

ID: 412

Time: Mar 25th 2011 at 11:50am

Name: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Area your submission refers to: Hart

Organisation you belong to: member of the public

Feedback: At present our district councillor represents three villages (Long Sutton, Greywell and South Warnborough) and RAF Odiham. I understand that under this reorganisation the ward would be amalgamated with two neighbouring wards which at present have one councillor each and the combined, larger, ward would then have three councillors. This change, if it came about, would harm our representation on the district council. By devoting a considerable amount of time and energy to his duties our councillor is just about able to keep in close contact with the parishes he represents. If he was asked to represent three times as many people, the close contact would be lost. The same would apply to the other two councillors in the new enlarged ward. There would inevitably be some overlap of duties and in the worst case, councillors less conscientious than our present ones might avoid difficult questions by passing the buck to one of their colleagues, 'Not my area' could become an excuse. At the best, the three councillors would divide the ward informally along the present boundaries, thus in effect maintaining the present arrangement. A further diadvantage might well be that conscientious candidates would be deterred from offering themselves for election because they realised the impossibility of doing the job well. Whatever hapened, we should be worse represented. In all, this is a thoroughly bad idea and should be dropped. The present arrangements work well and the government should have the sense to realise it.

File?