

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

## **Community Governance Review relating to East Grinstead Town Council**

East Grinstead Town Council would question the need to retain 19 Councillors spread across 8 wards, against the current 6 wards. We note that the District Council will reduce by 1 ward and a net 2 Councillors in the East Grinstead Wards, but the Parish will increase by 2 wards and retain the same number of Councillors as current. We are struggling to understand the rationale for this.

There is no need for 8 wards across the town, this simply increases the election costs to the electorate who can be adequately represented where there are an appropriate number of Councillors representing the ward. We do not favour 1 member wards as in their absence there is no elected representative to approach. We also note that the Parish is growing at a slower rate than Haywards Heath and Burgess Hill who currently have slightly larger populations than East Grinstead, but Burgess Hill in particular could be 10,000 more than East Grinstead within the next 5 years yet is served by one less Councillor than East Grinstead.

**Counter proposal:** We would propose the Wards be aligned with the District Wards with a new name for Worsted and rural as “East Grinstead South”. Which would retain the wards at the current 6. We would further suggest a review of the Councillor numbers as follows:

- Ashplats 4
- Town 4
- Imberhorne 2
- Baldwins 2
- Herontye 2
- East Grinstead South 2

Thus reducing the overall councillors to 16 in line with Haywards Heath Council

## **Public consultation opens 4 April and closes 27 May 2022**

**Local government electors in the East Grinstead Town Council area can contribute their views in the following ways:**

**The best way is via: [www.midsussex.gov.uk/cgr-form](http://www.midsussex.gov.uk/cgr-form).**

**Or, you may email your submission to: [communitygovernancereviews@midsussex.gov.uk](mailto:communitygovernancereviews@midsussex.gov.uk).**

**Alternatively, a reply envelope is enclosed if you wish to send us a typed letter. If you need paper copies of the Terms of Reference and Guidance for Respondents, please call us to arrange this.**