

Shropshire

Personal Details:

Name: Mrs Penny O'Hagan

Email: [REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

Organisation Name: Wem Town Council (Representative of parish/town council)

Comment text:

Related subject: Wem Urban, Wem Rural and Whixall

Wem Town Council

Response to the Boundary Commission's proposals for the current Division of Wem Urban, Wem Rural and Whixall.

Wem Town Council are strongly opposed to the proposal to create two single-Councillor Divisions with one being the majority of Wem Urban and the other Wem Rural, Whixall and a segment of Wem Urban.

The proposals refer to the need for boundaries that "reflect community identities and provide for clear and identifiable boundaries", but creating a Division from the entire rural area plus an area in the SE of Wem Urban satisfies neither of these conditions.

Wem Town is a coherent community as a whole (served by Wem Town Council). The proposed Wem Urban Division could meet the needs of most of the town but those living in the detached SE section of Wem in the rural Division are very much part of the town, not the rural hinterland, but could be largely disenfranchised as most of their services and infrastructure would lie in a different Division.

It is appreciated that creating a Division from the whole of Wem Urban would not be feasible in terms of Electoral numbers but we consider that removing part of the town into a different Division is not logical in terms of community identity.

The proposals conclude that, notwithstanding the suggestion of creating two separate Divisions, "We remain open to the possibility of retaining a two-member division in this area".

Wem Town Council believes that the current Division works effectively in serving the needs of the whole town and rural areas and strongly favours the retention of the present two-member Division.

Attached Documents:

None attached