

Malvern Hills District Council

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Organisation Name:

Comment text:

The updated recommendations make very disappointing reading for rural residents living under the authority of Malvern Hill District Council. Joining Rushwick with Alfrick and Leigh into one new ward would appear to double at least the size of the ward (compared to the size of the Lower Broadheath/Rushwick ward) without any increase in the number of councillors. This new ward will stretch from the boundary of Worcester City Council virtually to the borders with Herefordshire. The interests of the residents of Rushwick are going to be much different from those living in the more rural Alfrick. Importance seems to be given to the number of residents within a ward rather than the area that any councillor would expect to cover. Thus preference appearing to be given to urban wards when the allocation of councillors was decided on. Looking at the expectation of the population growth between 2021 and 2027, the ward would expect a growth of -5% difference on the average population across the District in 2021 to a +6% difference in 2027. The largest growth of any of the proposed wards. Given the proposed housing needs of MHDC, this seems an under estimation. Would it not be more sensible to future proof the recommendations by increasing the number of councillors covering the ward to three?

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded