

Local resident's submissions to Herefordshire Council electoral review.

This PDF document contains 11 submissions from local residents A – H.

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AndersonC-Herefordshire-Submission-2012-05-06



BatchelorS-Herefordshire...



BlackwellB-Herefordshire...



BlackwellE-Herefordshire...



BourneM-Herefordshire...



ButlerC-Herefordshire...



ClarkD-Herefordshire...



HelmeJ-Herefordshire...



HillN-Herefordshire-Su...



HoganE-Herefordshire...



Howell-ThomasJ-Here...

Lawrence, Arion

From: Reviews@
Sent: 06 May 2012 17:04
To: Reviews@
Subject: Custom Form Submission Received

 - Custom Form Submission Notification

Custom Form Submission Received

Review Editor,

A new custom form submission has been received. The details of the form submission are as follows:

Submission Information

Custom Form: Online submissions form (#183)
Form URL: <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-consultations/online-submissions-form>
Submission ID: 1091
Time of Submission: May 6th 2012 at 4:03pm
IP Address: [REDACTED]

Form Answers

Name: Mrs C Anderson
Address 1: [REDACTED]
Address 2: [REDACTED]
Address 3: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Email Address: [REDACTED]
Area your submission refers to: Herefordshire
Organisation you belong to: member of the public
Your feedback: I write in response to the initial public consultation on the Commission's proposal that Herefordshire Council should be represented by 54 Councillors in future.
I welcome the proposals; they deliver a seven percent saving in the cost of the Council and will not, in my view, impair democratic accountability.

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This communication is from **LGBCE** (<http://www.lgbce.org.uk>) - Sent to **Review Editor**

Lawrence, Arion

From: Hinds, Alex
Sent: 04 May 2012 10:26
To: Lawrence, Arion
Subject: FW: Custom Form Submission Received

Alex Hinds
Review Assistant
Local Government Boundary Commission for England
76-86 Turnmill Street
London
EC1M 5LG
Tel: 020 7664 8534 | Fax: 020 7296 6227
Email: alex.hinds@lgbce.org.uk Web: www.lgbce.org.uk



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From: reviews@lgbce.org.uk [mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk]
Sent: 03 May 2012 20:25
To: Reviews@
Subject: Custom Form Submission Received

 - Custom Form Submission Notification

Custom Form Submission Received

Review Editor,

A new custom form submission has been received. The details of the form submission are as follows:

Submission Information

Custom Form: Online submissions form (#183)
Form URL: <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-consultations/online-submissions-form>
Submission ID: 1081
Time of Submission: May 3rd 2012 at 7:24pm
IP Address: [REDACTED]

Form Answers

Name: Mrs S Batchelor
Address 1: [REDACTED]
Address 2: [REDACTED]
Address 3: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Email Address: [REDACTED]
Area your submission Herefordshire

refers to:

Organisation you
belong to:

member of the public

Your feedback:

I understand that plans are being made for our Local Government Ward of Bircher to be scrapped and merged with a neighbouring ward. I strongly object to this, we have been well served by a most conscientious and hard working Councillor, Coun. Sebastian Bowen, for many years. I doubt that any Councillor could cope adequately with the workload of an increased ward, bearing in mind the geographical area that this will cover. Our Councillor attends every Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall Meeting, and other meetings affecting our community; sometimes having to attend two meetings taking place on the same evening in different villages. It appears that rural communities are to be cast asunder and that Local Government will be the preserve of the City and Town Councillors, leaving a very small minority of rural wards on the periphery of Local Government concerns.

Whilst I realise that cuts have to be made in these straightened times, I do not believe that there can be any saving generated by the abolition/amalgamation of four wards in our scattered communities. The fact that this ward and the other three wards affected all elected Independent Councillors at the last Local elections leads one to question the reasons behind the choice to merge them with neighbouring wards which elected Councillors representing the Leading Party on Herefordshire Council.

This is a severe attack on local representation and should be resisted by all.

Yours sincerely,
Stef Batchelor

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This communication is from **LGBCE** (<http://www.lgbce.org.uk>) - Sent to **Review Editor**

Lawrence, Arion

From: Reviews@
Sent: 07 May 2012 15:11
To: Reviews@
Subject: Custom Form Submission Received

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Custom Form Submission Received

Review Editor,

A new custom form submission has been received. The details of the form submission are as follows:

Submission Information

Custom Form: Online submissions form (#183)
Form URL: <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-consultations/online-submissions-form>
Submission ID: 1096
Time of Submission: May 7th 2012 at 2:10pm
IP Address: [REDACTED]

Form Answers

Name: Mrs Beryl Blackwell
Address 1: [REDACTED]
Address 2: [REDACTED]
Address 3: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Email Address: [REDACTED]
Area your submission refers to: Herefordshire
Organisation you belong to: member of the public
Your feedback: It has come to my notice that proposals exist for my Local Government Ward of Bircher to be abolished and merged with a neighbouring ward. This I strongly object to, as for many years Bircher Ward has been served well by Coun. Sebastian Bowen, marked by his conscientious hard work on behalf of the Ward.

If carried out, Bircher Ward will be short-changed due to the increased load imposed on incoming councillor responsible.

This appears to be an attempt by Leading Party on Herefordshire Council to stifle democracy by the elimination of Independent Councillors. If carried out it severely undermines the principle of local representation.

If cost-saving is the pretext, I do not believe that there can be any saving generated by the abolition/amalgamation of four wards in our scattered communities.

Mrs Beryl Blackwell

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This communication is from **LGBCE** (<http://www.lgbce.org.uk>) - Sent to **Review Editor**

Lawrence, Arion

From: Reviews@
Sent: 07 May 2012 12:22
To: Reviews@
Subject: Custom Form Submission Received

 - Custom Form Submission Notification

Custom Form Submission Received

Review Editor,

A new custom form submission has been received. The details of the form submission are as follows:

Submission Information

Custom Form: Online submissions form (#183)
Form URL: <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-consultations/online-submissions-form>
Submission ID: 1095
Time of Submission: May 7th 2012 at 11:21am
IP Address: [REDACTED]

Form Answers

Name: BLACKWELL
Address 1: [REDACTED]
Address 2: [REDACTED]
Address 3: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Email Address: [REDACTED]
Area your submission refers to: Herefordshire
Organisation you belong to: member of the public
Your feedback: It has come to my notice that proposals exist for my Local Government Ward of Bircher to be amalgamated and subsumed into a neighbouring ward. This I strongly object to, as for many years Bircher Ward has been efficiently served by Coun. Sebastian Bowen, marked by his conscientious hard work on behalf of the Ward.

If carried out, Bircher Ward will be short-changed due to the increased load imposed on incoming councillor responsible.

This appears to be an attempt by Leading Party on Herefordshire Council to stifle democracy by the elimination of Independent Councillors. If carried out it severely undermines the principle of local representation.

If cost-saving is the pretext, I do not believe that there can be any saving generated by the abolition/amalgamation of four wards in our scattered communities.

Edward Blackwell

File upload:

This communication is from **LGBCE** (<http://www.lgbce.org.uk>) - Sent to **Review Editor**

Lawrence, Arion

From: Hinds, Alex
Sent: 04 May 2012 10:25
To: Lawrence, Arion
Subject: FW: Custom Form Submission Received
Herefordshire

Alex Hinds
Review Assistant
Local Government Boundary Commission for England
76-86 Turnmill Street
London
EC1M 5LG
Tel: 020 7664 8534 | Fax: 020 7296 6227
Email: alex.hinds@lgbce.org.uk Web: www.lgbce.org.uk



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From: reviews@lgbce.org.uk [mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk]
Sent: 03 May 2012 17:44
To: Reviews@
Subject: Custom Form Submission Received

 - Custom Form Submission Notification

Custom Form Submission Received

Review Editor,

A new custom form submission has been received. The details of the form submission are as follows:

Submission Information

Custom Form: Online submissions form (#183)
Form URL: <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-consultations/online-submissions-form>
Submission ID: 1079
Time of Submission: May 3rd 2012 at 4:44pm
IP Address: [REDACTED]

Form Answers

Name: Michael Bourne
Address 1: [REDACTED]
Address 2: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Area your submission Herefordshire

refers to:

Organisation you
belong to:

member of the public

Your feedback:

I write in response to the initial public consultation on the Commission's proposal that Herefordshire Council should be represented by 54 Councillors in future.

I welcome the proposals; they deliver a seven percent saving in the cost of the Council and will not, in my view, impair democratic accountability.

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This communication is from **LGBCE** (<http://www.lgbce.org.uk>) - Sent to **Review Editor**

Lawrence, Arion

From: Hinds, Alex
Sent: 03 May 2012 15:02
To: Lawrence, Arion
Subject: FW: Custom Form Submission Received

Alex Hinds
Review Assistant
Local Government Boundary Commission for England
76-86 Turnmill Street
London
EC1M 5LG
Tel: 020 7664 8534 | Fax: 020 7296 6227
Email: alex.hinds@lgbce.org.uk Web: www.lgbce.org.uk



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From: reviews@lgbce.org.uk [mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk]
Sent: 03 May 2012 14:47
To: Reviews@
Subject: Custom Form Submission Received

 - Custom Form Submission Notification

Custom Form Submission Received

Review Editor,

A new custom form submission has been received. The details of the form submission are as follows:

Submission Information

Custom Form: Online submissions form (#183)
Form URL: <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-consultations/online-submissions-form>
Submission ID: 1076
Time of Submission: May 3rd 2012 at 1:46pm
IP Address: [REDACTED]

Form Answers

Name: Clive Butler
Address 1: [REDACTED]
Address 2: [REDACTED]
Address 3: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Email Address: [REDACTED]
Area your submission Herefordshire

refers to:

Organisation you
belong to:

member of the public

Your feedback:

I write in response to the initial public consultation
on the Commissions proposal that Herefordshire Council
should be represented by 54 Councillors in the future.
It will save 7% savings to the council, in the climate
we find ourselves it will be a good thing for all
Regards
Clive Butler

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This communication is from **LGBCE** (<http://www.lgbce.org.uk>) - Sent to **Review Editor**



29 April 2012

Review Officer (Herefordshire)
LGBCE, Layden House, 76-86 Turnmill Street, London EC1M 5LG

ELECTORAL REVIEW of HEREFORDSHIRE

Herefordshire has adopted cabinet government, scrapped many committees, hived off many services to external agencies, and is expected to make further substantial cuts in services. There seems every reason to reduce the number of councillors by a significant amount to say 41 or 45 from the present 58 members, particularly since parish and town councils are set to make much greater use of their new powers.

However the Commission's review is conditioned by the requirement to ensure that wards are within a 10% tolerance of the county-wide average number of voters. This will be difficult to achieve given the geography of this rural county. The river Wye is an obstacle with only two free bridges on the stretch between the western border and Hereford city, and only two between Hereford and Ross. Many of the parishes are considered too small to have their own councils and have opted to elect group parish councils. These groupings have been in place for many years and often reflect strong communities of interest. Yet several county electoral wards cut across these combinations to the disadvantage of proper representation and liaison.

I would have preferred a smaller streamlined council. But it is difficult to move the component parts of the electoral 'jigsaw' to achieve a 48 or 51 member council but it is just about possible for 54 members. Practicality rather than principle therefore is the only reason I would support the County Council's bid for a 54 member solution. Indeed it does appear that the Council, or at least the Council's cabinet members, have already produced a detailed scheme for a 54 member council though this has not been made public. A council of 39 or 41 members would fit the Commission's criteria equally well but it may be thought too small for a rural county and for the range of democratic processes required even by cabinet government.

If the Commission does decide to proceed with a 54 member solution I would wish to see this achieved through single member wards, none of which should cut through the ties of the grouped parish councils

Yours faithfully

David M Clark

	<i>voters 2018</i>	<i>39 members</i>	<i>41 members</i>	<i>45 member</i>	<i>48 members</i>	<i>51 members</i>	<i>54 members</i>
hereford city	40831	10.8	11.3	12.4	13	14	14.89
<i>south of river</i>	<i>11891</i>	<i>3.1</i>	<i>3.3</i>	<i>3.6</i>	<i>3.9</i>	<i>4.1</i>	<i>4.3</i>
4 other towns	28782	7.6	8	8.7	10	10	10
rural parishes	78442	20.7	22	23.8	25	27	29
total	148055	148055	148055	148055	148055	148055	148055
<i>quota of voters per member</i>		<i>3796</i>	<i>3611</i>	<i>3290</i>	<i>3084</i>	<i>2903</i>	<i>2742</i>
<i>4 towns</i>							
Bromyard	3647	1	1	1.11	1.18	1.26	1.33
Ledbury	7416	1.96	2.05	2.25	2.4	2.555	2.7
Leominster	9880	2.6	2.74	3	3.2	3.4	3.6
Ross	7839	2.07	2.17	2.38	2.54	2.7	2.86

Lawrence, Arion

From: Joanna Helme [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 May 2012 08:52
To: Reviews@
Cc: JI ROBERTSON
Subject: ward boundary changes in Herefordshire

I am writing about the proposed ward boundary reviews for Herefordshire.

I feel very strongly that the work done by councillors at local level is extremely important and can have a huge impact on the everyday lives of ordinary people in dealing with their concerns, that are not often addressed at higher levels of government.

I know our own councillor works extremely hard for her constituents, who already cover a wide area. Extending this area by changing the boundaries would make the workload of a councillor representing our ward completely unreasonable, if they are going to be able to do a good job and truly represent citizens in this important layer of the democratic process.

The first draft map produced by Herefordshire Council when preparing their submission to the Boundary Commission suggests 54 councillors instead of 58. I find it extremely worrying that the 4 councillors'

wards threatened by the proposed boundary changes are all seats currently held by independent councillors, whose concerns for local people come before party politics.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



Review Officer (Herefordshire)
Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Layden House
76-86 Turnmill Street
London
EC1M 5LG

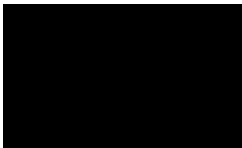
Dear Sir

Electoral Review of Herefordshire

I write in response to the initial public consultation on the Commission's proposal that Herefordshire Council should be represented by 54 Councillors in future.

I welcome the proposals; they deliver a seven percent saving in the cost of the Council and will not, in my view, impair democratic accountability.

Yours faithfully



Lawrence, Arion

From: Gregory, Eleanor
Sent: 02 April 2012 17:24
To: Lawrence, Arion
Subject: FW: Herefordshire Council Size Review

From: Edd Hogan [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 April 2012 14:40
To: Reviews@
Subject: Herefordshire Council Size Review

Please find below my comments on the future shape/size of Herefordshire Council, given as part of the LGBCE Consultation process:

- 1) Background: Herefordshire's population numbers and main population centres have changed significantly since the current Council size and form was established. Reviewing it will allow the size of the wards, and their representative councillors, to be brought up to date.
- 2) Scope: Using population data from the most recent census (2011) will allow accurate and up to date population data to be used in formulating new or revised ward boundaries. If 2011 census data is not yet available from ONS, then the review analysis and recommendations should be halted until this raw data becomes available.
- 3) Councillor numbers: The existing number of councillors is 54 and the proposal is to reduce this number to 50. This is only a small reduction, and for the work, effort and cost involved in the review and reduction, this does not represent value for money. The review should be seeking to reduce the number of councillors in greater numbers in order to justify the process and deliver value for money for the people of the county.
- 4) Rural Wards: These are made up of hamlets and villages should be grouped, wherever possible, into local geographical wards where the population numbers (on the (overall population, NOT electoral roll numbers) are roughly equal (to within a 10% margin).
- 5) Town/City Wards: Hereford, Ross, Leominster, Ledbury and Bromyard represent the towns and cities of Herefordshire. Large villages such as Kington and Colwall are not in this category. Towns (and the city) have seen the most marked changes over the course of the past 10 years in terms of population growth and changing social dynamics. As such, these wards should be looked at very closely to ensure that an appropriate number of councillors represent these population centres. Ledbury is a larger town now than at any other time in its history. The same can be said for Ross. I would like to see these two towns have a greater role in the running of the county.
- 6) Localism Act, 2011: this Act will play an increasingly significant role in determining the future shape of local areas. It is important the local communities are properly educated and empowered to use this act in shaping the physical environment around them over the coming years and this is something that should be borne in mind through this review, e.g. local parish and town councils being given greater powers in areas such as planning and economic development.

I hope these comments are useful in the scheme of things, and that they are pertinent to the ongoing review. I am happy to be contacted in the future as part of the review.

Kind regards

03/04/2012

Edward Hogan

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Lawrence, Arion

From: Reviews@
Sent: 07 May 2012 10:42
To: Reviews@
Subject: Custom Form Submission Received


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Custom Form Submission Received


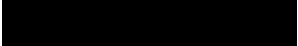



Review Editor,

A new custom form submission has been received. The details of the form submission are as follows:

Submission Information

Custom Form: Online submissions form (#183)
Form URL: <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-consultations/online-submissions-form>
Submission ID: 1094
Time of Submission: May 7th 2012 at 9:41am
IP Address: 

Form Answers

Name: Jeremy Howell-Thomas
Address 1: 
Address 2: 
Address 3: 
Postcode: 
Email Address: 
Area your submission refers to: Herefordshire
Organisation you belong to: resident/community organisation
Your feedback: I do not wish independent councillors to be done away with. Our independent councillor has given us brilliant service over the last few years and I wish that to continue.

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This communication is from **LGBCE** (<http://www.lgbce.org.uk>) - Sent to **Review Editor**