

**Review Officer (Reigate & Banstead)**  
**LGBCE**  
**14th Floor**  
**Millbank Tower**  
**London SW19 4QP**

**Your address:**

**Date:**

**Dear Sir/Madam**

**REIGATE & BANSTEAD (BOROUGH COUNCIL) ELECTORAL REVIEW**

**As a local resident, I should like to submit my comments to the draft recommendations published in early June.**

**Whilst the history of Lower Kingswood is inextricably linked with that of Kingswood, it became identified as a separate entity in the early 1890s with the Church of the Wisdom of God being dedicated in 1892 and the then Kingswood Infants School opening in 1893. Since then it has grown to a community of some 1,250 households - with a variety of local community/voluntary groups, churches, school, businesses, shops etc. The largest local employer is Fidelity International - based on the site of what used to be the Kingswood Press.**

**Although the A217/Brighton Road runs north/south through the centre of Lower Kingswood, residents have always regarded "their" village as one entity. [N.B. When the A217 was made into a dual carriageway in the early 1970s this prompted a series of protests by local residents.]**

**The current boundaries of Lower Kingswood include (to the north) both sides of Chipstead Lane (with Birch Grove forming part of Kingswood), to the east Monkswell Lane (with Mugswell and the 'Well House Inn' forming part of Chipstead), to the south/south-west Mogador (including 'The Sportsman') and Margery (with the latter including a few properties to the south of the M25, which can only be accessed from the north) and to the west Holly Lodge.**

**There are a wide range of community based organisations, related activities and sporting opportunities for both children and adults within Lower Kingswood; it also benefits from having its own recreation ground and pavilion - and for the past 40 years has held an annual Village Fête.**

**Whilst my preference would be to maintain the historic links with Kingswood; if that should prove impracticable (perhaps in the interests of maintaining electoral balance), I feel that the name of any new ward should also include the name of Lower Kingswood.**

**In conclusion, I feel that it is vital that Lower Kingswood retains its own identity as one unified community, notwithstanding that it may end up being joined with other neighbouring village communities in one electoral ward.**

**Yours faithfully**