

**Hinds, Alex**

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**From:** Malcolm [malcolmguest@madasafish.com]

**Sent:** 02 July 2012 20:05

**To:** Reviews@

**Subject:** Bromsgrove Ward Review [REDACTED]

Below is a copy of the letter I have just emailed to the local press, expressing my viewpoint on restructuring Bromsgrove. Having single Councillor Wards could put people within such Wards at a great disadvantage, with possibly poor, or virtually no effective representation, as individual Councillors, in my experience of them, vary considerable in competence and ability:-

The Boundary Commission is going for 31 District Councillors in Bromsgrove and the present District Council wants single Councillor Wards; why? The vast majority of Wards within Worcestershire have either two or three Councillors.

When a Ward has only one Councillor, who is found to be inept, difficult to contact, or frequently away, is it fair on their electors to wait for up to four years to get the chance to elect someone else. Our Ward once had a Councillor who was banned from any Council activities for several months, yet we at least had our other Councillor to represent us.

The town area of Bromsgrove contains one third of the Districts population within its present Wards and also has the most proposed development in the District - the largest being along the Perryfields Road, which has a capacity for 1450 new dwellings. This is split 50% between the Wards of Sidemoor and Whitford, which have a combined electorate of 7765, so a single Councillor in a rapidly expanding Ward, could soon be overwhelmed dealing with newcomers problems.

Sharing the workload in larger Wards seems a better solution to me which would more likely maintain a similar Councillor to electorate ratio throughout the District – which previous Boundary Review changes had to bring back differences in Wards numbers that began at less than 5% of the electorate and had grown to over 20%.

The scope the creation of larger Wards gives would also allow communities and their local facilities to be better matched up and larger communities within a Ward would more likely muster more people to

give greater voice to any major concerns, such as any unsuitable large scale developments being proposed by powerful developers. Being well organised gets results – which is why the major political parties stay in control.

Send an email to [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk) or write to the Boundary Commission with your views before the deadline of August 28<sup>th</sup> 2012, while you can make a difference.