

Fenland District Council

Personal Details:

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Organisation Name:

Comment text:

I fear that the proposed reduction of 24 wards to 17 will leave parts of some wards under-represented due to detrimental changes to the warding boundaries proposed by LGBCE. For example, the proposed Elm & Wisbech St Mary ward will be completely divided in half by the A47, splitting the ward geographically, which makes absolutely no sense from a cohesive community and equal representation point of view. Currently, the villages of Parson Drove, Wisbech St Mary, Guyhirn and Murrow within the existing Parson Drove and Wisbech St Mary ward west of the A47, enjoy close community ties and long-established community group activities, for example, Community Speedwatch, which provides an essential contribution to the safety of residents in the aforementioned villages. Regarding this point in particular, I would like LGBCE to consider the strong objections to the new warding arrangement submitted by the Parson Drove & Wisbech St Mary ward Community Speedwatch representative, Diane Cutler, and the Parish Councils of Parson Drove and Wisbech St Mary, which reflect the barriers that the proposed ward boundary changes will cause to residents and local community groups, along with the threat to effective local governance. I urge LGBCE to consider the 41 councillor and warding proposal from the Fenland Independents Alliance that supports the existing warding pattern and enhanced representation, particularly in the more rural areas of the district. Unlike the proposed 42 councillor scheme, FIA's 41 councillor scheme retains existing ward boundaries and facilitates equal representation with its mixed pattern of one, two and three councillor wards, which will increase representation where it is actually needed.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded