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Democratic and. Electoral Services Manager
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10 September 2025

Dear Alex

R&BBC Community Governance Review

I am writing to you on behalf of Salfords and Sidlow Parish Council. Salfords and Sidlow is a civil parish within the borough of Reigate and Banstead. The parish occupies most of the rural area between Reigate/Redhill and Horley. Salfords village lies approximately 3 miles south of Redhill astride the A23. Sidlow Village lies to the west of Salfords and south of Reigate on the A217. The Parish Council represents a population of about 3,500 of which 2,767 are electors with 1518 properties.

	Councillors	Electorate	Properties
Salfords and Sidlow No.1	6	1,828	1,008
Salfords and Sidlow No.2 Sidlow	1	481	274
Salfords and Sidlow No.3 Copsleighs	1	458	236
	8	2767	1518

The Parish Council has reviewed and considered the Community Governance Review for Reigate and Banstead and makes the following comments and proposals.

Salfords and Sidlow Parish Council was created fifty years ago and has represented residents and business effectively since then. It is the first Parish Council in Surrey to be accredited with the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) Quality Gold status award. This demonstrates our Parish Council achieves good practices in governance, community engagement and council improvement. Furthermore, this award shows that our council has gone above and beyond the legal obligations; we lead our community and continuously seek opportunities to improve and develop even further.

Following on from this achievement, the Parish Council recognises that we have an outstanding service delivery to offer which could potentially benefit the existing communities residing just outside our parish boundary. Councillors believe it is imperative that residents and businesses should have a local voice and be represented under the new unitary authority and as such are open to explore options with Reigate and Banstead Borough Council (R&BBC) to make sure this continues to happen.

We recognise that historically it has proved difficult to secure the attention of Surrey County Council, possibly due to our size, although we have always had a good relationship with the Borough. The residents and businesses should benefit where we retain at least our current share of 'voice' with the new Unitary Authority.

We have looked at the borough wards to our north and would welcome discussion with residents in the proposed wards and R&BBC to better understand the possible benefits, risks and difficulties for expansion to include the following areas – see Appendix A for a visual map: -

	Borough Ward	Parish Ward	Electors	Properties
EWB4	Earlswood and Reigate South	Earlswood and Whitebushes	1,775	962
EWB5	Earlswood and Reigate South	Earlswood and Whitebushes	1,721	1,257
SPW1 – Part*	Earlswood and Reigate South	South Park and Woodhatch	3,672	2,100
SPW5	Earlswood and Reigate South	South Park and Woodhatch	1,762	1,022
			8930	5341

* SPW1 ward to include the community south of Flanchford Road.

The new boundaries would be natural road demarcations and comprise like-minded wards, with similar requirements for capacity building and infrastructure to support employment and housing needs. The rural nature of most of the Parish would be retained, but residents of the new wards would obtain a 'voice' for the changes coming with increase in house building, employment needs and Green Belt re-structuring. The existing community already has working relationships with our community engagement teams south of Reigate and Redhill, so we are already somewhat aligned.

Please note it is imperative to understand that before the Parish Council could commit to any amendments to our existing parish boundary, we would need to fully understand the views of our existing residents, and those of the residents in this extended community, associated risks including financial / asset transfers. We would also request support from Reigate and Banstead Borough Council to assist the Parish Council in being prepared with any expansion of electors such as calculating staff requirements to meet the new resident number demands.

We hope you find this feedback beneficial and look forward to working with Reigate and Banstead Borough Council for the next stage of the consultation process.

Yours sincerely



Claire Minter
Clerk to Salfords and Sidlow Parish Council