

Burgess Hill Town Council
Community Governance Review
Consultation 2 Responses

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Consultation 2 Responses:
Local Residents Submissions

Burgess Hill Town Council: Community Governance Review

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Local Resident Submissions

I have seen and approve the proposals bringing the Northern Arc East and West parish wards into the Burgess Hill town boundaries and adding councillors to represent them onto the BH Town Council.

Agreed to include - The northern exterior boundary of the Burgess Hill Town Council area should be extended to include the LGBCE's newly created parish wards of Northern Arc East and Northern Arc West.

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 rail station, 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. The Northern Arc will undoubtedly be a part of Burgess Hill the town. Indeed, ALL communications regarding the Northern Arc have ALWAYS termed its construction as an extension to, a development of, Burgess Hill the town - it's called 'The Burgess Hill Northern Arc' for a reason!

The boundaries the Northern Arc will have a significant impact on the services and resources provided by Burgess Hill Town Council. The continuing jurisdiction of Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council would be wholly inappropriate and would have a detrimental effect for Burgess Hill residents and the new residents of the Northern Arc alike. Ansty & Staplefield, as small villages with small parish council arrangements, cannot offer the resources to support such a large community - the burden will fall on Burgess Hill Town. Moving the boundaries will ensure democratic, fair representation for all residents affected by this large development.

Alongside the issue of boundary and resultant funding flows from local taxes, I'm concerned about 'community', identity, pride in the town, engagement, belonging and the availability/use of resources especially in the town centre that generate these things. Burgess Hill needs a clear identity, community and investment. The town centre has declined over the last twenty-five years - and has been allowed to decline by poor management and planning by local politicians - especially Mid Sussex District Council . Burgess Hill Town Council have the responsibility of ensuring efficiently run services and infrastructure for the town. Burgess Hill Town Councillors have demonstrated that they are capable in these regards - much more so than the Mid Sussex District Council. The electorate in the new Northern Arc deserve to be able to directly engage with the elected representatives that have the most influence on the services provided and funded in the town upon which they will rely - and engage directly rather than through intermediary bodies. Including the Northern Arc within the Parish Councils represented in Mid Sussex would dilute and confuse this representation. We need stronger local representation at Town Council level - not a dilution of control and coordination into small Parish Councils.

Having read the draft recommendations for Burgess Hill Town Council and Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council, I fully support the new draft recommendations that have been put forward.

I feel that it is important for the Northern Arc to be included within the boundary of Burgess Hill. Not only for the existing residents of Burgess Hill but the new residents as well. With the number of houses being built one can only assume there will be a large and diverse population moving into the area which in its own way will be good and one hopes eventually will bring some new life to the town.

It will be so important that the new residents feel that they belong to the town - not doing so will only lead to a "them and us" situation which in my opinion could lead to problems socially in the future.

Having their own councillors with a say to the day to day running of the town is also an important factor in order to have a voice in the future of the town.

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I also feel that Burgess Hill residents who have had to cope with all the building, infrastructure etc should obtain some benefit from the all disruption they have had to deal with.

I trust that common sense will prevail and a fair outcome to all concerned will be reached.

The Northern Arc project was always sold as being an extension to the town of Burgess Hill & therefore the new homes built should form part of Burgess Hill. The income generated from these homes should contribute to Burgess Hill.

We were 'sold' the Northern Arc development on the basis it was an extension and enhancement of

Burgess Hill. We have endured the pain of the development.

The income from this new community is needed to enhance Burgess Hill town - this community will be using the local town and therefore their income should go towards the upkeep and redevelopment. Having a larger community to engage with the existing will enhance community events and encourage a mix in the community.

As an aside comment, i have asked many friends whether they have responded to this review, and very few knew anything about it. All were very clear that any consideration for this community not to be part of Burgess Hill was both unfair and lacking fore thought.

I believe that the number of councillors should be increased from the current 18 to 20, as this gives a better ratio between councillors and electors. Victoria ward should be increased from 2 to 3, NA West, NA East, Gatehouse and St John's 1 each, Dunstall, Meeds and Hammonds 2 each, Leylands, St Andrews and Franklands 3 each.

I support the draft recommendations to adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill to include the Northern Arc because, as identified in the report to the Scrutiny Committee and the representations made the change will create a cohesive administrative structure for what is clearly a single urban environment.

The proposal to move the small wards of Norman, Hammonds North and Victoria West into the larger Victoria Ward is supported because it removes wards that have small electorates ensuring a more equitable ratio of Councillors to electorate across the town.

By and large the proposed ward arrangements for the town council reflect the identity and character of the areas that Town Councillors will represent.

The one amendment to the proposal I would recommend is for a Town Council consisting of 20 members rather than 19.

This would be achieved by increasing the number of Councillors in Victoria ward from 2 to 3. The current electorate (at June 2022) is the similar to Franklands ward which has 3 Councillors and there are at least 3 areas in the Site Allocation DPD which would increase the electorate further over a reasonable time frame.

I support the Burgess Hill town boundary to be extended to include the two new wards of Northern Arc West and Northern Arc East.

The Northern Arc has to date in its history always been referred to as The Burgess Hill Northern Arc. In all references to the development it has been referred to as further housing in Burgess Hill. The immediate shopping draw to new residents is much more likely to be Burgess Hill rather than Ansty.

If you asked people living in both Burgess Hill and Ansty and Staplefield, where is the Northern Arc they would say Burgess Hill.

I agree with proposals in letter dated 1 July 2022.

I am in full agreement with the proposed plans regarding the Northern arc development coming under the jurisdiction of Burgess Hill Town council.

Also I am in agreement with the proposed changes to the wards of the council.

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In full agreement with the proposed boundary changes in Burgess Hill to include the northern arc development in with Burgess Hill. Also happy with the boundary changes to the wards and creation of new wards.

draft recommendations look good

Northern Arc developments should be in Burgess Hill.

Also, because increased traffic on the Cuckfield road, speed cameras must be installed near The Squires, to reduce the noise and for the pedestrian safety.

The Northern Arc development is seen as an addition to the north of Burgess Hill. There are expectations that those people living and working in this area will be using the facilities and infrastructure from Burgess Hill. It therefore makes sense to extend the Burgess Hill boundaries to incorporate the Northern Arc development and ensure that Burgess Hill can enhance its facilities and infrastructure to cope with the additional demand.

It will also ensure that residents of the Northern Arc feel more connected to the Burgess Hill community (community cohesion) and will have a democratic input into local issues pertaining to Burgess Hill.

The new Parish Ward and District Ward boundaries proposed by the Local Government Boundary Commission seem eminently reasonable. The proposed allocation of councillors to the existing and proposed new wards of an extended Burgess Hill seem equitable. As a resident and voter in Burgess Hill, I do not feel qualified to comment on the councillor allocation for Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council.

The new housing and link roads in the Northern Arc clearly comprise an extension of the town of Burgess Hill. Residents of the Northern Arc will undoubtedly use the facilities and infrastructure 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 viability of the proposed Beehive Centre for Community Arts will be enhanced by this addition to Burgess Hill Town Council income.

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.

I fully agree with the proposal for revised boundaries in the letter dated 1st July 2022

I support the draft recommendations to adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill to include the Northern Arc because, as identified in the report to the Scrutiny Committee and the representations made, the change will create a cohesive administrative structure for what is clearly a single urban environment.

The proposal to move the small wards of Norman, Hammonds North and Victoria West into the larger Victoria Ward is supported because it removes wards that have small electorates ensuring a more equitable ratio of Councillors to electorate across the town.

The one amendment to the proposal I would recommend is for a Town Council consisting of 20 members rather than 19 so that the ratio of councillors to residents greater reflects that in other parts of Mid Sussex. This would be achieved by increasing the number of Councillors in Victoria ward from 2 to 3.

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Dear Sirs,

As the initial review has been approved and requirements for Town Councillors to cover the new wards will be needed, I would like to confirm that any previous objections are withdrawn and that the proposal for numbers of Councillors in each ward be approved, As suggested by the Leader of the Council.

Yours faithfully.

REDACTED

I agree with the new Burgess Hill town council boundaries, which have recently been sent to me in the post

I support the draft recommendations to adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill to include the Northern Arc because, as we have seen in the report to the Scrutiny Committee the change will be in line with what was originally intended to be the increased development of Burgess Hill and part of the town wide strategy and Burgess Hill neighbourhood plan.

The proposal to move the wards of Norman, Hammonds North and Victoria West into the larger Victoria Ward is a sensible idea because it removes wards that have small electorates.

The one amendment to the proposal I would recommend is for the Town Council to have an increase to 20 members as this gives a better ratio of councillors and electors.

I support the draft recommendations to adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill to include the Northern Arc because, as identified in the Report to the Scrutiny Committee and the representations made, the change will create a cohesive administrative structure for what is clearly a single urban environment.

The proposal to move the small wards of Norman, Hammonds North and Victoria West into the larger Victoria Ward is supported because it removes wards that have small electorates ensuring a more equitable ratio of Councillors to the electorate across the town.

The proposed ward arrangements for the Town Council by and large reflect the identity and character of the areas that Town Councillors will represent.

As the electorate in Victoria Ward will increase significantly in the near future, I would suggest that the number of Town Councillors in this Ward be increased to 3 to make it comparable with Franklands Ward. This would increase the total number of Town Councillors in Burgess Hill to 20 members.

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Dear Terry,

Thank you for your letter about the draft recommendations for Burgess Hill Town Council where the recommendation is that the parish boundary of Burgess Hill are adjusted to include the Northern Arc, which I support.

I also support the proposal to move the small wards of Norman, Hammonds North and Victoria West into the larger Victoria Ward is because it removes wards that have small electorates ensuring a more even-handed ratio of Councillors to electorate across the town.

The one amendment to the proposal I would recommend is for a Town Council consisting of 20 members rather than 19. This would be achieved by increasing the number of Councillors in Victoria ward from 2 to 3. The current electorate (at June 2022) is the similar to Franklands ward which has 3 Councillors and there are at least 3 areas in the Site Allocation DPD which would increase the electorate further over a reasonable time frame.

Regards,

REDACTED

I support the draft recommendations to adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill to include the Northern Arc because the change will create a cohesive administrative structure for what is in reality a single urban environment.

The proposal to move the wards of Norman, Hammonds North and Victoria West into the larger Victoria Ward is good because it removes wards that have small electorates ensuring a fairer ratio of Councillors to electorate across the town.

Generally speaking, the proposed ward arrangements for the town council reflect the identity and character of the areas that Town Councillors will represent.

The one amendment to the proposal I would ask for is that the Town Council consists of 20 members rather than 19, by increasing the number of Councillors in Victoria ward from 2 to 3. The current electorate is similar to Franklands ward which has 3 Councillors and there are at least 3 areas in the Site Allocation DPD which would increase the electorate further over a reasonable time frame.

I support the draft recommendations to adjust the town boundary of Burgess Hill to include the Northern Arc because, as already identified the change will create a cohesive administrative structure for what is obviously an urban environment.

I support the proposal to move the small wards of Norman, Hammonds North and Victoria West into the larger Victoria Ward because it ensures a more equitable ratio of Councillors to Electorate across the town.

I support one amendment and that is to increase the number of Councillors on the Town Council from 19 to 20. This could be achieved by increasing the number of Councillors for the increased Victoria Ward from 2 to 3 as the current electorate for would be similar in size to Franklin's Ward which already has 3 Councillors.

I agree with all the findings and draft recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee for Customer Services & Service Delivery dated 22 June 2022.

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I support the draft recommendations to adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill to include the Northern Arc because, as the 1st public consultation has shown, the change will create a cohesive addition to the existing town of Burgess Hill.

The proposal to move the small wards of Norman, Hammonds North and Victoria West into the larger Victoria Ward is supported due to the ratio of Councillors to electorate across the town.

By and large the proposed ward arrangements for the town council reflect the spread of population to councillor numbers.

I agree with the contents of the letter I received dated 1st July 2022.

I feel strongly that the Northern Arc development should be included with the Burgess Hill boundary and in fact, it is illogical to suggest otherwise.

I agree with the recommendations made by the town council to incorporate the Northern Arc into the boundary of Burgess Hill. Geographically it is the only local government that would make any logical sense.

I agree with the ward arrangements and councillor numbers. However, I have no local council experience and understand that serving councillors may be requesting slight changes to numbers of councillors

I agree with the proposal of the town council to incorporate the northern arc into Burgess Hill Boundary. Geographically it could not be considered functional to be under the administration of any other council.

For all practical purposes, those living in the northern arc will be using all the facilities etc of Burgess Hill.

I agree with the division of wards and allocation of counsellors, so that an average number of people are represented by each counsellor.

Yours

REDACTED

I support the incorporation of the new Northern Arc parish wards into Burgess Hill. The villages of Ansty and Staplefield are so far away to incorporate this new parish ward.

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Mid Sussex

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Local Resident Submissions

My wife and I have seen Burgess Hill grow and develop since we moved here in 1980. Burgess Hill is an expanding town of which the Northern Arc development is an integral part.

Ansty and Staplefield will not form any part of this new community and have no facilities to share. The new residents in the Northern Arc will feel part of Burgess Hill and must therefore be included within the Burgess Hill boundary.

With reference to your letter of 1st July,2022 - draft recommendations for Burgess Hill Town Council :

Whilst I agree with recommendations 1, 4, 5, 6 and 7 I suggest that the numbers of councillors should be increased from those given in the table in recommendation 3.

The more people each councillor represents must affect their ability to represent them effectively and give them a proportional voice.

I suggest that a maximum ratio of electorate to councillor should be 1700:1 and, on this basis, Victoria ward would require an additional councillor based on the current electorate count and St Andrews ward would need one more if the forecast for the electorate in 2027 is correct.

I am pleased to agree with the draft recommendations for Burgess Hill Town Council as they now properly address the issue of the Northern Arc development, so that it is included within the remit of the Town Council.

I agree that the smaller wards should be amalgamated with that of Victoria, as described. I also agree that the Town Wards should be as shown in your letter dated 1st July 2022.

However, I am concerned that the forecast electorate growth for Dunstall Ward is over optimistic, particularly when the potential for further housing growth within that Ward is very limited or possibly non-existent. If 2 Councillors are allocated to Dunstall, when 1 will be sufficient, it will prevent the potentially much larger Northern Arc Wards from gaining more Councillors.

I suggest that from May 2023, Dunstall Ward has 1 Councillor and (based on the higher electorate forecast) Northern Arc West Ward has 2 Councillors.

As for Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council, I agree that the Parish Wards are as shown in your letter dated 1st July 2022. The number of Councillors seems high compared to Burgess Hill but I accept that the geographical area is much larger.

The draft recommendations for Burgess Hill Town Council are what the town requested when it petitioned for the changes to be made. So that is a positive step forward.

The Northern Arc needs more than 2 councillors, even if at this time there are few houses completed. By May of next year, when local elections take place, the development will be growing rapidly and it would not be a good idea to have a by-election, mid-term, to appoint more. Better to appoint them earlier.

I lived in Dunstall Ward for many years but do not see how it can grow to the levels that are predicted in 2027?

The Parish is about right, though 12 councillors seems top-heavy.

I agree with the draft recommendations made by Burgess Hill Town Council in response to the 1st Public consultation. I think these proposed boundary and electoral arrangement changes are needed to ensure that the needs of the future residents of the Northern Arc housing developments will be met.

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These new housing developments will put a strain on the already limited services, resources and infrastructure of Burgess Hill. It's therefore important that everyone who is going to use these services in the future has an opportunity to have a their say about what is provided.

I agree with the proposals set out by Terry Stanley (Business Unit Leader for Democratic Services) in their letter dated 1st July 2022.

I support the recommendations to adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill which were the subject of the letter giving notice of the same, dated 1st July, 2022. This will bring the proposed new developments into the administrative area of Burgess Hill, in line with what was promised in the past, i.e. that these developments would be an expansion of Burgess Hill.

I would also support any amendment to the proposal that increases the number of councillors to reflect the future growth of the town.

REDACTED

5th August, 2022

I believe the draft recommendations, whereby the Northern Arc development will fall within the jurisdiction of Burgess Hill Town Council, to be a suitable solution to ensuring the cohesion of the town.

I am writing in support of the draft recommendations to adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill. As the inclusion of the Northern Arc within the parish boundary will clearly create a single urban environment, the changes recommended in the report to the Scrutiny Committee will lead to the creation of a cohesive administrative structure.

In addition, the transfer of three smaller wards to create a larger Victoria Ward will ensure a more balanced ratio of councillors to electors across the town. However, I would propose a further amendment related to this change.

As a consequence of the enlargement of the Victoria Ward, the number of councillors should increase from two to three, bringing the total number of councillors to 20. The current electorate of the ward is of similar size to Franklands Ward, which has three councillors, and at least three areas in the Site Allocation Development Plan will increase the electorate further within a reasonable period of time.

I agree with the proposals set out by Terry Stanley (Business Unit Leader for Democratic Services) in their letter dated 1st July 2022.

I absolutely support the draft recommendations of including the Northern Arc within the parish boundary of Burgess Hill. I'm also surprised at how few Town Councillors Burgess Hill has, given the number of electorates. I believe there should be more. For example, Victoria ward presently has just over three and a half thousand electorates compared to Dunstall, which has just over two thousand. How can they have the same number of councillors? The total number of councillors for Burgess Hill should be higher.

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To confirm I support the inclusion of the Northern Arc within Burgess Hill and this is the position that had been communicated through various promotional materials received over many years including from New Homes England and as identified will make for cohesive administration for Burgess Hill.

I support the Boundary Commission new district ward boundaries for Burgess Hill where Northern Arc East is incorporated into Dunstall Ward and Northern Arc West into Leylands Ward with two Councillors each and the proposal to move the small wards into the larger Victoria Ward. I am in support of the proposed enlargement to the Victoria Ward but the number of councillors I would like to see be increased to 3, I do not see 2 is enough given this Ward will be enlarged from merging in several smaller wards each with their own Councillor currently. I support an overall tally of 20 Councillors for Burgess Hill rather than 19 contained in the Community Governance Review.

I am also in support of the Burgess Hill parish boundaries incorporating two new parish areas covering the Northern Arc.

Northern Arc renaming I do not support the name 'Brookleigh', it has no resonance with Burgess Hill as an area I live in. I understand the meaning of the co joined words but that hasn't brought comfort as the development is not without destruction and clearing of the natural environment in order to create the housing space. Naming of the two clear areas that the Northern Arc breaks into should reflect local landmarks, such as the Northern Arc East renamed to 'Bedelands'.

I do not support any delay to changing of the boundaries regardless of how many houses are built or occupied within the Northern Arc, the community can build on the identify it has from day one and people moving to the area will know where the local government and community support is.

I want to register my support for the campaign to make the Northern Arc part of Burgess Hill to help improve the town's future economic, social and cultural prospects.

I support the recommendation that the exterior boundary of Burgess Hill Town Council IS extended to include the Northern Arc East and Northern Arc West wards. This will mean that the entire built-up area of Burgess Hill is governed by BH Town Council.

However, I suggest those two wards have more-engaging names - perhaps Bedelands and St Pauls.

I support the recommendations to adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill to include the Northern Arc because, as identified in the report to the Scrutiny Committee and the representations made the change will create a cohesive administrative structure for what is clearly a single urban environment.

The proposal to move the small wards of Norman, Hammonds North and Victoria West into the larger Victoria Ward is supported because it removes wards that have small electorates ensuring a more equitable ratio of Councillors to electorate across the town.

By and large the proposed ward arrangements for the town council reflect the identity and character of the areas that Town Councillors will represent.

The one amendment to the proposal I would recommend is for a Town Council consisting of 20 members rather than 19.

This would be achieved by increasing the number of Councillors in Victoria ward from 2 to 3. The current electorate (at June 2022) is the similar to Franklands ward which has 3 Councillors and there are at least 3 areas in the Site Allocation DPD which would increase the electorate further over a reasonable time frame.

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In response to your recommendations for Burgess Hill Town Council

I welcome the recommendation that the newly created parish wards of the Northern arc to be included within the exterior town boundary.

However in view of the total size of the town, with the geographical and numerical growth the petition called for a council of up to 22 members where as your recommendation is for 10 wards represented by 19 council members.

When compared with the Mid Sussex towns of Haywards Heath and East Grinstead with 20 councillors. there will be a lower ratio of councillors to electors as this growth occurs.

The merging of the Wards of Victoria East, Hammonds North and Norman with Victoria is sensible and in view of the above this could be addressed by increasing the number of councillors representing this ward from 2 to 3.

I am in agreement with the recommendation to change the boundaries so that the Northern Arc becomes part of Burgess Hill.

Having lived in part of then recently built Charlwood Gardens for a short time back in the late 1970's which was in East Sussex it was a confusing situation and had we been able to choose we would have preferred to have been in Burgess Hill 'properly'.

There is an argument that the decision should be left for the residents to decide when the development is completed. I suggest this would prove unsettling for new buyers and renters and conversely by the strong sentiment in Burgess Hill to want all the occupiers to be part of the town a strong message of welcome is sent. This would encourage community cohesion.

All the Northern Arc residents should feel able to vote on local matters that affect them in the town on their doorstep which they will naturally see as their town. A rural parish council may not have the relevant experience to enable it to properly empathise with or concentrate on the concerns of those who love living in more urban environments.

I support the draft recommendations to adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill to include the Northern Arc because, as identified in the report to the Scrutiny Committee and the representations made the change will create a cohesive administrative structure for what is clearly a single urban environment.

The proposal to move the small wards of Norman, Hammonds North and Victoria West into the larger Victoria Ward is supported because it removes wards that have small electorates ensuring a more equitable ratio of Councillors to electorate across the town.

By and large the proposed ward arrangements for the town council reflect the identity and character of the areas that Town Councillors will represent.

The one amendment to the proposal I would recommend is for a Town Council consisting of 20 members rather than 19.

This would be achieved by increasing the number of Councillors in Victoria ward from 2 to 3. The current electorate (at June 2022) is the similar to Franklands ward which has 3 Councillors and there are at least 3 areas in the Site Allocation DPD which would increase the electorate further over a reasonable time frame.

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I confirm that I support the inclusion of the Northern Arc within Burgess Hill and this is the position that had been communicated through various promotional materials received over many years including from New Homes England and as identified will make for cohesive administration for Burgess Hill. Given the immediate impact on Burgess Hill it is right that any associated administration is delivered locally.

I support the Boundary Commission new district ward boundaries for Burgess Hill where Northern Arc East is incorporated into Dunstall Ward and Northern Arc West into Leylands Ward with two Councillors each and the proposal to move the small wards into the larger Victoria Ward. I am in support of the proposed enlargement to the Victoria Ward but the number of councillors I would like to see be increased to 3, I do not see 2 is enough given this Ward will be enlarged from merging in several smaller wards, and therefore I support an overall tally of 20 Councillors for Burgess Hill.

I am also in support of the Burgess Hill parish boundaries incorporating two new parish areas covering the Northern Arc.

I do not support any delay to changing of the boundaries regardless of how many houses are built or occupied within the Northern Arc, the community can build on the identify it has from day one and people moving to the area will know where the local government and community support is.

I support the draft recommendations to adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill to include the Northern Arc because, as identified in the report to the Scrutiny Committee and the representations made, the change will create a cohesive administrative structure for what is clearly a single urban environment. The proposal to move the small wards of Norman, Hammonds North and Victoria West into the larger Victoria ward is supported because it removes wards that have small electorates ensuring a more equitable ratio of Councillors to electorate across the town. By and large the proposed ward arrangements for the town council reflect the identity and character of the areas that Town Councillors will represent. The one amendment to the proposal I would recommend is for a Town Council consisting of 20 members rather than 19, This would be achieved by increasing the number of Councillors in Victoria ward from 2 to 3. The current electorate (at June 2022) is similar to Franklands ward which has 3 Councillors and there are at least 3 areas in the Site Allocation DPD which would increase the electorate further over a reasonable time frame.

I am satisfied with the recommendation that would adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill to include the Northern Arc because the change will create a more cohesive administrative structure for what is obviously a single urban area. The proposal that merges the small wards of Norman, Hammonds North, and Victoria West into a single Victoria ward should facilitate a more equitable ratio of councillors to electorate across the town. The new Victoria ward will have a similar electorate to Franklands ward so I would suggest an additional councillor there making a Town council of 20 rather than the proposed 19.

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 05 July 2022 17:32
To: communitygovernancereviews
Cc: REDACTED
Subject: Written representation supporting Burgess Hill Council's request to amend the boundary to include the Northern Arc

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Hello

I agree with Burgess Hill Town Council's view that the case for extending the boundary of Burgess Hill to incorporate the Northern Arc is overwhelming.

In August 2011 Burgess Hill Town Council published "Burgess Hill, A Town Wide Strategy for the next 20 years". This document included the Northern Sector (as the Northern Arc was called at this time) which was identified as a strategic site for 3500 homes as part of a much larger allocation for housing in and around Burgess Hill.

Furthermore, 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).

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).

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.

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.

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.

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.”

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.

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.

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.

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 (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.

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.

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 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.

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. 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.
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- 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.

I sincerely hope that the reasons laid out in this email will be given full consideration and the boundary of Burgess Hill be amended to include the Northern Arc.

Many thanks
REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 05 July 2022 18:22
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Written representation supporting Burgess Hill Council's request to amend the boundary to include the Northern Arc

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Blue category

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Hello

I agree with Burgess Hill Town Council's view that the case for extending the boundary of Burgess Hill to incorporate the Northern Arc is overwhelming.

In August 2011 Burgess Hill Town Council published "Burgess Hill, A Town Wide Strategy for the next 20 years". This document included the Northern Sector (as the Northern Arc was called at this time) which was identified as a strategic site for 3500 homes as part of a much larger allocation for housing in and around Burgess Hill.

Furthermore, 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).

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).

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.

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.

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- j) Community Centres.
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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.

I sincerely hope that the reasons laid out in this email will be given full consideration and the boundary of Burgess Hill be amended to include the Northern Arc.

Many thanks
REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 07 July 2022 19:14
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: REFERENCES KEF 233 David Louis Gee and KEF 234 Elizabeth Gee 8 Bramble Gardens RH15 8UQ

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Dear Sirs

We are in total agreement with the recommendations. Thank you for summarising them and keeping us informed

REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 08 July 2022 10:09
To: REDACTED
Subject: Re proportion of proposed councillors to anticipated numbers of population

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Dear REDACTED

Your proposals to increase the number of councillors in the wards appears disproportionate to the anticipated population

For example St John's with a proposed population of 1532 gets 1 councillor where St Andrews with 5682 only gets 3 councillors

Surely St Andrews on that basis should get at least 4 or 5 councillors for it to be equitable or alternately the larger wards be split in two

REDACTED ref REDACTED REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 09 July 2022 14:39
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: A not very helpful response....

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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My Reference: REDACTED.

Thank you for your e-mail, 6th of July 2022.

I have read the seven-page governance review info, including the draft recommendations for Burgess Hill Town and Ansty, Staplefield parish councils.

In sections 17 - 45 it appears to me that the decision to change a boundary involves so many "interested" parties and councils and wards including the many private companies and investors, that a balanced judgement is going to be very difficult to achieve.

So those decisions will of course be influenced on both rational and emotional basis.

Including the LGBCA, MSDC, BHTC, parish councils and ward councillors, I really wonder how many opinions and judgments are taken into account and of course not for getting the Vox Populi.

Therefore, I find it very difficult to offer a reasoned judgement.

However, those concerned with making the final decision should be cognisant of the fact that the people of Burgess Hill have had to accept the original decision to build the Northern Arc. (Was no one aware of the Parish and Town Councils boundaries at that time?)

The people of Burgess Hill have had to cope with prolonged and devastating delays in respect of the 'necessary' roadworks, ie building the new A2300 and restructuring the northern end of Burgess Hill London Road, A2300, Isaacs lane and Cuckfield Road junctions. We have experienced chaos!

*If this sacrifice is to benefit Ansty and Staplefield Parish councils, then our local government is not fit for purpose. **

On the subject of sacrifice we should also take into account the destruction of Burgess Hill Martlets shopping centre, by decisions made by the M S D C and New River Retail.

**Ref. 'Fit for purpose'.*

For example: In the latest edition of 'Mid Sussex Matters', Jonathan Ash-Edwards discusses, for our edification, Street Parties, a new strategy toward a Sustainable Economy and finally, plans for an Outdoor Sports centre to be open in 2025!

Not a word about the real issues!

Will someone tell him 'Rome is Burning'!

Or does he believe we are a population of idiots, to be fed trivia!

The following is a quote recently published:-

J, Sharrock, CEO Coast2capital, is quoted as saying "Burgess hill has the most significant growth potential in Mid Sussex, forecast Pop. Increase to 45,000 in 15 years. 47%!"

Consider the population density! A potential of 11,000 per square mile?
London has 14,760 Per square mile.

REDACTED. A resident of Burgess Hill.

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 13 July 2022 15:38
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Northern Arc Development

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Dear Sirs,

I note the new proposal in relation to the 1st consultation, and in view of my previous comments thereunder, fully support the concept of the 2 additional wards to be added to Burgess Hill Council.

Yours Sincerely,

REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 13 July 2022 15:40
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Northern Arc Development Reference Number: REDACTED

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Yours Sincerely,

REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 15 July 2022 09:38
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Northern arc Burgess Hill Boundrey

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Dear Sir Madam

after receiving a letter from MSDC my views are to support that all of the northern arc are put into the Burgess Hill Boundary.

REDACTED REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 15 July 2022 10:18
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Burgess Hill Boundary northern arc

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Good Morning

I support all of the northern arc going into the Burgess Hill boundary.

REDACTED
REDACTED

Burgess Hill Boundary Review

I broadly support the boundary changes that have been recommended for Burgess Hill for the reasons that have been summarised by MSDC officials in reports to MSDC.

In addition, I would point out:

- The Northern Arc has been considered part of Burgess Hill from this major development's conception. The Burgess Hill Neighbourhood plan, and websites such as this one: <https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/media/4297/norther-arc-masterplan.pdf> make it clear that the Northern Arc is part of Burgess Hill.
- The Northern Arc masterplan sets out transport links to Burgess Hill and refers to the town not to other places in considering the evolution of the Northern Arc community.
- The population of the Northern Arc can be best accommodated as part Burgess Hill. The new residents would be so numerous as to swamp the smaller Parish communities (e.g. of Ansty and Staplefield) and change their nature entirely.
- To thrive, the Northern Arc communities will need to use the facilities and infrastructure of Burgess Hill that do not exist in the smaller more rural Parishes including, those linked to transport, social and health care, education and leisure.
- My only reservation is the numbers of Parish Councillors allocated to the few electors of Ansty and Staplefield compared to the number of Town Councillors linked to much larger numbers of electors in Burgess Hill. There are inconsistencies here that suggest the numbers of Parish councillors may need separate examination.
- Not including the Northern Arc within the Burgess Hill boundary would have adverse impacts on the Town's community as its resources would be used without any increase in funds. This would be unfair on the existing and new residents for different reasons.

I am happy to add detail if required.

Yours,

REDACTED

Burgess Hill Resident.

Dear Sir,

Please find below my responses to the 2nd round of consultation.

Firstly I have no objection to the proposed electoral arrangements for Ansty and Staplefield as specified in your recent postal document.

I think the number of the number of councillors in Victoria Ward which is set at 2 should be increased to 3. From your figures Victoria Ward has 30% more electors than Meeds & Hammonds and 74% more than Dunstall. Although the gap closes in 5 years time, Victoria will still have many more voters. This will increase the total number of BHTC councillors to 20. As I understand it, similar towns in our area, East Grinstead, Haywards Heath and Lewes have a better ratio of councillors to voters, so increasing the number in BH should not be a problem. I also understand that Ansty and Staplefield have a much better councillors to voter ratio than BH so increasing the amount of BH councillors will help to address this issue.

It would seem that the small wards of Norman Ward, Victoria East and Hammonds North are a bit of an anomaly with their small voter population, therefore to balance this out, it makes sense to merge these three small areas into Victoria. I understand that this will also be acceptable for the County division boundaries.

As BH is growing significantly, with the Northern Arc and other developments, it would only seem correct to allow the electing 3 County Councillors to represent the town.

With regards

REDACTED

I support the draft recommendations to adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill to include the Northern Arc. It creates a cohesive administrative structure, based on common sense and geography. There is no logic to not revising the boundaries accordingly, as demonstrated by support for it in the first consultation. Further, Ansty and Staplefield took no responsibility for the area in their Neighbourhood Plan.

It is worth noting that even after this adjustment the boundaries of Burgess Hill will remain tightly constrained such that future expansion is likely to require amendments. Cllr. Bradbury is correct to point out that there are still anomalies associated with the Northern Arc even after this adjustment. The question really isn't whether the boundary should be adjusted but why it hasn't been resolved before now. Mid Sussex DC do lay themselves open to at least an appearance of mis-management over boundary issues. To do nothing will only reinforce that impression.

By and large the ward arrangements for Burgess Hill Town Council appear sensible.

While not directly affecting me, I support the proposal to increase the number of parish councillors for Ansty and Staplefield; I feel their argument on workload is persuasive.

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While not directly affecting me, I support the proposal to increase the number of parish councillors for Ansty and Staplefield; I feel their argument on workload is persuasive.

RECEIVED

13 JUL 2022

REDACTED
Phone REDACTED
E-Mail REDACTED

12 July 2022

Democratic Services
MSDC

Re: Community Governance Review for Burgess Hill Town Council – 2nd Public Consultation.

As I said in the 1st consultation, I see less merit in single councilor wards than I do in multiple wards because it gives more chance of an elector finding someone to consult who has time at that moment, relates well to them and is of their persuasion.

I think 2 inputs are playing too strongly in your view, history and MSDC Boundaries. This is a chance to look forward not back.

My proposal would be to:

1. Remove the south western leg of Gatehouse to Victoria then merge Gatehouse and Victoria
2. Remove Hammonds from Meeds (ie west of London Road) & add to Victoria.
3. Add St Johns Park (common) and the Brow to St Johns and then amalgamate to Meeds.

These changes would make all Wards multi councilor and much nearer a similar size.

Yours Sincerely

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

30th July 2022

Reference: REDACTED

Dear Sirs

I am writing in response to your letter of 1st July regarding the draft recommendations of the Community Governance Review for Burgess Hill Town Council. I support these draft recommendations to adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill to include the new Northern Arc developments. I feel that implementation of these recommendations would help to ensure a single administrative area for what should be a cohesive community.

Yours Faithfully,

REDACTED

REDACTED

RECEIVED

- 3 AUG 2022

FAO
MID SUSSEX DISTRICT COUNCIL

My REF: REDACTED

3.8.22

I do support the draft recommendations to adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill to include the Northern Arc. As identified in the report to the Scrutiny Committee and the representations made, the change would create a much more cohesive administrative structure.

I agree with the proposal to move the small wards of Norman, Hammonds North and Victoria West into the larger Victoria Ward because it removes wards that have small electorates and creates more equal numbers of Councillors across the town.

By and large the proposed ward arrangements for the town council reflect the identity and character of the areas that Town Councillors will represent.

It would be advantageous to make one amendment to the proposal - for a Town Council consisting of 20 members rather than 19.

This would be achieved by increasing the number of Councillors in Victoria ward from 2 to 3. The current electorate is the similar to Franklands Ward which has 3 Councillors.

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

MID SUSSEX DISTRICT COUNCIL

My ref REDACTED

4TH August 2022

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Signed

REDACTED

Burgess Hill Town Council
Community Governance Review
Consultation 2 Responses:
Councillors Submissions

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 06 July 2022 16:30
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: support for governance recommendations

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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I support the Burgess Hill town recommendations that the Northern Arc Strategic Development is within the boundary of Burgess Hill.

Janice Henwood
Councillor of Burgess Hill Town Council

team - team email	communitygovernancereviews@midsussex.gov.uk
team - team name	the Democratic Services team
Reference number	REDACTED
Your representation	Councillor
Council name	Burgess Hill Town Council
Your name	Robert Eggleston
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 support the draft recommendations to adjust the parish boundary of Burgess Hill to include the Northern Arc because, as identified in the report to the Scrutiny Committee and the representations made the change will create a cohesive administrative structure for what is clearly a single urban environment.</p> <p>The proposal to move the small wards of Norman, Hammonds North and Victoria West into the larger Victoria Ward is supported because it removes wards that have small electorates ensuring a more equitable ratio of Councillors to electorate across the town.</p> <p>The one amendment to the proposal I would recommend is for a Town Council consisting of 20 members rather than 19. This would be achieved by increasing the number of Councillors in Victoria ward from 2 to 3. The current electorate (at June 2022) is the similar to Franklands ward which has 3 Councillors and there are at least 3 areas in the Site Allocation DPD which would increase the electorate further over a reasonable time frame.</p>

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: 27 July 2022 10:01
To: communitygovernancereviews
Cc: REDACTED
Subject: CGR for Burgess Hill Town Council - 2nd Consultation

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Terry,

I write further to my initial response to the 2nd round of consultation to add some further points on the proposed warding arrangements and council size.

1. Burgess Hill is hampered by the fact that when the review of the County divisions was conducted the boundary commission created a number of anomalies which are reflected in Norman Ward, Victoria East and Hammonds North. Whilst, it could be argued that Norman Ward had a distinct identity the fact remains that, as your guidance points out, it only has around 500 electors. Victoria East and Hammonds North would be even smaller. In order to achieve a sensible ratio of councillors to electors across the town, bearing in mind that parish wards may not cross county division boundaries, it makes perfect sense to merge these three small areas into Victoria, which is a part of the Burgess Hill North County division.
2. The Northern Arc has now been renamed Brookleigh so I see no benefit in retaining Northern Arc as the ward names for this area. An option would be to name each ward Brookleigh West and Brookleigh East. Apart from the fact that this is close to the soap opera Brookside I think it would be fair to say that the name Brookleigh does not have a great deal of resonance and identity. With Northern Arc East including the edge of Bedelands or the area known as Lowlands Farm I would suggest that Northern Arc East is renamed either Bedelands or Lowlands ward. I am easy either way. Northern Arc West does have St Paul's Catholic College within its boundaries as well as the area known as Abbotsford so this ward could be renamed St Pauls or Abbotsford. Again I am easy either way.
3. Turning to the total size of the Town Council. The recommendation is for 10 wards comprising of 19 councillors. The petition called for a council of up to 22 members and it is my view that the appropriate number should be 20 which would be achieved by increasing the number of councillors in Victoria Ward from 2 to 3. Based on the June 2022 electorate Victoria Ward has 30% more electors than Meeds & Hammonds and 74% more than Dunstall. By 2027 the gap closes but Victoria will still have 20% more electors. In my view Victoria should sit in the group of 3 member wards comprising of Leylands, St Andrews, and Franklands. In terms of geographic size Victoria is closer in extent to the other three member wards and has a diverse range of housing and employment features which would be better served with the addition of a third town councillor.
4. The numerical and geographic growth of the town warrants a town council membership of 20 councillors spread over the 10 wards. On a comparison with its peer group of Haywards Heath and East Grinstead, with 20 councillors Burgess Hill will still have a poorer ratio of councillors to electors than these two towns in 2027 and this should be reflected in its governance arrangements. Lewes has 18 town councillors with a considerably smaller population. Accordingly there is nothing inherently wrong with a council consisting of 20 councillors and it will, in my view, be better for democratic accountability to go to this level.
5. The 10 wards will have strong community identities and most have long and established histories as parish wards in the town so are familiar to residents.

6. I have no objection to the proposed electoral arrangements for Ansty and Staplefield. I would, however, observe that those who argue for a lower number of Councillors for Burgess Hill need to square that against 12 parish councillors in A&S with a councillor to elector ratio of 1:186.
7. In the future I would urge MSDC to approach the Boundary Commission for England and seek a formal review of the County divisions. The growth of Burgess Hill will warrant it electing 3 County Councillors to represent the town alone, probably along the lines of a Burgess Hill North, Burgess Hill Central and Burgess Hill East. This could be done in such a way that it aligns parish, district and county electoral arrangements.

With regards

Robert

Robert Eggleston (Cllr)
St Johns Ward
Leader Burgess Hill Town Council
REDACTED
REDACTED

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Referring to the Draft recommendations for Burgess Hill Town Council and Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council – report to the Scrutiny Committee for Customer Services & Service Delivery dated 22 June 2022

1. I will restrict my comments to the issues relating to the Burgess Hill exterior boundary – draft recommendations contained in paras 35 to 42. In particular I agree with clause 36 that

The Northern exterior boundary of the Burgess Hill Town Council area should be extended to include the LGBCE's newly created parish wards of Northern Arc East and Northern Arc West.

2. This was based upon the results of the public engagement reported in paras 10 to 14. *Of the 319 accepted submissions 299 supported the extent of the Review considerations for Burgess Hill with a majority suggesting that the Northern arc is and should be part of Burgess Hill.*

There were only seven objectors *to the proposed incorporation of the Northern Arc into Burgess Hill, submitted by 3 Burgess Hill electors and 4 Councillors representing nearby areas.*

3. As a county councillor for Burgess Hill, I should be representing the views of my residents. In this case it is very clear from point 2 above what these are. The same cannot be said for the 4 councillors representing non-Burgess Hill areas; as clause 14 explains, of the mere 13 objectors from Ansty and Staplefield, most were objecting to reductions in their councillor numbers not the demarcation of Burgess Hill's town boundary.

There is further detail on the public consultation findings in paras 15 to 25.

4. In addition, under Findings at para 26 *Your officers note a strong body evidence that the Northern Arc was always intended to be within the administrative area of Burgess Hill. This included the Housing Development and Electorate Forecast to 2027 approved by Council on 27 January 2021*
5. The idea of the Burgess Hill Town boundary being determined after the Northern Arc is completed is firmly dealt with at paras 28 to 31 in favour of clarity today.
6. To conclude I agree with the Scrutiny report findings and the overwhelming view of the respondents that *The Northern exterior boundary of the Burgess Hill Town Council area should be extended to include the LGBCE's newly created parish wards of Northern Arc East and Northern Arc West.*

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 Council
Your name	Richard Cherry
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 writing in response to the second consultation. I do so in two capacities: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. As a resident of Burgess Hill (REDACTED)2. County Councillor for Burgess Hill East. <p>My sentiments and comments are the same for both.</p> <p>They are as follows: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I strongly support the draft recommendation to change the Burgess Hill town boundary to incorporate the new neighborhoods being created in the Northern Arc. The change will create a holistic democratic and administrative structure, an urban unit with a clear link between the new neighborhoods and the administration and community that serves them. This fact has clearly been identified by Mid Sussex District Council in the Draft Recommendations emanating from its Community Governance Review.• I also support the proposed merger of the small wards of Norman, Hammonds North, and Victoria West with the Larger Victoria ward. It will remove the anomaly of wards that have small electorates.• Though I acknowledge that the principle electoral authority cannot alter County Division boundaries, in the interests of boundary consistency, I would support any request by MSDC for the LGBCE to consider County Divisional changes. I note that even the complete absorption of the Northern Arc within the exiting division of Burgess Hill North would be within the bounds of WSCC's current tolerances for the number of electors in any one division (as would the resulting reduction in size to Cuckfield & Lucastes).

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	I support the proposals and the recommendations made by Burgess Hill Town Council for three town councillors for Victoria Ward, and would particularly support the proposal for the new wards of Northern Arc East and West to be called Bedelands and St Paul's as this better reflects the local identities of the two areas.

Burgess Hill Town Council
Community Governance Review
Consultation 2 Responses:
Local Council Submissions

REDACTED

From: clerk@anstystaplefield-pc.gov.uk
Sent: 14 July 2022 11:02
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Burgess Hill CGR 2nd consultation

The Parish Council welcome the proposals contained in the 2nd round of consultation, which, from May 2023, will provide 12 Councillors across 5 wards in our parish.

Kind regards,
Liz

Liz Bennett
Clerk and RFO
Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council
07437 703411 – new Parish Council phone number

www.anstystaplefield-pc.gov.uk

REDACTED

From: Steve Cridland <Steve@burgesshill.gov.uk>
Sent: 13 July 2022 12:49
To: communitygovernancereviews
Subject: Consultation comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Dear Community Team

Burgess Hill Town Council has considered the proposals put forward in your email dated 8 July 2022 regarding the Governance Review. My council took the following resolution which I ask you to consider in due course:

In response to the Community Governance Review consultation the Town Council resolved that 20 Councillors should represent Burgess Hill in the future increasing the number of Town Councillors representing Victoria ward from 2 to 3, and leaving the rest as proposed by MSDC

In addition members were informed that Northern Arc wards were to be renamed Brookleigh. The feeling was that more local names should be considered and suggested Bedelands Ward and St Pauls Ward.

Kind regards

Steven Cridland

Steve Cridland
Chief Executive Officer
Direct Line : 01444 238208

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Burgess Hill Town Council, 96 Church Walk, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 9AS
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County Council Response to Mid Sussex District Council’s consultation on the Burgess Hill Town Council Community Governance Review

1. The County Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the possible proposal by Mid Sussex District Council to ask the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to change the county division boundary between Burgess Hill North and Cuckfield & Lucastes.
2. The County Council comments only on this aspect of the proposal and not on the Community Governance Review of Burgess Hill Town Council.
3. The County Council notes the population projections for 2027. It has considered electorate projection figures for the county for 2027 based on Office for National Statistics projections. These predict a population of 910,301 and a projected electorate of 732,068. This would mean an average of 10,458 electors per County Council electoral division.
4. Taking that county average, the County Council calculates the following possible impact of the possible change on the affected electoral divisions:

Electoral Divisions affected	Electorate	% +/- Average
Cuckfield & Lucastes with Northern Arc	11979	+15%
Burgess Hill North without Northern Arc	10136	-3%
Cuckfield & Lucastes without Northern Arc	8919	-15%
Burgess Hill North with Northern Arc	13196	+26%

5. The County Council is concerned that a potential +26% variation to the desired average is close to the Boundary Commission for England’s 30% threshold that would trigger a County Council boundary review.
6. The County Council also considers it best not to prejudge the wishes of a new community as to whether they wish to be considered part of Burgess Hill, Ansty or a new Brook Leigh parish, as few people are living in the development area at present.
7. In conclusion, the County Council does not support the proposal to move the County Councils’ electoral division boundary on the grounds of the resulting electorate imbalance between divisions and its potential impact on equality of representation and that it could be seen to be pre-judging the views and interests of the Community who cannot be consulted. Both factors may also be relevant considerations in terms of the need to promote effectiveness and convenience in local government.