

Wokingham

Personal Details:

Name: [REDACTED]
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Organisation Name: (District or county councillor)

Comment text:

Related subject: Wescott Ward

Largely I agree with the changes to Wescott ward, especially changing to three councillors per ward.

This increase in councillor numbers necessitates including parts of the current Norreys ward in the eastern part of Wescott. Families there share the local primary school with families from Montague Park and this creates a sense of community. I agree with this change.

Where I disagree with the current proposals is as follows

1. Properties on Sandhurst Road do not, in my view, share a natural affinity with Wokingham, rather they are better seen as part of Finchampstead North. Everyone 'knows' that Wokingham ends at the roundabout near the Ford garage. The Bowers should remain in Wescott. The southernmost part of Wescott would then coincide with the southern part of Evendons, which makes sense.
2. The boundary through the town, cutting across Earle Crescent makes no sense. The boundary for Wescott should include all of Earle Crescent and run up the middle of Biscoe Way to Shute End, then along Broad Street. The east side of Biscoe Way would then be in Wescott. I don't understand the argument about road access meaning that Earle Crescent needs to be split.
3. The properties that will be built north of the new south Wokingham distributor road that runs from William Heelas way to Finchampstead Road should be in Wescott, not Wokingham Without. Despite there being no houses there currently, these new builds will naturally orientate to the town

centre and not Wokingham Without. Wescott is slightly under numbers and this inclusion would make those numbers up over the next ten years. Some houses are already assigned to Wescott (those south of Gipsy Lane near Chapel Green and The Knoll Farm) and the rest should be too.

These changes above (1-3) should compensate for each other in terms of voter numbers, especially given the slow pace of build along the new distributor road. I expect the number of voters in Wescott might marginally increase, but still be in the acceptable range over the next ten years.

Strong consideration should be given to having a polling station to serve properties along the southern reaches of Finchampstead Road and the new housing along the new south Wokingham distributor road.

Attached Documents:

None attached