

Cumberland

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Organisation Name: Cumberland Conservatives (Political group)

Comment text:

Related subject: Cumberland Council

Good afternoon,

Please find attached with this message a copy of the responses to the draft proposal for the Cumberland Council area.

This response is sent on behalf of:-
Cumberland Council Conservative Group
Carlisle Conservative Association
Whitehaven and Workington Conservative Association
Penrith and Solway Conservative Association
Cumberland Conservatives.

If there are any questions please do let me know, and thank you for the opportunity to submit a response.

Yours sincerley
James

Attached Documents:

- conservative-associations-response-to-draft-cumberland-proposal.pdf

Response to draft warding arrangement for Cumberland Council.

Submitted on behalf of:-

- Carlisle Conservative Association.
- Workington and Whitehaven Conservative association
- Penrith and Solway Conservative Association
- Cumbria Conservatives




Introduction

We wish to express our appreciation for the work undertaken by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE), and for the consultative approach adopted throughout the review. With three separate council-wide submissions, a partial submission focused on the Whitehaven and Workington area, and more than 50 individual submissions from residents, we understand that the Commission faced a complex set of options.

We are pleased to note that, in the vast majority of instances, we are supportive of the warding patterns reached, whether they are reflective of our draft suggestions, those of other stakeholders, or often a combination thereof, we consider that much of the draft proposal (nearly 90%) does not require any amendment.

Our second-stage submission relates specifically to six wards where we believe modest revisions would lead to an improved overall arrangement. We acknowledge that these adjustments may create minor knock-on effects for nearby wards, and we have taken those implications into account. The population of the streets referred to in the wards are taken from the November 2025 rolling electoral register and provide a snapshot of the population levels of the streets concerned, naturally there is some difficulty in predicting what the population of each street would be by 2030, but the current figures are unlikely to vary by any significant degree.

Each proposed amendment, we believe, strengthens the draft proposal by:

-  Fostering a more cohesive sense of community identity
-  Enhancing the effectiveness and convenience of local government
-  Improving - or at minimum, maintaining - electoral equality within accepted tolerances, where there is a significant variance, in the case of St Cuthberts ward, we have highlighted the planned increase in residential developments currently within the planning system and as part of the St Cuthberts Garden Village scheme, and how these will bring the variances back in-line.

We acknowledge that our draft submission relied heavily on polling districts as the foundational unit of warding. The LGBCE correctly noted that polling districts need not be rigidly adhered to and will be required to be redrawn following this review. In

response, our post-draft proposals try to adopt a more flexible approach to the use of polling districts as a result.

Two of our proposed changes - concerning an area in the west of Carlisle and an area of Workington - also take into account recent policy developments announced by Cumberland Council. These updates were not fully available during the initial consultation but, we believe, have direct and relevant implications for ward boundaries. We note that in both cases (paragraphs 136 and 174 of the draft report), the Commission invited further comment, and we are pleased to respond.

In a third area - Harraby East and Harraby West - we propose alternative arrangements that we believe would yield more substantially two distinct and locally representative wards.

Finally, we have included comments on how the concerns of an intended third party regarding the Denton Holme ward which would impact on Castle ward, the latter of which could be addressed through reference to a recently approved planning application in the Morton East ward.

Proposed changes to the Carlisle boundaries.

Belle View and Sandsfield

Area of focus - Sandsfield and Belle Vue

Summary of concerns – Sandsfield and Belle Vue

In reviewing the draft report, we note the rationale outlined in paragraphs 135–138 whereby warding arrangements in the Morton area have generated knock-on effects that influence how adjoining boundaries here were defined. While we acknowledge the interdependency of these arrangements, we feel that these have a negative impact on both Belle Vue and Sandsfield wards. We have identified three areas of concern that merit further consideration.

1. Confusing Boundary Lines

a. Boundary with Dalston and Cummersdale Ward

Beaumont Parish Council's submission to the consultation expressed a clear intention to revise its future boundary with urban Carlisle, proposing their view that the new boundary follow the Carlisle Northern Bypass. While the LGBCE rightly noted that this issue falls outside its remit, we believe the Parish Council's proposal deserves attention.

[Minutes from recent Parish Council meetings](#) confirm that a public consultation has already been undertaken, yielding unanimous support from residents to move the Parish boundary to the CNDR relief road. A formal application has since been submitted to the local authority, with a decision pending.

The land in question - between the bypass and the urban edge of Carlisle - is more characteristic of urban overspill yet to be developed, than rural parish. Based on our assessment, realigning the boundary along the Northern Bypass would affect fewer than ten electors. We support this amendment, as it would also bring consistency with the proposed Morton East and West wards, both of which use the bypass as a defining boundary.

b. Boundaries Affecting the Raffles Community and Masterplan

The area locally known as *Raffles* - a neighbourhood of interwar housing situated between Wigton Road, Orton Road, and Newtown Road - has recently been the subject of a significant placemaking initiative led by Cumberland Council. Details of this project are referenced at [paragraph 4.42 of the Council's linked report](#).

This scheme aims to develop [a community-led masterplan](#) in partnership with organisations such as Riverside Housing and the Police and Crime Commissioner's funding programme. Its focus is on improving infrastructure, youth service provision, and street-level regeneration.

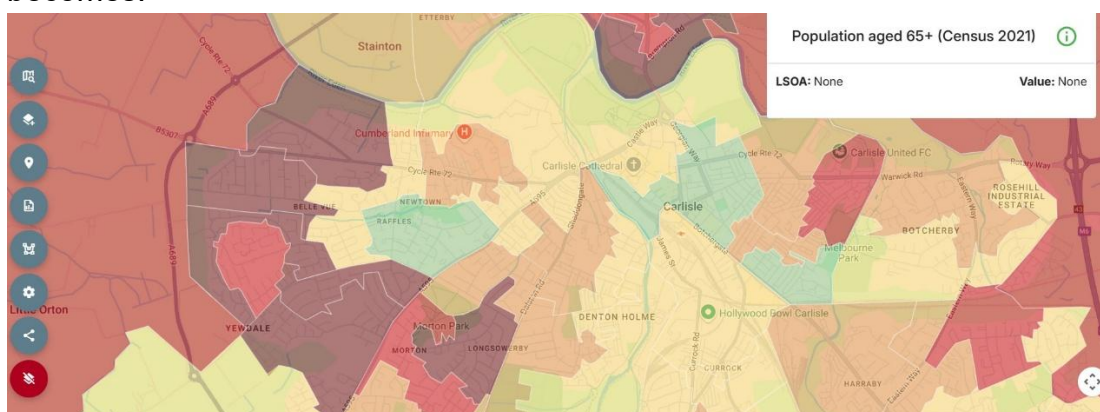
Under the draft warding arrangement, the Raffles area is divided across three wards: Morton West, Sandsfield, and Belle Vue. We believe this fragmentation

poses challenges to democratic accountability, particularly as the placemaking programme would benefit from being administered across no more than one or two wards. A revised warding layout that unifies the Raffles area would be more appropriate and responsive to current policy developments.

2. Differences in Locality and LSOA Data

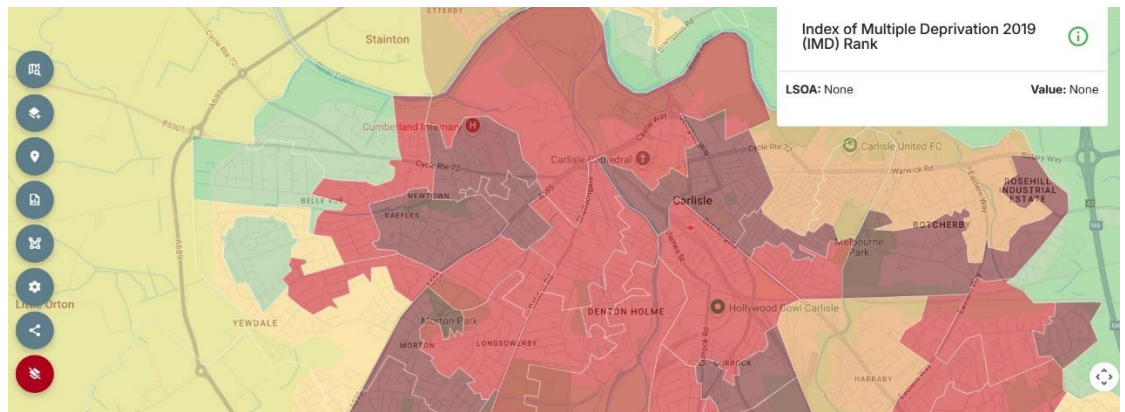
Among responses to the draft consultation, one submission from a former Labour Councillor for the Castle ward highlighted the value of warding patterns being informed by Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) data. Such patterns help to group communities with comparable social needs and perspectives, helping to bring about better representation and cohesion. We share concerns that the current draft combines areas with markedly different LSOA characteristics, particularly in the Belle Vue and Sandsfield wards. While full alignment with LSOA data may be impractical in every ward, Belle Vue and Sandsfield present an opportunity to create two wards with a stronger internal linkage through LSOA data than those proposed in the draft. Below, we outline four examples of statistical divergence that illustrate this issue - though many more instances exist.

- i. Age – The further west you travel the older the average population becomes.



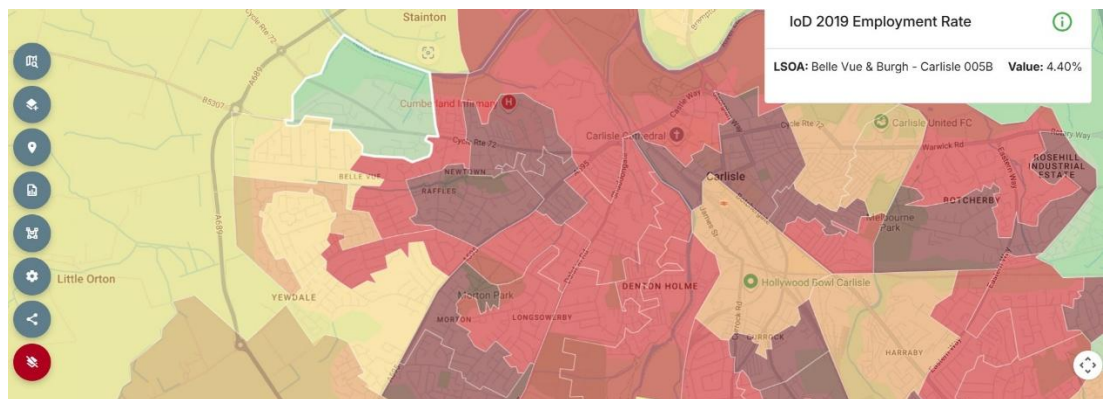
Source: Local Insights – redder is older (above 25% of the local population)

- ii. IOS Deprivation ranking – The inner Carlisle area has a higher level of associated social needs as opposed to the outer edge of western Carlisle.



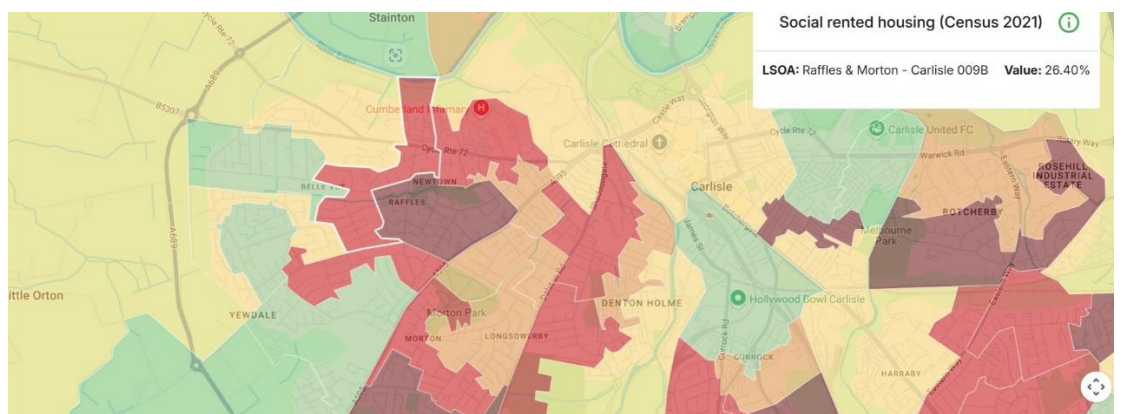
Source: Local Insights – the redder the increased level.

- iii. Employment Rates - there are contrasting levels of employment across the west of Carlisle.



Source: Local Insights – greener areas have higher levels of employment, with redder areas having higher levels of unemployment

- iv. Social rent v. house ownership - the area has differing levels of social housing as result of the historic development of Carlisle, with the inner core having a higher level, the outer rim being more owner-occupier led.



Source: Local Insights – greener and yellow are higher areas of home ownership with orange and red having higher levels of housing association properties.

3. Newtown Road:-

While we accept the consultation's reasoning that the Cumberland Infirmary should be situated outside of the Castle ward, although there was an absence of supporting evidence from those who made that submission, we wish to raise a concern regarding the current boundary of the Belle Vue ward. As presently drawn in the draft proposals, this boundary excludes Newtown School from the ward that contains the wider Newtown area, despite the school traditionally serving that community. Similarly, other local features such as the convenience shop on Newtown Road/Shadygrove Road junction are also positioned outside the proposed ward, despite their close geographical and functional association with Newtown.

We believe that a degree of flexibility in relation to polling district boundaries in this area would allow for a better-aligned warding arrangement. Such a revision would more accurately reflect the cohesive nature of Newtown and ensure that key community assets are included within the ward that represents the area they predominantly serve.

Proposed revision to the draft.

Rather than maintaining the current east–west orientation of the proposed Sandsfield and Belle Vue wards, we propose an alternative arrangement that reflects more meaningful community linkages. Specifically, we recommend the creation of two new wards:

- **Belle Vue and Sandsfield Park**
- **Newtown and Raffles**

These would be arranged along a broadly north–south divide. Additionally, we suggest reallocating the Raffles portion of Morton West into the proposed *Newtown and Raffles* ward. However, the Morton West area encompassing Dunmail Drive and Eskdale Drive should remain in Morton West, due to the clear road connectivity to Wigton Road at the Orton Road junction. Likewise the parade of shops located at the road junction will be used by residents of both areas.

Proposed Boundaries

Belle Vue and Sandsfield Park would include:

- Polling districts: CA_LF, CA_LG, and CA_LA
- A portion of CA_KK (excluding Low Meadow, Heysham Gardens, and Heysham Meadow, which would be reassigned to *Newtown and Raffles*)
- A segment of CA_KF, incorporating:

- Berkley Grange
- Lauden Terrace
- Archers Garth
- Newtown Road (properties numbered 180–228, both odd and even)

Newtown and Raffles would comprise:

- Polling districts: CA_KK, CA_KA, CA_KJ, and the majority of CA_KF and CA_KH
- The portion of CA_DJ included in the draft proposal.
- A small area transferred from CA_KK
- Nearly all of CA_KG (with the Raffles section previously allocated to Morton West)
 - *Exception:* Partridge Place and properties facing Wigton Road would remain in Morton West to preserve a logical road linkage connecting CA_KD with the rest of Morton West

Proposed population of wards:

Draft Ward	Proposed Ward	2030 population	2030 % Variance
Sandsfield		4027	3
	Belle Vue and Sandsfield Park	4357	11
Belle Vue		3830	-2
	Newtown and Raffles	3808	-2
Morton West		4177	7
	Morton West	3879	0

While the proposed changes do alter electoral equality - bringing the Belle Vue and Sandsfield Park ward to approximately **11% above the equity baseline** - the adjacent Raffles and Morton areas would maintain an electoral equality level of **-2%**, consistent with current figures displayed by other wards in the draft proposal. Notably, the impact on **Morton West** would be to bring its variance closer to parity, thereby placing it in a stronger position to accommodate long-term planned housing developments east of the Carlisle Northern Bypass.

1. Belle Vue and Sandsfield Park Ward

The proposed Belle Vue and Sandsfield Park ward encompasses the far western portion of urban Carlisle and represents a departure from the draft configuration. This revision offers several tangible benefits:

- **Community Cohesion:** Incorporates two key local primary schools: **Yewdale** and **Belle Vue** each serving as focal points of the area.
- **Green Space Integration:** Includes the upper portion of **Heysham Park**, which is traversed by multiple community footpaths.
- **Infrastructure and Connectivity:** Road access is provided via both **Sandsfield Lane** and the **Carlisle Northern Bypass**, which also acts as the ward's western boundary.

This ward proposal includes the following polling districts (full list to follow once specified):

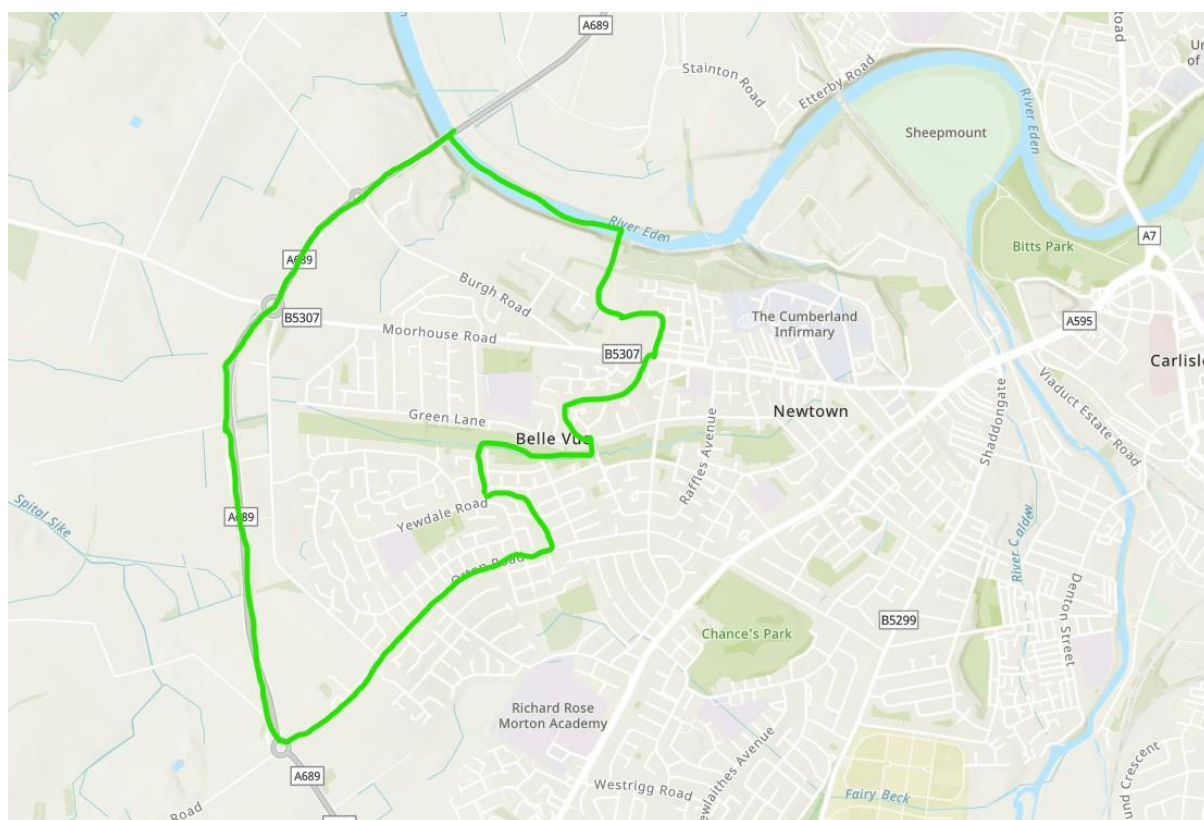
- CA_LF
- CA_LG
- CA_LA
- [Portions of] CA_KK and CA_KF (as outlined in the prior section)

Polling District	2030 population est
CA_LF	829
CA_LG	862
CA_LA	1011
CA_LB	1123
Subtotal	3,825

In addition it picks up the following streets from parts of the following poling districts:-

Polling District	Street Name	Estimated population
CA_KK	(plus) High Meadow and Green Lane portion	220
CA_KK	(plus) Berkeley Grange	197
CA_KF	(plus) Lauden Terrace	5
CA_KF	(plus) Newtown Road 180-228	84
CA_KF	(plus) Archers Garth	16
Subtotal		522
TOTAL	BELLE VUE AND SANDSFIELD PARK	4,347 +11%

Indicative Map of Belle Vue and Sandsfield Park ward



2. Newtown and Raffles Ward

The proposed *Newtown and Raffles* ward would occupy the area situated between *Belle Vue and Sandsfield Park* and *Castle* ward. This reconfiguration expands the ward boundary to incorporate the entirety of the Raffles neighbourhood - excluding *Partridge Place* and properties along *Orton Road* - which, under the draft arrangement, would otherwise be divided across three separate wards.

The inclusion of the **Cumberland Infirmary** aligns with recommendations received during consultation to position it outside the *Castle* ward. In addition, the proposed ward encompasses **two primary schools** serving the locality and includes a **portion of Heysham Park**, a key greenspace that enhances community connectivity.

The *Newtown and Raffles* ward would include the following polling districts:

- CA_KK
- CA_KA
- CA_KJ
- The majority of CA_KF
- CA_KH
- Nearly all of CA_KG (excluding Partridge Place and properties fronting Orton Road)

- The relevant section of CA_DJ allocated in the draft.
- A small area transferred from CA_KK

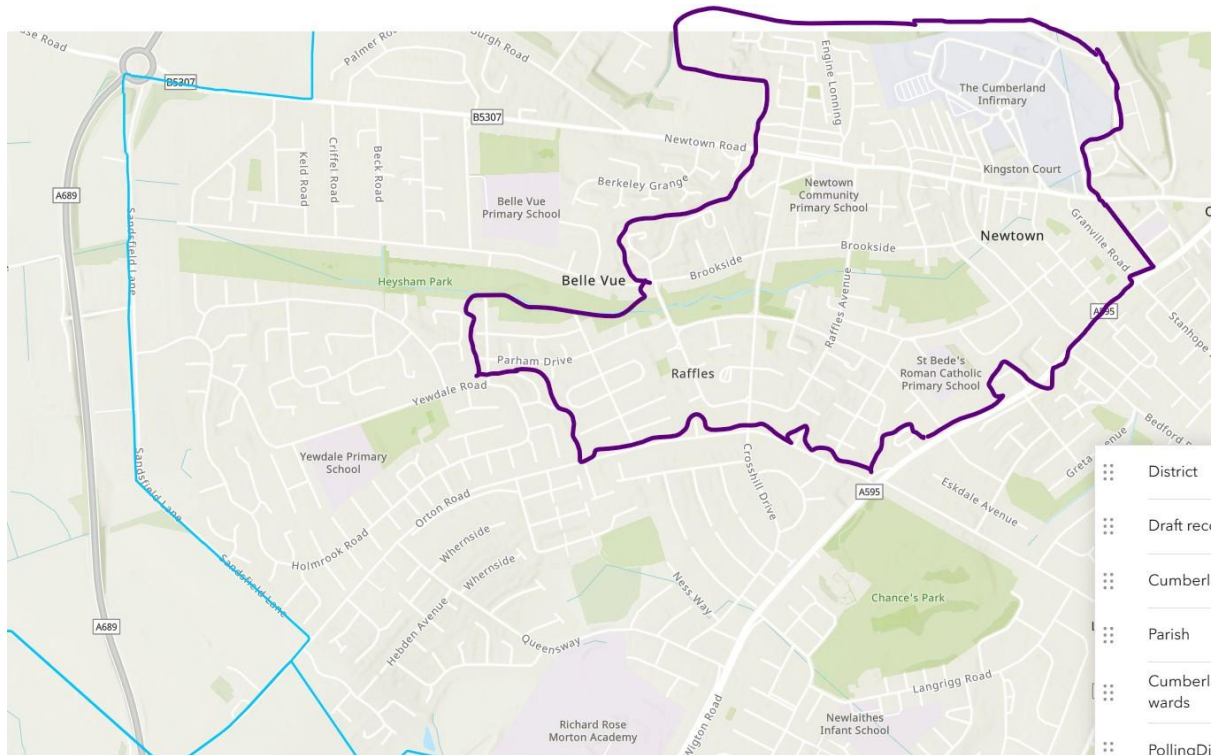
This revised configuration better reflects cohesive community boundaries, supports ongoing regeneration efforts, and enhances local representation through greater alignment of social infrastructure and service areas.

Polling District	2030 population est
Draft Belle Vue ward	3830
Plus Draft Sandsfield	4027
Minus Proposed Belle Vue and Sandsfield Park	-4347
Subtotal remaining to form Newtown and Raffles	3510

In addition it picks up the following streets from parts of the following polling districts which formed a part of the Morton West draft proposal:-

Polling District	Street Name	Estimated population
CA_KG	(plus) Balfour Road	68
CA_KG	(plus) Dalton Crescent	46
CA_KG	(plus) Dalton Avenue	107
CA_KG	(plus) Pillar Close	13
CA_KG	(plus) Latrigg Road	34
CA_KG	(plus) part of Raffles Avenue.	30
Subtotal		298
TOTAL	Newtown and Raffles	3808 -2.3%

Indicative map of Newtown and Raffles ward



3. Morton West:

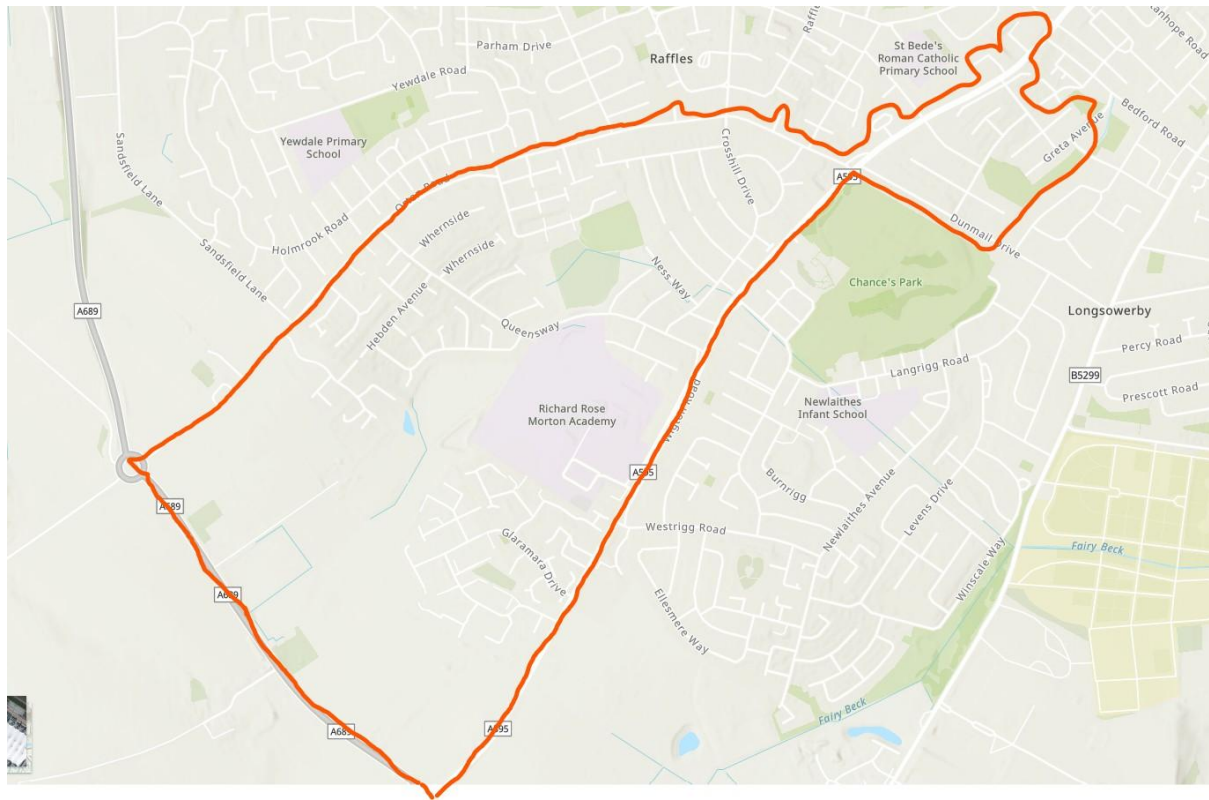
This proposal involves a relatively modest adjustment to the existing Morton West ward boundaries. Specifically, it transfers the portion of the ward containing several streets from the *Raffles* area into the newly proposed *Newtown and Raffles* ward. This reallocation represents a net movement of **298 electors**, reducing Morton West's electorate to approximately **3,879**, which is very close to electoral parity. The adjustment would enhance the administrative coherence of the **Raffles Community Plan**, allowing the initiative to be delivered within a single council ward. Such alignment is likely to improve coordination between stakeholders and facilitate democratic accountability.

We recommend retaining the **CA_KD polling district** within Morton West. This area shares tangible community features with Morton West, including:

- A parade of local shops and essential services
- The junction at **Orton Road**, which serves as a connecting thoroughfare between the two areas.

Given these linkages, retaining CA_KD within Morton West - even though it sits on the opposite side of **Wigton Road** - would be both practical and contextually appropriate. It reflects the lived experience of residents and supports a more logically configured ward structure.

Indicative Map of Morton West ward



Advantages of the Revised Warding Arrangement

The proposed warding revisions for west Carlisle would yield clear benefits across several key areas:

1. **Strengthening the Raffles Community Plan:** The revised configuration enables the delivery of Cumberland Council's newly announced policy for the *Raffles* neighbourhood within a single council ward. Under the draft arrangement, the area would have been fragmented across three wards, posing coordination and accountability challenges. The updated alignment supports coherent policy implementation and long-term community planning.
2. **Enhanced Community Cohesion:** The new arrangement unites distinct neighbourhoods - *Newtown*, *Raffles*, *Belle Vue*, and *Sandsfield Park* – within two well-defined wards. This contrasts with the draft proposal, which divided each area across multiple wards, making them less identifiable and potentially diluting identifiable community areas. The revised boundaries offer clearer ward identities and improve democratic accountability.
3. **Electoral Equality Maintained:** Although *Belle Vue* and *Sandsfield Park* exceeds the electoral baseline by approximately 11%, this variance is manageable due to the limited scope for future residential development in the area by 2030. In contrast, areas such as *Morton West* are much more likely to

experience greater growth through housing development up to 2030. The revised figures remain consistent with the 2030 projections and provide a stable foundation for electoral parity.

4. Consistent Use of the Carlisle Northern Bypass as a Boundary: The proposal reflects feedback from several consultees, including *Beaumont Parish Council*, who advocated for the Northern Bypass to be adopted as a logical boundary marker. This approach mirrors the treatment of boundaries in *Morton West* and *Morton East*, promoting a uniform and recognisable warding framework across the region.
5. Improved Reflection of Social Needs and Service Delivery: The revised wards better align with local social dynamics and priorities. By creating more coherent communities with shared service infrastructure and demographic characteristics, the new layout enables council services to be tailored more effectively to community needs - something less achievable under the draft configuration.

Proposed changes to the Carlisle boundaries.

Harraby East and Harraby West

Area of focus - Harraby West and Harraby East

Summary of concerns

1. Lack of identifiable boundaries and community commonality

Within the draft report, the LGBCE based the proposal on an altered version of the Council's submission, outlining that it felt that Petteril Bank looked east rather than to the west. Our view is that there is a warding pattern which could however better reflect community, make use of identifiable features of the ward as boundary points, whilst retaining a degree of electoral equality.

We consider that if implemented a boundary line that swings either side of London Road would be less clear than having a boundary that continues to firmly use London Road as a long-established boundary. Relocation of the Hopes Hill Drive area and its neighbouring streets was not evidenced by the Council in its proposal and we dispute that there is much commonality between these areas with other parts of the Harraby West ward, for example CA_BG having a significant portion of 19th century terraced housing, which CA_HC does not, as 1960's/70's overspill development. Likewise a significant portion of pupils in this polling district attend Pennine Way School, which is separated by the draft polling proposals from the area it serves. We also feel that the Council's proposal doesn't reflect very well the large area of community space known as the [Harraby Campus](#) (a sports and community area), which could be better utilised as a point within the draft warding arrangement.

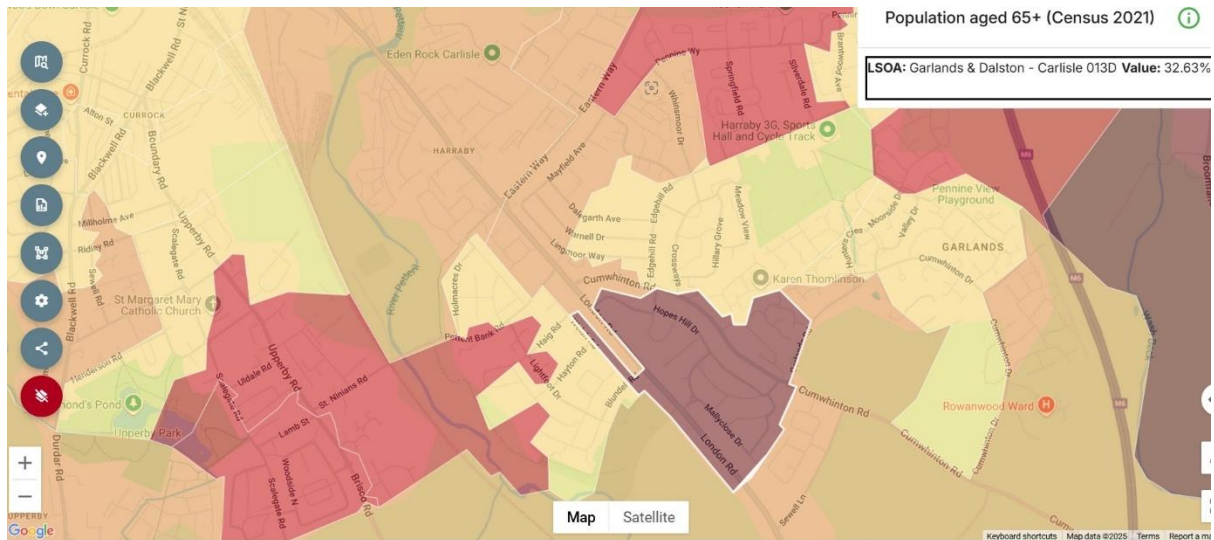
We also feel that there is very little in common that the new-build Speckled Wood development would have in relation to much of north Harraby and Petteril Bank, but which has under the draft proposal been allocated into the same ward.

2. Local demographic data:

Using local data to assess the community areas within the wards, it is noticeable that the CA_HC polling area (Hopes Hill Drive and nearby streets) in several of the comparisons would be very much an outlier under the draft proposals. Examples of these demographic variances are:-

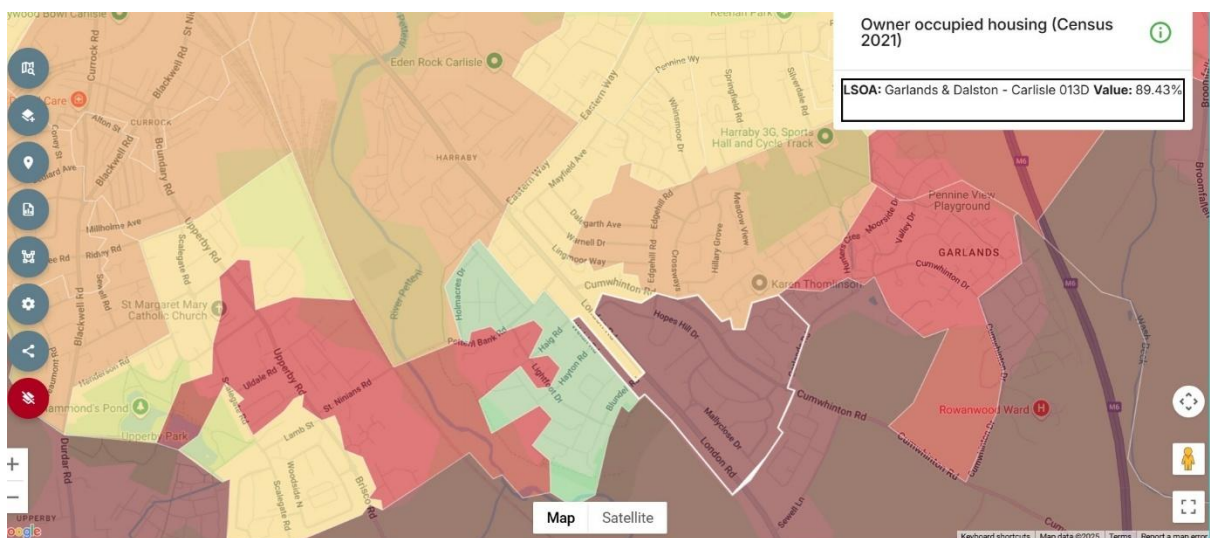
Age:

The Hopes Hill Drive area has a much older profile (at 32% over 65yrs) than the surrounding areas with Petteril Bank coming in at 12.98% over 65yrs.



Source: Local Insights – redder equals an older demographic

House Ownership:

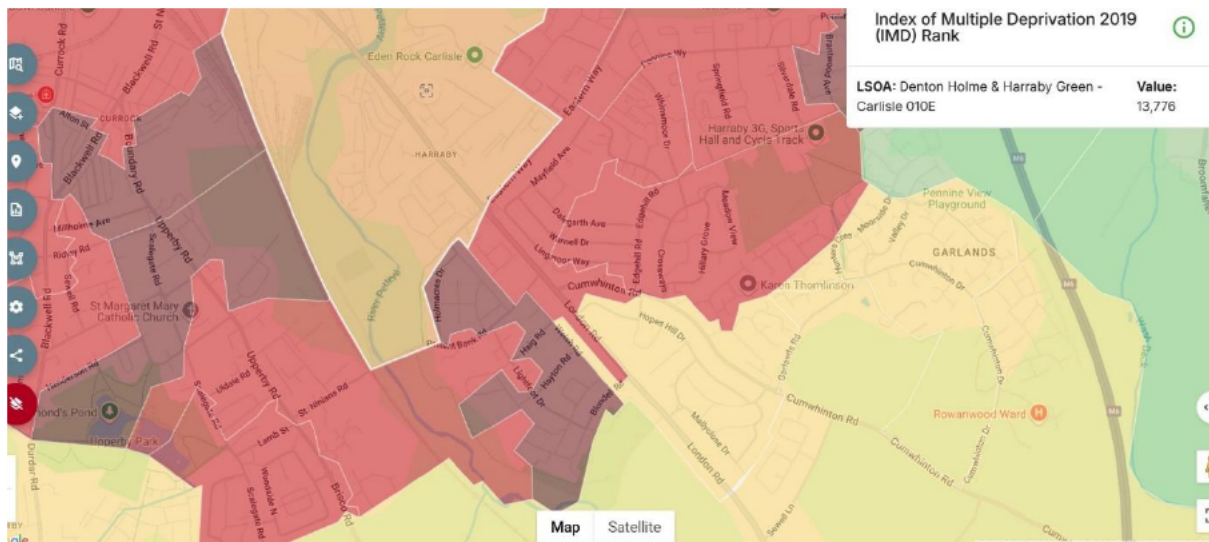


Source: Local Insights – Green equals low rates of home ownership, darker purple higher rates of home owners (over 75%)

In terms of house-ownership the Hopes Hill Drive area and Petteril Bank are at two ends of the scale with the former having ownership at 89%, double the level in Petteril Bank.

Levels of IOS Deprivation:

The outlined the screenshot overleaf highlights the Petteril Bank area is within the highest 20% (ranking 1,157). The Hopes Hill area has a ranking (at 24,300) which is much similar to the surrounding area to the east.



(Source: Local Insights)

In summary, whilst we recognise the Council's Harraby proposals was the 'last proposal standing' after the after the draft Liberal Democrat and Conservative proposals were ruled out by default in the draft consultation, it does not in our view though represent the optimal arrangement which could have occurred.

Proposed revision to the draft.

Summary: Our proposal reverts Harraby to a North/South warding arrangement, by moving three streets from the St Cuthbert's into the reallocated Harraby South. This allows for a realignment of the warding arrangement which will retain a Harraby South Ward, with the Harraby Campus at its core, and which has a clearer warding boundary and a Harraby North and Petteril Bank ward which has clear access point onto London Road.

Proposed population of wards:

Draft Ward	Proposed Ward	2030 population	2030 % Variance
Harraby West		3682	-6
	Harraby North and Petteril Bank	3758	-4
Harraby East		3502	-10
	Harraby South	3748	-4
St Cuthbert's		3619	-7
	St Cuthbert's	3194	-18

Proposed revised wards:

1. Harraby North and Petteril Bank

This ward is formed from the traditional Harraby North ward but swaps out the two polling districts around the Harraby Campus that border Harraby South, with the Petteril Bank area, moving the boundary line for clarity from Welsh Road to London Road. It also adopts all Linden Terrace rather than have a boundary line in the middle of the street.

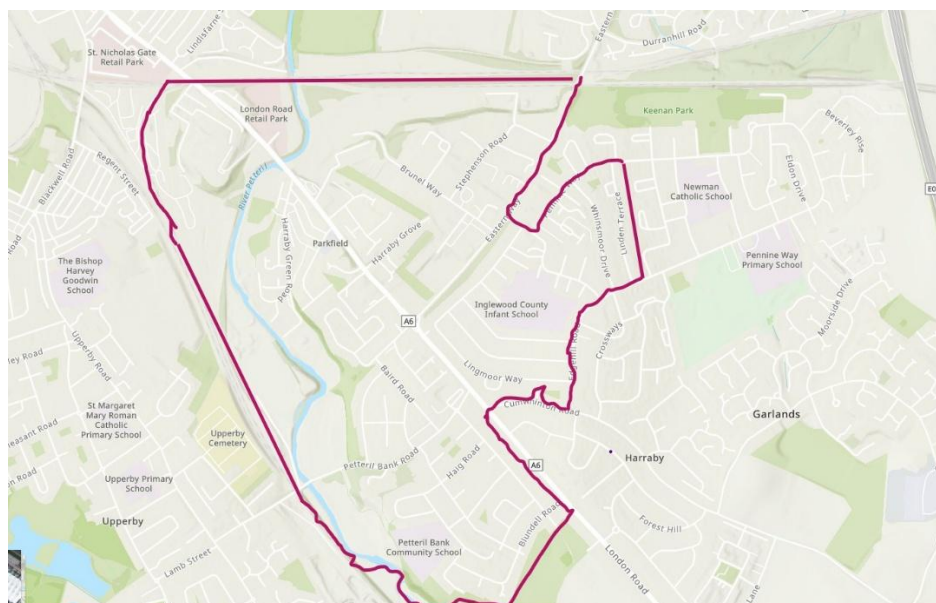
It contains all of the following polling districts:

Polling District	2030 population est
CA_DM	166
CA_BG	999
CA_HF	701
CA_HE	497
CA_HA	1243
Subtotal	3606

In addition it picks up the following streets from parts of the following polling districts:-

Polling District	Street Name	Estimated population
CA_BE	(plus part of) Linden Terrace	64
CA_HE	(plus part of) Welsh Road	88
TOTAL	HARRABY NORTH AND PETTERIL BANK	3758 -3.64%

Indicative map of Harraby North and Petteril Bank



Harraby South

This ward is formed from the traditional Harraby South, but after seeing Petteril Bank located into Harraby North and Petteril Bank it picks up the area that surrounds the Harraby Campus. This provides an anchor point to the ward. It also picks up a small area of the Garlands estate nearest to Blackburn Drive and Longholme Road. The boundary line then moves to be the footpath access to Harraby Campus at What Three Words location [///beard.oldest.guess](#). This provides a visual boundary line.

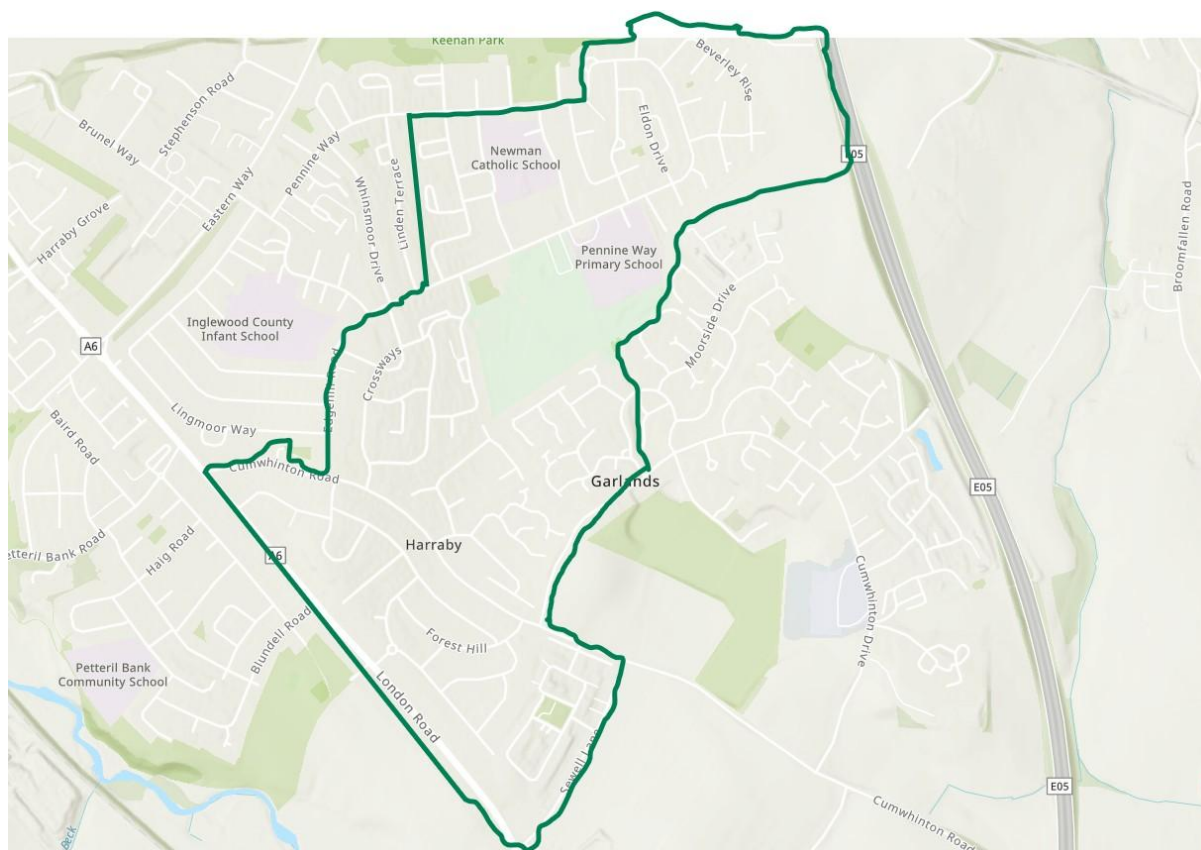
It contains all of the following polling districts:

Polling District	2030 population est
CA_BF	720
CA_HB	591
CA_HD	410
CA_HJ	305
Subtotal	2026

In addition it picks up the following streets from parts of the following polling districts:-

Polling District	Street Name	Estimated population
CA_BE	Remaining portion of polling district not already allocated to Botcherby and Kennan Park and moving part of Linden Terrance to Harraby North and Petteril Bank	325
CA_HC	Remaining polling district minus part of Welsh Road	972
CA_HG	(plus) Dalesman Drive	131
CA_HG	(plus) Longmans Close	43
CA_HG	(plus) Watermans Walk	220
CA_HG	(plus) Properties on Garlands Road	31
TOTAL	HARRABY SOUTH	3748 -3.89%

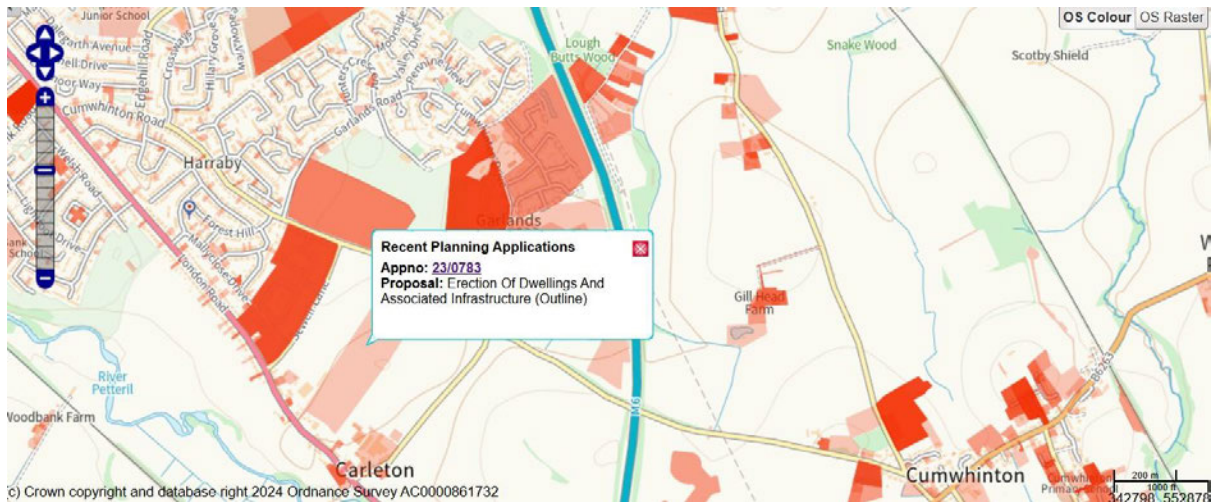
Indicative map of Harraby South ward



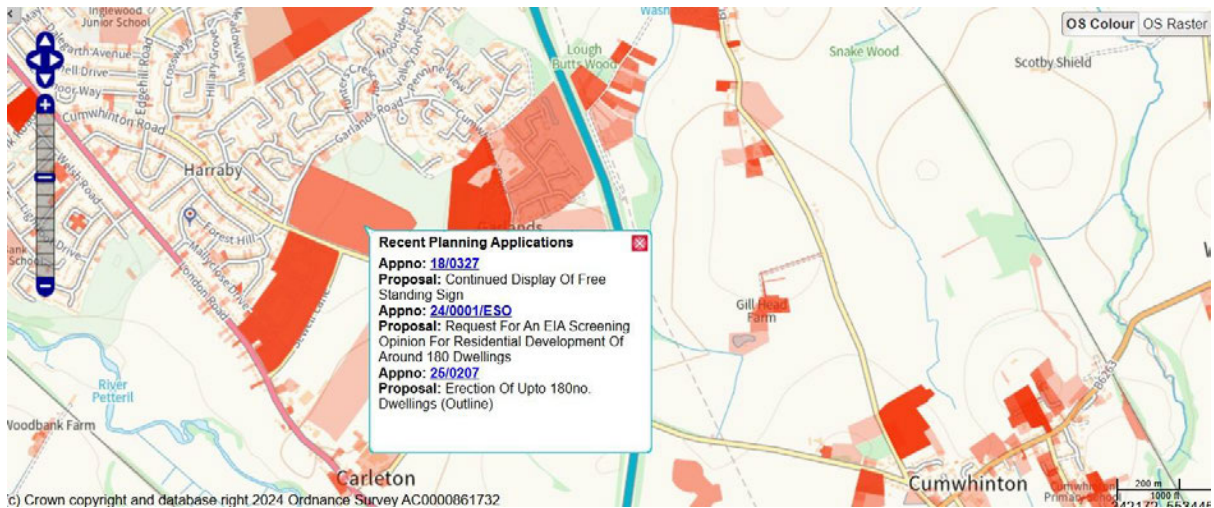
St Cuthbert's

The change to St Cuthbert's is the reallocation of Dalesman Drive, Longmans Close, Watermans's Walk and small number of properties on Garlands Road. This amounts to 425 electors and will increase the variance to -18%. Normally we would consider a variance of -18% as problematic. However, due to unique series of housing developments in this ward, infilling the area by the Rugby Club, we believe this variance will rapidly decrease in the period between 2024 and 2030, and will further decrease after 2030. We recognise that the LGBCE operate to a 2030 timescale, however we anticipate such a level of housing development, that it likely that by the next review the ward will be oversized, to the extent that further rewarding is required.

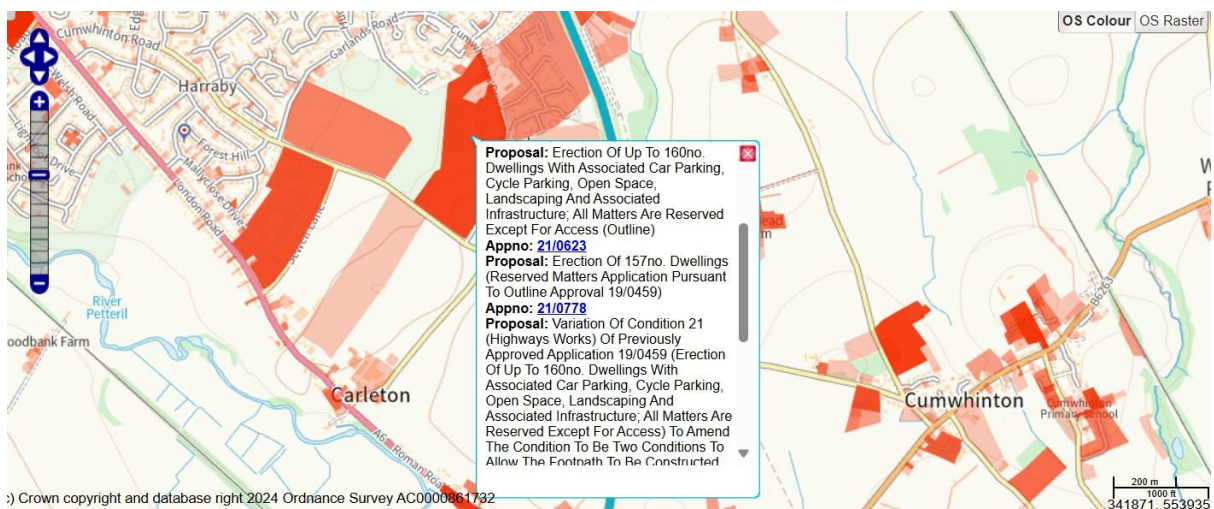
Presently as can be seen in the screen shots below, there are 3 sizeable planning allocations submitted for the area. Currently in total, the three sites total 508 dwellings. Presuming that an average of 1.8 electors per property this will raise the population by 914 electors, well above the estimate contained in the draft report.



Planning application 23/0783 – in the planning process for 171 properties



Planning application 25/0207 - in the planning process for 180 properties (this was submitted during the LGBCE draft consultation process)



Planning application 21/0623 for 157 properties which has been approved pending nutrient neutrality agreement. This nutrient information has now been received in January 2025 and is awaiting a formal response.

Our view is that with the long term implementation of [the Garden Village project](#) and the development of these 3 sites in the shorter term will enable electoral parity to be quickly achieved in this ward. The diagram below is the Policy Map for the Carleton area of the Garden Village and allocates a total of 1,410 homes (estimated population 2,500):



[Local Plan Policy Map](#): N7 – the intention is have all sites developed within a 15-year window.



Screen Shot of the proposed new dividing boundary line between Harraby South and St Cuthberts – using the existing beck and footpath.

Advantages of the Revised Warding Arrangement: Harraby North, Harraby South, and St Cuthbert's

The proposed warding arrangement for these areas offers significant benefits, including alignment with strategic planning, improved electoral equality, clearer boundaries, and stronger community representation:

1. **Alignment with Development Trends and the Garden Village Initiative:** The proposal reflects emerging planning policy in south Carlisle, notably the **Garden Village Plan**, and integrates current planning applications already submitted for the **St Cuthbert's area**. This forward-looking alignment positions the warding structure to respond proactively to future development.
2. **Improved Electoral Equality:** The revised ward configuration places both **Harraby North and Petteril Bank** and **Harraby South** at a more balanced electoral variance of **-4%**, enhancing parity. While this adjustment temporarily increases the disparity in **St Cuthbert's**, it is expected to stabilise in the short term as development progresses bringing it back up to the 3,900 electorate that is considered ideal.
3. **Clearer and More Recognisable Boundaries:** The draft plan's use of less identifiable boundaries created confusion and administrative inefficiency. The revised arrangement makes more effective use of **London Road** as a ward boundary, offering a clearer, more intuitive division that supports both resident understanding and service delivery.
4. **Stronger Community Integration:** The changes enable the creation of a **Harraby South** ward focused around the **Harraby Campus**, which houses key community assets such as schools and leisure facilities. The revised

Harraby North and Petteril Bank ward ensures that **Petteril Bank** remains linked within a Harraby-based ward, an aspect previously cited by the LGBCE as important to maintaining community representation and identity.

Proposed changes to the Workington boundaries.

Workington South and Stainburn and Workington Central

Area of focus - Workington Central and Stainburn ward and Workington South ward

Summary of concerns – Workington Central and Stainburn

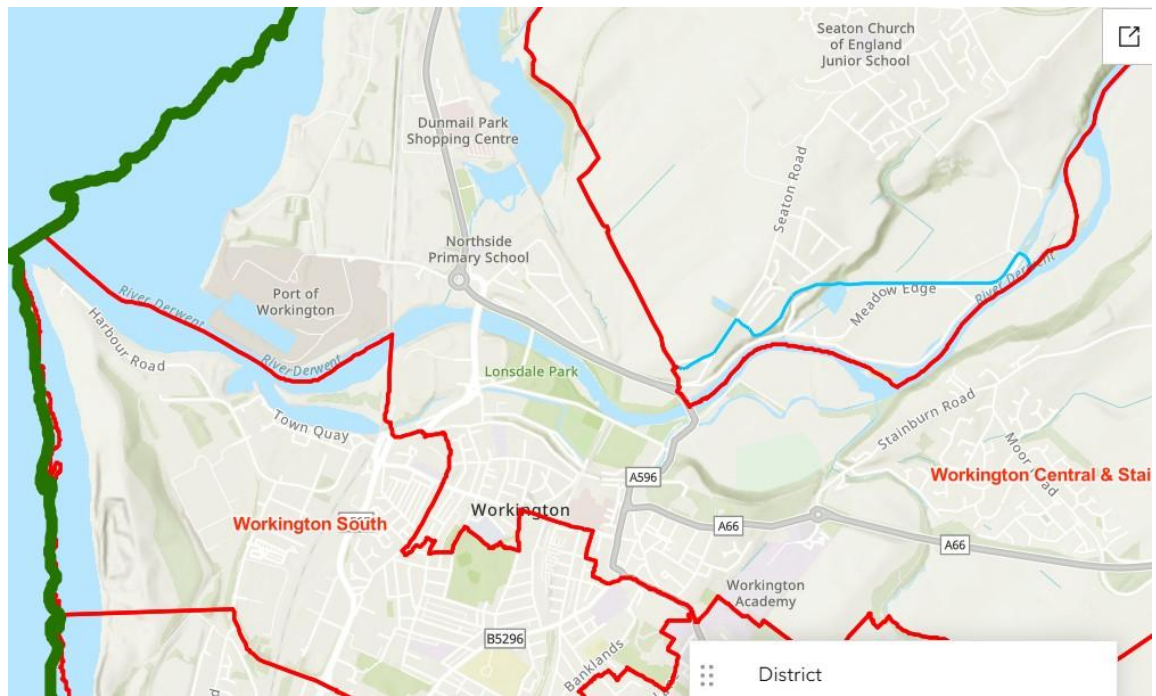
Our concern with the proposed Workington Central and Stainburn ward is two-fold.

1. Overstated communication links – The proposed division has little evidence behind it when proposed, stating briefly:

“...they are connected by a **footbridge, roads, bus and rail services** into the town centre, where people who live here work, shop and engage in leisure activities”.

Our contention is that this has inadvertently given the impression that there was an easy ability to access all points within this ward by road, rail or bus services with a suitable level of footpath access. It should be noted that there are in fact no rail services within this ward, with the main station being in Workington South and the next nearest being in Maryport South and Flimby both of which are some distance from the Stainburn area, Whilst the main bus station is within this ward, there is no direct service that link Northside to Stainburn, a change of bus would be required.

We would wish to highlight a mapping error that would seem to exist on the LGBCE website map. Whilst there is a footbridge at what-three-words location ///cherry.rates.lucky and a road bridge with pedestrian access at ///worry.glue.hurry there is no bridge access provision across Lonsdale Park. This error can be seen when comparing the map on the LGBCE website against a satellite map of the area as outlined overleaf.



LGBCE Map



Satellite photo of the area, highlighting no bridge over Lonsdale Park.

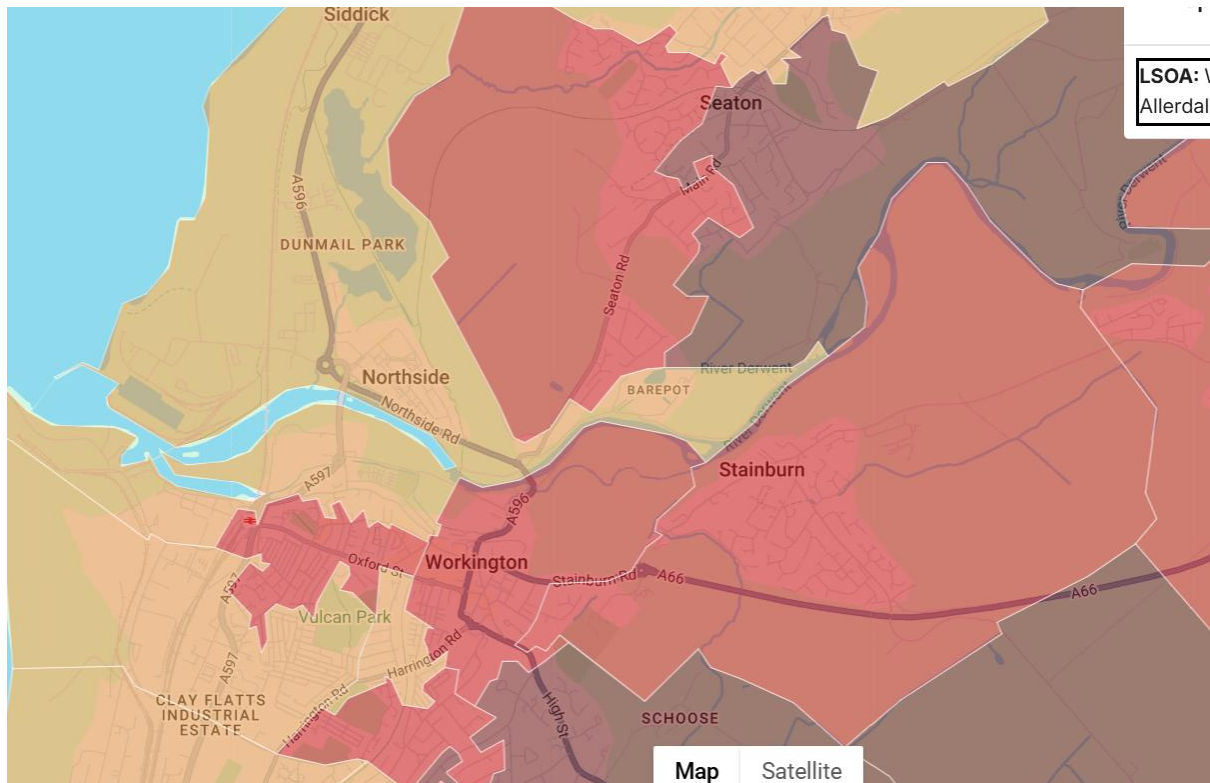
Lastly, in relation to footpaths, we would wish to point out that the road connection of the A596, has only one continuous footpath on one side of the road, between the junction of Northside Road and the Seaton roundabout. This can be seen in this screen shot of the road from what-three-words location

///nervy.curious.interlude.



2. Differences between Stainburn and Northside

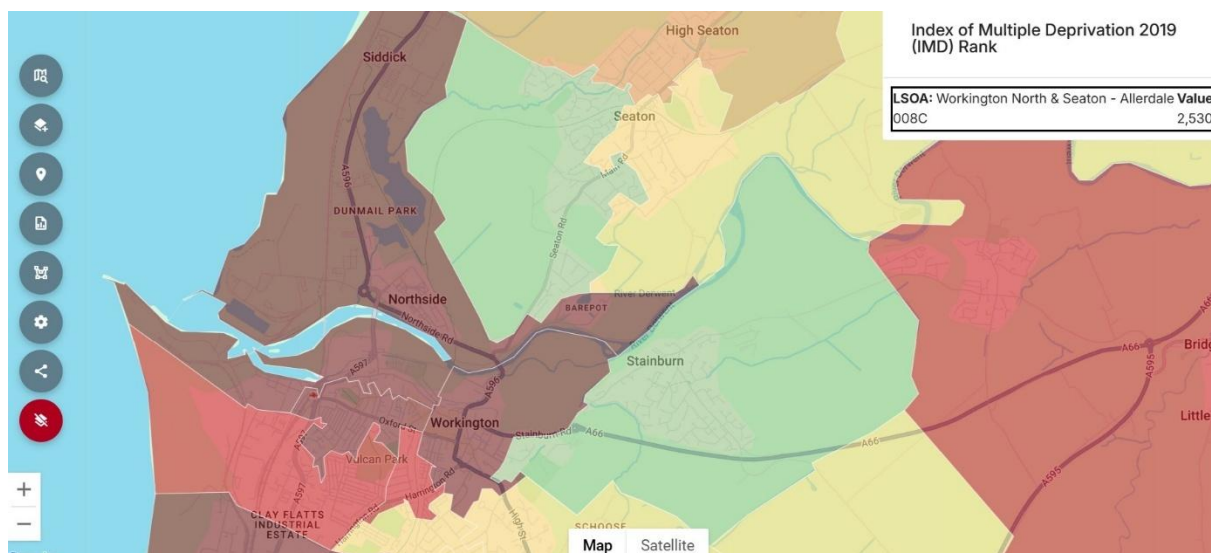
Northside and Stainburn are two significant settlements within this ward. Whilst we accept that neither is of the size on its own to form its own ward, we do believe that there is so little synergy between these two areas, that it undermines the draft warding proposal that was suggested to the LGBCE. Stainburn is an area of lower density housing, which has an increasingly older demographic than Northside, which can be seen in the table below. Stainburn having a 2021 census figure of 25.66% of the population above 65, Northside having 18.72%.



Population over 65 (the redder the higher)

The history of Northside relates to a large development of post-war housing, based on a one-way loop. This housing has transferred ownership to Castles and Coasts Housing Association who still have a strong presence in the area (44.73% of the properties are socially rented in the 2021 census). Stainburn and the Stainburn Road area has traditionally been owner-occupied housing at 88% in the 2021 census, which has expanded stages over the 1970's to the present day. As such they have little common history.

In terms of social need, the area surrounding Northside has significant areas of deprivation, which classify it as being within the highest quartile (for societal issues - The Indices of Deprivation 2019 are a relative measure of deprivation for small areas) at ranking 2,530 and Stainburn having a ranking of 26,564 -24,000 places lower.



Whilst within wards there will always be an element of differing social need, the extreme difference between these two areas is reflected across many areas some which are highlighted below:-

	Northside	Stainburn
Percentage of Household in fuel poverty	17.32%	5.16%
Households with no car	40.83%	8.76
Total jobs as a ratio of the working age population	2.13	0.32
IoD 2019 Health Deprivation and Disability Average rank	2,545	18,062
Prepayment electric meters per 1,000 people	204.91	27.66

Our concern is that in the draft warding arrangement there is little evidence outlining that Stainburn and Northside have commonality in issues and outlook and much evidence to highlight that this is not the case. In confirming the draft warding arrangement in this area, we would run the risk of masking the problems of Northside by linking them with a data source which is at the other end of the spectrum. It lacks the community development and linkage that one would expect to see in the draft proposal.

Summary of concerns – Workington South

Although Workington South is a more viable ward when considered as a single entity, a [recent policy](#) announcement in June by Cumberland Council in the relation to the redevelopment of Workington Port we feel merits the alternation of the boundary to better incorporate the economic and community influence of the port and the surrounding area. [The Port of Workington: Building the Future](#), outlines investment in port activities, including land remediation of the Oldside area

surrounding the Port, increasing its use as a logistics and manufacturing hub, and developing the energy potential of the site. In using the River Derwent as the boundary line between the two wards it is creating an issue in separating industrial land across two wards. Additionally with much of the economic interest in the area spread across two wards, it would appear that the inclusion of Stainburn in the same ward as the Port, where there is no ongoing relation would appear to have little merit.

Whilst Workington no longer has a steel making industry, the area surrounding the port and the former steel works has had a strong history of being tied together. The terraced properties of the areas around Vulcan Park (itself a nod to this history) housed many of the workers in compact terrace housing of the surrounding streets. This had lead to a strong historic community link between the former industrial areas of Workington, which can be evidenced today in local history such as the mining memorial site and through cultural areas [in plays such as Steel](#).

Proposed revision to the draft.

Summary: Our proposed revision to the draft is to form two wards out of the Workington South and Workington Central and Stainburn. These will be Workington Port and Stainburn and St Joseph's

Workington Port will take in both the area surrounding the Port including Northside, whilst retaining the area surrounding St Joseph's Catholic High School into Stainburn and St Joseph's. This revised area would also include Craig Road, Eldred Road and Ennerdale Avenue, from the Moorclose Ward. This would use Newlands Road as a boundary line, which is easily recognisable and less based on a polling district boundary. To compensate for a drop in population in Moorclose we would include the Winscales Parish within this area, as there is a strong existing connection with the A596 being the main road through both areas. Our proposal name for this ward is Moorclose and Winscales. This would reduce the population size of Moresby, Distington and Arcledon ward but would make it closer to the electoral equality.

Proposed population of wards:

Draft Ward	Proposed Ward	2030 population	2030 % Variance
Workington South		4073	4
	Workington Port	4089	4
Workington Central and Stainburn		3730	-3
	Stainburn and St Joseph's	3918	0
Moorclose		3785	-3

	Moorclose and Winscales	3665	-6
Moresby, Distington and Arcledon		4086	5
	Moresby, Distington and Arcledon	3910	0

Based on electoral registers from 1.11.2024 (closest to start of draft consultation)

Proposed revised wards:

1. Stainburn and St John's

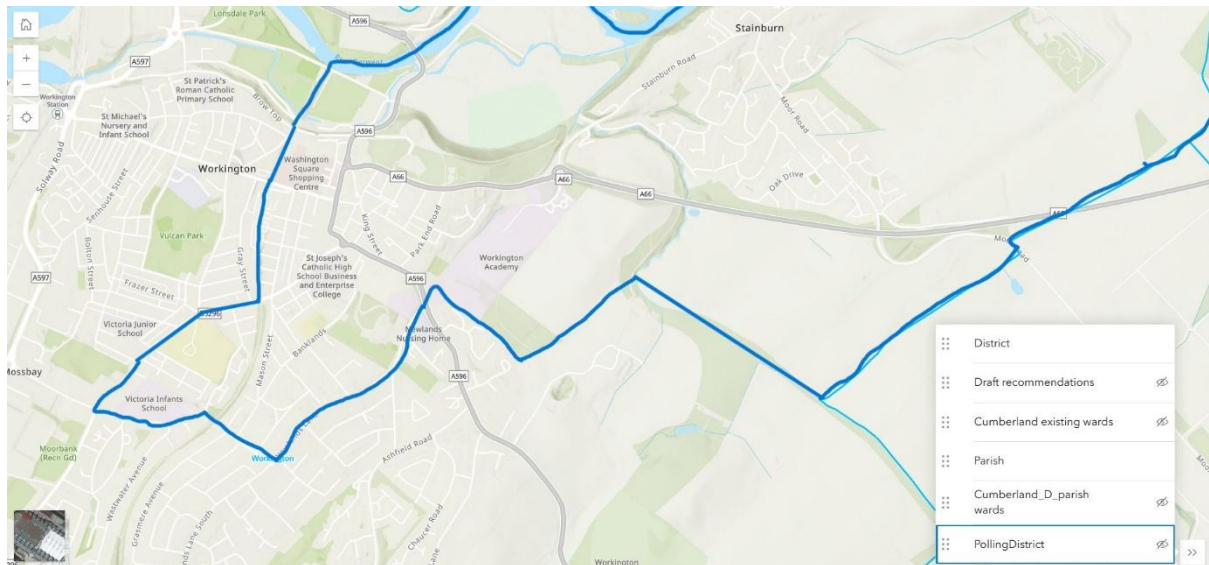
Stainburn and St John's is a ward which encompasses the centre of Workington and the area of Stainburn. It varies from the draft by picking up the area between Harrington Road and Newlands Lane around St Joseph's Secondary School and the area next to Harrington Cemetery, rather than moving across the River Derwent as outlined in the Draft to encompass Northside (which forms a part of the Workington Port proposal). It contains all of the following polling districts:

Polling District	2030 population est
AL_CW7	452
AL_CW2	454
AL_CW5	518
AL_CY2	107
AL_CY1	1,637
AL_CW4	299
Subtotal	3,467

In addition it picks up the following streets from parts of the following polling districts:-

Polling District	Street Name	Estimated population
AL_CW1	(plus) Ennerdale Avenue	86
AL_CW1	(plus) Craig Road	26
AL_CW1	(plus) Eldred Road	25
AL_CW1	(plus) Newlands Lane (1-83a and 2-82) both sides to the junction with Honister Drive and including Amatheia Care Home	159
AL_CW3	(plus) New Grove	8
AL_CW3	(plus) Between 84-149 Hartington Road	53
AL_CW3	(plus) Roseberry Street	10
AL_CW3	(plus) West Grove	8
AL_CW3	(plus) Infirmary Street	76

Subtotal		451
TOTAL	STAINBURN AND ST JOSEPH'S	3,981

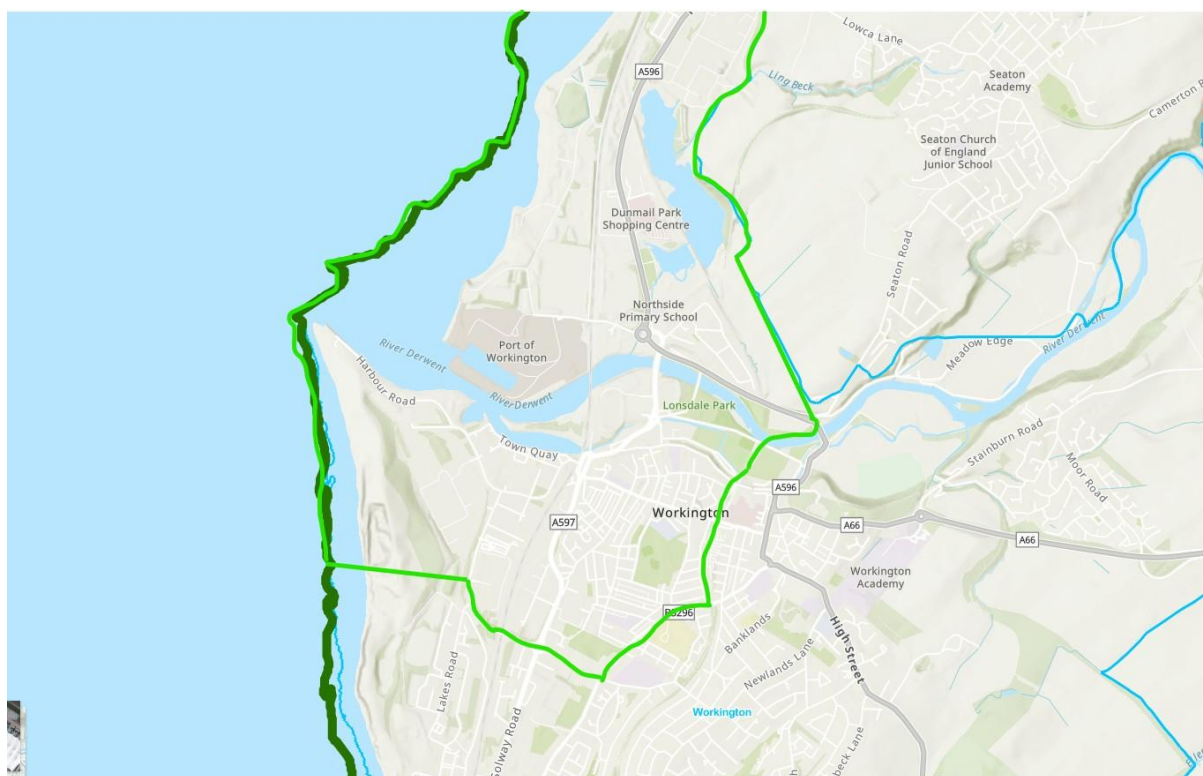


2. Workington Port

Polling District	2030 population est
AL_CX8	124
AL_CX6	512
AL_CX4	229
AL_CX1	591
AL_CX3	813
AL_CX2	682
AL_CX5	625
Subtotal	3,566

In addition it loses the following streets from AL_CW3 polling district as well as all of polling district AL_CW4.

Polling District	Street Name	Estimated population
AL_CW3	Polling District Size	678
AL_CW3	(minus) New Grove	-8
AL_CW3	(minus) between 84-149 Hartington Road	-53
AL_CW3	(minus) Roseberry Street	-10
AL_CW3	(minus) West Grove	-8
AL_CW3	(minus) Infirmary Street	-76
Subtotal		523
TOTAL	WORKINGTON PORT	4,089

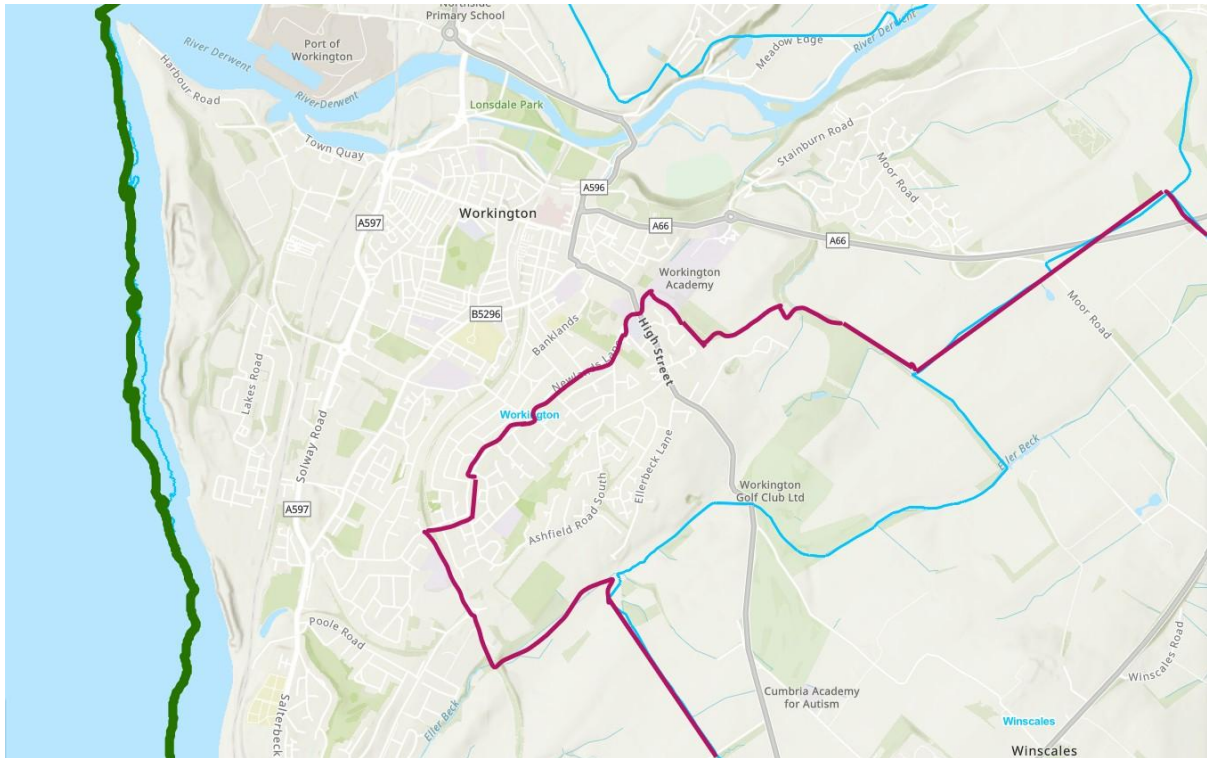


3. Moorclose and Winscales

Our proposed changes to this ward see the addition of the 176 electors from Winscales Parish to the area, as well as the relocation of 296 electors from the following streets into the Stainburn and St Joseph's ward. These changes are:-

	Draft Moorclose Ward	3,785
AL_CW1	(minus) Ennerdale Avenue	-86
AL_CW1	(minus) Craig Road	-26
AL_CW1	(minus) Eldred Road	-25
AL_CW1	(minus) Newlands Lane (1-83a and 2-82) both sides to the junction with Honister Drive and including Amatheia Care Home	-159
AL_CK	(plus) Winscales Parish	176
Subtotal		-120
TOTAL	MOORCLOSE AND WINSCALES	3,665

This will have the effect of reducing the electorate to 3,665 electors or -6% from electoral equality. This is the only change in the working area where electoral equality increases, however this is relatively marginal, and given the site also includes land which is in the process of development such as the former fire station site, it is likely that electoral parity would be brought back in to line by 2030.



The use of the junction of Honister Drive with Newlands Lane is also a clearer ward boundary than using the rear of the properties on Mason Road, which would be the case otherwise.

4. Moresby, Distington and Arcledon

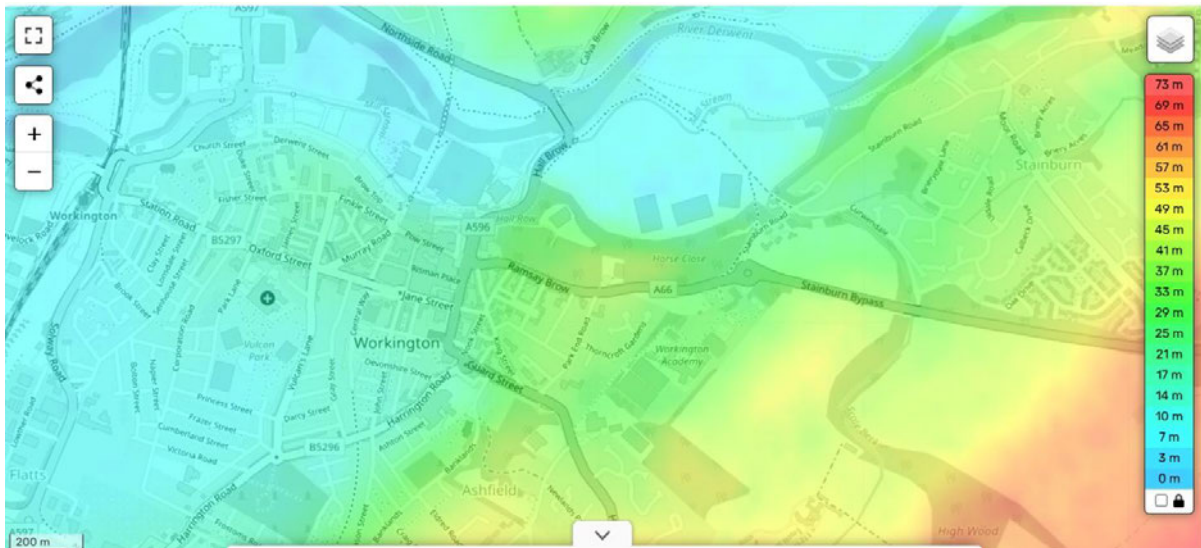
The proposed change is a relatively simple and minor one in removing the Winscales Parish from this area and placing it with the Moorclose division. This will result in the loss of 176 electors, which will move the Moresby, Distington and Arcledon seat closer to electoral equality of 3,910 electors which is 0.18% over the electoral equality figure.

Whilst Winscales is currently linked Harrington the increased population there precludes it from continuing unless the ward becomes 8.4% above the 3,900-electors threshold. Given the A596 is found both through Moorclose and Winscales and given the economic importance of the area to Workington as the site of the Lillyhall the Energy Coast building, the inclusion of the area with an area of Workington is a viable alternative option.

Advantages to the new warding arrangement.

In response to the draft warding plan, we respectfully submit the following revisions which we believe provide a more coherent and community-focused solution. These proposals offer improvements in strategic alignment, boundary clarity, and community representation:

1. **Creation of a Defined Workington Port Ward** The revised arrangement establishes a dedicated ward around the **Workington Port** area, identified by the Council as a key zone for **economic development**. This change better reflects shifting priorities in **planning and investment** targeting the **Oldside and Port** regions.
2. **Community Cohesion and Social Equity** Unlike the previous configuration, the new proposal avoids merging **distinct communities** - notably **Northside** and **Stainburn** at opposite ends of a single ward. This ensures that **Northside's social needs** are not diluted or overshadowed by contrasting demographic and socioeconomic data from Stainburn.
3. **Retention of Consistent Boundary Lines** While modest, the changes preserve the **core structure** of the ward boundaries laid out in the draft report. Notably, **Westfield** and **Harrington** remain unaffected, maintaining familiarity and continuity for residents. At the same time, the proposal avoids creating an **elongated Stainburn ward**, instead promoting a more logical and compact geography that prevents unnecessary sprawl from **coastline to eastern boundary**.
4. **Use of Recognisable Physical Boundaries** The ward divisions utilise established infrastructure such as the **B5296** and the **existing cycleway** near the location identified as *///dangerously.stocks.dunes* via What3Words. These landmarks serve as intuitive and navigable boundaries, aiding public understanding and administrative clarity.
5. **Respect for Local Topography** The proposal accounts for the **natural elevation** changes in the area, particularly where the **Workington Port boundary rises towards Stainburn and St Joseph's**. This topographical consideration lends further practicality and coherence to the ward demarcation.



6. **Preservation of Workington Community Hospital's Hinterland** The revised boundaries ensure that **Workington Community Hospital** is not separated from its **surrounding community**, addressing a concern noted in **paragraph 173** of the draft report regarding the positioning of ward lines in this area.
7. **Minimal Impact on Moorclose Ward** Adjustments to the **Moorclose ward** are modest and proportionate, ensuring a minimal population shift while preserving established community ties.
8. **Retention of Windscales Parish within Workington-Based Ward** The revised plan keeps **Windscales Parish**, which encompasses much of Workington's economic activity linked to **Lillyhall**, within a **Workington-centric ward**. This enhances representation of local economic interests and incidentally improves **electoral equality** for neighbouring areas such as **Moresby, Distington, and Arlecdon**.
9. **Sustained Connectivity in Workington Port Ward** The proposed **Workington Port ward** maintains strong physical connectivity to the rest of the town via **main roads**, a **pedestrian bridge**, and **shared footbridge access**, ensuring accessibility and coherence.

Observations on other wards

In general, with the exception of the three areas where we have proposed alternative warding arrangements, we are satisfied with the recommended warding across the remaining divisions. We would like to express our sincere thanks to the LGBCE and its officers for their diligent efforts, particularly in light of forthcoming local government reforms which are likely to increase the demand for boundary reviews.

We would, however, like to raise one observation regarding a specific area within Carlisle, where we anticipate a request for revision may come from [a unconnected third party](#). It has been suggested that the following streets -located off Junction Street and comprising predominantly terraced housing - should remain within Denton Holme rather than being reallocated to the Castle division:

Street	Estimated population
Lorne Street	44
Lorne Crescent	18
Randell Street	8
Sheffield Street	77
Charlotte Street	14
Nelson Bridge Court	14
Denton Street	10
Thomas Street	23
Lime Walk	20
Lime Street	24
Conisburgh Court	28
TOTAL	280

While we do not wish to pre-empt the rationale for this potential change, we note that maintaining these streets within Denton Holme is feasible, given their historic ties to the area. Incorporating them would adjust Denton Holme's electorate from 3,636 (-7%) to approximately 3,916 (0%), aligning closely with electoral equality targets.

However, this adjustment would reduce Castle's electorate to around 3,219 (-17%), which raises concerns given that much of the remaining land within Castle is either fully developed or lies within a floodplain, making future residential development unviable.

A possible solution involves transferring the CA_GG polling district - currently proposed for Morton East - into the Castle division. This would increase Castle's electorate to 3,652 (-6%) and help restore electoral balance.

Such a reallocation would be reasonable, as CA_GG lies within easy reach of the City Centre and adjacent polling districts, with comparable housing stock and shared access points. It would also provide long-term benefits for Morton East, which recently received final planning approval for over 400 new homes. Adjusting the boundary would shift it by approximately 450 metres to include Skiddaw Road and its connecting streets, which link onto Bedford Road.

We commend the LGBCE for moving Morton East's boundary to the bypass in anticipation of this project. However, adopting the Liberal Democrats' proposal has resulted in Morton East already being 7% above the electoral target. This proposal appears not to have accounted for the full extent [of development expected by 2030](#). According to recent media reports and [developer statements](#) (e.g., Persimmon), approximately 436 homes are anticipated to be completed by then, potentially generating an estimated 390 additional electors - a 10% increase.

Reassigning polling district CA_GG to Castle would allow Morton East to better accommodate this planned growth, reducing its electorate to around 3,744 (-4%) and maintaining alignment with electoral equity.

In summary the changes would be:-

Ward Name	Draft Plan population est 2030	Draft Plan % variance	Net change under proposal	Population estimated under the proposal	Population % variance
Denton Holme	3636	-7	+280	3,916	0
Castle	3499	-10	+153	3652	-6.3
Morton East	4177	+7	-433	3744	-4

Lowry Hill and Crindledyke

We have received a suggestion from a resident that the name **Kingstown** may be more suitable as name as Kingstown is a more general term that defines the area beyond Lowry Hill, and Kingstown Road is the main road through this ward. We have no objections to this and can see that this may be a potential alternative name.

Million Without

In proposing the alternative name **Black Combe and Scafell**, we should have added that this was the name given to the former Copeland Council ward which covered the same area ([page 28](#)) until 2023, therefore the name does have some recent historical usage.

Egremont

The warding size (at +18%) results in this being the largest ward by population in the Council. We have however, not sought to propose an alternative given that that creation of a single Egremont ward does recognise the community spirit deeply felt by several towns in the area.