

Surrey

Personal Details:

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Organisation Name: (Member of the public)

Comment text:

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I agree with the TD & WG Residents' Association regarding the above and feel the proposals are not consistent with all three of the Commission's own criteria, as the Resident Association have explained below.

Electoral equality

The existing split of Divisions actually give more electoral equality than the Commission's proposals. The Dittons Division, of which we are a part, is currently 4% off the ideal Surrey average. The proposals would create a new Division which is 11% below the average. This makes no sense whatsoever and does not move us further to equality.

Community identity and interests

The Manor of Weston Green was mentioned in the Domesday Book as part of Thames Ditton. We have been inextricably linked throughout history and when the first local council was established in 1895 (the Esher & District Urban District Council) we became part of the same Division, which has continued to this day.

The Thames Ditton & Weston Green Residents' Association, formed in 1934, is the second oldest in the country. It is the focus of a strong and cohesive community, with an active membership and volunteers who deliver our quarterly magazine (Thames Ditton Today). They run a website and hold regular events including their annual Secret Gardens (which alternates between Thames Ditton and Weston Green) and their Nature & Climate Festival, which is in its second year. Weston Green residents feel part of Thames Ditton - our community theatre, local shops, primary

and nursery schools, Community Centre and our library are all there.

Thames Ditton and Long Ditton are closely linked, the name itself being a good indication. They are mentioned in the Domesday Book. There are many connecting roads, so they form a natural unit at the north-eastern edge of Elmbridge. There is a real sense of community within the Dittons, enhanced by being served by a single County Councillor, and the two Residents' Associations work closely together. Splitting the two areas would be artificial.

Please let's leave the existing boundaries well alone. We reject these proposals.

Regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Attached Documents:

None attached