

Gloucestershire

Personal Details:

Name: [REDACTED]
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Organisation Name: (District or county councillor)

Comment text:

Related subject: The whole county and also Sedbury division in the Forest of Dean

Broadly speaking, as the serving councillor in Sedbury division I see the current arrangements as manageable and reasonable. I agree with the review and see an addition of two councillors probably necessary to match an increase in the population.

I am always suspicious of the potential for gerrymandering at boundary reviews in favour of the ruling party who look at the political repercussions of a geographical apportioning exercise to see if they can retain or gain more seats. I am also aware that the prospect of the creation of a unitary authority is alive in the background. I dislike the distancing between public and councillor in large divisions and accept that that is thankfully allayed by the existence of a two tier system in Gloucestershire. Nevertheless, since members of the public are often confused by which council is responsible for which service I tend to get many calls, with a case number nearing 100 which takes much time to service. In a largely rural division travel is an issue and without a coherent bus service car travel expenses and their associated carbon emissions suggest a more local approach to representation must be considered. I agree with this review and will be interested in its conclusions. I don't disagree at the increase in councillor numbers if it is purely to respect the increase in population in certain areas.

Attached Documents:

None attached