

**Murphy, Sarah**

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**From:** Richard Hewitt [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 04 April 2011 12:13  
**To:** Murphy, Sarah  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
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I refer to previous communications regarding the Local Government Boundary Commission review of Surrey County Council (SCC).

I note the proposals from SCC, as at March 2011, are to increase the number of councillors from 80 to 81 by increasing the councillors for Waverley from 8 to 9 as the initial calculations were that Waverley was 8.07% greater than the average per councillor. Whilst I understand the wish to reduce the variance it should be noted that Waverley is largely rural and thus I wonder if it is really necessary to increase the number, given that Epsom and Ewell, a largely urban area, was also greater than the average at 7.98% but with only 5 councillors. If the proposal is to increase for Waverley then I think that Epsom and Ewell should be considered for an increase as well, all other districts being less than a 6% variance. This would make 82 councillors. However, this seems completely unnecessary given that SCC has been satisfactorily working with 80 councillors and there would be higher operating costs borne by SCC. One wonders if Waverley is requesting another councillor or is happy with what it has got, and likewise what are the views of Epsom and Ewell which is in a similar position to Waverley? There will never be complete equalisation across the Council so "why change it when it is not broken" as the saying goes. So, overall I believe that 80 councillors is the ideal number for the Council.

Finally, a comment on Spelthorne where it is only Stanwell and Stanwell Moor that looks significantly out of line with a lower average per councillor. However, it does not appear possible to make any sensible transfers from elsewhere in the borough so I would recommend leaving "as is".

I trust that these comments will be registered in respect of the review of Surrey County Council's Local Government Boundaries.

***Richard Hewitt***  
***Chairman, Shepperton Residents' Association***

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