

Boundary Commission proposals for Esher ward

From "Esher" to "Esher & Hersham Riverside"?

Have your say

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England have accepted Elmbridge Borough Council administration's recommendation to reduce local democratic representation **from 60 to 48 Councillors**. The Boundary Commission have confirmed their requirement that there should be 16 wards each represented by 3 Councillors.

As far as the Esher ward is concerned they have recommended that an area of Hersham bounding the north west of the ward be taken in by Esher to form a new ward "Esher and Hersham Riverside" and that one Road, Blair Avenue, be moved into the new ward of Hinchley Wood & Weston Green. The full report can be seen at

<https://drivegogle.com/file/d/0B7DCPGTdFW1vcHNMQIFOTXFGYmc/view?usp=sharing>

The Esher Residents Association accept the draft recommendations of the Boundary Commission although we see no reason why there should be a ward name change.

We are surprised to see that the Conservative Administration do not wish to accept the Local Government Boundary Commission recommendations but are proposing that the whole of Lower Green Area (north of the railway line – some 820 residents) be moved into the new "Hinchley Wood & Weston Green" ward. This is not being opposed by our local Councillors.

The Consultation on the Boundary Commission's draft proposals is now open until 24th August. The Esher Residents Association believe that the draft recommendations of the Boundary Commission for the Esher ward are likely to be the best deal available.

Further details on the process can be found on the Commission's website at

<https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/4438>

Boundary Commission proposals for Esher debated by Elmbridge Council

From Lower Green to “Hinchley Wood & Weston Green”?

Have your say

At the full Council Meeting on the 22nd July the Conservative Administration decided to oppose the Local Government Boundary Commission recommendations for the Esher ward. They have advised the Commission that they want the Lower Green area to be moved into the Hinchley Wood & Weston Green ward.

The Esher Residents Association consider this to be a complete nonsense and support the Boundary Commission proposals. Why add a new area of Hersham to our ward and then kick the Lower Green area, which has been part of our community for as far back as anyone can remember, into the Hinchley Wood & Weston Green ward. The Hinchley Wood & Weston

Green ward would then have one of the greatest number of residents per councillor in Elmbridge. What is the thinking?

At the Council meeting statements were made on both sides of the chamber to the effect that it was now down to residents to decide. (How many residents are even aware of what is going on?). For us these statements appears to mean that if you are a resident of Elmbridge who feels that the Community of Lower Green area should remain in the Esher ward you should make your views known to the Boundary Commission, and show your support for their draft recommendations.

Comments can be made to the Commission by email:-
reviews@lgbce.org.uk

or by post to:-

The Local Government Boundary Commission for
England

14th Floor Milbank Terrace, London SW1P 4QP

Boundary Commission proposals

Why Lower Green should remain part of the

Esher ward.

Have you say.

The Lower Green Area has been part of the Esher ward from the establishment of the Elmbridge Borough Council in the mid 1970's and part of the community long before that.

The whole of the Lower Green Area is within the bounds of the Parish of Christ Church Esher, served by the Parish Church on Esher Green. There are many regular Church goers from the Lower Green area.

The Lower Green Community Centre (Farm Road) was initially funded and established by the Esher Residents Association being built all most entirely with local volunteers. This small hall serves a social club, the Silver and Gold club for older residents and other community activities. Many from Lower Green attend similar activities at King George's Hall and more particularly West End Village Hall, which gives Lower Green a social cohesiveness with the whole of Esher.

The Conservative administration in their submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission of England argued that the railway line formed a natural boundary to the Esher ward. In rejecting this, the Boundary

Commission pointed out that there was a bridge with a road under, which integrates this area with the center of Esher. There is also a pedestrian tunnel under the railway which links Lower Green with Esher Station, Sandown and via More Lane to the Centre of Esher. There are also bus services Kingston, Esher, Lower Green, Kingston.

It is interesting that the administration of the Council should recommend that the area of Hersham to the north west of the existing Esher ward should join the new Esher ward. Incidentally this has been accepted by the Boundary Commission and is part of their draft recommendations. However, the whole of this area of Hersham is to the west of the more natural boundary of the River Mole and has no road links across its border into Esher from the west and only the A244 along the southern edge with the nearest resident being a third to half a mile from the existing Esher ward boundary.

Weston Green Councillors also appear to support the Conservative administration in wanting the Lower Green Area to join the New Hinchley Wood and Weston Green ward. This does seem strange as it involves approximately 820 Lower Green voters moving into the Weston Green ward and creating one of the highest

voter to Councillor ratios in the whole of Elmbridge.
The Esher Residents Association do not understand why the Conservative administration of Elmbridge Borough Council want to move the Lower Green residents from the Esher ward to that of Hinchley Wood and Weston Green ward.

We believe that to maintain social cohesion and an integrated community Lower Green should remain in the Esher ward and that the best way of achieving this is to support the Draft Recommendations of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

You can do this by making you views known by email to:-

reviews@lgbce.org.uk

or by post to:-

Review Officer (Elmbridge),
The Local Government Boundary Commission for
England
14 floor, Milbank Terrace, London SW1P 4QP

However, we do not support the change of name for the proposed new Esher ward recommended by the

Commission, that is "Esher and Hersham Riverside'. We would rather that it remains the "Esher" ward.

Have Your Say – Keep Lower Green in the Esher Ward.