

Castle Point Borough Council

Personal Details:

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Organisation Name: Castlepoint Borough Council (Canvey South Ward)

Comment text:

I object to the proposal of going down to 39 councillors, and more so taking the easy option to achieve it by losing Canvey West Ward. The proportions are unfair now with 17 Canvey and 24 Mainland councillors, under the proposed boundary changes the mainland councillor numbers remain the same. There has been a major campaign on Canvey in recent years because residents know that for years we have been unfairly represented, which resulted in the largest petition Castlepoint has ever had. For over 20 years the current councillor numbers gave the mainland an unfair advantage, the current proposal will further reduce the balance to 15 Canvey and 24 Mainland making Canvey even more disadvantaged. The figures are worked out on the number of residents registered to vote; this affects Canvey way more than the mainland as we have the majority of the disadvantaged and elderly (and young) residents who don't register but add considerably to our councillor's workload. Canvey has almost half the population of Castlepoint and as councillors we represent all residents irrespective of if they register to vote or not. The Canvey wards as they stand have way above the quoted figures for residents as so many are not registered voters, as per to maps in the consultation you can see Canvey is far more densely populated than any other part of Castlepoint. Canvey's large population of disadvantaged and elderly led to the highest number of cases and deaths from Covid in Essex. Proposed developments will further increase this problem and have a significant impact on West Ward as it's the ward with the three largest proposed developments. Sandy Bays proposed 800+ dwellings, adds at least 1,600 more residents, in due course the Triangle Estate behind the Dutch Cottage, and Persimmons Dutch Village Estate will both be developed. West Ward even with moderate expectations is close in numbers of wards on the mainland which all have three councillors; these proposed developments will far exceed that. Therefore rather than remove West Ward it needs upgrading to three councillors. Much of the development already in and currently planned over recent years has gone into neighbouring South Ward the proposed changes will add even more burden.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded