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Area your submission refers to: Oxfordshire
Organisation you belong to: parish/town council

Feedback: The Town Council's initial view was that there should be two County Councillors for Carterton. This would still be our preferred option but we recognise that an overall reduction in the number of County Councillors means that this is unlikely to come about. The options therefore appear to be one Councillor representing the whole town or two Councillors representing half of the town and the surrounding villages. The Town Council believes it is impossible for a Councillor to fairly represent the views of an expanding new, garrison town and a number of more historic cotswold villages. The needs of the residents of both settlements are very different and are often in conflict with each other. For this reason, the Council would prefer it if one Councillor were to represent the whole town. This would result in a Councillor representing more than the 'average' number of electors but we believe that this is more practical than expecting one Councillor to cover half the town and numerous villages and hamlets. Please note that the continued expansion of the town means that the population is increasing. In addition to large numbers of new MOD housing, there are 600 new homes already allocated in the Local Plan. Further expansion is being discussed as part of the core strategy. Where this new growth is located will impact on the way the wards should be divided.