

## Brighton and Hove City Council

### Personal Details:

Name:

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Organisation Name:

### Comment text:

I've been a home owner at [REDACTED] Leahurst Court since 1985 - just off the London Road, opposite Varndean Estate. For all of the time since I've been here I've always been in a Withdean ward. There's always been a ward called Withdean in one form or another. The Withdean ward spans this central part of Brighton and Hove which is hard to categorise and has always faced in several directions. I think you may be finding for yourself how difficult this is to categorise. Personally I feel more affinity with the Hove Park ward and suggest that you revert to the original proposals to combine Hove Park and the west side of the old withdean ward but make an extension to incorporate the area bounded by London Road, Clermont Road and Station Road, up to the Deneway, so as to create a ward to be called Withdean & Hove Park. I have drawn a rough representation of this and have attached it to my submission. I believe that this would equalise the population of the wards throughout the city. It would also retain the name Withdean. This additional area I have included in the Withdean & Hove Park ward is definitely more connected to Hove Park than it is to Preston Park. I can walk out of the back gate to our apartment block, turn left for Preston Park station, turn right to go to the Withdean Stadium or walk on towards Hove. Personally I don't spend time in Preston Park. The character of the London Road area below Preston Park has changed dramatically in the time I have lived here from being a conventional shopping area to becoming a more inner city vibe of student developments. For example, the Coop is now a student hall and where boots used to be has just been developed into a student hall as well. The bank I used to use (Natwest) has gone, as has Marks and Spencers and WH Smiths. These have been replaced by bars, charity shops and convenience stores which are popular with students. The scale of the change has really been dramatic. So Leahurst Court and this corridor between London Road and the railway line (which becomes Patcham further north) has been left on its own to a great extent, with its residents not resonating with that part of Brighton any more that is London Road. Pretty much all my neighbours shop away from the London Road area for example in Hove (Waitrose) or Hollinbury Asda, whereas in the past they used shop on London Road. Waitrose is in the Hove Park ward and that is one of the shops I use. And it goes the other way too, because Hove Park residents use the facilities in Withdean such as Withdean Stadium. Hove Park doesn't have very much in the way of places to eat but the Withdean Stadium complex has a carvery and the Sportsman pub along with all its major sports facilities: tennis, gymnasium, athletics track. So I think this part of Withdean belongs with Hove Park. It certainly doesn't belong with Patcham or Preston Park. Note there are no public transport between Westdene and Patcham. I can catch a bus from here into Patcham (the 5 or 5a) but nothing to Westdene. So the Westdene and Patcham configuration does make sense. I hope you will consider my proposed Withdean & Hove Park ward which builds on your original ward boundaries proposals but improves it in a small but significant way.

### Uploaded Documents:

**[https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/download\\_document?file=draft%2F1660319308 Withdean+and+Hove+Park+ward+proposal.png](https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/download_document?file=draft%2F1660319308%20Withdean+and+Hove+Park+ward+proposal.png)**