

North Northamptonshire

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Comment text:

Related subject: Corby & villages

I think the electors of Wilbarston, Cottingham, East Carlton and Rockingham have a lot more connection with Corby than with Desborough. Ideally their link would probably be with Uppingham (where many children go to school) but as NNC boundaries are not for review, the Corby option is much more realistic. If there are insufficient electors predicted for this to be a stand-alone Ward, then each Parish could be included in the nearest Corby Ward.

Although I live in Corby, I have significant experience of working in the Kettering Wards of Avondale, Kettering Central Piper's Hill etc. The proposals make sense in terms of electoral representation BUT there is a major disadvantage of these boundaries when it comes to priority funding. In each of these Wards there are significant 'pockets' where IMD figures would allow for 'poverty' funding bids. However each of the Wards then has areas of relative affluence which cancel out and leave an overall denial of access to funding. For organisations working in these areas it actually feels as though the boundaries are drawn to ensure that they don't attract low IMD %.

Redrawing the boundaries would help a lot in this respect.

e.g. by moving the area from Britannia Road to Blandford Avenue into Brambleside, Kettering Central would almost certainly meet criteria. Similarly changes to Pipers Hill and St. Michaels would very likely allow adjoining Wards to demonstrate more accurately the areas of need.

Attached Documents:

None attached