

Mid Sussex Members' Responses on the Proposal

Of the 12 Mid Sussex members, seven provided responses on the proposal. Of these, one sits on the North Mid Sussex County Local Committee (CLC); five on the South Mid Sussex CLC; and one sits on both. Of the 12 respondents, four agreed with the proposal, two did not and one felt that this should be postponed pending a wider discussion on the future configuration of Mid Sussex CLCs. Comments and points raised are summarised below.

- There was general recognition of the capacity issues caused to the member for Lindfield & High Weald by having to sit on two CLCs.
- Three members felt that the interests of the residents of Lindfield would not be best served by this proposal. One commented that "*the interests of the residents should be put before the wishes of the local member*".
- The importance of the links between Lindfield and Haywards Heath were stressed and it was pointed out that there is 21 miles between Lindfield and East Grinstead. However, one member who supported the proposal outlined the travel distances between each of the villages within Lindfield & High Weald and East Grinstead and Haywards Heath (set out below) – and that this provides a rationale for this division sitting solely within North Mid Sussex CLC:
 - Horsted Keynes (15 miles to East Grinstead; 16 to Haywards Heath)
 - West Hoathly (14 miles to East Grinstead; 15 to Haywards Heath)
 - Sharpthorne (3.8 miles to East Grinstead; 17 miles to Haywards Heath)
 - Lindfield (21 miles to East Grinstead; 6 miles to Haywards Heath)
- One member suggested that if it is agreed that the member for Lindfield & High Weald should only sit on one CLC, then it should be Central and South rather than the North Mid Sussex CLC.
- Three members highlighted concerns with the current structure of the Mid Sussex CLCs, that it does not reflect local communities and cuts across divisions, and that Central and South Mid Sussex CLC is too big both geographically and in terms of the number of divisions it contains. These members felt that this issue should be paused whilst consideration is given to reverting to three CLCs in Mid Sussex.
- One member who supported the proposal suggested that in future, one North Mid Sussex CLC meeting per year could be held in Lindfield.
- One member asked for the various parish councils affected to be consulted on this proposal.