

Firstly, I just wanted to add my thanks for the letter you submitted to the Parliamentary boundary review - as Bob Neill said, it will carry a lot of weight!

I'm mainly emailing to share the brilliant news that the Local Government Boundary Commission has **accepted our proposal for a 'Mottingham, Coldharbour & New Eltham ward'** in its review of Greenwich wards from 2022.

Thank you so much for everything you did to support this proposal, both in the form of the two excellent MRA submissions, and for sharing it with the MRA membership. An incredible **156 Mottingham residents** made a supportive representation - part of an overall total of 306 residents from our ward overall - which I'm told is extremely high compared to most reviews.

As John, Roger and I have argued all along, the point of this change was to get Greenwich Council to officially recognise that Mottingham is a community in Greenwich, as well as Bromley - which this new ward will achieve. We hope it will make it easier for us to get things done for people, and help stop Mottingham from being omitted from their thinking when decisions are made - our priority now will be to capitalise on this successful campaign and make sure that happens.

I've included below what the Boundary Commission [concluded in its final report](#) (page 12). This includes a rather astonishing example of precisely the kind of misconception about Mottingham that exists amongst decision-makers in Greenwich, and a very good example of why this change was needed!

44 With regard to the name of this ward, a large number of residents indicated their support for the inclusion of Mottingham in its name. This was opposed by Clive Efford MP, who provided evidence that the larger part of the Mottingham area was in the neighbouring borough of Bromley. He maintained that this area in the borough of Greenwich was best described as Eltham.

45 We have carefully considered all the submissions we received for this ward. On balance, we are not persuaded to alter our draft recommendations ... the large number of submissions supporting this proposed ward gives ample evidence that it reflects community identity.

The full report is here

https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/lgbce/Greenwich%20Final%20Recommendations_0.pdf

If there's any opportunity to share this news with members then please feel free - I think you mentioned there was a communication coming up. Either way, John, Roger and I can mention the good news at the AGM as part of our update (and we'll be putting round a letter to our side of the boundary about it shortly, too, so that everyone is kept in the loop)

Thank you ever so much again for all your support with this. and if you have any queries on any of the above, do let us know.

Best wishes,
Matt

Cllr Matt Hartley

Conservative councillor for Coldharbour, Mottingham & New Eltham

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