I am responding to the draft recommendations from the Local Government Boundary Commission for ‘New electoral arrangements for Brighton & Hove City Council’ dated February 2022.

I am opposed to the proposal, within the draft recommendations, to join the Brunswick & Adelaide ward with a reconfigured Regency ward under the name of ‘Regency’.

For the following reasons:

1. Proposals based on a virtual tour which is completely inadequate

2. The removal of the historic Brighton/Hove border

3. The loss of a ward representing the area that is the historic origins of current Hove

4. The merging of a quiet residential area of central Hove with the main part of ‘tourist’ commercial Brighton – including the major shopping street of Western Road, all the seafront restaurants and bars, cinema, conference centre and an area of heavy police activity. This does not meet one of your three statutory criteria - ‘reflecting community interests and identities’.

5. The presence of a strong community in Brunswick & Adelaide with 3 strong residents’ associations with high levels of activity and engagement from residents, is a demonstration of community interest and identity. This does not exist in the current Regency ward because this is mostly a commercial area where many of the property owners are not resident. By contrast, the Brunswick & Adelaide ward is a residential area where families and children live. It is an area consisting of residential squares, terraces, streets and crescents of Grade 1 & 2 listed Regency and early Victorian properties and incorporates a large conservation area.

I strongly reject these proposed boundary changes to the Brunswick & Adelaide ward and believe your proposal, in respect of our ward, will be of great detriment to the communities and residents who live here, whilst failing to meet your own statutory criteria.

We respectfully request that the proposed changes to the Brunswick & Adelaide ward are rejected.