

Dudley

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Comment text:

Related subject: All

Submission of Dudley Conservative Group attached

Attached Documents:

- Dudley Conservative Group Boundary Review Submission.pdf

Dudley Conservative Group Boundary Review Submission

Coseley, Sedgley and Gornal

Dudley Conservative Group endorses the draft recommendation boundaries for these wards.

Given the challenges posed by the existing Castle and Priory ward being significantly over the upper limit for electors, it is always likely that the wards to the north of Dudley were likely to experience significant change. The draft recommendation minimises the number of changes to ward boundaries and maintains local identities and effective local government.

Transferring the Foxyards estate to the Upper Gornal & Woodsetton ward and the planned development north of Sedgley Road to Coseley ward represents a suitable solution to the issue of Castle & Priory being too large. The new boundaries follow clear geographical features that will make for an easy-to-understand boundary for local residents. There is also a historical links between the Foxyards and Upper Gornal. The area was once home to dense industry that ran along the border of the former Coseley West ward, which has more recently become Upper Gornal & Woodsetton. With the industry now gone and replaced with housing, it would make sense to re-establish those old links between the areas.

Our group also supports moving the Old Park Farm Estate to the Upper Gornal & Woodsetton ward as this would help to restore local ties that are currently broken in the current ward boundaries, with the new boundary much clearer than the current arrangements.

The minor alternations to the border of Sedgley ward and the change of name to Coseley ward are also endorsed by our group.

Dudley Town

Dudley Conservative Group endorses the draft recommendation boundaries for these wards.

West Dudley

Dudley Conservative Group endorses the draft recommendation boundaries for these wards.

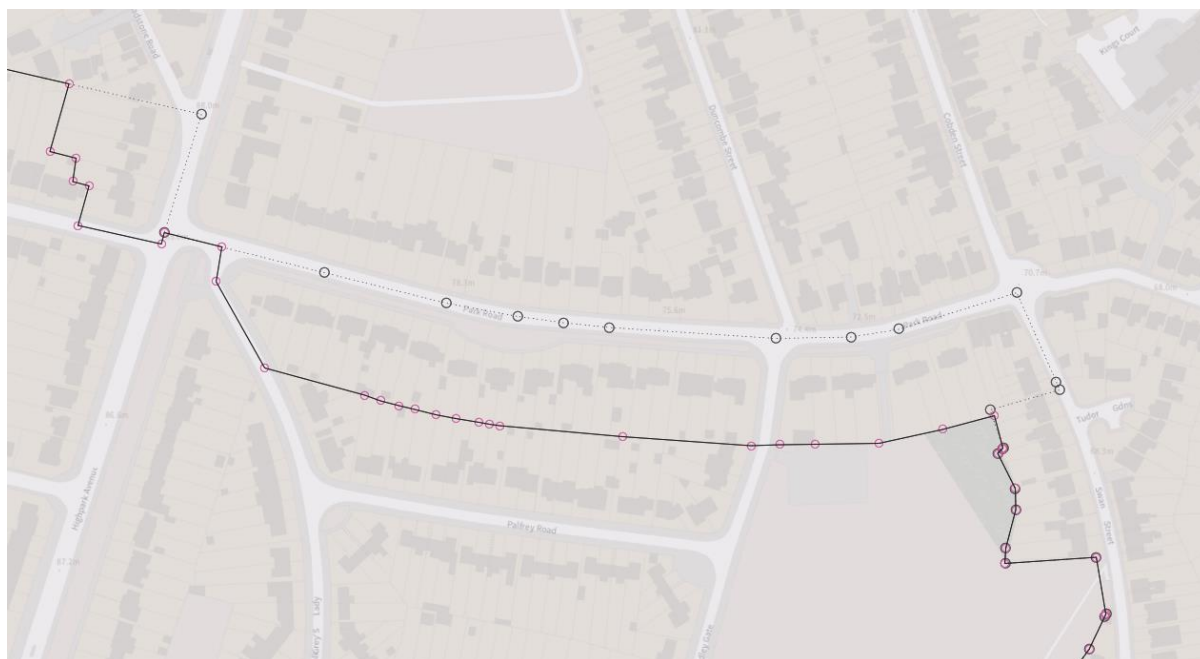
We also endorse the proposal by Cllr Adam Davies and Cllr Wayne Little to change the name of Brierley Hill ward to Brierley Hill and Wordsley South, which will better represent the communities that are situated within the ward.

Stourbridge

We have considered the draft recommendations that have been adopted from the Stourbridge Labour Party proposal. Whilst some of these changes are sensible, we object to one change that has been incorporated into the draft proposals.

The inclusion of the entirety of Park Road into the Norton ward is a peculiarity given the road's extreme proximity to Wollaston's main retail area, Bridgnorth Road. The road is just a short five-minute walk to Wollaston's amenities and public services. We feel that transferring the road to the Norton ward would break local ties with Wollaston. Given the number of properties affected in the road are so small, it would have no impact if the entire road was in fact moved to the Wollaston & Stourbridge Town ward, with which it shares more local services and is geographically closer to than the majority of Norton ward's main public amenities. Therefore, we propose that the boundary runs

along properties on the southern side of Park Road, which would also be a much neater boundary that also allows the adoption of other proposed changes, including the transferring of properties on Highpark Avenue and Swan Street.



Above: Dudley Conservative Group's proposed new boundary (black with pink dots) compared to the existing boundary (dotted line with black dots), showing how this boundary would be far more intuitive by running along the south of the properties on Park Road, maintaining local links between this road and Wollaston.

Halesowen

Dudley Conservative Group largely endorses the draft recommendation boundaries for these wards.

We also endorse the proposals by Cllr Simon Phipps, Cllr Daniel Bevan and Cllr Peter Dobb to transfer of three properties in the cul-de-sac of Tenlands Road, Halesowen, to Belle Vale ward so it is united with the properties on Tenlands Road that serves as the only access road to those properties.

Cllr Patrick Harley

Leader of Dudley Council and the Dudley Conservative Group