

## Epping Forest District Council

### Personal Details:

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**Organisation Name:** Loughton Town Council

### Comment text:

Loughton Town Council believes it would be quite wrong to create district wards that cross the boundaries of Loughton, which is an identifiable, recognisable and independent community, and combine them with other places, simply to slavishly to accommodate a regular pattern of three-member wards. Loughton and Buckhurst Hill are not a homogenous suburban community. This is a particular issue in the current Roding ward. The boundary between it and Buckhurst Hill East is the "hundred foot", the green gap purposefully left by the Urban District Council in 1950 (as suggested by Sir Patrick Abercrombie) specifically to separate the two towns, which it has done effectively for 70 years. The Post Office was induced at the time to alter the boundaries of the post towns, later becoming the dividing point between IG9 and IG10. and the civil parishes It would be perverse to alter this by attaching parts of Loughton or Buckhurst Hill to the "other" town for electoral purposes. The Essex County Council electoral division crosses this gap, which make for unnecessary complication and is unpopular. Much of the areas of Buckhurst Hill east of the railway are Victorian in origin, and have a distinct feel of their own. By contrast, not a single house in Roding dates from before WWI. This area has an ethos and identity all of its own centred upon the Valley Hill - Roding Rd crossroads, with its local shops and church., as is documented in Alison Whiting's book (1998 and several times reprinted) The Loughton Roding Estate, from cattle grazing to double-glazing. In the case of Roding and BH East, the Town Council believes that the creation of two single-member wards divided by the hundred foot would be infinitely preferable, and would the better meet the aspiration of Loughton to be complete within its own boundary as well as approaching the Local Government Boundary Commission of England's quota more effectively.

### Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded