

Cheshire East

Personal Details:

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

Comment text:

"Dear Review Officer,

It is obvious that the current Cheshire East arrangements are not working satisfactorily. It is impossible for a group of 82 councillors to implement local policy, especially when the majority of decisions are being driven by almost impenetrable ministerial directives issued nationally.

Recent scandals have included the incredible level of overpayment by Cheshire East of £9m to purchase land around Crewe which is effectively valueless; the issuance of a 15-year pothole repair contract by the former leader of the council before leaving office; the building of a totally unnecessary corporate HQ and moving of staff to a rural location unrelated to any of the residents, compounded by closing the said HQ within a year of it opening 'to save costs'.

A further scandal is in the making as a result of the decision to charge for green bin collection, together with a decision to close 90% of the recycling centres. These decisions have been compounded by a national edict to collect food waste on a weekly basis, resulting in the nonsensical situation of the council purchasing tiny green caddies for all houses, to be collected by new council employees with a new vehicle on a weekly basis. Totally unnecessary, as the green bin collectors Ansa have already invested in a sterilisation plant to enable them to collect food waste in the existing green bins on a fortnightly basis. That has worked satisfactorily for over 5 years. Moving to weekly collections of tiny, almost weightless green caddies from every house will result in filth being spread around the streets, and a rise in feral rodent, feline and canine predation of the contents. Resuming fortnightly collection of green bin waste is cheaper and more effective.

The majority of Cheshire East residents want the boundaries to be redrawn to the respective town boroughs, amended to coincide with the existing parliamentary wards. This will improve the council representation in parliament, the responsiveness of the local councils to residents, and the overall efficiency of national and local representation. Parish, borough and parliamentary constituencies would be aligned.

This small boundary adjustment would facilitate Whitehall focussing on national issues, whilst local government focusses on local issues. Funding

would be adjusted to reflect the changes.

In Northern Europe (Germany, Netherlands, Scandinavia) two thirds of taxes are spent centrally, and one third locally. In England, 94% is spent centrally, and 6% locally. The resultant economic and representational inefficiency is nonsensical.

Please start with you realigning the parish, borough, and parliamentary wards in East Cheshire to coincide

Although little change is foreseen directly relating to boundary changes for Prestbury where I live, I wish to 100% reiterate the comments below made about the malfunctioning within Cheshire East.

Please may this be an opportunity for change and for fairer and more sensible local governance.

Attached Documents:

None attached