

Gloucestershire

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Comment text:

Related subject: Stroud/Trinity Ward

Dear Sirs,

Referring to proposals for Bisley & Painswick, Minchinhampton and Stroud Central of the review , and recommendations assume Trinity and Thrupp wards into “Stroud East” district, currently “Bisley & Painswick”.

I have studied your plans to amend electoral boundaries in the Stroud area, and am writing to communicate my views which is similarly shared by all of those I have discussed the matter with. Geographically, culturally and socially, the demographics of those living in Trinity ward is particularly focussed upon Stroud town, its community, and life, and this is reciprocated by those in Central Stroud. Within the Trinity ward, there exists several key buildings, including its general hospital, a maternity hospital, and welfare centres. I do not believe that that those living in the Trinity Ward and Thrupp wards will ever provide the same level of interest in our affairs as someone from Central Stroud. As such to make this change would be to disenfranchise us from the good services we are receiving from our existing councillor and the community we are geographically within and most closely relate to. Stroud is an urban community with strong artistic and ecological leanings that is proud of being leaders in social fairness and being “different”. To slice (geographically akin to a cake) a community out of an urban division and assume it into a very different rural / conservative (small “C”) community and believe that it will fairly be understood and represented by a councillor where on a map it will most likely represent an inconvenient corner is unbelievable.

This is about numbers, and the way this has worked out even by your own report “is not ideal” (para 95). This is an understatement, and I urge

you to reconsider this proposal. I ask that you to make a special case, as I understand that you have done in other Parliamentary reviews, and leave Stroud Central as a unified entity, and not to undermine the role that has long been established in representing Stroud and its interests. Stroud Central is clearly the accountable place whose representative is best able to deal with the requirements of Trinity Ward as part of its division.

Attached Documents:

None attached