

Brighton and Hove City Council

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Comment text:

Dear Commissioners, I'm writing about the Local Government Boundary review for Brighton and Hove City Council and the Further Draft Recommendations of July 2022. I was the councillor for East Brighton and am now the member of Parliament for Brighton Kemptown (Covering the BHCC current wards of Moulsecoomb and Bevendean, Queens Park, East Brighton, Woodingdean and Rottingdean Coastal). I broadly support the Further Draft Recommendations, I have three substantive suggestions. 1) Whitehawk and Marina: after extensive discussions with residents in the Whitehawk and Marina area there was a strong feeling that East Brighton was a better more inclusive name. It covers the last urban area of Brighton to the east. The neighbourhood plan for the area is called East Brighton, the funding and development agency is called East Brighton, the local park with active Park Run, campsite and also called East Brighton. RECOMMENDATION: Retail the name East Brighton for the ward Whitehawk and Marina. 2) Kemptown: This ward is coherent community and well supported. The nomenclature of Kemptown vs Kemp Town is a complicated one. The local paper the Argus still describes the area as Kemp Town and the conservation area that covers Lewes Crescent and Sussex square is the Kemp Town conservation area with the Kemp Town enclosures. The village/shopping parade around area St Georges Church and St Georges Road is often called Kemp Town village. St Gorges Church and the Church of St Marys are both parishes in the church of England in Kemptown and Kemptown is the name of the constituency. To make it clearer between the smaller Kemp Town ward and the Kemptown constituency, whilst paying homage to the origins of the area Kemp Town should be adopted RECOMENDATIN: call the Kemptown ward Kemp Town. 3) Pankhurst in Queens Park: As I made representation in the previous correspondence Pankhurst Estate (The estate bordered by Queens Park Road, Down Terrace, Freshfield Road, and Elm Grove) should be with Craven Vale area. In your July 2022 further draft Queens Park, Craven Vale, Bakers Bottom and St Luke's areas are in one ward, this is correct but Pankhurst Estate should be too. Queens Park is current under quota, and Hanover is over, Pankhurst Estate is about 742 electors and would still be within tolerance. During the pandemic Pankhurst Estate shared many facilities with Craven Vale estate. Further more St Luke Residence association have worked with Pankhurst Residents for a long time, sharing many of the natural boundaries. Speaking to the chairman of the St Luke's Residents association he feels that linking up Pankhurst estate would resolve a long divide which was created in the last boundary review and have prevented proper representation of the area straddling two wards. I include again community representation which was ignored in my last letter to why this estate should be with St Luke's and Bakers Bottom: I note the initial Conservatives proposal of including Craven Vale with Pankhurst Estate. They states "This ward follows the well-defined boundaries of the Pankhurst and Craven vale neighbourhood area outlined in pages 83-85 of the urban characterisation study. " During the pandemic these two estates have become closer together sharing food banks and community development workers. This estate looks towards the Racecourse, which is in the East Brighton Ward and PHEA polling district was until the last boundary review part of the Queens Park ward indicating that its long-term affiliation with Hanover and Elm Grove is weaker. The submission to the Parliamentary Boundary review Boundary Review in relation to Pankhurst Estate links to Craven Vale, Kemptown and East Brighton the following comments were made (I list these comments because they are in the public domain): "The Pankhurst Estate has a distinctive character, different from surrounding areas of Elm Grove and Hanover to the east, and Queen's Park to the south. The residents of this area live somewhat further from the city centre, but are likely to have community links to neighbouring areas in both of the existing constituencies (eg primary schools in Elm Grove and Queen's Park. It is in the same catchment area for Dorothy Stringer and Varndean secondary schools in common with the rest of Hanover and Elm Grove and Queen's Park: the park which gives Queen's Park ward its name is nearby to the south)." Current Green Party Councillor for Hanover and Elm Grove. (<https://www.bcereviews.org.uk/node/84253/view>) "In addition, the Pankhurst estate currently

shares some resident, parish and medical services with the Craven Vale Estate, which is in Kemptown, and this creates some difficulties that would be resolved should it return to Kemptown itself." Current Labour Party Councillor for Queens Park (<https://www.bcereviews.org.uk/node/81212/view>) "I have been Secretary and Treasurer of the Craven Vale Community Association for the past 15 years, and our area of interest includes some 450 households in East Brighton Ward and some 330 in Baker's Bottom, which is part of Queens Park Ward. In addition I am responsible for the Craven Vale Food Bank which has for many years provided food for both Baker's Bottom and also the Pankhurst Estate, with which we have had very close links for at least twenty years. This part of Brighton is excessively hilly, and Craven Vale and Baker's Bottom share a very narrow and steep valley, with access to areas east and west extremely difficult and challenging by foot or by bicycle. Kemp Town village is our (only) 'natural' local shopping centre and to find our route to it, and the shopping centre itself, bisected by your proposed boundary is seen as being perverse. In addition, the natural route from polling district PHEA (Pankhurst Estate) and half of PHEF to the City Centre is via Queen's Park Road or Freshfield Road, both in Queens Park Ward, and it seems to me to be 'sensible' to keep these areas together as far as possible." Residents Association and Church Warden for area (<https://www.bcereviews.org.uk/node/80965/view>) "Please consider the alternative put forward that would retain Queens Park in Brighton Kemptown and would return the Pankhurst Estate, Brighton General Hospital site and all of Queens Park Road to Brighton Kemptown from Brighton Pavilion." Current Labour Party Councillor for East Brighton (<https://www.bcereviews.org.uk/node/80145/view>) There is in my view a strong link between Pankhurst Estate and Craven Value. The joining of Craven Vale and Bakers Bottom is very much welcome but the rest of the area could be united as one. RECOMMENDATION: Include Pankhurst Estate (The estate bordered by Queens Park Road, Down Terrace, Freshfield Road, and Elm Grove) within Queens Park to make a ward which follows the line of Queens Park Road in its entirety.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded