

County Durham

Personal Details:

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Comment text:

To the Boundary Commission

I have looked closely at your proposals for the new Evenwood and Cockfield Electoral Division and I cannot understand how you came up with this proposal. I, therefore, propose that there should be a Two seat West Auckland Electoral Division. I have listed my reasons below.

Your proposal is far too big and it ignores the close community ties between Escomb, Witton Park, St Helens and West Auckland.

In the 1960s Category D proposals some Witton Park residents were relocated to West Auckland and St Helens. These families still have very close ties to Witton Park and records will show that they return to the village for their burials.

Many of the residents of Escomb have family members in Witton Park, St Helens and West Auckland.

Your proposal will break these strong family and community links.

The villages of Staindrop, Woodland, Butterknowle and Cockfield are in Teesdale. Escomb and Witton Park are situated on the banks of the River Wear (Weardale). The communities of the two Dales are very diverse.

Transport links across the proposed division are non-existent.

At present, the West Auckland Electoral Division is served by two County Councillors. They work very well together. They know and are known by the constituents and they work for the benefit of them all. The larger proposed division will make these positive benefits very difficult.

The communities of Etherly and Toft Hill are similar to those of the current West Auckland division and this inclusion will mean that the boundaries are clearly defined.

I hope you will look favourably on my alternative proposal

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Attached Documents:

None attached