# **HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL**

Joan Walsh Town Clerk





The Review Officer (Reigate and Banstead)
Local Government Boundary Commission for England
14th floor, Millbank Tower
London SW1P 4QP

By Email: <a href="mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk">reviews@lgbce.org.uk</a>

6 April 2018

Dear Sir / Madam

## **LGBCE Consultation - Reigate & Banstead Boundary Review**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above LGBCE Consultation on the Reigate & Banstead Boundary Review.

Horley Town Council has given extensive and careful consideration to possible new warding arrangements. Our members have also been in discussion with representatives of Salfords & Sidlow Parish Council (presently a one-member ward) as they would be equally impacted by ward changes in the southern part of the Borough.

We understand from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council that it has been proposed to LGBCE the Council reduce its present complement of 51 members to 45 and for all wards to have 3 Councillors. At present, Horley has 2 three-member wards; and 1 two-member ward.

We are aware that the target number of electors per ward is 7,799, based on LGBCE information on the forecasted number of electors up until 2023. We have also been given a breakdown of electors by road, however, these are current and not future forecasted numbers. We further understand that the proposed new boundaries should avoid breaking up local communities and use natural features, such as, main roads, rivers or streams.

The LGBCE Consultation was reviewed at our Full Council meeting on 3 April 2018, and a number of possible options were discussed. Following deliberations, the Council resolved at the meeting to make the following proposals to LGBCE.

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#### **Proposals on new arding arrangements:**

We request the Boundary Commission to consider:

Horley West Ward (HOW1 & HOW2) to merge with Salfords & Sidlow Ward (Sidlow Ward SAS2). Based on the information made available, the number of electors would be **8508**. We are aware that this total exceeds the target number by 709 electors (8.3%). However, we would suggest consideration be given to moving the boundary of Horley Central Ward (HOC1, HOC2 &HOC3) so that it is bounded by Horley Row and Vicarage Lane, thereby reducing the Horley West Ward by approximately 586 electors, giving that ward a total of **7922**, as detailed below:

SAS2	463
HOW1	5081
HOW2	2964
Transfer to Horley	
Central	-586
TOTAL	7922

Horley Central Ward (HOC1, HOC2 & HOC3) to remain as it is, but with the addition of approximately 586 electors from Horley West (as detailed above), giving a total of **8010**, as detailed below:

TOTAL	8010
West	586
Transfer from Horley	
HOC3	1160
HOC2	4299
HOC1	1965

Horley East Ward (HOE1 & HOE2) ward to merge with Salfords & Sidlow Ward (Salfords Ward SAS1), giving a total of **7949**, as detailed below:

TOTAL	7949
HOE2	1424
HOE1	4577
SAS1	1948

### **Proposals for naming the new wards:**

Having considered suggestions for the naming of the new wards, we would propose the following:

**Horley West & Sidlow** (replacing Horley West and SAS2)

**Horley Central** (unchanged)

Horley East & Salfords (replacing Horley East and SAS1)

#### **Conclusion:**

In summary, we do hope that our proposals will be of assistance and will be given due consideration in formulating your draft recommendations for the new warding arrangements for Reigate & Banstead, for publication in June.

We would also wish to make a final comment that borough ward boundary changes are likely to have an impact on Horley Town Council ward boundaries, both of which have previously been co-terminus. We note in your letter to us of 30 January this year that this Review can recommend changes to the electoral arrangements for parish and town councils, where a parished area is to be divided between wards, so we would ask that this, as well as changes in population growth could be reviewed, so that any changes to town wards can be implemented in time for the May 2019 elections.

Yours faithfully,

Joan Walsh Town Clerk Horley Town Council

