

## Malvern Hills District Council

### Personal Details:

**Name:** Barbara Jones-Williams

**E-mail:**

**Postcode:**

**Organisation Name:** Malvern Hills District Council

### Comment text:

My Concerns regarding the proposed Martley and Teme Valley Ward.. having been a Rural Martley Ward Member for a good many years I realised the importance of a single member ward in the Rural areas, unlike urban areas we have many parish councils to attend, because of the logistics of the new proposed ward it will consist of 9 Parish Council Groupings with a length of the Ward being approximately 16 miles long.. Several parish councils in the new proposed ward have already expressed concerns, particularly Martley Parish Council wanting to maintain effective local government as this forms a vital democratic link between the District and parish council by having the continuity of a single and regular councillor.. this I wholeheartedly agree.. On the LGBCE site, it states " New wards should - as far as possible - reflect community interest and identities, and boundaries should be identifiable. Consider transport links, community groups and facilities, natural or physical boundaries, parishes and shared interest " this I fully support. There are several parishes that share the same benefice, Martley, Kenswick and Wichenford share a community magazine, Martley and Doddenham shares a Neighbourhood plan, also several villages share primary schools all of which need to be taken in to consideration.. however, it is my be belief that Alfrick or Lulsley would be more aligned to Leigh, Suckley, Rushwick and Leigh Sinton areas.. My conclusion is, because of the vast size of the proposed new Martley and Teme Valley Ward, it would not be beneficial to have two ward members for the reasons given, my experience of being a ward member for nearly 27 years is the close contact between Ward member and their residents is very important, I fully understand the reduced number of members and each should represent roughly the same number of voters, but I do however think more research should be done before making the final decision.

### Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded