

Stevenage Borough Council

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Organisation Name: Stevenage Borough Councillors (Longmeadow ward)

Comment text:

Response to Boundary Review (Longmeadow) - Para 62 "62 At the very southern end, we note that access to Oakwood Close and Taywood Close is via Shephall Way and not via the A602 (Broadhall Way). Therefore, without any strong community evidence linking residents of these roads to Longmeadow ward, we are content to include all of Shephall Way in Shephall ward to facilitate effective and convenient local government and retain use on the A602 as a strong boundary. We consider that this is the best balance of our statutory criteria. However, we welcome additional evidence and views about whether these residents should be included in Longmeadow instead. " We are pleased that the Boundary Commission agrees with us on how to proceed in the south of Longmeadow ward. However, we still believe that Oakwood Close, Taywood Close and Glenwood Close should be included in Longmeadow. High variance of -8.7% is still projected in 2027 under the above proposal. This reduces to -4.6% with our proposed and evidenced amendment. We continue to utilise existing natural boundaries (Loves Wood and Ridlins Wood) when offering our amendment. This approach has been accepted for the south of Longmeadow and Roebuck wards. The distance from the midpoint of Shephall Way's junctions of Taywood Close and Oakwood Close to the Hyde shops (Shephall ward) is approx 525m. To Oaks Cross shops (Longmeadow ward) it is only approx 375m. We believe that residents therefore look more towards Longmeadow hubs than Shephall ones. We do not believe that paragraph 62 takes account of the walking and cycling access to Glenwood Close via the underpasses and cycle track via Broadhall Way rather than Shephall Way. Consideration should be given to non-car modes of transport which would be more consistent with Hertfordshire's Local Transport Plan (LTP4 and emerging LTP5). Further, paragraph 62 does not make reference to the long established precedent of Longmeadow residents living on either side of the A602. Goddard End is close to Glenwood Close (at approx 465m) and is also accessed via underpass. Whilst we acknowledge that, by current projections, the Longmeadow boundary will need to expand again in future we feel that this solution offers a good medium term compromise which is sympathetic to residents' needs. Cllr Adam Mitchell CC County Councillor (Broadwater) & Borough Councillor (Longmeadow) Longmeadow resident (19 years) Cllr Bret Facey Borough Councillor (Longmeadow) Longmeadow Resident (3 years) Cllr Alex Farquharson Borough Councillor (Longmeadow) Longmeadow Resident (26 years)

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded