

Brighton and Hove City Council

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Organisation Name:

Comment text:

My main comments relate to the Hollingdean and Stanmer Ward of which I'm one of the councillors. I have worked hard over the past 2 1/2 years to serve everyone in that ward but the size of it, and the number of separate different communities, have made that difficult. We are currently a 3 member ward that serves the following: Hollingdean (broken up into two main areas which have different needs), Saunders Park, Bates Estate, Coldean, Stanmer Village and the University of Sussex campus. All have different demands, slightly different demographics, different set ups for resident engagement and forums for discussing ideas and this all makes the role of representing them harder. However, Hollingdean has by far the best turnover in elections and has a large enough population to effectively decide who gets elected, and that often means candidates living and engaged in that community have a disproportionate advantage which is unfair and leads to other areas feeling they aren't as important. Also, it should be mentioned that the ward is growing so in terms of residents the Saunders Park area will grow dramatically, roughly doubling when the development at Preston Barracks is finished in 2023. All of this means that I would favour the ward being reconfigured to better serve the communities and represent them more appropriately. Hollingdean, although two different areas, is a largely homogenous area and perhaps a 2 member would be better for this area, with potentially the addition of Saunders Park. Coldean deserves to be a more important part of another ward, possibly in combination with Stanmer Park and areas in North Moulsecoomb or over in Hollingbury, which have more in common with Coldean than Hollingdean does. This might end up having a knock on effect for other neighbouring wards but I think it's important, particularly for Coldean, that they have someone who they can feel they have a greater say in electing.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded