



## HAYWARDS HEATH TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, 40 Boltro Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 1BA

Tel 01444 455694 Fax 01444 455075

Web [www.haywardsheath.gov.uk](http://www.haywardsheath.gov.uk) E-mail [town.clerk@haywardsheath.gov.uk](mailto:town.clerk@haywardsheath.gov.uk)

### **The Local Government Boundary Commission for England Via Web**

8<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Dear Sir or Madam,

#### **New Electoral Arrangements for West Sussex County Council**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above consultation, which was considered at a meeting of Full Council dated the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

In noting the proposed changes to the electoral arrangements for Haywards Heath Town Ward and Haywards Heath East Ward for West Sussex County Councillors, commencing during the 2017 Elections and the consequential changes that would affect the Town/District elections in 2019, the Town Council had major concerns in relation to the proposals.

The concerns relate to the recommendations for split boundaries and wards being served by just one ward Councillor. These concerns were on the grounds that a single member ward would cause elector confusion and upset the balance of wards within the Council. Members felt the proposed arrangements would also leave Councillors who work well in groups being individually isolated. The effect of this could be that residents would be under served by virtue of not having multiple Councillors within their ward. There could also be none at all if a Councillor's circumstances were to change or there was an inactive Member.

Split boundaries, both Ward and Parish, were also a concern for continuity and administration purposes and it is suggested that a Fox Hill polling district is created instead so this could be included in the new division.

To this end, Haywards Heath Town Council objects and suggests that the proposals are re-thought. The Town Council hopes that you take these views into consideration and make the necessary changes to avoid confusion and arrangements that would be detrimental to the electorate of Haywards Heath.

**Yours sincerely**

*S. Trice*

**Steven Trice  
Town Clerk**