

Worcester

Personal Details:

Name: Zoe Cookson
Email: [REDACTED]
Postcode: not given
Organisation Name: (Member of the public)

Comment text:

I am responding to the consultation around the proposed boundary changes in Worcester City.

As one of the current Councillors for Rainbow Hill ward, I would like to comment on one of the possible names being considered for the new neighbouring ward that would merge the current Warndon and Gorse Hill wards.

It may seem a trivial point but I don't think that 'Warndon and Hollymount' is a suitable name for the proposed new ward. My rationale is that the use of 'Hollymount' has the potential to create confusion for many residents in Rainbow Hill ward. While I assume Hollymount school will be in the new ward, the road 'Hollymount' from Tunnel Hill (near Highland Road) to opposite the school is in Rainbow Hill ward and one side of the road 'Holly Mount' (from Tunnel Hill down to Tolladine Road) is also in Rainbow Hill.

In my capacity as a resident on the West side of the city, I would also like to question the odd proposal made in the latest consultation document to carve up the existing and established communities in St Johns into separate wards. In response to the first consultation, there was strong cross party consensus that the existing electoral boundaries reflected local communities. However, it appears that a suggestion from a single individual has led the boundary commission to consider an alternative option that would divide these communities and create confusion for local residents. This proposal does not appear to have been 'fact checked' by the boundary commission as it includes inaccurate statements such as the claim that the current arrangements split the St John's district centre: this is not the case. I also find the argument that Grove Farm estate has potential shared interests with Dines Green strange given the very different nature and socio-economic profile of these two communities and the strong links those living on the Dines Green estate have with the 'St Johns village' and the St Johns flats (where many people from the Dines Green estate move to as they age and need smaller accommodation or sheltered housing). In my personal capacity as a resident, I would urge the boundary commission to return to the proposal that was originally consulted upon and which at that time received unanimous support from all Councillors across the city.

Kind regards,

Attached Documents:

None attached