

# Shropshire

## Personal Details:

**Name:** [REDACTED]  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Postcode:** [REDACTED]  
**Organisation Name:** (Member of the public)

## Comment text:

**Related subject:** Wem

As the former Independent Councillor for Wem of 40 years, I am astounded at the proposals that have been put forward by the Boundary Commission. Wem Urban is already split into the East and West Wards, which the electorate completely ignore and go to the Councillor that they trust will help them. Wem Urban needs the Community Charges on existing homes to provide the services that have been supported financially over many years by Wem Town Council. For example the annual large grant of £20,000 for Wem Town Hall which is run by a charitable Trust with a large volunteer work force, and is used by people from the hinterland as well. There is also the annual support for the Wem Swimming Pool at a cost of £64,300. The Town Council also supports the Youth Provision by allocating £8,000. The latter provides support for the young people who live in and around the town. These three grants are just some of the ways the Town Council provide services for their electorate. It is also very easy to contact the local Councillors.

The present provision of 14 Town Councillors split between two Wards and the two Shropshire Councillors for the Wem Urban, Wem Rural and Whixall divisions works very well and I never found it burdensome or had any complaints from the electorate I represented from 1981-2021. (I was also a North Shropshire District Councillor for Wem Urban from 1983-2021), and as a Unitary Councillor from 2009-2021. I held regular surgeries, posted relevant news on Facebook and kept in touch with the local newspapers and local radio. It is so much easier to communicate with the electorate than when I first became an Independent Councillor in 1981.

It will be very difficult for the electorate to have the boundaries changed just to facilitate numbers for each Councillor. The differences in services offered by Urban and Rural Councils is great and I cannot see how those who are in the Urban Division will appreciate losing their present services and I assume their Council tax will be reduced?

## Attached Documents:

*None attached*