

# Surrey

## Personal Details:

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## Comment text:

It is encouraging to learn that the Local Government Boundary Commission wants to hear what residents and local organisations think about their proposals for a number of significant changes for Elmbridge. The main aims of this exercise - to create boundaries that are appropriate and reflect community ties and identities and to deliver reviews informed by local needs, views and circumstances are laudable. However, this proposal implies that significant discussion and consultation has already taken place between the Commission and the local residents' associations – but wide ranging discussion within the communities indicates that although there is no local evidence to support this claim.

In practice both the Thames Ditton Residents Association and the Long Ditton Residents Association are strongly opposed to this fundamental change, with TDRA not seeing any “community ties” with Molesey. Our Surrey councillor, Nick Darby, who has represented “the Dittons” for six years, is in favour of retaining the status quo.

Over many years Long Ditton and Thames Ditton have together been referred to as “the Dittons”, and of the two Long Ditton has aimed to maintain these links rather than become overwhelmed by the adjacent Greater London suburban sprawl. This integration is evidence on the ground with many shared sports facilities and the Dittons annual Scout Fair, with shared access to our valued Green Belt land and shopping, religious and social facilities.

My family and I arrived in Long Ditton about forty years ago. Offspring moved into Thames Ditton and then developed close links particularly through the excellent school system.

We strongly oppose what appears to be The key proposal for Thames Ditton and Long Ditton, historically and practically operating over time as

brother and sister, to be separated, with Thames Ditton joining Molesey and Long Ditton being linked to Hinchley Wood.

[REDACTED]

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## Attached Documents:

*None attached*