

Surrey

Personal Details:

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Organisation Name: (Member of the public)

Comment text:

Dear Reviews

I would like to object to the proposal for new Surrey County Council divisions that separate Thames Ditton and Weston Green. It does not make sense at all given Thames Ditton and Weston Green are so unified and Weston Green, whilst it has its own identity, is part of Thames Ditton/KT7.

I understand this proposal was not recommended by Surrey and it does not seem to make sense, in line with two of your three main criteria i.e:

- Community identity and interests
- Effective and convenient local government

In relation to the first bullet point, Thames Ditton and Weston Green have been linked, with Weston Green mentioned as a part of Thames Ditton, since the Domesday book. The proposal separates two communities that operate generally as one. They are closely aligned in relation to activities (e.g the Secret Gardens event, that alternates between gardens in Thames Ditton and Weston Green each year) and even has its joint residents' association (The Thames Ditton and Weston Green residents' association which is one of the oldest in the UK). The division makes no sense whatsoever to me as divides a unified community that spans over 900 years and which was recognised when this electoral division was established within the first local council nearly 130 years ago. Also, some residents eg on Angel Road, who see themselves as Thames Ditton residents will be surprised to be cut off from the Dittons Division and assigned to Long Ditton, when they would have been part of Giggs Hill/Rushett.

In relation to the second bullet point, I don't think I know of a more effective and convenient local government - they way the Residents' Association councillors work serves our local community in a way that those we know outside the area envy, ensuring that money and focus is put to the things effecting our community.

Please do not change the divisions and jeopardise our identity and effective, longstanding partnership.



Attached Documents:

None attached