

Electoral Review of Harlow Council

Response to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's Draft Recommendations

This is a submission made by Harlow District Council and was approved at a meeting of Full Council on 3 November 2022.

In general, the Council supports the Draft Recommendations of the Boundary Commission as meeting the four core considerations of electoral equality, community identify, identifiable geographically and are effective for the Council in terms of delivering for our residents.

We are suggesting two areas for you to the consider some minor amendments:

(1) Little Parndon Ward

It is our view that the boundary line should be altered so that it incorporates Harlow College and Harlow Leisurezone. This area has no electors but should be part of the town centre as they are integral and connected to it. It is included within the designated town centre area (see attached map) in the Town Centre Masterplanning Framework document, as part of the Council's wider regeneration plans. As it is commercial in nature, it more naturally aligns with the town centre. Furthermore, there is a crossing over the A1019/Velizy Avenue that is widely used by residents going from the college/Leisurezone to the town centre.

The ward name should also be amended to Little Parndon & Town Centre as the town centre is considered a distinct area to Little Parndon that is clearly identifiable.

(2) Latton Bush & Commonsides Ward

The Council are suggesting the amendment of this ward name to Latton Bush & Stewards. It is noted the Commission's draft proposal now includes the entirety of the Stewards neighbourhood within the ward. Stewards is widely accepted to be the name of the western end of the proposed ward more than Commonsides and is more relatable to the electorate, with the local Secondary School bearing the name 'Stewards'.



Figure 2 Town Centre Area Action Plan boundary. The boundary as shown now coincides with the town centre boundary in the Local Plan. Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right (2021). All rights reserved. Harlow District Council Licence No. 100019627 (2021)