

North Yorkshire

Personal Details:

Name: Miss Bethan Jones

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Organisation Name: St Martins Parish Council (Representative of parish/town council)

Comment text:

I am writing on behalf of St Martins Parish Council.

Having read through the proposal and discussed at length, The Parish perception is the proposal is a numbers game.

The average number of registered electors per councillor in North Yorkshire is 5,374.

This is a higher average than comparable large rural unitary authorities such as Cornwall (4,994 electors per councillor) and Cumberland, another new unitary authority (4,595 electors per councillor).

The new Richmond and Gilling West ward within which it is proposed by North Yorkshire Council that St Martin's should be included would have 6,024 registered electors. This is almost 1,500 electors more than in Cumberland and indicates that there is accordingly a significant democratic deficit within North Yorkshire and that there should therefore be more elected councillors within the authority rather than less.

This lack of representation is further emphasised in comparison with the number of councillors (72) representing the electorate in the former North Yorkshire County Council, and even more so if the number of former District councillors.

The general perception is that St Martins is an arm of Richmond Town, whilst it sits within the perimeter, not all residents of St Martins feel this.

Attached Documents:

None attached