

Croydon London Borough

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Organisation Name: MORA (Monks Orchard Residents' Association)

Comment text:

Dear Sirs, Submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission regarding the Warding pattern for the London Borough of Croydon on behalf of MORA (Monks Orchard Residents' Association) MORA is an independent and non-political Resident's Association. I write as Chairman on behalf of the Executive Committee and members who live within the area of Shirley as designated within the London Borough of Croydon Council, Croydon Local Plan "places" of Croydon map which it has adopted for planning purposes. We have only recently been made aware of the review of Ward boundaries in Croydon that you are currently undertaking. Having examined your criteria for deciding upon ward boundaries and sizing we would wish to make the following submission for consideration. Warding pattern for the London Borough of Croydon as a whole Whilst we have no specific proposals for the warding pattern for the Borough as a whole, we believe that the overall ward pattern should respect the "places" of Croydon as set out in the Croydon Council places of Croydon map that was drawn up and agreed some time ago and in our opinion represents the various areas, communities and recognised places of Croydon. Ward Pattern for the Shirley area of Croydon The introduction to the Croydon Local Plan defines that Croydon is a borough made up of a series of varied and distinctive neighbourhoods and areas, which are referred to as "Places". Understanding and expressing the character and what makes each "place" special and different enables sensitive planning. Shirley is a distinct "place" as defined in the Croydon Plan as area of Croydon and we believe that the Shirley Ward should reflect the Shirley place area and is defined by the following boundaries. To the East the area is defined by the Borough Boundary with the London Borough of Bromley. Everything to the West of the Borough Boundary is part of Shirley. The western Boundary is defined by Shirley Road and the boundaries of the Shirley Park golf course at the point where it meets Oaks Road at the junction with Coombe Lane. The Northern boundary is defined by and includes the south side of Long Lane (A222). The Southern Boundary is defined by Kent Gate Way to include Addington Village and Bishops Walk but not Gravel Hill or the Roads off of it. The Southern Boundary also includes Coombe Lane from the junction of Shirley Oaks Road to the junction with Oaks Road. We believe that these boundaries reflect the area of Shirley and is readily recognised by those living in the area as being Shirley. This area is clearly too big to have only 3 Councillors but we have not considered in detail how the wards could be split. However, it seems logical to us that using the Wickham Road (A232) as a North/South split for the Wards would be appropriate as the road itself is a physical barrier and also marks the dividing line between two of the largest Residents Associations in the area, MORA (Monks Orchard Residents' Association) and Spring Park Residents' Association.

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