

# North Northamptonshire

## Personal Details:

**Name:** Mr Vivienne Prodger

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Postcode:** [REDACTED]

**Organisation Name:** Rushden Town Council (Representative of parish/town council)

## Comment text:

**Related subject:** Between Rushden Lakes Ward and Higham Ward

"The Boundary Commission's proposals for Rushden mostly seem logical, except for one point.

The boundary between Rushden Lakes ward and Higham ward mostly follows the boundary between the Parish of Rushden and the Parish of Higham.

However, it diverts into Rushden for a short distance.

In particular, it moves Prospect Avenue, The Hedges, St' James Close, Firdale Avenue, Handcross Way, and Toll Bar into the Higham ward. We believe that these roads should all be in the Rushden Lakes ward. Our reasons are as follows:

- 1) They are part of the local community centred on Shirley Road, and which is clearly part of Rushden.
- 2) It forces the creation of an abnormal Rushden Town Council ward.
- 3) This makes the electorate unbalanced at Town Council level. ( 444 voters per town councillor, versus around 1250 per town councillor in the rest of Rushden.)
- 4) The residents of the area look towards Rushden, rather than Higham.  
(In fact most of the children go to school in Rushden, rather than Higham.)
- 5) It will be confusing for residents, with a Rushden councillor for Unitary matters, but a Higham councillor for parish matters.
- 6) The cultural boundary between Rushden and Higham is strong.

We suspect that the original submission that suggested this "notch" in the smooth boundary between Higham ward and Rushden Lakes ward, may actually have been a drafting error.

## **Attached Documents:**

*None attached*