

## Southampton City Council

### Personal Details:

**Name:**

**E-mail:**

**Postcode:**

**Organisation Name:**

### Comment text:

I would like to urge the commission to change the southern boundary of the Portswood ward, which currently divides Avenue Road, to be Lodge Road instead. I appreciate that the division of wards has to happen somewhere, but this particular line does not make sense. Avenue Road, along with Alma Road, Gordon Avenue and all the roads that cross it are part of the same (Outer Avenue) Residents Association, which has been running for more than 10 years now. To split OARA in two pieces would be detrimental to their role in liaising with councillors and add to a lot of confusion over which part of their area is in which council ward. In addition, Avenue Road is a narrow street where neighbours on either side of the road are in regular daily contact with one another. To divide this street would be to help divide the community between both sides of the road. Lodge Road, on the other hand is a wider street that is a main traffic artery from east to west across this part of the city: opposite sides of the street are clearly divided by this traffic artery and it would make much more sense for this to also be the boundary between Portswood and Bevois wards. Extending this line to the Thomas Lewis way would also bring the half of Spring Crescent and Lawn Road together, rather than leaving them as an isolated street-and-a-half in Bevois ward. I appreciate that the whole point in this exercise is to try and make the wards of a similar population size, but this should not be done at the expense of community relations. I have spoken to both Bevois and Portswood councillors and both sets agree with me on making Lodge Road the natural boundary between the wards. I also believe that the Outer Avenue Residents Association are very much in favour of their community NOT being split into separate wards.

### Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded