

From: Cllr Phelim Mac Cafferty <Phelim.MacCafferty@brighton-hove.gov.uk>
Sent: 12 April 2022 00:30
To: reviews
Subject: Response to LGBCE proposals

Categories: Submissions, [REDACTED]

Dear Boundary Commission

I am writing in my capacity as one of two councillors for the current Brunswick and Adelaide ward to object to the proposed changes in our area. I, along with many residents who have contacted me, believe they do not fairly represent the unique nature of Brunswick Town.

I understand that the Friends of Brunswick Square & Terrace, Friends of Palmeira & Adelaide and Lansdowne Area Residents Association, three of the residents' groups within the current ward are all opposed to these changes. I also wish to note that proposals which merged Brunswick & Adelaide with Regency were put forward in the 2001 boundary commission proposals. These were not taken forward after considerable local opposition.

Hove boundary

The eastern boundary of Brunswick and Adelaide ward demarcates the constituency boundary between Hove and Brighton. For many residents, this boundary is historic and important, far from the "arbitrary" description from the Conservative group. The boundary is still physically visible and marked both by a street viz Boundary Passage and by physical stone markers in the pavement at the boundary on Western Rd. Something that would have been appreciated with a site visit rather than a virtual tour.

Had the physical tour the distinctiveness of the boundary would have been clearer. The seafront railings in Brighton and Hove are painted two different shades of green- bottle green Hove, aquamarine Brighton and this colour contrast is the presence today of the old Boroughs. A monument to Edward VII, known locally as the peace statue is a well-known landmark where the two former boroughs join.

Historically speaking Hove has often felt as the area that has less merged and more been swallowed and the current boundary proposals take a further step towards defining doing this. Many residents still identify strongly with Hove and this is coined in the phrase: "Do you live in Brighton? "No, *Hove actually*."

Architecture

The historic nature of the beautiful Brunswick Town and its associated conservation area is considered one of the finest and most important in the country. Although the neighbouring ward bears the name Regency, much of the city's finest Regency period architecture is in Brunswick and Adelaide.

This area has a stunning and unique character and appearance. From the graceful Charles Augustin Busby designs of a new stand-alone town at Brunswick Square and Terrace to Decimus Burton's Adelaide Crescent. The original development of Brunswick Town began in the 1820s and its street layout and buildings have largely survived intact since.

An 1830 Act of Parliament required all buildings in Brunswick Square, Brunswick Terrace and Brunswick Place (south) to be regularly repainted to a uniform colour, and this still applies today. This ruling is special to this area and doesn't apply to the Regency ward. Brunswick Town was first designated as a conservation area in the 1960s and contains over 100 Grade I, 40 Grade II* and nearly 450 grade II listed buildings.

A glance at a map tells of the reminders of Brunswick as a distinctive historic town which are still visible today. A young Charles Barry designed St Andrew's Church on Waterloo Street, Lower and Upper Market Street are the

historic traces of the location of the market. The Bow Street Runner public house on Brunswick Street East marks the spot of the old police station, a few doors down from the listed, old Brunswick Commissioners 'town hall.' There are numerous roads which bear the 'Brunswick' name - Brunswick Streets East and West, Brunswick Road, Brunswick Terrace, Brunswick Place, Brunswick Square and Brunswick Mews. Brunswick Square and Terrace is also unique in having an act of parliament which specifies how they must be painted - the Hove Act 1976.

Homelessness

I wish to first address comments the proposals regarding homelessness, which came from the conservative group proposals. The proposals state that they are *"in order to improve representation and caseload management in regard to Brighton's homeless population"*. This is a totally inaccurate reflection of the city and a baseless and offensive comment.

Conservative councillors have not represented Brunswick & Adelaide or Regency ward in over 30 years and have little or no understanding of the councillor casework in these areas. From my understanding of the casework received in Regency Ward, I understand that we have very different casework between the two wards. Homelessness is also distributed across a wide variety of wards in the city and there seems to be a conflation between homeless and rough sleeping. In reality, emergency and temporary accommodation is found in a number of wards across the city.

There are other examples of casework described by the conservative group shared by many wards. For example, communal bins are also situated in the current Goldsmid, Central Hove, St Peter's and North Laine and Queen's Park wards.

Conclusion

Please retain the current Brunswick and Adelaide ward boundaries, with the exception of adding Kingsway Court, thereby smoothing the boundary at the bottom of Second Avenue and First Avenue.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Phélim Mac Cafferty

Leader of the Council

Green Party Councillor for Brunswick and Adelaide, Brighton and Hove City Council

Chair, Policy and Resources Committee & Covid-19 Recovery Sub-Committee

Chair, City Leadership Covid Briefing

Co-Chair, 2030 Carbon Neutral Member Working Group

Chair, Strategic Delivery Board

Member, Greater Brighton Economic Board and Coast 2 Capital Local Enterprise Partnership

Board member Brighton Dome & Festival Limited and Royal Pavilion and Museums Foundation Representative to the Local Government Association

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