



**Cllr Hannah Clare**  
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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 local opposition.

### **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 - before I was indeed born. They do not campaign in these areas in local elections. Therefore, they have no understanding of what the casework for councillors in these areas are. From my understanding of the casework received in Regency Ward, I understand that we have very different casework between the two wards.

I can also be clear that homelessness is distributed across a wide variety of wards in the city. The comment from the conservative group is not an accurate reflection on the casework I receive as a councillor.

The conservatives in their initial comment, which the proposals puts forward as fact, seems to be conflating homeless and rough sleeping through their comments about tents. In reality, emergency and temporary accommodation is found in a number of wards across the city. It is something that most councillors would be expected they may need to complete

casework on. Therefore, there are no proposals that could be put forward if there is an aim to ensure a coherent response.

Although not noted in the boundary commission proposals, the other examples of casework described by the conservative group are also shared by many wards. For example, communal bins are also situated in the current Goldsmid, Central Hove, St Peter's and North Laine and Queens Park wards. They are instead commonalities between many areas of the city.

### **Hove boundary**

Brunswick and Adelaide is currently the boundary between Hove and Brighton. For many residents, this boundary is important, and that boundary is still very visible.

I understand the boundary commission did not visit the city in making their proposals and instead conducted a virtual tour. From this it may not have been visible how distinct the boundary is. The seafront railings in Brighton and Hove are painted two different shades of green. There is a road named boundary passage. The peace statue is a well-known mark where the two former boroughs join. There is a flagstone in the pavement on Western Road which marks the boundary between Brighton and Hove.

When Brighton & Hove first became a council, residents were told that Hove would not lose its identity. The boundary proposals take a step towards doing this and therefore on this basis I find them difficult to accept. Many residents do still identify strongly with coming from or living in "Hove actually". It is not, as the conservative group claimed in their proposals "arbitrary" and instead something which is a clear identifier for many residents.

### **Architecture**

The historic nature of Brunswick Town has not been recognised in suggesting that the Regency architecture is the same. Indeed, much of the city's Regency architecture doesn't fall in Regency ward and instead falls within wards such as Queen's Park, Rottingdean Coastal, Hanover and Elm Grove and St Peter's and North Laine.

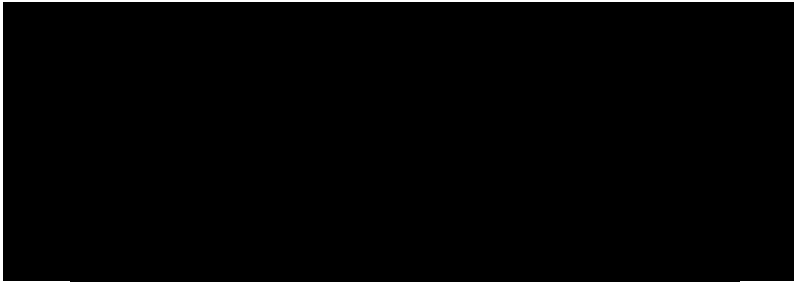
The Brunswick Estate was first conceived in the 1820s as a separate town, before becoming part of Hove. In actuality, it is debateable whether this makes it Regency architecture as it appeared later in the period which usually denotes it. Many areas where there is Regency architecture are not proposed within the new Regency ward e.g. Montpelier Crescent. There is very little in common with other Regency architecture and the character of architecture in Brunswick and Adelaide. Regency Square for example has a straight frontage with a bay window, whereas much of the architecture in Brunswick is curved.

The markers of Brunswick as its own town are still very visible today. Lower and Upper Market Street was the location of the town's indoor market, which is now a music venue. Donkey Mews is where the donkeys were kept for residents in Brunswick Square. The Bow Street Runner pub on Brunswick Street East is where the old town hall used to be.

There are numerous roads which keep 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.

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

Yours sincerely



Cllr Hannah Clare