

## Tandridge District Council

### Personal Details:

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**Organisation Name:** Tatsfield Parish Council

### Comment text:

Tatsfield Parish Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Local Government Boundary Commission for England Electoral Review of Tandridge District. Tatsfield Parish Council strongly believes that Tatsfield's strength lies in remaining a 1-member ward. Tatsfield is a rural community, located in the northeast of the district. The majority of the Parish's residents live at the northern end of the Parish, which is geographically closest to Biggin Hill in the London Borough of Bromley. The Parish is focussed around a small village centre, with a dedicated Post Office, local store and tea room, pub, restaurant and village club. Also centrally based is the thriving village hall and primary school. A short distance from the village centre is the popular St. Mary's Church. Tatsfield is not well served by public transport, with limited routes to the south. The rural nature of the Parish creates a distinct set of issues and problems, vastly different from those experienced by the residents in more built-up and higher-populated areas such as nearby Oxted / Limpsfield, Warlingham and Caterham. Tatsfield has benefitted from having a local resident district councillor for many years. The close relationship that has been fostered by those local council representatives with residents of the Parish has been of immense importance to the village and much valued. The current local councillor is widely involved in a number of local societies and clubs and is therefore a highly visible and accessible presence in the community. The same was true for the previous district councillor - also a local resident. The Parish Council is aware that there is a possibility that the Boundary Commission may recommend aligning Tatsfield & Titsey with another Parish to form a new district ward and is greatly concerned that this would diminish the local connection and particular attention afforded by having a single ward councillor who understands the uniqueness of the area and its different needs and issues. The Parish Council advises strongly against such a move. Furthermore, the Parish Council understands that the District Council has voted in favour of continuing with elections in thirds. The Parish Council feels that this would be a mistake and that district elections should fall in with the current four-year cycle followed by central government, the county council and parish councils. Members believe this would give further stability to the district council system and ensure that council matters move forward in a timely manner and are not subjected to the disruption caused by continuous personnel changes and campaigning brought about by the current almost yearly electoral system.

### Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded