

## Southampton City Council

### Personal Details:

**Name:** Lisa Mitchell

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**Organisation Name:** Councillor for Portswood Ward Southampton City Council

### Comment text:

I agree that the community of Outer Avenue should be moved into Portswood Ward I believe that it would be better for community cohesion and good quality representation that the boundary start from Lodge Road. Outer Avenue starts from Lodge Road in the south and extends to Gordon Avenue in the north, with Inner Avenue starting from the south of Lodge Road. Outer Avenue is a tight knit and self contained community where many residents see themselves as part of the wider Portswood community which coalesces around Portswood High Street. The demographics are similar to the wider Portswood ward, with a mix of students, young professionals and longer term residents and many of the issues are similar. In fact I often get casework from this area from people believing Portswood councillors are their councillors as they feel they live in Portswood. Therefore it does make sense that this area should be part of a new Portswood ward. However my issue is that the proposed boundaries cleave Outer Avenue in two. This would make it more difficult for the community to seek cohesive representation from us as councillors. Based on electoral commission projections this would make Portswood slightly too big, however this year we only had 9300 electors which is typical of an average election year so I don't think this will be a problem. In fact it might guard against us having to revisit Portswood Ward in the near future because of it being seen as too small.

### Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded