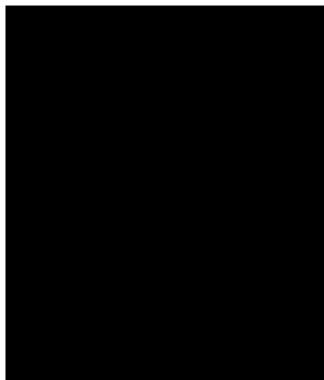


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24th June, 2006.

Dear Sir,

As a person who takes a keen and active interest in local government I was more than perturbed to learn of the latest proposals from the Boundary Committee for future electoral arrangements in North Hertfordshire and in particular the merging of the existing wards of Hitchwood, Ho and Offa into one three councillor Ward. It would seem to me to strike a blow at the very heart of local government and particularly the people who live in ~~the~~ ^{those} ~~proposed~~ rural areas as it takes the Councillors further away, rather than nearer ~~to~~ ^{to} their constituents. Constituents in these areas get to know and trust their representatives in the local government affairs for which they were elected and the proposed diluted service seems to take away government

from the people rather than achieve the Government's stated intention of bringing it down.

It is especially difficult not to come to the conclusion the Boundary Committee is purely playing their own number game without any consideration for the people who actually live there; also with the threat of future housing in North Herts surely it is much wiser to leave things as is (except for the additional councillor for Great Ashby and an adjustment in Letchworth) rather than for ever tinkering with the wards and the way they are currently set.

I would earnestly request that you reconsider the latest Boundary Commission proposals and let them bear relation to what the people who live there want. Thank you in anticipation for your attention to this urgent matter.

Yours sincerely

