

Response to a further limited consultation in the London Borough of Bexley by the Local Government Boundary Commission by the Conservative Group of Councillors in Bexley

This representation is the submission of the Conservative Group of councillors on the London Borough of Bexley, comprising 45 of the present total of 63 councillors, and is in response to the Local Government Boundary Commission's new draft recommendations just in respect of the areas of Barnehurst, Erith, North End, Northumberland Heath and Slade Green. In respect of this further consultation we strongly support these new proposals without any further changes for the following reasons: -

Barnehurst

The proposal for a two-member ward adopts virtually all the recommendations we put forward at the last stage of the consultation, including the small boundary adjustments around Barnehurst Road and Eversley Road. We feel the boundaries now proposed for this ward accurately encompass the community of Barnehurst.

We endorse the new proposal which splits the communities of Barnehurst and North End into different wards as they have very little in common (the previous proposal was to combine them into a three-member ward).

Erith

We support the proposal to trim down the original proposal for Northumberland Heath by taking out the area around the proposed Erith Quarry development and roads immediately to the south of Franks Park around Fraser Road and put them into an expanded Erith Ward. These areas are linked more closely to Erith than Northumberland Heath.

The boundary between the proposed wards of Erith and Northumberland Heath wards follows existing ward boundaries, thereby ensuring that both Christchurch School Erith and the Erith & District Hospital lie just within the Erith Ward, which we also support.

North End and Slade Green

The communities of North End and Slade Green have far more in common in relations to facilities they use and type of housing stock, so we feel there is merit in the two-member ward put forward for this area.

Northumberland Heath

The new proposal for this two-member ward is an improvement on the previous three-member ward of the same name, as it more accurately reflects the community of Northumberland Heath for the reasons described in the Erith section above.

We also support the decision to put most of Bedonwell Road within this ward, a recommendation we put forward at the last stage of the consultation.
