

Gateshead

Personal Details:

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Organisation Name: 100 (Member of the public)

Comment text:

Gateshead has far more councillors for our population than all but one of England's 36 Urban Councils. If Gateshead were at the national average, it would have 40 councillors, not 66. Gatehead has far fewer residents per councillor than other metropolitan districts in the north:

Gateshead: 2,971 residents per councillor
Newcastle: 3,849 residents per councillor
Manchester: 5,750 residents per councillor
Bradford: 6,071 residents per councillor
Leeds: 8,202 residents per councillor

I argue that we don't need so many councillors in Gateshead, while so wants to keep things as they are. Our view is that a smaller council would be more efficient and make the Council's leaders more accountable, not to mention saving hundreds of thousands of pounds every year. A smaller council would also be more representative, At a time when the Council is doing less and less, staff numbers fall and as volunteers are taking over so many of its functions it stands to reason that it doesn't need as many councillors.

Attached Documents:

None attached