

ANDREW TURNER MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

S. Hartley Esq
Review Manager
Isle of Wight Review
The Boundary Committee for England
Treyelan House
Great Peter Street
London
SW1P 2HW

16 January 2008

Please quote on all correspondence
Our ref: AJT/AJT/LG/BoundaryCommission

Dear Mr Hartley,

BOUNDARY CHANGES

Further to my letter regarding my suggestion for alternative titles of electoral divisions on the Isle of Wight I wish to add a post script in reference to Freshwater. The Committee's proposed names are for 'Freshwater North' and 'Freshwater South'. I would propose that the divisions are left almost exactly with the titles they currently hold, Freshwater Norton and Freshwater Afton respectively.

Historically, the two areas are known by these titles, with 'Norton' deriving from old English as '*a place name meaning North Town*' and was listed as an ancient tithing on the Island.¹ As the division is located in the north of Freshwater and has historical significance it would seem sensible to continue with the traditional name.

Afton follows a similar trait with 'Aft' translating as '*to the stern*' or '*to the tail*'. In addition, Afton Manor is situated within the geographic boundary of Afton and dates back to the 11th Century when it was known as 'Affetune'.² Given the area's history and its existing name I would recommend keeping 'Freshwater Afton' as the division's title.

I do feel it is best where possible to maintain division names for continuity if they accurately reflect the new geographical boundaries. In both the case of 'Freshwater Norton' and 'Freshwater Afton' there seems little point in changing titles which work effectively and reflect the areas encompassed.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Turner'.

Andrew Turner
Member of Parliament for the Isle of Wight

¹ <http://british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=42083>

² <http://british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=42083>

Andrew Turner: Member of Parliament for the Isle of Wight