

## East Hertfordshire District Council

### Personal Details:

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### Comment text:

I would like to echo the comments already submitted by [REDACTED] Ben Crystall. Ben has researched potential solutions thoroughly and I agree with his conclusions. I attach his submission here: Suggestions for ward boundary changes in East Herts Transfer polling district HCA6 from Hertford Castle ward into Hertford Bengoe ward. Change the ward boundary so that it runs along the rivers Lea and Mimram and the railway as a strong physical boundary, rather than along the artificial boundary of North Road. Residents in HCA6 already share many links including schools, sports and arts facilities and shopping etc with Bengoe residents. Move the ward boundary in the north west corner of Hertford Bengoe so that it includes the community east of the river Beane at Waterford, and change the boundary to reflect this, by moving the boundary from the current arbitrary position so that it follows the river Beane instead. Residents in this community are already linked to Bengoe through a number of local ties and commonalities such as schools and other local facilities. Move the current western boundary of Hertford Kingsmead ward west into Hertford Castle Ward to include residents in Beechwood Close, Copperwood and The Spinney. Alter the boundary of Ware St Marys ward by moving polling district WTR1 from Ware Trinity into Ware St Marys. Residents in WTR1 are already enclosed by St Marys ward and share many local cultural and other interests such as school, shopping, sports and arts facilities. Move most of WTR2 polling district in Ware Trinity to Ware Christchurch, so that the new boundary runs along Homefield, Fanhams and Queens Rds. Extend Ware Trinity ward north to include those parts of WARE2 not in Ware Christchurch and adjust the boundary of Ware Town so that WARE2 falls inside it. Reduce the number of councillors representing Ware Trinity to 1. This will create a new linked community and help bring new residents in WARE2 into the existing town community. In Hunsdon ward, split Wareside parish between Thundridge and Standon, Much Hadham and Stanstead Abbots wards to improve overall elector balance and reflect the interests and identities of local rural communities. The new Hunsdon ward will contain Widford, Hunsdon, Eastwick and Gilston parishes and have improved . Increase the number of councillors in Bishops Stortford Silverleys Ward to 3. Move ward boundaries between BS All Saints, Meads and Central to improve overall elector equality and reflect the changes in interests and identities of local communities. Split up Hertford Rural North Ward so that Bramfield and Stapleford parishes become part of the Watton at Stone ward. These parishes already have strong links to Watton at Stone, via school and shopping, and community centre useage. Recombine Tewin North parish with Tewin South as part of a new enlarged Hertford Rural South Ward. This reflects long standing common interests in the Tewin north and south communities. Realign current ward boundaries by combining the linked communities of Tonwell in Bengoe Rural parish, with Sacombe and Dane End in Little Munden parish and include Burn's Green and Benington in Walkern ward to bring together rural communities with similar character to form a new Hertford Rural North. Alter Walkern ward by combining Walkern and Ardeley parishes with Great Munden and Westmill. These parishes have an easterly border defined roughly by the A10 and the river Rib and a west edge by the river Beane and Stevenage. The land between the Rib and the Beane has long been linked culturally and this new ward arrangement would return this ancient link. Combine Buntingford parish with those of Aspenden and Cottered into a new Buntingford ward with 3 councillors. Aspenden and Buntingford have always had strong links, especially now due to spreading developments along Aspenden Road. The communities of Throcking, Cottered and Aspenden continue to have a number of cultural overlaps and matched interests with the town of Buntingford. Realign the wards of Braughing, Buntingford and Little Hadham by combining parishes of Buckland, Wyddial, Anstey, Meesdon, the Pelhams and Hormead, to form a new single ward with approximately 2200 electors. And by combining the parishes of Braughing, Albury and Little Hadham, a second new ward with close to the optimal number of electors. This has the advantage of bringing the 3 Pelhams together in one ward, and combining all rural northern border

communities into one ward. I think these proposals provide improved electoral balance, reflect changing community identities across the district and provide identifiable boundaries. These suggestions enhance local governance and take cultural and community interests, physical and human geography into account. They also maintain the total number of councillors at 50.

**Uploaded Documents:**

None Uploaded