee meetings, annual retreats with our key stakeholders, and various other meetings and events.

Harbour House is open to Standing Groups and Member affiliates to use for purposes which meet the ECPR's charitable objectives.

The House

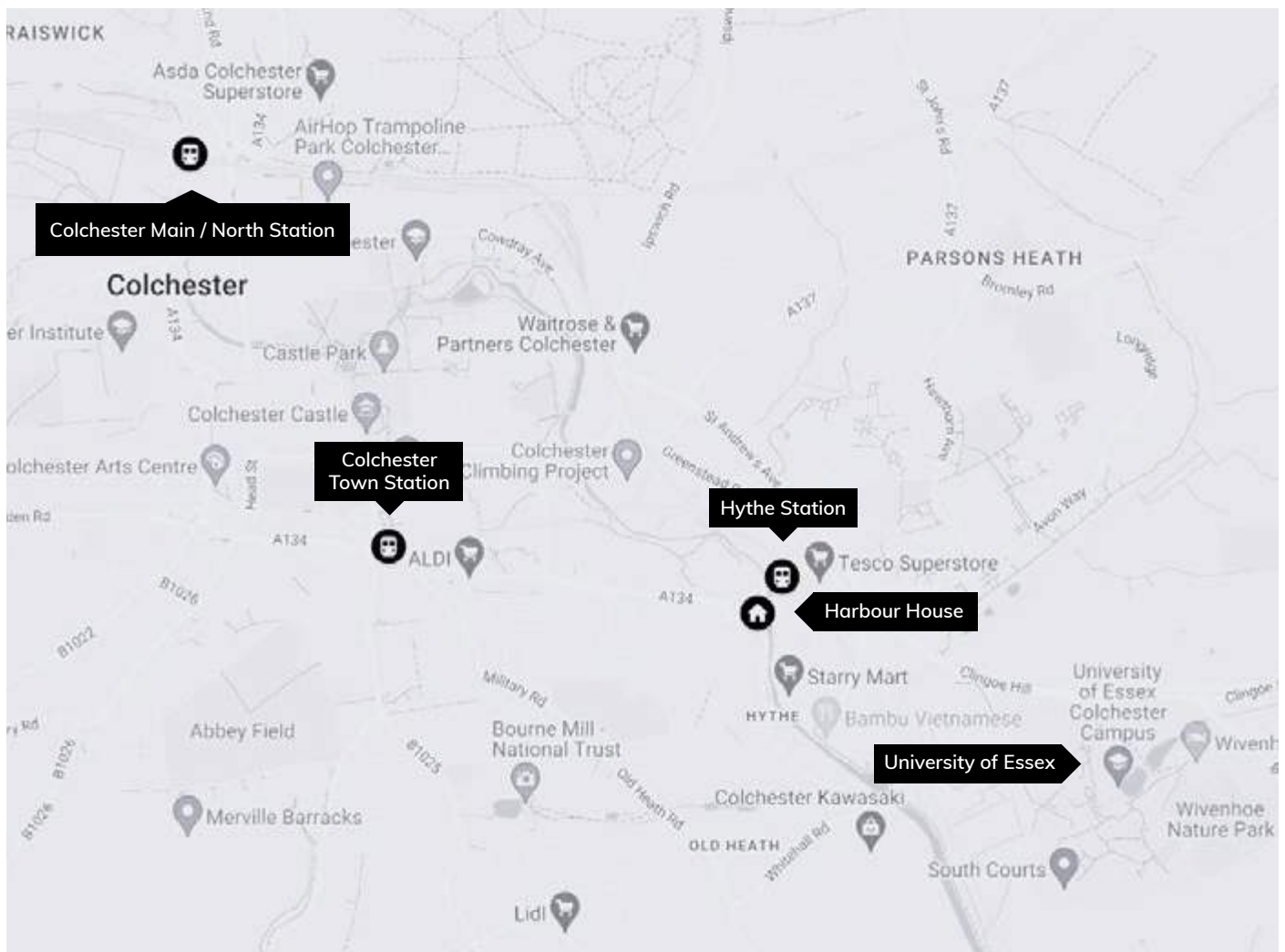
Built over two floors Harbour House consists of a spacious reception area, a boardroom, four other meeting rooms, a kitchen, a staff room, a number of offices for staff, rooms for facilities, storage and other services, as well as an outside patio area. There is a designated car park adjacent to the building, plus a public car park a short walk away. Wi-Fi access is available throughout the building.

Harbour House is located on Hythe Quay, one of Colchester's regeneration areas, close to the town centre and the University of Essex campus. The Rose & Crown Hotel, which the ECPR uses regularly, is within walking distance. Within a few miles of Harbour House are other hotels, ranging from budget (Premier Inn) to luxury (Greyfriars), plus numerous restaurants, bars, museums and galleries in the town centre.

Colchester

A commuter city, Colchester is easily accessible from London via road and rail. Trains run between Colchester and London Liverpool Street every 10–15 minutes via Colchester's main station, known locally as Colchester North, 2.8 miles from Harbour House. There are also two branch lines closer to Harbour House, but with a less frequent service (Colchester Town 1.3 miles and Hythe). Hythe station is only a few minutes' walk from Harbour House; trains run to and from London once an hour.

The map below shows the proximity of Harbour House to Colchester's three stations, and to the University of Essex.



Opening the House to Members and Groups

Use by Standing Groups and Research Networks

ECPR Standing Groups can apply to use Harbour House for any of their events, though the building is probably most suited to business meetings, small workshops / groupings or mini-conferences. To avoid scheduling clashes, and to ensure maximum administrative support from the ECPR team, please book as far in advance as possible.

Standing Groups will normally have access, Monday to Friday, to the reception area, five meeting rooms, the staff room, kitchen, and the outside patio. There is Wi-Fi, and photocopying and printing are available. ECPR staff will offer administration and support, including, for example, arranging catering, IT support, hotel bookings, etc.

Administrative support for events is free of charge for Standing Groups, though direct costs such as catering and supplies will be charged back to the Standing Group. Use of Harbour House over weekends may be available on request.

To comply with Fire Regulations, Harbour House can accommodate events with a maximum of 56 participants at any given time.

Use by Affiliates

Affiliates (individuals from ECPR Member Institutions) are welcome to advance-book Harbour House for small group meetings / workshops / events, with the same facilities as offered to Standing Groups.

Affiliates may also use Harbour House on their own if they wish to spend a concentrated period of time doing research, up to a maximum of one month in total, in any one period. They will be allocated a meeting room or office for the duration of their stay, and will be entitled to the same other facilities as Standing Groups.

Below Coffee break during the Winter School of our Standing Group on Kantian Political Thought held at Harbour House in December 2023



Above Front elevation of Harbour House, at 6–8 Hythe Quay

How to book, and further information

Use of Harbour House by Standing Groups and affiliates is encouraged but not automatically granted. All requests are subject to the discretion of the Executive Committee, which will assess the nature of the request against current usage of the building.

To apply to use Harbour House, Standing Groups and / or affiliates should email membership@ecpr.eu and request a booking form. You can also use this email address to find out further information, along with full terms and conditions of usage.



Reception Area

The **Reception Area** is the ideal location for registering guests and participants. Also located on the ground floor of Harbour House are the kitchen, staff room, Boardroom and four other meeting rooms. From this Reception Area are stairs leading up to the offices of ECPR's permanent staff.

Boardroom

The **Boardroom** can seat up to 12 comfortably around the table. Facilities include a PC; Neat Bar Pro conferencing system; two screens including one interactive; numerous wall and floor-mounted power points; a Nespresso coffee machine with crockery.





Kitchen

The **Kitchen** includes tea and coffee making facilities; filtered water tap; crockery, cutlery and glassware; microwave and oven.

Staff Room

The **Staff Room** can hold around 20 people comfortably for welcome coffee or a standing buffet. In fine weather, you can use additional seating on the patio. The Staff Room includes two sofas and two armchairs and a large table for setting out coffee / buffet.





Meeting Rooms

In addition to the Boardroom, there are four other meeting rooms on the ground floor.

All rooms come with numerous wall-mounted power points and good Wi-Fi connection. Cottage 2, Cottage 3 and The Cabin are equipped with a PC and screen.

Cottage 1

Cottage 1 can accommodate up to five people comfortably.

Cottage 2

Cottage 2 is the largest room, accomodating 8-10 people.





Cottage 3

Cottage 3 can seat around six people. It contains the door to the old safe room which dates back to when Harbour House was the head office of local Grain Merchants, Pertwees!

The Cabin

The Cabin can seat up to six people comfortably.





A few photographs from recent Winter School of our Standing Group on Kantian Political Thought at Harbour House. The event brought together students for a three-day intellectually stimulating programme featuring academic talks, delegate presentations and networking.

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