

## Northumberland County Council

### Personal Details:

Name:

E-mail:

Postcode:

Organisation Name:

### Comment text:

I am writing in response to the proposed division of the current Alnwick ward into two. As an Alnwick resident for over 20 years I have appreciated being part of a community with a cohesive sense of identity, an identity which overflows into the surrounding villages and area, not least Alnmouth/Lesbury whose residents have strong transport links with the town, and for whom contact with the town for leisure, entertainment, shopping, services and health purposes is significant. I want to express my grave concern, therefore, at the proposal to effectively split the town centre from much of the rest of the town as it has currently developed, as well as its hinterland in the coastal direction. Further, the proposal seems to go against the conclusions of the Boundary Commission Review in 2011: it decided that a joint ward would be the 'best balance between reflecting community identities and interests and providing for effective local government' and it would 'avoid an arbitrary split of Alnwick Town'. I'm not sure what has changed to invalidate that conclusion. I also believe that it is in the interests of good local governance to have two councillors working in co-operation where possible, even across party political groupings as at the moment, who can encourage and challenge each other, making local government less adversarial, more collegial, and leading to wiser decision making in terms of the ward's best interests. I hope that the above arguments will be taken seriously as part of the decision making process ahead of any changes in boundary lines. Thank you. [REDACTED]

### Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded