

Coventry

Personal Details:

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Organisation Name: n/a (Member of the public)

Comment text:

Related subject: Wainbody Ward

Wainbody ward is currently too small based on electorate, and that probably seems to continue when looking at the electorate forecasts

Based on the LGBCE methodology, of using current electorate, and then predicting future electorate based on numbers of new properties, this does not deal with the fact that you may have significant numbers of people who are not currently registered to vote

The electorate in Wainbody, especially polling district PG is considerably different to its current population, due to the fact that a large number of students on the Coventry side of the University of Warwick campus do not register to vote.

If you look back at the registered electorate in 2011/12, or 2012/13 before the implementation of the Individual Electoral Registration, you can see that a significant number of students on campus were registered to vote.

I'm willing to gamble that the electorate in those years was significantly higher than the current or forecast electorate for Wainbody Ward. So if you were conducting the review then, Wainbody would not appear to be "too small"

Please consider the population of the Ward, as well as the electorate before making a decision here. I believe if you were to include the number of students resident on campus in your electorate forecasts, the ward would be much closer to the ideal ward size you are looking for.

If you think about it, when forecasting and allocating new estates, or blocks of flats you would assume a certain electorate based on the number of properties - e.g. 1.6 electors per household. The thing is - not all of them will be eligible to register to vote, or indeed will choose to. So in that way, you are assuming population will = electorate. We know that isn't the case and so population AND electorate need to be considered.

I would be very, very keen to talk about this with the relevant review officer.

Attached Documents:

None attached