

Kingsley, Paul

From: McCarthy, Kevan [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 February 2016 09:45
To: reviews
Cc: Brockwell, Keith; Burrett, Richard
Subject: Objection to LGBCE proposal for Pound Hill in the boundary review of West Sussex County Council

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Dear Sir/Madam

As the three Crawley Borough Councillors for Pound Hill North, we object in the strongest possible terms to the LGBCE proposal for Pound Hill in the boundary review of West Sussex County Council.

We are experiencing a rapid and sustained growth of population in Pound Hill North due to the building of Forge Wood which is Crawley's newest neighbourhood. This neighbourhood is being built at a steady rate up to 2026 and will be the major part in the growth of the 2,100 new properties in Pound Hill North by 2026 which is recorded in Crawley Borough Council's Local Plan.

We are deeply concerned that the LGBCE have proposed that the Pound Hill Division will be the largest out of all 70 proposed divisions in West Sussex by 2021 at +10% of the County average electorate, with the full knowledge that its population will continue to rapidly grow above this in the years following 2021. This is a wholly unfair and unsustainable position for Pound Hill North and if this proposal is adopted, we envisage much future unhappiness among our residents and indeed future residents of Pound Hill and Forge Wood, when it becomes apparent that their vote and representation will be increasingly worth less than everyone else in Crawley and West Sussex. The draft recommendation from the LGBCE gives no justification as to why our resident's voice is worth less than everyone else in West Sussex.

This is entirely preventable and we strongly support the revised proposal put forward by West Sussex County Council for a Pound Hill division that can accommodate the known future population growth and that does not divide the neighbourhood of Worth.

Unlike the original proposal from WSCC, the revised proposal from WSCC does not see the railway line breeched in Pound Hill North at all and we see no logical reason not to support this proposal which is by far the best and fairest proposal for Pound Hill North as well as for Crawley as a whole, beating the LGBCE proposal on equality of electorate, Borough ward coterminosity and community of interest.

We urge you to adopt the revised WSCC proposed scheme for Crawley and not risk the triggering of an early subsequent boundary review by virtue of Pound Hill reaching +30% above the County average electorate.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Kevan McCarthy
Cllr Keith Brockwell
Cllr Richard Burrett

Kevan McCarthy
Borough Councillor for Pound Hill North



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