

## Brighton and Hove City Council

### Personal Details:

Name:

E-mail:

Postcode:

Organisation Name:

### Comment text:

I am a resident of Queens Park ward, living on the west side of Freshfield Rd. The houses opposite us would be moved into East Brighton ward under the current proposals, which I oppose. The east side of Freshfield Road shares all the same characteristics as the west side - residents use the same schools, shops, community facilities, pubs etc. During Lockdown we had a shared Whatsapp Group and we and our children are friendly with many families on the other side of the road. The demographics of the area are identical and it makes no sense to use Freshfield Rd as a boundary. This area has absolutely no community, demographic or economic links with the areas in East Brighton which it would be part of - it has no transport links whatsoever - the main bus route (no 2) runs to Woodingdean. Councilors for East Brighton would naturally focus on the heart of their ward in Whitehawk which the area between Freshfield Rd & Sutherland Rd has virtually nothing in common with. This area must stay part of Queens Park ward. The area known as Baker's Bottom (Rochester, Hendon & Bute St) should also remain part of Queens Park Rd. It too has no community or geographic links to East Brighton ward - indeed there is a high ridge east of the area which means there are no direct road or even footpath links to Whitehawk (there are a number of hilly paths to Manor Hill Rd but these are mainly used for leisure and do not form community links). All the community facilities used by residents are in Queens Park ward, notably Queens Park itself (which is the nearest formal green space and playground) as well as Queens Park School, Royal Spa Nursery and St Lukes School (see below). As above, this area must stay part of Queens Park ward. These arguments also apply to the area surrounding Brighton College which share far more demographic and community similarities with the areas to the west than the Donald Hall estate to the east. These areas are also separated by a large hill as well as the Royal Sussex County Hospital campus. The area surrounding St Lukes Primary School are also historically linked to the areas south of Queens Park Terrace. Many children of residents in the proposed new Queens Park Ward would attend St Lukes School. There are other strong community and geographic links between the residential areas either side of Queens park Terrace. This is not the case for Down Terrace which has very distinctively different residential characteristics on opposite sides of the road. It would therefore be much a better boundary between wards. In order to balance these areas remaining part of Queens Park ward, I propose two areas should be moved out of your proposed Queens Park ward: 1 The Phoenix Estate 2. Western Kemptown The Phoenix Estate shares strong community links with Hanover and hence should remain in Hanover ward. Indeed the residents strongly support this. Note I support the Craven Vale Estate remaining part of East Brighton ward. The area in the proposed Queens Park ward west of Bedford St (in Queens Park ward under your proposals) should be added to the new Kemptown ward. This would create a coherent coastal ward with the residential, retail. and community areas along St James St, Upper St James St & St Georges Rd therefore being in a single ward rather than split as under your proposals. Councillors for this new Kemptown ward would therefore be the sole representatives for this area allowing them to have a stronger and consistent voice. This will increase the Kemptown ward beyond the recommended size. I would therefore suggest two options: a Kemptown Ward to have 3 councillors b The eastern boundary of Kemptown Ward to be Arundel Rd, Arundel St and the link road to Brighton Marina Under my preferred proposal Brighton Marina would be part of East Brighton ward. The Marina shares more with East Brighton than with Kemptown, including direct bus routes (eg no. 7) which all head through East Brighton before reaching central Brighton. Note I also suggest the area around Bristol Gardens should also be completely within East Brighton ward, rather than split as in your proposals. Apart from Sussex Square, the boundary should run along Eastern Rd which is a clearer dividing line than the path north of the County Hospital used in your proposals. I have shown my comments on the attached plan (QP denotes proposed Queens Park ward, KT is Kemptown). The proposed changed boundaries are in green to avoid any confusion with current boundaries (blue) and your proposed boundaries (red).

## **Uploaded Documents:**

**Download ([https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/download\\_document?file=draft%2F1649622335\\_Proposed+Queens+Park+%26+Kemptown+wards.jpg](https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/download_document?file=draft%2F1649622335_Proposed+Queens+Park+%26+Kemptown+wards.jpg))**

