

Brighton and Hove City Council

Personal Details:

Name:

Organisation Name:

Comment text:

I have lived on the Mackie Estate (Mackie Avenue and the side roads) for 45 years and got married at All Saints Church in the Village. If this proposal goes ahead it would split Patcham in two and I would live in a different ward to the Village centre, Schools and Churches that I associate with. Patcham has a strong active community cohesion, isolating the Mackie Estate from the rest of Patcham would negatively impact residents and businesses. Quoting from the information regarding the proposal: 'We also aim to ensure that the ward boundaries reflect the interests and identities of local communities, as well as promoting effective local government.' And 'New wards should – as far as possible – reflect community interests and identities, and boundaries should be identifiable. Consider transport links, community groups and facilities, natural or physical boundaries, parishes and shared interests.' This proposed boundary would achieve the complete opposite, literally cutting the community in two, straight through Patchams iconic Clocktower. With regard to City Council representation, the proposal effectively means that Patchams representation would be reduced to zero. Councillors for the new wards would either principally be concerned with Westdene (because that is where most of their electors would live), or principally concerned with Hollingbury (for the same reason), both of which are areas with identities, interests, and issues separate from those of the Patcham community. Patchams voice would no longer exist. Most of the children living on the Mackie Estate go to Patcham Infants, Patcham Juniors and Patcham High School which would be in a different ward under the proposals. Although on a map Mackie Avenue appears close to Carden Avenue, there is no connecting road. They are completely separate areas, only accessible by going through, what would be, a different ward under the proposals. How can this be right? Please could I also add that residents in both wards have not been effectively informed. This final consultation is the first I knew of the proposal and that was via social media. Many Patcham residents still know nothing about it, particularly the elderly. Please, please do not split Patcham in half and take away our identity as the Patcham Community.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded