

## Rutherford, Tom

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**From:** Gary Cahalane [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06 October 2019 22:41  
**To:** reviews  
**Subject:** FAO: Review Officer for St Albans City & District Council Review

**Categories:** Blue category

Dear Sir or Madam

My name is Gary Cahalane.

I was the founding Chairman of the St Albans City and District Council's City Neighbourhoods Committee-recognised Residents Association for Charrington Place, and remain on its Executive Committee.

I am writing on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Charrington Place Residents Association.

I am also the founding Neighbourhood Watch Area Coordinator for Charrington Place, and the Deputy Ward Coordinator for St Peters.

Charrington Place sits in the corner of the ABD Polling District of St Peters Ward, and of St Peters Ward as a whole. It consists of:

AL1 3DB - Opus House. 44 dwellings.  
AL1 3FJ - Ellis House. 74 dwellings.  
AL1 3FL - Davy House. 40 dwellings.  
AL1 3FU - Serra House. 61 dwellings.  
AL1 3FY - The Parade, Ellis House. 15 dwellings.  
AL1 3FZ - Barcino House. 63 dwellings.  
AL1 3GW - Nero House. 36 dwellings.  
AL1 3NT - Milan House. 25 dwellings.  
AL1 3GX - Vita House. 20 dwellings.  
AL1 3NX - Roma House. 36 dwellings.

Govia Thameslink, as holder of the franchise for St Albans City Station, control both the Charrington Place approach road down from Victoria Street and the so-called Victoria Street Multi-Storey Car Park at Charrington Place. The approach road is the only road in or out of the 408 residential unit cul de sac that is Charrington Place. We rely on the Multi-Storey Car Park for residential second vehicle parking, residential first vehicle parking for some of the 1 bedroom apartments, and for visitor parking. Service users of the on-site NHS Doctors Surgery and Pharmacy also rely on this multi-storey car park for parking.

As such I deal with Govia Thameslink regarding Charrington Place and the Victoria Street Car Park as both the designated Residents Association liaison and as Area Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator. This includes a pedestrian and cycleway crossing for which I've had signage repositioned, a second pedestrian crossing point for which I've had signage installed, and fire exit signage and lighting and emergency access points in the multi-storey car park itself.

I also deal with Govia Thameslink regarding begging and anti-social behaviour at City Station itself and on Station Way as Deputy Ward Coordinator for Neighbourhood Watch.

When it comes to dealing with Govia Thameslink, who manage Charrington Place, Station Way and a portion of Ridgmont Road, I would not ever want these streets to be split across two separate Wards, leading to different District Councillors for different roads under Govia Thameslink's control. I would likewise never want City Station

itself to be bisected by a Ward boundary as it is currently by a Polling District boundary - that of the railway line itself.

It is already sufficiently challenging with Govia Thameslink's patch sat in a single Ward rather than split across two, notwithstanding the efforts of both the Scrutiny Committee and Rail Consultative Forum at St Albans District Council.

There's an equivalent challenge with policing, in that it's BTP rather than Herts police cover the roads and car parks. Which of the two forces deals with a particular crime in Charrington Place depends on which side of the door of the multi-storey car park the incident occurred on. This can be anything from drug use to arson.

Based on the figures presented to Full Council on Wednesday 20th Feb, if SADC is to remain on Elections By Thirds (EBT) then a reduction in the area covered by St Peters Ward will be required. Given that Charrington Place represents a southeastern Ward boundary, that Charrington Place leads directly straight ahead to Station Way, and that both are controlled by GTR, and that Station Way in turn leads to not just to a northeastern Ward boundary but the park that the adjacent Ward Clarence is named after, I'd have to view a division of the GTR patch across two separate Wards as being a risk.

Please ensure that the combination of Charrington Place, Station Way and Ridgmont Road remain within a single Ward, whatever that Ward may be.

Yours sincerely

Gary Cahalane

