Dear Mr Carlsson-Hyslop

Thank you for your letter of 3 April to David Carter and Monica Fogarty, Joint Managing Directors, inviting responses to the review of Warwick District ward boundaries. The County Council's response is as set out below.

The Warwickshire County Council previously made representations about the warding arrangements for Warwick District Council and urged the Commission to produce a pattern of wards that achieved the highest level of co-terminosity. This was in recognition of the considerable benefits that co-terminosity brings both in terms of efficient and effective local governance and public understanding. It avoids unnecessary duplication of effort and considerably lessens the burden on councillor time as well as reducing confusion for members of the public.

The County Council welcomes the fact that the Commission has followed the general pattern of county divisions in establishing warding arrangements apart from Warwick and the fact that eleven of the proposed wards are co-terminous. It is disappointed that the arrangements for Warwick Saltisford and Aylesford have departed from that pattern particularly as this is inconsistent with the views of the last county electoral review which had followed recommendations of a community governance review.

For example the ward councillors for Warwick Aylesford under the proposed arrangements will need to establish joint working arrangements with both Warwick West and South county councillors as the ward straddles two divisions. Similarly the county councillor for Warwick South division will need to establish working arrangements with five ward councillors in relation to constituency matters as two wards fall within his division.

Therefore the County Council would ask that the Commission considers if a better arrangements may be achieved by continuing the divisional pattern.

Thank you for taking this submission into account.

Yours sincerely

Janet Purcell
Democratic Services Manager
Law and Governance
Resources Directorate
Warwickshire County Council

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