

## Ashby, Jonathan

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**From:** Sarah Walker @ WPC [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 March 2017 15:00  
**To:** reviews  
**Subject:** Response to Electoral Review of Surrey Heath - draft recommendations  
**Attachments:** LGBCE response 20-3-17.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Please find attached a letter from Windlesham Parish Council in response to the above named consultation.

Kind regards,

Sarah Walker  
Clerk to the Council  
Windlesham Parish Council  
Tel: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



# Windlesham Parish Council

Sarah Walker  
Clerk to the Council

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Review Officer (Surrey Heath)  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
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London  
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20<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Dear Sirs,

## **ELECTORAL REVIEW OF SURREY HEATH – DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS**

I am writing on behalf of Windlesham Parish Council regarding the proposed changes to Surrey Heath Borough Council's electoral arrangements. My Council has considered the documentation and the three main statutory criteria to which the Boundary Commission must adhere. My Council acknowledges the Boundary Commission proposals to reduce the number of Surrey Heath Borough Councillors from 40 to 34. However, Councillors make the following comments in response to those recommendations that affect our Parish area.

The Commission has suggested a number of changes for 6 rural wards, including Bagshot, Lightwater and Windlesham wards, which make up the wards represented by Windlesham Parish Council. The Parish Council supports Surrey Heath's representations that although the numbers achieve electoral equality, the recommendations do not reflect existing relationships between the wards, local group relationships, doctors' surgeries, church relationships or accepted community boundaries and relationships.

One of the principal recommendations of the Boundary Commission has resulted in the joining of Chobham and Windlesham wards into one ward with 3 borough councillors. My Council is of the opinion that Windlesham and Chobham are two distinctly different communities and that Chobham should remain a standalone ward. It supports Surrey Heath's proposal to amend boundaries between Chobham Ward and the proposed West End/Bisley ward to allow this to happen.

My Council feels that the boundaries of the wards of Bagshot, Lightwater and Windlesham should remain largely unchanged. There is natural affinity between the three villages. They not only share a Parish Council but also a Clinical Commissioning Group and Windlesham

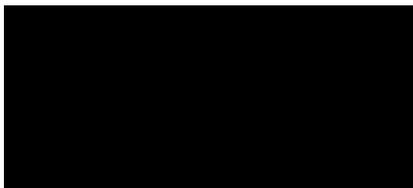
residents have easy road links in to Lightwater which provides a 'local' supermarket and shopping hub for Windlesham village residents.

My Council also supports Surrey Heath's suggestion that Sundew Close and Blackstroud Lane West should move from West End Ward to Lightwater Ward and that overall Lightwater Ward would retain 3 Borough Councillors, Bagshot 2 Borough Councillors and Windlesham 2 Borough Councillors.

With regard to the recommendation for representation on the Parish Council, my Council entirely disagrees with the proposed revised composition of Councillors. They feel any changes made at Borough Council level should not affect the Parish Council. Whilst Councillors are elected to represent their ward, the Parish Council work as a unified body for the good of the whole Parish area – Bagshot, Lightwater and Windlesham combined and as such it makes sense to have equal numbers of Councillors representing each village.

I trust that you will consider my Council's comments ahead of the recommendations being finalised.

Yours faithfully,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Sarah Walker  
Clerk to the Council