

Holt, Nicole

From: Wood, Jason <jwood@lancaster.gov.uk>
Sent: 23 November 2021 16:17
To: reviews
Subject: Lancaster City Council Warding review

Dear LGBCE

I write to object to the draft proposal to break up Scotforth East Ward and join it to Lancaster University campus to create a new Ward of Scotforth East and University. Residents of the current Scotforth East ward are an urban community centred around two geographic landmarks: Barton Road playing fields and Burrow Beck; and has the A6 Scotforth Road as its defined western boundary adjacent to the Ward of Scotforth West.

The proposal to extend Scotforth West Ward eastwards and clumsily attempt to rebalance by extending the Scotforth East Ward boundary west is non-sensical to residents and Councillors. Currently, the A6 Scotforth Road is a well defined and well understood boundary between the two Scotforth Wards.

Lancaster University campus is unique in that its residents are mostly first year students who live on campus and thus have a high level of constituency turnover every year. Unlike the residents of the current Scotforth East Ward whose residents are relatively static. As you would expect from a University-based ward, the current University Ward has a high number of by-elections as students who are elected to serve graduate and move away from the area. To inflict this type of elected representative churn on the stable residents of Scotforth East is cruel and unusual punishment and completely unnecessary.


I note that the draft proposals seek to elect six councillors from two 3-seat wards. It must therefore be possible to create three 2-seat wards from the same land area and population to achieve the requirements of re-warding. This would maintain the integrity of both Scotforth East and Scotforth West wards and the University campus to provide commensurate and stable representation for their respective residents. Three 2-seat wards would also make the most sense to local residents.

Scotforth West Ward has already encroached over the sensible A6 Scotforth Road boundary too much and the draft proposal makes this even worse. Scotforth West Ward should remain as much as possible on the western side of the A6.

I implore the LGBCE to reconsider its proposal to join thousands of residents in a relatively stable population into a ward with the university campus and its inherent membership turnover. Please keep the integrity of a 2-seat Scotforth East Ward intact with minimal changes and adjustments.

Kind regards
Jason

Cllr Jason Wood
Lancaster City Council – Scotforth East Ward
Email: jwood@lancaster.gov.uk



UK businesses use up 2 million tonnes of paper each year. Think before you print this email - do you really need to?
Thank you.

An Investor in People/Positive about Disabled People.

[DISCLAIMER:](#)