

# Somerset

## Personal Details:

**Name:** Mr Andrew Sully  
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**Organisation Name:** (District or county councillor)

## Comment text:

**Related subject:** Staplegrove and Norton Fitzwarren

The proposed local boundary review for the Division of Lydeard is unacceptable for several reasons, I know splitting the Division to get the numbers to work would be inevitable due to moving to single councillor Divisions.

Loss of Community Identity: Changes to boundaries to put Norton Fitzwarren with Staplegrove which is part of Taunton Town Council will result in the merging of communities grouping them with the Town, this will undermining historical, cultural, and social identities as residents feel strongly attached to the outer Parishes such as Cotford St.Luke and Bishops Lydeard.

Unclear Benefits: There has been no justifications to the proposed new Division boundary, this unwanted disruption would not gain any beneficial outcomes as it would not improve the governance arrangements.

Impact on Representation: The potential changes to the boundaries will affect the balance of representation as Staplegrove has 1,600 homes in the pipeline to be built in the next few years, this will potentially disadvantage certain groups or areas, especially if Norton Fitzwarren is absorbed into the Taunton Town Council and loses its distinct representation.

I therefore propose as the best solution that Norton Fitzwarren and Cotford St.Luke become the new Division as they would meet the numbers criteria and both are rural Parish Councils of similar size.

Impact on Representation: Changes to boundaries can affect the balance of representation, potentially disadvantaging certain groups or areas, especially if smaller communities are absorbed into larger ones and lose their distinct representation.

## **Attached Documents:**

*None attached*