

LUCAS CLOSE, SHEERNESS TOWN COUNCIL AREA – STAGE 2 CONSULTATION RESPONSES AND COMMENTS

Residents Response (where Q = Questionnaire)

DATE R/C	MEDIA	RESPONDER	IN FAVOUR OF THE BOUNDARY CHANGE?	COMMENTS
18/08/2022	Q	0004	YES	
22/08/2022	Q	0011	YES	
22/08/2022	Q	0012	YES	Due to the location, it makes perfect sense to change to Queenborough and we would prefer this.
19/08/2022	Q	0018	YES	
19/08/2022	Q	0019	YES	I would like to take this opportunity to point out to the council, if this were not already known, that the area within the proposed new boundary is a thriving wildlife hotspot. Many different species. Including rabbits, foxes, hedgehogs, field mice, even grass snakes inhabit this area and is used as a source of food for owls, hawks (not to mention many bats frequent the area) among many other species of birds and animals. This wonderful display of nature <u>must</u> be protected and <u>must</u> be taken into consideration should any plans to develop the land be proposed in the future. I trust the council will also share my sentiments of passionately defending local ecosystems and the precious wildlife that inhabits them.

Town Councils Response

DATE R/C	MEDIA	RESPONDER	IN FAVOUR OF THE BOUNDARY CHANGE?	COMMENTS
09/09/2022	Email	Town Clerk at Sheerness Town Council	Yes	I can confirm on behalf of Sheerness Town Council, that we still fully support the consultation to amend the boundary lines.
16/09/2022	Email	Town Clerk at Queenborough Town Council	Yes	<p>Queenborough Town Council have welcomed and included the residents of Lucas Close, in its' community since residency was taken in the Close, including the Close in all community events including the Town Council's annual freighter day etc.</p> <p>Queenborough Town Council believe that the residents of Lucas Close should stay in the Queenborough Community and the boundary for the Town be moved to effect this, with the only access to the Close being via Queenborough. As in previous consideration to the Swale Borough Council consultation, Councillors unanimously agreed to support the Swale Borough Council Governance Review for the boundaries to be redrawn with the Queenborough Town Council boundary moved north up to the A249, in supporting this Close coming under the umbrella of Queenborough Town Council so we may continue to serve the residents of the Close.</p>

Borough Ward Members Response

DATE R/C	MEDIA	RESPONDER	IN FAVOUR OF THE BOUNDARY CHANGE?	COMMENTS
10/08/2022	Email	Cllr Eakin - Sheerness ward member	YES	I fully support these changes.
30/08/2022	Email	Cllr Harrison - Sheerness ward member	YES	I stand by my comments from stage 1 "This seems to be a common-sense change to me. When the lines were originally drawn, there were many grassy areas, which have since been built on, so I would expect that this will not be the last proposed change you bring forward." The proposed boundary change is the most sensible option.
09/09/2022	Email	Cllr Cameron Beart - Queenborough & Halfway ward member, Queenborough Town Council ward member, Deputy Mayor of Queenborough and KCC Divisional member for Sheppey	YES	As the SBC Ward Member for Queenborough and Halfway, as well as the QTC Ward Member for Queenborough, Deputy Mayor of Queenborough and KCC Divisional Member for Sheppey, I fully support the boundary move to incorporate Lucas Close into the parish boundary of Queenborough. It is an anomaly with the way the original boundary was drawn that should be rectified. Lucas Close is only accessible from Sterling Road and Moat Way which are in Queenborough, and the new homes have been registered with the post office under the ME11 postcode so form part of the town. It makes no logical sense to keep this road within the boundary of Sheerness with the residents contributing council tax to Sheerness Town Council for services they aren't receiving. For these residents to be able to vote in elections, their polling station is currently in Sheerness, an 8 mile round trip. With this change, their polling station will be less than half a mile away, a short 5-10 minute walk. This makes it common sense to me.

KCC Response

No response received from KCC

Local Government Boundary Commission Response

DATE R/C	MEDIA	RESPONDER	IN FAVOUR OF THE BOUNDARY CHANGE?	COMMENTS
11/08/2022	Phone	Richard Buck (Review Manager, Local Government Boundary Commission for England)	N/A	LGBCE can't comment one way or the other on the review, as they are impartial, but acknowledge receipt of the information and await to hear the outcome of the consultation

KALC Response

DATE R/C	MEDIA	RESPONDER	IN FAVOUR OF THE BOUNDARY CHANGE?	COMMENTS
12/08/2022	Email	Charmaine Keatley (Chief Executive of KALC)	N/A	KALC will not be commenting on this, but I have copied in Jeff Tutt, the Chairman of the Swale Area Committee who is better placed.