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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 August 2022 20:20
To: reviews
Subject: Letter of Objection to Electoral Boundary changes for Upper Welland, Malvern, Worcestershire
Attachments: 20220807 Letter of objection to changes to UW electoral boundary changes [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Categories: [REDACTED]

Dear Sir

Please see our letter of objection to your proposed changes to the electoral arrangements for Malvern Hills District council. We have also suggested an ammendment to your boundary changes which better reflects the local community.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



07 August 2022

Local Government Boundary Commission: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

Dear Sir

Objection to Electoral Boundary changes for Upper Welland, Malvern, Worcestershire

Reference:

- A. The Local Government Boundary Commission, “new electoral arrangements for Malvern Hills District Council – Further Draft Recommendations” dated June 22.

Reference A recommends grouping Upper Welland into a large, single councillor, ward called “Longdon and Welland”– this is illustrated on your map on page 2 of the report. We write to object to this proposal on the following grounds:

- a. The implication in the report that Upper Welland, Welland and Longdon “Reflect community interests and identities and include evidence of community links” is erroneous. All the Upper Welland community links and local amenities (shops, garage, community hall, play areas and the vast majority of the primary schooling) occurs within the Malvern Wells ward area. There are few, if any links, to Welland, Longdon and most of the area of the proposed ward.
- b. Upper Welland and the Malvern Wells wards both fall in the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and share a common conservation area. A small part of the AONB extends to Welland but does not cover the majority of the proposed “Longdon and Welland” ward. Planning issues will be significantly different between Malvern Wells and Upper Welland on one hand and the remainder of the Welland/Longdon ward on the other.
- c. Your report dismisses the evidence of the Malvern Hills Trust over the loss of voting rights for the residents of Upper Welland whilst still being subject to the levy. This is not a matter of “administrative impact” but a further illustration that the interests of Upper Welland would be best served by common representation with Malvern Wells.

Recommendation

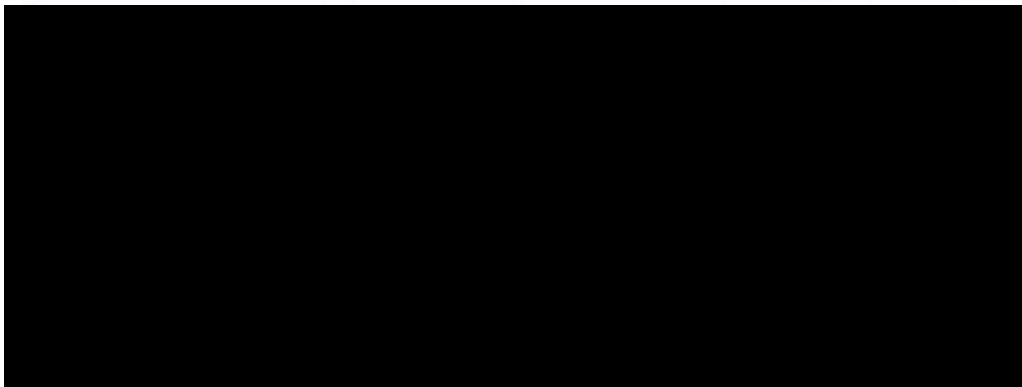
We recommend keeping the area of Upper Welland with the Malvern Wells Ward as councillors would have a better chance of representing the interest of the residents and avoids the issue of the levy.

Our recommendation can be implemented by extending the proposed southern boundary of the Malvern Wells ward to be the southern edge of the Upper Welland boundary. We have illustrated this change in Appendix A to this letter.

From the Electorate figures provided in Appendix A to the Report referenced above, transferring the electors of Upper Welland from “Longdon and Welland” (line 10) to “Malvern Wells” (line 11) will decrease the electors per councillor on “Longdon and Welland” which is above average at present or projected to be average in 2027. Conversely the gain of electors from Upper Welland will increase the below average number of electors per councillor in the Malvern Wells ward both now and in 2027.

We believe our suggested change will meet the Commission’s wider objectives and more accurately the nature of our local communities and existing

linkages.



Appendix A – Suggested Alteration of Malvern Wells Ward boundary to include Upper Welland

