

Burgess Hill Town Council
Community Governance
Review Consultation 1
Responses

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Responses: Local Residents
Submissions

Firstly, I totally support the proposal to include the Northern Arc development into Burgess Hill, but I would suggest that the Northern boundary of the 'East' ward, be made the farm road at Holmbush Cottages and follow that road to where it meets Rocky Lane.

This will create an easily identifiable boundary, and include the entire amenity of the Bedelands Farm Nature reserve, Valebridge Mill pond and associated walking routes. Will also provide for clear demarcation in the event of any future possible extension of the Northern Arc.

I would further suggest that serious consideration be given to the area to east of Valebridge Road, which is currently in Lewes District. This is totally illogical, as all residents of this area, rely on West Sussex/Mid-Sussex/Burgess Hill services, for highways and amenities, while for example, Lewes DC refuse collection vehicles have to detour presumably from the East end of Janes Lane, through into Burgess Hill at Worlds End. Meanwhile Burgess Hill/Mid-Sussex derive no revenue from these properties, nor have any say, in what further develop goes on in the area

I confirm my belief tha the new Northern Arc development should fall under Burgess Hill TC governance and not Ansty & Staplefield. The development will have a direct affect on Burgess Hill residents. The revenue portion from all the additional council tax payment should in my opinion be allocated to BHTC.

I believe that the new northern arc being built on the edge of Burgess Hill should fall into BH town councils boundaries. The new residents will use Burgess Hill facilities, and infrastructure. I see no benefit of the new housing falling into ansty and staplefield parish council boundary.

It would be good for the community if the Northern Arc was affiliated in to Burgess hill council as it would benifit all for the walks and bridal paths therefore having a better impact for the residents

THE IMPACT OF THE BUILDING OF HOUSES TO THE NORTH OF BURGESS HILL CAN BE SEEN VERY CLEARLY FROM ISAACS LANE (A273) AS WELL AS, FOR EXAMPLE, FROM THE TOP OF FORGE WAY. WITH THE REMOVAL OF TREES ON ISAACS LANE AND THE CURRENT ROUNDABOUT MODIFICATIONS WORKS ONGOING AT A273/B2036 THE IMPACT ON BURGESS HILL RESIDENTS' LIVES IS VERY CLEAR AND OBVIOUS.

IT IS ALSO CLEAR THAT THIS IS IN ITS WAY JUST ANOTHER EXTENSION TO BURGESS HILL AS HOUSES BUILT, FOR EXAMPLE, AROUND COULSTOCK ROAD WERE TWO DECADES OR SO AGO.

IT IS A NATURAL EXTENSION TO THE EXISTING TOWN AND INCLUDES THE NEW ALL-THROUGH SCHOOL.

THERE IS NO LAND SPACE BETWEEN EXISTING BURGESS HILL HOUSES AND THE NEW ONES SO THE FEELING OF BOTH EXISTING RESIDENTS AND THOSE IN THE NEW HOUSES/FLATS WILL BE OF BEING PART OF ONE TOWN.

RESIDENTS IN THE NEW HOUSES WILL CLEARLY MAKE USE OF BURGESS HILL FACILITIES (AS WELL AS TO A LESSER EXTENT OTHER NEARBY TOWNS/ VILLAGES) INCLUDING SHOPS, RAIL STATIONS, INDUSTRIAL ESTATE FOR JOBS ETC. THE FACTORS ABOVE LEAD ME TO CONCLUDE THAT IN TERMS OF IDENTITY AND INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY IT WILL BE VERY MUCH A PART OF BURGESS HILL.

IT SEEMS LOGICAL THAT POLITICAL BOUNDARIES SHOULD EXTEND FROM EXISTING BURGESS HILL WARDS, ESPECIALLY AS THE EXTANT POPULATION IN THE NEW AREAS IS NEGLIGIBLE AND THERE WILL BE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL CONNECTION BETWEEN EXISTING AND NEW AREAS. THIS SHOULD NEVERTHELESS BE IN LINE WITH THE ASTON BUSINESS SCHOOL MODEL, AS UPDATED, RE NO. OF COUNCILLORS FOR GIVEN ELECTORATE.

I sincerely doubt whether the Northern Arc development proposals will benefit Burgess Hill or contribute to improved community engagement or cohesion without provision and major investment in support infrastructure. As for better local democracy, the outlying villages still have access to voting processes so, uniting them into one greater authority region hardly seems to make any difference to them or the existing residents of Burgess Hill. The way funding for the delivery of local services is going, increasing the burden on the local authority is, again, hardly of benefit.

This proposal does not, in my view, reflect either the interests or identities within my community.

I understand with present boundaries the Northern Arc will have a large impact on the services and resources provided by Burgess Hill Town Council, yet will come under the jurisdiction of Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council.

I presume funding for amenities and resources would also be awarded to Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council.

I consider this would have a detrimental effect for Burgess Hill residents, and also the new residents of the Northern Arc. By their Village nature, Ansty & Staplefield cannot offer the resources to support such a large community, and by default the burden will fall on Burgess Hill Town.

Moving the boundaries will ensure fair representation, and for all residents affected by this huge new development.

The Burgess Hill Town Council have the responsibility of ensuring efficiently run services and infrastructure, and for instituting measures to attract employment to the new industrial park. Unlike Mid Sussex Council the Burgess Hill Town Councillors have demonstrated that they are very capable in these regards. The electorate dwelling in the new Northern Arc areas deserve to be able to ensure that they can directly engage with their elected representatives not through intermediary bodies.

Including the Northern Arc within the Parish Councils represented in Mid Sussex will dilute and confuse efficient control and representation.

The town's citizens are only too well aware of the poor management control of projects such as the redevelopment of Burgess Hill Town Centre when these fall under the control of Mid Sussex. Contrasting this, Town Council projects have been carried out far more effectively.

We need stronger local representation at Town Council level not a dilution into small Parish Councils.

The new Northern Arc includes about 3500 new homes. This was always felt to be a part of Burgess Hill and certainly the residents of Burgess Hill have put up with considerable disruption thus far (the A2300 new road, and building works to date). To think it could now be seen as part of Ansty and Staplefield makes no sense whatsoever. Burgess Hill town Centre is in urgent need of re construction and would be the most appropriate destination of new residents of Northern Arc properties. Very few are likely to go to Ansty for their shopping!!
Please think again on re setting the boundary and make the right decision for Burgess Hill.

The Northern Arc needs to be included within the boundaries of Burgess Hill as it is Burgess Hill that will feel the significant impact that this development will have from traffic congestion to the strain on services, schools, GP practices and community facilities. Failure to include it within the town will mean that the government funding will be woefully inadequate to support the community which will lead to the area not being able to attract the businesses , employment and resources that the area desperately needs ,

i can not understand the thought process that would make the burgess hill northern arc a part of ansty parish. it is clearly an extension of the northern part of burgess hill hence the name the burgess hill northern arc, if you wanted to make it part of ansty then build it on the southern boundaries of ansty and call it the ansty southern arc. i presume there is another motive behind this to somehow use this as some sort of excuse to stitch up residence of burgess hill and further destroy the town centre and not maintain the roads and facilities.
please apply some common sense and stop knitting yoghurt and we may actually be able to achieve something positive for the town of burgess hill, the governance of this town has been farcical.
people that move to the northern arc will not be using the facilities of ansty they will be going to the the burgess hill charity and coffee shops as ansty dosnt have such a thriving cbd .
there is not one resident of this town that i have spoken to that is not disgusted at the apathy and inability of the powers that be to make something of this town in fact the complete opposite has happened it has been turned from a very poor quality but thriving town centre to a dump.
the people that move to the northern arc will be geographically be burgess hill residence . end of, in my opinion

1) Improve community engagement

Including the Burgess Hill Northern Arc Strategic Housing Development development within the exterior Town Council boundary would improve community engagement. Residents will be part of Burgess Hill.

2) Enhanced Community cohesion

As the Development is an extension of Burgess Hill, and the community would naturally feel part of Burgess Hill (not Ansty or Staplefield). Residents of Ansty and Staplefield may feel swamped by a community forming part of Burgess Hill.

3) Better local democracy

Keep democracy local with local councillors representing local residents of their town or village, not a mixture of the two.

4) More effective and convenient delivery of local services and local government

I cannot think that connecting a section of the community within a large town with two small villages can deliver more effective and convenient delivery of local services and government.

5) Cohesion within the District Council

Cohesion within the District Council could be adversely affected by a divisive boundary setup within the town of Burgess Hill.

Regarding the northern arc project I feel very strongly about which town council this project should come under.

My reasons are as follows

The biggest impact will be upon Burgess Hill, utilities, doctors and schools

The main access will be through Burgess Hill

Does Ansty parish council have the experience of such a large influx of people

What facilities are there in Ansty compared to Burgess Hill

The biggest impact of this massive influx of people will affect the services and facilities of Burgess Hill which Burgess Hill has the experience to deal with amount of people.

Please consider your final decision very carefully as I am unsure why you should consider Ansty in the first place.

Thank you

I see from having read the guidance that indeed the changes certainly is an improvement however one must ensure that more engagement will be forthcoming with cohesion. I have been a resident in B/Hill for some 40 years plus therefore seen the deterioration in of the area which has significantly impacted on the communities here in the town.

I certainly believe that the review is too late when the northern arc has already been approved with the seen building now taking place which means that B/Hill is going to become a 'monstrosity' of a town especially with very little improvements on the infrastructure; these 'so called' improvements, little as they are, is not there for those current local residents therefore with those coming from London, Crawley and Brighton to name a few, probably equating to around 15k extra people within 5 years or so will add to the pressures of the residents.

I believe that our local representatives certainly have had no real engagement or cohesion reflecting possibly their own views rather than residents therefore leaves a 'sour' feeling what guarantees they were given.

As I am retiring next year I have decided to sell up and move away from a town that I certainly enjoyed living which I cannot say I now do; our local councillors believe this is progress which this is not case in my view.

I support the petition to match the Town Council and District Council wards and enclose the Northern Arc development within the Burgess Hill boundary. I also support the petition to increase the number of Town Councillors to 22. In simple terms it is obvious that the increased population of the area will naturally gravitate towards the adjacent existing amenities provided by Burgess Hill Town Council and MSDC within the current town boundary. Therefore it is to these local businesses and services that government or council grants/relief/support based on population should be directed.

The new residents of the Northern Arc which is immediately adjacent to existing Burgess Hill homes and leisure facilities, will want to benefit from being part of the local urban scene/community and by being included within the Burgess Hill Boundary rather some distant small rural parish, will optimise such opportunities for cohesion and engaging in democratic decisions.

I am writing in response to the governance arrangements with regard to the planned Northern Arc boundary considerations.

I feel it is very important that the Northern Arc should be within the Burgess Hill Town Council boundaries. It is essential for the town that the new residents of the Northern Arc can feel part of the existing community thereby if they wish can help to develop and support Burgess Hill going forward.

The new residents will be using what facilities we have in the town and should therefore be part of it and feel that they can have a say.

It will be good to welcome them to the town and encourage them to become involved.

Too often Burgess Hill has been overlooked and it's time the town is recognised. The residents have had to cope and are coping with the on going development and should now receive some benefit from the disruption.

I fear by not including the Northern Arc within the boundaries of Burgess Hill it will cause a "them and us" situation which is far from ideal. It is important that in these troubled times that we are inclusive rather than have the Northern Arc appear to be sidelined. I hope that when making the decision common sense and fairness will prevail.

With the continued enlargement of Burgess Hill, it is essential that we continue to ensure appropriate community engagement and enhanced community cohesion by ensuring that we have the correct numbers of Town Councillors to represent our views and opinions.

I am therefore in total agreement that the Town Council wards are matched with the District Council wards and the number of Town Councillors are increased to 22.

The Burgess Hill Northern Arc Development will be an integral part of Burgess Hill. All the pre-publicity for the development and associated requests for planning permission have described this as the Burgess Hill Northern Arc, not the Cuckfield Southern Arc, or the Ansty and Staplefield Southern Arc.

The layout of The Northern Arc makes it clear that it is part of Burgess Hill. Roads and services link it to the town, and occupiers of the new homes will consider themselves to be residents of Burgess Hill.

In essence, the Northern Arc development extends the boundary of Burgess Hill. The current proposals envisage extending the Town Council Wards to encompass the Northern Arc. It is therefore logical to make the boundaries of the District Council Wards congruent with those of the Town Council Wards. The benefits of this are:

* Improved community engagement: by simplifying the situation for residents and avoiding potential confusion from different boundaries and representatives.

* Enhanced community cohesion: The Cuckfield Ward is predominantly rural, so many of the issues facing that community will be very different to those in the town of Burgess Hill, and the residents of the Northern Arc will naturally feel more aligned with the town.

* Better local democracy: because the Town and District Councillors in Burgess Hill will be able to focus on Town matters, rather than have Cuckfield District Councillors trying to represent the Northern Arc as well as their rural communities.

* More effective and convenient delivery of local services and government: derive from the points above, with consequent reduction in travel and other expenses.

I appreciate that there would need to be changes to the numbers of councillors in the affected Town and Districts as a result of the alignment proposed above, but I am content to leave the calculation of these numbers to the appropriate authorities, providing the principle of aligning the boundaries is achieved.

It is not logical to claim that the huge new development of the Northern Arc is not part of Burgess Hill and thus the town is unable to benefit from any money to be put into the town's development and upgrade and improve social cohesion and community engagement.

Clearly the large number of people moving into the development will regard Burgess Hill as their nearest place for shops, schools, transport, entertainment, Doctors, Dentists and everything else associated with day to day living. The areas of Ansty and Staplefield do not have these facilities.

It is for these reasons that I feel strongly that the boundary should be redrawn and the number of Town Councillors increase to balance and simplify matters for all residents and newcomers.

1 Throughout the new development has been known and referred to as the Burgess Hill Northern Arc

2 The new dual carriageway and the current roundabout roadworks are for the benefit of both Burgess Hill residents and the people of the new development

3 The former councillors removed the Martlets Hall and are replacing it with the Beehive. The new residents will be using this building (shows, pantomimes, slimming clubs, blood donations, Covid vaccinations etc) and should therefore contribute towards the new building costs ie. the £4.8 million loan taken out by the council (no monies received from New River towards the cost of the community and arts centre)

4 The new residents will be using the facilities in Burgess Hill ie. shops, supermarkets, The Triangle, Petrol stations, Clubs (U3A, scouts etc), churches, food banks. They will not be able to access any of these facilities in either Ansty or Staplefield.

5 Should this new development be under the orbit of Ansty and Staplefield it may create a them and us mentality between the two communities when they are using (for instance) The Triangle ie. will they be charged extra as they have not paid towards its upkeep in their council tax

6 Is the new development going to be known as Burgess Hill, Ansty or will it be given a new name ie. becoming a New Town

7 The new houses and the bus route into Maple Drive should bring the two communities together and therefore their council tax should be paid to Burgess Hill and they should be called Burgess Hill

8 Horsham District council are building a new Northern Arc. I haven't heard of this being called Rusper

We do not need an extension to Burgess Hill we cannot cope with all the new developments which have and are occurring around the town .

Before we get bigger how about getting a town back eg shops cleaning the highways and byeways mowing grass and cleaning up afterwards pot holes doctors surgeries schools for all these new houses road sweepers tax is paid but where is it used to benefit the residents .

Soon it will be Burgess Heath and Haywards Hill I do feel we are the poor relations in this area when you look at Haywards Heath.

For goodness sake stop trying to make things worse and improve the situation if you are encouraging people to buy new houses and move to the area

REDACTED

With the northern arc development potentially being governed by a smaller parish council would cause issues with the following :

- Splitting the town of Burgess Hill into 2
- Loss of local understanding what's needed for Burgess Hill
- Conflict of interests of what Burgess Hill offers and what the new development requires and need
- Confusion with boundaries - example Valebridge road -West Sussex /Mid Sussex council -roads to the east East Sussex- issue last week with WSFB visiting Medway Gardens to find out it was in East Sussex
- Due to the current size of Ansty and Staplefield Parish they do not have a clear view on the housing development issues Burgess Hill have due to volume and spread of current and planned sites
- which schools would people send their children to Burgess Hill or Cuckfield and are there enough spaces
- The development site is referred to the Burgess Hill Northern ARC not the Ansty Staplefield Arc

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I feel that the northern Arc should be considered as part of Burgess Hill as they will be making use of all our facilities

If I understand the proposal correctly it is to move the boundary of Burgess Hill Town Council to the north of the town to the edge of the proposed northern arc, reducing the scope of Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council accordingly.

The proposal seems to me to be logical for the following reasons;

- the northern arc development is an extension of Burgess Hill, not of Ansty.
- as such it is reasonable that the development of the Northern arc is overseen by Burgess Hill town Council and it's future residents have representation through the town council.
- it would seem to make little sense for Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council to have any governance over what is effectively part of Burgess Hill and the residents within the new boundary will surely feel better represented through Burgess Hill.
- Ansty and Staplefield residents and Parish Council have more in common rural villages and Cuckfield rather than part of a large town.

Yours,

REDACTED

I firmly believe that the Northern Arc development is part of Burgess Hill. The people that will eventually live in that development will be using the infrastructure of Burgess Hill far more than the tiny parish of Ansty.

To consider the Northern Arc not part of Burgess Hill when it is clearly directly adjacent to it seems like madness. The people there will no doubt also consider themselves part of our town and will want to see the regeneration of the area. They will be active users of the facilities, such the Triangle and Martlets, as well as the roads, all of which need considerable investment to keep up with the influx of these people. We do not want to end up in a 'them and

us' situation with the future residents of the Northern Arc, but the plan to have them in the parish of Ansty will do just that.

We want a town to be proud of, and not just have green fields ploughed over for endless housing with not infrastructure investment. The only logical, clear way of achieving that is to include the Northern Arc in Burgess Hill.

No doubt the people living in the Northern Arc will want to vote in their local elections to improve the town of Burgess Hill as it will be their nearest major centre. To leave them out of the discussions from our town, when they are very clearly going to be in the town is undemocratic.

In all honesty when I heard that the Northern Arc was going to be considered not part of Burgess Hill I thought it was a joke, or a devious ploy to keep adding additional housing to greenfield sites without having to include the Northern Arc numbers. The Northern Arc is in Burgess Hill. If you spend more than 10 minutes in our town anyone would realise that.

I am in full support of the proposals to re-align the Northern Arc area to be totally aligned to the town boundary of Burgess Hill, and therefore the same area should be a ward of the Burgess Hill town council and also a designated ward of the Burgess Hill area within Mid-Sussex council. I do not understand any argument that this should not proceed as planned and I do not agree that this boundary should remain unchanged and that the Northern Arc should be aligned to an Ansty ward.

This is for the following reasons:

- 1) The development was promoted to local residents as part of planning permission as an improvement to Burgess Hill and therefore is clearly a part of Burgess Hill in both geography and planning.
- 2) All residents of the Northern Arc will use Burgess Hill town facilities more than any in Ansty ward as their local facilities. As such council tax and charges should come directly to Burgess Hill town council where appropriate and be designated as a percentage of Mid Sussex monies to Burgess Hill as well.
- 3) The boundary change has already in effect been agreed and so to reverse the decision at this late stage is not acceptable.
- 4) Historical boundaries are exactly that, historical, and current boundaries are no reason not to amend them for the benefit of the community.

I believe strongly that the Town Council boundary should be drawn so that the Northern Arc Strategic Housing Developments are situated within Burgess Hill Town Council rather than Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council.

It seems self-evident that residents of the Northern Arc developments will be most likely to regard themselves as living within Burgess Hill, with which the developments are contiguous, rather than Ansty which is some considerable distance away. The Northern Arc is universally regarded as an expansion of Burgess Hill (rather than of Ansty & Staplefield). It is most likely to be viewed as such by visitors to the area or anyone viewing maps or road atlases.

In addition, residents are most likely to use Burgess Hill for local shopping and other facilities, including healthcare, education and leisure facilities. As such, it seems entirely logical that the Town Council should be able to make decisions relevant to the Northern Arc developments, and that the residents should where appropriate contribute financially to the Town Council.

The Northern Arc should therefore constitute one or more constituencies of Burgess Hill, with the right to electoral representation on the Town Council.

I agree with the petition that the Town Council wards should be matched with the District Council wards to simplify matters for electors, and that the number of Town Councillors should be increased accordingly.

Burgess Hill has had several new housing estates added in recent years. Church Croft(Persimmons) I think we are on Phase 4, Croudace about the same, Crayfern all around Kingsway. About 1200 houses. Bloor development Manor Road, The Northern Arc alongside the A2300. Valebridge Road, & Folders Lane.

The infrastructure has not been put in place for all these additional residents. Doctors are becoming really busy. We were promised a town redevelopment. Local small businesses were asked to end their leases to make way for the new large shops/cinemas promised.

Nothing has happened, the estates continue to go up, as Londoners move to Sussex. They can reduce their mortgages for properties the same size here as their jobs become hybrid. All we have is a ghost town, the strong community that existed has been destroyed.

I am hoping that with a boundaries review, it will show the actual size that Burgess Hill has become. I understand that with a review of the boundary it will attract more funds for our council. This should be ploughed into making the town fit for the residents, to attract a growing economy, stronger community, more services and allowing residents to be proud of where they live.

People occupying the new homes in the Northern Arc Housing Development will be part of the geography of Burgess Hill. They will access amenities within the already insufficient Burgess Hill infrastructure. St. Paul's Catholic College, The Triangle Leisure Centre and Burgess Hill Golf club being immediately accessible. The town centre is only two miles away and Burgess Hill Football Club, Sheddingdean Community Primary School and parade of shops/community centre are all immediately accessible to the Northern Arc. There is a large GP practice next to St. Andrews cricket club on Leylands Road, these are all major amenities in Burgess Hill the new residents will access. There is no acceptable common sense reason why this area should not be part of the Dunstall and Leylands Wards of Burgess Hill. These residents are not going to access amenities in Ansty, there are none, except for a petrol station and a cricket club and why would they associate themselves with Staplefield? If they are new to the area they would naturally migrate towards accessing amenities in Burgess Hill - we have two railway stations equa distance from the Northern Arc. This new development without doubt is part of the Burgess Hill Community.

I fail to understand why Burgess Hill Town Council require more councillors, adding further cost to the tax payer, before the Northern Arc Strategic Housing Development is complete and populated accordingly!

I can agree that the boundary should be reviewed, with a recommendation for addition local government representation, but deferred for implementation until a significant (greater than 50%) number of the houses are occupied.

I further consider the need for better value to the tax payer by a deferred / conditional implementation.

The Northern Arc should be brought into Burgess Hill. The new residents of the Northern Arc will be welcomed into Burgess Hill and to use the facilities of the town including all services. With approximately 3,500 new homes within the Northern Arc it makes sense for them to be included within Burgess Hill which has the infrastructure to support them. It cannot be correct for them to be included elsewhere when they will obviously be using the facilities provided by Burgess Hill.

Further to your notice I would put to you that a development of this size as is the Northern Arc, should be made part of the adjoining town, Burgess Hill and the equalizing of council members with Haywards Heath is an essential part of balanced governance.

As the development of such a large area between the two towns, but adjoining Burgess Hill it would fall naturally that its governance should be also joined to that council.

The increase to 22 councillors is an obviously correct choice.

REDACTED

I moved to Burgess Hill in 2019 in the understanding that the town centre was going to undergo improvements. I would hope that the proposals will be a positive outcome for the residents of Burgess Hill and make this a better

place to live, whereas should Burgess Hill lose Northern Arc residents to District, the loss of finance will have a disastrous effect on the future of my 'new' town.

The Northern exterior boundary of Burgess Hill should include all dwellings, schools, nurseries, doctors and community facilities that will form the Northern Arc. The Northern Arc development has always been an implied part of Burgess Hill (Even in the name Northern) and I was surprised to find out recently that there was a possibility that the land could be controlled by the rural Ansty and Staplefield council.

In my opinion, Burgess Hill should be the area that supports the Northern Arc in terms of shops (ha ha), supermarkets, rail and bus travel, leisure centres, sports, gyms, cinema and clubs and societies. The Town should therefore include the Northern Arc as part of its infrastructure as it will be the "go to" destination of most NA residents. Ansty and Staplefield do not have the facilities as described due to their rurality.

This inclusion would ensure more effective and convenient delivery of the local services mentioned and encourage better local government. Communication and democracy, initially at Town Council level.

Including the 3500 properties and facilities of the Northern Arc within Burgess Hill must be in the long term interest of the urban community rather than it become included in a rural area such as Ansty and Staplefield. D

I am asking - as a resident of Burgess Hill - that the town of Burgess Hill include the Northern Arc development and match the Town Council Wards with the District Council Wards.

Re-drawing the boundaries will create a community within Burgess Hill that is inclusive. The Northern Arc is already part of Burgess Hill by nature and being within a different district will create a divide in community and services.

Re-drawing the boundaries and the wards will unite Burgess Hill and produce a more democratic environment with no confusion as to what is within the town's interest. Having different areas, will have a negative effect as all decisions will be made twice and could result in differing standards between areas.

The key to a thriving community is the ability of the local government to deliver services competently and standardised over the town.

Burgess Hill thinks the Northern Arc is part of its town. It's a positive growth within the town and an extension of the community. This being governed by another council will divide - we want to see our town flourish.

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Burgess Hill Northern Arc, should be as described, included within Burgess Hill and not Ansty and Staplefield. It is common sense that the new residents in the Northern Arc will be using Burgess Hill town facilities, ranging from schools, doctors surgeries, parking, shops, entertainment and the general infrastructure available within Burgess Hill, including rail links to London. There is nothing for them in Ansty apart from an expensive cricket pavillion. As a consequence Burgess Hill should receive its fair share of council tax money to fund these services. This will help to improve community engagement by welcoming our new residents to Burgess Hill, who will also be contributing

their fair share of money to the community and the cost of maintaining the infrastructure. To have more housing forced on Burgess Hill without the compensation of increased funding from new local residents contributing local taxes, will fundamentally undermine the cohesion of the community.

Including Ansty and Staplefield will improve community engagement as they will be linked to Burgess Hill council and able to benefit from this new wider connection. This will enhance cohesion via one form of connection and communication and these areas will receive improved consideration. Local services will have a wider remit and able to serve the whole area better and more economically.

I do not support extending the boundary to include Northern Arc development. As this is a new build development it is likely the council will not adopt any of the roads, therefore meaning residents need to pay Council Tax AND a Annual Service Charge.

As on the Kings Weld estate, this is the case. I see the adoption of Northern Arc as a money grab opportunity by the council as opposed to a way to improve community engagement, enhance community cohesion, improve local democracy, or delivery of local services.

When new house developments are built the council should adopt ALL public areas and now rely on residents to foot an extra bill on top of council tax!.

It seems to me natural that Town Council ward and District Council ward should match. Even if I am not sure how that could enhanced community cohesion, that will definitely drive towards improved community engagement. As for the identities of the community, I can assure you that, not being British born, unified and matched Governance systems do help a lot in keeping a healthy relationship between any elector and the wards he/she is in. Thank you.

In 2011 a plan for future housing growth in Burgess Hill was prepared and adopted into the District Plan by Mid Sussex District Council. This plan included around 3500 homes on what is known as the Northern Arc. The people who will live there will expect to have a say in how Burgess Hill serves them. This is only possible if it is fully integrated into Burgess Hill.

The Northern Arc websise (on www.burgesshill.net) clearly shows the Northern Arc as fully integrated with the existing boundaries of Burgess Hill so that it forms one coherent whole. There is a whole project in the Masterplan that links the Northern Arc to the town.

The Northern Arc is obviously an extension of Burgess Hill's existing built-up area. The Northern Arc development is always referred to as a strategic growth area for Burgess Hill. Given the size of the development (and the Burgess Hill area is taking a higher proportion of new homes than any other part of the District) it also has significant infrastructure implications for Burgess Hill as a whole.

We already have a border problem at the northern end of Valebridge Road where where archaic boundaries mean that properties lie in another county, despite obviously being within the Burgess Hill conurbation. This can have significant impacts when the emergency services are needed. Please don't do it again. Indeed, shouldn't this be looked at too?

It is also most important to balance the number of electors per Councillor in the town's wards as proposed by the town Council.

The whole of the northern Arc Development should now come under the management of the Burgess Hill Town Council. It is clearly part of the town whereas Ansty and Staplefield are some distance away and the development is not attached to those villages. It is attached to the town of Burgess Hill

Furthermore the income generated through income from the developments and government should go towards the infrastructure and running costs of B Hill.

I believe that we (west sussex, should be providing for or OWN community (BHTC - MSDC)

just as ansty should be from THEIRS (EGTC)

It is unfair to take huge chunks from OUR funds, when we are in desperate need for them ourselves

I also believe that ansty should stay in their area (territory) where it has always been

Will most residents of the Northern Arc select Burgess or Ansty and Staplefield for the following:

1. Send their children to school - Burgess Hill
2. Shop - Burgess Hill
3. Fitness - Burgess Hill
4. Eat - Burgess Hill

Clearly community engagement, cohesion, local democracy and delivery of services are far better served by the Northern Arc being part of Burgess Hill where many Northern Arc residents will work, shop, school and spend leisure time. The only time these residents are likely to visit Ansty and Staplefield is to visit the pub or buy petrol.

It seems highly unlikely that the Northern Arc community would identify with Ansty and Staplefield.

The Northern Arc should be part of Burgess Hill.

Many years ago, the residents of Burgess Hill were consulted about the Northern Arc proposal. We were promised a improved town centre and believed the thousands of new homes would help facilitate this.

More recently any publication ie. Mid Sussex Matters, has constantly referred to the Northern Arc as being part of Burgess Hill. I am sure the new residents would also consider themselves residing in Burgess Hill, so surely it is common sense that the boundary is extended to include the new homes.

The residents will be using local services including schools, doctors surgeries, and taking advantage of the benefits of Burgess Hill infrastructure.

I am also sure that the residents would also wish to elect a councillor who represents their locality, rather than villages several miles away.

If we have to have all the additional housing being built around Burgess Hill in the Northern Arc development, then the administration and responsibility for those additional housing must fall within Burgess Hill Town boundary and the Local Council Tax from those houses must go towards Burgess Hill. It is not acceptable for a development of this size whose geographic placement is abutting Burgess Hill, to be administered by another Council.

The new Parish Ward and District Ward boundaries proposed by the Local Government Boundary Commission seem eminently reasonable. The new housing and link roads in the Northern Arc are clearly part of the town of Burgess Hill. Residents of the Northern Arc will use the facilities of Burgess Hill, and should have representation by councillors to reflect that. Burgess Hill Town Council should receive the appropriate proportion of Council Tax paid by residents of the Northern Arc within the new town boundary.

The Northern Arc residents cannot be expected to feel involvement with, and become a fully integrated part of, Burgess Hill unless the new boundaries and associated councillors and Council Tax allocations are fully implemented.

A larger Town Council should include an increase in Councillor positions, so an assessment of the ability to fill those positions also needs to be carried out. If the Councillor positions cannot be filled this will have a real impact on the local democracy and lead to a decrease of community cohesion and community engagement. A larger Town Council will change the nature of our existing communities. We currently have strong leadership and an established sense of place with a positive feeling for local distinctiveness in Burgess Hill, but that will change as the Town Council boundary increases unless more Community Associations, Area Committees and Community Forums are introduced to help steer the Town Council's decision-making processes. A larger Town Council area and more Councillors will mean more Town Council employees, office space for them and the resulting overheads related to that so hopefully extending the boundary should mean an increase in Council Tax collections to help pay towards the inevitable increase in local amenities that will also be demanded by such a larger area. The fear will be that local residents' council tax payments have to increase. In summary, a larger Town Council with more Councillors should lead to an increase in quality and provision of local amenities and representation across the board to ensure continuance of local community interests.

I support the proposal from Burgess Hill Town Council to include the area of new housing in the Northern Arc as part of the town of Burgess Hill. This area will include a substantial number of new houses, together with the supporting infrastructure, and is located directly on the current boundary of the Town. The residents of this new development will be accessing the facilities in the Town as they will be nearest to them. The facilities in the parish in which the development is currently located are limited to a petrol station and Village Hall, which is hardly an adequate provision for such a large project.

I support the inclusion of the Northern Arc into the Burgess Hill Town Council area as it seems fairly obvious that the main town serving this development will be Burgess Hill rather than Ansty and Staplefield villages, it therefore follows that if the main services, amenities and community will be provided by Burgess Hill that the development is included within the Town authority boundaries. I also believe that would be more cohesive than adding this to parish council of Ansty and Staplefield which would otherwise be fundamentally redrawn and unbalanced by the the Northern Arcs inclusion in that parish.

I do not support the expansion of Parish Councillors, I believe we have enough already and several tiers of local government, meaning we are well served by numerous councillors at differing levels, there is no specific representational need to increase this.

The Northern Arc development is physically attached to Burgess Hill , its the title, and its infrastructure. The new residents will identify with Burgess Hill. They will demand and deserve a say in matters that affect them and the Town that they will rely on day to day.

Burgess Hill Town will have to adapt to accommodate this huge influx. Current residents must have a say now and in the future. Any revenue stream from the Northern Arc must come to Burgess Hill where they will be living, I believe that was original idea sold to residents.

The Northern Arc Strategic Allocation is a key component of the Burgess Hill Growth.

'The Vision is:

“The Northern Arc will combine the best of town and country to offer vibrant local centres, excellent community facilities and well-designed residential neighbourhoods set within a highly attractive landscape of existing mature woodlands, river valleys and extensive natural areas to provide a great place to live and work and visit. It will provide approximately 3,500 new homes, local employment, education, health, leisure, recreation, and community facilities within a series of sustainable neighbourhoods linked by a new Northern Arc spine road, green cycle and footpaths and successfully integrated into Burgess Hill and the wider improvements to the town.”

Successive councils have failed the residents of Burgess Hill regarding the redevelopment of town centre. This could go some way to redressing that. Failure to allow Northern Arc residents to have a say in their future and the revenue from housing tax going elsewhere other than for the benefit of the town is a betrayal of what was promised when the project was first proposed.

The so called Northern Arc should without question be part and parcel of Burgess Hill. The building that has taken place in recent years has been considerable and the Northern Arc was always said to be part of Burgess Hills enormous contribution. It makes no sense to include it as part of Ansty and Staplefield.

Residents of the new houses are most unlikely to rely for there shopping needs on the one small garage shop in Ansty!!! They are likely to want to use Burgess Hill where the town centre is in urgent need of updating.

Burgess Hill-

The Northern Arc building development was designated as housing growth in District Plan 9...part of the strategic housing allocation for the district. Part of the Northern Arc development is already within the town boundary....allocated within Dunstall and Leylands wards.

The Northern Arc is clearly a part of Burgess Hill town development - with the new roads, and suitable facilities for walkers, cyclists, motorists, and public transport.

Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000, and already has a range of public, private, and voluntary groups which would be able to support the folks in the new flats and houses. Indeed, many people from my church

(Sheddingdean Baptist - based in Sheddingdean) already have good relations with the local community and have made contact with the builders at Northern Arc.

I feel that the smaller villages of Ansty and Staplefield would struggle to match this outreach, whereas the new residents of the Northern Arc could easily access help and information from Burgess Hill Help Point and the Tourist Information Centre.

Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy back in 2011 which included the Northern Arc as an area of housing growth. The Northern Arc was incorporated into the Distric plan, which specifically acknowledged that the Northern Arc is integrated into the existing town (not Antsy). Investment in Northern Arc clearly identifies it integrating into the current infrastructure. Council tax money arising from Northen Arc should fairly contribute towards Burgess Hill Town otherwise the new community might be regarded as free loaders and this could upset the social cohesion of Burgess Hill and the surrounding area. The Northen Arc is on Burgess Hill towns border and some of it is already incorporated into Burgess Hill, thereby making it logical to add the complete Northern Arc entity to Burgess Hill. Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of public services that will be supporting the Northen Arc, Ansty and Staplefield do not have the infrastructure and woud need to set up from scratch. This is illogical and from an economies of scale and business case perspective.

Nothern Arc investment via locally raised taxes would greatly help the existing town of Burgess Hill and funding the support infrastructure that the residents of the Northen Arc would clearly utilise. The Northen Arc is on the border of Burgess Hill and some of it is already within the towns boundary, to try to cut it off and give it now to Antsy is ridiculous and looks more politically motivated. Ansty does not have the infrastructure to support the Northern Arc and trying to replicate the support structure of Burgess Hill would be complete waste of taxpayers money. Burgess Hill is investing in community facilities like a new modern theatre, which the residents of Northern Ac would clearly benefit from. As a young person in Burgess Hill who supports the Arts, I would welcome younger people to the town and feel that the Northern Arc clearly identifying with Burgess Hill would help to generate greater interest in our various community events (such as free joga on a Wednesday in Burgess Hill, which I enjoy and appreciate).

I'm led to believe that Ansty Parish Council may be receiving tax money that relates to the 3500 project in Burgess Hill that is referred to as the Northern Arc.

As a lifelong resident of Burgess Hill I am looking at how this 3500 houses development affects the pressures on my town & it's ability to service what can only be around 10000 - 12000 additional members of the public.

I am interested in this maybe more than most others others - having looked at the plans on-line and being involved in business networking too locally and attending some of the council meetings. Also looking at posts on-line by the various parties and councillors promoting the Northern Arc as it develops.

I'm concerned that as we all start to see how the increase in population starts to take effect and possibly stresses start to appear (traffic, need for better shops & services) we will need all the funding we can muster. To know that unless the boundaries of the town are adjusted that a proportion of the tax funding will be going to Ansty Parish Council is quite frankly a crazy situation that should quickly be addressed and put right. I am keen to see how this develops and is resolved.

I do not believe this boundary review is correct. The new norther arc should be part of Burgess Hill boundary. This will improve local service and local government, as everyone from this new area will be using Burgess Hill's facilities such as Leisure centre, amenity site, train station etc. Therefore it is essential the boundary should be for Burgess Hill NOT Ansty & Staplefield.

Since moving here four years ago I have regularly received letters, pamphlets and information about the Northern Arc. On them all they refer to the Northern Arc as being part of Burgess Hill.

The buildings are on the north side of Burgess Hill connecting with local roads. Surely if it was part of Ansty and Staplefield Parish, it would be known as the Southern Arc.

The residents of this area will identify themselves as being from Burgess Hill both in elections and local services. Burgess Hill has many community organisations and the town council regularly arranges community events. Something I feel that small parishes would be unable to provide.

More importantly these residents would wish to elect a representative which reflects the town they live in.

The Northern Arc is on the town's border and some is already within BH's Boundary, this is logical for the NA to be within BH.

Significant public realm investment is planned for BH creating a natural pull factor for the new residents in the NA to access public and private services

The Northern arc has been incorporated into the district plan as part of the strategic housing allocation.

The district plan quite clearly acknowledges in DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with the EXISTING town.

The Town Council wards and the District Council wards should be matched to simplify matters for electors and equalise the number of electors per Town Councillor by increasing the number of Town Councillors to 22 Councillors. These arrangements to be in place by May 2023.

We need more councillors in the wards to put forward the needs of the local communities in relationship especially to planning and building which are currently making a mess of what was a very pleasant Town. The road system in this south-eastern quarter just isn't suitable for purpose and getting worse with the application to build more properties off Keymer Road and Folders Lane.

I believe the Northern Arc development being attached and accessed from Burgess Hill should be democratically and financially part of it too.

There is no doubt that Burgess Hill and not Ansty & Staplefield will provided community support to this development.

I support the alignment of the Town Wards with the district wards but do not support enclave single councillor wards as larger wards ease clarity of who is where and allows democratic access to more than one councillor if for some reason their is friction with the first

With the development of the Northern Arc this will dramatically affect the infrastructure and services provided by Burgess Hill. It will therefore be important that all finance provide by housing etc in the Northern arc are directed to Burgess hill authorities. This will affect where the boundary lines are drawn between Burgess Hill and Ansty.

I fully support the cohesion of the boundaries that will include the northern arc development.

The original plan was that the new estates were to be a part of Burgess Hill and I can see no reason why this should be suddenly changed.

The growth to the town would mean that Burgess Hill can grow and become a prosperous and lively town instead of the decay that we currently see. The town needs to attract more enterprise and business to ensure continuous growth.

I am extremely disappointed that this has been required as a review when the original plans for the developments in Burgess Hill were always intended to be a part of our community. I can see no possible reason for this change apart from the financial gain to change the boundary's.

I look forward to the finding that the northern arc remain within the boundaries that we agreed, to enable the growth of this area that has been dissapointingly reduced to a derelict town where most residents shop and socialise elsewhere.

For the Northern Arc to be a successful thriving community it will need a town that is accessible to all. Within that town it will need a central place to hold community, educational and art events. The new residents of the area need to feel welcomed and need that sense of community. Burgess Hill as a town centre could have so much to offer the residents of the Northern Arc if Burgess Hill town council are allowed to continue developing the outdoor market. We need to act as a community and bring the services to those closest to the town a place to be able to access community groups for support. If we do not bring them into our boundary they will be isolated without the sense of community and Burgess Hill as it is, will remain static and the vision that has been held for so long will be meaningless. It is imperative that the Northern Arc is included in the boundary of Burgess Hill as we are the closest town, which given the funds could provide a central community that will thrive, to not widen the boundary leaves the Northern Arc residents as outcasts, with them and us lacking in amenities. We have to work together. Furthermore, the houses are built next to existing Burges Hill's homes and all the residents feel this is part of Burgess Hill's growth. To have all these homes next to Burgess Hill and far away from other towns and villages,

means it would be totally illogical not to be included in Burgess Hill's boundary. These homes and people will be using Burgess Hill's facilities, so it's only right and fair to be included within Burgess Hill's boundary.

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As far back as I can remember, in both the BHTC Town wide strategy and MSDC District plan, the Northern Arc (NA) housing is part of the strategic housing allocation allocated to Burgess Hill. It was 'sold' to Burgess Hill residents like myself as an expansion of our town which would bring with it large sums of infrastructure funding to compensate for the expanding numbers of residents. In fact I remember Cllr Andrew Barrett Miles providing a cast iron guarantee for £80m funding to Burgess Hill due to the NA and the District plan itself stating the NA is integrated to the existing Burgess Hill Town.

I expect my voting rights to be able to relate to Burgess Hill as the town I live in and not just the part of Burgess Hill that excludes the NA. Why? Because it is clearly an expansion where new housing will use the existing town infrastructure plus facilities. You cannot separate the existing Burgess town from the new NA expansion.

I am not interested in party politics but yet again they are clearly at play - it is complete madness to not have Town Council wards to match the District Council wards. It feels yet again we are being treated as either idiots or second class citizens. Why would anyone in existing Burgess wards want to elect an Ansty parish Councillor. Enough.

I never wanted the NA but now it is happening I expect to be able to vote on my expanded Burgess Hill town which includes the NA. Economies of scale plus having enhanced community cohesion by sharing services & facilities that already exist in Burgess Hill obviously with the necessary supporting infrastructure all go hand in glove - we can't put up a wall with no entry and Ansty parish council is too small NA was never 'sold' as a new town as that would be crazy given the 30k plus existing town on its doorstep and clearly residents of NA housing will use existing services, transport and want to be part of the community.

In 2011 Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy including the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. Following endorsement by Burgess Hill residents it became part of the district plan.

In terms of improved community engagement, Burgess Hill has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups which are capable of supporting Northern Arc residents. Setting this infrastructure up from scratch would be difficult and the parish of Ansty and Staplefield has a much smaller range of services meaning they would be unable to support this number of new residents. Burgess Hill Town Council is also investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre, which residents on the Northern Arc will benefit from, allowing them to engage in the town's active community life.

In terms of community cohesion, the investment coming from the Northern Arc links the development to the existing town by forming close links for walkers, cyclists, motorists and public transport. This results in a clear binding of the Northern Arc to Burgess Hill, making the town centre the obvious focus of community identity. Not only that, but Burgess Hill is also an employment growth area which will bring residents into the town for work and to new employment sites around it. The fact that the Northern Arc is on the town's border and some of it is already within its boundary makes it much more logical to link it with Burgess Hill.

Regarding better local democracy, this review solves the anomaly of some voters currently living in the parish of Ansty electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC, as well as addressing the problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Ansty parish Councillors while others elect Burgess Hill Town Councillors. This is not a clear and logical democratic set up.

Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of £1m as well as 16 full time members of staff. This means it is able to provide effective and convenient delivery of local services and local government and can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services in a way that a smaller parish isn't able to.

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You should extend the Burgess Hill town boundary to include the proposed Northern Arc, but use this extra income to renew many areas and services in the town. This will benefit the local population and encourage new business into the town. Many of the current services and roads are inefficient and not capable of handling the use they were originally designed for.

The addition of more wards and councillors will improve the balance of the town.

I believe the proposed changes are wholly necessary as it will be Burgess Hill, not Ansty and Staplefield the the new residents belong to. they will not feel an affinity for these distant villages and the feel of the development will be as part of a wider community s opposed to village centres some 10 minutes drive distant.

As such I feel it is important that the town who will be responsible for supporting these communities is able to do so as part of that town.

In terms of representation, councillors will not be able to represent effectively from Ansty / Staplefield. They will in effect be remote.

The northern arc development is a large number of homes that is being built in burgess hill. The residents of these homes will be using all the infrastructure from burgess hill. Doctors, dentists, trains, roads, etc etc. why should the small parish of ansty which is a small wealthy town try and claim the council tax from the northern arc development when the residents will not be using their facilities. I cannot believe that this is even being contemplated. My understanding was that this development was only given the go ahead on the basis that this development would be part of burgess hill. The town is continually growing in size with new build housing yet the resources and facilities are severely lacking! Not to mention the state of the town centre with very little to draw people in. People travel across to Haywards Heath to shop which is ridiculous for a town of burgess hills size, not to mention the environmental impact of that. Local residents are already and have been putting up with the upheaval locally with the roads etc and the higher volume of traffic is only set to make that worse. Burgess Hill is in desperate need of money and investment. We should be proud of where we live and invest in ours and the future generations future!

The development of the Northern arc links the development with the existing town and is on the town's border and some is already within the town's boundary so it should be linked to the town. The parish of Ansty and Staplefield will not be able to support all the new residents.

The residents of the Northern arc will be using the town's public and private services. Burgess Hill Town Council has a strong service ethos and can deliver a wide range of services and has a vision to expand these. It will be able to accommodate the inclusion of the Northern arc into its services and provide value for money and effective delivery.

Burgess Hill will be the natural centre that the new residents will want to access for a variety of services including employment, education, transport and a wider range of both public and private services. The Northern Arc should all be within the Burgess Hill boundary.

If we have to have all the additional housing being built around Burgess Hill in the Northern Arc development, then the administration and responsibility for those additional housing must fall within Burgess Hill Town boundary and the Local Council Tax from those houses must go towards Burgess Hill. It is not acceptable for a development of this size whose geographic placement is abutting Burgess Hill, to be administered by another Council.

The Northern Arc must be part of Burgess Hill it is situated in next to the existing town. There is not a gap of miles farm land between it and the residential and industrial areas. The Northern Arc is situated more than a mile away from Ansty village.

As the the Northern Arc must be part of Burgess Hill it will a new council ward increasing the councillors to 22. in doing so this will equalise as much as possible the number of electors per ward.

whereas I oppose the continual building of new houses in an effort to fulfil an unrealistic quota imposed upon Burgess Hill council at least we the residents should benefit from Council taxes etc charged . The boundaries should not be manipulated to include other wards such as Ansty & Staplefield.

The Northern Arc needs to be part of Burgess Hill; it has the appropriate levels of government and the experience required for these areas.

Ansty is a lovely place - but is small and doesn't have the appropriate skill sets required for this.

A delay to the review is not appropriate. The current proposed boundaries will create a misalignment that won't be helpful.

The new proposed boundaries are much more appropriate.

The Northern Arc is part of the district plan for extra housing in the area. It is clearly part of the wider Burgess Hill development. It is my understanding that any grants generated by the building of the Northern Arc should be used for the improvement of Burgess Hill town and facilities to the residents.

At the moment we have a stalled development strategy for Burgess Hill town centre, who is responsible for this? The town centre provides little for the residents beyond what the Town Council are valiantly trying to provide. We have no large theatre or meeting space despite having a good base of voluntary groups and therefore we need the financial investment to support these.

Recently we have seen improvements to the cycling and walking paths which is very welcome and this will enable residents to access facilities, when we have them, in a more economic way. This ties the Northern Arc to Burgess Hill town.

People living in the Northern arc and those close to it should be able to elect councillors for Burgess Hill town, the people who will represent them. They should not be electing councillors in the surrounding villages to which they are not directly connected. How can they be connected to Burgess Hill but not have a say in the council who represents them?

Having lived in Burgess Hill for over 40 years I have seen the town centre deteriorate from a busy place of small independent shops, a good market, and a thriving theatre and community space, to a town centre that has little to attract a wide range of people and encourage them to use the town centre at various times of the day. My strongest complaint is that we have to pay for parking in a town that has less and less to offer. Parking should be free!!

It seems that not including the new houses within the boundary of Burgess Hill town council is extremely short-sighted. Ultimately the town will take the main brunt of the introduction of these homes which will have a potential huge impact on the infrastructure of the town. Whilst this can be a good thing, by having these new homes included in the town boundary it gives those homes a vested interest in the stability and development of the local town. There can be no doubt that the town of Burgess Hill is in need of some financial input and development. By including these homes in the boundary of the town (which lets not forget they were originally intended to be) the engagement from these homes to help with the inclusion and development of the town will be crucial. The sense of community is vital and after the 2 years that we have all had to endure, having 3000 plus homes attached to the main town but not included in its border seems to fly against that need. Also with the proposal of reviewing the electoral borders as part of this review I feel having recently moved to the west of the town that these proposals would help this area to have a better definition to the electoral borders.

I support the Northern Arc coming within the Boundary of Burgess Hill for the following reasons:

The Northern Arc has already been identified in the Burgess Hill Town Wide Strategy.

Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan 2016 identifies development outside of the Burgess Hill boundary designed to function as an urban extension of Burgess Hill.

The Boundary Commission's review put the Northern Arc developments up to 2027 within 2 Burgess Hill wards.

Burgess Hill with a population of over 30,000 is capable of supporting the increase in population from the Northern Arc development which the small villages of Ansty and Staplefield would be unable to do.

Burgess Hill Town Council with a staff of 16 staff and budget of around £1million has the ability to absorb the increase in population the Northern Arc development would bring.

Burgess Hill is in dire need of regeneration. We need to encourage people to the town, to encourage both community engagement and cohesion. It's very sad to see the town as it is today, and to encourage people to use facilities in the town itself and other community places such as the triangle, funds need to be spent. The councillors who directly represent the area are best placed to work with the local community on how best to resolve this.

In addition, it's the local residents of Burgess Hill who are and continue to put up with the inconvenience of these houses being built.

The council needs as much of an injection of funds as is possible, to enable them to stand a chance of achieving this. We also need the input of these new residents to ensure what is provided is in line with what is needed. But alienating this community to another Parish council and not receiving the funding for this large community who will doubtlessly be using the facilities would be very wrong and unfair to the existing residents in the area.

Firstly, an observation:

I understand, when Burgess Hill Town council established a town strategy, which included the Northern Arc, in 2011, it stated the Northern Arc is an extension of the town.

At what stage did Mid Sussex D. C. discover the 'council boundaries' included Ansty and Staplefield? Were these parish councils under review anyway?

Surely, or even essentially, the Arc development should be conditional on it being included within Burgess Hill Town council boundary.

The Arc was always intended to be part of Burgess Hill's contribution to the Strategic Housing Plan.

I would imagine the future development of Burgess Hill Town centre is dependant upon our boundary to include the Northern Arc.

The existing and future extended communities, in terms of true democracy, development of local services are essential in bringing back our pride in our Home Town.

I see, below, I have to prove I am not a robot. Please do not treat me like one.

REDACTED

The Northern Arc has been 'sold' as an extension of Burgess Hill so the houses must fall under BH town council. This will then provide additional funds to BHTC to enable the regeneration of the town.

Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011 which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. Burgess Hill residents consulted on this strategy and following endorsement by residents it became part of the District Plan. The Northern Arc has been incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District. The District Plan specifically acknowledges in DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town.

It is not only transport infrastructure that forges community cohesion. Burgess Hill is an employment growth area which will bring residents within the town for work and to new employment sites in and around the town.

Significant public realm investment is planned for Burgess Hill creating a natural pull factor for residents in the Northern Arc who will naturally look to the town to access public and private services. The Northern Arc is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary making it more logical to link the Northern Arc with the town.

Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team that provide a wide range of community events. It has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed and open 5 days per week which provides extensive community support. Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life.

When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands.

Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos with a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery.

I am a resident of Burgess Hill.

The Northern Arc will be part of Burgess Hill. Residents there will be dependant upon Burgess Hill town, shopping in our shops, driving on our roads, using our council and other local services. They MUST be part of the governance of Burgess Hill. And they must contribute financially to the town, and its council, of which they will be part.

I support the undertaking of a Community Governance Review for Burgess Hill Town Council based on the extent of Burgess Hill determined by the local Government Boundary Commission final recommendations document published on 1 February 2022. I support the changing of boundaries to match the Town Council wards with the District Council wards - to move the northern boundaries of Dunstall and Leylands Wards to include the Northern Arc strategic housing developments. This will simplify matters for electors and to move to equalise the number of electors per Town Councillor by increasing the number of Town Councillors to up to 22 Councillors. I hope for a positive outcome of the Review and to complete the redrawing of the boundary by May 2023.

The northern boundary of Burgess Hill must be extended to encompass all the new dwellings that constitute the "Northern Arc".

These dwellings must become part of Burgess Hill with Councillors elected to represent these residents.

Residents of Burgess Hill agreed to the "Northern Arc" development on the basis that the "Northern Arc" became part of Burgess Hill and this must be honoured!!

The northern boundary of Burgess Hill must be extended to encompass all the new dwellings that constitute the "Northern Arc". These dwellings must become part of Burgess Hill and Councillors elected to represent them.

Residents of Burgess Hill agreed to the "Northern Arc" development on the basis that the "Northern Arc" became part of Burgess Hill and this must be honoured!!

As a resident of Burgess Hill but vote in Ansty, I agree to Mid Sussex District Council conducting a review relating to the electoral wards and boundary changes.

Burgess Hill town council should receive monies that would come from extending the number of town councillors to provide greater infrastructure.

My postal address is Burgess Hill, so why should the boundaries remain?

I am very much in favour of increasing the boundaries of Burgess Hill to encompass the Northern Arc development (which I had always assumed would be the case anyway).

This development at its southern edge will be directly on the northern side of Sussex Way and form a continuation of Burgess Hill which at the moment starts on the other side of this road.

If Burgess Hill aspires to be a vibrant forward-looking town, it needs to be able to harness and benefit from the advantages that a major development such as the Northern Arc should bring.

The idea that this development would form part of a parish whose centre is located some miles north with practically nothing in between does not seem logical to me.

The development of the Northern arc links the development with the existing town and is on the town's border and some is already within the town's boundary so it should be linked to the town. The parish of Ansty and Staplefield will not be able to support all the new residents.

The residents of the Northern arc will be using the town's public and private services. Burgess Hill Town Council has a strong service ethos and can deliver a wide range of services and has a vision to expand these. It will be able to accommodate the inclusion of the Northern arc into its services and provide value for money and effective delivery. Burgess Hill will be the natural centre that the new residents will want to access for a variety of services including employment, education, transport and a wider range of both public and private services.

I have tried to find out where the boundary between Burgess Hill and Ansty is in relation to the Northern Arc development, but have failed. I did try the Help-Point in Burgess Hill without success and looked at maps on-line but am none the wiser.

I would have thought that Ansty is closer to Cuckfield and Staplefield is nearer to Handcross. Burgess Hill will have all the hassle and is already disrupted. Trying to go north takes a lot of thought.

All the commercial buildings going up will need staff who will need to live somewhere, and they will need the local infrastructure that is included.

Ansty is away from it all, but may gain from it.

I therefore think that Burgess Hill should have its boundary moved to include all of the Northern Arc development.

REDACTED

I support the submission from Burgess Hill Town Council proposing to increase the number of Town Councillors to 22 on the basis of providing better democratic representation. The town has experienced enormous build out of new housing. New people coming into the area, may have different political outlook to the traditional right of centre bias of the region. The proposed changes would be better able to capture their viewpoint, thus positive for local democracy.

I believe that the building of the Northern arc will have a huge impact on Burgess Hill. There will be a huge increase in traffic, causing damage to the roads, infrastructure needs to be put in place to cater for the increase in the population who will be using Burgess Hill facilities which desperately need improving.

Money will be needed to engage the new residents into the local community such as local groups, fun days, help points.

I just think that the new residents of the Northern Arc will be using Burgess Hill for many reasons, school, leisure centre, shops, doctors etc so it's only fair that Burgess Hill is aided to deal with the influx of people and the challenges this would bring.

The Homes England website has made it clear from the start that it is the Burgess Hill Northern Arc and that the major impact of the development....which I support....would be on Burgess Hill. The Mid-Sussex District Plan also accepted that the Northern Arc would be part of the broader Burgess Hill Growth Programme.

The new residents and businesses of the Northern Arc will naturally use the facilities and resources of Burgess Hill as the nearest sizable town.

Given such impact it is only right that any benefit of the Northern Arc....such as increased local tax revenue....should fall to Burgess Hill if it is to continue to grow and meet the needs of the people of Northern Arc and compliant with the Mid-Sussex District Plan and Burgess Hill Growth Programme.

A refusal to move the boundary would be irrational.

In respect of the Northern Arc development and specifically the impact that this expansion of the Burgess Hill community will have, I would like to make some comments.

Mid Sussex, whilst growing, currently incorporates a number of distinct communities that I believe defines Mid Sussex. Primarily, these relate specifically to the village or town - so for me, Burgess Hill certainly forms a key community. Within the Burgess Hill community, we have been involved in years of dialogue regarding both Town Centre redevelopment and of course the Northern Arc project too. Consultation of course is essential in ensuring that local residents, enabling those directly effected to have their say on what will ultimately impact them. What has become apparent is that the Northern Arc will actually fall outside of the boundaries of Burgess Hill and fit within the Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council boundary. Surely any major growth within a community should automatically trigger an expansion of the boundary in which the development will be added. The reasons for this are simple - geographically, those new dwellings will utilise the existing local services provided and planned to be expanded. Burgess Hill Town Council are expected to deliver services to the local community, of which the Northern Arc is very much part of - as an example, the consultation for the project was held in Burgess Hill, not Ansty & Staplefield !

It would be inappropriate and disproportionate to allocate the Northern Arc outside of the Burgess Hill boundary, whilst understanding that the new residents will automatically depend on those resources provided by the existing Burgess Hill community.

This concerns the Northern Arc development currently being built and which parish/town boundaries it falls within. I would simply ask that the name be considered: if it is the "Northern" Arc, what is it northern in relation to. It is not Northern with regards Staplefield, or Cuckfield, or Ansty or Haywards Heath. It is Northern in its relation to Burgess Hill. It is the Northern Arc *of* Burgess Hill. It was obvious from its very inception that it would be part of Burgess Hill, hence the name. It is obvious to anyone visiting the site that it is part of Burgess Hill, that residents will primarily use Burgess Hill amenities - the schools, the Triangle and - if there are any left after MSDC and NewRiver have had their way - the shops.

It is therefore only appropriate and proper from a governance perspective, that it be officially recognised as part of Burgess Hill. To fail to do so would only raise further questions about the governance within the Mid Sussex area and I do not believe such scrutiny would be welcome.

As Burgess Hill's population and area, especially around the Northern Arc, has and is increasing greatly, it would seem in the best interest of all its residents to undertake a Community Governance Review in order to; Match the Town Council wards with the District Council wards to simplify matters for electors; To seek to equalise the number of electors per Town Councillor by increasing the number of Town Councillors to up to 22; to complete the redrawing of the boundary by May 2023.

As a town, Burgess Hill residents will have to deal with the impact of additional houses and pressures on service such as doctors surgeries and schools, it is vital that the boundary is moved in May 2023 to incorporate the Northern Arc into Burgess Hill as was always intended and that other distant parishes such as Ansty do not benefit from this intended investment.

Additionally, given the elections, the boundary should be moved before 2023. Without these changes, people in the Ansty and Staplefield parish will be electing district councillors for Burgess Hill.

I was very surprised to find out that the Northern Arc Development would not necessarily come under Burgess Hill for administration purposes. Ultimately the people who will live there will be part of our community, and any ongoing plans for the Burgess Hill area would be based on the integrated community. To make them come under another area would be devicive. This is an extension of our town, and for their and our sake, we should be controlling all aspects of local government, and of the services provided.

Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011 which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. We were consulted on this strategy, indeed I attended one of the presentations, and

eventually it became part of the District Plan. This District Plan specifically acknowledges that even though the Northern Arc is on the very edge of Burgess Hill, it is integrated with, and part of, the existing town – NOT Ansty or Staplefield.

Investment coming from the Northern Arc clearly links the development with Burgess Hill – NOT Ansty or Staplefield – with a strong emphasis of forming close links for walkers, cyclists, motorists, and public transport. The result is to bind the Northern Arc to Burgess Hill - NOT Ansty or Staplefield – and makes the town the clear focus of community identity.

With all of this in mind, and the fact that residents of the Northern Arc will undoubtedly access the many and varied Burgess Hill services - – NOT Ansty or Staplefield, which don't have any – , why oh why has the development now been placed within Ansty / Staplefield with them benefiting financially and politically from this when it makes no sense whatsoever.

This is clearly ludicrous and requires addressing. It also flies in the face of what was originally agreed which makes the political decision not to carry it out bordering on being duplicitous.

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The Northern Arc development of Burgess Hill directly appends to the existing housing in the town and clearly the new residents will want to use the community facilities in the town. The parish of Ansty and Staplefield is some distance away with few facilities for a large incursion of residents. In order to feel part of the town and engage with the various community facilities, clubs and other organisations that exist, residents need to be part of the town not some distant parish they may never visit.

The more residents that the town has perhaps the more facilities can be provided to be enjoyed by all, a new community centre like the proposed Beehive for example.

These new residents are clearly going to be living in Burgess Hill and therefore the delivery of local services would be easier if they were within the town boundary.

The Northern Arc building development was designated as housing growth in District Plan 9 - part of the strategic housing for the district.

Part of the Northern Arc development is already within the town boundary, allocated within Dunstall and Leylands wards.

The Northern Arc is clearly a part of Burgess Hill town development - with building of new roads and suitable facilities for walkers, cyclists, motorists and public transport.

Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000 inhabitants and already has a range of public, private and voluntary groups which would be able to support the folk in the new houses and flats. Indeed, many people from my church

(Sheddingdean Baptist church), based in Sheddingdean already have good relations with the local community and have made contact with the builders at Northern Arc.

I feel that smaller villages such as Ansty and Staplefield would struggle to match this outreach and facilities a larger town can provide. The people moving into the Northern Arc development could easily access and help and information from Burgess Hill Town Council at the Help Point and the Tourist Information Centre.

I believe the Northern Arc should be part of Burgess Hill rather than Ansty.

Residents of the NA will be much more likely to use Burgess Hill town centre facilities (shops, roads, parks, schools, library, leisure centre etc) than Ansty facilities.

The NA is adjacent to Burgess Hill and as such some of the planned facilities to be included in the NA development such as schools are likely to be used by Burgess Hill residents (particularly from areas like Sheddingdean, Worlds End and Bedelands).

Burgess Hill residents will be more affected by matters relating to the NA than Ansty residents and therefore should be able to have an input to decisions about these matters through democratic mechanisms.

In these ways among many others, governing the NA as part of Burgess Hill rather than Ansty will provide the benefits laid out by MSDC:

Improved community engagement

Enhanced community cohesion

Better local democracy

More effective and convenient delivery of local services and government

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Enhanced community cohesion

Better local democracy

More effective and convenient delivery of local services and government

Burgess Hill Town Council included the Northern Arc in their town wide strategy in 2011. We the residents were consulted and endorsed the strategy as being part of an area for major housing growth. Therefore the Northern Arc has been incorporated into our district plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District.

The district plan specifically acknowledges that the Northern Arc is integrated with Burgess Hill.

Community Cohesion

The investment that comes from the Northern Arc links our community facilities with our existing town and our town centre should benefit from this as voted by our district plan.

This investment will provide the necessary funding to improve transport, employment and public and private opportunities, which will be needed to ensure the northern arc links with the natural boundary of Burgess Hill.

This current proposal does not make strategic, geographical or financial sense as Burgess Hill will bear the brunt of providing all these needs.

As residents we require a clear and democratic set up, without the proposed voting anomalies.

We are now benefitting from more investment in the town, with a modern theatre and the provision of our help point which is providing a lot of community support which the northern residents will benefit from.

We believe the Burgess Hill Council is the best place to accommodate the Northern Arc into our town boundaries.

The town has been working towards the inclusion of the Northern Arc development for years now. The houses sit directly next to houses currently in Burgess Hill and are several fields away from Ansty. The new residents are going to be coming into Burgess Hill for their public and private services therefore it only makes sense that an funding to support the development is invested into Burgess Hill. The most obvious reason for this is that Burgess Hill is already some way towards providing these services, Ansty would be starting from scratch. Another reason is that at a time when we are all trying to be more aware of our carbon footprint new residents are going to require parks, amenities, services that they can walk to. Investing in the village of Ansty would require new residents to drive. The only plausible option is to move the boundary line and incorporate the Northern Arc development into Burgess Hill.

It has always been the plan for 10+ years that the boundary line be moved.

It is written in to the district plan

The Northern Arc is clearly lined to Burgess Hill already. All the infrastructure work supports this with new paths and roads

The development is neighbouring Burgess Hill it is logical that they join together

Burgess Hill is already part way to providing amenities for new residents with the facilities it currently has. Ansty is not

Whether they are Ansty or Burgess Hill the new residents will look to Burgess Hill for their services and amenities- the investment HAS to go to Burgess Hill so that it can be ready for this and therefore the boundary line HAS to move so that the Northern Arc is part of Burgess Hill.

* Burgess Hill Town Council have planned an inclusive town project to make the town accessible to all. The number of houses planned will bring in £250,000 to enable the town council to complete this much needed project. Staplefield and Ansty have no need for any of the projects planned but Burgess Hill has had its entertainment centre pulled down and the centre is dying from lack of investment. This money is needed for Burgess Hill.

* The Northern Arc is attached to the edge of Burgess Hill by roads, footpaths and bridleways. There are no valid reasons to consider it a part of any other parish or small village.

* Burgess Hill is better able to provide a wider range of services than those of small villages and residents of the Northern Arc will be using them as they will live closer to them.

* The review of the district boundaries highlighted the ridiculous situation that some voters in Dunstall and Leylands wards elect parish councillors in Ansty so amending the boundary solves this anomaly and creates a clear and logical structure for local government and democratic accountability for new residents in the Northern Arc.

I was born and raised in rural mid Sussex but have now lived in Burgess Hill for 20+ years. I understand the differences between rural and urban communities and why it is important that these differences are reflected in the decisions and priorities of their local government representatives.

Consequently, I strongly believe it is in the interests of both the Ansty and Burgess Hill communities that the northern boundaries of the Dunstall and Leylands Wards are moved to include the northern arc strategic housing developments.

The northern arc developments are contiguous to Burgess Hill. It is urban rather than rural in character. The northern arc residents will naturally make use of the same resources - shopping, schools, transport, leisure and health care - as Burgess Hill. As such the residents are likely to feel a natural affinity to the rest of Burgess Hill, sharing common concerns and aspirations and looking to participate fully in the governance of the town.

Should the boundaries not change, then the residents of Ansty will see a sudden influx of a large number of 'town dwelling' voters in their democracy. This would distort their local governance and could lead to a lack of focus on the issues that affect a predominantly rural community.

Burgess Hill Northern Arc IS a part of Burgess Hill and therefore it should remain a part of Burgess Hill. We have excellent services in Burgess Hill which the Northern Arc residents will be using as they will be attached to Burgess Hill and not Ansty or Staplefield.

Our local Burgess Hill Council are currently investing in more community facilities which are proposed to support our whole town, including the Northern Arc.

Surely the Northern Arc residents would feel more part of Burgess Hill as they will be connected to our town, and not Ansty or Staplefield. How will they be able to be a part of Staplefield which is 6 miles away?

I am astounded as to why these proposals are even being considered as it simply makes sense that the Northern Arc remains a part of Burgess Hill.

In 2011 a town wide strategy was established by Burgess Hill Town Council, stating that the Northern Arc would be an area for major housing growth. Residents were consulted and endorsed the new strategy and it became part of the district plan. In this district plan it was acknowledge that the Northern Arc development would be integrated into the existing town of Burgess Hill.

Investment coming from the Northern Arc will ensure that the housing development is incorporated into the existing town and provide a community identity with the town centre at its core.

The Northern Arc is on the town's border, with some already being within the town's boundary which means its only logical that it should be part of Burgess Hill as residents there will look to Burgess Hill and it's town centre for their sense of community and infrastructure.

Burgess Hill has an existing sense of community with a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups which could support the residents of the Northern Arc houses, whereas Ansty and Staplefield would not be able to support these new residents as their centres and ranges of services are noticeably smaller.

It is logical that the residents of the Northern Arc housing development are more likely to make use of the existing community within Burgess Hill eg the Help Point and Tourist Information, the new Theatre and many more facilities like The Triangle Leisure Centre and the Town Centre - which are far closer and more extensive than anything found in either Ansty or Staplefield.

And lastly when the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands.

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The boundary should be extended to include the Northern Arc West and East. The number of residents living in these locations will increase substantially and the nearest amenities are located in Burgess Hill. This includes doctors/dentists/Leisure facilities and general shopping and road infrastructure.

I believe that without the boundary being extended there will be a detrimental impact of the existing and new residents of Burgess Hill. This is a perfect opportunity to obtain much needed support to improve the town and the amenities it provides which will become further stretched by the addition of housing in the Northern Arc

REDACTED Community Governance Review - Burgess Town Council

I understand that there is a proposal whereby the Council Tax paid by the residents of the Northern Arc Development is to be included with that of Ansty. I believe this would not reflect the identity and interests of either community.

The lives of the current, some 30,000, residents will undergo much upheaval with with at least 6,000 additional people using the current facilities e.g. The Triangle, Burgess Hill Green Circle, Bedelands and cycle paths and schools. Traffic will be traversing Burgess Hill streets to shop at Lidl and Tesco and Wivesfield and Burgess Hill railway stations and the industrial parks, thereby making the potholes even bigger and more damaging and dangerous.

Ansty is a small rural hamlet which has been dealing with local issues. The northern Arc will essentially be an urban environment dealing with very different issues which suggests that the proposed arrangement is in the interests of neither area. In the interests of community cohesion and democracy the urban needs of the Northern Arc suggest that it should be considered part of Burgess Hill.

Democracy and trust in the local authorities to act fairly in the interests of the residents rather than their political masters has sadly been destroyed recently. We have been petitioning the local council to repair streets and fill huge potholes for many many months. Our pleas fell on deaf ears until the recent election of a town councillor. The conservative candidate made a big issue in the local press stating that he was asking for these repairs – ignoring all the pleas made earlier by elected councillors and residents. Now that said candidate has been elected, I see that George Rd. has not only had potholes filled but has been completely resurfaced end to end. No other repairs have been carried out around town so I see this as a vote garnering action worthy of a “banana republic” or the BVI!! Can we trust our local institutions to act fairly, I now have serious doubts.

The proposal to align the Burgess Hill Northern Arc with Ansty village makes no sense to me – a small rural village swamped by a town population perhaps three times its size!

The traffic from the Northern Arc will be travelling into and through Burgess Hill. This will without doubt worsen the, already bad, state of our streets and roads which the Council seems to repair on a whim – perhaps based on who lives there, who knows but certainly not fairly!

Our BH facilities will be adversely impacted as will our quality of life. I have no doubt that the residents of the Northern Arc will consider themselves "Hillians" and will engage with the community and use our facilities. In the interest of fairness and democracy their council taxes should be paid to the town where the impact of the development is being endured not to some little village barely impacted.

Northern Arc was always advertised as Burgess Hill. Why was it changed now. We would like to have them added into Burgess Hill council.

I am in support of moving the parish boundaries so that the new houses in the Northern Arc developments fall within Burgess Hill. As a local resident I think that it is very important for the new residents using the infrastructure of our town to be paying council tax here, so the council can make use of this income.

With reference to the governance review, my points are as follows_

1. I believe that incorporating the northern arc development within Burgess Hill town council boundaries will improve community engagement because it is quite obvious that Burgess Hill has the facility to service the development with local transport and community organisations as well as charitable organisations CTS community transport being a very important service for the Vulnerable people and SEN children within the new development. This will need funding which would otherwise be lost.

2. It is straight forward common sense that if people who are already affected by loss of green space because of the development they are then included in future decisions about governance of that immediate area and local cohesion will naturally exist, which is important for a town like Burgess Hill to maintain its reputation as a small town with a big heart.

Burgess hill has always had character and while the new development has to be built somewhere it is important that we don't end up with a them and us scenario.

3. With the volume of people that will occupy the development it is important that local democracy is kept exactly as that, local.

Why complicate something when it does not need to be that way, this will normally cause arguments and therefore money in defence of different opinions exactly when local government is already underfunded.

4. The more efficient we can be the lower the costs, a great example of poor governance has been Burgess Hill town centre and the complete lack of care or foresight, we need to learn to keep our ship tight and maintain control so to risk losing control of an area of development that is in fact already part of Burgess Hill and therefore the funding that comes with it, makes no sense at all.

Burgess Hill is going through a period of significant change and it is therefore important that Burgess Hill is represented by an appropriate Town Council who support the interests of Burgess Hill Residents.

The new Northern Arc has always been sold as the "Burgess Hill Northern Arc" and was approved with this title and therefore it is inconceivable that this should be changed at this stage.

Burgess Hill needs to benefit from the income provided by his new community and Burgess Hill residents should be entitled to have a say in the town's future via their Council.

It is vital that local Councillors who know the area are given the voice to support the residents in order to improve the community of Burgess Hill that is currently sorely lacking.

It has frustrated and angered me that Burgess Hill residents are being expected to justify why we do not agree with boundaries being changed. The Northern Arc was clearly presented as an area of development that would be part of Burgess Hill.

It is ridiculous to think that a smaller parish such as Ansty will be providing any sort of infrastructure or facilities to attract residents of the new development.

Burgess Hill residents have already been let down with the constant delays of the redevelopment of the town centre and shops continually closing. To suggest that investment from the Northern Arc will not be used for the benefit of Burgess Hill is an outrage.

It is blatantly obvious that the Northern Arc is an extension of Burgess Hill, any attempt to suggest otherwise is disgraceful.

As a resident with a long-term interest in the wellbeing of Burgess Hill, I want to see the development of the Northern Arc incorporated within the town boundary.

The development is so close to Burgess Hill, in fact with no separation at all, that it makes sense for it to be part of the town. If it is not, we will still see the extra traffic, pollution and noise that this creates, with a detrimental cost to the town and that is not fair.

There is also the issue of public transport. Burgess Hill needs an integrated system that covers the whole town infrastructure, including new developments and this is best administered by one authority. Is it likely that Ansty and Staplefield will want to pay for this?

Burgess Hill Town Council oversees local matters that directly affect the town. it will not be very efficient if they cannot include the Northern Arc in decisions.

I urge MSDC to consider this matter wisely.

I fully support the need to enlarge the Town Council membership to reflect the increase in the population of the town as more and more homes are built. The town does not have the improvements within it's centre for hundreds more folk needing to use the centre - shopping etc - and I guess the GP practices are not being expanded enough to cope, so at least if we have full representation on the Town Council there will be some way of getting changes made when the chance arrives. As a local resident I too will benefit from having enough councillors to hear any queries I may have about services, and to speak on my behalf on matters that are important for the town.

I do trust that Mid Sussex District Council will also listen to the views of Burgess Hill residents and honour the position they hold to control our future. Their planning department needs to ensure NOW that ALL new homes have the items needed to meet the water/energy needs of the next 20-30 years - brown water harvesting systems, solar panels for water heating and electricity. Without these this part of Sussex could 'run dry' of drinking water, and households will be struggling to pay bills they need not have if solar power were used to help meet needs.

The Northern Arc has always been referred to as part of Burgess Hill.

It makes sense to be in Burgess Hill boundary and electoral wards.

When built part of Hammonds Ridge was in Clayton Parish and it was changed to Burgess Hill.

Don't be silly.

PS. Get a move on with the town centre.

I wish to support the boundary review to bring the Northern Arc into Burgess Hill and I do not wish this to stay in Ansty.

The Northern Arc is being build in Burgess Hill and the money for this development should go to Burgess Hill. I cannot believe any Burgess Hill councillor would think differently! More Tory shame!

Please note that there are already too many developments in Burgess Hill, with very little/no money spend on local amenities. Roads are poor, doctors and schools and other community facilities are needed as it is. So any money should go to Burgess Hill!

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Please note that there are already too many developments in Burgess Hill, with very little/no money spend on local amenities. Roads are poor, doctors and schools and other community facilities are BADLY needed as it is. So any money should go to Burgess Hill!

The Northern Arc building development was designed as a housing growth in District Plan 9.. part of the strategic housing allocation for the district.

Part of the Northern Arc development is already within the town boundary allocated within Dunstall and Leylands wards.

The Northern Arc is clearly a part of Burgess Hill's town development, with new roads, and suitable facilities for walkers, cyclists, motorists and public transport.

Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000 inhabitants and already has a range of pubic, private and voluntary groups which would be able to support the

new residents moving into this area. Many people from our church, based in Sheddingdean already have good relations with the local community and have made contacts with the builders at Northern Arc.

I feel that smaller villages such as Ansty and Staplefield would struggle to match this outreach, whereas any new residents could easily access help and information from Burgess Hill Town Council at the Help Point and the Tourist Information Centre in Church Walk.

I Have studied the proposed changes and wish to make the following observations:-

1. The idea of having a separate councilor to represent each of the northern arc developments will ensure better representation for the new Residents who will need encouragement to join identify and integrate with their new town of Burgess Hill They will be able to know that they are truly represented on the town council rather than being an add on to the existing development of Leyland ward Similarly existing Leyland and Dunstal ward residents will not think that their representation is being diluted with the large extendtion of their ward
2. It is important to have councilors who know and understand the issues within their wards and who can give a good representation of the needs of the residents in their wards. I know how important this is, having been a town councilor of another town for a number of years before moving to Burgess Hill.
3. It is important for democracy to have good representation by the ward councilors, if Wards become too large then councilors cannot do their job of representing the residents properly. If their work load gets too great, Residents then get dissatisfied with their councilors and subsequently their town Council. Burgess Hill is a growing town and therefore need the extra town councilors to match the growing population.
4. Presumable the councilors for the East and West Northern Arce will not be required until the development of each is well established.

I want the Northern Arc to be part of Burgess Hill. It is likely that we will see up to 7,000 extra cars coming into our town, creating lots of noise and pollution. We need the infrastructure to support the development and the money to do so.

I have nothing against Ansty and Staplefield but it cannot be fair for them to benefit from a remote development whilst Burgess Hill picks up all the costs and long-term problems.

I feel that the Northern Arc was allways planned to be part of the urban area of Burgess Hill and was included as such in the 2018 local plan. It will be an urban settlement having very little in common with the predominantly rural settlments of Ansty and Staplefield. All of the sevices for the new development will be expected to be supplied through Burgess Hill. for these reasons I feel that the boundary changes should not be delayed.

I order to service the expansion of The Northern Arc the local amenities need to scale up. This includes infrastructure, schools, medical facilities and leisure. Burgess Hill needs additional funds in order to facilitate and manage this

Hi there

I'm sorry but I do not understand the petition wording and what it is seeking to achieve. I am university educated so I would be surprised if I was the only one having this issue and would suggest your notice needs re wording and resending to residents.

If it is in relation to incorporating the northern arc into the Burgess boundary then I am supportive of this and consider it is something that should not even be debated. It is quite clear that the new houses will use Burgess Hill amenities and that Burgess Hill will need to scale appropriately through the collection of associated council tax, and new residents should also be made to feel part of the community rather than some form of arbitrary decision based on a historic number of councillors in mid Sussex, or for some other nonsensical financial reason.

I hope that my response is what you are looking for, however if it isn't I would appreciate clarification per the above.

Many thanks

REDACTED

Burgess Hill has seemed to have taken on the majority of new housing in Mid Sussex without any improvements or benefit to the community as a whole.

As part of the original district plan, which followed local public consultation, it is acknowledged the Northern arc development will be part of the existing town of Burgess Hill.

Part of Northern Arc is being built within the Burgess Hill boundary and so investment in the community and its infrastructure will be a benefit to the residents of the new area as well as aiding the integration of the older parts of this historic town.

Further to public consultation and the published District Plan, the Northern Arc is part of the allocated housing requirement for this town and as such, as I understand, within the boundaries of Burgess Hill.

Investment and a strong public transport infrastructure is something that would boost this town and support new residents of the Arc. Burgess Hill has the strength of community and well established voluntary groups to benefit, and benefit from this addition to our boundary.

The Northern Arc is being integrated into the infrastructure of Burgess Hill for public transport, walkers, cyclists and motorists and as such is clearly becoming part of the Burgess Hill community.

The growth of employment in Burgess Hill will obviously attract people from the Northern Arc

Some of the Northern Arc is already within the Burgess Hill town boundary and so it makes logical sense to bring the whole area within the same boundary.

The facilities provided by Burgess Hill are naturally going to be used by people living in the Northern Arc and should rightly pay their council tax to Burgess Hill not Ansty & Staplefield.

Confusion over electoral boundaries can also be resolved with this review.

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Confusion over electoral boundaries can also be resolved with this review.

I am in favor of matching the Town Council wards with the District Council wards for the following reasons:

- Northern Arc residents will acquire the ability to elect Councillors who can directly influence the services in Burgess Hill they are likely to access;

- if accompanied with the Northern Arc residents Council Tax being under Burgess Hill Town Council, the said Council will be able to tax them for the services they are accessing locally
- Burgess Hill residents will benefit from the ability to spread the local services funding across all residential areas that effectively utilise them.

I feel very strongly that this is not the time to reduce the number of parish councillors for Ansty and Staplefield Parish Councils, as this is the very time we need more, not less, as the parish is growing apace and there are so many important issues. PLEASE DO NOT REDUCE THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS THEY ARE NOT EXPENSIVE AND DO SUCH A WONDERFUL JOB. REDACTED

Dear Burgess Hill Town Council,

I feel that the new development of houses etc in the northern arc area should be formally in the Burgess Hill boundary and therefore have the correct Burgess Hill town councillors.

There should be a redrawing of the Burgess Hill boundary to include the new development.

As a resident of Burgess Hill I feel the new northern arc residents will also want to feel part of Burgess Hill, they will be using the roads and services to and from the Burgess Hill town centre including the use of Burgess Hill facilities, shops, library.

They need to feel part of our community as a 'whole' Burgess Hill.

Best regards,

REDACTED

Since the residents in the Northern Arc development will use Burgess Hill for the majority of their daily needs. i.e. shops. GP medical appointments and initially schooling. the BHTC proposals will improve community engagement.

The proposals of Burgess Hill Town Council will have little effect on Ansty and Stapleford Parish Council for the number of existing properties being transferred to Dunstall and Leylands Wards will be few and loss of income to the Parish Council will be minimal.

Since the Northern Arc was originally proposed it has always been understood by MSDC and BHTC councils that it would become part of Burgess Hill. The proposals set out by MSDC not to recommend changing the existing boundaries in line with the original proposals must give rise that their decision is political and outside the parameters for considering such matters.

Being included within Burgess Hill will give the new residents of the Northern Arc the feeling of being involved with local democracy and enable a more effective delivery of services etc from a Council that appreciates the needs of an urban environment than a Parish Council covering mainly a rural area.

I think the Northern Arc development should be included within the boundaries of Burgess Hill council wards for the following reasons:

- The Northern Arc is an add on to Burgess Hill, it's a continuation of the town and every single communication on the subject has always emphasised this. Northern Arc residents will have transport and infrastructure designed to include them in Burgess Hill services, which they are far more likely to use than any other.
- Northern Arc residents will surely view themselves as living in Burgess Hill, they will be in an urban continuation of the town, their postal addresses will be Burgess Hill, so logically they should fall within the remit of a Burgess Hill council ward.
- Being a part of Burgess Hill, Northern Arc residents should have representation in Burgess Hill Council, failure to do this risks resulting in an 'us & them' situation where they could potentially feel left out of having a say in the affairs of the town in which they live.

- From a service delivery point it makes far more sense for the Northern Arc to be served by Burgess Hill council, which is already attuned to the needs of residents of this large area of housing, than a rural village council which is not.

There are countless other reasons why Northern Arc should be included within the boundaries of Burgess Hill council wards, you only need to look at the map. I cannot believe that we're having to have this exercise at all, to any logical thinking person it's obvious the Northern Arc is part of Burgess Hill and should have representation on the same basis as the rest of the town. As mentioned earlier, the Northern Arc has always been billed as a northern extension to Burgess Hill, which is exactly what it is.

Firstly, I want you to read and then re-read the two page letter you sent me dated 25 April 2022. I think you will come to the same conclusion it is not clear and definitely not concise. Read the first paragraph, could you have made it any more unclear? I would suggest and encourage you rewrite it with this in mind and resend it. I want to fully understand what you want and why. I am a member of the public not a lawyer or a council employee, who may be more familiar with such wordy complicated 'documents'.

Why is Burgess Hill suddenly trying to get involved in my life I don't understand? I live in Staplefield, north of Haywards Heath, and I certainly don't want a town such as Burgess Hill, which I have no affiliation to or indeed need to go, trying to get involved and impact my beautiful village. On the very few occasions I drive to Burgess Hill I always without fail have the same sad feeling inside as I see another farmers field suddenly turning from green field to is another building site. It's rife and makes me very sad. Its strikes me the Burgess Hill Town Council care little for the surrounding Sussex Weald and beautiful nature - it seems to be all about concrete, road widening, more ugly storage sheds, new 'toy towns' that wouldn't look out of place in a city not a small Sussex town

As I'm sure you are aware Staplefield sits between Handcross Village, Slaugham Village and Cucfield (nowhere near Burgess Hill / no border) and is an AONB, bordering the beautiful Balcombe Forest.

In short, from my own experience my village should NOT be involved in any way with Burgess Hill so if that is the answer you are looking for in your long winded letter then I can confirm categorically I am 100% against the Burgess Hill 'electors' trying to grab decision making in the northern arc. If you hadn't written to me I would have thought it was a joke!

We seek to match the Town Council Wards with the District Council wards to simplify matters for electors and to seek to equalise the number of electors per Town Councillor by increasing the number of Town Councillors to up to 22 Councillors. The boundaries need to be redrawn. Burgess Hill is being extended then these new properties need to come under the name 'Burgess Hill' and bring some benefits to our already damaged town. Our town has been ruined.....help it become once again what it used to be.

The Northern Arc Housing development should come under Burgess Hill Town Council because:-

1. They will be part of the B.H. Community so should not be under a different Council.
2. The residents will be using the facilities and services provided by B.H., so their rates should go towards those provisions.
3. Being so close to B.H. and very far from Ansty and Staplefield will likely cause unforeseen problems for residents in the future.
4. When voting, the residents would have no say in nearby issues, as they would not be able to vote for anything to do with B.H. If they were under Ansty and Staplefield.

This has been difficult to reply to, the terms of reference etc. should be in plain English for people to understand the issues clearly. Was this obfuscation deliberate to harm the democratic process? I guess many people will not respond.

I was very surprised to read in the local press that their was a proposal by MSDC to include the Homes England , Northern Arc -Burgess Hill development in the Ansty and Staplefield Parish.

This seems hard to understand the logic behind this proposal other than as balancing of numbers initiative or some other plan of which we are not aware of. Virtually all the new infrastructure for the development has Burges Hill

centric and it is even called Northern Arc - Burgess Hill and residents have had to suffer considerable inconvenience to their daily lives from the first day that the enabling works started.

The only people who stand to gain any benefit are likely to be the Parish Council with an income obtained from a huge development right on the perimeter of the Parish and the house builders who will be able to market the sale properties as being in the parish of Ansty and Staplefield.

The Northern Arc should remain as part of Burgess Hill as was the original intention of Homes England I believe

I think it's important that the Northern Arc be included within the boundary of Burgess Hill. Doing so would ensure that the new residents there are properly supported by the town and can become part of our community and all the facilities it offers. This is essential in a growing town like ours. Matching the Town Council wards with the District Council wards will simplify everything for councillors and residents alike, and the increased number of Town Councillors can only be a good thing for our community.

I agree with our Parish Council's comments (Ansty and Staplefield) in that the proposal will leave our Parish severely under-represented by reducing the number of Councillors.

There should be Councillors as follows:

Ansty 5

Staplefield 3

Rocky Lane 3

Brook Street 1

Total 12.....an increase from 9.

However, if Rocky Lane were to be moved to Haywards Heath this would leave 9.

I believe it is extremely important that the Northern Arc's continued development be made part of Burgess Hill. This will ensure the new residents become part of the overall Burgess Hill community that they will undoubtedly be using on a daily basis for home or indeed work. Increasing the number of councillors to match that of the District council also seems to be a very important and logical move.

I absolutely agree with the Parish Council. The numbers of councillors must not be reduced or we shall be under represented.

The numbers should be as stated: Brook Street - 1 Councillor

Ansty - 5 Councillors

Staplefield - 3 Councillors

Rocky Lane - 3 Councillors

If Rocky Lane is moved, the number of councillors for Brook Street, Ansty and Staplefield has to be maintained at the above level ie 9

It would seem logical to incorporate the Northern Arc into Burgess Hill because part of it is already within the town's boundary. The people living there will be using the town's facilities and the wide range of public services that Burgess Hill offers but not contributing financially.

There doesn't appear to be a compelling argument to leave the Northern Arc in Ansty.

I fully endorse the Burgess Hill Town Council consultation response to the Community Governance Review.

I feel there is little I can sensibly add, but is it likely that the those who live in the Northern Arc, who would under the current boundary be within the Ansty and Staplefield parish, be interested in parochial matters that would be extremely unlikely to affect them? And even if they were interested would they be prepared to make the journey to the appropriate Parish Hall, and if they did make the journey, would the Parish Hall be able to accommodate a large influx?

Boundaries are not immutable. County, district, town and parish boundaries are routinely altered to reflect evolving circumstances and it is in the interest of all the new residents of the Northern Arc that this development lies wholly within the auspices of the Burgess Hill Town Council.

In the 2011 town wide strategy the Northern Arc was included as an area for major housing growth and after a consultation of local residents became part of the District Plan.

The development includes paths for walkers and cyclists, new roads and public transport, all linked to Burgess Hill town centre.

Part of the new development is already within the Town's boundary which makes it much more logical to link the whole of it to a town where the new residents will no doubt be using the facilities of shops, schools, swimming pool, sports facilities etc, etc.

Burgess Hill Town Council delivers a wide range of community services and has a vision to expand these (hopefully allowing the wonderful cricket pavilion in St. John Park to be extended so that it can be even more of a community hub). It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

1st, the letter received was using gobble gok, please please use the write simple english language version in future,, so that we can understand what is being asked.

I don't understand why, houses that are deemed part of the Burgess Hill northern arc are being considered as part of the Ansty parish council.

The term BURGESS HILL NORTHERN ARC, depicts these houses should therefore be within the Burgess Hill directive.

plus, the building limits being built are without land spaces between Burgess Hill and the new houses. Unlike, there is currently a lot of land space between the new houses and Ansty. ie. these are therefor part of BH and NOT Antsy.

No doubt this is all pat of a greater political decision and revenue to BH will not be considered.

As a local resident close to the northern arc development I strongly believe the development should fall within the Burgess Hill Town Council area. The proximity of the first homes to the current Sheddingdean Area means it is essential for community cohesion for these areas to be served by the same facilities.

In terms of services, and geography it make no sense to link this development to Ansty. For Mid-Sussex to consider this would be a dereliction of duty which would have a long-term impact on the existing residents of Burgess Hill and a draw on already stretched services. New residents will automatically seek the services within Burgess Hill with no additional funding to support this. This would amount to the deliberate creation of hostility instead of community cohesion, for which Mid Sussex Councillors and the MP would be fully responsible.

The Northern Arc has been incorporated into the Burgess Hill District Plan.

In 2011 Burgess Hill established a town wide plan including the Northern Arc, seen as an area for housing. Burgess Hill residents consulted on this plan and following endorsements by the residents of Burgess Hill it became part of the District Plan.

Burgess Hill has has a strong community of over 30,000 residents. The new community will be able to access all the Burgess Hill services and fully participate in the towns active community life with sports and other facilities available to all.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Ref: Northern Act Exterior Boundary

I personally consider the extension of great benefit to Burgess Hills increasing community, that with additional yearly funds will greatly improve community engagement and cohesion. Allowing for improved local democracy, with improved and additional infrastructure of local community services including: education, health and art/community centres. All of benefit to an increasing residential Sussex Town.

Yours faithfully

REDACTED

The Northern Arc lies very firmly within Burgess Hill, it is obvious to all residents who live here that the residents will NOT be using any services in Ansty but using Burgess Hill and the community. During initial consultations it was "sold" to residents as an addition to the town [as the very term Northern Arc would imply]. Quite why Ansty would have any financial gain from this is beyond me.

The roads, cycle paths and public transport will all lead into Burgess Hill. These new residents will shop, work and have their social lives mainly in the BH area, they will not be heading to Ansty for any of that. All I recall is one over priced petrol station and maybe there is a village hall- there is scarcely any village or community there. I doubt very much they want any housing development near them! Do they have medical services, schools, rubbish tips, supermarkets, community events? No, they don't. They are very much part of Cuckfield. "They" are unable to provide services for these new residents. The new residents will quickly become part of the BH community and contribute to its growth. We already have an active Community Engagement Team.

We do need this review and we need the Northern Arc to be part of OUR community not some political manoeuvring/financial gain for people.

The Northern Arc has always been referred to as Burgess Hill. It is fairly obvious that anyone moving to that area will associate themselves with the town of Burgess Hill. If they wanted to be part of the rural community of Ansty or Staplefield, it is extremely unlikely that they would move to the Northern Arc.

Your submission to the community governance review When we moved here 5 years ago, we were told there was a planned expansion of Burgess Hill, which was intended to take place in conjunction with the redevelopment of the town centre, making provision for the growing population here.

The edge of the 'Northern Arc' is a few hundred yards from our house, and residents will necessarily be using the shopping and service facilities of Burgess Hill.

Traffic from the new development will be using the newly built road which opens onto Maple Drive, Burgess Hill.

We cycle and walk for recreation, regularly using Bedelands. This area will be a space for recreation for the new residents, as it borders the development. The planned cycle paths also appear to link with the Burgess Hill green circle.

Presumably new residents will have work and social connections in the Burgess Hill area. Those working further afield will need to make use of Burgess Hill or Wivlesfield station, and the local road network.

The churches, groups for pre school children, walk groups, U3a and other community groups already exist to serve the Burgess Hill community, and create an essential sense of community.

If a false boundary is created between Burgess Hill and the Northern Arc, where will the residents find a source of community cohesion and support?

We live in Dunstall Ward. The boundary commission has put the northern arc in our ward. It is particularly important to us, and makes sense that these residents, who will be our neighbours, will be voting over the same issues and for the same town council.

It is clear that the Northern Arc is geographically part of the existing town of Burgess Hill.

As a resident of this area, it is clear that the designated footpaths, roads etc for this development are integral to the fabric of Burgess Hill.

The existing community services in Burgess Hill are sound and primed for expansion in anticipation of welcoming the residents of the Northern Arc.

Similarly a variety of local businesses already exist to serve residents of Burgess Hill and the surrounding villages.

The re development of Burgess Hill town centre has been planned with the Northern Arc and future developments in mind.

The potential of the Northern Arc to add to the growth and development of Burgess Hill seems geographically obvious.

As a resident of Dunstall Ward it appears to me that local democracy is better served through the integration of the Northern Arc with Burgess Hill.

I am confused as to why this issue is under discussion as the Northern Arc has been part of the District Plan for some years and within that plan it was stated that the Northern Arc would be integrated into the existing town ie- Burgess Hill and not the villages of Ansty or Staplefield!

Improved Community Engagement ;-

Burgess Hill can offer the new residents of the Northern Arc all the well established community services such as the Help Point and Information Centre, also many ongoing voluntary groups and social organisations, activity groups, various political and religious organisations.

Enhanced community cohesion;-

Part of the Northern Arc is already within Burgess Hill's boundary and it makes common sense to include it as already decided within the District Plan.

Roads, foot paths, bus routes are being established to include the Northern Arc as part of the Burgess Hill Community.

Better Local Democracy;-

It makes sense that all residents in the local area have the opportunity to have a say in decisions that will impact on their daily lives ie; the services that are provided, the local political party, local environmental issues etc.

It is important that these residents have a sense of belonging and inclusion in an already existing active town.

The proposed Northern Arc development is a physical extension of Burgess Hill. This was reflected in the original development plans and this included the moving of the various boundaries to support this new area of the town. With the extension of the housing, schools and other amenities included in the development, these will be seen and should be included as part of Burgess Hill.

Without this change the area of development will not be properly integrated into the town, community, local services and be democratically represented by their local government.

Any new residents will I am sure assume they are part of the town and community to which they are attached. The new roads, paths, cycle routes and green spaces in and around the town have and will incorporate this new Northern Arc development, thereby including them in the cohesive and inclusive expansion of the town.

All residents of Burgess Hill, old and new, need to be and feel part of an overall community and part of this is their inclusion in the appropriate parish, town and county council that can serve them best. In this case it has to be Burgess Hill as originally proposed and I thought agreed.

The Northern Arc is a huge housing development project that intersects existing boundaries between Burgess Hill, Ansty and Staplefield. Ansty and Staplefield are steeped in true parish tradition and to alter or blend this could change the landscape permanently and possibly not for the better. A question must be, could Ansty and Staplefield support and accommodate the needs of quite a few thousand new residents with leisure, transport and employment demands?

By comparison, Burgess Hill has grown exponentially, especially housing, but has been able to absorb the additional needs of new residents due to possessing significant services and facilities. Burgess Hill could be considered as being better placed and probably more experienced with managing this level of new needs, and indeed any further increase to services and facilities.

Incorporating the Northern Arc development within the Burgess Hill boundary should provide a solid focus of community identity and also highlight it's significant employment growth potential. Community engagement will continues to exist, whilst relieving Ansty and Staplefield from pressure to provide enhanced services and facilities.

This review should provide the opportunity to define the local democracy to provide voters with a clear and logical democratic set up.

In 2011 the town wide strategy established by Burgess Hill town Council included the Northern Arc as an area for housing growth and it became part of the District Plan following endorsement by us, the local residents. Furthermore in DP9 the district plan specifically acknowledges that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town. There is also a precedent as Hammonds Ridge in the south of the town was incorporated into the town from Hassocks and Keymer.

When Boundary Commission carried out its review of MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into the Burgess Hill Town Dunstall and Leylands wards. The commission clearly saw that it is important for people living in the same area to be voting for and able to access the same government organisation.

The northern Arc is on the towns border and some of it is already within the town's boundary therefore it is more logical to link it with the town. Investment coming from the Northern Arc links transport infrastructure with the town and the residents will look to Burgess Hill to access the public, private and third sector services with which the town is capable of supporting them. There is also significant investment planned for the town including more community facilities.

Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of approximately£1million and an existing range of community services. It can accommodate the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery. The parish of Ansty and Staplefield could not support the additional number of new residents as their range of services is considerably smaller.

Having received a letter from MSDC titled "Notice of Community Governance Review relating to Burgess Hill Town Council and Consequential Northern Arc considerations for Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council", I felt compelled to respond, such is my fury at this situation.

Firstly, Burgess Hill residents were consulted and endorsed the town-wide strategy that became part of the District Plan, which included the Northern Arc. The District Plan clearly says that the Northern Arc is integrated within the existing town. The investment being put into the Northern Arc is being directly used to establish close and bonded links for walkers, cyclists, motorists and public transport with Burgess Hill, as this is where the town centre is and all its facilities. This includes employment opportunities. In fact, part of the Northern Arc is already within the town's boundary!!!

Burgess Hill Town Council is investing in more community facilities, which includes a new theatre, that will be available the whole town, including the Northern Arc. The BHTC also provides support with a community engagement team, including the help point and tourist information centre for the local and visiting population, which would include the Northern Arc.

The newsletter that we regularly receive from Homes England has consistently spoken of the Northern Arc with regards to its links with BURGESS HILL. From the current Issue 9, for example, "Homes England have worked closely with Mid Sussex District Council's Places and Connectivity Programme to make sure that these new paths connect to the routes that are already there and those that are being developed elsewhere in Burgess Hill. This includes paths that run north-south into the town centre, and paths to Wivelsfield station to the east of the development". Also, Jonathan Ash-Edwards, in his January 2020 Northern Arc progress update, called it the Burgess Hill Northern Arc development and said, I quote "...to ensure that we have a new, thriving community as part of Burgess Hill". I don't think he could be any clearer. We have always been told that the Northern Arc will be part of Burgess Hill.

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Firstly, Burgess Hill residents were consulted and endorsed the town-wide strategy that became part of the District Plan, which included the Northern Arc. The District Plan clearly says that the Northern Arc is integrated within the existing town. The investment being put into the Northern Arc is being directly used to establish close and bonded links for walkers, cyclists, motorists and public transport with Burgess Hill, as this is where the town centre is and all its facilities. This includes employment opportunities. In fact, part of the Northern Arc is already within the town's boundary!!!

Burgess Hill Town Council is investing in more community facilities, which includes a new theatre, that will be available the whole town, including the Northern Arc. The BHTC also provides support with a community engagement team, including the help point and tourist information centre for the local and visiting population, which would include the Northern Arc.

The newsletter that we regularly receive from Homes England has consistently spoken of the Northern Arc with regards to its links with BURGESS HILL. From the current Issue 9, for example, "Homes England have worked closely with Mid Sussex District Council's Places and Connectivity Programme to make sure that these new paths connect to the routes that are already there and those that are being developed elsewhere in Burgess Hill. This includes paths that run north-south into the town centre, and paths to Wivelsfield station to the east of the development". Also, Jonathan Ash-Edwards, in his January 2020 Northern Arc progress update, called it the Burgess Hill Northern Arc development and said, I quote "...to ensure that we have a new, thriving community as part of Burgess Hill". I don't think he could be any clearer. We have always been told that the Northern Arc will be part of Burgess Hill.

I live in Ansty and feel that the residents have made available sufficient land over the past 10 years so that there has already been a significant increase in the number of houses and therefore the number of residents has also increased.

However it seems perverse in these circumstances to reduce the number of councillors to represent the electorate as is proposed in this review.

While appreciating the extra cost of expenses for more councillors, I feel it is important that the electorate is properly represented, especially at a time of great change which we are experiencing locally: with the constant demand for new houses to be built, especially on green field sites. It is important that the electorate feel their opinions are heard and with fewer councillors this will not be achieved.

There is already an anomaly in that on page 1 the table shows Ansty having 773 on the electoral roll and, currently, 4 councillors while Staplefield, with 375 on the electoral roll has 3. Surely, it is already necessary to increase the number of councillors for Ansty back to 5 as soon as possible to maintain the number for proper representation and then to increase the number to 7 as further developments take place in the village according to the National plan. If the National Association of Local Councils recommends that the minimum number of Parish Councillors should be 7, I believe that, with their experience of the workload, 7 should be the number that Ansty should have.

When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards (Dunstall & Leylands). Residents need to have a sensible democratic set up. These changes created two anomalies for some voters: Firstly, some living currently in the parish of Ansty are electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. Secondly, some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands are electing Ansty parish Councillors. This review solves both anomalies by ensuring people vote for their relevant councillors.

With regard to the Northern Arc, it is imperative that the Mid Sussex District Council reconsiders where the boundary falls.

All housing will be in the Burgess Hill area and all new residents will, obviously, be using the facilities of Burgess Hill; doctors, dentists, tip, schools, etc. It is, therefore, important that Burgess Hill town council receives the extra payment and the extra councillors to facilitate the integration of the new residents into the town.

I believe that the Northern Arc should be within the boundary of Burgess Hill.

The new residents will be using any facilities that Burgess Hill has to offer and, therefore, Burgess Hill Town Council should be given the extra funds and town councillors so that these residents can be integrated within Burgess Hill town.

I can't believe that any of the new residents will be using facilities in Staplefield or Ansty!

'The Northern arc Burgess Hill' for as long as I remember this is how it has been referred. It sits directly touching and linked to Burgess Hill. The many people that will live there will be accessing services, infrastructure and facilities in Burgess Hill. It makes perfect sense for the historical boundaries to be moved to reflect this - as was always the plan.

There is no sensible reason why not. Money contributed from this development can then be used to enhance the facilities local to the development, rather than to villages some distance away. It's the only sensible, reasonable option.

Burgess Hill residents agreed with the Northern Arc being part of the District Plan. The arc has been included in the district plan for allocating strategic housing allocation for the district. I believe that the district plan includes the northern arc to be in Burgess Hill.

Surely the northern arc will be linked to Burgess Hill because of work and leisure within the town. Burgess Hill is still growing and the residents of the northern arc will benefit from being part of the town.

Isn't the northern arc within the town's boundary already, and the boundary commission allocate the arc to a couple of existing Burgess Hill Town wards, so what has changed?

There are going to be a lot of people living in the northern arc and Burgess Hill can accommodate the new residents much easier. We have a very effective council help point in the town which provides lots of other agencies with a place to hold planned sessions. Could a couple of rural parish councils provide this level of support.

If the arc is placed within the two parishes the northern arc residents will have no voice in Burgess Hill so the new residents may be disadvantaged if the town initiates changes that the residents do not have a say over.

Burgess Hill has over 30,000 residents and a large budget it also has full-time staff to support residents and the residents in the arc will increase the number but not so significantly that it couldn't cope.

The inclusion of the Northern Arc into the Dunstall and Leylands Wards of Burgess Hill Town Council is a natural progression for this large scale development and will sit more comfortably into these Wards rather than the Parish Council of Ansty and Staplefield. The latter is a large rural area with a few small housing estates whereas Burgess Hill is a sizeable urban area with many sizeable housing developments and provides a better community engagement since its' Help Point and services are close at hand and more accessible.

This better accessibility will enhance their community cohesion for a Town Council will understand the requirements of this large development far better than a Rural Council and, initially, Schooling, Medical, and Community services will be provided by Burgess Hill. Experience of the actions of MSDC planners show that these services are the last to appear, for example at the developments underway off of The Kingsway, Burgess Hill.

Burgess Hill Town Council is far better placed to provide local democracy for reasons mentioned in my first paragraph. Certainly, provided ALL Section 106 monies are allocated to the town, this will be used in such a manner resulting in a more effective and convenient delivery of local services and local government.

I re-iterate a Town Council understands the needs of this development much better than a Parish Council and the thinking of the MSDC proposals baffles me and I conclude that the decision is a political one with little thought given to practicalities.

The northern arc is linked to Burgess Hill because of work and leisure within the town. Burgess Hill is still growing and the residents of the northern arc can benefit from being part of the town.

I thought the northern arc was within the towns boundary, the boundary commission allocate the northern arc to two existing Burgess Hill Town wards.

We have a very effective town help point which provides lots of other organisations with a place to hold planned sessions. Could a couple of rural parish councils provide this level of support.

If the arc is placed within the two rural parishes the northern arc residents will have no voice in Burgess Hill so the new residents may be disadvantage if the town initiate changes that the residents do not have a say over.

Burgess Hill has well over 30,000 residents and a large budget, it also has full-time staff to support existing town residents and the residents in the arc.

Deferring the consideration of the Northern Arc Boundary Changes is unreasonable, even for residents of Ansty and Staplefield. The Development is clearly linked to Burgess Hill and all the services for the newly-developed estates will be provided effectively by Burgess Hill. Obviously it is possible that people may go to Ansty/Staplefield (for example: to go to the pub or to find a doctor) but it is unlikely that more than a few will do so. Their natural link will be southwards, and it is only right that they should be considered as within Burgess Hill and not as extraneous outsiders.

So we, my husband and I, both feel that the boundary needs to be changed as soon as development starts, and not 4 years or more later. And that Mid-Sussex District Council should reverse the decision made recently to support a delay.

The revision of the boundary northwards will

- enable the community in the new development to be officially involved in decision pertaining to the most natural centre of their new community
- improve relations between the new residents and the old, since they will be seen as paying their way towards local services
- improve local democracy by enfranchising the new residents in their natural community
- allow Burgess Hill Town Council access to, and provide funding for, relevant activities and services and show longer-term residents that services inevitably provided by their council are not a drag on resources.

Finally, since, as above, the new residents will inevitably become more linked to Burgess Hill than Ansty and Staplefield, the identity of the whole community will be secured, and services provide in the interests of all.

Though it is not part of this discussion, we do not want a West Sussex version of what has happened on the east of the town with housing for Lewes District Council bolted on.

Firstly, the letter sent on 25 April is not exactly encouraging for normal people to read, but perhaps that was the aim?

However I assume that this is about the recent decision to delay the Electoral Review Implementation due in 2023 for several years more, leaving a slice of Burgess Hill known as the Northern Arc with Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council, thus increasing their revenue and reducing the number of houses they actually need to build within sensible distance of the amenities (such as they are) of Ansty and/or Staplefield.

This is clearly perverse. Anyone joining the new Northern Arc development will naturally see themselves as part of Burgess Hill and would be expected by the current residents to participate in town activities and be served by town facilities. They will want to use Burgess Hill facilities and it would be much more effective and convenient for this to happen and for their voices to be heard when Town decisions are made. Local democracy will be enhanced and I am not sure that Ansty and Staplefield Parishes would be helped much by a few thousand "townies" having to be involved in their decision making instead.

With the Northern Arc residents part of Burgess Hill they will properly be able to be part of the decisions made on their behalf, there will be no feeling among current residents of exploitation of facilities provided by themselves, and democracy will be enhanced by their voices (which will be younger and probably more forward looking than mine).

So I am suggesting that MSDC reverse their decision to delay the boundary changes and incorporate the Northern Arc development into the purview of Burgess Hill Town without delay

'Northern Arc Burgess Hill' has always been the way this new development has been represented. It lays in direct contact with Burgess Hill and those living there will be making use of the infrastructure, services and facilities in Burgess Hill. The historic boundary is just that; with Burgess Hill being far closer than the villages of Ansty and Staplefield. It makes absolute sense for the boundary to change to reflect this.

My comments relate specifically to the Northern Arc development and the Town Council boundary. Apparently the Officers on Mid Sussex District Council want a boundary review, to bring the Northern Arc into Burgess Hill, rather than leave it in Ansty. This was apparently blocked. If left as is, I understand that all the Council Tax income would be lost to Burgess Hill. Frankly, it makes no sense to let an outdated town boundary make a nonsense of the situation. If all the houses, schools etc etc are part of Burgess Hill, then all the income should also benefit Burgess Hill. After all, it is Burgess Hill's amenities, facilities and infrastructure that the residents of the Northern Arc will be using. Common sense should win here, and the Town Boundary needs to be moved to accommodate the Northern Arc at the very least.

Burgess Hill Town Council have always had the Northern Arc as part of the town's district and housing plans. The district plan specifically says the Northern Arc be integrated into the town. Burgess Hill has a community engagement team and also a Helppoint which supports the community and has the facilities to include the Northern Arc. Ansty and Staplefield parish is too small and would need to expand tremendously to cope with extra housing, unlike Burgess Hill. The Boundary Commission also sees the Northern Arc as being in Burgess Hill for voting as it's on the town's borders.

I feel very strongly that the Northern Arc should form part of the Burgess Hill town council area. Geographically it is far closer to Burgess Hill than to Ansty and the residents moving in to the new development will almost certainly use the facilities offered within Burgess Hill (triangle leisure centre, shops, GP surgeries and schools) and as such any income from council tax etc should be used to support the facilities that will be used. I think the residents in the Northern Arc will naturally gravitate to Burgess Hill as their local community. I think that if the Northern Arc is not formally integrated within the Burgess Hill boundary then there is a risk that the 2 communities may not feel connected.

The Northern Arc development is an extension of Burgess Hill. To make it part of Stapleford and Ansty makes little sense for any purposes as the residents will wish to use the facilities of Burgess Hill Town Council.

To link the Northern Arc to the Parish Council means the new development will swamp the existing resource meaning many additional support staff will need to be recruited at additional and unnecessary expense. Not justified.

There is no physical boundary between Burgess Hill and Northern Arc. It therefore makes more sense to add additional wards to Burgess Hill Town Council and Mid Sussex District Council and less additional cost!

The Boundary Commission have not put enough effort in examining the Northern Arc development and its proximity to Burgess Hill and its distance from Ansty and especially Stapleford.

The clue is in the name, they are Parish Councils and suitable to for village life!

If it goes ahead Burgess Hill Town Council will be supporting the Northern Arc without the Council Tax income, which is unfair

Including the Northern Arc within the Burgess Hill Town Council boundary will ensure the new community will consider themselves to be fully part of the existing population of Burgess Hill rather than residents of a fragmented parish based on two distant small settlements.

The physical proximity and connections to Burgess Hill's amenities will foster a stronger community when combined with being within the urban electoral area. This will avoid a feeling of the Northern Arc residents being a community

apart if they are living within a different parish. New residents would feel confused by the separation from Burgess Hill and community cohesion would be adversely affected for both sides.

For residents of the Northern Arc to be represented by a parish council largely concerned with a dispersed population of mostly rural residents and not by councillors in the urban area in which they would logically consider their homes to be would seem undemocratic.

Burgess Hill's town council has more affinity with and experience in dealing with matters relating to the delivery of local services and government in the type of development which the Northern Arc will comprise. There must be economies of scale for one authority to provide services for the enlarged developed area.

Many of the new residents will either already live in Burgess Hill or have family connections with the town which has a strong community and they will wish to retain their identity as being in Burgess Hill. The rate income will benefit the town which will be financing new public building of benefit to the Northern Arc as well as existing residents.

It seems entirely apparent that the Northern Arc development, from its geographical position, and its proximity to local amenities, should be considered to be part of Burgess Hill.

My view is that the new houses in the Northern Arc should be included within Burgess Hill Town Council wards, rather than Ansty.

There are a number of reasons for this:

1) The Northern Arc literally joins onto the North of the Burgess Hill built-up area. The clue is in the name – the Northern Arc! If those houses were going to be part of Ansty then it would have been called the Southern Arc! There is also a significant gap between the Northern Arc houses and the main Ansty settlement.

2) Northern Arc residents are far more likely to use facilities in Burgess Hill, than Ansty. The BH Town Council should therefore get the tax revenues related to those properties, in order to be able to provide services to those residents.

3) I understand that the Northern Arc houses have been placed into Burgess Hill wards for the MS District Council. It would therefore be very strange and confusing for residents if those new houses were not in BH Town Council wards.

4) Aligning new settlements to the settlements they are connected to is standard practice. I live in the 'Priory Village' development – before it was developed, the fields weren't part of Burgess Hill wards. But that was changed following the development. That makes logical sense, as these houses are clearly part of Burgess Hill.

I believe the Northern Arc development should form part of Burgess Hill. These new residents will inevitably use the town's facilities and infrastructure. Therefore, I feel the Council tax on these properties should go to support Burgess Hill services as they will no doubt be using these first and foremost.

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The Burgess Hill boundary should be moved to incorporate the Northern Arc. The people who move into the houses will be using the facilities in Burgess Hill. The people of Burgess Hill are already having to cope with the disruption caused by the preparation for the Northern Arc. Any developer money should be given to the people of Burgess Hill to improve the town, which will be used by all the new people moving into the area. Any councillors representing

the Northern Arc should have a seat at the Burgess Hill Town Council as this would best meet the new residents needs.

As residents of Burges Hill we accepted the need for additional housing to support our rising population and the needs of our friends and families, along with the infrastructure and support services that large town can supply. This came with the expectation that the Northern Arc development would sensibly and correctly be allocated to the Burgess Hill town.

Indeed SDP 10 of the Norther Arc Master plan (<https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/media/4297/norther-arc-masterplan.pdf>) clearly states "The Northern Arc will seek to maximise integration with the existing communities of Burgess Hill and the established facilities and services of the town and the wider District. The new community will complement and add to these facilities, providing existing and new residents with access to a wider range of housing, employment, education, recreation and leisure opportunities. "

The Northern Arc clearly links with the existing areas of Burgess Hill town, which has a strong and vibrant Town Council and community engagement and facilities.

It therefore makes sense for all current and future residents of Burgess Hill and the Northern Arc that the boundaries should be reallocated as soon as possible to clearly include the Northern Arc within Burgess Hill.

Kind Regards

REDACTED

It seems to me very strange that any part of the Burgess Hill Northern Arc (as it is and has always been correctly styled) should fall outside of the official boundary of Burgess Hill.

I was surprised to learn that that this was the case and staggered to hear of the recent decision to defer any changes for the time being.

I fear that this was politically motivated as it will in the meantime enable Ansty and Staplefield to resist another significant housing development closer to Ansty on the basis that the parish has already accepted the housing in the Burgess Hill Northern Arc - although this hardly affects the villages being on the periphery of the current outdated boundary.

In any event the impact of this development will fall almost entirely upon the town of Burgess Hill and it is vital that the growing income from Council Tax should come to the town and not become a windfall to villages.

In summary I have read and fully support the submission of Burgess Hill Town Council that the case for extending the boundary of Burgess Hill to incorporate the Northern Arc without further delay is overwhelming.

Until 2019 when the last changes were made the boundaries for the District and Town Council wards were the same. As this is no longer the case in some instances a member of the public is represented by two Councillors. This means that in the event of a concern/problem arising the member of the public does not know who to contact particularly as the public generally has little appreciation of what is a District responsibility and what is a Town responsibility.

I propose that the boundaries for District and Town are brought into line. This will improve local democracy and enhance the effectiveness of local services and local government,.

Turning to the main concern for the future is the status of what is known as the Northern Arc and the suggestion that this could remain in Ansty and Staplefield when it is clear that future residents will use the services provided by Burgess Hill both the Council and in general for shopping and leisure purposes. In addition to the Northern Arc are the five hundred or so houses constructed east of Kingsway with a further two hundred having planning permission and various developments south of the Folders Lane with more threatened.

It is clear that the Northern Arc will require representation and with a proposed 3500 houses when completed two further wards will be required. Both Franklands and St Andrews wards have expanded without additional representation and with the aim of a general reduction in councillors I recommend that future residents of the Northern Arc should initially be incorporated in the existing neighbouring wards until such time as there is sufficient critical mass to form a new ward and then later two wards.

It is important that any monies due from developers for the construction of the Northern Arc should be used for the benefit of community of Burgess Hill as, noted above, it is to Burgess Hill residents will look for their shopping and leisure activities.

If these monies come to Burgess Hill then this will enhance community cohesion and engagement and enable effective delivery of local services and government.

* The proposed development of 3,500 dwellings planned for the Northern Arc is in very close proximity to the current Burgess Hill boundary and therefore residents will consider themselves to be part of Burgess Hill. By extending our boundary we will extend our means of communication to these people through current methods such as Town Council meetings, Resident's Forum and the Town magazine. We can keep residents informed of key issues affecting them and they will have the opportunity to participate in local activities and have a say in how services are run.

*Burgess Hill already suffers to some extent by straddling the West and East Sussex border. Neighbouring children can go to different schools and some Burgess Hill residents cannot use the local Amenity facility. It would be desirable to extend our boundary so that all within can have access to our facilities, e.g. to the Burial ground, allotments, We cannot have community cohesion if many of our residents are deprived of our services.

*The new development of Burgess Hill will be represented by Councillors from the Parishes of Ansty and Staplefield. These are not only physically removed but are much smaller, more rural and therefore have different needs. This could be very overwhelming for those councils and they could find themselves unable to respond to the more complicated needs of an urban community. By extending Burgess Hill town boundary we can increase the number of councillors who are elected by the local residents and achieve a more localised democracy.

*Finance is always an issue with Councils and with the current town council boundary Burgess Hill could be deprived of a big share of council tax. It can be expected that the new residents of the

Northern Arc will require access to the current facilities and services of the town. Burgess Hill Town Council cannot respond to these extra demands without funding, resulting in loss of services and poor maintenance of current facilities.

* A revised boundary would include the proposed extension of our existing town. We could expect that those new residents will see themselves as part of Burgess Hill. They would participate in local activities, join clubs and have an interest in the local community. By doing so they would identify and influence the wider community.

Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011 which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. Burgess Hill residents were consulted on this strategy and following endorsement by residents it became part of the District Plan.

The Northern Arc has been incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District and the District Plan specifically acknowledges in DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with Burgess Hill.

The Northern Arc is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary making it more logical to link the Northern Arc with the town as has always been the intention.

Burgess Hill had a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc. Residents will naturally gravitate to Burgess Hill for these services rather than the considerably smaller parish of Ansty and Staplefield. Burgess Hill Town Council is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc.

Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team that provide a wide range of community events. It has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed and open 5 days per week which provides extensive community support.

Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life.

When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands. It is important that residents have a clear and logical democratic set up. These changes created the anomaly of some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. This review solves that anomaly. It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors.

It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.

Ultimately, the Northern Arc has always been positioned as a part of Burgess Hill and to suggest that this should change at this late stage is an affront to local democracy.

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2. The Northern Arc has been incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District.

3. The District Plan specifically acknowledges in DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town.

COMMUNITY COHESION

4. Investment coming from the Northern Arc clearly links the development with the existing town with a strong emphasis of forming close links for walkers, cyclists, motorists, and public transport. The result is to bind the Northern Arc to the existing town and make the town centre the clear focus of community identity

5. It is not only transport infrastructure that forges community cohesion. Burgess Hill is an employment growth area which will bring residents within the town for work and to new employment sites in and around the town.

6. Significant public realm investment is planned for Burgess Hill creating a natural pull factor for

residents in the Northern Arc who will naturally look to the town to access public and private services.

6. The Northern Arc is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary making it more logical to link the Northern Arc with the town.

IMPROVED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

7. Burgess Hill had a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc.

It would be hard to set these up from scratch and the parish of Ansty and Staplefield could not support this number of new residents as their centres and ranges of services is noticeably smaller.

8. Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team that provide a wide range of community events.

It has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed and open 5 days per week which provides extensive community support.

Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life.

9. Burgess Hill Town Council is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc.

BETTER LOCAL DEMOCRACY

10. When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands.

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It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.

MORE EFFECTIVE & CONVENIENT DELIVERY OF LOCAL SERVICES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

11. Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos delivery a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

Regards,
REDACTED
Ref: REDACTED

The Key issue is that of promises being honoured, both actual and implied, for the Northern Arc. These promises are for the whole of the Northern Arc to be part of Burgess Hill and to be included within the town's political boundaries. The most obviously example of these promises is the name of the development itself; the Northern Arc because it forms an arc around the north of Burgess Hill.

Key Promises Made

These promises go back to 2011, when Burgess Hill Town Council produced a strategy for the town which highlighted the Northern Arc as a significant area of development for new housing.

In 2015 the Northern Arc became a key part of the Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan, which was put to public referendum in Burgess Hill, passed by the majority of residents, who voted, and published in that year. It was later incorporated into the Mid Sussex District Plan where (in DP9) it is specifically indicated that the Northern Arc will be integrated into Burgess Hill.

Since the website's launch The Northern Arc and its progress has been continually featured on the Burgess Hill development website Burgess Hill Net: <https://www.burgesshill.net/>

The Common Sense of Geographic Proximity

Over and above the promises made by MSDC, the incorporation of the Northern Arc into the Burgess Hill civic area is simply a matter of common sense: -

A. Economically

1. The local economy and employment conditions link the Northern Arc to Burgess Hill and its hinterland of international business headquarters (American Express), business parks (providing more local employment), and mainline rail (London-Brighton) commuter connections.
2. In the planned investment from the development, there is a clear emphasis on developing transport links, to the town centre and Burgess Hill's railway stations.
3. Further investment is planned for Burgess Hill, encompassing leisure and retail facilities. These will be in addition to similar facilities already well established in the town. which is also home to a long-established local cinema. This makes the town the natural hub for all the residents of the Northern Arc.
4. Burgess Hill Town Council currently has an annual budget of around £1 million and a staff of 16. These could accommodate the extra civic demands of Northern Arc residents with better economic efficiency than that of a small parish council.

B. Socially

1. With a population of 30,635 (2011 census), Burgess Hill has developed a rich range of community groups and support networks. The majority of these are well established and capable of servicing a significant growth in the town's population unlike the neighbouring parish of Ansty and Staplefield with a small population of 1,756 (2011 census).
2. In addition, Burgess Hill has a newly built library, 11 established schools, a rich array of children's nurseries and preschool settings, a tourist information centre and help point, and a Citizens Advice bureau.

C. Democratically

1. A significant part of the Northern Arc is already within the town's boundaries and the rest of the development will be seamlessly joined to this early phase of the development. For the town and parish boundary to fall across such a new housing estate will be confusing to residents. It will be difficult for new residents to know which local authority to look to for support and in which wards they will be entitled to vote.
2. When the Boundary Commission conducted its recent review of MSDC ward boundaries, it resolved these potential problems by putting Northern Arc voters into two established Burgess Hill wards: Dunstall and Leylands.
3. Local democracy is probably most effective when voters in the same neighbourhood find themselves voting in the same electoral divisions or wards, and for the same roster of candidates. The Boundary Commission recognised these facts by clearly placing the voters in the whole of the Northern Arc into Burgess Hill and its existing wards of Dunstall and Leylands.

Burgess Hill Town Council (BHTC) established a town wide strategy in 2011 which included the Northern Arc (NA) and it became part of the District Plan (DP) and NA was incorporated into the plan. The DP specifically acknowledged the NA is part of and integrated into the existing town - that town being Burgess Hill

Investment coming from the NA clearly links the development with the existing town with a strong emphasis of forming close links for walkers, cyclists, motorists, and public transport. The result is to bind the NA to the existing town and make the town centre the clear focus of community identity

The NA is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary making it more logical to link the NA with the town.

Burgess Hill had a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the NA.

It would be hard to set these up from scratch and the parish of Ansty and Staplefield could not support this number of new residents as their existing venues and ranges of services is somewhat less

BHTC has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed and open 5 days per week which provides extensive community support.

Residents on the NA will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life.

It is important that residents have a clear and logical democratic set up. These changes created the anomaly of some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councilors for MSDC. This review solves that anomaly.

It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill electing Burgess Hill Town Councilors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councilors.

It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organization. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.

BHTC has a strong service ethos delivery a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the NA into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

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BHTC has a strong service ethos delivery a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the NA into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

CONTEXT: Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011 which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. Burgess Hill residents consulted on this strategy and following endorsement by residents it became part of the District Plan.

The Northern Arc has been incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District.

IMPROVED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

Burgess Hill had a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc.

Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team that provide a wide range

of community events. It also has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed and open 5 days per week which provides extensive community support.

COMMUNITY COHESION:

Investment coming from the Northern Arc clearly links the development with the existing town with a strong emphasis of forming close links for walkers, cyclists, motorists, and public transport. The result is to bind the Northern Arc to the existing town and make the town centre the clear focus of community identity. to access public and private services. . The Northern Arc is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary making it more logical to link the Northern Arc with the town.

BETTER LOCAL DEMOCRACY:

When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries, it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands.

It is important that residents have a clear and logical democratic set up. These changes created the anomaly of some voters, currently living in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. This review solves that anomaly.

MORE EFFECTIVE & CONVENIENT DELIVERY OF LOCAL SERVICES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos delivering a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011 which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. Burgess Hill residents consulted on this strategy and following endorsement by residents it became part of the District Plan.

IMPROVED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

Burgess Hill had a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc. Burgess Hill Town Council is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc. Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life.

COMMUNITY COHESION:

Significant public realm investment is planned for Burgess Hill creating a natural pull factor for residents in the Northern Arc who will naturally look to the town to access public and private services. It is not only transport infrastructure that forges community cohesion. Burgess Hill is an employment growth area which will bring residents within the town for work and to new employment sites in and around the town.

BETTER LOCAL DEMOCRACY:

When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands. It solves a problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors.

It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.

MORE EFFECTIVE & CONVENIENT DELIVERY OF LOCAL SERVICES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos delivering a wide range of community services and has a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

I am a lifelong resident of Burgess (76 years). I have always taken an interest in the development of the town. I remember that in 2011 the Town Council had a strategy that included the Northern Arc & it became part of the District Plan. The Northern Arc was to be integrated into an existing

town.

I live in Leylands Ward and see the Northern Arc being built near to me. It borders on to our lovely Bedelands Nature reserve, part of our Green Circle which is so good for walkers & we also have great new cycling paths.

Burgess Hill has a thriving factory estate which many of the residents of the Northern Arc will work in.

It also has a lot of offices, including Amex, which will also be a source of employment.

Although Burgess Hill town centre is in a sorry state at present it still has a good selection of shops, many of which have been established for many years. It has a good selection of restaurants, an Art Deco cinema & many clubs, societies & sports teams for people of all ages (I am chair of the Burgess Hill Heritage & History Association). We will have a new entertainment centre. We have St John's Park which is currently being upgraded & several other recreation grounds. There are churches for all denominations and also a mosque

The Triangle Leisure Centre is also adjoining the Northern Arc.

The Town Council organises a lot of community events & their Help Point is just that. They have helped me on many occasions

All of the above mean that residents of the Northern Arc of all ages will be spending work and leisure time in Burgess Hill & can also be buried there.

Ansty & Staplefield cannot provide the above. Staplefield is not even near by.

Burgess Hill has grown so much since I grew up here & has always been able to embrace new estates as they have been built.

It is ready to now embrace the Northern Arc. The Northern Arc must be a part of Burgess Hill.

Nothing else makes sense. The Boundary Commission saw this. Neither Ansty or Staplefield can give a fraction of the services & amenities that Burgess Hill can.

Residents of the Northern Arc need to be able to vote for Burgess Hill Town councillors, & hopefully, will become Town Councillors themselves & take an active part in Burgess Hill affairs

Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011 this included the Northern Arc. this is a housing development which we were led to believe was to be part of Burgess Hill and was known locally as Burgess Hill Northern Arc (s on much of the literature which was published.) As a resident I attended the meetings and presentations and it became part of the District Plan. The DP specifically acknowledges in DP9 that the Northern arc is integrated with the existing town.

Investment coming from the Northern Arc clearly links the development with the existing town with a strong emphasis of forming close links for walkers, cyclists, motorists an public transport. it was my clear belief that this new development was very much part of the town and would share facilities and enable the town to grow and prosper with a focus on community identity. the residents o the Northern Arc will naturally gravitate towards Burgess Hill for access to public and private services along with employment as it is so very close to its boundary.

Burgess Hill, as an already established and thriving community has a wide range of community groups ready to support new residents. the surrounding parishes of Ansty and Staplefield could not support this number of new residents as their centres and ranges of services is noticeably smaller. Burgess Hill Town Council has an active community engagement team that provide a wide range of community events. It has a Help Point and Tourist Information centre which is staffed and open 5 day a week which provides extensive community support.

Burgess Hill Town Council is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc.

When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward Boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill Wards - Dunstall and Leylands. It is important that the

residents have a clear and democratic set up. These changes created the anomaly of some voters, living currently in the Parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. This review solves this anomaly. Equally, some residents in Dunstall and Leylands Ward electing Burgess Hill Town councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish councillors. By changing the boundary this problem would be solved.

Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos delivering a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

It appears illogical that a new housing development on the boundary of Burgess Hill, that by its very location will be wanting to use and be part of our town, a town, which can adequately support it, would not be included within its boundary, especially as it has been referred to as Burgess Hill's Northern Arc!

1. Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011 which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. It then became part of the District Plan.
 2. The Northern Arc has been incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District and it specifically acknowledges in DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town.
 3. Investment coming from the Northern Arc clearly links the development with the existing town with a strong emphasis of forming close links for walkers, cyclists, motorists, and public transport. The result is to bind the Northern Arc to the existing town and make the town centre the clear focus of community identity.
 4. It is not only transport infrastructure that forges community cohesion. Burgess Hill is an employment growth area which will bring residents within the town for work and to new employment sites in and around the town.
 5. Significant public investment is planned for Burgess Hill creating a natural pull factor for residents in the Northern Arc who will naturally look to the town to access public and private services.
 6. The Northern Arc is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary making it more logical to link the Northern Arc with the town.
 7. Burgess Hill had a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc. It would be hard to set these up from scratch and the parish of Ansty and Staplefield could not support this number of new residents as their centres and ranges of services is noticeably smaller.
 8. Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team that provide a wide range of community events. It has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed and open 5 days per week which provides extensive community support. Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life.
 9. Burgess Hill Town Council is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc.
 10. When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands.
- It is important that residents have a clear and logical democratic set up. These changes created the anomaly of some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. This review solves that anomaly.
- It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors. It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living

in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.

11. Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos delivery a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot. I believe the Northern Arc East and Northern Arc West wards should be part of Burgess Hill.

To Whom it may concern

Please find my views on the governance arrangements for my area, based on the petition by registered electors to amend the parish boundaries to reflect the community that residents of the Northern Arc development will belong to, specifically to move the northern boundaries of Dunstall and Leylands Wards to include the Northern Arc strategic housing developments or Northern Arc West and East

My views are planed under 4 areas:

- 1) Improved Community Engagement
- 2) Enhanced Community Cohesion
- 3) Better Local Democracy
- 4) More Effective and convenient delivery of local services and local government

1) Improved Community Engagement

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Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000 and a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting the increase in population that will come from the Northern Arc development.

Residents on the Northern Arc will look towards Burgess Hill for a wide range of private, public, and voluntary services that simply will not be available if it was a stand-alone community or remained part of Ansty and Staplefield. Indeed, you could not expect these two villages to be able to support the needs of the Northern Arc where they have no obvious structural connection and do not have an infrastructure base capable of supporting the area (in population terms the Northern Arc is likely to be 3 times the size of Ansty and Staplefield when fully developed).

Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team (3 full time member of staff) that provide a wide range of community events. It has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed (3 full time equivalent) and open 5 days per week providing extensive community support. Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life. There is no comparable service via Ansty or Stapleford

2) Enhanced Community Cohesion

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The Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan (Made January 2016) noted in respect of the Northern Arc development that: "whilst this development is primarily outside of the administrative boundary of Burgess Hill, and outside of its Neighbourhood Plan area, it is designed to function as an urban extension to Burgess Hill." (page 16)

Having established this principle in the Neighbourhood plan it was then carried forward and expanded in the Mid Sussex District Plan. It is also worth noting in this section the reference to the Northern Arc being an "urban extension." In terms of identifying a cohesive community with a

clear identity the setting of the Northern Arc makes it more inclined towards its adjoining urban environment compared to the rural setting of Ansty and Staplefield.

By way of a contrast, and because the Northern Arc is currently situated in the parish of Ansty and Staplefield, it should be noted that these are Category 4 settlements which are defined as: "Small villages with limited services often only serving the settlement itself."

The Mid Sussex District Plan also noted that looking at how the Northern Arc development spills into the existing town it states: "The area between Maple Drive and the Northern Arc is included within the allocation because it is important that the new development is integrated with the existing town and that there are good public transport and pedestrian links between the development and Wivelsfield Station." Indeed Burgess Hill, Wivelsfield (and Haywards Heath) offer the only rail based public transport for the Northern Arc residents whilst bus services more frequently offer services into Burgess Hill from what is the outskirts of town now, but will be the South side of the Northern Arc, with plans to extend those services into the Northern Arc itself

The Masterplan sets out in some detail how the delivery of infrastructure in the development sites, but particularly the Northern Arc, creates an integrated whole with a network of walkways, cycleways and road improvements that connect the Northern Arc to the existing town. In addition, as a key transport hub there are plans to improve both Burgess Hill and Wivelsfield Station as well as invest in regular bus links from the Northern Arc into the existing town. These, along with other investments, makes it clear that the Northern Arc and the existing town are two parts of a whole.

Better Local Democracy

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The Local Government Boundary Commission guidance on Community Governance Reviews (published March 2010) states that:

"in many cases making changes to the boundaries of existing parishes, rather than creating an entirely new parish, will be sufficient to ensure that community governance arrangements to continue to reflect local identities and facilitate effective and convenient local government. For example, over time communities may expand with new housing developments. This can often lead to existing parish boundaries becoming anomalous as new houses are built across the boundaries resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours." (para 15, p10)

This is precisely the situation with the Northern Arc which has been designed as a structural extension to the existing town, albeit that it sits in the neighbouring parish.

The case for change has been reinforced by the recent review of the District Ward boundaries. When the Boundary Commission carried out its review it put the Northern Arc developments up to 2027 into two Burgess Hill wards – Dunstall & Leylands. To leave the parish boundary unaltered by this decision would be to create an anomaly which Community Governance Reviews are designed to remove. If the boundary is not changed some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty would be electing Burgess Hill District Ward Councillors. Amending the boundary solves this anomaly and creates a clear and logical structure for local government and democratic accountability.

It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors. It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in

the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.

More Effective and convenient delivery of local services and local government

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Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that the smaller parishes cannot.

Burgess Hill's town centre is the natural destination for residents in the Northern Arc and, indeed, the Northern Arc Masterplan emphasises this fact. In addition to the public services provided by the Council, provision for the wider catchment area is supported with:

- a) Health services.
- b) Education provision (though it is acknowledged that 2 primary and a secondary school form part of the Northern Arc infrastructure).
- c) Banks and other financial services.
- d) Professional services.
- e) Employment opportunities at two industrial parks and in the town centre (noting that the Northern Arc also makes provision for employment).
- f) Retail with both edge of town supermarkets and a DIY centre plus a traditional town centre with a mix of independent and national chains. The Masterplan includes a major regeneration proposal for the town centre.
- g) A post office.
- h) The Triangle Leisure centre plus other privately run leisure businesses.
- i) Churches and Chapels.
- j) Community Centres.
- k) Community organisations

Many of which do not exist in Ansty and Stapleford

References:

<https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/elections-voting/community-governance-reviews>

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/about-local-councils>

<https://www.burgesshill.gov.uk/town-community/burgess-hill-community-governance-boundary-review>

My reasons for the boundary of Burgess Hill to be extended to incorporate the Northern Arc is as follows:

The Town Wide Strategy that Burgess Hill Town Council undertook with residents of Burgess, Mid Sussex District Council and West Sussex County Council took a holistic approach to investment in and around the town and included a forward-looking assessment of housing development in the area. The Northern Sector (as the Northern Arc was called at this time) was identified as a strategic site for 3500 homes as part of a much larger allocation for housing in and around Burgess Hill.

The Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan (Made January 2016) noted in respect of the Northern Arc development that:

“whilst this development is primarily outside of the administrative boundary of Burgess Hill, and outside of its Neighbourhood Plan area, it is designed to function as an urban extension to Burgess Hill.” (page 16)

Having established this principle in the Neighbourhood plan it was then carried forward and expanded in the Mid Sussex District Plan. It is also worth noting in this section the reference to the Northern Arc being an “urban extension.” In terms of identifying a cohesive community with a clear identity the setting of the Northern Arc makes it more inclined towards its adjoining urban environment compared to the rural setting of Ansty and Staplefield.

The Northern Arc development is being built right next door to a well established part of Burgess Hill and there is no clear difference that you are now entering into a different boundary. The residents in Northern Arc will identify themselves as part of Burgess Hill due to how close they will be living to the local shops and town centre of Burgess Hill. When the Northern Arc is finally finished, it will be probably be twice the size of Ansty and Staplefield. It does not sit in keeping with their status as villages. There is also about 10 -15 minute drive to get to the centre of Ansty and Staplefield from Burgess Hill.

In addition to the public services provided by the Council, provision for the wider catchment area is supported with:

- a) Health services.
- b) Education provision (though it is acknowledged that 2 primary and a secondary school form part of the Northern Arc infrastructure).
- c) Banks and other financial services.
- d) Professional services.
- e) Employment opportunities at two industrial parks and in the town centre (noting that the Northern Arc also makes provision for employment

It is in my view that the case for extending the boundary of Burgess Hill to incorporate the Northern Arc is overwhelming, logical and sensible.

Reasoning for my view is outlined below.

1. Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000 and a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting the increase in population that will come from the Northern Arc development. Being able to provide this level of community support from the start is crucial as new developments are delivered helping to create a sense of place, cohesion and connection.

2. Residents on the Northern Arc will look towards Burgess Hill for a wide range of private, public, and voluntary services that simply will not be available if it was a stand-alone community or remained part of Ansty and Staplefield. Indeed, you could not expect these two villages to be able to support the needs of the Northern Arc where they have no obvious structural connection and do not have an infrastructure base capable of supporting the area (in population terms the Northern Arc is likely to be 3 times the size of Ansty and Staplefield when fully developed).

3. If the boundary is not changed some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty would be electing Burgess Hill District Ward Councillors. Amending the boundary solves this anomaly and creates a clear and logical structure for local government and democratic accountability. It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors. It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill. However, as part of this review we believe that the warding arrangement for the Town Council be considered carefully as, in our view, the Boundary Commission has created a number of smaller parish wards where the ratio of elected member to elector is not in line with some of the other Town Council wards.

4. Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team (3 full time member of staff) that provide a wide range of community events. It has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed (3 full time equivalents) and open 5 days per week providing extensive community support. Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life.

Under the Localism Act 2011, Burgess Hill Town Council has a General Power of Competence giving it the ability to invest in and operate a wider range of services compared to smaller parish authorities. It means that the Council is better equipped to support the needs of residents on the Northern Arc. For example, the Council is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc.

5. Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos delivery a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

Burgess Hill's town centre is the natural destination for residents in the Northern Arc and, indeed, the Northern Arc Masterplan emphasises this fact.

1. The Northern Arc Development has always been seen as an extension to Burgess Hill. Residents will have access to the range of public, voluntary and private services through public transport links and walk and cycleways to Wivelsfield station. It was always seen as part of the strategic development for Burgess Hill in the District Plan. Ansty and Staplefield would not be able to meet the needs of such a large increase in population.

2. All residents were consulted on the Town Wide Strategy and the N.Arc was part of this.

3. The Boundary Commission guidance states that local identities should reflect community governance arrangements. Ansty and Staplefield are tiny villages and are not physically connected to Burgess Hill. Surely the future residents will need to vote for BH Town Council rather than small villages they are not part of other than a line drawn on a map.

4. Burgess Hill's town centre is the natural destination for residents in the Northern Arc and, indeed, the Northern Arc Masterplan emphasises this fact. In addition to the public services provided by the Council, provision for the wider catchment area is supported with:

a) Health services.

b) Education provision (though it is acknowledged that 2 primary and a secondary school form part of the Northern Arc infrastructure).

c) Banks and other financial services.

d) Professional services.

e) Employment opportunities at two industrial parks and in the town centre (noting that the Northern Arc also makes provision for employment).

f) Retail with both edge of town supermarkets and a DIY centre plus a traditional town centre with a mix of independent and national chains. The Masterplan includes a major regeneration proposal for the town centre.

g) A post office in the town and another at World End.

h) The Triangle Leisure centre plus other privately run leisure businesses.

i) Churches and Chapels.

j) Community Centres.

k) Community organisations.

I think we are being asked to submit views regarding how the new Northern Arc Development needs to be represented and how it should relate to the town as a whole. Forgive me if I am wrong. I admit to struggling to understand what was being asked of me in the correspondence

that was sent.

My primary concern is that all decisions made seek the benefit of the WHOLE of Burgess Hill. I have genuine concern over our town centre, the evident mis-management of the redevelopment and the lack of investment that I can see. I cannot understand how business leases were run down and thriving community hubs like the cafe at the Martlets Hall were closed without a CLEAR and AGREED plan for redevelopment. Our town centre is very sad. And it is so far from the thriving, growing town that I think everyone believes Burgess Hill should be. The new development of the Northern Arc must not just add houses and more cars - but added benefits to walkways, cycle paths, and investment in Burgess Hill as a town. We cannot have a huge concrete slab doing nothing in the centre of the town.

Therefore, the Northern Arc development must fall within the boundary of Burgess Hill itself, and must be governed as such. The new residents will, I presume, access the schools, library, supermarkets, leisure centres, rail links, rubbish tip and other facilities of Burgess Hill. Therefore, they should also have the democratic right and responsibility to vote for what is happening in that town itself. I understand there is some debate as to whether the new development falls within Burgess Hill town boundaries or cross over into Ansty and Staplefield.

Clearly the Northern Arc is an extension of Burgess Hill and must therefore fall within Burgess Hill boundaries.

What does Ansty offer a new resident of the Northern Arc? I imagine that many of those moving into the new development will require public transport links to London and Brighton and will therefore utilise the two stations within Burgess Hill? And the Triangle Leisure Centre? And the library? And the supermarkets?

There is, I presume, also a financial implication - I presume there are financial contributions that housing developers by law are required to give to the local council - ie Burgess Hill. And council tax income from new homes and residents must be invested into the town that will feel the impact the most. Again, please see my comments above, the town centre must reflect the bigger vision for Burgess Hill to be a place for business and residents to come.

Burgess Hill drastically needs investment and the drain of resources on the town from the new development must also equate to a reinvestment into the town from council tax and developers contributions.

I understand there is also a precedent with the Hammonds Ridge development that was once part of Clayton Parish but, now, is part of Burgess Hill because clearly it is an extension of the town.

Burgess Hill is changing. I hope it is for the better, I care about this community. But the idea that the Northern Arc might not fall under Burgess Hill Town boundaries seems ridiculous. It has always been communicated that it would be part of Burgess Hill and therefore the costs/loss incurred would also come with some benefits. I'm concerned, as a current resident, we may suffer the costs/losses without the benefits.

Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011 which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. Burgess Hill residents consulted on this strategy and following endorsement by residents it became part of the District Plan.

The Northern Arc has been incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District.

Investment coming from the Northern Arc clearly links the development with the existing town with a strong emphasis of forming close links for walkers, cyclists, motorists, and public transport. The result is to bind the Northern Arc to the existing town and make the town centre the clear focus of community identity.

Burgess Hill has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc. It would be hard to set these up from scratch and the parish of Ansty and Staplefield could not support this number of new residents as their centres and ranges of services is noticeably smaller.

Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos delivery a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

Therefore I believe the boundary for the Northern Arc should come under Burgess Hill town council.

If I have understood the rather overcomplicated system correctly, it appears that District Council boundaries have been moved to accommodate the new houses in the Northern Arc of Burgess Hill, but that the parish boundary between Burgess Hill and Ansty has not been moved at all. In my view this makes absolutely no sense. The Northern Arc houses, already being built, have and will always be seen as part of Burgess Hill (It's called the Burgess Hill Northern Arc). It is incredulous that the District Council should overlook this, and then rather than admit their mistake and put it right, they tried to postpone it and make it someone else's problem.

Improved Community Engagement

The houses will be part of a town. They will feel very much like any estate within the town. Their community will be within the Northern Arc itself. This will have a very different feel to a rural parish like Ansty which is much less populated. (I know the difference in feel, because I've lived a lot of my life in Scaynes Hill, itself in a rural parish - Lindfield Rural). The small village hall in Ansty will not be the centre of the community for the houses in the Northern Arc. The people of Ansty would not be able to provide the staffing / volunteers necessary to provide community activities for such an influx of population.

Enhanced Community Cohesion

As the houses are built, they will make their own community cohesion. This will be based around where people are living and working. They will not be interested in joining into community with Ansty, and the residents of Ansty - whom they will never probably meet (except if Ansty residents use the supermarkets of Burgess Hill!). Everything is being done to incorporate the houses into the town, as was the concept in the District Plan. We are eagerly awaiting the completion of the rest of the cycle route which will complete the whole ring around Burgess Hill, and will incorporate the Northern Arc.

Better Local Democracy

It makes no sense for the people in the new houses to vote for a District Councillor in a town ward (Burgess Hill) and a Parish Councillor in a rural ward.

Local Services and Local Government

As above, the people in the new houses will want to have a say in the services provided to them by the Town Council. They will not be interested in what is happening in Ansty. I don't know how

the Town Council is funded, but I can only think that if the Town Council is providing services to these houses the population of these houses should be included in their wards. Again, the people within the Northern Arc are going to stay in Burgess Hill for their shops, schools, cinema, pubs, library, social activities, public transport. It has nothing to do with Ansty.

Following a consultation, Burgess Hill Town Council won the backing of Burgess Hill residents on its strategy, which became part of the District Plan. The Northern Arc was incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District. The District Plan specifically acknowledges in DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town.

Investment coming from the Northern Arc clearly links with the development with the existing town, binding the Northern Arc to the existing town which will make the town centre the clear focus of community identity. Public realm investment planned for Burgess Hill will create a natural pull factor for residents in the Northern Arc who will naturally look to the town to access public and private services. The Northern Arc being on the town's border with some of it already within the town's boundary makes its linking to the Northern Arc with the town logical.

Burgess Hill, with its population of over 30,000, has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc - the parish of Ansty and Staplefield is noticeably smaller and would struggle to support this large number of new residents.

The Boundary Commission's review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries placed the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands. This created an unclear and illogical democratic setup with some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. This review would solve a similar anomaly where some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands elect Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors.

Burgess Hill Town Council's annual budget of around £1m with 16 full time members of staff with its strong service ethos delivers a wide range of community services and a strong vision. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services, providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

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The Northern Arc has been conceived of and built as an integral part of Burgess Hill town and it is evident that the local government structures should be adjusted to reflect this reality.

Even the name of the project embodies it's conception as a northern development of Burgess Hill, not a southern addition to Ansty and Staplefield.

In terms of the elements to be covered by the governance review:

Improved community engagement: Burgess Hill town provides social, retail and leisure facilities that will be the closest of these facilities available to northern arc residents. New residents of the northern arc and residents of the existing Burgess Hill area benefit from these facilities equally and should be supported in being equally engaged in their provision. Being part of a single town council will enable this equal engagement.

Enhanced community cohesion: The northern arc will be an attached part of Burgess Hill. New residents and existing residents will be close neighbours. Engaging the new residents of the northern arc in the community life of the town of Burgess Hill, and ensuring that they have a stake in the future of the town will be essential to engendering social cohesion between new and existing residents.

Better local democracy: Decisions taken by Burgess Hill Town Council will impact directly on the residents of the northern arc. It is right that residents of this new part of Burgess Hill will have a vote to ensure that their interests are properly represented on the Burgess Hill council.

More effective and convenient delivery of local services and local government: The northern arc will become the site of several services for existing Burgess Hill residents - notably a new primary and secondary school. This will require coordination of service provision notably for travel and parking between residents of the current area of Burgess Hill and for northern arc residents. Coordinating the provision of these services would be more effective through a single town council.

As a resident of Burgess Hill I am writing in response to the proposed Community Governance Review relating to Burgess Hill Town Council & consequential Northern Arc development and which town council the new development should be part of. The Northern Arc Master Plan was based & planning permission granted, on the fact that this development was an extension to Burgess Hill. Therefore below are my reasons why the Northern Arc development be included within the boundaries & parish of Burgess Hill.

1) Improved community engagement

Burgess Hill will be the closest large town for the new development to identify with, sharing amenities such as railway & bus links, leisure centres, cinema, Theatre, high street retail outlets, doctors, dentists, Library, Schools, Nurseries, Burgess Hill Shed, The Kiln, employment opportunities, burial grounds, etc the majority of which will not be catered for in the new development at Northern Arc. To enable the enhancement of Burgess Hill Town Centre & it's regeneration (Building of "The Hive", development of refurbished retail outlets attracting more

retailers & Businesses to the area) more funds are required to be applied to Burgess Hill & therefore it is essential that the funding from the Northern Arc residential (3,500 homes which in council tax alone could range between band A = £4.61m to band F= £10m per annum averaging £7m for a mixed housing banding) Additionally, the number of voters from the Northern Arc could be near to 7000, and could be a significant influence to what happens in Burgess Hill.

2) Enhanced community cohesion

This will be achieved by the Northern Arc being part of the Burgess Hill identity & residents & businesses having a voice in how Burgess Hill is run if present boundaries remain. At present Burgess Hill has been going through a huge amount of disruption & upheaval due to the preparations (Roads & infrastructure etc) for Northern Arc development, which has affected the Burgess Hill residents detrimentally for the past 18 months & will continue until the master plan has been completed. Therefore, it is essential that the Northern Arc remain within the Burgess Hill boundaries, so that the Burgess Hill residents benefit from closer employment opportunities, better sports facilities, increased local school opportunities (closer than Hassocks or Haywards Heath) and additional community centres.

3) Better local democracy

By keeping the boundaries as is, will mean that communications will be improved rather than dealing with multiple councils with issues. Cutting back on red tape for schools that are linked in a Trust (communicating with one council only). With more voters in Burgess Hill, our voice will be louder on important issues. As the nearest & largest town, Burgess Hill is affected by the impact of the Northern Arc the most, so should democratically benefit from the increase in voters, council tax & business tax.

4) More effective & convenient delivery of local services & local government

As the Northern Arc's proximity to Burgess Hill is so close, & impacts the town so much, the Northern Arc will depend on Burgess Hill for retail, leisure pursuits, potentially school choices, employment, refuse collection, policing, transport links, parks, etc and Burgess Hill will need to rely on the additional council tax & business taxes to help provide all local services required. Therefore focusing & targeting resources where they are needed the most to benefit the majority. As long as the Northern Arc is part of Burgess Hill (as per the Master Plan) then the new residents have a stronger identity of being part of a growing town, which is changing & developing to meet the needs of its present & future residents & business sectors. They will have a voice & say in their futures which will help Burgess Hill evolve and become an even stronger identity.

Significant development in the District Plan is directed towards Category 1 settlements which are Burgess Hill, East Grinstead and Haywards Heath. Burgess Hill meets the definition of a Category 1 settlement and the Northern Arc, due to its structural identity, it is appropriate to view it as part of Burgess Hill given that it is an extension of the town. Other than because of local government history there is no obvious connection between the Northern Arc and Ansty (or Staplefield). There is no structural connection between the Northern Arc and these smaller settlements. The thrust of infrastructure development is wholly directed towards Burgess Hill not Ansty or Staplefield.

The delivery of infrastructure in the development sites, but particularly the Northern Arc, creates an integrated whole with a network of walkways, cycleways and road improvements that connect the Northern Arc to the existing town. In addition, as a key transport hub there are plans to improve both Burgess Hill and Wivelsfield Station as well as invest in regular bus links from the Northern Arc into the existing town. These, along with other investments, makes it clear that the Northern Arc and the existing town are two parts of a whole.

To leave the parish boundary unaltered would be to create an anomaly which Community Governance Reviews are designed to remove. If the boundary is not changed some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty would be electing Burgess Hill District Ward Councillors. Amending the boundary solves this anomaly and creates a clear and logical structure for local government and democratic accountability. It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess

Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors.

Residents on the Northern Arc will look towards Burgess Hill for a wide range of private, public, and voluntary services that simply will not be available if it was a stand-alone community or remained part of Ansty and Staplefield. These two villages will not be able to support the needs of the Northern Arc, where they have no obvious structural connection, and do not have an infrastructure base capable of supporting the area (simply in population terms the Northern Arc is likely to be three times the size of Ansty and Staplefield when fully developed).

Burgess Hill's town centre is the natural destination for residents in the Northern Arc and, indeed, the Northern Arc Masterplan emphasises this fact. In addition to the public services provided by the Council, provision for the wider catchment area is supported with:

- a) Health services.
- b) Education provision.
- c) Banks and other financial services.
- d) Professional services.
- e) Employment opportunities at two industrial parks and in the town centre.
- f) Retail with both edge of town supermarkets and a DIY centre plus a traditional town centre with a mix of independent and national chains. This includes a major regeneration proposal for the town centre.
- g) Post Office facilities.
- h) The Triangle Leisure Centre plus other privately run leisure businesses.
- i) Churches and Chapels.
- j) Community Centres.
- k) Community organisations.

Burgess Hill has previously been the subject of a number of housing developments on the eastern side of the town that are directly linked to the main conurbation but because they fall within an alternative Parish, District and County boundary there has been no opportunity to revise the boundary. Those residents are essentially part of the town population, using the town facilities and services. Similarly they have NO democratic say in how the town continues to develop.

Failure to revise the boundary and include the Northern Arc within the governance of Burgess Hill Town Council will duplicate the long held complaint of the District Council of strains on local services by those residents for which there is no funding nor democratic overview.

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Failure to revise the boundary and include the Northern Arc within the governance of Burgess Hill Town Council will duplicate the long held complaint of the District Council of strains on local services by those residents for which there is no funding nor democratic overview.

1. Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011 which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. Burgess Hill residents consulted on this strategy and following endorsement by residents it became part of the District Plan.
2. The Northern Arc has been incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District.
3. The District Plan specifically acknowledges in DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town.
4. Investment coming from the Northern Arc clearly links the development with the existing town with a strong emphasis of forming close links for walkers, cyclists, motorists, and public transport. The result is to bind the Northern Arc to the existing town and make the town centre the clear focus of community identity
5. It is not only transport infrastructure that forges community cohesion. Burgess Hill is an employment growth area which will bring residents within the town for work and to new employment sites in and around the town.
6. Significant public realm investment is planned for Burgess Hill creating a natural pull factor for

residents in the Northern Arc who will naturally look to the town to access public and private services.

6. The Northern Arc is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary making it more logical to link the Northern Arc with the town.

7. Burgess Hill had a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc.

It would be hard to set these up from scratch and the parish of Ansty and Staplefield could not support this number of new residents as their centres and ranges of services is noticeably smaller.

8. Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team that provide a wide range of community events.

It has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed and open 5 days per week which provides extensive community support.

Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life.

9. Burgess Hill Town Council is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc.

10. When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands.

It is important that residents have a clear and logical democratic set up. These changes created the anomaly of some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. This review solves that anomaly.

It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors.

It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.

11. Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos delivery a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

12. I am a governor at The Burgess Hill Academy and Chair of Governors at Southway Junior School. I am a very active member of the Burgess Hill community and a strong advocate of community engagement. I passionately want our town to grow together and for the residents to be able to live in a thriving and practical town. I urge the councillors to consider the above representations and merge the Northern Arc into Burgess Hill.

I wanted to submit my views on the boundary & Community Governance Review.

Community Cohesion

DP9 / District Plan called out that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town.

Community Engagement & Cohesion

The investment coming from Northern Arc links the development with BH including walkers, cyclists, motorists / public transport binding the Northern Arc to BH making our town centre the focus of community and community identity

We're also an employment growth area bringing residents within the town for work but also to new employment sites in and around town.

With the significant investment planned for Burgess Hill it will create a natural pull factor for residents in the Northern Arc who will naturally look to BH for access public and private services.

The Northern Arc is on our town's border and some of it is already within the boundary making it more logical to link the Northern Arc with the town.

As we have a population of over 30,000 and we have a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc. It's going to be hard to set these up from scratch and the parish of Ansty and Staplefield could not support this number of new residents as their centres and ranges of services is noticeably smaller.

Burgess Hill Town Council is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc.

Better Local Democracy

When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands.

These changes created the anomaly of some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. This review solves that anomaly.

It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors.

It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.

Finally, it simply makes logical sense for Northern Arc to be part of BH, we can support it, BH is a growth area.

May I say, initially, that I found it rather bizarre that MSDC have made the decision not to proceed with the expected transfer of the governance of the 'Burgess Hill' Northern Arc to BHTC, at this current time. Documents produced by MSDC refer to it as the 'Burgess Hill Northern Arc' – surely this means you also have assumed it is a part of the development of Burgess Hill. In fact, after you made your initial decision to defer the transfer, you have still continued to refer to it in all press releases as the 'Burgess Hill Northern Arc'. However, as requested, I have laid out below the reasons why I signed the petition, asking MSDC to reconsider their decision.

When the town strategy for Burgess Hill was put together, 11 years ago, it included the 'Burgess Hill Northern Arc' - a large area for new housing. The residents of Burgess Hill were consulted on

this and were the ones to endorse it, prior to its inclusion in the District Plan.

The 'Burgess Hill Northern Arc' is at the current border of the town (and some of the building already falls within Burgess Hill's town boundary) - not transferring the whole Northern Arc to a single town governance would divide the new neighbourhood and therefore reduce the sense of 'community' from the residents. The roads and paths (pedestrian and cycle) have all be added to connect it with Burgess Hill, and its facilities.

Burgess Hill is already set up and run to cater for a large number of residents and the residents of the Burgess Hill Northern Arc can more easily be provided for, in terms of support and community life. The majority, if not all, residents of the Northern Arc development will likely be registered with GPs within Burgess Hill – send their children to Burgess Hill schools - they will shop at Burgess Hill supermarkets – in summary, they will make use of Burgess Hill's resources (not those of the tiny rural parishes of Ansty and Staplefield – who don't have those resources).

It should be noted there is a precedent for expecting the 'Burgess Hill' Northern Arc would be transferred to Burgess Hill Town Council governance, as Burgess Hill's Hammonds Ridge (Priory Village) development was originally allocated to Clayton Parish – but that was transferred to Burgess Hill without any issues. Which begs the question of why MSDC think the Northern Arc is any different?

Burgess Hill TC established a strategy in 2011 including the northern Arc as an area for housing growth. As Burgess Hill residents we were consulted on this strategy and the district plan. The Arc was incorporated into the district plan and allocated to the district. Within the consulted and agreed plan it was acknowledged the Northern Arc integration with Burgess Hill.

Investment for the northern Arc was clearly linked to the development of the existing town, including improving Non motorised links for walkers/cyclists. Burgess Hill is a employment growth area , with investment panned for Burgess Hill creating natural cohesion with residents of the Northern Arc who will naturally use Burgess Hill to access public and private spaces. Especially when not using vehicles. Residents will be able to fully participate with the active community life without the need to travel via vehicles increasing co2 emissions.

The Arc is on the border with some of it already within the towns boundary, making it a part of our town. The town has over 30,000 residents with many public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents of the Arc. Including an active community engagement Team & events. There is also a help point & tourist centre.

Ansty and Staplefield do not have these currently in place and would not be able to support the large number of new residents with noticeable smaller centres and range of services.

The boundary commission put the Northern Arc into 2 burgess hill wards (dunstall & leylands) - It is vital we residents have a clear democratic set up. The changes allowed residents of Ansty to elect burgess hill councillors, reducing our trust in the system - this review will sole this anomaly

It is essential that local government votes count the same, and residents living in the same area have access to the same governmental organisation. The boundary commission saw that as being Burgess Hill.

We as residents need to be able to trust the plans that we comment on, trust that the services promised to us within these plans are delivered, trust our opinions are valued and not devalued

by financial incentives, and trust that local governments are all working for the same outcomes for residents at all times

I moved to Burgess Hill (BH) in 2013 and saw it as an expanding vibrant town. Having been to a number of town council meetings I was aware of the town wide strategy developed in 2011 as I understood it, this included the Northern Arc (NA) even back then. I believe that the NA has been incorporated into the District Plan (which specifically acknowledges in DP9 that the NA is integrated with the existing town) to cover the strategic housing allocation for the District.

Having been to a number of consultations about the NA and expressed my concerns about the infrastructure strains this housing would apply to BH I was assured by the planners/developers that BH infrastructure was being developed to cope with the 1000s of new BH residents. The transport infrastructure will forge community cohesion. BH is an employment growth area which will bring residents within the town for work and to new employment sites in and around the town. With this increase in workforce Significant public realm investment is being planned for BH which will create a natural pull factor for residents in the Northern Arc who will naturally look to BH for public and private services

From the plans shown on your website, the NA is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary making it more logical to link the Northern Arc with the town.

Currently BH has a population of over 30,000 and therefore has the infrastructure including public, private and voluntary to support the new NA residents. How could the parish of Ansty and Staplefield be expected to support 1000's of new residents. It would take them many years to expand to fulfil this role.

BH Town Council already has these items in place:

An active Community Engagement Team that provide a wide range of community events.

A Help Point & Tourist Information Centre.

And is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre

Obviously the new residents of the NA will be able to access all these services.

From what I've read, when the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the NA into two BH wards - Dunstall & Leylands. This seems logical as they next to each other and a long way from Ansty (even further from Staplefield). This would also solves a problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors.

It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being BH.

From information I have discovered that BH Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It delivers a community services and a has stated it wants to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

Please find below why we signed the petition for the Community Governance Review and in particular why we are interested and invested in the Northern Arc boundary being entirely part of Burgess Hill.

Right from the start the whole new extensive development which is the Northern Arc was sold to everyone as 'for Burgess Hill' which would greatly benefit from the funding the development attracted/would bring and this understanding has not changed through any communications heard or seen over the years; communications have repeated 'Northern Arc, Burgess Hill'.

It is widely understood that the inclusion of the Northern Arc into Burgess Hill, it's services, infrastructure and regeneration of the town, and we have all been asked to accept this impact as this was marketed to us that it would be good for Burgess Hill and increase the amenity of the town, delivering a wide range of improvements benefiting existing and new residents to Burgess Hill.

New Homes England online public Northern Arc Community 'drop in' event during 2020 made several references to Burgess Hill and particularly the community focused developments included only what Burgess Hill had already; Ansty and Staplefield were not mentioned.

Northern Arc, Burgess Hill literature used references to Burgess Hill's existing facilities when calculating future requirement from the increased population the Northern Arc would bring. This inclusion of existing Burgess Hill statistics was from many different areas covering infrastructure, sports facilities to allotments to cycle paths, public transport and more.

Burgess Hill is throughout the numerous Homes England Northern Arc updates and states 'Development at the Northern Arc is part of the ambitious Burgess Hill Strategic Growth Programme'.

The website to visit for extensive news and updates on the development is burgesshill.net further confirming the association of the development being within Burgess Hill going back as far as 2017 and beyond with much earlier consultation with Burgess Hill residents.

The boundary of the Northern Arc lies partly already within Burgess Hill and would be logical to couple the development with Burgess Hill which has extensive council and community initiatives and services including the Council Help Point and Tourist Information Centre.

The Boundary Commission reviewed the MSDC District Ward Boundaries and put the Northern Arc into two existing Burgess Hill Wards, this confirms a strong cohesion to being part of Burgess Hill.

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Northern Arc, Burgess Hill literature used references to Burgess Hill's existing facilities when calculating future requirement from the increased population the Northern Arc would bring. This inclusion of existing Burgess Hill statistics was from many different areas covering infrastructure, sports facilities to allotments to cycle paths, public transport and more.

Burgess Hill is throughout the numerous Homes England Northern Arc updates and states 'Development at the Northern Arc is part of the ambitious Burgess Hill Strategic Growth Programme'.

The website to visit for extensive news and updates on the development is burgesshill.net further confirming the association of the development being within Burgess Hill going back as far as 2017 and beyond with much earlier consultation with Burgess Hill residents.

The boundary of the Northern Arc lies partly already within Burgess Hill and would be logical to couple the development with Burgess Hill which has extensive council and community initiatives and services including the Council Help Point and Tourist Information Centre.

The Boundary Commission reviewed the MSDC District Ward Boundaries and put the Northern Arc into two existing Burgess Hill Wards, this confirms a strong cohesion to being part of Burgess Hill.

I'm writing to support the argument to extend the boundary of Burgess Hill to incorporate the Northern Arc development.

The Burgess Hill Northern Arc has always been positioned as an extension of the existing town, the Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council website recognises the development as the 'Burgess Hill Northern Arc' rather than a distinct settlement between Ansty and Burgess Hill. Parts of the development are tightly integrated to the town's existing road and transport network, Burgess Hill will need to provide the services to support the new development until local facilities expand. From my experience of the previous developments in the town, it is by no means certain that the committed infrastructure will be fully provided even where land has been committed as part of the planning due to the reliance on national funding.

This development represents a significant enlargement of the existing town and is likely to place a corresponding impact on the town's services. Indeed, the suggestion that this development is an extension of Ansty and Staplefield is ridiculous given the extent to which it will dwarf the existing settlements in this area. The positioning of this development as an extension of the town helps to preserve the Ansty and Staplefield villages whilst still enabling Mid Sussex to accommodate the new housing needed.

Given its rural nature, it is highly unlikely that the primary provision for the Burgess Hill Northern Arc development could be provided by the existing facilities within the parish. This provision would logically be from the existing town of Burgess Hill (with which the development will be tightly integrated) as the villages neither have the facilities or scale to reasonably take this level of demand.

There is no obvious connection between the Northern Arc and Ansty or Staplefield. I cannot imagine that the residents of either village would conclude that the Northern Arc had any real connection to them.

My understanding is that the Boundary Commission has concluded that the Burgess Hill Northern Arc developments will fall into two of the existing Burgess Hill District wards – Dunstall and Leylands. It is a reasonable conclusion that the town / parish councils should align with these same boundaries to avoid anomalies due to this misalignment. The demands in an urban area are somewhat different to those in a rural area and it is my opinion that the entire concept of local democratic accountability is undermined if residents are electing local officials for areas in which they don't reside.

The Northern Arc Master Plan emphasises that Burgess Hill is a natural destination for these residents. Burgess Hill will provide essential facilities, leisure and possibly employment for this development. There are clubs and organisations to join within the town.

To suggest that this development stays within the parish of Ansty and Staplefield with the town taking the brunt of the increased demand for services is yet another example of the District Council ignoring the needs and requirements of Burgess Hill residents.

For the reasons stated above, I feel that the Community Governance Review should conclude that the boundary changes are appropriate.

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For the reasons stated above, I feel that the Community Governance Review should conclude that the boundary changes are appropriate.

Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011 which included the Northern Arc as an area for major growth of housing. My understanding is that the District Plan acknowledges that the Northern Arc is integrated within the existing town.

Investment from the Northern Arc clearly links the development with the existing town, emphasising close links for walkers, cyclists, motorists and public transport. This clearly binds the Northern Arc to the existing town.

The Northern Arc is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary - it's therefore logical to link the Northern Arc with the town.

Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups that could support residents of the Northern Arc.

The Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team that provide a wide range of community events. It has a help point and tourist information centre. Residents on the northern arc would be able to access all these services and full participate in the town's community.

It is important to have a clear and logical democratic set up - when the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall and Leylands.

It is important that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation.

Burgess Hill TC established a strategy in 2011 including the northern Arc as an area for housing growth. As Burgess Hill residents we were consulted on this strategy and the district plan. The Arc was incorporated into the district plan and allocated to the district. Within the consulted and agreed plan it was acknowledged the Northern Arc integration with Burgess Hill.

Investment for the northern Arc was clearly linked to the development of the existing town, including improving Non motorised links for walkers/cyclists. Burgess Hill is a employment growth area , with investment panned for Burgess Hill creating natural cohesion with residents of the Northern Arc who will naturally use Burgess Hill to access public and private spaces. Especially when not using vehicles. Residents will be able to fully participate with the active community life without the need to travel via vehicles increasing co2 emissions.

The Arc is on the border with some of it already within the towns boundary, making it a part of our town. The town has over 30,000 residents with many public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents of the Arc. Including an active community engagement Team & events. There is also a help point & tourist centre.

Ansty and Staplefield do not have these currently in place and would not be able to support the large number of new residents with noticeable smaller centres and range of services.

The boundary commission put the Northern Arc into 2 Burgess Hill wards (Dunstall & Leylands) - it is vital we residents have a clear democratic set up. The changes allowed residents of Ansty to elect Burgess Hill councillors, reducing our trust in the system - this review will solve this anomaly.

It is essential that local government votes count the same, and residents living in the same area have access to the same governmental organisation. The boundary commission saw that as being Burgess Hill.

We as residents need to be able to trust the plans that we comment on, trust that the services promised to us within these plans are delivered, trust our opinions are valued and not devalued by financial incentives, and trust that local governments are all working for the same outcomes for residents at all times.

Ever since I have heard about the Northern Arc development, it has been described as an extension of Burgess Hill: a residential development which is part of a general growth plan for the town, in tandem with the industrial development that is beginning to take place on the town's outskirts. Indeed, in the current online edition of Mid Sussex Matters, it is described as such. I quote: "2022 is a big year for the Northern Arc development in Burgess Hill as the project moves from the planning and infrastructure phases to the first residents moving in to their new homes." From what I have seen of the plans for the development, it is clear that it is being built with an orientation towards Burgess Hill town, with roads, bus routes and cycle paths planned to link the housing development to the town centre and the business parks. The development butts right onto the border of the town, with no "spare land" in between it and the current town boundary. And in fact some of it is already within the town boundary. The notion that the rest of it could be a part of the village of Ansty, rather than the town of Burgess Hill, seems to fly in the face of geographical and democratic logic, and everything that we residents have been told so far in the process.

Burgess Hill town centre is scheduled for redevelopment, to provide facilities that will reflect the increased size of the population. I know this redevelopment has stalled, but it has not been taken off the table. The nearest village of Ansty is not big enough to provide the types of facilities that our town already has, even before the redevelopment of the centre. The town council is very active in promoting community events such as markets and festivals, as well as providing much-needed community services such as the Pantry. The town centre Help Point provides a lot of community support. There are many community organisations in Burgess Hill: sports clubs, children's and youth groups, a wide variety of churches as well as facilities such as the library, health centres, allotments and adult education facilities. In addition, the town council has plans to build a new theatre, to replace the demolished Martlets Hall. All of these things will be on offer to Northern Arc residents, many of whom will be working alongside residents within the current town boundaries, and making links into the town's community as they get to know their colleagues.

For all the reasons outlined above, the new residents of the Northern Arc will undoubtedly feel that they belong to the community of Burgess Hill. They should therefore be able to vote for councillors to represent them in that community.

The boundary should be reviewed to incorporate the entire Northern Arc into the boundary of Burgess Hill.

Back in 2015 the Northern Arc became a key part of the Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan, which was put to a public referendum in Burgess Hill and was passed by the majority of residents. The Northern Arc was then incorporated into the Mid Sussex District Plan where (DP9) it is specifically indicated that the Northern Arc will be integrated into Burgess Hill.

In addition to the above, the incorporation of the Northern Arc into the Burgess Hill Civic area is simply a matter of common sense for the following reasons:

Improved Community Engagement:

Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of community groups and support networks which are capable of supporting new residents on the Northern Arc.

The parish of Ansty & Stapleford has a population of just under 2,000 and clearly offers a far smaller range of centres and services and could not possibly support the new residents of the Northern Arc

Burgess Hill Town Council is well set up to provide a wide range of community services and new residents on the Northern Arc will be able to take advantage of all these services and fully involve themselves in the town's active community life and all it has to offer.

Enhanced Community Cohesion:

Burgess Hill offers the future residents of the Northern Arc a rich variety of assets, from impressive local employment opportunities including the international business headquarters of American Express and many local opportunities to be found in the Burgess Hill Business Parks. Burgess Hill has two mainline rail stations which both offer residents regular services from London to Brighton. It is hard to see how the small parish of Ansty & Stapleford could offer the new residents of the Northern Arc such facilities. Therefore the new residents of the Northern Arc will obviously look to Burgess Hill to access its private and public services.

Geographically the Northern Arc is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary. It must be more logical to therefore link the whole of the Northern Arc with the town of Burgess Hill.

Better Local Democracy:

As mentioned above, a significant part of the Northern Arc is already within the town's boundaries and the rest of the development should be joined to this early phase of it for the following reasons: It will be very confusing for the new residents of the Northern Arc if the town and parish boundary fall right across the new housing estate. It will be difficult for new residents to know which local authority to look to for support. When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC ward boundaries, it placed the Northern Arc development into two Burgess Hill Wards, Dunstall & Leylands. This would allow all new residents to have a clear and logical democratic set up when voting for both their Town and District Councillors.

More Effective & Convenient Delivery of Local Services and Local Government:

As already mentioned, with a population of well over 30,000, Burgess Hill offers a wide range of community groups and support networks. Most of these are well established and capable of servicing a significant growth in the town's population, unlike the parish of Ansty and Stapleford with a small population of under 2,000.

Burgess Hill has a newly built library, a large number of children's nurseries and pre-schools, 11 established schools, a tourist information centre and help point and a Citizen's Advice bureau. Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and employs sixteen full time members of staff to provide a wide range of community services to the residents of Burgess Hill. BHTC can certainly expand its services to the new residents of the Northern Arc thus providing excellent value for money and effective delivery in a way that the much smaller parish of Ansty and Stapleford could not.

Burgess Hill is also home to a well-established local cinema and is currently planning to develop a new community and entertainment hub, called the Beehive. This will make the town of Burgess Hill the natural social hub for all the new residents of the Northern Arc.

On reflection of the above comments I strongly feel that the new residents of the Northern Arc would feel cheated by Mid Sussex District Council, should the boundaries of the Northern Arc not be included within those of Burgess Hill and therefore be denied access to many of the facilities offered by Burgess Hill.

1. Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011 which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth and it became part of the District Plan.
2. The Northern Arc was incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District.
3. The District Plan specifically acknowledged in DP9 that the Northern Arc was to be integrated with the existing town.
4. Investment coming from the Northern Arc links the development with the existing town, and makes the town centre the clear focus of community identity.
5. It is not only transport infrastructure that forges community cohesion. Burgess Hill is an employment growth area.
6. Significant public realm investment is planned for Burgess Hill creating a natural pull factor for residents in the Northern Arc who will naturally look to the town to access public and private services.
7. The Northern Arc is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary making it more logical to link the Northern Arc with the town.
8. Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents in the Northern Arc. The parish of Ansty and Staplefield could not support this number of new residents as their centres and range of services are noticeably smaller.
9. Burgess Hill Town Council has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed and open 5 days per week which provides extensive community support. Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life.
10. Burgess Hill Town Council is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc.
11. When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands. These changes created the anomaly of some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. This review solves that anomaly. It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors. It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.
12. Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos delivering a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

When Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011, which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth, the Burgess Hill residents were consulted on this strategy and, after consultation, became part of the District Plan.

Since then, we have witnessed plenty of investment in linking the Northern Arc development with

Burgess Hill town centre for walkers, cyclists, motorists, and public transport. We have always believed that the aim was always to bind the Northern Arc to the existing town and make the town centre the clear focus of their community identity.

Though some of the Northern Arc is in the rural parish of Ansty and Staplefield, it is on Burgess Hill's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary. Consequently, it would make sense, for those living there, that all of the Northern Arc is linked with the town rather than some of it having links to a rural parish.

Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000 (30,635 2011 Census) and with it comes a wide range of public, private, and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc. The parish of Ansty and Staplefield could not support this number of new residents as their centres and ranges of services are demonstrably smaller. The new residents of the Northern Arc would naturally gravitate to Burgess Hill for their services.

When asked, where do they live, we are sure the residents of the Northern Arc would say "Burgess Hill"; not Ansty or Staplefield. It is really down to a sense of place and we feel that this housing development is a clear extension of Burgess Hill. It relates far better to the town than to any lightly populated rural parish.

This response is for myself (ref REDACTED) and REDACTED, of the same address (ref REDACTED)

In 2011, Burgess Hill Town Council established a strategy which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth within the town.

Burgess Hill residents were consulted on this strategy and, following their agreement, it became part of the District Plan. What we have come to refer to as The Northern Arc has since been incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District. This District Plan specifically acknowledges that the Burgess Hill Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town. It was always intended that this development would form part of Burgess Hill (the name gives it away!), rather than it being part of another administrative area.

When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries, the Burgess Hill Northern Arc was placed into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands. Taking the Burgess Hill Northern Arc out of Burgess Hill would create anomalies of residents living in Burgess Hill electing councillors for another district. The proposal to incorporate The Burgess Hill Northern Arc into another administrative area negates the findings and recommendations of the Boundary Commission, and will create unreal, illogical and, possibly unworkable situations of people not being adequately represented.

Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and sixteen full time members of staff. It delivers a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish may not be able to achieve.

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REDACTED

Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011 which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. Burgess Hill residents consulted on this strategy and following endorsement by residents it became part of the District Plan. In January 2020 I met with Mid Sussex district Council Sally, Homes England Sarah and Lisa, Brian Kilkelly as a representative of Burgess Hill Can after a community meeting about the northern ark. In this meeting it was clearly about the new homes impact on Burgess Hill and we were referred to a website called burgesshill.net. Right from the planning the northern ark has been designed as part of Burgess Hill using Burgess Hill facilities with the emphasis on improving Burgess Hill

The Northern Arc has been incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District.

The District Plan specifically acknowledges in DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town.

Investment coming from the Northern Arc clearly links the development with the existing town with a strong emphasis of forming close links for walkers, cyclists, motorists, and public transport. The result is to bind the Northern Arc to the existing town and make the town centre the clear focus of community identity

It is not only transport infrastructure that forges community cohesion. Burgess Hill is an employment growth area which will bring residents within the town for work and to new employment sites in and around the town.

Significant public realm investment is planned for Burgess Hill creating a natural pull factor for residents in the Northern Arc who will naturally look to the town to access public and private services.

The Northern Arc is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary making it more logical to link the Northern Arc with the town.

Burgess Hill had a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc.

It would be hard to set these up from scratch and the parish of Ansty and Staplefield could not support this number of new residents as their centres and ranges of services is noticeably smaller.

Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team that provide a wide range of community events.

It has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed and open 5 days per week which provides extensive community support.

Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life.

Burgess Hill Town Council is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc.

When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands.

It is important that residents have a clear and logical democratic set up. These changes created the anomaly of some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. This review solves that anomaly.

It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors.

It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill

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In response to Burgess Hill Town Council consultation I have listed the benefits of the Northern Arc housing development being included in Burgess Hill town boundaries as below;

Geographically the Northern Arc Development is situated next to Burgess Hill town, and its local infrastructure such as shops, health facilities, local clubs, cinemas, sports complex, cycle lanes , schools; in essence it is an extension of Burgess Hill town which is readily and easily accessible to residents of the Northern Arc. The use of local infrastructures will enhance local cohesion and engagement in the area if it is considered as part of the Burgess Hill boundary

The use of local infrastructure and facilities should also be encouraged as part of the green agenda to minimise and discourage the use of services not within easy and local access; as with

the development of local cycle lanes connecting the Northern Arc with the town of BH.

Geographically residents of the Northern Arc will be able to access easily any community activities located in the town ie town event weeks, summer initiatives, jubilee celebrations; if the Northern Arc were within BHT boundaries the residents could be actively involved in the development, as well as attending such activities, thereby promoting community engagement and cohesion.

Better local democracy will be promoted as the residents of the Northern Arc will have a say in the development of facilities and services of their local town; this again ensures improved community engagement and cohesion.

As BHT is the nearest town to the Northern Arc this will ensure effective and convenient delivery of local services which if within BHT boundary will ensure its residents have a local say in future delivery of such services.

Mid-Sussex District Council has always promoted the Northern Arc as being a strategic growth area for Burgess Hill, a clear recognition of the points made above.

I am writing to support the plan to extend the Burgess Hill boundary to incorporate the new Northern Arc development.

The current proposal to attach the development to Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council makes no sense. The development is geographically closer to Burgess Hill than it is to either of those villages. Neither Ansty nor Staplefield has extensive amenities, meaning that residents of the Northern Arc development will naturally gravitate towards the town for health and education facilities as well as most commercial services. The Triangle Leisure Centre would be their nearest such facility and the town would be a natural hub for other leisure provisions.

Extensive road upgrades in and around Burgess Hill have been undertaken with the new development very much in mind. Public transport services used by residents of the Arc will also be largely based in and around the town, not least the rail services via Burgess Hill and Wivelsfield.

Throughout the initial consultation period and at public presentations of the proposal this development has always been positioned as an extension of Burgess Hill; indeed the very name attributed to it suggests as much. Reference to it as an 'urban extension' recognises the closer affinity to the town than the rural communities in the Parish Council area. The needs of a rural community are not the same as those of urban or suburban communities.

Would the proposal have received the same level of public support from the residents of Burgess Hill when this was in the planning stages if it had been known that the intention was to align the development to Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council? I suspect not.

The Boundary Commission has, I believe, concluded that the new development should form part of the current Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands and this makes much more sense.

Given the extent to which residents of the new development will need to use the town it is only right they should have a say in how the town is governed. Likewise, residents of the Ansty and Staplefield parish could find their views overwhelmed by the significant increase in voter numbers. It is probable there will also be an entirely different demographic. This has to be contrary to democratic local governance.

Each of the communities, be it the residents of the villages, or the town, or, indeed, the new development will be disadvantaged as a result of the proposal.

Following a consultation, Burgess Hill Town Council won the backing of Burgess Hill residents on its strategy, which became part of the District Plan. The Northern Arc was incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District. The District Plan specifically acknowledges in DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town.

Investment coming from the Northern Arc clearly links with the development with the existing town, binding the Northern Arc to the existing town which will make the town centre the clear focus of community identity. Public realm investment planned for Burgess Hill will create a natural pull factor for residents in the Northern Arc who will naturally look to the town to access public and private services. The Northern Arc being on the town's border with some of it already within the town's boundary makes its linking to the Northern Arc with the town logical.

Burgess Hill, with its population of over 30,000, has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc - the parish of Ansty and Staplefield is noticeably smaller and would struggle to support this large number of new residents.

The Boundary Commission's review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries placed the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands. This created an unclear and illogical democratic setup with some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. This review would solve a similar anomaly where some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands elect Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors.

Burgess Hill Town Council's annual budget of around £1m with 16 full time members of staff with its strong service ethos delivers a wide range of community services and a strong vision. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services, providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

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When I heard that the local authority had made the decision not to incorporate the Northern Arc into Burgess Hill, I was perplexed. All the information I have seen in regard to the town plan and the proposals for the development, which ruins the natural setting of our town, indicated the rightful assumption that it was part of our small town and would constitute massive expansion. The Arc was divided between the Leyland and Dunstall wards, as is logical.

It is absurd to think that there was ever any notion that the Northern Arc should sit outside the boundary of a town to which it is physically connected, and which will form its primary resource. None of the settlements in the Ansty & Staplefield parish have anything at all to offer the Northern Arc. Ansty, you will be aware, consists of little more than a petrol station. Staplefield is two pubs and little else.

The town itself was small, and has a severely damaged town centre, in desperate need of the development that was originally promised, but the Northern Arc will see phenomenal increase in the use of our facilities, including transport. In spite of this, the community is thriving and the Town Council continue to work extremely hard to benefit and improve our community. The volunteer services, town centre help desk and community engagement team would all be of great use to those moving to the area, to inhabit this new neighbourhood within our town. The Anty & Staplefield parish would struggle to even attempt to provide adequate or comparable resources.

It is fundamentally necessary and appropriate for the Northern Arc to be incorporated into Burgess Hill, with the boundary suitably adjusted, and for the town to benefit from the associated funding to directly offset the impact of this disproportionate development. Burgess Hill provides the only natural focus in terms of employment, shopping, leisure and healthcare facilities for the incoming residents of the Northern Arc. This is an unavoidable inevitability. To deny the town the required funding to support this influx would result in a hastening of the deterioration of the town, and build enormous resentment amongst the established neighbourhoods, who will see their town further ruined by the council's decisions.

The additional funds will be needed to accommodate the increase in public transport, the maintenance of the town as a whole, and the improvement of our community spaces, such as the Beehive project that the town council is currently undertaking.

Incorporation into Burgess Hill would allow the new residents to elect the councillors who most directly influence their area, rather than their votes having little bearing on the area in which they reside.

Burgess Hill Town Council have been one of the most effective and resident-centred that I have ever known, and I believe that there can be no greater benefit for those moving into the Northern Arc than effective and representative leadership within their town. We already have ludicrous arrangements due to the East/West Sussex divide in the town - let's not complicate things further by making frivolous choices about the Northern Arc.

The Northern Arc has been considered part of Burgess Hill expansion and not Ansty since Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011. Burgess Hill residents consulted on this strategy and following endorsement by residents it became part of the District Plan. The District Plan specifically acknowledges in DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with the

existing town. It is very odd to now hear it is in Ansty and that funding will go to that Council.

Investment coming from the Northern Arc clearly links the development with the existing town with the view of forming close links for walkers, cyclists, motorists, and public transport. The discussion over the years has been to add the Northern Arc to the existing town and to improve the town centre to have more of a community focus.

Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000 (ever growing) and has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc.

It would be hard to set these up from the smaller parish of Ansty and Staplefield as there is no discernable centre of services in these areas.

Burgess Hill Town Council Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed and open 5 days per week which lots of helpful information on community support.

Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life.

When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands.

It is important that residents have a clear and logical democratic set up. These changes created the anomaly of some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. This review solves that issue.

It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors.

Given the increasing size of Burgess Hill it is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.

The Northern Arc development as an integral part of Burgess Hill is well documented for example in the town strategy document 2011 and e.g. documentation in 2019. Residents have understood this to be the case for around 12 years and it's in the District Plan.

Community Cohesion

People in the Northern Arc, immediately adjacent to housing around the ring road areas of Burgess Hill will naturally link in with their immediate neighbours – shopping locally and in the town, joining in community clubs/ activities, churches, leisure provision, walks locally etc. They are not going to travel miles to the villages of Ansty or Staplefield – they will use the town's facilities primarily.

The town centre, the town's railway stations and bus networks will take those living and working in the Northern Arc straight to main destinations – they will not travel to rural areas to access these transport options.

Improved Community Engagement

There is a lot of provision for engagement and opportunities in the town. People will access things here, locally in the town and not travel miles out their immediate area. Those most in need of assistance may not have the transport or the finances to regularly travel out their local area for engagement and services. It is also questionable perhaps as to whether the rural areas could support the additional services that would be needed financially and staffing wise to adequately cover those living in the Northern Arc.

Better local democracy

Those living in a town may well have a different focus to those living in rural areas. Not including those living in the Northern Arc in the town may have a negative impact on rural communities through their

views and votes refocusing priorities. Those living in the Northern Arc are not going to see a link with Ansty and Staplefield areas as logical or desirable.

I support the Burgess Hill town boundary including the Northern Arc development.

REDACTED

REDACTED

The planning context is that the Northern Arc is considered part of BHTC's town wide strategy, and is to be integrated into Burgess Hill as acknowledged in MSDC's District Plan.

While there are some in Burgess Hill who might be concerned about the size of the town growing, I and many others see this as an opportunity for improvement for various areas of the town as the increased population will support our local businesses and voluntary services and are key for future investment in the town.

There's an 'all or nothing' approach here, the Northern Arc will itself be a coherent settlement, so either its residents see themselves as being part of the Northern Arc in isolation, or part of Burgess Hill. Clearly, residents living on the Burgess Hill side of the Northern Arc will not see themselves as part of Ansty and Staplefield Ward. If the residents of the Northern Arc are to integrate they will do so as part of the existing town, and everything must be set out to enable that.

I am a District Commissioner with Girlguiding Burgess Hill and we would expect to facilitate new units, particularly for the younger sections (Rainbows/Brownies) in the Northern Arc when the time is right. Ansty as an area does not have such units and is considered part of Haywards Heath Division. BHTC (especially the Community Engagement Team) has been helpful in the past in supporting our work through publicity, invitations to events etc and we have a good working relationship with them. As well as BHTC support, we need people in the Northern Arc to see themselves as part of Burgess Hill as we are not expecting to provide a full suite of girlguiding sections in the first instance - older girls will likely have to come into town for Guides and Rangers. I have found from previous experience helping to set up girlguiding provision for a similar new development (Great Western Park in Didcot) that identifying as living 'in the new development' versus 'in the town' to be a major barrier to setting up new services such as this.

The fact that, with the whole of the Northern Arc included in the BHTC area means that the Council Tax precept would go to BHTC is not immaterial. We should think about what facilities we want the new residents to be using. This should include a consideration of active travel opportunities between the Northern Arc and these facilities. The masterplan shows that the Northern Arc will have integrated active travel opportunities into Burgess Hill - residents will be able to walk, cycle, and presumably take a bus into the centre of town where they can use facilities provided by BHTC. The same opportunities will not be present for access to Ansty Village Centre (when built), Ansty recreation ground or Staplefield Common. By putting the council tax paid by the Northern Arc towards these uses, are we saying we would rather the residents drive to these green spaces over walking to those in Burgess Hill?

It would also be neater for the electoral boundaries at the parish/town and the district levels to be the same. Less confusing for the residents!

I strongly believe that the case for extending the boundary of Burgess Hill to incorporate the Northern Arc is overwhelming. I set out below the reasons why the Community Governance Review should support this conclusion.

1. In August 2011 Burgess Hill Town Council published “Burgess Hill, A Town Wide Strategy for the next 20 years” (The Town Wide Strategy). This document drew on work that had commenced in 2004 and was informed by town wide consultation that ran from September 2020 to March 2021.

2. This work was undertaken in partnership with residents, Mid Sussex District Council and West Sussex County Council with the aim of shaping the future development of the town and its economy.

3. The Town Wide Strategy took a holistic approach to investment in and around the town and included a forward-looking assessment of housing development in the area. The Northern Sector (as the Northern Arc was called at this time) was identified as a strategic site for 3500 homes as part of a much larger allocation for housing in and around Burgess Hill.

4. The Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan (Made January 2016) noted in respect of the Northern Arc development that: “whilst this development is primarily outside of the administrative boundary of Burgess Hill, and outside of its Neighbourhood Plan area, it is designed to function as an urban extension to Burgess Hill.” (page 16)

Having established this principle in the Neighbourhood plan it was then carried forward and expanded in the Mid Sussex District Plan. It is also worth noting in this section the reference to the Northern Arc being an “urban extension.” In terms of identifying a cohesive community with a clear identity the setting of the Northern Arc makes it more inclined towards its adjoining urban environment compared to the rural setting of Ansty and Staplefield.

5. The Mid Sussex District Plan was adopted on 28th March 2018 and much of the work that led to the Town Wide Strategy was incorporated into it. In particular, DP7 to DP9 deal with strategic development at Burgess Hill and it is worth noting that no other area of the district has this level of policy coverage. This is an indication of the importance of Burgess Hill as a major area for development.

6. DP6 of the District Plan sets the context for housing development based upon the categorisation of settlement hierarchies. Significant development in the District Plan is directed towards Category 1 settlements which are Burgess Hill, East Grinstead and Haywards Heath. Burgess Hill’s allocation in the District Plan is 5697 units (including the 3500 for the Northern Arc) making up 35% of the total housing allocation (22% of the total is in the Northern Arc).

7. A Category 1 settlement is defined in DP6 as a: “Settlement with a comprehensive range of employment, retail, health, education, leisure services and facilities. These settlements will also benefit from good public transport provision and will act as a main service centre for smaller settlements.”

It can be clearly seen how Burgess Hill meets the definition of a Category 1 settlement. When considering where the Northern Arc naturally fits in terms of structural identity it is appropriate to view it as part of Burgess Hill given that it is an extension of this settlement.

8. By way of a contrast, and because the Northern Arc is currently situated in the parish of Ansty and Staplefield, it should be noted that these are Category 4 settlements which are defined as: “Small villages with limited services often only serving the settlement itself.”

Other than because of local government history there is no obvious connection between the Northern Arc and Ansty (let alone Staplefield). There is no structural connection between the Northern Arc and these smaller settlements. The thrust of infrastructure development is directed towards Burgess Hill not Ansty or Staplefield.

9. DP7 of the District Plan sets out the general principles for strategic development at Burgess Hill with DP9 setting the policy framework for the Northern Arc development. Both DP7 and DP9 draw on the Town Wide Strategy which includes an emphasis on comprehensive and infrastructure investment which integrates the Northern Arc with Burgess Hill. It is worth noting how this is reinforced in DP9 (para 5, page 43) in the District Plan. Looking at how the Northern Arc development spills into the existing town it states:

“The area between Maple Drive and the Northern Arc is included within the allocation because it is important that the new development is integrated with the existing town and that there are good public transport and pedestrian links between the development and Wivelsfield Station.”

It is clear, therefore, that the District Plan envisages that the Northern Arc is strategically part of Burgess Hill.

10. The key partners in the delivery of the Northern Arc are BHTC, MSDC, WSCC and Homes England. The development is covered by a comprehensive Masterplan. Full details of the Northern Arc development can be found on its dedicated website: www.burgesshill.net

It states as a major aim: “the Strategic Growth Programme for Burgess Hill is the most ambitious programme of change anywhere in the sub region. Our ambition is to transform the local economy, creating thousands of new high value jobs in technology led industries, and making Burgess Hill one of the most attractive places in the region to live and do business.”

11. The Strategic Growth Programme takes all of the scheduled developments in and around Burgess Hill (i.e. not only the Northern Arc) as the overall growth strategy for the town. Given that this is how it is structured in the District Plan it would be illogical at this stage to treat the Northern Arc as if it was not part of the overall growth of the town.

12. But, in any event, the Northern Arc is designed in such a way to conform to the District Plan and in particular DP7. This states as a first principle that strategic development will: “be designed in a way that integrates it into the existing town providing connectivity with all relevant services and facilities”.

13. The Masterplan sets out in some detail how the delivery of infrastructure in the development sites, but particularly the Northern Arc, creates an integrated whole with a network of walkways, cycleways and road improvements that connect the Northern Arc to the existing town. In addition, as a key transport hub there are plans to improve both Burgess Hill and Wivelsfield Station as well as invest in regular bus links from the Northern Arc into the existing town. These, along with other investments, makes it clear that the Northern Arc and the existing town are two parts of a whole.

14. The Local Government Boundary Commission guidance on Community Governance Reviews (published March 2010) states that:

“in many cases making changes to the boundaries of existing parishes, rather than creating an entirely new parish, will be sufficient to ensure that community governance arrangements continue to reflect local identities and facilitate effective and convenient local government. For example, over time communities may expand with new housing developments. This can often lead to existing parish boundaries becoming anomalous as new houses are built across the boundaries resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours.” (para 15, p10)

This is precisely the situation with the Northern Arc which has been designed as a structural extension to the existing town, albeit that it sits in the neighbouring parish.

15. The case for change has been reinforced by the recent review of the District Ward boundaries.

When the Boundary Commission carried out its review it put the Northern Arc developments up to 2027 into two Burgess Hill wards – Dunstall (900) & Leylands (625). To leave the parish boundary unaltered by this decision would be to create an anomaly which Community Governance Reviews are designed to remove. If the boundary is not changed some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty would be electing Burgess Hill District Ward Councillors. Amending the boundary solves this anomaly and creates a clear and logical structure for local government and democratic accountability.

It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors. It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.

However, as part of this review we believe that the warding arrangement for the Town Council be considered carefully as, in our view, the Boundary Commission has created a number of smaller parish wards where the ratio of elected member to elector is not in line with some of the other Town Council wards.

16. Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000 and a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting the increase in population that will come from the Northern Arc development. Being able to provide this level of community support from the start is crucial as new developments are delivered helping to create a sense of place, cohesion and connection.

17. Residents on the Northern Arc will look towards Burgess Hill for a wide range of private, public, and voluntary services that simply will not be available if it was a stand-alone community or remained part of Ansty and Staplefield. Indeed, you could not expect these two villages to be able to support the needs of the Northern Arc where they have no obvious structural connection and do not have an infrastructure base capable of supporting the area (in population terms the Northern Arc is likely to be 3 times the size of Ansty and Staplefield when fully developed).

18. Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team (3 full time members of staff) that provide a wide range of community events. It has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed (3 full time equivalents) and open 5 days per week providing extensive community support. Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life.

19. Under the Localism Act 2011, Burgess Hill Town Council has a General Power of Competence giving it the ability to invest in and operate a wider range of services compared to smaller parish authorities. It means that the Council is better equipped to support the needs of residents on the Northern Arc. For example, the Council is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc.

20. Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos delivery a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

21. Burgess Hill's town centre is the natural destination for residents in the Northern Arc and, indeed, the Northern Arc Masterplan emphasises this fact. In addition to the public services provided by the Council, provision for the wider catchment area is supported with:

- a) Health services.
- b) Education provision (though it is acknowledged that 2 primary and a secondary school form part of the Northern Arc infrastructure).
- c) Banks and other financial services.
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Burgess Hill is a major town within Mid Sussex. It has a well established and regarded Town Council, a population over 30,000 with a significant employment centre and planned growth under the District Plan.

Perhaps for this reason the Northern Arc was allocated as an extension of Burgess Hill to provide the largest addition of new homes within the MSDC boundary.

The Boundary Commission duly proposed incorporation of this major development within two existing town wards.

This is a logical consequence of extension of a town where connectivity and community should be at the heart of plan-making and ultimately creating spaces and places which instil a sense of belonging.

I consider it crucial that the new residents identify as belonging to Burgess Hill. Ideally this will be by living, learning and working in the town as well as voting for a town councillor to represent that part of Burgess Hill in which they reside.

This philosophy is not new but has a growing relevance with the increasing need for sustainability. Connectivity is both a physical manifestation, by means of pedestrian routes, cycle paths and transport links and also a perception - a feeling of belonging.

The finished result of the upcoming development of Burgess Hill should create an enhanced built environment which allows all residents to continue to enjoy both the existing facilities of the town plus the potential to further develop community facilities.

The BHTC with its locally elected members should be the preferred means of representing all residents living within what is clearly a cohesive and expanding community.

The future planning for the area will likely continue to seek to avoid coalescence of communities by protecting gaps between settlements. The clearly defined boundaries of Burgess Hill to include The Northern Arc will reinforce this important principle. The alternative will not.

In response to Burgess Hill Town Council consultation I have listed the benefits of the Northern Arc housing development being included in Burgess Hill town boundaries as below;

Geographically the Northern Arc Development is situated next to Burgess Hill town, and its local infrastructure such as shops, health facilities, local clubs, cinemas, sports complex, cycle lanes, schools; in essence it is an extension of Burgess Hill town which is readily and easily accessible to residents of the Northern Arc. The use of local infrastructures will enhance local cohesion and engagement in the area if it is considered as part of the Burgess Hill boundary

The use of local infrastructure and facilities should also be encouraged as part of the green agenda to minimise and discourage the use of services not within easy and local access.

Geographically residents of the Northern Arc will be able to access easily any community activities located in the town ie town event weeks, summer initiatives, jubilee celebrations; if the Northern Arc were within BHT boundaries the residents could be actively involved in the development, as well as attending such activities, thereby promoting community engagement and cohesion.

Better local democracy will be promoted as the residents of the Northern Arc will have a say in the development of facilities and services of their local town; this again ensures improved community engagement and cohesion.

As BHT is the nearest town to the Northern Arc this will ensure effective and convenient delivery of local services which if within BHT boundary will ensure its residents have a local say in future delivery of such services.

Mid-Sussex District Council has always promoted the Northern Arc as being a strategic growth area for Burgess Hill, a clear recognition of the points made above.

In 2011 Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy, this included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. As residents of Burgess Hill, we were consulted, agreed it and therefore it became part of the District Plan. Within this plan it specifically acknowledges that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town, Burgess Hill.

Investment coming from the Northern Arc clearly links the development with the existing town with an emphasis of forming close links for motorists, public transport, cyclists and walkers. The result is to link the Northern Arc to the existing town and make the town centre the clear focus of community identity. Note it isn't just transport infrastructure that brings community cohesion, it's the employment opportunities and the planned public investment which will draw the residents in Northern Arc to Burgess Hill to access public and private services. As part of the Northern Arc is already within the town's boundary and the rest is on it's border it is logical to link the Northern

Arc with the town.

Burgess Hill had a population of over 30,000 and already has a good range of public, private and voluntary groups which would be capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc. This would be very difficult to set up from

scratch and the parish of Ansty and Staplefield could not support this number of new residents as their centres and ranges of services is markedly smaller.

Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team who provide a wide range of community events as well as the Help Point staff who provide a large amount of community support.

When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands. It is vital that residents have a clear and logical democratic set up. These changes created two anomalies for some voters: Firstly, some living currently in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. Secondly some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands, who rather than electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors, elect Ansty parish Councillors. This review solves both anomalies.

Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong focus on delivering a wide range of community services and a desire to continue to expand these. It can therefore, accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish would not be able to.

Back in 2011, Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. As a Burgess Hill resident I responded to the consultation on this strategy which became part of the district plan.

The Northern Arc has been incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District, was proposed to be and clearly is a part of Burgess Hill

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It is not only transport infrastructure that forges community cohesion. Burgess Hill is an employment growth area which will bring residents within the town for work and to new employment sites in and around the town.

Significant public realm investment is planned for Burgess Hill creating a natural pull factor for residents in the Northern Arc who will naturally look to the town to access public and private services.

The Northern Arc is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary making it more logical to link the Northern Arc with the town.

IMPROVED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Burgess Hill had a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc.

It would be hard to set these up from scratch and the parish of Ansty and Staplefield could not support this number of new residents as their centres and ranges of services is noticeably smaller.

Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team that provide a wide range of community events.

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Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life.

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New residents of the Northern Arc will be attracted by and have access to the town of Burgess Hill. Access to the towns 2 railway stations will be used as a means to attract new resident, the bus routes cycle lanes and footpaths are all focused on getting to and from the town and all the facilities for social, sport, entertainment, retail, civic services and voluntary sector support are based locally in Burgess Hill.

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New residents will identify as being from Burgess Hill and will be able to connect easily with their community and it is surely in their best interests to be officially registered as living in the town.

I am strongly of the view that the Northern Arc should still be considered as part of the District Plan that was agreed by the residents of BH following BHTC's establishment of the town-wide strategy in 2011.

The Northern Arc will benefit from being part of the existing town for the following reasons:

1. Improved Community Engagement

Burgess Hill is by far best placed to absorb the new community that will be created by the Northern Arc development in terms of employment provision and growth, access to wider parts of the region and major cities, and to provide the residents of the Northern Arc accommodation with a sense of identity within the town of Burgess Hill.

2. Enhanced Community Cohesion

A strong sense of community cohesion and community identity will be created by ensuring it is part of the town of Burgess Hill, and with the significant public investment that is being put into the town centre development, there is a natural fit between this and bringing increased numbers to the town. This is also not to mention the residual investment opportunities that will arise from having a larger population and the greater demands on the capacity of the town, thus bringing in substantial new revenue streams and subsequent further investment and employment opportunities, making Burgess Hill a new and attractive hub for people in the whole Mid-Sussex region.

3. Better local democracy

When the ward boundaries of the Northern Arc properties were initially formed, they were placed in the Dunstall and Leylands Wards, which makes complete sense as it provides Northern Arc residents with the means to input into Burgess Hill Town matters. However, if the development was placed in Ansty and Staplefield, the residents would be electing councillors for Ansty Parish council and MSDC, whilst not living anywhere near either Ansty or Staplefield. By placing residents into the two BH electoral wards, with the greater sense of community identity and the proximity to BH would be created by default, residents would have a close affinity to BH governance and politics that they would not have if they were part of Ansty or Staplefield.

4. Effective and Convenient Delivery of Local Services and Local Government

Burgess Hill Town Council has a strong ethos of delivering on a wide range of community services and is very active in taking forwards the vision to expand these. Including the Northern Arc residents into the provision of local services and initiatives provides not only that greater sense of community identity and cohesion, but provides much better value for money and far more effective delivery of services that a smaller parish does not have the capacity to do.

Thank you for considering my views.

INTRODUCTION

1. Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011 which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. Burgess Hill residents were consulted on this strategy and following endorsement by residents it became part of the District Plan.

2. The Northern Arc has been incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing

allocation for the District.

3. The District Plan specifically acknowledges in DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town.

Taking each of the benefits in turn as set out in the letter dated 25 April

COMMUNITY COHESION

4. Investment coming from the Northern Arc clearly links the development with the existing town with a strong emphasis of forming close links for walkers, cyclists, motorists, and public transport. The result is to bind the Northern Arc to the existing town and make the town centre the clear focus of community identity

5. It is not only transport infrastructure that forges community cohesion. Burgess Hill is an employment growth area which will bring residents within the town for work and to new employment sites in and around the town.

6. Significant public realm investment is planned for Burgess Hill creating a natural pull factor for residents in the Northern Arc who will naturally look to the town to access public and private services.

6. The Northern Arc is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary making it more logical to link the Northern Arc with the town.

IMPROVED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

7. Burgess Hill had a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc.

It would be hard to set these up from scratch and the parish of Ansty and Staplefield could not support this number of new residents as their centres and ranges of services is noticeably smaller.

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MORE EFFECTIVE & CONVENIENT DELIVERY OF LOCAL SERVICES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

11. Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos delivery a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

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ENHANCED COMMUNITY COHESION

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can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

REDACTED

From: REDACTED <REDACTED>
Sent: 31 May 2022 10:36
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Community Governance Review - objection to proposed changes

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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To whom it may concern:

I am writing in support of Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council's objections to the boundary changes proposed in the above.

As the Parish Council represents the largest geographical area in West Sussex, the proposal to halve the number of Ansty Parish Councillors and reduce from three to one the number representing Staplefield is not only disproportionate, it is imbalanced.

The consequential impact of these arrangements will undoubtedly leave parts of the Parish severely under represented and have a dramatic impact on community cohesion, community engagement and delivery of services.

Yours faithfully,

REDACTED
REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED <REDACTED>
Sent: 01 June 2022 13:49
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Community Governance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Ref: Community Governance Review – considerations for Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council

Dear Mr Stanley

I have read your Community Governance Review consultation 26/05/2022 and strongly object to your proposal to reduce the number of Councillors in the Ansty and Staplefield Wards.

On a personal level and as residents of Ansty we would like to point out that the Parish Council have made a superb effort recently to support the locals with traffic/planning related issues. It would be disastrous to lose such a fine team of people.

Ansty in particular has an increased population due to new housing development over the last 5 years with more development in the pipeline. A reduced representation will put too much pressure on the suggested number of Councillors and jeopardise the best interests of the residents who they serve.

We need Councillors to help and represent us with the disastrous proposal of 1,600 houses to be built in Ansty in the future, which we are currently and actively trying to stop. The proposal is totally unsuitable and would destroy the villages of Ansty and Cuckfield.

The Northern Arc in Burgess Hill when completed will create more problems for Ansty with traffic flow and related problems generated from such an enormous amount of housing so close to Ansty village. This was identified as a potential problem in the 2016 Neighbourhood Plan. We need our Councillors to help us deal with all these problems which inevitably will arise.

The obvious solution is to increase the number of Councillors in proportion to the needs of the new and increasing Wards.

We suggest Ansty has 5 Councillors, Staplefield 3 Councillors, Rocky Lane 3 Councillors and Brook Street only 1 Councillor as nothing in Brook Street has changed and doesn't warrant more than one representative. This amounts to 12 in total.

Yours sincerely

REDACTED
REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 26 May 2022 12:24
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: RESPONSE TO GOVERNANCE REVIEW IN RESPECT OF ANSTY STAPLEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Green Category

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Sirs, I read with considerable unease the proposals set out in your recently received letter concerning the review relating Burgess Hill Town Council and consequential Northern Arc considerations for Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council. I would submit that at a time when there is constant proposed change in the local area effecting both Ansty and Staplefield, the last thing the residents require is less local representation. The village areas of Ansty and Staplefield already risk being marginalised – not through any lack of endeavour by the local Parish Council but because it is has entirely different characteristics and requirements from the surrounding district of Burgess Hill – I doubt very much if most of the Town Councillors in Burgess Hill even know the extent of our village areas or the problems surrounding it. The District Council is distant and does not respond in any meaningful way – our only point of real contact are our Parish Councillors. Any reduction in their number should be strongly resisted. I strongly support the Parish Council's position on this issue.

In conclusion, and to quote your letter, the proposals would **NOT** improve community engagement, enhance community cohesion, provide better local democracy and produce more effecting and convenient delivery of local service and local government.

For democracy to work it has to engage people at a local level and be responsive .

Yours faithfully

REDACTED

Resident of REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 01 June 2022 19:49
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Support for Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council Response to Review process.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Dear Sir/Madam,

My wife and I have inadvertently mislaid the response documents to the Burgess Hill Review.

Nevertheless, we are anxious to support the response submitted by our local Parish Council which in summary is:-

The Parish Council believes it has a compelling case to demonstrate the consequential impact of proposed changes which will create a serious democratic deficit across the biggest parish in West Sussex.

The reduced representation on Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council appears to have arisen out of an arbitrary desire to maintain the total number of Parish Councillors at 9 despite the creation of new Wards. Subsequent proposals through CGRs to then move these Wards out of the parish compound the issues. Without these new Wards, representation would have remained as it has always been because it has worked very effectively and there is no justification in reducing local democracy, community cohesion, community engagement and threatening the effective delivery of services.

When the new wards are created the new Councillor numbers should be added to the number of Councillors representing existing wards.

REDACTED
REDACTED

Tel: REDACTED

Email: REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 03 June 2022 17:28
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: CGR submission - Burgess Hill

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Hi there,

I am an elector (REDACTED) residing at REDACTED. Apologies I don't have my reference number to hand.

I would support inclusion of the northern arc as denoted in the documents supplied as it will naturally form part of Burgess Hill, has a far more likely community association with the medium town of Burgess Hill than the small village of Ansty, and because it has long been publicised by Homes England, Mid Sussex District Council and others as being part of Burgess Hill.

It will ensure appropriate representation and inclusion in town governance.

With regards to the wider boundaries for Burgess Hill town council, there are some wards with very few houses in particular Victoria, it would be good if this could be evened out as appropriate, or perhaps the numbers reduced (especially given representation levels at District and County, it seems a bit high).

Thanks for your consideration.
REDACTED

Sent from my iPhone

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 12 May 2022 09:27
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Northern Arc Community Governance Review

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Sirs

I have attended meetings on the Northern Arc and it has always been referred to as the Burgess Hill Northern Arc and, indeed, some of the land is already within the town's boundary. It was also stated that a bus route would service the estate and feed into Wivelsfield railway station, although I gather from a chance meeting with the BH Mayor recently that this is now not the case.

The Burgess Hill infrastructure is well able to support this development and the Town Council Help Point runs clinics to support the needs of local residents as well as being a tourist centre. I don't believe Ansty and Staplefield would be able to offer anything near the same level of service.

Should the Beehive ever come to fruition, this would be a cultural hub for the town and surrounding areas.

Although I have found it difficult to comment under the headings you suggested, I do hope the above is acceptable.

Yours faithfully

REDACTED
REDACTED

Improved community engagement

There is a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups already established in Burgess Hill that could easily support the additional Northern Arc residents.

Burgess Hill Town Council already has:

A fully staffed Help Point & Tourist Information Centre,

A Community Engagement Team providing a wide range of community events

An existing investment in a new modern theatre that would be available to Northern Arc residents.

The limited resources in Staplefield and Ansty are not capable of comparable support to the community.

Enhanced community cohesion

The Northern Arc is on the Burgess Hill town border, and parts of it are already within the town's boundary. It is therefore logical to link it with the town.

The development of transport infrastructure together with new employment growth will provide a natural attraction of Northern Arc residents, who will want to avail themselves of the services available in Burgess Hill.

Significant investment in facilities for walkers, cyclists will also attract Northern Arc residents to make use of the facilities available in Burgess Hill.

Better local democracy

The review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries by The Boundary Commission placed the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards – Dunstall and Leylands. This created confusion over the election of Town Councillors & Ansty Parish Councillors, and resulted in some voters, currently living in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC.

Similarly, some residents of Dunstall & Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elected Ansty Parish Councillors.

It is imperative that local government votes are on an equal basis and residents in the same area have access to the same governmental organisation. This was recognised by the Boundary Commission as being Burgess Hill.

More effective & convenient delivery of local services and local government

With a budget of approximately £1 million and 16 full-time staff members, Burgess Hill Town Council has the ability to provide a wide range of community services and the ability to include the Northern Arc into its service delivery in value for money and effective manner. This level of service would not be achievable by a smaller parish.

Reflects the identities and interests of the community

The Northern Arc is incorporated into the District Plan following a consultation by Burgess Hill Town Council in 2011. It is part of the planned strategic housing allocation for the district, and it is specifically recognised in DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town. This Plan was fully endorsed by the residents.

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 17 May 2022 15:20
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Community Governance Review

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Community Governance Review

My reference: REDACTED

I am a resident of Burgess Hill.

The Northern Arc will be part of Burgess Hill. Residents there will be dependant upon Burgess Hill town, shopping in our shops, driving on our roads, using our council and other local services. They MUST be part of the governance of Burgess Hill. And they must contribute financially to the town, and its council, of which they will be part.

I support the undertaking of a Community Governance Review for Burgess Hill Town Council based on the extent of Burgess Hill determined by the local Government Boundary Commission final recommendations document published on 1 February 2022. I support the changing of boundaries to match the Town Council wards with the District Council wards - to move the northern boundaries of Dunstall and Leylands Wards to include the Northern Arc strategic housing developments. This will simplify matters for electors and to move to equalise the number of electors per Town Councillor by increasing the number of Town Councillors to up to 22 Councillors. I hope for a positive outcome of the Review and to complete the redrawing of the boundary by May 2023.

Regards, REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

m: REDACTED
t: REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 05 May 2022 10:01
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Ref: REDACTED Community Governance Review - The Northern Arc MUST be part of Burgess Hill

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Dear Community Governance Review

My reference: REDACTED

I am a resident of Burgess Hill.

The Northern Arc will be part of Burgess Hill. Residents there will be dependant upon Burgess Hill town, shopping in our shops, driving on our roads, using our council and other local services. They MUST be part of the governance of Burgess Hill. And they must contribute financially to the town, and its council, of which they will be part.

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Regards, REDACTED

REDACTED

m

REDACTED

e

[REDACTED](#)

REDACTED

A man told me that for a woman, I was very opinionated. I said, 'For a man you're kind of ignorant!' - Anne Hathaway,

actress, human rights campaigner, LGBT rights activist, Step Up Women's Network

From: REDACTED
To: [communitygovernancereviews](#)
Date: 05 May 2022 17:12:15

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Dear Community Governance Review

My reference: **REDACTED**

I am a resident of Burgess Hill.

The Northern Arc will be part of Burgess Hill. Residents there will be dependant upon Burgess Hill town, shopping in our shops, driving on our roads, using our council and other local services. They **MUST** be part of the governance of Burgess Hill. And they must contribute financially to the town, and its council, of which they will be part.

I support the undertaking of a Community Governance Review for Burgess Hill Town Council based on the extent of Burgess Hill determined by the local Government Boundary Commission final recommendations document published on 1 February 2022. I support the changing of boundaries to match the Town Council wards with the District Council wards - to move the northern boundaries of Dunstall and Leylands Wards to include the Northern Arc strategic housing developments. This will simplify matters for electors and to move to equalise the number of electors per Town Councillor by increasing the number of Town Councillors to up to 22 Councillors. I hope for a positive outcome of the Review and to complete the redrawing of the boundary by May 2023.

Regards, **REDACTED**

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 11 May 2022 13:22
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Burgess Hill: Northern Arc

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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My Ref: REDACTED

Hello,

The 'Northern Arc' development has been planned as an extension of Burgess Hill and not expansion of housing in other parishes to the north of the town. Hence the name.

The road system is focussed on Burgess Hill, the nearest railway stations are in Burgess Hill and local bus services and cycleways will provide direct links to the town for shopping etc.

A new area of housing affecting the town in so many ways should have governance by the Town Council so that all residents' interests are best served.

Prevarication on such a straightforward matter raises doubts that there may be some hidden agenda, known only to councillors of the one party that voted for delaying this simple decision.

Your online reply form has a fault and cannot be used today, which is disgraceful.

Sincerely,
REDACTED
REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 25 May 2022 21:14
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Burgess Hill review submission

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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From the desk of REDACTED of REDACTED

My submission is more a list of questions but ones which point to the fact that I can see why the previous decision was taken to postpone such a review until such time as there are residents in the new homes of the Northern Arc so that their views can be considered as it is their governance that the rest of Burgess Hill is now, rather selfishly I feel, making. They may not wish to become part of the mediocrity which Burgess Hill's sprawling mess has become in recent years.

How many electors will be returning the single BHTC councillor proposed for the two new town council wards when elections are held next May? How could such elected councillors justify their existence with so few residents to represent, at least in the short-term until more houses are occupied?

Is this not just a power [and, more importantly I suspect, precept] grab by BHTC, desperate to increase its coffers? Rather than concern as to how the new residents feel about where their hard-earned council tax is spent?

Do parish councils not typically have much lower per-electors overheads than town councils, so would the precepts from the new residents not arguably be 'better' and certainly more efficiently spent if they remained part of the existing parish council rather than being subsumed into Burgess Hill Town Council's domain?

The notion of a boundary change seems precipitate to my mind, whereas this is something that does not have to be rushed. What is the objection to waiting until at least, say, half the newly-planned properties are occupied and then consulting the new residents? Other than world events may make such consideration unnecessary, this really does look like a case of patience will be a virtue.

As a society, we are apt to rush headlong into things where once we might have dwelt to weigh the pros and cons. We live in a perpetual whirlwind but need not feel obliged to be taken up by it in this matter.

Pause. Think. Consider.

Yours sincerely,

REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 20 May 2022 12:15
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Northern Arc Boundary.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear whoever,

The development of the Northern Arc in Burgess Hill is quite clearly an extension of Burgess Hill and therefore must be represented by councilors for for the town. The growth in this area will put pressure on the facilities of Burgess Hill NOT Ansty and Staplefield e.g transport (buses, carparks,trains) the roads., retail, employment, doctors ,schools etc. The development is a seamless extension of B.H.

. It clearly satisfies your 4 requirements (community engagement, cohesion, democracy and delivery of local services). Therefore the only logical conclusion is that the parish boundary should be redrawn to reflect the 21st century reality.

I hope the Mid Sussex contribution will support this logical conclusion.

REDACTED, REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 16 May 2022 22:21
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: The Northern Arc boundary review

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Burgess Hill Northern Arc/The Northern Arc as it has commonly been referred to since its inception, has always been known as such and has never been referred to as Ansty Southern Crescent/The Southern Crescent or anything similar. It has clearly been designed as an extension of Burgess Hill and is connected to the town in all respects. ie.

1 It abuts Burgess Hill Recycling Centre, Burgess Hill Golf Centre, St Paul's School Burgess Hill, The Triangle Centre Burgess Hill and is separated from Ansty by a rural environment of some distance.

2 Main access is from Maple Drive in the east and A2300 Burgess Hill access road from the A23/A273 to the rear of St Paul's School in the west.

3 As the nearest facilities for the development are all in Burgess Hill ie Railway Stations, bus routes, shops, library, the new proposed Beehive Centre and local business centres etc. the residents of the new development will naturally look to and feel they are part of Burgess Hill for all their normal living needs. Ansty has no such facilities.

In the circumstances it seems clearly in the interests of the residents of the new development and of Burgess Hill residents, that the development warrants the redrawing of the boundaries incorporating The Burgess Hill Northern Arc/The Northern Arc into Burgess Hill Town and as a consequence, an increase of Burgess Hill Councillors to include representation of the interests of the new residents who will be relying on the town's facilities.

REDACTED
REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 23 May 2022 11:58
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Northern Arc Boundary

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Mr. Gaff,

Thank you for your help earlier regarding my wish to register my opinions regarding the Northern Arc Boundary review.

During the phonecall you mentioned the need for me to state my name & address so that my views can be linked to a registered voter.

My name is REDACTED & my address is: REDACTED

The reasons for my contacting you is that I wish to register my opinion that the boundary relating to the Northern Arc development needs to be registered & associated with Burgess Hill. My opinion is that both the voting power & the Council tax revenue should stay within the Burgess Hill boundary region.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like me to verify anything else regarding this issue as I strongly wish my thoughts on this matter are registered correctly.

Yours sincerely,

REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 01 June 2022 13:52
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Burgess Hill Northern Arc development

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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my ref REDACTED

I wish the following submission to be considered in the review of possible boundary changes to include the above development within the Burgess Hill parish.

From the outset the Northern Arc development has been presented as an extension of Burgess Hill. It is being built on an 'arc' of land attached to the northern perimeter of Burgess Hill hence its name.

As the properties have been assigned to two Burgess Hill district wards - Dunstall and Leylands - it is anomalous that many of its residents will be asked to vote to elect Burgess Hill councillors to the Mid Sussex District Council although living in the Ansty parish.

Its residents will utilise the infrastructure and amenities of Burgess Hill including schools, shops, doctors' surgeries, clubs, cycling and walking routes and roads. Many will probably work in Burgess Hill too. In every respect they will be part of the Burgess Hill community so it is logical that the boundary should be amended to reflect this. In this way both they and the existing population of Burgess Hill will benefit from a unified local administration.

REDACTED
REDACTED

tel. REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 10 May 2022 15:35
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Northern Arc Review

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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To whom it may concern

AS residents of Burgess Hill we strongly believe the above area The Northern Arc is part of Burgess Hills boundary and as such should be in

Burgess Hill's town council .

The town will soon have a massive influx of extra habitants and money will be needed to pay for all the additional services ,

These residents will need a thriving town to come to and without this funding we don't see how the town council while doing their

best will be able to carry on doing their excellent work .

In the long term this decision could massively affect how our town is developed.

REDACTED
REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 23 May 2022 15:29
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Review relating to Burgess Hill Town Council and Northern Arc Housing Developments.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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I would like the review to consider the following points:-

Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011 which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. Burgess Hill residents consulted on this strategy and following endorsement by residents it became part of the District Plan.

The Northern Arc has been incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District and specifically acknowledges that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town.

Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc.

Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team that provide a wide range of community events. It also has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed and open 5 days per week which provides extensive community support. Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life. Burgess Hill Town Council is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc.

Burgess Hill is an employment growth area which will bring residents within the town for work and to new employment sites in and around the town. Significant public realm investment is planned for Burgess Hill creating a natural pull factor for residents in the Northern Arc who will naturally look to the town to access public and private services. The Northern Arc is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary making it more logical to link the Northern Arc with the town.

When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall and Leylands. It is important that residents have a clear and logical democratic set up. These changes created the anomaly of some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. This review solves that anomaly. It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors.

It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.

Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos delivering a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

Regards,

REDACTED

Mobile - REDACTED

Postcode -

REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 23 May 2022 17:20
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Review relating to Burgess Hill Town Council and Northern Arc Housing Developments.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Dear Sirs,

I would like the review to consider the following points:-

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Regards,
REDACTED
Tel REDACTED
Post Code REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 01 June 2022 08:13
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: The consequences of the Northern Arc

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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It would seem logical to incorporate the northern arc into Burgess Hill because part of it is already within the town's boundaries. The people living there will use the facilities offered by Burgess Hill and its wide range of public services but not contribute financially.

Burgess Hill Town Council has staff and services already in place, these could not be replicated by the small parish of Anstry and Staplefield.

I see no compelling argument to leave the northern arc in Ansty.

Kind regards REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 18 May 2022 18:56
To: communitygovernanceviews@midsussex.gov.uk
Subject: Northern arc

Dear midsussex government,

I am emailing to request that the new huge northern arc development on the edge of Burgess Hill, boundary should be within the Burgess Hill town council boundary . This is because so much infostructure is will used from burgess hill, the triangle Leasure centre, the tip, Burgess's Hill town centre, is in dia need for investment. The people who move into the northern arc will use our BH library, the parks , schools ect.

Please ensure that the council tax that will be paid will go into local services, as local prior , who's habitats will be changed, more people , busier roads , it would do be great to see local investment

Many thanks

REDACTED

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Response to Consultation on the Burgess Hill /Northern Arc development boundary.

Mid Sussex District Council adopted its District Plan in March 2018. Paragraph 3.19 states “Locating homes and employment opportunities as part of development at Burgess Hill will bring improvements in infrastructure and contribute to the renewal and regeneration of the town centre. This work has been the subject of public consultation, and the results incorporated into the Burgess Hill Town Wide Strategy. The Town Wide Strategy was adopted by Burgess Hill Town Council in 2011.”

Paragraph 3.20 states “The District Council supports this work, which is seen as a leading example of the ‘bottom-up’ approach to planning now being promoted through the Localism Act and National Planning Policy Framework (paragraphs 183-185). It reflects the Council’s aspirations to support sustainable growth where this is accompanied by infrastructure benefits. The principles and development proposals set out in the Burgess Hill Town Wide Strategy are included as strategic development locations in this Plan.”

As a resident in the current Ansty & Staplefield Parish I have been frustrated that I am not able to vote in the Burgess Hill Town Council elections, as Burgess Hill is the main town near me where I shop and enjoy the local facilities. It makes sense for me to be able to vote on matters that affect me where I live. The same goes for future residents of the Northern Arc. This development was ‘sold’ to residents locally as being a benefit to Burgess Hill directly - see District Plan statements above, Burgess Hill town desperately needs investment and by having the Northern Arc within the town boundary is imperative.

Response to Consultation on the Burgess Hill /Northern Arc development boundary.

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Dear Sirs

I write to express my strong support for an immediate review of the Burgess Hill Town boundary and electoral wards to take account of the Northern Arc and to Burgess Hill, all as described in the petition. My justification is as follows.

1. In August 2011 Burgess Hill Town Council published "Burgess Hill, A Town Wide Strategy for the next 20 years" (The Town Wide Strategy). This document drew on work that had commenced in 2004 and was informed by town wide consultation that ran from September 2020 to March 2021.
2. This work was undertaken in partnership with residents, Mid Sussex District Council and West Sussex County Council with the aim of shaping the future development of the town and its economy.
3. The Town Wide Strategy took a holistic approach to investment in and around the town and included a forward-looking assessment of housing development in the area. The Northern Sector (as the Northern Arc was called at this time) was identified as a strategic site for 3500 homes as part of a much larger allocation for housing in and around Burgess Hill.
4. The Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan (Made January 2016) noted in respect of the Northern Arc development that:

"whilst this development is primarily outside of the administrative boundary of Burgess Hill, and outside of its Neighbourhood Plan area, it is designed to function as an urban extension to Burgess Hill." (page 16)

Having established this principle in the Neighbourhood plan it was then carried forward and expanded in the Mid Sussex District Plan. It is also worth noting in this section the reference to the Northern Arc being an "urban extension." In terms of identifying a cohesive community with a clear identity the setting of the Northern Arc makes it more inclined towards its adjoining urban environment compared to the rural setting of Ansty and Staplefield.

5. The Mid Sussex District Plan was adopted on 28th March 2018 and much of the work that led to the Town Wide Strategy was incorporated into it. In particular, DP7 to DP9 deal with strategic development at Burgess Hill and it is worth noting that no other area of the district has this level of policy coverage. This is an indication of the importance of Burgess Hill as a major area for development.
6. DP6 of the District Plan sets the context for housing development based upon the categorisation of settlement hierarchies. Significant development in the District Plan is directed towards Category 1 settlements which are Burgess Hill, East Grinstead and Haywards Heath. Burgess Hill's allocation in the District Plan is 5697 units (including the 3500 for the Northern Arc) making up 35% of the total housing allocation (22% of the total is in the Northern Arc).
7. A Category 1 settlement is defined in DP6 as a:

"Settlement with a comprehensive range of employment, retail, health, education, leisure services and facilities. These settlements will also benefit from good public transport provision and will act as a main service centre for smaller settlements."

It can be clearly seen how Burgess Hill meets the definition of a Category 1 settlement. When considering where the Northern Arc naturally fits in terms of structural identity it is appropriate to view it as part of Burgess Hill given that it is an extension of this settlement.

8. By way of a contrast, and because the Northern Arc is currently situated in the parish of Ansty and Staplefield, it should be noted that these are Category 4 settlements which are defined as:

"Small villages with limited services often only serving the settlement itself."

Other than because of local government history there is no obvious connection between the Northern Arc and Ansty (let alone Staplefield). There is no structural connection between the Northern Arc and these smaller settlements. The thrust of infrastructure development is directed towards Burgess Hill not Ansty or Staplefield.

9. DP7 of the District Plan sets out the general principles for strategic development at Burgess Hill with DP9 setting the policy framework for the Northern Arc development. Both DP7 and DP9 draw on the Town Wide Strategy which includes an emphasis on comprehensive and infrastructure investment which integrates the Northern Arc with Burgess Hill. It is worth noting how this is reinforced in DP9 (para 5, page 43) in the District Plan. Looking at how the Northern Arc development spills into the existing town it states:

“The area between Maple Drive and the Northern Arc is included within the allocation because it is important that the new development is integrated with the existing town and that there are good public transport and pedestrian links between the development and Wivelsfield Station.”

It is clear, therefore, that the District Plan envisages that the Northern Arc is strategically part of Burgess Hill.

10. The key partners in the delivery of the Northern Arc are BHTC, MSDC, WSCC and Homes England. The development is covered by a comprehensive Masterplan. Full details of the Northern Arc development can be found on its dedicated website: www.burgesshill.net It states as a major aim:

“the Strategic Growth Programme for Burgess Hill is the most ambitious programme of change anywhere in the sub region. Our ambition is to transform the local economy, creating thousands of new high value jobs in technology led industries, and making Burgess Hill one of the most attractive places in the region to live and do business.”

11. The Strategic Growth Programme takes all of the scheduled developments in and around Burgess Hill (i.e. not only the Northern Arc) as the overall growth strategy for the town. Given that this is how it is structured in the District Plan it would be illogical at this stage to treat the Northern Arc as if it was not part of the overall growth of the town.
12. But, in any event, the Northern Arc is designed in such a way to conform to the District Plan and in particular DP7. This states as a first principle that strategic development will:

“be designed in a way that integrates it into the existing town providing connectivity with all relevant services and facilities.

13. The Masterplan sets out in some detail how the delivery of infrastructure in the development sites, but particularly the Northern Arc, creates an integrated whole with a network of walkways, cycleways and road improvements that connect the Northern Arc to the existing town. In addition, as a key transport hub there are plans to improve both Burgess Hill and Wivelsfield Station as well as invest in regular bus links from the Northern Arc into the existing town. These, along with other investments, makes it clear that the Northern Arc and the existing town are two parts of a whole.
14. The Local Government Boundary Commission guidance on Community Governance Reviews (published March 2010) states that:

“in many cases making changes to the boundaries of existing parishes, rather than creating an entirely new parish, will be sufficient to ensure that community governance arrangements to continue to reflect local identities and facilitate effective and convenient local government. For example, over time communities may expand with new housing developments. This can often lead to existing parish boundaries becoming anomalous as new

houses are built across the boundaries resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours.” (para 15, p10)

This is precisely the situation with the Northern Arc which has been designed as a structural extension to the existing town, albeit that it sits in the neighbouring parish.

15. The case for change has been reinforced by the recent review of the District Ward boundaries. When the Boundary Commission carried out its review it put the Northern Arc developments up to 2027 into two Burgess Hill wards – Dunstall (900) & Leylands (625). To leave the parish boundary unaltered by this decision would be to create an anomaly which Community Governance Reviews are designed to remove. If the boundary is not changed some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty would be electing Burgess Hill District Ward Councillors. Amending the boundary solves this anomaly and creates a clear and logical structure for local government and democratic accountability.

It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors.

It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.

However, as part of this review we believe that the warding arrangement for the Town Council be considered carefully as, in our view, the Boundary Commission has created a number of smaller parish wards where the ratio of elected member to elector is not in line with some of the other Town Council wards.

16. Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000 and a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting the increase in population that will come from the Northern Arc development. Being able to provide this level of community support from the start is crucial as new developments are delivered helping to create a sense of place, cohesion and connection.
17. Residents on the Northern Arc will look towards Burgess Hill for a wide range of private, public, and voluntary services that simply will not be available if it was a stand-alone community or remained part of Ansty and Staplefield. Indeed, you could not expect these two villages to be able to support the needs of the Northern Arc where they have no obvious structural connection and do not have an infrastructure base capable of supporting the area (in population terms the Northern Arc is likely to be 3 times the size of Ansty and Staplefield when fully developed).
18. Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team (3 full time member of staff) that provide a wide range of community events. It has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed (3 full time equivalents) and open 5 days per week providing extensive community support. Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life.
19. Under the Localism Act 2011, Burgess Hill Town Council has a General Power of Competence giving it the ability to invest in and operate a wider range of services compared to smaller parish authorities. It means that the Council is better equipped to support the needs of residents on the Northern Arc. For example, the Council is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc.
20. Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos delivery a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

21. Burgess Hill's town centre is the natural destination for residents in the Northern Arc and, indeed, the Northern Arc Masterplan emphasises this fact. In addition to the public services provided by the Council, provision for the wider catchment area is supported with:
- a. Health services.
 - b. Education provision (though it is acknowledged that 2 primary and a secondary school form part of the Northern Arc infrastructure).
 - c. Banks and other financial services.
 - d. Professional services.
 - e. Employment opportunities at two industrial parks and in the town centre (noting that the Northern Arc also makes provision for employment).
 - f. Retail with both edge of town supermarkets and a DIY centre plus a traditional town centre with a mix of independent and national chains. The Masterplan includes a major regeneration proposal for the town centre.
 - g. A post office.
 - h. The Triangle Leisure centre plus other privately run leisure businesses.
 - i. Churches and Chapels.
 - j. Community Centres.
 - k. Community organisations.

All of these businesses, organisations and groups will be able to support the Northern Arc Helping to strengthen the obvious links between the development and the existing town

Submission in Response To The Request For Electors Views On The Community Governance Review Of Burgess Hill Town Council and Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council

Introduction

1. Here are my views and proposals on the above CGR submitted in response to the Council's request. I make this submission as a resident of Burgess Hill since 1984 with no affiliation with or membership of any political party or interest group.

The Issue

2. The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) has proposed new district ward boundaries for Mid Sussex. Dunstall and Leylands wards on the northern edge Burgess Hill will be expanded into Ansty parish to include the Northern Arc settlements currently under construction. The Commission also proposed two new wards in Ansty parish to accommodate the new development but it was beyond the scope of their review to adjust the external boundary of Ansty parish. This will create an anomaly. Electors living in the two new Northern Arc parish wards will elect councillors to Ansty parish council, but for elections to Mid Sussex District Council, they are located in Burgess Hill wards and will therefore elect councillors representing Burgess Hill on MSDC. The LGBCE has published guidance that warns of electoral anomalies occurring when new housing development occurs across parish boundaries. In its final recommendations for Mid Sussex it points out the district council has the power to initiate a community governance review to modify the parish electoral arrangements and such a review is now being undertaken as a result of a petition from Burgess Hill electors.
3. There is little doubt that an anomalous situation will occur in 2023 if this is not addressed by making adjustments to the parish/town council electoral arrangements. There is nothing unprecedented in making such a change because there is a long established practice of adjusting local government boundaries to reflect the growth of settlements. The LGBCE have recognised this in their proposals for amending the district council ward boundaries by expanding the two northern Burgess Hill district council wards to include the Northern Arc development but they were unable to make a similar change to include the Northern Arc within the town council area. This will cause confusion and accountability issues if it is not addressed.

Proposed Solution

4. Perhaps the simplest way to address the issue would be to move the two new Ansty Parish Council wards (Northern Arc East & Northern Arc West) to the Burgess Hill Town Council area and to recalculate the numbers of parish/town councillors required for each council. As the population of the new wards increase it would be necessary to recalculate the number of councillors in future years to ensure approximate equality of electors per councillor across the town council area.
5. An alternative arrangement could be to expand Dunstall, Leylands and possibly also Gatehouse town council wards to absorb the two Northern Arc parish wards. This might require further boundary changes in the future to avoid creating wards with very high populations but I note there is already significant variation in ward size within the town council area which has been addressed by increasing the number of councillors. St Andrews and Franklands wards, for example, have 3 councillors each.

6. In my view the exact details of the changes are less important than ensuring a transparent electoral arrangement in which parish/town wards and district wards nest together in a clear and unambiguous way. A strong case can be made to support these alternative proposals.

Justification

7. The new settlement development has always been promoted as an extension to Burgess Hill and has always been described in this way as the planning process has progressed. The development will be physically contiguous with the existing built up area of the town and will effectively become part of the town. The new residents will inevitably look to the town for access to public services, community activities, retailing & transportation services but they will have no say in decisions made by the Town Council that will impact on these activities. The proposed change will create more effective local democracy by allowing the residents of the Northern Arc to participate in elections to the Town Council. It is both appropriate and desirable that they have an opportunity to contribute to local democracy in the town and that they contribute financially to the provision of services and activities funded by the Town Council.
8. If the parish/town council electoral arrangements are not changed the new residents will be represented, at least in the short term, by a parish council whose main focus would be on the governance of a sparsely populated rural parish with no other substantial settlement. The parish is the largest by area in Sussex and consists of a rural area of low population density with a total population of only around 2,500. There are 3 small settlements but most of the population is dispersed across the sprawling parish. In the longer term, the addition of around 3500 new dwellings along the southern periphery will be totally out of character with the rest of the parish. It will also mean that the electorate of the parish will more than double and the population increase by perhaps three times. The new urban electors will potentially have very different interests and priorities from those currently living in the parish and this may not be conducive to the development of good community cohesion. Over time the number of councillors will need to be increased from the current 9 to around 12 or 13 to meet Circular 1126 recommendations. Moreover, if electoral equality is to be maintained across the parish the Northern Arc areas will have a majority of the councillors and become the dominant influence on the parish council's priorities and policies. This could result in a polarisation of interests and priorities between the new urban population and the existing rural electors which would not be conducive to community cohesion. The inclusion of the Northern Arc wards within the Burgess Hill town council area will avoid this, and by avoiding the creation of polarised interests should be more likely to engender effective local democracy and help reduce tensions and conflicting interests within each community.
9. The existing Ansty Parish Council is unlikely to have any experience or facilities for serving an urban community. This contrasts with Burgess Hill Town Council which since 1974 has been serving a continuously expanding urban area, which at one time was claimed to be the fastest growing town in Europe. It is more likely to have the required experience and economies of scale to deliver effective local services and meet the needs of an expanding urban community.
10. The Ansty and Staplefield Neighbourhood Plan confirms the existing Parish Council's focus on managing a low density rural area. The plan refers to the Northern Arc development but it has excluded it from the area covered by the plan. This appears to be recognition that the

new development is an extension to Burgess Hill rather than an integral part of the parish and implies an expectation that the Northern Arc area will be removed from the parish.

Precedent

11. There is a recent precedent to support the proposal to change the Burgess Hill Town Council boundary. The major expansion of the western side of the town which took place 25 years or so ago was accompanied by a significant extension to the Town Council area. The town boundary was redrawn to follow the line of the new A273 road which contained the substantial area of new housing, commercial and industrial development. The extent of the boundary change can be seen by comparing OS 1:25,000 maps from the 1980s with a current edition. This demonstrates that there is a recent precedent for the Burgess Hill Town Council boundary to be expanded to accommodate substantial new development.

Immediately evident from all the planning for the *Northern Arc* development let alone its name, is that this 'arc' is an intentional and cohesive expansion to the town of Burgess Hill to its north. It is therefore a fundamental requirement that the town boundary be modified to include the development at the earliest opportunity, to allow the town community to continue developing as a coherent integrated whole with a shared identity and a fairly balanced representation of all its townsfolk, both existing and new.

The '*Northern Arc, Burgess Hill - Masterplan*' itself already provides all the detailed qualitative evidence that the intent and in-depth design for the development has always been as an extension to be fully integrated with Burgess Hill. It would be absurd to suggest otherwise, as that would be tantamount to disregarding and discounting the whole planning process and basis underpinning the development. From its very title, page after page, map after map, the masterplan explains how to best achieve this integration and expansion of Burgess Hill.

The themes mandated for the Community Governance Review, just alone, already provide the compelling rationale for moving the boundary as soon as possible to include the Northern Arc within Burgess Hill. Those though can readily be expanded to help illustrate the clear and tangible benefits to be derived, as follows:-

Improved community engagement

- It demonstrates to people that the planning and consultation processes can be trusted, and what was promised is what will be delivered. The overarching vision of the masterplan (see 1.2) states "*a series of sustainable neighbourhoods linked by a new Northern Arc Avenue, green cycle and footpaths and **successfully integrated into Burgess Hill and the wider improvements to the town***".
- Burgess Hill has had a long and successful history of growing, and the existing townsfolk have to have clear confirmation that this and like developments will always keep the town as a single joined-up and cohesive community with a common identity and shared interaction.
- Large-scale development inevitably brings a lot of upheaval and inconvenience to the existing town. The townsfolk adjoining the development lose their ready access to the countryside, and all the town's infrastructure and facilities become more in demand as the population grows. The community have to see that the end result and increased sharing is designed to be in everybody's best interest, for the benefit of the whole town.

Enhanced community cohesion

- As clearly stated in the masterplan (see 1.4 SDP 10) "*The Northern Arc will seek to maximise integration with the existing communities of Burgess Hill and the established facilities and services of the town and the wider District. The new community will complement and add to these facilities, providing existing and new residents with access to a wider range of housing, employment, education, recreation and leisure opportunities.*"
- Likewise masterplan (see 1.4 SDP 4) "*Alongside the Green Circle and the Green Super Highway, a network of secondary pedestrian and cycle links will be provided throughout the Northern Arc linking the area to the wider town*".
- The Burgess Hill '*Green Circle*' itself is a well-established local initiative that has long planned for a completed circle around the whole town, specifically including the proposed Northern Arc. The existing pathways and green spaces are regularly used with many interpretation boards illustrating the future route, with the community already looking forward to being able to enjoy the final walking and cycling circuit.
- Again from the masterplan (see 1.4 SDP 17) "*provision of sports facilities to serve the new and existing communities ... to complement existing and enhanced provision at the nearby Triangle Leisure Centre.*"
- Similarly masterplan (see 3.1 DP7) "*Improve public transport, walking and cycling infrastructure and access to Burgess Hill and Wivelsfield railway stations and Burgess Hill Town Centre*"

Better local democracy

- The new residents will be directly connected to and primarily make use of the facilities and services of the wider Burgess Hill town. It is critical from the very start that they are fairly and proportionately represented in any local decision making, and equally that their views are balanced with the wider town community that they are intrinsically part of.

More effective and convenient delivery of local services and local government

- The Northern Arc is a large urban development directly on the fringes of Burgess Hill; by character and physical location just another part of this existing well defined single urban settlement. Its needs for local services and local government are identical to those already of the town as a whole. Besides a significant but relatively modest increase of scale, these needs will be well met by the existing provision e.g. the Town Council and Help Point, the future Beehive (re-instated) community centre and arts venue, the Triangle leisure centre, plus a myriad of active well-established community and social groups, etc.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW RELATING TO BURGESS HILL TOWN COUNCIL AND CONSEQUENTIAL NORTHERN ARC CONSIDERATIONS FOR ANSTY AND STAPLEFIELD

The Northern Arc development should be included within the limits of Burgess Hill because residents will access services and facilities provided within the town. The required level of services does not exist within Ansty and Staplefield.

The location of the development is without doubt, part of Burgess Hill, as it will be part of a continuous built-up area of the town. There is no green space or rural lane between it and the town.

IMPROVED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Burgess Hill already has a population of over 30,000, with good provision of services, including support groups, a help point and excellent sports provision. Residents in the Northern Arc would naturally access these facilities so should be included within the town boundary.

With increased investment in services within Burgess Hill, including the Beehive theatre, there will be many facilities for residents to join the community and engage in local activities.

ENHANCED COMMUNITY PROVISION

With an increased population, there will be more residents using local facilities, resulting in extra provision for the growing community.

BETTER LOCAL DEMOCRACY

If the new development is in Ansty and Staplefield, residents will be electing councillors for an area that they don't really live in. It is important that new residents can vote for Burgess Hill town councillors who will be making decisions for the town and its facilities they will be using.

MORE EFFECTIVE AND CONVENIENT DELIVERY OF LOCAL SERVICES

Burgess Hill Town Council will accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its service provisions more effectively than the rural councils of Ansty and Staplefield. With a budget of around £1m and 16 full-time members of staff, the town council has a strong commitment to the delivery of a wide range of services.

Burgess Hill Community Governance Review.

Overview: My understanding is that the large area of development of 3,500 houses comprising the 'Northern Arc' (NA) was adopted into the MSDC District Plan over 10 years ago. The size of this development has huge implications for the Town of Burgess Hill and that is why it was incorporated into the District Plan. The NA population will form approximately 10% of the future area of the Town and it is totally logical to bind it to Burgess Hill for Governance.

Effective Delivery of Local Services: Burgess Hill Town Council is already delivering a wide range of Community Services with a large budget with an established organisation. This can be built on to include the requirements of the Northern Arc with savings of scale. No smaller parish council can do this from scratch

As is shown on the proposed Ward Maps, the NA Development is contiguous with the existing Town boundaries and urban areas. - it is not separated from them nor is it connected to any other urban area.

It is patently obvious that the Northern Arc development should be integrated into the existing town as was acknowledged in the DP9. **It is the fairest thing to do and provides transparency and openness.**

Community cohesion: This new development will be inextricable linked to the existing Town by the roads and pathways, radiating to and from the Town Centre. This will mean that residents living in the NAD will naturally travel into and out of the Town for business and pleasure on a regular basis even if their work takes them to a remote location such as London or Brighton. The roads and infrastructure will enable close links with the Town for Cyclists and walkers as well as those using Public transport.

As Burgess Hill is already a busy and vibrant employment growth area I would expect that new opportunities will arise that will inevitably bring those new NAD residents into BH Town for work.

As those new residents of NAD become more integrated due to work, I expect that they will need to access other facilities and services in the Town. I do not see there being much of a pull outward towards rural facilities in smaller parishes. This surely means that NAD Residents Focus will be predominately towards Burgess Hill thus creating a natural Community of 'Greater' Burgess Hill.

Community Engagement: New residents in the NA will no doubt require access to a wide range of groups and services and it would be natural for them to gravitate towards the existing facilities in Burgess Hill with its large population of around 30k. It is doubtful if many of those needs could be found in the smaller rural parishes.

Better Local Democracy and Council Accountability.

The redrawing of the parish boundaries to include the Northern Arc solves the problem of Ansty voters electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. It also gives the electorate a clear understanding of what their votes will count for when local government services are being delivered, or not. **It ensures responsibility is placed with those who have the greatest stake in the Town's future and provides democratic accountability.**

REDACTED

31/05/2022

Dear Sir.

Community Governance Review relating to Burgess Hill Town Council

We understand that the Northern Arc was included in Burgess Hill Town Council's town strategy in 2011 as an area for housing development and after endorsement by residents it was made part of the District Plan. More importantly, we understand that it was agreed that Burgess Hill Town Council would get the Section 106 money to improve community facilities.

Irrespective of where the political boundaries are drawn, geographically the Northern Arc will be and already is an extension and part of Burgess Hill. Ipso facto this means that residents will use the services and facilities the town has to offer. This will obviously put additional pressure on these. Money will be needed to enhance and extend things such as footpaths, cycleways and other infrastructure. These will clearly help cohesion and integration.

Apart from the infrastructure there are numerous very active community groups offering a wide range of activities from intellectual to sporting pursuits. The town also has a swimming pool and sports complex which is in the vicinity of the residents of the Northern Arc and will clearly be used by them. As we understand it, maintenance of this complex is an on-going challenge. Given this and the other items above, we believe that it is clearly justified that the Northern Arc should be within the Burgess Hill Town boundary and should receive the money from the development/residents.

As things currently stand, some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands elect Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty Parish Councillors. This anomaly clearly is detrimental to local democracy. It's very important that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. We understand that in relation to this the Boundary Commission saw that as being Burgess Hill. This clearly reinforces the position we stated above.

Yours sincerely REDACTED

When a town wide strategy was established in 2011 this included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. Residents of Burgess Hill were consulted and we endorsed the Northern Arc as part of the District Plan

In 2020 we received a Northern Arc Update. It was issued “to provide an update on the progress of delivery of the **Northern Arc, Burgess Hill**”. This update informed us that “Development of the Northern Arc is part of the ambitious **Burgess Hill Strategic Growth Programme** which will transform the local economy by creating thousands of new jobs and homes”. The update includes a map which clearly ties the development to Burgess Hill. Local residents have been regularly provided with updates on the development taking place on their doorstep. We live in Leyland’s Ward and several times a week, within two minutes from our home, are walking down Freak’s Lane and have observed the Northern Arc development since it commenced. When the trees are not in leaf we can see the development from our upstairs windows. Given the development being geographically an extension of Burgess Hill it made common sense that the Development Plan stated in DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing plan for Burgess Hill.

Residents of the Northern Arc will naturally look to Burgess Hill to access Public and Private services and facilities. It will be to the Burgess Hill Help Point and Tourist Information Centre that they will turn. Groups within Burgess Hill will be able to support the residents of the Northern Arc in ways that will not be available from Ansty and Staplefield. They will be my neighbours who I may regularly meet as I walk down Freak’s Lane to Bedelands nature reserve, a Burgess Hill facility many will want to enjoy. The Northern Arc is on the Town boundary and some of the Northern Arc is already within that Boundary and it would be logical to link the Northern Arc with Burgess Hill.

The Boundary Commission review of MSDC Ward Boundaries put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards – Dunstall and Leylands. Apparently, the changes created the anomaly of some voters, living currently in the Parish of Ansty electing Burgess Hill councillors for MSDC The review would solve that anomaly.

The review, I understand, would solve a similar problem in which some residents who live in Dunstall and Leylands wards elect Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst other residents elect Ansty Parish Councillors.

Community Governance Review - Submission

1. in 2011 a town wide strategy was established which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. Residents of Burgess Hill were consulted and endorsed the Northern Arc as part of the District Plan
2. in 2020 a Northern Arc Update was published and delivered to homes in the area, (including Petworth Drive). It was issued “to provide an update on the progress of delivery of the **Northern Arc, Burgess Hill**”. The Update also informed that “Development of the Northern Arc is part of the ambitious **Burgess Hill Strategic Growth Programme** which will transform the local economy by creating thousands of new jobs and homes”. The update includes a map which clearly ties the development to Burgess Hill. Local residents have been regularly provided with updates on the development taking place on their doorstep
3. The Development Plan acknowledged in DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing plan for Burgess Hill.
4. Residents of the Northern Arc will naturally look to Burgess Hill to access Public and Private services. It will be to the Burgess Hill Help Point and Tourist Information Centre that they will turn; Groups within Burgess Hill will be capable of supporting the Northern Arc whereas Ansty and Staplefield would not be able to support residents of the Northern Arc.
5. The Northern Arc is on the Town boundary and some of the Northern Arc is already within that Boundary and it would be logical to link the Northern Arc with Burgess Hill.
6. The Boundary Commission review of MSDC Ward Boundaries put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards – Dunstall and Leylands. Apparently, the changes created the anomaly of some voters, living currently in the Parish of Ansty electing Burgess Hill councillors for MSDC. The review would solve that anomaly.

The review, I understand, would solve a similar problem in which some residents who live in Dunstall and Leylands wards elect Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst other residents elect Ansty Parish Councillors.

REDACTED

08.05.2022

Ref: REDACTED

Community Governance Review : Burgess Hill Town Council / Northern Arc

REDACTED, REDACTED **Community Engagement**

- Burgess Hill (BH) has a wide range of groups (public, private and voluntary) already established to serve it's population. These would be made available to residents of the Northern Arc (NA). It would be difficult to set such a wide range of interest groups up separately for the new housing, and therefore makes sense to join the two to provide ease of access and improvement of service as a result.
- The BH Community Engagement Team already provide a wide range of community events, has a Help Point and a staffed Tourist Information Centre. This could also then be made available to the NA.
- The NA would also benefit from access to future BH investment such as plans for a modern theatre.

Community Cohesion

- NA investment (such as cycle paths, roads and public transport) already link it to BH. It therefore makes BH the focal point for community activity.
- There will also be a mutual benefit for employment, with the NA providing skilled resource and BH employment opportunities.
- Some of the NA is already within BH boundary so it would make sense to link it fully to BH.

Better Local Democracy

- Bringing the NA into BH will resolve the current issue of some people living in Ansty voting and electing BH councillors. This will make the democratic process clearer, more consistent and integrated with the local community needs and scope.

Local Service Delivery / Community Interests and Identities

- BH council has a budget approaching £1m employing around 16 staff. Bringing the NA into the scope of BH will offer benefits for economies-of-scale, and avoid the cost / bureaucracy of needing to setup mirror structures.

Mid Sussex

At the Northern Arc Meeting we were told that it would be part of Burgess Hill. Its on Burgess Hill land and only access via Maple Drive then it is part of the town so how it can be part of Ansty & Staplefield parish council

Since i have moved here, Burgess hill has grown as a town - developments, both existing & planned, will bring in more people, adding to our community as a unified whole.

The northern arc needs to be a part of Burgess hill because it is an urban extension of the town.

The northern arc will truly be part of Burgess hill - Mid-Sussex can boast a town of significant size and potential in a county of many beautiful villages.

With the northern arc as a part of Burgess hill, economic recovery post-Covid, and plans enacted by the county, district & town councils, Burgess hill will grow & flourish - the residents of the northern arc will benefit from this as part of our town.

It is already a great place to live and work – it needs to be big enough to accommodate the increasing number of people that will be attracted by the name of Burgess hill.

This will also mean that the services provided to the northern arc at a local level can be more varied and be more efficiently delivered.

Regards,

REDACTED

NORTHERN ARC COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW 2022

It is my understanding that Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011, which included the Northern Arc. This is turn was adopted as part of the District Plan and the Northern Arc was to be integrated within the existing town.

BETTER LOCAL DEMOCRACY

Given the increased size of population resulting from the Northern Arc it makes sense, to organise ward boundaries that reflect and provide clear and logical democratic arrangements for residents. This proposal gives clarity and resolves the anomaly of some voters, currently living in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for Mid Sussex District Council. It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors, whilst others elect Ansty Parish Councillors. As the majority of the Northern Arc is within the town's boundary, it is therefore, more logical to link the Northern Arc with Burgess Hill. However, it is important to review the warding arrangements carefully to ensure the ratio of elected members to electors is in line with some of the other Town Council wards.

COMMUNITY COHESION

Community cohesion lies at the heart of what makes a safe and strong community. With a population of over 30,000, two stations, a good bus service and within 15 minutes of Brighton and 25 minutes of Gatwick; Burgess Hill has a well established infrastructure in place which in turn, supports walkers, cyclists, motorists and public transport. It is also an employment growth area and significant development is planned for the town centre. The Northern Arc would undoubtedly tap into this infrastructure, while any investment coming from the Northern Arc would contribute to the town's development and create greater community cohesion and community identity.

IMPROVED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Burgess Hill has a Help Point and Tourist Information Centre, which provides excellent community support. In addition, the Town Council is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre, which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc. A well established range of public, private and voluntary groups already exist and could more easily be adapted to support the residents of the Northern Arc, while in comparison, the parish of Ansty and Staplefield does not have the necessary infrastructure in place and would undoubtedly struggle to support the number of new residents in the area.

Burgess Hill's Town centre is the natural destination for residents in the Northern Arc. In addition to the public services provided by the Council, provision for the wider catchment area is supported with a wide range of businesses, organisations and groups that would strengthen the obvious links between the Northern Arc and the existing town.

MORE EFFECTIVE AND CONVENIENT DELIVERY OF LOCAL SERVICES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Burgess Hill has a Town Council with a clear service ethos, a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these e.g. The Beehive community centre and arts venue. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish, such as Ansty and Staplefield cannot.

REFLECTING THE IDENTITIES AND INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY

Burgess Hill has a long history of innovation, development and adapting to the changing needs of a growing population and is consequently, equipped to include and support the Northern Arc.

In conclusion, I support the case for extending the boundary of Burgess Hill to incorporate the Northern Arc.

Response to the Community Governance Review relating to Burgess Hill Town Council and consequential Northern Arc considerations for Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council

It is my understanding that Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011 which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth. We were consulted on this strategy and following resident's endorsement it became part of the District Plan.

The Northern Arc has been incorporated into the District Plan as part of the strategic housing allocation for the District. The District Plan also specifically acknowledges in DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town.

Investment coming from the Northern Arc clearly links the development with the existing town with a strong emphasis of forming close links for walkers, cyclists, motorists, and public transport. This will integrally bind the Northern Arc to our town, making the town centre the clear focus of our community identity.

Burgess Hill is also an employment growth area offering employment opportunities for all local people and thus reducing commuting and road congestion by people having to find work further afield. Significant public realm investment is planned for Burgess Hill creating an obvious pull factor for residents in the Northern Arc who will naturally look to the town to access public and private services.

The Northern Arc is on the town's border and some of it is already within the town's boundary making it more and entirely logical to link the Northern Arc with the town. Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000 and has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents on the Northern Arc.

It would be hard to set these up from scratch and the parish of Ansty and Staplefield could not support this number of new residents as their centres and ranges of services is noticeably smaller. There is also a significant physical distance between them and the Northern Arc, representing a 'distance' in all senses that would be very difficult to overcome. I find it hard to imagine how a resident in the Northern Arc could ever feel part of the Ansty and Staplefield parish being so far removed from it. Their connection and commitment will inevitably be to the place they are physically part of, namely Burgess Hill.

Burgess Hill Town Council has an excellent and active Community Engagement Team who provide a wide range of community events. The Help Point & Tourist Information Centre is staffed and open 5 days per week, providing extensive community support.. Burgess Hill Town Council is also investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc. Residents in the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and take a full part in the town's active community life, so it makes absolute sense that their council tax contributions should go to the place where they are physically located, namely Burgess Hill.

When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards - Dunstall & Leylands.

As residents we need a clear and logical democratic set up. These changes created the anomaly of some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC. This review solves that anomaly. It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors.

It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.

Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos delivery a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.

I really hope that this Community Governance Review will be guided by common sense and make the recommendation to adjust the boundaries, as always assumed would be the case, and enable the whole of the Northern Arc to be wholly and properly part of the town of Burgess Hill. The Northern Arc is a physical extension of the town and this should be properly reflected in the governmental boundaries.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW FOR BURGESS HILL TOWN COUNCIL 2022

In 2011 Burgess Hill residents were consulted on housing growth strategy. This resulted in the Northern Arc being part of the district plan and that the development would form part of the housing allocation for Burgess Hill.

In all published information & consultation for the Northern Arc the connection to Burgess Hill in the form of walking, cycling and road use was clear from the very beginning. This proposed that new residents of the 3500 homes would utilise the new pathways to get to the existing and redeveloped town centre and employment areas rather than use their cars. It was also clear that the new business/commercial centres to be built on the A2300 would provide employment for the new residents of the Northern Arc.

The facilities of Burgess Hill including Lidl and Tesco supermarkets, post offices, pubs, doctors, dentists (plus the town centre redevelopment when eventually finished) offer a far more logical draw to the residents of 3500 new homes than the small villages of Anstye and Staplefield that do not have anywhere near the facilities required. Community events in Burgess Hill will also be more able to support the number of new residents rather than Anstye and Staplefield.

Some of the Northern Arc already falls into the Burgess Hill boundary & electoral wards. The logical thing is to encompass the entire development into Burgess Hill to enable the new residents to all be within the same boundary & electoral wards rather than neighbours being in different voting wards when local issues arise and at voting time.

FAO: Jerry Stanley (Business Unit Leader for Democratic Services) and Tom Clark (Head of Regulatory Services) – Community Governance Review

Electoral Services (CGR)
Mid Sussex District Council
Oaklands
Oaklands Road
Haywards Heath
RH16 1SS

29 May 2022

Re: Community Governance Review relating to the electoral wards, the Norther Arc exterior boundary and Councillor members for Burgess Hill Town Council

Dear Sirs,

I, along with several neighbours (letters which will be submitted separately), write to you in relation to the above-mentioned review and as required, to contribute to views as a registered local government elector.

In line with the Terms of Reference, outlined below is my input in relation to how the review will derive the following benefits:

- Improvement community engagement
- Enhanced community cohesion
- Better local democracy
- More effective and convenient delivery of local services and local government and;
- Explanation of how my proposition reflects the identifies and interest of the community

Improved community engagement

Investment which comes from the Northern Arc being built has strong links to Burgess Hill's development, which it currently so desperately needs. Comparing Burgess Hill to neighbouring towns with thriving town centres, they are built on their community coming together – this is an opportunity to make our town centre the focus of the community identity, which the Northern Arc must form part of. Through this, the town will entice the local communities spend, boosting many of the local businesses which this community supports and loves. All this will in turn naturally support creating local employment opportunities in and around the town, ensuring enhanced community cohesion as well.

Additionally, Burgess Hill already had a community of over 30,000 (numbers from 2011) which has no doubt been growing. It has a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting residents of the Northern Arc, which will no doubt be a selling point for those looking to settle their families here. I believe that it is extremely obvious that Ansty and Staplefield could not do this, as setting these up from new takes time and the number of new residents would be overwhelming. Those residents will naturally seek this in Burgess Hill due to its active Community Engagement Team, which provides a wide range of community events.

Burgess Hill also has a Help Point and Tourist Information Centre, which is open 5 days a week, to assist with any community support needs – this will be accessible to Northern Arc's residents.

Enhanced community cohesion

The Northern Arc is actually situated on Burgess Hill's town boarder, some of which is already within the town's boundary. It is the closest town to Northern Arc, with attractive public transport links to London and Brighton, with many of Burgess Hill's residents use to commute to work, it is logical to link Northern Arc to Burgess Hill.

Additionally, there is already a significant public realm investment planned for Burgess Hill, the town will attract new residents of Northern Arc's for access to local amenities and services, both public and private. The investment plans for Burgess Hill were one of the reasons, I decided to purchase a property here.

Better local democracy

Having a clear, logical and easy to navigate through democratic set up is of a huge importance. When the Boundary Commission carried out its review of the MSDC District Ward boundaries, it put the Northern Arc into two Burgess Hill wards – Dunstall and Leylands, which can cause problems. The review will sort an anomaly for some voters who live in the parish of Ansty, electing Burgess Hill Councillors for MSDC.

It will also solve a problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill Wards of Dunstall and Leylands, electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors. As a resident, I am strongly in favour of making this more simplistic. It is important for the accountable local government to ensure that votes are counted in the same way and that people living in the area have the same and equal access to the same governmental organisation – The Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.

More effective and convenient delivery of local services and local government

Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of £1million and 16 full-time members of staff. They deliver a wide range of community services with plans for expansion. It can accommodate the inclusion of Northern Arc into its services and delivery in a way a smaller parish cannot – something a new resident moving to out of (as an example, one of London's councils) will expect to be delivered – linking Northern Arc to Burges Hill is clearly the obvious choice here.

How this proposition reflects the identities and interest of the community

Burgess Hill Town Council established a town wide strategy in 2011, which included the Northern Arc as an area for major housing growth, this was then consulted with residents of Burgess Hill and became part of District Plan following endorsement. Ignoring this consultation and the District Plan, which the Northern Arc is part of, takes away from the 2011 consultation and in essence undermines the residents wishes and endorsement. Additionally to this, the District Plan specifically acknowledges in the DP9 that the Northern Arc is integrated with the existing town of Burgess Hill.

Joining Northern Arc with Burgess Hill will no doubt make both of those communities even more desirable to live in, with a huge potential to positively impact property prices, in turn boosting the town's economy. This can be clearly demonstrated through our neighbouring town of Haywards Heath, where the boom in new communities being built within the town

brought major improvements, making Haywards Heath more desirable to live than it was before. One obvious benefit being the improvement to transport links to London, through the redevelopment of its local train station and improvement in services. Doing the same in Burgess Hill will allow both the communities (of Northern Arc and Burgess Hill) to support one another, reaping the benefits of being one, as Burgess Hill already has a strong community, where, whether you're a young family looking to settle or a local business looking to start on its journey or to expand, there's a place here for you to flourish – it also has mountains of potential, which can only be utilised through growth.

I sincerely hope that the Community Governance Review considers this moment as an opportunity to make Burgess Hill the most desirable town to live in Sussex.

Yours sincerely,

REDACTED

REDACTED

Address:
REDACTED

Telephone:
REDACTED

Community Governance Review – Burgess Hill & Associated Considerations.

1st May 2022

In response to the District Council invitation to submit my views as a local elector and resident of Burgess Hill I offer the following views.

The relatively recent restructuring of electoral wards within Burgess Hill has not worked well in my opinion. After many years in which Town & District Council members were elected on the same day, for the same electoral areas, by the same electorate we moved for 2019 to a disparate, non-co-terminus arrangement whereby the Town Council's representatives often sat for different areas than their District colleagues. This has led to a dissociation between representatives of the same electorate on different councils.

One of the biggest impacts has been where residents responding to the planning process (one of the most used and most emotive areas of local government) have been confused by 'which councillor to contact about which part of the process'.

I suggest a return to a structure whereby Town & District Council Members are elected for the same electoral wards, to eliminate the above problems. Obviously as Burgess Hill continues to grow at a phenomenal rate there will need to be more than the six original wards. The scale of expansion represented by the 'northern arc' development is such that this new development would constitute a new ward in its own right. There may also be grounds for considering an additional new ward to the south east of town; a 'Franklands South' if you like.

If we look at the option of a seven-ward town, each with two District Members and three Town Members, we have a more or less balanced level of representation across the community. This would result in increasing the Town Council to 21 Members, which (being an odd number) would more easily facilitate majorities both on the wider Council and on committees, thus diffusing difficulties which arise from tied votes and Members voting twice! I have personal experience of this type of difficulty on that authority.

I do accept that this would mean an increase in the number of District seats, which goes somewhat against recent proposals to decrease the overall number of seats at District, however this proposal would address the key benefits highlighted in the District Council's Notice of Community Governance Review. Namely the following:-

2.

A better balanced representation would facilitate better local democracy and thereby enhance community cohesion. I further suggest this would result in better delivery of local governance and council services.

With regard to the identities and interests of the community I would make the following observations particularly with regard to Burgess Hill. This town, having grown exponentially during my own lifetime, now comprises several 'mini-communities' within the wider town.

Amongst these are 'Maple Drive', West End Meadows, Hammonds Ridge, The 'Chanctonbury Estate', 'Folders Lane' and of course the well established 'Worlds End', amongst others.

Recent developments have acknowledged this evolution of the wider community whereby local shopping facilities have been established in Leylands Road, off The Kingsway, in addition to worlds End and no doubt as the community continues to grow so will these 'local centres'.

To some extent these have offset the lack of redevelopment in the old 'town centre', still sought by many in Burgess Hill. However 'out of town (centre)' shopping has one advantage - namely that it spreads traffic across the town and thus alleviates the now regular traffic congestion at rush hour across the town centre. The re-establishment of a clear ward structure across the town, regardless of tier of local governance, would help enhance community identity as it evolves and – as an obvious outcome – would benefit the interests of the community.

Turning now to the reference to Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council, although much of the 'northern arc' will be constructed on land belonging to that Parish it makes sense that the parish boundaries be adjusted to bring those new housing developments into Burgess Hill in the legal and electoral sense as well as the physical sense. There is recent precedent for this adjustment; an area around the Tesco superstore was previously part of Hurstpierpoint Parish but the quite sensible boundary change at that time acknowledged the reality of that development being part of the Burgess Hill community. I suggest the same should be the case for the 'northern arc'!

I might add, as an addition to the above, that where any monies are due from developers for the construction of the 'northern arc' these should be applied for the benefit of the community within which it will reside; namely Burgess Hill.

3.

I submit this as my personal response to the Community Governance Review and ask that due note be taken of my views as a life-long resident of Burgess Hill.

REDACTED

REDACTED
Burgess Hill resident

Response to consultation on reviewing the Boundary of Burgess Hill to include the Northern Arc

It is obvious that, linking the needs of Ansty and Staplefield to those of Burgess Hill, is just a device by the Conservative Councillors of Mid Sussex District to delay the development of Burgess Hill Town.

The town's development is needed **now - shown by the ease experienced in collecting the required number of signatures of residents of Burgess Hill.**

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

May 8, 2022

REDACTED

26th May 2022

Terry Stanley
Business Unit Leader for Democratic Services
Mid Sussex District Council
Oaklands
Oakland Road
Haywards Heath
RH16 1SS

Dear Mr Stanley

Community Governance Review – considerations for Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council

I have read your Community Governance Review consultation 26/05/2022 and strongly object to your proposal to reduce the number of Councillors in the Ansty and Staplefield Wards.

Ansty in particular has an increased population due to new housing development over the last 5 years with more development in the pipeline. A reduced representation will put too much pressure on the suggested number of Councillors and jeopardise the best interests of the residents who they serve.

At present it is written into the Ansty Centre Trust constitution and the Ansty Village Hall constitution that the Parish Council nominate Councillors as Trustees. This would put too much pressure on the Ansty Ward Councillors to fulfil this criteria. This could also have a knock on effect on MSDC, who have an enormous interest in the new Ansty Village Centre, if sufficient representation of the Ansty Ward Councillors are not able to represent the interests sufficiently of these two Trusts.

We also have the disastrous proposal of 1,600 houses to be built in Ansty in the future which we are actively trying to stop as it is totally unsuitable and would destroy the villages of Ansty and Cuckfield. We need Councillors to help and represent us.

This whole proposal is badly thought through and would seem to indicate either a lack of knowledge of the Ansty Ward, joined up thinking, or and I hope not, vested interest of other parties! Why for instance has Brook Street been nominated 2 Councillors when nothing has changed there? The Northern Arc being moved into Burgess Hill changes very little as there weren't many people there in the first place. It is just increasing more problems for Ansty with traffic flow and related problems from such an enormous amount of housing so close to Ansty village. We need our Councillors to help us deal with all the problems which inevitably will arise.

Maintaining the total number of Parish Councillors while increasing the number of Wards because of new developments, which means more work for the Councillors, is badly thought through. The obvious solution is to increase the number of Councillors in proportion to the needs of the new and increasing Wards.

I would suggest Ansty has 5 Councillors, Staplefield 3 Councillors, Rocky Lane 3 Councillors and Brook Street 1 Councillor. Twelve in total.

Yours sincerely

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

Dear Sir

Burgess Hill –

The Northern Arc building development was designated as housing growth in District Plan 9...part of the strategic housing allocation for the district.

Part of the Northern Arc development is already within the town boundary... allocated within Dunstall and Leylands wards.

The Northern Arc is clearly a part of Burgess Hill town development – with the new roads, and suitable facilities for walkers, cyclists, motorists, and public transport.

Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000, and already has a range of public, private, and voluntary groups which would be able to support the folks in the new houses and flats.

I feel that smaller villages such as Ansty and Staplefield would struggle to match this outreach, whereas the Northern Arc folk could easily access help and information from Burgess Hill Town Council at the Help Point and the Tourist Information Centre.

REDACTED

RECEIVED

16 MAY 2022

27/05/2022

REDACTED

CAN I FIRSTLY THANK YOU FOR INCLUDING ME IN THIS PROCESS BY WRITING TO ME. IT'S BEEN MANY YEARS SINCE I FEEL I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANYTHING AT TOWN DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCIL LEVELS. I AM ONE OF MANY FOR WHOM GO TO WWW..... MEANS WE ARE EXCLUDED.

HAVING READ THE INFORMATION YOU POSTED TO ME MY FIRST THOUGHT IS THAT ANSTY & STAPLEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL SHOULD DECIDE IF THEY WISH TO RELINQUISH CONTROL OF THE AREA WITHIN THE "NORTHEAN ARC" NOT HAVE IT TAKEN FROM ~~THEM~~ REDACTED I FEEL AS A MORE RURAL COMMUNITY THE SECTION 106 MONIES THAT COME WITH THE NEW HOMES WOULD BE SPENT MUCH MORE WISELY, THAN IF IT WAS LEFT TO BURGESS HILL TOWN COUNCIL.

I WOULD RATHER THE NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS FOR BURGESS HILL TO BE AN ODD NUMBER RATHER THAN AN EVEN AS THIS MAKES FINAL DECISIONS CLEAR RATHER THAN CREATE A DEADLOCK POSSIBLE.

IF ANSTY & STAPLEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL ARE OF A MIND TO RELINQUISH CONTROL OF THE AREA, SO BE IT, THE PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION OF WARDS & COUNCILLORS SEEM APPROPRIATE AS LONG AS THE NUMBERS OF COUNCILLORS ARE CHANGED AS PER ABOVE COMMENT 15 OR 17 NOT 16.

ALTHOUGH NOT PART OF THE GOVERNANCE REVIEW PROCESS

CAN I AGAIN RAISE THE POINT OF HOW PEOPLE WHO DO NOT HAVE OR CANNOT USE THE INTERNET GET INVOLVED AT PARISH, TOWN, DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCIL LEVELS?

I HAVE MANY UNANSWERED QUESTIONS ABOUT PLANNING, RECYCLING ISSUES, THE WAY SECTION 106 MONIES WAS SPENT ON CYCLING ROUTES & FOOTPATHS (IN THIS CASE CAUSING HABITAT DESTRUCTION DURING NESTING SEASON) WHILST MANY OTHER AREAS WHICH NEEDED WORK MORE WERE IGNORED.

PLEASE DO NOT TAKE THIS AS A RANT AGAINST YOU PERSONALLY, JUST A VOICE OF COUNCIL TAX PAYER FEELING TOTALLY DISENFRANCHISED

WITH THANKS FOR BEING INCLUDED ON THIS OCCASION

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED
REDACTED

Tel: REDACTED

Email: REDACTED

30th May 2022

Mid Sussex District Council
Democratic Services
Oaklands, Oaklands Road
Haywards Heath
RH16 1SS

Dear Sir

Community Governance Review – Northern Arc, Burgess Hill Town Council

Regarding the review currently being undertaken, it seems perfectly logical and sensible that the Burgess Hill town boundary be extended to take in all of the Northern Arc development. This development has always been described as the Burgess Hill Northern Arc and seen as an extension of the town. Indeed, I quote from the Spring 2022 edition of 'Mid Sussex Matters' published by Mid Sussex District Council which says:

'The Northern Arc is a Homes England flagship scheme which will provide up to 3500 new homes in Burgess Hill alongside new roads, schools, shops and public open spaces'.

This development will also impact the existing infrastructure of the town so I fail to see any reason for keeping any part of the development in the adjoining parish of Ansty and Staplefield unless there are political considerations in play.

I trust that common sense will prevail

Yours Faithfully.

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

4 MAY 2022

REF: REDACTED

~~ELECTORAL SERVICES~~, MID SUSSEX DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Dear Sirs,

Notice of Community Governance Review relating to Burgess Hill Town Council + consequential Northern Arc Considerations for Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council.

Thank you for your letter relating to the above matter. As Burgess Hill residents we feel the development in Isaacs Lane should be included as part of Burgess Hill and Council Tax from those properties sent to Burgess Hill Town Council so they can decide how to use it to improve our town.

Yours faithfully

REDACTED

REDACTED

* F.A.O. Tom Clark (local Revenue Office)

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

YR Ref.

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

RECEIVED

13 MAY 2022

Please accept this as formal notification of points I wish to raise concerning the "NORTHERN ARC - GOVERNANCE REVIEW".

- 1/ DISTRICT PLAN Ref: DP9
(INTEGRATION WITHIN LOCAL PLAN)
- 2/ COMMUNITY COHESION ref: CLOSE LINKS FOR WALKING CYCLING & PUBLIC TRANSPORT.
COMMUNITY IDENTITY & ENGAGEMENT AS LOCALLY IT FALLS TO LOCAL DEMOCRACY (ie. DUNSTALL & KEYLANE WARDS) B.H.T.C.

IT HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY DESCRIBED AS

"THE BURGESS HILL NORTHERN ARC"
NOT BEING IN ANSTY & STAPLEFIELD

* 2023 ELECTIONS NEED THIS BOUNDARY ALTERATION! *
TO FULFIL LOCAL DEMOCRACY NEEDS!

P.T.O.

REDACTED

MONDAY 9TH MAY 2022

* DRAFT PROPOSAL PUBLISHED UPDATES
WILL BE AVAILABLE WHERE? (24/06/22)

* 31ST OCTOBER 2022 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE ORDER
AVAILABILITY?

T. I. A.

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

27th | May 2022

Re: Northern Arc Considerations

Dear Sirs,

We write in connection with the proposed Boundary Changes in relation to the Northern Arc, in our opinion residents of this new development will use the facilities situated in Burgess Hill as it is the nearest town.

In so doing they will impose a financial burden on Mid Sussex District Council to provide services with no reciprocal financial income being received to sustain services used.

There is no advantage to be gained by Burgess Hill, as all generated Council Tax income, estimated to be in the region of £250 00 per annum, and the realisation of Central Government housing quotas will accrue to Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council.

We are therefore in favour of the existing Parish Boundary being re-drawn to encompass this development within Burgess Hill, as this is both logical and equitable.

Yours faithfully,

REDACTED

REDACTED

Ref: REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

Ref: REDACTED

Burgess Hill Town Council
Community Governance
Review Consultation 1
Responses: Councillor
Submissions

From: Pete Bradbury <REDACTED>
Sent: Sunday, 29 May 2022 11:45
To: Terry Stanley <REDACTED>
Cc: Jonathan Ash-Edwards (Cllr) <REDACTED>; Norman Webster (Cllr) <REDACTED>; Anthea Lea (Cllr) <REDACTED>; Ansty and Staplefield Parish Clerk <REDACTED>
Subject: Boundary Review: Northern Arc

Some people who received this message don't often get email from REDACTED [Learn why this is important](#)

You will know, from my amendment at the recent scrutiny committee, that I believe the boundary review to determine the governance arrangements for the above would be best served by a review in 2025, when there will be sufficient residents of the area to make a review more democratic and meaningful.

I am therefore opposed to the proposals that the northern arc should become part of Burgess Hill now. I write to make this view clear and to ensure that it is given weight and consideration in the review. I have spoken to many residents of Ansty Parish Ward and there is unequivocal support amongst them to retain the status quo until 2025.

For clarity, I also support the proposal from Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council to retain the current number of councillors for both Ansty and Staplefield Parish Wards.

Best wishes



Pete Bradbury
Chairman, West Sussex County Council
County Councillor, Cuckfield & Lucastes

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REDACTED

From: Pete Bradbury <REDACTED>
Sent: 03 June 2022 11:18
To: Terry Stanley; communitygovernancereviews
Cc: Jonathan Ash-Edwards (Cllr); Norman Webster (Cllr); Anthea Lea (Cllr); Ansty and Staplefield Parish Clerk
Subject: RE: Boundary Review: Northern Arc

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mr Stanley

I would like to add some further evidence to the Northern Arc boundary review. As previously stated, the review being conducted now prejudices against any meaningful consultation with residents of the Northern Arc and is therefore prejudicial against future residents. This alone should be sufficient grounds for maintaining the status quo until 2025, when a meaningful consultation can take place. The petition commits the sin of assumption that such future residents would want to come under the governance of Burgess Hill Town Council and assume the council tax liabilities contingent on that. There is currently no evidence to support that assumption.

Further, the proposed increase in the number of councillors is contrary to the current direction of travel for fewer rather than more councillors. There is no evidence that such an increase in town councillors would lead to better governance and it's unfortunate that this proposal was an addendum to the main thrust of the petition since it is almost impossible to imagine that a separate petition to increase the number of councillors in Burgess Hill by 22% would receive widespread public support. Mid Sussex District Councillors is reducing its numbers by 11% and I note East Grinstead Town Council have requested a Community Governance Review to reduce their number of Councillors from 18 to 16. I would therefore propose that Burgess Hill Town Council should also have 16 Councillors, in line with East Grinstead and Haywards Heath. This would result in a saving for taxpayers and better local democracy by being able to make more efficient decisions.

I also note the precedence set by the recent Community Governance Reviews for Sayers Common and Worth, which have both concluded that there is not strong enough evidence for change and that the matters should be considered further in 2025. Maintaining the Northern Arc status quo for now and holding a review in 2025 would be concomitant with these decisions, especially as there are much better established communities in those two areas which would have produced a more satisfactory evidence base yet still was not deemed strong enough for change at the current time.

I also question why not all of the Northern Arc is being considered. The part of the Northern Arc which is in Hurstpierpoint & Sayers Common Parish (the properties to be built south of the A2300) are not being considered as part of the review. It would make for a much better, more rounded and democratic review for a full review in 2025, as detailed above to consider the whole of the Northern Arc.

It is clear from the above that moving the boundaries now would fail to meet the most important criteria of improved community engagement and community cohesion and I strongly reiterate that the status quo should remain until a full review in 2025 when the local communities can make their own decision for themselves.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Pete Bradbury', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Pete Bradbury
Chairman, West Sussex County Council
County Councillor, Cuckfield & Lucastes

MSDC Community Governance Consultation

RE: Northern Arc and Burgess Hill's Northern Boundary

From: Cllr Richard Cherry,

West Sussex County Councillor for Burgess Hill East.

Over the years that the Northern Arc has been discussed and developed actual and implied promises have been made that the (Burgess Hill) Northern Arc would be an integral part of Burgess Hill, for good reason: -

1. Improved Community Engagement

- a) This is already happening with the Burgess Hill development website Burgess Hill Net: <https://www.burgesshill.net/>, where the Northern Arc is continually being featured as a key feature of Burgess Hill's future.
- b) From its inception The Northern Arc became a critical part of Burgess Hill's Neighbourhood Plan. In a major community engagement exercise this plan received public approval, in 2015, from the residents of Burgess Hill.
- c) For the future, with a population of 30,635 (2011 census), Burgess Hill has a rich range of community groups and support networks. The majority of these are well established and capable of servicing a significant growth in the town's population unlike the neighbouring parish of Ansty and Staplefield with a small population of 1,756 (2011 census).

2. Enhanced Community Cohesion

- a) The local economy and employment opportunities are key factors underpinning enhanced community cohesion. In these areas Burgess Hill offers future residents of the Northern Arc a rich hinterland of assets, ranging from an international business headquarters (American Express – probably the biggest employer in Mid Sussex), business parks (providing more local employment), and mainline rail (London-Brighton) commuter connections. These assets are on a totally different scale to those available from Ansty and Stapleford.
- b) Proposed infrastructure improvements will further enhance the connectivity of the town of Burgess Hill to the Northern Arc, on its parameter. In the planned investment from the Northern Arc development, there is a clear emphasis on developing transport links, to the town centre and Burgess Hill's railway stations.
- c) The recent opening of the widened A2300 at a cost of £23 million, connecting the A23 to the Northern Arc roundabout, is the biggest infrastructure improvement made to Burgess Hill's connectivity so far. The leader of Mid Sussex District Council publicly stated that the road, "being delivered within Burgess Hill demonstrates more evidence of infrastructure being delivered to support new homes being built in Burgess Hill".

3. Better Local Democracy

- a) A significant part of the Northern Arc is already within the town's boundaries and the rest of the development will be seamlessly joined to this early phase of it. For the town and parish boundary to fall across such a new housing estate will be confusing to residents. It will be difficult for new residents to know which local authority to look to for support, and in which wards they will be entitled to vote.
- b) When the Boundary Commission conducted its recent review of MSDC ward boundaries, it resolved these potential problems by putting Northern Arc voters into two established Burgess Hill wards: Dunstall and Leylands.

MSDC Community Governance Consultation

RE: Northern Arc and Burgess Hill's Northern Boundary

From: Cllr Richard Cherry,

West Sussex County Councillor for Burgess Hill East.

- c) Local democracy is probably most effective when voters in the same neighbourhood find themselves voting in the same electoral divisions or wards, and for the same roster of candidates. The Boundary Commission recognised these facts by clearly placing the voters in the whole of the Northern Arc into Burgess Hill and its existing wards of Dunstall and Leylands.
 - d) For the Northern Arc not now to be included in Burgess Hill's political boundaries would considerably shake voters' faith in the promises made by local government representatives and officers. These promises go back to 2011, when Burgess Hill Town Council produced a strategy for the town which highlighted the Northern Arc as a significant area of development for new housing. In 2015 the Northern Arc became a key part of the Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan, which was put to public referendum in Burgess Hill, passed by a majority of residents who voted, and published in that year. It was later incorporated into the Mid Sussex District Plan where (in DP9) it is specifically indicated that the Northern Arc will be integrated into Burgess Hill. As already noted, these promises, actual and implied, continue to be made.
4. More Effective and Convenient Delivery of Local Services and Local Government
- a) It has already been noted, with a population of 30,635, Burgess Hill has an extensive range of community groups and support networks. The majority of these are well established and capable of servicing a significant growth in the town's population unlike the neighbouring parish of Ansty and Staplefield with a small population of 1,756.
 - b) In addition, Burgess Hill has a newly built library, 11 established schools, a rich array of children's nursery and pre-school settings, a tourist information centre and help point, and a Citizens Advice bureau.
 - c) Burgess Hill Town Council currently has an annual budget of around £1 million and a staff of 16. These could accommodate the extra civic demands of Northern Arc residents with better economic efficiency than that of a small parish council.
 - d) The Town is also home to a long-established local cinema and is poised to develop a new community and entertainment hub, the Beehive. This makes the town the natural social hub for all the residents of the Northern Arc.

As the West Sussex County Councillor, representing Burgess Hill East, I am alive to the critical factors in this consultation and the public mood in Burgess Hill about it. The vast majority of the residents, I represent, would certainly feel bemused and cheated by Mid Sussex District Council, should the boundaries of the Northern Arc not be included within those of Burgess Hill. For them, MSDC would be seen to be duplicitous and untrustworthy. It would certainly shake their trust in local government.

From: Rod Clarke (Cllr) <REDACTED>
Sent: Thursday, 2 June 2022 19:21
To: Terry Stanley <REDACTED>
Subject: Northern Arc Governance Review

Dear Terry

I supported delaying the decision for relocating existing residents and those that have not yet moved into the Parish of Ansty & Staplefield into Burgess Hill for the following reasons.

1. The Current residents I believe don't understand the implications of what the Burgess Hill Town Council reason for wanting the Precept for Burgess Hill Town centre projects.
2. The houses which would come under Burgess Hill have not been built and the new residents should have a say how they are governed.
3. The Northern Burgess Hill Bypass acts as natural boundary.
4. The new secondary school will support new residents and overspill from Haywards Heath.

I do feel that delaying the decision is the fairest way to treat the existing and the new residents of Anstye and Staplefield Parish

Thank You Terry for all your hard work.

Regards

Cllr Rod Clarke MSDC REDACTED

REDACTED

From: eforms
Sent: 02 June 2022 21:35
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Commmmunity Governance review response (Ref: DSCGR-1654201814)
Attachments: Community Governance Review.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

team - team email	communitygovernancereviews@midsussex.gov.uk
team - team name	the Democratic Services team
Reference number	REDACTED
Your representation	Councillor
Council name	West Sussex County Coucil
Your name	Stuart Condie
Contact email address	REDACTED
Confirm email	REDACTED
Phone	REDACTED
Postcode	REDACTED
Address	REDACTED
Which review are you responding to?	Burgess Hill Town Council
Would you like to enter your response below, or upload it?	Write
Your submission to the community governance review	<p>I have separately written a submission as a resident and am now submitting a response as the County Councillor for Burgess Hill North which is the county division adjacent to the Burgess Hill Northern Arc development.</p> <p>The Northern Arc has always been referred to as a Burgess Hill development which is not surprising as it is an extension of the town. We are now told that the new secondary school planned for the Northern Arc will also be offering places to residents of Burgess Hill outside of the development due to the shortage of school places in the town. This is but one example of the integration of the development within the town.</p> <p>Refusal to adjust the parish/town boundaries is merely an attempt by local politicians for Ansty and Staplefield to syphon off funds due to Burgess Hill; however the two villages are so far away from the development and are so much smaller in terms of population as to render this move absurd. Burgess Hill needs more funds to address the well chronicled problems of the town centre development and it's citizens have had to put up with the construction noise and the Fairfield Hill roadworks due to the development.</p> <p>It seems obvious to me that drawing another boundary through the town would</p>

disbenefit community cohesion and lead to fractured delivery of services as well as discrediting local government.



Councillor Robert Eggleston

Leader Burgess Hill Town Council

REDACTED

E: REDACTED

M: REDACTED

11th May 2022

Community Governance Review relating to Burgess Hill Town Council and consequential Northern Arc considerations for Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council

Statement in support of the proposal to amend the boundary of Burgess Hill to include the area known as the "Northern Arc"

1. In March 2010 the Local Government Boundary Commission for England issued guidance on community governance reviews setting out clear criteria for altering the boundaries of a parish. These include:
 - (i) Addressing parish boundary anomalies as they arise.
 - (ii) Ensuring that the parish reflects a distinctive and recognisable community of place, with its own sense of identity.
 - (iii) "Place" includes the vision of creating cohesive communities that have strong and accountable local government and leadership. (para 56 & 57)
2. The guidance goes on to say that the "general rule should be that the parish is based on an area which reflects community identity and interest and which is of a size which is viable as an administrative unit of local government." (para 80).
3. Anomalies in parish boundaries often arise because, when of changes in the landscape occur historic parish arrangements no longer reflect development that crosses or is an extension of an existing settlement.
4. Principal authorities are expected to keep parish arrangements under review (at least every 10-15 years) to ensure that as changes in the development landscape occurs the boundaries properly reflect these changes. The review of the Burgess Hill boundary to reflect the development on the Northern Arc is, therefore, timely.
5. The background to the Northern Arc can be found in "**Burgess Hill, A Town Wide Strategy for the next 20 years**", a strategy document produced by Burgess Hill Town Council in August 2011 (**The Town Wide Strategy**). The strategy was produced in partnership with Mid Sussex District Council and West Sussex County Council with the aim of shaping the future development of the town and its economy in a co-ordinated and holistic way.
6. The Town Wide Strategy identified the Northern Sector (as the Northern Arc was called at this time) as a strategic site for 3500 homes as part of a near 6,000 allocation for housing in and around Burgess Hill. It is described as the Burgess Hill Northern Arc (even on the Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council website) and has its on dedicated website – www.burgesshill.net.

7. There is no doubt that the Northern Arc was intended to be part of a larger Burgess Hill. The Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan (Made January 2016) stated in respect of the Northern Arc development that:

*“whilst this development is primarily outside of the administrative boundary of Burgess Hill, and outside of its Neighbourhood Plan area, **it is designed to function as an urban extension to Burgess Hill.**” (page 16)*

8. The Neighbourhood Plan is a chapter in the Mid Sussex District Plan (adopted on 28th March 2018). This sets out in **DP7 – DP9** the strategic development at Burgess Hill.
9. DP7 and DP9 includes a strong emphasis on comprehensive infrastructure investment which integrates the Northern Arc with Burgess Hill. It is worth noting how this is reinforced in DP9 (para 5, page 43) in the District Plan. Looking at how the Northern Arc development spills into the existing town it states:

*“The area between Maple Drive and the Northern Arc is included within the allocation because **it is important that the new development is integrated with the existing town** and that there are good public transport and pedestrian links between the development and Wivelsfield Station.”*

It is clear, therefore, that the District Plan envisages that the Northern Arc is strategically part of Burgess Hill. In so doing it addresses well the guidance on community governance reviews.

10. As can be seen from the reference to DP9 above there is a clear link between Northern Arc development within Burgess Hill and the rest of the development in Ansty and Staplefield Parish. The guidance on community government reviews highlights the importance of eliminating these anomalies (see para 15, page 10) where development crosses parishes boundaries.
11. The Parish of Ansty and Staplefield was established in 1894. It is a rural parish covering a large area with no settlements of any size. There is no obvious link between the two small villages (3 miles and 7 miles from the Northern Arc) and the Northern Arc. The Northern Arc is in a predominantly urban setting clearly defined by its relationship to the town of Burgess Hill. Its border is on the A273 (Sussex Way and Jane Murray Way) and then across the rear of the Sheddingdean Housing estate, Burgess Hill. It is this connection which defines the identity of the Northern Arc and its sense of place. It is 2 miles from the town centre.
12. The case for change has been reinforced by the recent review of the District Ward boundaries. When the Boundary Commission carried out its review it put the Northern Arc developments up to 2027 into two Burgess Hill wards – Dunstall (900) & Leylands (625). To leave the parish boundary unaltered by this decision would be to create an anomaly which Community Governance Reviews are designed to remove. If the boundary is not changed some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty would be electing Burgess Hill District Ward Councillors. Amending the boundary solves this anomaly and creates a clear and logical structure for local government and democratic accountability.

It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors.

It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people

living in the same area are able to access the same local government organisation. In redrawing the district boundaries, the Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill.

13. Burgess Hill Town Council has a strong governance structure which includes a precept and other income of over £1m, 16 FTE members of staff, the power of general competence, and accountable representative government which currently includes 18 Town Councillors. This structure means it can deliver “quality services economically and efficiently and give users of services a democratic voice in the decisions that affect them” (para 62, page 21 of the Guidance). In contrast, Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council has a precept of £79k. Its staff costs are £25k. In its last three electoral cycles all councillors were elected unopposed.
14. As part of the community governance review it will be essential to look at the warding arrangements for the Burgess Hill Town Council wards to try and achieve a better relationship between the ratio of councillors to electors. There are certainly three wards: Norman, Hammonds North and Victoria West which ought to be consolidated into other wards as the number of electors are too low. Similarly, St Andrews appears to be potentially under-represented.
15. Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team (3 full time members of staff) providing a wide range of community events. It has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed (3 full time equivalents) open 5 days per week providing extensive community support and a four strong maintenance team.
16. Burgess Hill’s town centre is the natural destination for residents in the Northern Arc given its proximity to the town centre. The Northern Arc Masterplan involves rolling out a wide range of public infrastructure which integrates the Northern Arc with the existing town. This includes digital architecture, a network of walkways, cycleways and road improvements, and investment in public transport.
17. In addition to the public services provided by the Council, provision for the Northern Arc is supported with:
 - a) Health services.
 - b) Education provision (though it is acknowledged that 2 primary and a secondary school form part of the Northern Arc infrastructure).
 - c) Banks and other financial services.
 - d) Professional services.
 - e) Employment opportunities at two industrial parks and in the town centre (noting that the Northern Arc also makes provision for employment).
 - f) Retail with both edge of town supermarkets and a DIY centre plus a traditional town centre with a mix of independent and national chains. The Masterplan includes a major regeneration proposal for the town centre.
 - g) A post office.
 - h) The Triangle Leisure centre plus other privately run leisure businesses.
 - i) Churches and Chapels.
 - j) Community Centres.
 - k) An extensive range of community organisations.
 - l) Allotments.
 - m) Burial ground.

18. Taken together the Northern Arc is closely aligned to Burgess Hill.

- (i) in policy terms it is defined as an extension or integrated part of the town,
- (ii) its location is on the Burgess Hill boundary and part of the urban rather than rural environment;
- (iii) the planned infrastructure is designed to create strong identifiable links between the Northern Arc and the existing town; and
- (iv) Burgess Hill's town centre is the natural focal point for public and commercial services;

In terms of the definition of 'place' this it is clear that it is recognisable as being part of Burgess Hill and accordingly the boundary should be altered to give effect to this reality.



Cllr Robert Eggleston
St John's Ward
Leader - Burgess Hill Town Council

Meeds Ward
Mid Sussex District Council

REDACTED

From: Cllr Anne Eves <REDACTED>
Sent: 25 May 2022 10:32
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: CGR Burgess Hill

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Dear Sir/Madam,

Here is my contribution to the CGR review debate.

I am replying in this manner because the online form requires a reference number, which I no longer have. I regret to say, the whole system is very user-unfriendly! But thank you to officers for their help in shepherding this important process to a conclusion.

I support the boundary change to include the Northern Arc into the purview of Burgess Hill. This is where the new community belongs. They won't be going to Ansty to catch a train. All the place & connectivity scheme, and the roads, suggest the Northern Arc is connected to Burgess Hill, not Ansty.

New residents will be much more likely to be working in BH rather than Ansty, or to be travelling through BH (Wivelsfield Station) to get to work.

The website is called 'burgesshill.net' - clue is in the name.

The new population will join groups who meet in Burgess Hill and such groups will be eligible for BHTC grants, so it's logical that the residents should pay into BHTC coffers rather than Ansty.

It's silly to wait until some houses are occupied, because residents could then be swayed by whether the council tax is lower in Ansty than in BH, rather than considerations of logic or the greater good.

It would be ridiculous (and perplexing) for those in the north of my ward, Leylands, to be voting for a BH district cllr yet an Ansty parish cllr. My ward is also low on elector numbers, according to the LGBCE, so it's logical to make it bigger.

Best wishes,
Anne Eves

Cllr Anne Eves

Burgess Hill Town Councillor
Leylands ward

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REDACTED

From: eforms
Sent: 03 June 2022 19:10
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Commmmunity Governance review response (Ref: DSCGR-1654279347)
Attachments: Community Governance Review.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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team - team email	communitygovernancereviews@midsussex.gov.uk
team - team name	the Democratic Services team
Reference number	REDACTED
Your representation	Councillor
Council name	Mid Sussex District Council
Your name	Simon Hicks
Contact email address	REDACTED
Confirm email	REDACTED
Phone	REDACTED
Postcode	REDACTED
Address	REDACTED
Which review are you responding to?	Burgess Hill Town Council
Would you like to enter your response below, or upload it?	Write
Your submission to the community governance review	<p>This is to support the case for extending the boundary of Burgess Hill under the Community Governance Review on the basis this incorporates the boundary of the Burgess Hill Northern Arc. This is in line with previous planning guidance both of the Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan and the District Plan, as well as work by Homes England to ensure the Northern Arc is designed to function as an integrated part of Burgess Hill.</p> <p>DP7 of the District Plan sets out the general principles for strategic development at Burgess Hill with DP9 setting the policy framework for the Northern Arc development. Both DP7 and DP9 draw on the Town Wide Strategy which includes an emphasis on comprehensive and infrastructure investment which integrates the Northern Arc with Burgess Hill. For instance DP9 (para 5, page 43) in the District Plan, looking at how the Northern Arc development spills into the existing town it states:</p> <p>“The area between Maple Drive and the Northern Arc is included within the allocation because it is important that the new development is integrated with the existing town and that there are good public transport and pedestrian links between the development and Wivelsfield Station.”</p> <p>New housing currently planned for the Burgess Hill Northern Arc is designed to be</p>

fully integrated with the town, changing the town boundary to allow for the new housing to be incorporated within Burgess Hill from the start will aid the process of ensuring new residents see themselves as part of the town. This will align with the design brief promoted by Homes England and with existing planning guidance and ensure new residents clearly identify with Burgess Hill, as well as enabling the Town Council to support that process by providing services and representation to these residents.

From: Jim Knight (Cllr) <REDACTED>
Sent: Thursday, 2 June 2022 13:42
To: Terry Stanley <REDACTED>
Cc: 'Jim Knight' <REDACTED>
Subject: Community Governance Review - Ansty Northern Arc

Dear Terry,

I would like to give my input to this review please.

I do understand why Burgess Hill Town Council would want the Ansty development moved into Burgess Hill. Effectively they would get a rather large precept by having to do very little. I try and equate this to say if Cuckfield built several houses and Haywards Heath demanded the council tax revenue. How would Cuckfield feel about that?

Also moving this development into Burgess Hill consideration would need to be taken on the strain on services, particularly GP's. In my view Haywards Heath would see the greatest strain on services with the hospital and the increased traffic movements as a result.

In fact, the Northern Arc is almost equidistant from Burgess Hill as it is to Haywards Heath.

The biggest factor in delaying any decision is the right of self-determination. No houses have been built yet, so no residents. Surely people moving here have the right to say who governs them. It could be Ansty Parish Council, a new parish or Burgess Hill TC or Haywards Heath TC even. Therefore, it is necessary, in

my view to delay any decision until a reasonable number of residents are in the new development. Of course, in the future they themselves could petition a CGR themselves. Democracy should prevail.

Please would you feed in my comments.

Kind Regards

Cllr Jim Knight

Jim Knight

Councillor for Bolnore & Lucastes

Chairman of Licensing

Mid Sussex District Council

From: Linda Stockwell (Cllr) <REDACTED>
Sent: Friday, 3 June 2022 15:01
To: Terry Stanley <REDACTED>; communitygovernancereviews <REDACTED>
Cc: Jonathan Ash-Edwards (Cllr) <REDACTED>; Pete Bradbury (Cllr) <REDACTED>
Subject: Northern Arc Boundary Review

Dear Terry Stanley,

I fail to see how a Boundary Review can take place at this time when area under review is not yet built, yet alone inhabited.

The timing of the review prejudices the interests of the future residents who would be most impacted by the review's conclusions because their views will not be considered. Burgess Hill Town Council has assumed that the residents of the Northern Arc will want to fall under Burgess Hill Town Council, but there is no evidence that is the case. It would therefore be prudent for the review to be held at a time when a sizeable number of Northern Arc residents can be consulted. Failure to do this could result in the Northern Arc residents seeking to trigger their own Community Governance Review in the future if they are not satisfied with the imposed solution. Moving the boundaries now would fail to meet the criteria of improved community engagement and community cohesion for this reason.

Burgess Hill Town Council has not put any information into the public domain showing how it would deliver services for an additional 3,500 new properties. This would be a significant uplift to their responsibilities and the absence of a business plan does not inspire confidence. There is no evidence to suggest that changing the boundaries would result in more effective and convenient delivery of local services and local government, particularly the ability to provide those services to a new community of significance.

The proposed increase (22%) in the number of Town Councillors to 22 goes against the grain for smaller government. In fact, Mid Sussex District Council is cutting its number of Councillors by 11% to 48 from 2023. There is no evidence that an increase of this scale would result in better local democracy, and there is a real risk that a Town Council of this size would be less able to make decisions in an efficient and timely manner. It is also worth noting that East Grinstead Town Council has requested a Community Governance Review to reduce their number of Councillors from 18 to 16, keeping it in line with Haywards Heath Town Council. I believe that Burgess Hill Town Council should also have 16 Councillors, in line with East Grinstead and Haywards Heath. This would result in a saving for taxpayers and better, more efficient local government.

Moving the boundaries now would fail to meet the most important criteria of improved community engagement and community cohesion.

I strongly advise that the status quo should remain until a full review in 2025 when the local communities, both existing and new, can make their own informed decision.

Kind regards,

Lin

Lin Stockwell

Mid Sussex District Councillor

for High Weald Ward

Armed Forces Community Covenant Champion

Submission to Community Governance Review relating to Burgess Hill Town Council

Introduction

The case for changing the boundary of Burgess Hill is very strong. The problem has arisen because of the construction of 3,500 houses north of Burgess Hill, in the area known as the Northern Arc. This area is currently part of the parish of Ansty and Staplefield. The Northern Arc development has been planned since 2011, when Burgess Hill Town Council established a Town Wide strategy which included this area for major housing growth. The strategy was subject to public consultation, and was accepted by residents. It was then carried forward into the District Plan for Mid Sussex.

Improved community engagement

Investment in the Northern Arc development has strengthened the links with Burgess Hill, with the provision of roads, cycleways and public transport routes which lead towards the town centre. Burgess Hill has been identified as an employment growth area, so it will attract people seeking work. It can also offer people moving into the town an established shopping centre, the use of leisure centres such as the Triangle, a library, a cinema, an existing theatre and plans for another. It also has a strong community spirit, with a range of voluntary organisations and clubs.

Enhanced community cohesion

Construction has already started in the Maple Drive area of Burgess Hill. As new houses are being built close to existing ones, it is already difficult to say where the boundaries of Burgess Hill are. As new residents move into the houses being constructed, they will look towards Burgess Hill for information and advice. The parish of Ansty and Staplefield would not be able to provide the same services.

Better Local Democracy.

The Local Government Boundary Commission recently carried out a review of the boundaries of Mid Sussex District Council. They extended the district wards of Dunstall and Leylands in Burgess Hill north to cover the Northern Arc. This leads to confusion, as people who live in the Northern Arc will be voting for parish councillors for Ansty and Staplefield, and for district councillors for Burgess Hill. This confusion would be harmful for the reputation of local government.

More Effective and Convenient Local Government.

Burgess Hill Town Council is a strong and effective organisation. It has 18 councillors and a budget of about one million pounds. It has worked hard to provide services for its residents, with the establishment of a regular market, and a programme of events planned by the officers of the Town Council. It has a Help Point, which is open five days a week and can provide information and advice on a range of issues. Ansty and Staplefield, on the other hand, is a small parish council, which lacks the resources to provide the level of services which the residents of the Northern Arc will need.

In Support of Northern Arc coming into Boundary of Burgess Hill

**Northern Arc identified in
Burgess Hill Town Wide Strategy**

Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plans 2016- identifies development outside boundary of Burgess Hill, but designed to function as an urban extension to Burgess Hill

Mid Sussex District Plan 2018 – Burgess Hill allocation of 3500units for the Northern Arc “to be integrated with the existing Town “ (Burgess Hill)

Boundary Commission’s review put Northern Arc developments up to 2027 within 2 Burgess Hill wards.

Burgess Hill with a population of over 30,000 is capable of supporting the increase in population from the Northern Arc- wide range of private, public and voluntary services (Ansty & Staplefield, being small villages would be unable to support such an increase in population)

Place and Connectivity Program investing in providing cycle/walking links from Northern Arc into Burgess Hill Town Centre.

B.H. Town Council, with a staff of 16 full time members and budget of around £1 m, has facilities available for the Northern Arc inclusion.

Citizens are represented by 18 elected councilors, from 6 different wards. Councilors are involved in several Key Area Committees, eg. planning, finance, strategic, community engagement, customer services.

Burgess Hill Town Council provide a Help Point and Tourist Information Centre, open 5 days a week. An invaluable asset to the wider community.

There is a large nature reserve on the north side of Burgess Hill, (Bedelands), a Green Circle cycle and walking path almost circling the town, a nature reserve on the south side (Batchelors farm.) All of these facilities available for increasing populations.

Services available in the wider community – primary and secondary school, churches, railway stations, employment opportunities, food bank, mental health drop in.

All of the above would support the Northern Arc being within the Boundary of Burgess Hill

REDACTED

Janice Henwood
HENWOOD

May 8, 2022

Burgess Hill Town Council
Community Governance
Review Consultation 1
Responses: Parish Council
Submissions

Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council

Response to Community Governance Review consultation 26/05/2022

Background.

Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council covers the largest geographical area of all parish councils in West Sussex. It has four distinct communities each with their own identity.

The Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC) is introducing changes from May 2023 that will increase the number of wards in the parish from 4 to 7 whilst retaining 9 Councillors. This means that Councillors are being reduced in existing wards to accommodate the new wards.

The Community Governance Review (CGR) for Burgess Hill Town Council, proposes that in addition to the above changes to Councillor numbers, both the newly created Northern Arc wards will move to Burgess Hill Town Council from May 2023.

It is understood that a second CGR which is currently on hold, but likely to take effect from May 2027 will move both Rocky Lane wards to Haywards Heath TC.

The LGBC envisage that a third CGR would increase the number of Brook Street Councillors to 2. If all the CGRs were successful, then from May 2023 the Parish Council would have a total of 7 Councillors across 5 wards and from May 2027 it would have a total of 5 Councillors across 3 wards. The current position and proposed changes can be summarised as:

Ward	Number on electoral roll	Number of Councillors on Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council		
		Current	From May 2023	From May 2027
Ansty	773	4	2	2
Rocky Lane North	789	1	2	0
Rocky Lane South			1	0
Staplefield	375	3	1	1
Brook Street and Borde Hill	189	1	1 CGR to increase this to 2	2
Northern Arc East	?	0	0	0
Northern Arc West	?	0	0	0
Total	2126	9	7	5

NB Prior to the creation of the Rocky Lane Ward in 2015, Ansty Ward was represented by 5 Councillors.

The Parish Council is concerned that the consequential impact on the electoral arrangements for Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council will leave parts of the parish severely under-represented and threaten community cohesion, community engagement and the effective delivery of services.

The Parish Council believe that the CGR is an opportunity to maintain effective representation in the parish and feel strongly that ward representation should be as follows:

Ansty – 5 Councillors

Staplefield – 3 Councillors

Rocky Lane – 3 Councillors

Brook Street – 1 Councillor.

This would mean that the Councillor numbers would increase from 9 to 12, but if the Rocky Lane wards were to move into Haywards Heath because of another planned Community Governance Review, then Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council would have 9 Councillors.

Ansty Ward had 5 Councillors prior to the creation of the first Rocky Lane Ward in 2015 when Ansty ward Councillors were reduced to 4. As the population has grown by more than 20% since then and is set to grow considerably in the future the Parish Council believe it is appropriate to move back to 5 Councillors in Ansty.

The Parish Council do not understand why a second Councillor was suggested for Brook Street and Borde Hill ward as there currently only 189 electors in the ward and the Council is not aware of any planned major developments that would significantly increase the population of this ward.

The rationale for maintaining and not reducing representation within Ansty and Staplefield wards is summarised below.

Threat to Local Democracy

The National Association of Local Councils Circular 1126 recommends that the minimum number of Parish Councillors should be 7 and that each parish should be considered on its own merits having regard to population, geography, pattern of communities and current powers. Crucially, “a Parish Council’s budget and planned or actual level of service provision may also be important factors in reaching a conclusion on council size”.

- The Parish Council has no assets in the Northern Arc wards so moving them into Burgess Hill will not reduce spending within the parish and would leave the Parish Council seriously under-represented compared to other Mid Sussex parishes of a similar size:

Parish	Electorate (May 2022)	Precept £	Number of Councillors
Albourne	559	15022	7
Ardingly	1316	87902	10
Ashurst Wood	1338	70000	10
Balcombe	1433	75000	11
Bolney	1004	38200	8
Horsted Keynes	1218	54290	7
Turners Hill	1315	82773	7
Ansty and Staplefield	2126 in 2022 reducing to approx. 1337 once Northern Arc and Rocky Lane wards are moved.	99281	9 reducing to 5

- Reducing the Councillors in both Ansty and Staplefield Wards will make it difficult for the Councillors to adequately represent the interests of residents.
- By contrast, the Councillors in the Northern Arc wards with very low populations will be perceived as having disproportionate influence. These new wards will not be viable as administrative units of local governance in the early years.

- Ansty Ward has seen significant growth over the last 5 years and the draft District Plan indicates that the number of electors in Ansty Ward could treble over the next few years. The CGR should take account of expected population movements.
- Reducing the number of Councillors in Staplefield will lead to a sense of remoteness from decisions about important assets in the Staplefield community.
- The Parish Council has a long history of fair representation across the parish and there is no need for this to change. It has not had difficulty in finding Councillors and vacancies are filled promptly.

Threat to Community Cohesion.

The LGBC guidance on Community Governance Reviews states: “Community cohesion is about local communities where people should feel they have a stake in the society, and in the local area where they live by having the opportunity to influence decisions affecting their lives. Communities have expert knowledge in their own circumstances.”

- The Ansty Ward has grown by more than 20% in recent years (639 electors in 2015 to 773 in 2022) and could see huge future growth through a new development of 1600 houses, currently in the draft District Plan. Halving the number of Councillors in this ward would mean that a growing under-represented community could become divided.
- The constitutions for the Ansty Village Centre Trust and the Ansty Village Hall Trust each require the Parish Council to nominate two trustees. The proposed reduction in Ansty Ward Councillors will reduce community cohesion and have a knock-on effect on these two charities, which hold key assets in the community.
- Staplefield Ward has a relatively stable population and has most of the Parish Council assets. The three Councillors are all involved in other community groups such as the Staplefield Residents Association, Staplefield Village Hall Trust, the Cricket Club, the Church, and the School. Reducing the number of Staplefield Ward Councillors to just one would sever these close community links and reduce community cohesion.

The Government’s vision of an integrated and cohesive community is one where people can trust one another and local institutions to act fairly.

- The electoral arrangements proposed from May 2023 will create an imbalance of representation across the wards in the parish which could create a sense of unfairness and mistrust. For example, significant expenditure is anticipated in the next few years at Staplefield Play Park and Staplefield Pavilion. The Staplefield community could easily be outvoted by representatives from other parts of the parish who are representing distant and, in the case of the new Northern Arc Wards, much smaller communities.

Community Engagement.

- The Parish Council has well established community governance with effective and inclusive participation. Parish Council meetings are well attended by members of the public.
- Strong links between the Councillors and their communities have enabled several successful community projects including:
 - o The Neighbourhood Plan was developed in partnership with representatives from the community.
 - o The Parish Council actively supported the building of the new Ansty Village Centre over a 15 year period by facilitating meetings and assisting with fund-raising.

- A crowd funding campaign led by the Parish Council raised funding for a mobile Speed Indicator Device and now four devices are run by a group of volunteers in each ward.
- Reduced representation in the parish would make community engagement difficult to maintain.

Effective and convenient delivery of local services and government.

The LGBC guidance states that Community governance arrangements should reflect, and be sufficiently representative of, people living across the whole community and not just a discrete cross-section or small part of it.

- Staplefield ward has almost all the Parish Council assets including Staplefield Common, cricket pitch, cricket pavilion and play park. Most of the Council's non administrative spending is in Staplefield. Having just one Councillor representing the area with all the assets could make it difficult to effectively deliver these local services.
- The imbalance of representation across the parish will make decision making and service delivery difficult.
- Lack of community cohesion and community engagement, as previously described, will also hamper the effective delivery of services.

Northern Arc Wards.

The Parish Council understands that the Northern Arc developments within the Ansty and Staplefield Parish area were always to be moved to Burgess Hill Town Council. However, it believes this move to be premature as it understands that building work has not yet commenced and there are only a handful of existing houses on Isaacs Lane and Cuckfield Road. The election of Councillors to these new wards in May 2023 will be by a tiny number of people.

Summary

The Parish Council believes it has a compelling case to demonstrate the consequential impact of proposed changes which will create a serious democratic deficit across the biggest parish in West Sussex.

The reduced representation on Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council appears to have arisen out of an arbitrary desire to maintain the total number of Parish Councillors at 9 despite the creation of new Wards. Subsequent proposals through CGRs to then move these Wards out of the parish compound the issues.

Without these new Wards, representation would have remained as it has always been because it has worked very effectively and there is no justification in reducing local democracy, community cohesion, community engagement and threatening the effective delivery of services.

When the new wards are created the new Councillor numbers should be added to the number of Councillors representing existing wards.

Burgess Hill Community Governance Review – Consultation response

It is the view of Burgess Hill Town Council that the case for extending the boundary of Burgess Hill to incorporate the Northern Arc is overwhelming. We set out below the reasons why the Community Governance Review should support this conclusion.

1. In August 2011 Burgess Hill Town Council published “Burgess Hill, A Town Wide Strategy for the next 20 years” (**The Town Wide Strategy**). This document drew on work that had commenced in 2004 and was informed by town wide consultation that ran from September 2020 to March 2021.
2. This work was undertaken in partnership with residents, Mid Sussex District Council and West Sussex County Council with the aim of shaping the future development of the town and its economy.
3. The Town Wide Strategy took a holistic approach to investment in and around the town and included a forward-looking assessment of housing development in the area. The Northern Sector (as the Northern Arc was called at this time) was identified as a strategic site for 3500 homes as part of a much larger allocation for housing in and around Burgess Hill.
4. The Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan (Made January 2016) noted in respect of the Northern Arc development that:

*“whilst this development is primarily outside of the administrative boundary of Burgess Hill, and outside of its Neighbourhood Plan area, **it is designed to function as an urban extension to Burgess Hill.**” (page 16)*

Having established this principle in the Neighbourhood Plan it was then carried forward and expanded in the Mid Sussex District Plan. It is also worth noting in this section the reference to the Northern Arc being an “urban extension.” In terms of identifying a cohesive community with a clear identity the setting of the Northern Arc makes it more inclined towards its adjoining urban environment compared to the rural setting of Ansty and Staplefield.

5. The Mid Sussex District Plan was adopted on 28th March 2018 and much of the work that led to the Town Wide Strategy was incorporated into it. In particular, DP7 to DP9 deal with strategic development at Burgess Hill and it is worth noting that no other area of the district has this level of policy coverage. This is an indication of the importance of Burgess Hill as a major area for development.

6. DP6 of the District Plan sets the context for housing development based upon the categorisation of settlement hierarchies. Significant development in the District Plan is directed towards Category 1 settlements which are Burgess Hill, East Grinstead and Haywards Heath. Burgess Hill's allocation in the District Plan is 5697 units (including the 3500 for the Northern Arc) making up 35% of the total housing allocation (22% of the total is in the Northern Arc).

7. A Category 1 settlement is defined in DP6 as a:

“Settlement with a comprehensive range of employment, retail, health, education, leisure services and facilities. These settlements will also benefit from good public transport provision and will act as a main service centre for smaller settlements.”

It can be clearly seen how Burgess Hill meets the definition of a Category 1 settlement. When considering where the Northern Arc naturally fits in terms of structural identity it is appropriate to view it as part of Burgess Hill given that it is an extension of this settlement.

8. By way of a contrast, and because the Northern Arc is currently situated in the parish of Ansty and Staplefield, it should be noted that these are Category 4 settlements which are defined as:

“Small villages with limited services often only serving the settlement itself.”

Other than because of local government history there is no obvious connection between the Northern Arc and Ansty (let alone Staplefield). There is no structural connection between the Northern Arc and these smaller settlements. The thrust of infrastructure development is directed towards Burgess Hill not Ansty or Staplefield.

9. DP7 of the District Plan sets out the general principles for strategic development at Burgess Hill with DP9 setting the policy framework for the Northern Arc development. Both DP7 and DP9 draw on the Town Wide Strategy which includes an emphasis on comprehensive infrastructure investment which integrates the Northern Arc with Burgess Hill. It is worth noting how this is reinforced in DP9 (para 5, page 43) in the District Plan. Looking at how the Northern Arc development spills into the existing town it states:

*“The area between Maple Drive and the Northern Arc is included within the allocation because **it is important that the new development is integrated with the existing town** and that there are good public transport and pedestrian links between the development and Wivelsfield Station.”*

It is clear, therefore, that the District Plan envisages that the Northern Arc is strategically part of Burgess Hill.

10. The key partners in the delivery of the Northern Arc are BHTC, MSDC, WSCC and Homes England. The development is covered by a comprehensive Masterplan. Full details of the Northern Arc development can be found on its dedicated website: www.burgesshill.net It states as a major aim:

“the Strategic Growth Programme for Burgess Hill is the most ambitious programme of change anywhere in the sub region. Our ambition is to transform the local economy, creating thousands of new high value jobs in technology led industries,

and making Burgess Hill one of the most attractive places in the region to live and do business.

11. The Strategic Growth Programme takes all of the scheduled developments in and around Burgess Hill (i.e. not only the Northern Arc) as the overall growth strategy for the town. Given that this is how it is structured in the District Plan it would be illogical at this stage to treat the Northern Arc as if it was not part of the overall growth of the town.

12. But, in any event, the Northern Arc is designed in such a way to conform to the District Plan and in particular DP7. This states as a first principle that strategic development will:

“be designed in a way that integrates it into the existing town providing connectivity with all relevant services and facilities.

13. The Masterplan sets out in some detail how the delivery of infrastructure in the development sites, but particularly the Northern Arc, creates an integrated whole with a network of walkways, cycleways and road improvements that connect the Northern Arc to the existing town. In addition, as a key transport hub there are plans to improve both Burgess Hill and Wivelsfield Station as well as invest in regular bus links from the Northern Arc into the existing town. These, along with other investments, makes it clear that the Northern Arc and the existing town are two parts of a whole.

14. The Local Government Boundary Commission guidance on Community Governance Reviews (published March 2010) states that:

“in many cases making changes to the boundaries of existing parishes, rather than creating an entirely new parish, will be sufficient to ensure that community governance arrangements to continue to reflect local identities and facilitate effective and convenient local government. For example, over time communities may expand with new housing developments. This can often lead to existing parish boundaries becoming anomalous as new houses are built across the boundaries resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours.” (para 15, p10)

This is precisely the situation with the Northern Arc which has been designed as a structural extension to the existing town, albeit that it sits in the neighbouring parish.

15. The case for change has been reinforced by the recent review of the District Ward boundaries. When the Boundary Commission carried out its review it put the Northern Arc developments up to 2027 into two Burgess Hill wards – Dunstall (900) & Leylands (625). To leave the parish boundary unaltered by this decision would be to create an anomaly which Community Governance Reviews are designed to remove. If the boundary is not changed some voters, living currently in the parish of Ansty would be electing Burgess Hill District Ward Councillors. Amending the boundary solves this anomaly and creates a clear and logical structure for local government and democratic accountability.

It also solves a similar problem of some residents in the Burgess Hill wards of Dunstall and Leylands electing Burgess Hill Town Councillors whilst others elect Ansty parish Councillors.

It is important for accountable local government that votes count the same and that people living in the same area are able to access the same governmental organisation. The

Boundary Commission clearly saw that as being Burgess Hill. However, as part of this review we believe that the warding arrangement for the Town Council be considered carefully as, in our view, the Boundary Commission has created a number of smaller parish wards where the ratio of elected member to elector is not in line with some of the other Town Council wards.

16. Burgess Hill has a population of over 30,000 and a wide range of public, private and voluntary groups capable of supporting the increase in population that will come from the Northern Arc development. Being able to provide this level of community support from the start is crucial as new developments are delivered helping to create a sense of place, cohesion and connection.
17. Residents on the Northern Arc will look towards Burgess Hill for a wide range of private, public, and voluntary services that simply will not be available if it was a stand-alone community or remained part of Ansty and Staplefield. Indeed, you could not expect these two villages to be able to support the needs of the Northern Arc where they have no obvious structural connection and do not have an infrastructure base capable of supporting the area (in population terms the Northern Arc is likely to be 3 times the size of Ansty and Staplefield when fully developed).
18. Burgess Hill Town Council has an active Community Engagement Team (3 full time members of staff) that provide a wide range of community events. It has a Help Point & Tourist Information Centre which is staffed (3 full time equivalents) and open 5 days per week providing extensive community support. Residents on the Northern Arc will be able to access all these services and fully participate in the town's active community life.
19. Under the Localism Act 2011, Burgess Hill Town Council has a General Power of Competence giving it the ability to invest in and operate a wider range of services compared to smaller parish authorities. It means that the Council is better equipped to support the needs of residents on the Northern Arc. For example, the Council is investing in more community facilities, including a modern theatre which will support the whole town including the Northern Arc.
20. Burgess Hill Town Council has a budget of around £1m and 16 full time members of staff. It has a strong service ethos delivering a wide range of community services and a vision to expand these. It can accommodate the inclusion of the Northern Arc into its services providing value for money and effective delivery in a way that a smaller parish cannot.
21. Burgess Hill's town centre is the natural destination for residents in the Northern Arc and, indeed, the Northern Arc Masterplan emphasises this fact. In addition to the public services provided by the Council, provision for the wider catchment area is supported with:
 - a) Health services.
 - b) Education provision (though it is acknowledged that 2 primary and a secondary school form part of the Northern Arc infrastructure).
 - c) Banks and other financial services.
 - d) Professional services.
 - e) Employment opportunities at two industrial parks and in the town centre (noting that the Northern Arc also makes provision for employment).

- f) Retail with both edge of town supermarkets and a DIY centre plus a traditional town centre with a mix of independent and national chains. The Masterplan includes a major regeneration proposal for the town centre.
- g) A post office.
- h) The Triangle Leisure centre plus other privately run leisure businesses.
- i) Churches and Chapels.
- j) Community Centres.
- k) Community organisations.

All of these businesses, organisations and groups will be able to support the Northern Arc Helping to strengthen the obvious links between the development and the existing town.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven Cridland', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steven Cridland
CEO

Worth Parish Council
Community Governance Review
Consultation 1 Responses:
Local Organisations Submissions

team - team email	communitygovernancereviews@midsussex.gov.uk
team - team name	the Democratic Services team
Reference number	REDACTED
Your representation	Local Organisation
Organisation name	Burgess Hill Artists
Your name	Melanie Hodge
Contact email address	REDACTED
Confirm email	REDACTED
Phone	REDACTED
Postcode	REDACTED
Address	REDACTED
Which review are you responding to?	Burgess Hill Town Council
Would you like to enter your response below, or upload it?	Write
Your submission to the community governance review	<p>I am in favour of incorporating the new Burgess Hill Northern Arc developments into the existing Burgess Hill town boundary and including their council representation within the Burgess Hill Town Council for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As a resident I live just off Marchants Way and my nearest neighbours to the North will be the new housing just off Fairfield Road. Foot and cycle journey will therefore go directly past my house and so it seems self-evident to me that the residents in these houses should be considered my neighbours and have equal say to me in Town business affecting our shared roads and services. Also when elections are held they will be able to walk to their nearest polling place (Marle Place on Leylands Road) rather than travelling by car to Ansty and/or Stapefield which current boundaries would suggest will happen otherwise. 2. As a parent the new schools that are being built as part of the Northern Arc development will be my nearest local schools and any council oversight of educational provision should be provided by my own council, namely Burgess Hill Council. 3. As a service user the new residents within the Northern Arc will be making use of and relying upon the same medical, civic, and other services which are overseen by the Burgess Hill Town Council - with rubbish collections routes likely to include both my house and new houses and future services affecting us in equal measure. Overseeing these services from the nearest Town Council, with the only established full time Help Point for local citizens (ie Burgess Hill) makes sense and seems fair. 4. As the chair person of Burgess Hill Artists, a local volunteer run cooperative arts organisation, the Northern Arc residents fall geographically within the remit of our membership and I know from experience that new arrivals, looking for social and cultural activities,

will be looking towards the administrative centre (ie local councillors, voting venues, services etc) for guidance where to seek information. As they are literally on the edge of the town, they will be looking towards Burgess Hill and I would like to be able to offer relevant advice and contacts within the local government should they be after such information. Sending them to the next village along, where I have no contacts or information, feels unnecessary and potentially divisive.

team - team email	communitygovernancereviews@midsussex.gov.uk
team - team name	the Democratic Services team
Reference number	REDACTED
Your representation	Local Resident
Your name	Jules Middleton
Contact email address	REDACTED
Confirm email	REDACTED
Phone	REDACTED
Postcode	REDACTED
Address	REDACTED
Which review are you responding to?	Burgess Hill Town Council
Would you like to enter your response below, or upload it?	Write
Your submission to the community governance review	<p>Firstly I don't think we received a letter so I don't have a unique ref number, hence have entered 11111.</p> <p>I write as a local resident and the Vicar of St Edward's Church, Royal George Rd, in support of extending the town boundary to include the Northern Arc area. I've read the various proposals in favour and support them fully. New homes and buildings in the Northern Arc will in every sense be part of the town, it makes no sense for them to be administered by a different council, especially those that are used to governing villages rather than a large municipal area and all that entails.</p> <p>I won't say more on that as many others have done so but I did want to share some thoughts which you may not have considered and from my specific point of view as Vicar of a parish that covers much of the western part of the Northern Arc development. If you look at the parish map boundaries for the area (links below) you will see that all 3 Burgess Hill, Church of England church boundaries cover almost all (if not all) of the Northern Arc development. Again it would make logical sense if the civic and parish boundaries matched each other as closely as possible. Historically I believe this was usually the case.</p> <p>St Edward's parish map: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/search/?lat=50.9605352&lon=-0.1484932&place=Royal+George+Rd%2C+Burgess+Hill+RH15+9TD%2C+UK&postcode=RH15+9TD&text=</p> <p>St Andrew's: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/search/?lat=50.960579&lon=-0.122052&place=Burgess+Hill+RH15+0LG%2C+UK&postcode=RH15+0LG&text=</p> <p>St John's: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/search/?lat=50.9573057&lon=-0.1331978&place=Lower+Church+Road%2C</p>

+Burgess+Hill+RH15+9AA%2C+UK&postcode=RH15+9AA&text=

Or here (boundaries harder to see but map is clearer)

[https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?](https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=67bce0ed36dd4ee0af7a16bc079aa09a&extent=-0.4891,51.2975,0.256,51.6099)

[webmap=67bce0ed36dd4ee0af7a16bc079aa09a&extent=-0.4891,51.2975,0.256,51.6099](https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=67bce0ed36dd4ee0af7a16bc079aa09a&extent=-0.4891,51.2975,0.256,51.6099)

As a church that covers part of the future development we are invested in this whole area as a Burgess Hill Church. We hope to reach out to and support children and young people, those with mental health problems and more, in our parish. This is the sort of thing we hope to do in partnership with other local organisations and perhaps the council. We won't be the only people doing this, and vital cross organisational work like this will be much easier where the civic boundary covers the areas we are trying to help. Someone living in the Northern Arc is not likely to drive to a village or other town for these services, but to the nearest town they live in. They will in all other ways live in Burgess Hill, just perhaps not in civic name under the current plans.

In addition the Priest of the parish church is responsible for the 'cure of souls' in the area – ie: has pastoral and spiritual responsibility for everyone in the parish, not just those who come and worship regularly. This means I visit people in the wider parish to support, come alongside them in tough times, or to welcome them to the area, as just a few examples. We will be the church people come to for weddings, funerals, baptisms and other events. All this will cover the new homes in our parish and will be the same for St John's and St Andrew's in their parishes.

With best wishes

Rev Jules Middleton

Priest in Charge, St Edward's Church, Burgess Hill