**Template Boundary Commission Response**

*Please send your submission in to “Boundary Commission for England, 35 Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BQ” or* [*information@boundarycommissionengland.gov.uk*](mailto:information@boundarycommissionengland.gov.uk) *by the 5th December.*

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing as a resident of the Wimbledon constituency following the new constituency proposals published in September.

The current Wimbledon constituency is remarkably cohesive, in terms of where residents live their lives, particularly shopping, leisure and transport. Within the constituency are a number of different residential areas, and the commercial and transport hubs they look to. The current Wimbledon constituency contains the vast majority of the “SW19” postcode, the most famous postcode in the world, and the brand of ‘Wimbledon’ itself. Many landmarks across the Wimbledon area contribute to this.

Splitting Wimbledon Village and Wimbledon Park from the rest of Wimbledon is nonsensical. On the whole these residents do not look north to Putney, instead they look to Wimbledon Town Centre. It is important that the Member of Parliament is able to fully represent residents in these areas on issues in the Town Centre that affect them, with Crossrail 2 being the most recent and significant example.

Wimbledon Village in particular is an essential part of Wimbledon. Residents in Village do not look north to the Putney constituency at all. Instead, residents look down Wimbledon Hill Road to Wimbledon Town Centre, from which the majority of commuters will travel from.

Most residents in Village ward are physically separated from residents in the current Putney constituency by both the Common and the A3 road.

The Boundary Commission cite uniting Wimbledon and Putney Commons as a good reason to bring Wimbledon Village into Putney. However the Common is enjoyed by residents across both the current Putney and Wimbledon constituencies and in fact is called Wimbledon and Putney Commons. The Common is in fact a barrier between residential zones, not a uniting factor. Indeed, in order to unite Wimbledon and Putney Commons, the Boundary Commission have chosen to split Mitcham Common.

Furthermore, the current proposals would lead to a completely arbitrary split across the Ridgway, with the north side being in Putney and the south side being in Wimbledon. All residents in this area very strongly identify with the current Wimbledon constituency and have very little interaction with Putney.

Being able to represent not only the area where residents live, but the areas where they go shopping, out for dinner, and commute from makes for a much more effective representative and helps residents have a greater say over what affects them.

Therefore, I would be grateful if the Boundary Commission would reconsider their proposals given the impact they will have on community links in Wimbledon.