

Buckinghamshire Council

Personal Details:

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	

Comment text:

Buckinghamshire is a very large Council area from north to south with many variances in the differing areas. The differences between the North and South of the County are numerous and experienced by myself greatly when I was on the Woman's Institute Executive for Buckinghamshire. The north is far more rural and the south far more built up and akin to London and its suburbs although with beautiful countryside of the Chilterns as well. I would have grave concerns if the numbers of Councillors reduced to less than 120, because I believe it would leave to a democratic deficit for these two differing areas. In such a large area we need to have sufficient Councillors to ensure that the executive are scrutinised effectively and to ensure there are sufficient councillors for the executive and the numerous committees that are inevitable for such a large and varied Council. As a resident I want our elected representatives to have the decision making powers, to represent us and residents views and opinions and for it not to be left to the officers who may not even live in Buckinghamshire. I want my planning representatives to be local and know the local area, I want any licensing members to know the areas they are discussing, I want my Councillors to be available for local meetings such as Parish and other local meetings and you can only truly know the area if you live in it. I want my Councillors to be local leaders and help us residents with whatever we need and to be available locally when needed. In my opinion this will not happen if the numbers are cut to less than 120. I want to make sure that there are sufficient Councillors to hold the Leader to account and scrutinise his decisions. If there are too few it cannot be done effectively. I want my local Councillors to come from all walks of life. To be all different kinds of people so they have life experience in differing areas. If we have too few Councillors it will become the domain of retired and self funding people. In my opinion 120 would provide this much much better than a lesser number. I want the power to be in my elected representatives hands, not in an officers or local businessman's, and I want sufficient Councillors to make sure the work needed for all this is done efficiently and effectively and not glossed over because there are too few Councillors and they dont have the time to do it properly. This is why I think we need 120 members at least.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded