

Southampton City Council

Personal Details:

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Organisation Name:

Comment text:

Having lived in St Denys for 16 years (I moved to Peartree 2 months ago), and in Southampton since 1994, I feel I have a good understanding of the local area particularly around the central and eastern parts of the city. I also work in Advice, Information and Guidance services (I am not representing them as such) which has given me further understanding of the needs of local communities. Firstly, I strongly disagree with moving the boundary between Portswood and Swaythling to Welbeck Avenue. Welbeck and the roads surrounding it are very much part of Highfield, and furthermore the University community. I think this will upset a those who find themselves newly allocated to Swaythling ward. The current boundary on Kitchener makes far more sense here. There is a marked change in the character of the area and the types of residents. The proposed change essentially splits an established community in half, one with a strong sense of community spirit particularly through connection to the university. With regards to the southern boundary of Portswood ward, Avenue Road seems like an arbitrary choice. Either Lodge Road or Gordon Avenue would make more sense, the communities between Lodge Road and Westwood being essentially a self-contained community. There is a high student population here (and renters) so perhaps less important than the Portswood/Swaythling boundary. In the new Bargate South ward, I think it would make more sense to have the eastern boundary along East Park Terrace as far as Houndwell Place. The area around Kingsland certainly feel more connected to the proposed Bevois, particularly the St Mary's area, than the areas to the south of the city centre. St Mary's is a thriving community with a high proportion of BAME residents and I feel it important that these communities don't feel divided. I can see Kingsland estate residents feeling cut off from their neighbours, and lumped in with a lot of modern, expensive flats in the remainder of the Bargate South ward which they will feel no connection to. The proposed Bargate North ward looks largely sensible, except for teh south east corner where the boundary with Bevois cuts straight across Onslow Road. I can't see that suiting anyone frankly - why not just run it down Onslow Road to the roundabout at the top of East Park Terrace? This is a far more natural boundary. I do agree with the general area of this ward elsewhere though, it certainly never made sense for Northlands Road area to be part of Freemantle. The areas grouped together here make sense and the cutoff at Shirley Road and Hill Lane looks right.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded