

Surrey

Personal Details:

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

Comment text:

The Review Officer

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed boundary review for the Thames Ditton and Weston Green area.

Thames Ditton and Weston Green have been connected communities since 1100AD – indeed Weston Green was mentioned as being part of Thames Ditton in the Domesday Book, and the Thames Ditton and Weston Green Residents Association (formed in 1934) is the second oldest in the country. Thames Ditton and Weston Green share community facilities – our community centre, the library, schools, nurseries, our local community theatre, and a vibrant and thriving high street full of independent shops – and few living locally could accurately say where one ‘area’ ends and the next begins.

Similarly, Long Ditton and Thames Ditton are closely linked through community facilities, schools and a road network. Often referred to as the Dittons, these geographic areas of Thames Ditton, Weston Green and Long Ditton merge and blend into one cohesive community. Splitting these areas would create an artificial division which would not reflect the way the community acts and operates.

The proposal would result in two County Councillors serving our community, which is neither efficient nor reflective of the single community that we operate as.

Finally, it is my understanding that the purpose of this proposed boundary change is to create more electoral equality – but it seems that this

would not actually be the case. The Dittons division as it currently stands, is 4% off the ideal Surrey average. The proposed change would create a new division which is 11% below the average.

It is my view that this change would divide our community, whilst offering almost no benefit to the community at all and I am strongly opposed to it.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Attached Documents:

None attached