

Pascoe, Mark

From: Fuller, Heather
Sent: 28 January 2016 09:26
To: Pascoe, Mark
Subject: FW: Harrogate Borough Council [HBC]

From: David Rhodes [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 January 2016 09:07
To: reviews <reviews@lgbce.org.uk>
Subject: Harrogate Borough Council [HBC]

Dear Sir / Madam

Consultation on new boundaries 26.1.16 - 4.4.16 HBC

I have tried to complete your LGBCE consultation document on potential boundaries at Harrogate but found it rather complicated and limited in that the emphasis seems to be only about the HBC proposals for 40 wards and their boundaries and not about the acute reduction from 54 to only 40 wards.

My primary concerns are that:

- In 2002 the number of Councillors/Wards was reduced from 59 to 54 and now the proposal is down to 40 a reduction of 19 [30%] in just over 10 years
- At present HBC Councillors appear to have on average 2,229 voters in their ward. The developing national upper figure is around 2718 but the proposal is for the 40 councillors to care for 3223 voters. Why should our Councillors have to have approximately 500 more voters than other Councils?

Might I suggest that the alternative proposal for a reduction from 54 to 48 Councillors caring for on average 2685 voters be adopted and alternative boundary proposals submitted for 48 wards.

Please ensure that this email is directed to the relevant parts of your consultation and placed on record

Finally in view of the acute Government cuts at both District and County level it would seem much more logical for you to be consulting over the potential of a Unitary Authority and appropriate Unitary Wards to remove the acute duplication at present in our two tier system.

Yours sincerely

David T. Rhodes

PS In your acknowledgement/response might you also direct me to any method of setting in motion a Unitary Consultation for NYCC etc [What is the process?]