

7 February 2023

Dear Ailsa Irvine,

**Surrey County Council: Response to further limited draft recommendations**

On behalf of Surrey County Council, we are writing to address the proposal for the East Molesey & The Dittons division.

After careful review of the proposal to combine these areas into a single division represented by two councillors, we wish to express our reservations and reiterate our Council's position that we wish to retain single-member divisions. Whilst we acknowledge the challenges in achieving both electoral equality and reflecting community identity, we strongly advocate for the retention of single-member divisions in the forthcoming boundary review.

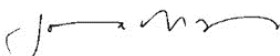
As a council, we firmly believe in the importance of single-member electoral divisions as a means of maintaining clear democratic accountability and community connectiveness. In a county where many divisions already cover large geographical areas, the retention of single-member divisions becomes even more crucial.

While we understand the rationale behind the proposal, we urge the LGBCE to consider the significance of maintaining single-member divisions in ensuring effective representation and accountability.

Therefore, we respectfully request that our position in support of retaining single-member divisions be duly noted in the forthcoming boundary review process.

We appreciate the thorough consideration given to all submissions relating to this area.

Yours sincerely,



Joanna Killian  
Chief Executive  
Surrey County Council



Tim Oliver  
Leader of the Council  
Surrey County Council