

Cumberland

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Comment text:

Related subject: We mostly focussing on the former Carlisle and District

The response of the Carlisle and District branch of the Cumbria Green Party to this second consultation is attached.

Attached Documents:

- green-group-response-to-2nd-boundary-commission-consultation.docx

Response from Carlisle and District Greens to the 2nd Boundary Commission consultation

We support the response West Cumberland Greens have submitted to this review. We also have additional more detailed comments about the proposed changes to the wards in the former Carlisle City Council area.

Overall, we are supportive of the general warding and the changes in boundaries that are being suggested within urban Carlisle and the rural areas to the east of Carlisle. We strongly support the idea you propose of the whole of Brampton being in the one ward. And mostly across Carlisle the naming of the wards seems to be appropriate for the different communities that the wards are covering.

However, we are particularly concerned with some of the proposed boundaries in North Carlisle and the name “Lowry Hill and Crindledyke” for the northern ward. Our greatest concern is to see that some of the streets in the south east corner of Lowry Hill estate have been put into the proposed Stanwix West and Etterby ward. They are Moorville Drive South, Wentworth Drive, Troon Close and part of Moorville Drive.

These, as you will see from this map, are very much part of the Lowry Hill Estate, where residents are supported by the Lowry Hill Residents’ Association.

<https://www.lhra.org.uk/lowry-hill-map>

Moorville Drive is a key road into the Lowry Hill estate and residents living here face the same issues as all the other residents in Lowry Hill estate. Lowry Hill is a very distinct community in its own right. So, we would argue that all of Lowry Hill should be together.

In order to balance numbers for the different councillors and lose some residents from this ward to compensate for additional residents added by putting the missing houses in Lowry Hill into the ward there are a few places where changes to the boundaries could be made. This may cut across existing polling districts but, as we see from your report, that does not appear to be the priority of the Boundary Commission as the council will be able to rectify polling districts once the new ward boundaries are finalised.

The proposed Lowry Hill and Crindledyke ward appears to contain Reiver Court and the lower even numbers on Kingstown Road, south of Reiver court, ie. 22a – 42 (according to Google Maps). They are currently in Stanwix ward and we would see no issue with them continuing to be part of one of the new Stanwix wards. Given it looks like Stanwix West has the odd numbers on that lower bit of Kingstown Road, it would make sense that all of those houses are together, but equally they could be with the new Stanwix and

Houghton ward given the A7 seems to be a division the boundary commission is using here. The houses on the East Kingstown Road here have been in different wards from the rest of Belah since before Cumberland council came into existence.

Other places that numbers could be adjusted, are by losing the few properties to the north of the M6 and link them to the proposed Longtown ward and the community of Harker. They are linked by the A7 and the houses are more closely associated with the Harker area or the other houses around Harker Grange than they are with the estates to the south of the M6. They could be with the proposed Longtown or Irthing wards.

The other place where changes could be made, are by removing Jaysmith Close and Gosling Drive from the proposed Lowry Hill and Crindledyke ward and putting them with one of the new Stanwix wards, given they are currently in Stanwix ward and not in Belah. However, this does not make so much sense in terms of communities as they both come off Windsor Way and it would make sense that all the communities linked by Windsor Way are in the same ward.

The name for the proposed Lowry Hill & Crindledyke ward

The other issue with regards the proposed Lowry Hill & Crindledyke ward is its name. Further to communications with a selection of residents from across the area it has been suggested that by calling it by the names of two of the estates there are several other estates which the name does not encompass. However, the suggestions of “Kingstown” or “Kingstown & Crindledyke” have been suggested. A further suggestion of “The North of Carlisle” came from a couple of residents. The largest numbers of residents were supporting the name “Kingstown” for the ward. Although it is larger than the original Kingstown area, the estates have expanded the residential area in the region and do not have another collective name. Also, all the key estates in the proposed ward, except for Crindledyke, come off Kingstown Road.

Another issue we would question in the boundaries as proposed are, whether Dale Meadows would be part of Denton Holme ward, as you asked. Historically, the houses in that area on Dalston Road at the junction to Cummersdale Road, linked much more closely to Cummersdale because there were not the houses across the road. So, we would suggest it may be more appropriate that they sit either with Dalston and Cummersdale or Morton East as they are somewhat disconnected from the rest of Denton Holme ward. The best people to get opinions on this though would be the people who live there and finding out where they feel they associate with.