

## Telford and Wrekin Borough Council

### Personal Details:

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**Organisation Name:**

### Comment text:

I am making this submission in response to the draft proposals for ward boundary changes in Telford & Wrekin, as a Borough Councillor, Parish Councillor and resident of the ward areas I have commented on. There are some areas which do not represent the community identity in the present draft proposals particularly in the Horsehay area. In my uploaded document I have included maps to show these individual communities and some amendments.

### Uploaded Documents:

**Download ([https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/download\\_document?file=draft%2F1652033496\\_LGBCE+Final+Submission+Telford+%26+Wrekin+1.pdf](https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/download_document?file=draft%2F1652033496_LGBCE+Final+Submission+Telford+%26+Wrekin+1.pdf))**

Submission by Councillor Jayne Greenaway member for Horsehay & Lightmoor ward.

I am making this submission in response to the LGBCE draft proposals <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/west-midlands/shropshire/telford-and-wrekin>

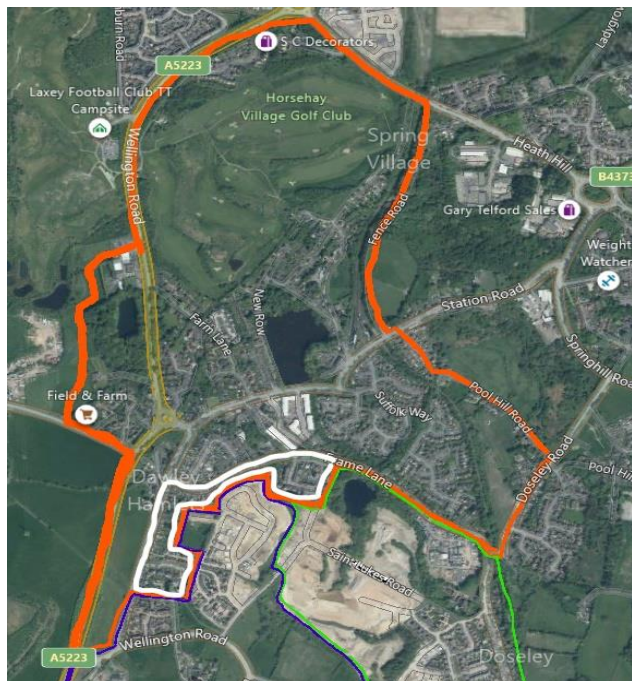
I am currently a resident of Lawley in the ward of Horsehay & Lightmoor but have strong local connections in the Horsehay area as a past resident and understand the differences between the new developments and existing communities having represented residents over a fourteen year period at differing levels of local democracy. I have listened to residents views on the proposals either by conversations, direct communication or social media and these I would like to share.

There are concerns about the current draft proposals relating to the community of Horsehay which is proposed would be split between Dawley & Aqueduct and Horsehay & Lightmoor. The Horsehay & Lightmoor draft proposal would only contain around 280 electors of Horsehay (shown in white) the boundary line to be drawn following Woodhouse Lane/ Frame Lane, dividing Horeshay community. The largest area of Horsehay would lose its own identity by being incorporated into an existing Dawley & Aqueduct Ward.

Horeshay is a tight knit and long established community with a golf club, Village hall, heritage railway and historic links to Abraham Darby family and the Industrial Revolution. As an individual community with its own identity it could sit alongside Lightmoor as it shares a boundary but has no links with the new Lightmoor Village which has a separated community association, a stewardship managed environmental maintenance service, provides no services for Horsehay and does not have a shared community identity. This could be strengthened by having clear and defined identities with their own strengths. We fully understand the difficulty balancing numbers for electoral representation but residents feel strongly that they should not see their area and their community divided and carved up to make up numbers for neighbouring wards, just to balance electoral number. Doseley is made up of small pockets of existing housing which was a predominantly industrial area which has seen a large number of new developments on brown field sites which are nearing completion. The Doseley area has long standing and close links to Horsehay.

I have included maps to show the three distinct communities that will be affected by the current draft proposals. Horsehay, Doseley and Lightmoor communities will be divided by the two proposed wards of Dawley & Aqueduct and Horsehay & Lightmoor.

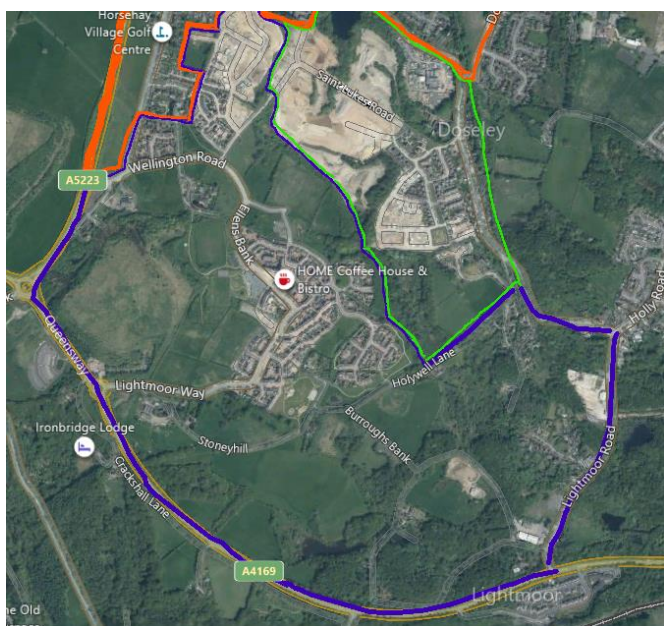
Horsehay (orange)



Doseley (green)



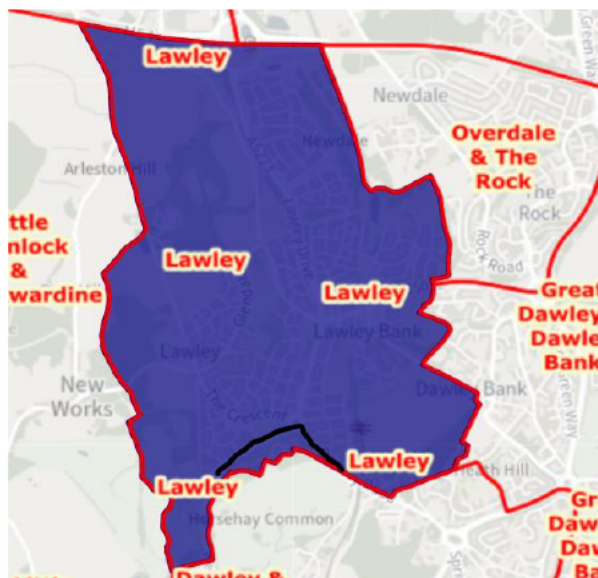
Lightmoor (blue.)



Dividing these communities will lead to confusion for the electorate and not clear electoral identity. As an example, if the current proposals were accepted someone living in Suffolk Way, Horsehay, postal address Horsehay would ask if they were part of Horsehay & Lightmoor Ward when in fact they would be represented by Councillors in Dawley & Aqueduct and in Dawley Hamlets Parish Council.

Residents in the proposed Horsehay & Lightmoor ward would only contain around 280 Horsehay residents which is not representative of the larger community of Horsehay. If they requested help from their Parish Council, they would be represented by Dawley Hamlets and The Gorge Parish Councils. These will be some of the difficulties faced by residents dependent upon which side of the road they live and stark differences in democracy at differing levels.

## Lawley



I support the Lawley draft proposals apart from the Southern boundary (shown in black). There is a small number of electorate (78) at Lawley Gate, some have raised their concerns as the majority feel that they have more community identity with Horsehay being on the edge of Horsehay Golf Course. I would like to see the boundary drawn along the main roads to the North of Lawley Gate namely Wellington Road and Dawley Road being a hard boundary.

Lawley does not have any close connection to the community of Horsehay other than sharing a boundary.

I fully support the proposals for the new Lawley ward to bring together this large urban extension for better electoral identity and democratic accountability as the current situation which has been in place for seven years following the last review split the community into three warding areas which included other communities with no close links. This has led to confusion on many occasions, as to who their councillors are and why we have no identity as Lawley is such a large community. Residents

Name	Number of councillors	Current electorate	Forecast Electorate
Lawley	3	5002	8263

currently suffer with an under representation due to the large increase in housing numbers over the last seven years.

I believe the draft proposal for Lawley would build better community identity, cohesion and electoral equality for Lawley residents. There is a thriving community which is working on building its own distinct identity, a new local centre at the heart of Lawley with a supermarket, a range of shops all within walking distance. The proposals have reflected the growth and built-in projected numbers for extra capacity, it has identified that there will be an increase in electorate which will help with the longevity of the proposals, give better electoral representation and improve electoral equality.