

# Northumberland

## Personal Details:

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**Organisation Name:** Northumberland Conservative Association (Representative of a local organisation)

## Comment text:

**Related subject:** Blyth, Cramlington and Seaton Valley

Dear Commission,

Please find enclosed the submission from Northumberland Conservative Association to your consultation in respect of divisions relating to Blyth, Cramlington and Seaton Valley. A further submission will be made in respect of the the rest of the county.

Best regards,

## Attached Documents:

- NCA 1 of 2.pdf

# **Northumberland Conservative Association response to the electoral review of Northumberland**

## **Part 1 of 2**

### **Blyth, Cramlington and Seaton Valley**

**Note: Map Data contains Ordnance Survey and National Statistics Data, Crown Copyright.**

# Blyth, Cramlington and Seaton Valley

**Northumberland Conservatives accept in full the commissions proposed boundaries for the following:**

- Bebside\*
- Cowpen
- Cramlington Eastfield
- Cramlington North
- Cramlington North West
- Cramlington South West
- Cramlington Village
- Holywell
- Seghill with Seaton Delaval
- Wensleydale

\*we suggest this division is renamed.

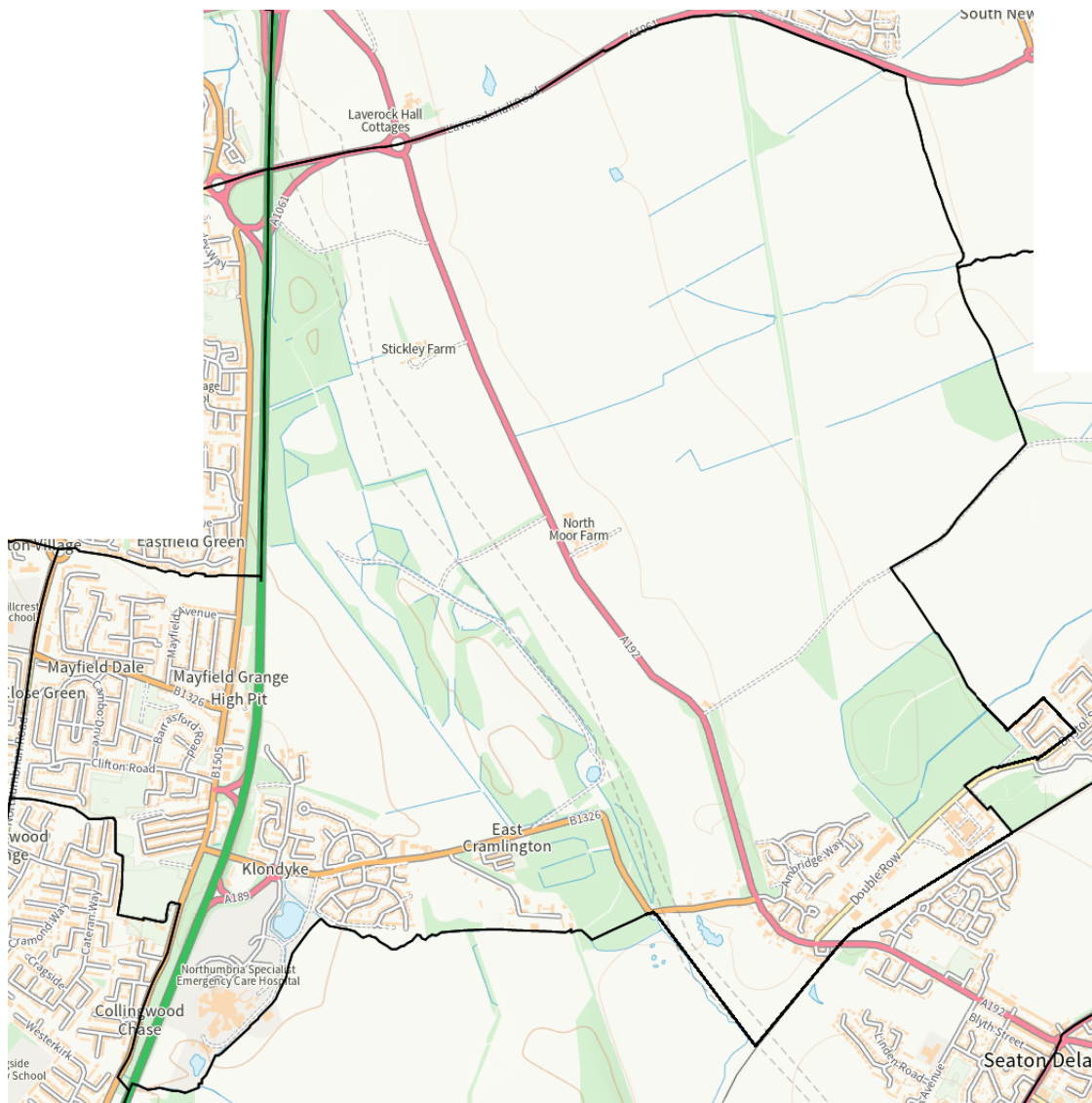
- Bebside and Kitty Brewster - We accept the commission's findings for Bebside division but would suggest this division is renamed as Bebside and Kitty Brewster to reflect the large part of the town of Blyth within this division alongside the smaller village of Bebside.
- Cowpen - We believe the commission's proposal unites more of the natural community ties in the Cowpen area of Blyth.
- Cramlington Eastfield - We think this area has strong boundaries which form a cohesive community and we therefore accept the commission's proposal to maintain this division.
- Cramlington North - we support the commission's proposal to maintain the boundaries with almost all the division linked to the Horton Drive link road in the area which we would not wish to split.
- Cramlington North West - we accept the proposal from the commission for this division. Whilst it is regrettable that the South West Sector housing development is split, the existing Fairways Estate (Archerfield Drive) has similar community issues at East Hartford within this division (both far from Cramlington Centre, both close to busy dual carriageways and similar issues concerning strategic path links to rest of the town).

- Cramlington South West - we accept the commission's proposal to link the Beaconhill Estates (Langdale Drive etc.) along with Beacon Lane estate (Evesham Place etc.) with the new developments at Cramlington South West Sector. Many of these new houses are a matter of feet from Beaconhill / Beacon Lane and residents will use the same community facilities (Beaconhill Park, Westfield Park, 58 bus service and the shop at Kielder Avenue).
- Cramlington Village - We support the commission's proposal here. The division here is now more closely tied to the village and more central to the town of Cramlington with its Village in the centre. We would contend that the Bassington Manor estate (Strother Way and Tavern Close) has closer links to the Village than Barns Park (Richmond Way etc.) which is a more peripheral area of the town.
- Holywell - Given the location on the southern boundary of the county giving little opportunity for change and appropriate numbers for electoral equality we support the commission's proposal in Holywell division.
- Seghill with Seaton Delaval - whilst it is a matter of regret that Ambridge Way and Double Row area are not united with the wider Seaton Delaval area, we accept that the electoral numbers make three non-split divisions in Seaton Valley practically impossible and therefore support the proposal from the commission.
- Wensleydale - whilst noting the changes proposed by the commission, we think the boundaries proposed maintain cohesion in this area.

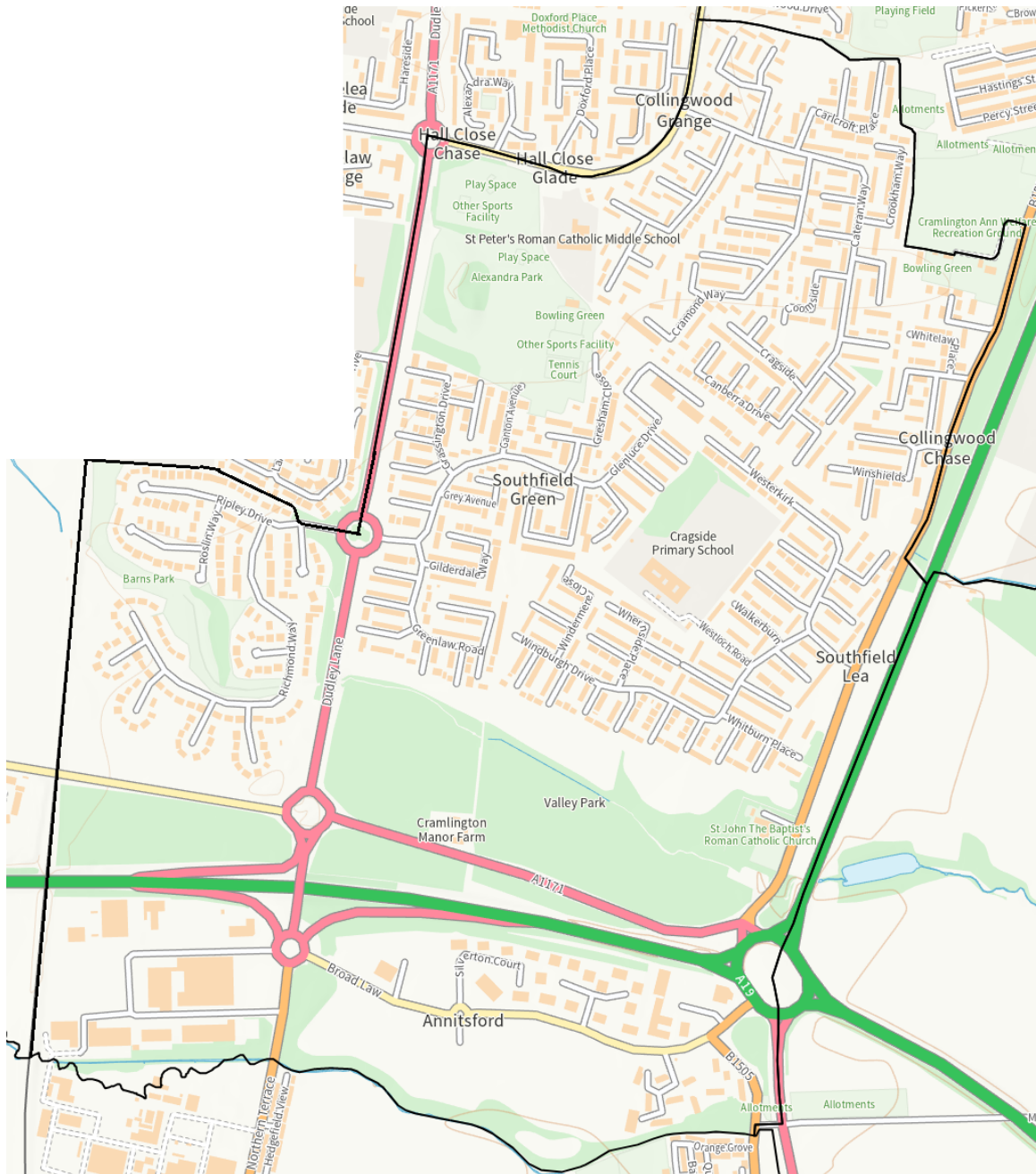
**Northumberland Conservatives would suggest changes to the commissions proposed boundaries for the following:**

- Cramlington East and Double Row – We would propose the Ambridge Way / Double Row and East Cramlington Nature Reserve area in the proposed New Delaval and New Hartley division is transferred to Cramlington East. The ward should be renamed and we would suggest Cramlington East and Double Row.

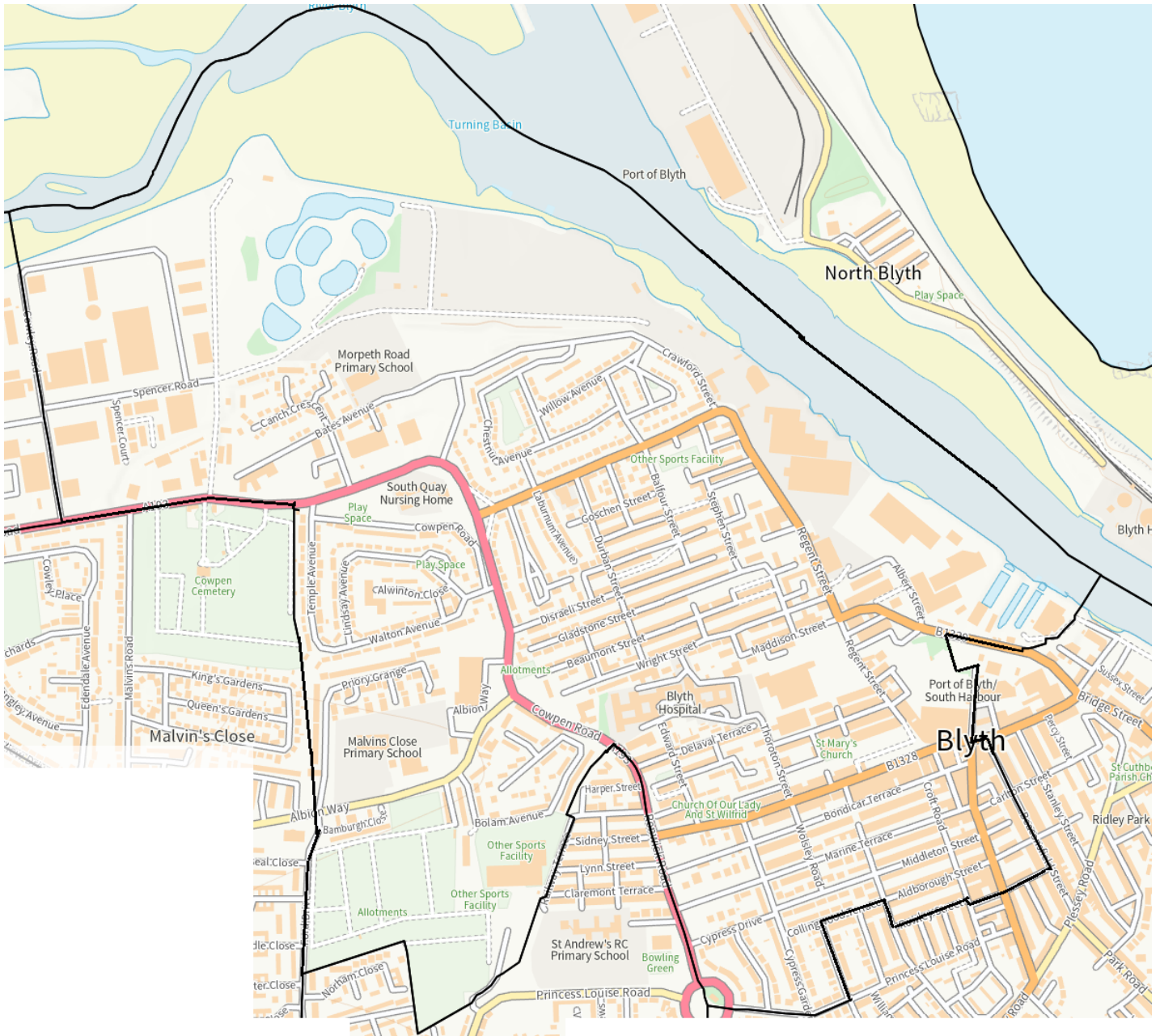
Additionally, Dorchester Court is added from the pre-existing Hartley division in order to ensure electoral equality with the 10 percent figure in Hartley. Whilst we would have liked the Ambridge Way / Double Row area to be maintained in a fully Seaton Valley division, we do however understand the issues related to number of electors here. We feel the links on the B1326 to East Cramlington are stronger than the links along the A192 and A1061 to Newsham and residents in Ambridge Way etc. are far more likely to travel through East Cramlington than Newsham / New Delaval. Furthermore, East Cramlington Nature Reserve is used by Seaton Valley and Cramlington residents alike



- Cramlington South East - We accept the commission's proposal to include Barns Park (Richmond Way) etc. within Cramlington South East. Many residents here will use the shop at Glenluce Drive within the existing division. We would however propose that the streets off Cateran Way and the B1505 which are currently in Cramlington South East are returned to Cramlington South East from the commissions proposed Cramlington East to maintain good community cohesion in this area (using the same estate roads for example) and to ensure there are not too many electors in our proposed Cramlington East and Double Row division.



- Croft - That the new Croft division is the same as that proposed by the commission minus the Princess Louise Road triangle which we would propose returns back to Isabella division, this results in greater cohesion with the current existing Croft division.



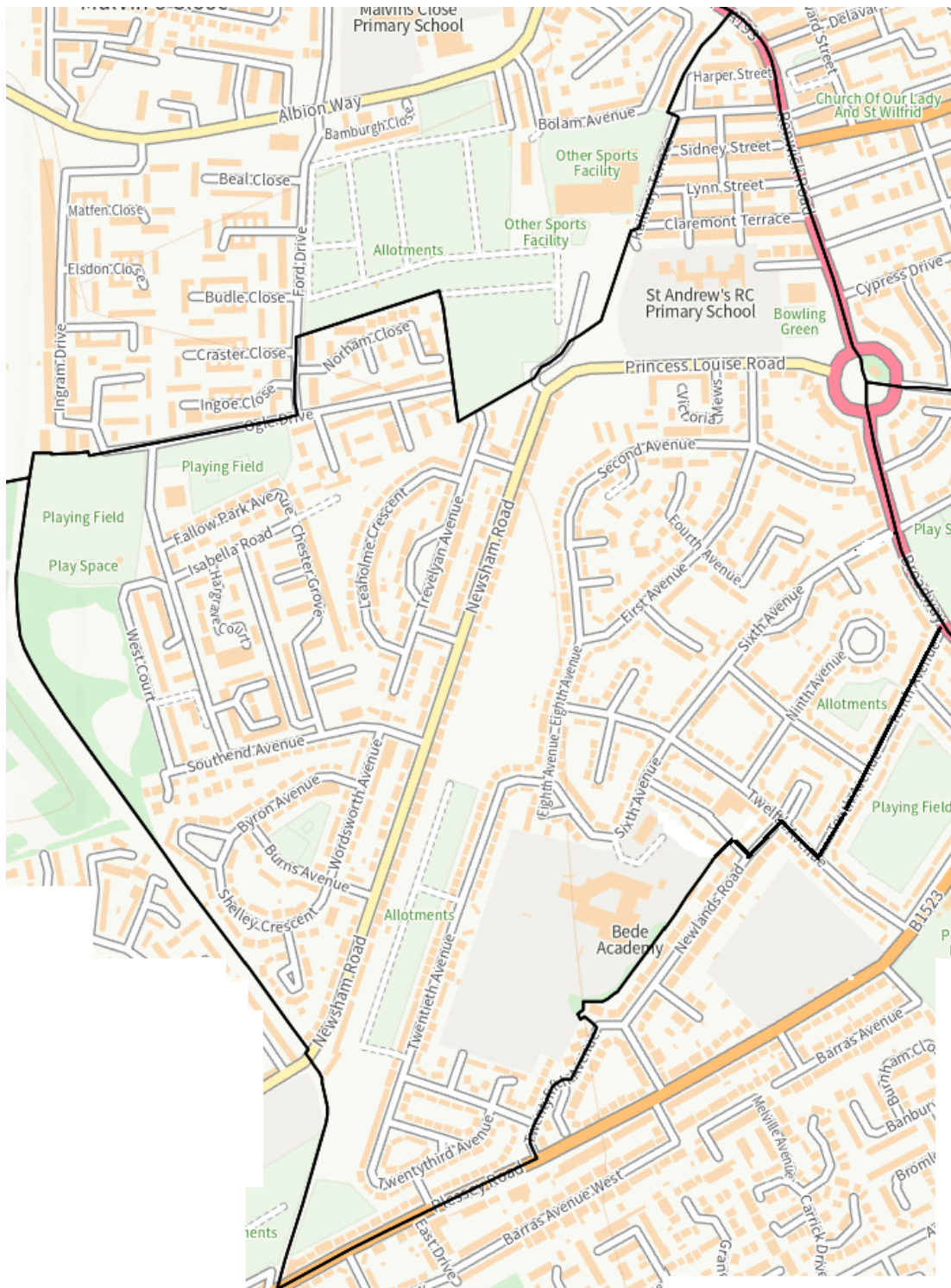


- Hartley – We would propose that the pre-existing Hartley division is reinstated with one minor change. Dorchester Court is transferred to our proposed Cramlington and Double Row division. We would like to have kept Dorchester Court within a Hartley division, but this would tip Hartley over the 10 percent average. We would not object if the commission made an exception and place Dorchester Court in Hartley division maintaining the existing boundary. We feel that the existing Hartley division represents this community well and preserving it to the highest degree possible would be desirable.

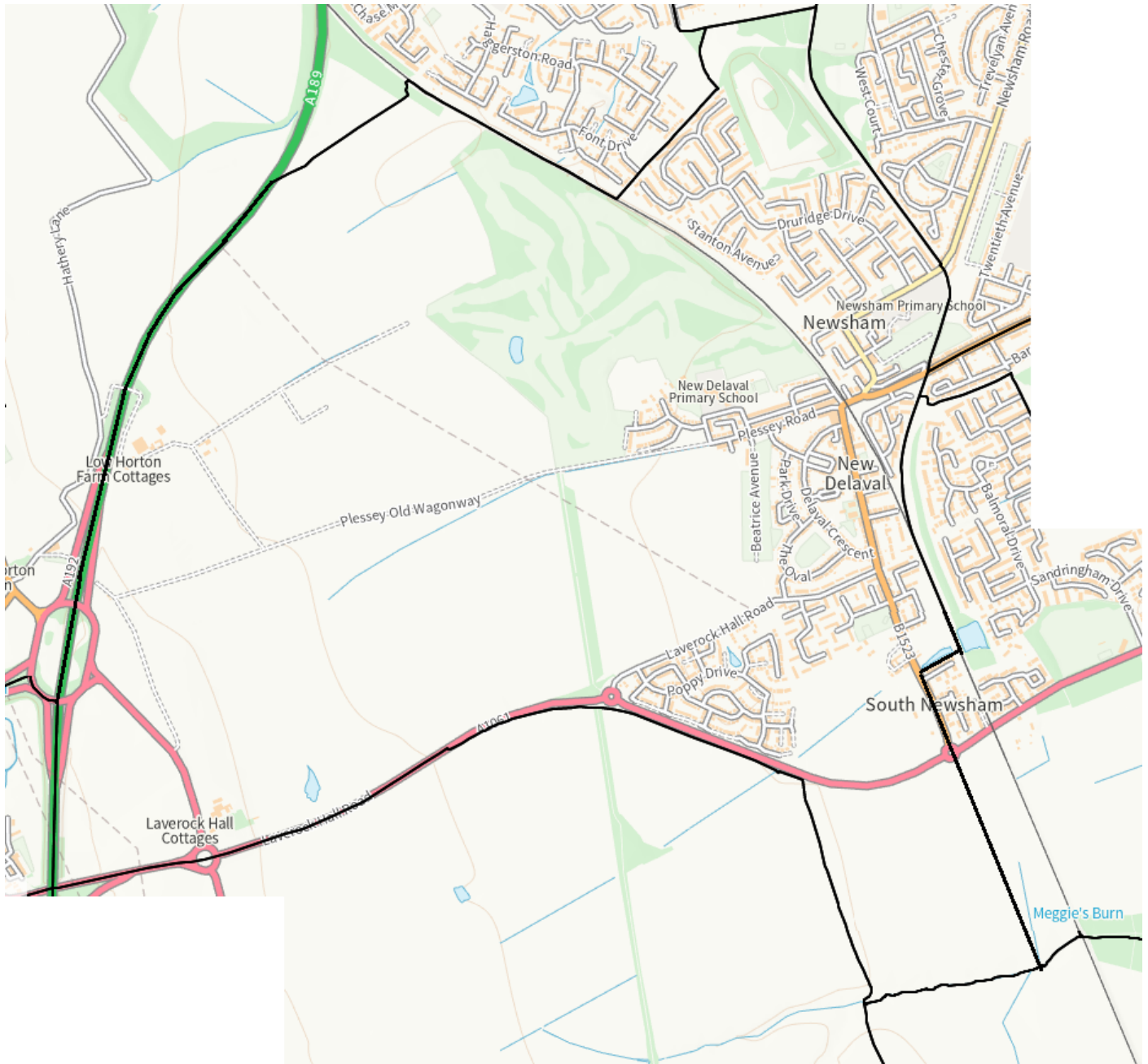




- Isabella - We would propose that Isabella division loses the Newsham Farm Estate area (Druridge Drive etc.) back to Newsham division but regains the triangle above Princess Louise Road back from Croft division. This would also help maintain a ward more closely aligned to the existing Isabella division. We believed the Princess Louise Road Triangle area works well in its current format located in Isabella. We would also propose the square from Twelfth Ave, Sixth Ave, A193 and the north side of Tenth Avenue as well as Fifteenth Avenue is moved to Isabella division from Plessey division which we feel have more in common with areas to the North of Plessey Road in Isabella Division than areas to the South in the proposed Plessey Division

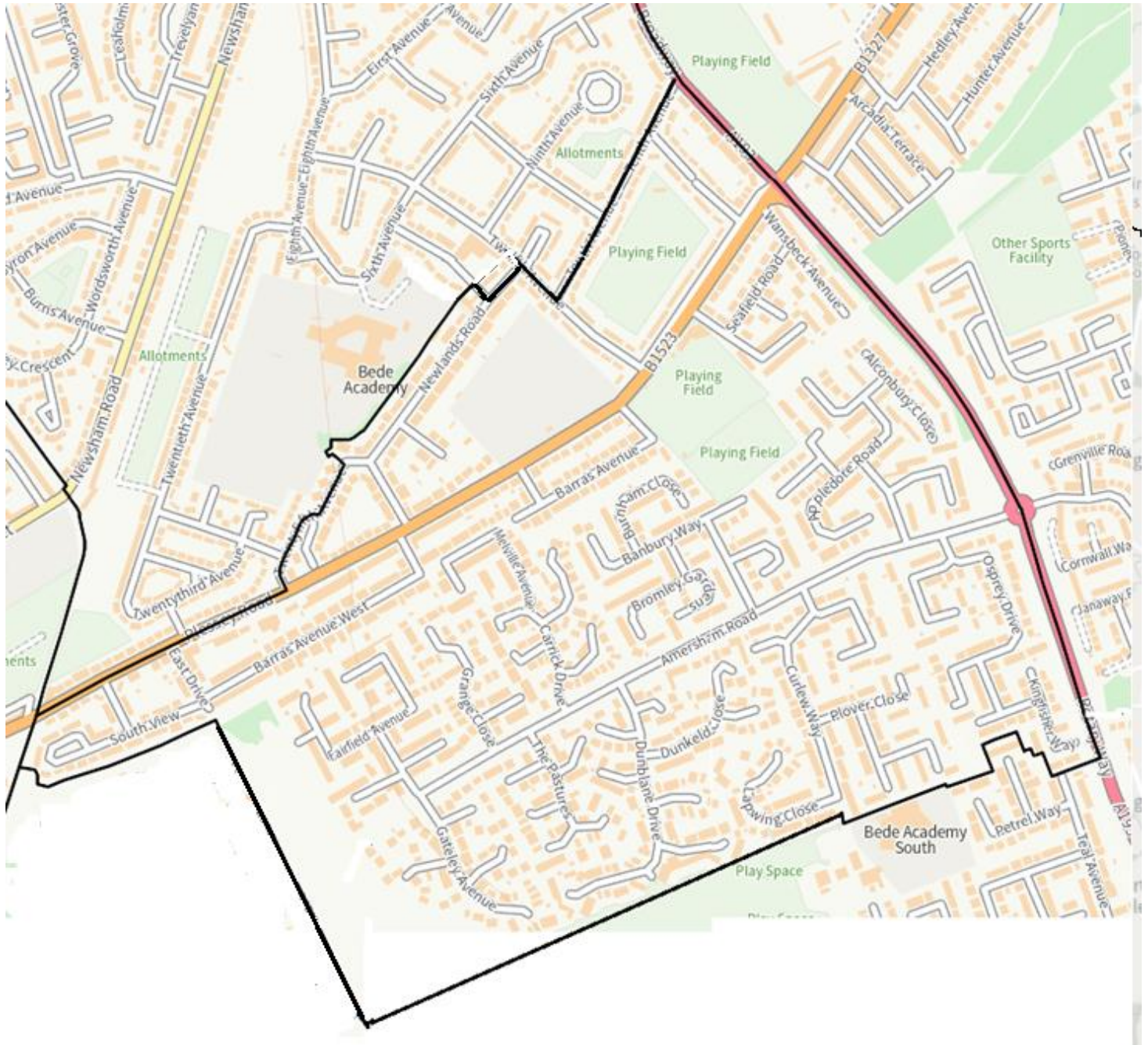


- Newsham – We would propose that the pre-existing Newsham division is reinstated barring two relatively minor changes 1) the very sparsely populated area to the west of A189 going to the Bebside division as proposed by the commission is maintained 2) In order to keep the division within the 10 percent electoral equality figures, Rayburn Court, Park Farm Villas and Railway Cottages are transferred to South Blyth. We think maintain the Newsham division to closely mirror the current division of Newsham is more desirable than pairing the area with Ambridge Way etc. of Seaton Delaval which has poor community links with Blyth.

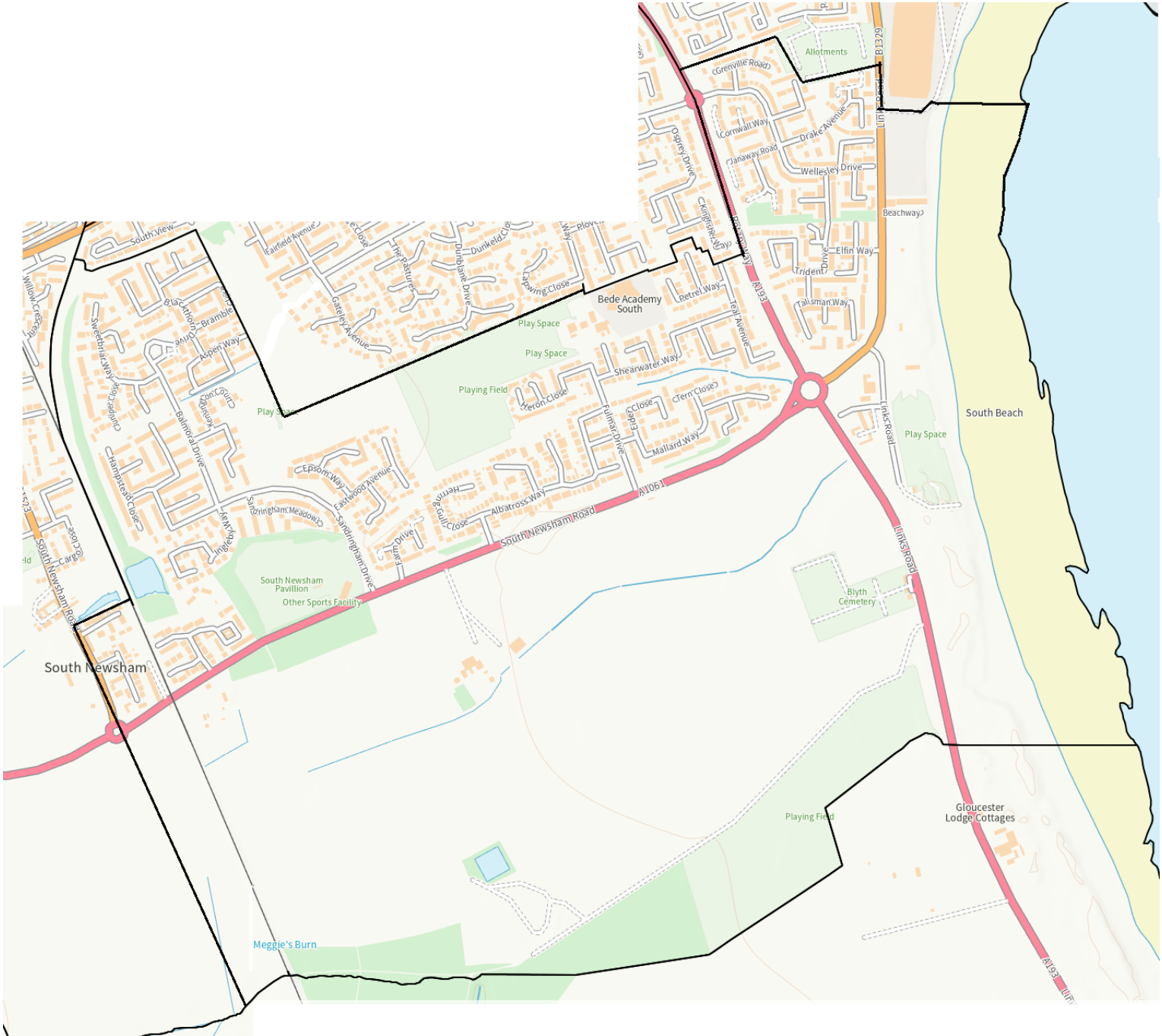




- Plessey - That the Plessey division is as per the commission's proposal minus the square from Twelfth Ave, Sixth Ave, A193 and the north side of Tenth Avenue as well as Fifteenth Avenue which transfers to Isabella (see map below). We are pleased that the commission propose uniting all off the communities on streets off Amersham Road to a single division, rather than the splitting of this area under present day arrangements as they represent a natural community.



- South Blyth - We accept the commission's proposal for South Blyth with just the addition of Rayburn Court, Park Farm Villas and Railway Cottages to provide the electoral balance in our proposed Newsham Division. This is a very small area and has very good links to Blagdon Drive and will have similar community issues surrounding the new station proposed here.



# Projected 2028 electorate figures

	2028 projected electorate	Variance from 2028 project average
Bebside and Kitty Brewster	3,655	-5
Cowpen	3,894	1
Cramlington East and Double Row	3,903	0
Cramlington Eastfield	3,941	2
Cramlington North	4,131	7
Cramlington North West	3,504	-9
Cramlington South East	4,067	5
Cramlington South West	3,555	-9
Cramlington Village	3,564	-8
Croft	3,812	-1
Hartley	4,242	10
Holywell	4,028	4
Isabella	3,544	-8
Newsham	4,187	9
Plessey	3,570	-8
Seghill with Seaton Delaval	4,165	8
South Blyth	3,960	3
Wensleydale	3,612	-6

# Parish Councils

We note the commission's proposals on parish warding arrangements. Given our above comments we would propose arrangements of the following:

## **Seaton Valley Community Council (9 Members)**

- 3 x Holywell (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)
- 3 x Hartley (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)
- 2 x Seghill with Seaton Delaval (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)
- 1 x Double Row (ward taking in the parts of our proposed Cramlington East and Double Row division which are found within the parish of Seaton Valley)

Out with of this review we would suggest that Seaton Valley Community Council look to undertake a community governance review and become a 10-member council with an extra member added in Seghill with Seaton Delaval ward.

## **Cramlington Town Council (12 Members)**

- 1 x Cramlington East (ward taking in the parts of our proposed Cramlington East and Double Row division which are found within the parish of Cramlington)
- 2 x Cramlington Eastfield (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)
- 2 x Cramlington North (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)
- 2 x Cramlington North West (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)
- 2 x Cramlington South East (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)
- 1 x Cramlington South West (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)
- 2 x Cramlington Village (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)

Out with of this review we would suggest that Cramlington Town Council look to undertake a community governance review and become a 14-member council with an extra member added in Cramlington East ward and Cramlington South West ward.

## **Blyth Town Council (16 Members)**

- 2 x Bebside and Kitty Brewster (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)
- 2 x Cowpen (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)
- 2 x Croft (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)
- 2 x Isabella (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)
- 2 x Newsham (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)
- 2 x Plessey (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)
- 2 x South Blyth (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)
- 2 x Wensleydale (ward coterminous with our proposed county division)