

Croydon London Borough

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Comment text:

As a local councillor I have had the opportunity to be involved in the submissions process in a number of roles but I wanted to add a personal submission covering one particular area of concern to me. One of the biggest challenges of this boundary review is the provide a workable solution to the significant growth in population we will see in the town centre, most notably in the polling districts FA1 and FA2. Having looked at the council's submission I am concerned about the approach they have taken in this regard. Putting FA1 and FA2 together in a 2 member ward accentuates the significant variance between the current electorate in that area and the expected future electorate and this is the fastest predicted growth area. I would have thought it would make much more sense for this area to be in a 3 member ward to allow for greater initial electorate. Looking at the numbers the town centre ward currently only has 3670 electors. Although this will rise to 8447 by 2022 the next election is in 2018 by which time very few of these new people will be there. It is a part of the process of a boundary review to create a fairer system with equality of voting influence. If in 2018 we have only 4000 electors electing 2 councillors their votes will be worth almost twice as much as everyone else's. While I understand that it is an inevitable part of future projections for there to be some variance this seems highly excessive. If FA1 and FA2 have some additional areas of the town centre added to them that will not undergo such significant growth this undesirable effect can be significantly reduced and I would suggest that this is a better course of action.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded