

**Council**  
**25 October 2023**  
**Item 7 - Questions from Members of the Public**

**The following question has been submitted in accordance with Part 4 Section E of the Council's Constitution**

**Cllr Carole Marr has asked the following question of the Leader of the Council**

"I am a Windlesham resident and Windlesham Village Councillor.

Tonight you will debate Councillor Wilson's motion about re-visiting Windlesham's Borough boundaries.

As a result of the boundary decision to split Windlesham into two, its boundaries are misaligned at all three levels of local government. At County and Borough level, Windlesham aligns with Chobham and Bagshot. At Parish level, it aligns with Bagshot and Lightwater.

Windlesham residents do not feel they were adequately consulted on this split. They are confused and feel that this has negatively impacted their representation.

This confusion led to the CGR of 2019 and the resulting issues which remain unresolved.

Will the leader of the Council commit to supporting Windlesham in establishing discrete representation for Windlesham village residents in the future?"

**The Leader has provided the following response:**

"Thank you Councillor Marr for taking the time to come to Council and exercise your right to ask a question as a resident of the borough.

You may not be aware that this administration hopes to gain support from across the chamber tonight to increase access for residents to ask questions at as many council committees as possible, to deliver a manifesto commitment in line with our accountability, community and transparency values.

First of all I am grateful that Councillor Wilson, with assistance from Councillor Wheeler, has proactively brought this issue to full Council and I hope that it will receive broad support across this Chamber.

I am acutely aware, as an adjacent ward councillor of the unique and special character of each of the 6 villages, and especially Windlesham, which I remember well from my more youthful days, through to working at the old BOC building for a period and later bringing my kids up on the tradition that is the Boxing Day charity pram race.

I am therefore mindful of the feeling of village separation, loss of local representation and discontent with the process followed, arising from the current electoral boundary status.

Subject to the outcome of the Motion, I would be happy to commit to raising the Windlesham boundary issue formally with the Boundary Commission and encourage them to consider revisiting the boundaries that they have determined.

I will also respect and champion the outcome of the feedback from local residents, the Parish Council and other local stakeholders as part of the formal consultation process that will need to be undertaken by the Boundary Commission.

It may be other smaller anomalies across the borough, such as a road of Lightwater appearing in Bisley & West End Ward can also be addressed in the same review.

Thank you again Councillor Marr for your question and raising it on behalf of Windlesham residents.”