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Dear Sir/Madam

Please find attached the response from the Conservative Group, Stockton on Tees, borough Council, to the LGBCE draft recommendations.

Kindest Regards

Tony

Tony Riordan Conservative Group Leader Councillor for Norton West

Email : Tony.Riordan@stockton.gov.uk

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The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, Draft Recommendations.

Conservative Group Response.

The Conservative Group in Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) are grateful to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) for their draft recommendations for the future warding boundaries, and welcome them.

The Conservative Group recognise that the draft recommendations are based on the three statutory criteria of voter representation, community identification and promoting effective local government, and are therefore in broad agreement with them.

The Conservative Group agree in entirety the LGBCE draft recommendations for the following wards.

Norton North Norton Central Norton South Newtown Parkfield & Oxbridge Stockton Town Centre Fairfield South Hartburn Fairfield North & Elm Tree Hardwick & Bishopsgarth Roseworth Village Mandale & Victoria Stainsby Hill **Ingleby Barwick North Ingleby Barwick South** Yarm Southern Parishes Northern Parishes **Billingham North**

Billingham South Billingham East Billingham Central Billingham West & Wolviston

The Conservative Group would like to submit the following observations to assist further the LGBCE in their deliberations for the Eaglescliffe Wards. The proposed name changes are to better reflect the communities and also consider an improved balance of electoral representation.

Eaglescliffe East to be called Eaglescliffe East & Elton

2026 variance of LGBCE draft recommendation = -9% 2026 variance of the Conservative group proposal = -3%

- To improve electoral equality representation from -9% to -3%, the Conservative Group would like to propose including the whole of Elton Parish is included in the Eaglescliffe East Ward.
- Geographically, there is a clear link between Elton parish and the remainder of Eaglescliffe East as the Eastern border of Elton Parish is joined to Preston Parish.
- In terms of character, Elton is predominantly rural in nature, at least half of Preston Parish is the same. Elton Village also has many similarities to Egglescliffe Village in the South of the ward as they both have historic churches and are similar in size.
- Elton is linked to the remainder of the Ward via the A66. The car journey from Elton to Bowesfield, Preston and Egglescliffe is barely 5minutes. The journey to the most southern point of the ward isn't complicated as it is A66 (West to East) then Yarm Road (A135) North to South.
- It is likely that residents of Elton make the short car journey to the Bowesfield nature reserve and Preston Park for leisure. They are also likely to use Eaglescliffe train station, Eaglescliffe Medical Practice and possibly Teesside High or one of the three primary schools for their children's education. Therefore, we believe there is a clear link between the communities.

Eaglescliffe West to be called Eaglescliffe West & Long Newton

2026 variance of LGBCE draft recommendation = 6% 2026 variance of the Conservative group proposal = 1%

- Moving Elton into Eaglescliffe East also brings greater electoral equality in Eaglescliffe West, 1%. Which would be an improvement on the recommendation of 6%.
- The Conservative Group originally proposed that the population growth in the Ward will continue to exceed the forecast beyond 2026 due to the construction of the Allens West Logistics Centre development of 845 houses is fully realised. Therefore bringing the variance down from 6% is desirable in the long term.
- Long Newton has a link to Western part of the ward which continues to grow via a short car journey along Long Newton Lane and Urlay Nook Road. Furthermore, Long Newton has a rural character as does the Aislaby and Newsham Civil Parishes.

The attached maps highlight the proposed areas.

Councillor Tony Riordan

Conservative Group Leader

Stockton Borough Council



