

This submission proposes a new 3 councillor Wanstead Ward, comprising the whole of the current Wanstead Ward minus part of the north-east of the ward but absorbing parts of the current Snaresbrook Ward which are actually part of the Wanstead local area, as in the maps submitted.

It is proposed that a re-drawn Wanstead Ward should have 3 councillors on the basis of the electoral figures, current and projected.

3 councillor wards allow for wider representation of councillors with different interests and expertise and enables a majority view to be taken on any differences of opinion.

The current Wanstead ward is currently divided into 3 polling districts; W1, W2 and W3 but the latter two are not affected by this proposal and all 3 polling districts would remain in Wanstead ward.

However, this proposal adds parts of Snaresbrook ward polling districts SN2 and SN3 into Wanstead ward and transfers part of polling district W1 to Roding ward.

The effect of this proposal would be to increase the size of both Wanstead and Roding wards so that they would both be sufficiently large to be 3 councillor wards, but would reduce Snaresbrook ward to a two councillor ward.

The proposed new Wanstead ward would combine those parts of W1 and SN2 so that the new Wanstead ward boundary would include the whole of the Counties Estate which is part of the Wanstead Grove conservation area.

The advantages of this proposal are:

- It brings together all the properties in the Counties Estate in the Wanstead Grove Conservation Area in one ward.
- The Elmcroft Avenue / Nightingale local community is no longer split and all of this local community becomes part of Roding ward.
- The transfer of some of the properties currently in Wanstead PD W1 increases the size of Roding ward and enables it to remain a 3 Councillor ward. Geographically this boundary is logical with regard to the River Roding and playing fields.
- It would increase Wanstead's community identity. Wanstead residents see themselves as living in a village with the High Street as the focal point. However, the current boundary places all of Wanstead High St in Snaresbrook ward. The current ward boundaries do not respect the geography and feelings of the local community. The local community, currently split between Wanstead and Snaresbrook Wards are closely linked by transport, road networks, schooling, green space, leisure, recreation and the use of community facilities and the high street shopping district. Bringing those parts of the current Snaresbrook Ward suggested in this submission into the proposed new Wanstead Ward would bring the majority of Wanstead High Street and adjacent community into Wanstead ward. At present Wanstead High Street is not in Wanstead ward, but it was prior to the last boundary review in 1999.