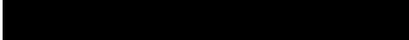


## Croydon London Borough

### Personal Details:

**Name:** Lynne Hale

**E-mail:** 

**Postcode:** 

**Organisation Name:** Resident and Councillor

### Comment text:

Dear Sir/Madam, London Borough of Croydon Local Ward Boundary Submission Please find below my submission to the above review. I live in Sanderstead Ward in Croydon South and have represented that Ward on Croydon Council since 1998. I was born and raised in Selsdon Ward, now known as Selsdon & Ballards Ward, which is immediately adjacent to Sanderstead. I also work in the office of the Croydon South MP so have a broader view of the southern part of our Borough as well. I would like to express my strong support for the proposal submitted by Croydon Conservatives because this is based on the well-recognised 'Places' across our Borough. The whole concept of 'Places' was created a few years ago when the Conservative Party was in control of Croydon. There were regular cross-Party working party meetings which were well attended by councillors from both Labour and Conservative sides and culminated in the creation of 'The Croydon Local Plan' which can be viewed at:

<https://www.croydon.gov.uk/sites/default/files/articles/downloads/localplan-adopted.pdf> I attended these working party meetings and do not recall any opposition to the creation of a 'Places' strategy on which to develop Croydon's Local Plan from anyone. On the contrary, the 16 'Places' which evolved were welcomed with enthusiasm and many hours were spent discussing the size and shape of the 'Places' to ensure best fit with local communities, local geography and 'natural' boundaries. As well as councillors, local residents and businesses were also very involved in the 'Places' development process and there were plenty of opportunities to contribute via the neighbourhood consultations which took place right across the Borough. Indeed the Council was delighted with the fantastic response throughout production, especially to the Issues and Options Initial Report - Imagine Croydon in 2009, Preferred Options which were consulted on in February 2010 and again in September 2010 when there was more information on homes, employment, transport and culture. Within the discussions close attention was paid to the conservation of our heritage, natural and built environments, and the local distinctiveness that makes the 16 Places of Croydon so special. Since it was adopted in 2013 The Croydon Local Plan: Strategic Policies has set the framework for the planning and management of development in the Borough. Since the whole 'Places' concept was so enthusiastically welcomed across the Borough by so many local residents and businesses as well as councillors from both political parties, it would seem to me to be a most appropriate basis on which to now base the new ward boundaries. In comparison the Labour Party/Council submission ward boundary proposals don't make sense. They ignore the 'Places' which they contributed to the creation of and have worked with ever since, they cross natural borders such as railway lines and valleys, main roads and bridges. They have also made up a number of places, such as 'Coombe' and 'Croham Hurst' wards and abolish Fieldway ward which is a well-established, clearly demarcated ward. In supporting the Conservative proposal I will focus on Sanderstead Ward, which is the ward I probably know best. The Conservative proposal respects the 'Place' known as Sanderstead very well and re-unites areas such as the upper Croham area such as current CR6 polling district and also western Selsdon and Ballards (Currently polling district SB2). Residents living in these areas are represented by the very active Sanderstead Residents' Association (SRA) with an almost perfect fit of their 'patch' with the 'Places' based proposal. I actually lived in SB2 for about five years and as families we all sent our children to Ridgeway Primary which is close by and is located in Sanderstead Ward. Quite a number of homes back onto the current Sanderstead Ward boundary such as those along Norfolk Avenue

backing Church Way in Sanderstead and Sanderstead Plantation. Similarly including Sanderstead Station makes perfect logical sense. It is Sanderstead's local station and very is highly used by Sanderstead residents. In contrast, the Council/Labour proposal strongly deviates from the 'Places' Strategy; it splits the Sanderstead 'Place' up completely and it takes in roads where residents would say they lived in Purley. Finally, it bears little resemblance to the 'patch' represented by SRA which has a high membership and a very active Committee, which works closely with the Sanderstead councillors in identifying projects for Community Ward Budget spending right across the 'Sanderstead area. In fact last summer the SRA, All Saints' Church and Sanderstead councillors put on a 'Sanderstead Festival which celebrated music, sport and culture with a full programme of events on 18th June. In the evening there was a Swing Band concert which was sold out. As Sanderstead councillors we are currently working closely with the SRA on installing Christmas lights in the Ward as well as funding works to improve our ponds, supporting local Scout groups with hut maintenance works etc. With regard to the rest of the Conservative proposals, I very much support these, chiefly because they very much incorporate the 'Places' strategy. I like the re-naming of the Coulsdon wards as they are clearly logical and I believe that local residents will be very pleased with them. I know how much the residents at the top of the hill in Coulsdon like to say that they live in Old Coulsdon, they write in their address, as this reflects the history of this 'Place'. With regard to the proposal for Purley and Woodcote, this reflects the area represented by Purley & Woodcote RA which is another active RA in our area and would give the Purley District Centre and its Business Improvement District group a real Town Centre focus. It would seem entirely sensible to include some of the roads like Brighton Road in Purley heading south from the big Purley Tesco store, in Purley rather than Kenley. I also like the proposal for a Riddlesdown and Purley Oaks Ward which matches the 'Places' strategy very well. Many of the properties in Riddlesdown have a CR8 postcode - which is a Purley postcode, as does Riddlesdown Collegiate - the largest school in Croydon - which uses the address Honister Heights, Purley, CR8 1EX. I have to say the Council/Labour proposal appears completely illogical and completely fails to respect Purley as a place. . With regard to Selsdon South & Forestdale I would say that residents who live in Forestdale look to Selsdon for their major shopping location (I certainly did when I lived there) and I like the link between Selsdon Vale and Forestdale. The properties have a similar 'modern' look to them and there is a bus route (the 433) which links the two areas with a regular bus service. I cannot really understand why the Council/Labour proposal feels that uniting Ballards with Selsdon Vale would be a good idea - there seems to be no logic to this at all. I lived on Ballards Estate a few years ago and I would say that I would struggle to find any commonality between the areas in terms of schools and amenities. With regard to the Conservative Group's proposal for South Croydon. This would perfectly match the South Croydon 'Place' in the east and retaining the Waddon boundary in the west would keep both South Croydon and Waddon correctly sized. It would also appropriately have South Croydon Station in it. The Council/Labour proposal seems to be a hotchpotch of left overs, splitting the place of South Croydon between five wards, which would be confusing to residents and as such, unacceptable. And Purley Oaks Station really needs to be in Purley. Overall, much of the Council/Labour proposal fails to respect their own 'Places' strategy, which seems rather strange and I think that the two made up wards of Coombe and Croham Hurst will fail to resonate with residents because they are not places at all. To conclude, I would like to express my strong support for the proposal submitted by Croydon Conservatives because this is based on the well-recognised 'Places' across our Borough, a strategy which had full cross party support and which was shaped and very much supported by local people. I would be grateful if you could take my views into full account.

Yours sincerely, Cllr Lynne Hale

### **Uploaded Documents:**

None Uploaded