

Worcestershire

Personal Details:

Name: Mr Peter Griffiths

Email: [REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

Organisation Name: Worcestershire County Council (District or county councillor)

Comment text:

Related subject: Worcestershire, Evesham North West and Bengeworth Divisions

I must challenge the response to Communities Consultation, put before Worcestershire County Council on 14th September 2023. This initial whilst it no doubt addressed Electoral Equality in terms of mathematics, with one glaring exception, in Pershore. It undoubtedly fails to address objectives B and C in the approach and methodology statements. I am referring to three divisions within Wychavon District, Namely Evesham South, Evesham North West and Harvington. The urban area of Evesham is divided into three distinct Communities, Bengeworth, Hampton and Evesham Centre, Currently from the County Divisional perspective these areas are predominantly represented by two County Divisions, Evesham North West and Evesham South, with a small representation by the Harvington Division. The Evesham Divisions are politically selected by Evesham representation whilst the Harvington division is selected by Redditch. The response tabled suggests that a large part of the town centre be moved away into the rural division of Harvington, which has little or no Community Connection with the Town of Evesham. Some further 'tinkering' with polling districts between South and North has been suggested to help balance the numbers. My strong suggestion is that this should not be allowed because it will distort the Community Balance in favour of what is already considered inappropriate. It seems that there will need to be a splitting of Polling Districts to assist with the numbers balance but I intend to make further representations at a later stage in the process. This first draft report did not receive unanimous support at Council on 14th September.. On the matter of item B in the methodology, representatives for the Evesham named Divisions will be Evesham people, the Harvington representatives will undoubtedly be Redditch people (quite rightly as the Harvington District ward has now been moved over to the Redditch Parliamentary Constituency. This does not make for Convenient and effective Local Government.

Attached Documents:

None attached