

Tandridge

Personal Details:

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Organisation Name: (Member of the public)

Comment text:

Dear Reviewers

I am writing as a Tatsfield resident to voice my objection to the merging of the Tatsfield Ward with Titsey and Limpsfield Wards.

I note the statutory criteria of the review are:

- Equality of representation.
- Reflecting community interests and identities.
- Providing for effective and convenient local government.

I don't know about the first criteria, but the recommendation to merge the three wards fails the second and third criteria. Tatsfield is a fundamentally different community from Limpsfield. As the Council has explained it is a strong rural community based around its own village centre and green. Its link are much more to the North towards Biggin Hill rather than to the South towards Oxted and Limpsfield. The point has been made that the transport links are poor going South rather than North. This is clearly from the topography of the North Downs. The escarpment is very steep and the roads are treacherous in winter conditions or in heavy traffic. The case is supported by the current situation of Titsey Hill being closed, creating real problems of communication between Oxted to Tatsfield. Anybody using Chalk Pit Lane at the moment will testify to this. It is really dangerous and unpleasant. It is the same whenever it snows, which it does more often atop the North Downs. The community interests are also different, the concerns of Limpsfield being more with planning issues around development, Tatsfield more about rural issues such as fly-tipping, rural crime and rural road quality. If the wards are merged it is clear that the more activist and well-resourced Limpsfield community views will dominate. There is a real concern that the more rural communities will be disenfranchised, undermining the criteria of effective and convenient local government. I would urge you to reconsider your plans.

Best regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Attached Documents:

None attached