

County Durham

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Comment text:

Related subject: Shincliffe Parish

We strongly favour the proposal of the Joint Administration of Durham County Council to add the whole of Shincliffe Parish to the Elvet and Gilesgate Division.

Shincliffe, largely a commuter village for Durham, is within walking distance of the city (approximately a mile and a half), with a large proportion of residents working, shopping, attending school and socialising in Durham.

While there is green space between Shincliffe and the city, partly as a result of a conservation area at Shincliffe Village and the presence of East Durham College at Houghall, this does not have the effect of separating Shincliffe from the city. Historically, (including in terms of ecclesiastical and civil boundaries), Shincliffe has always been closely linked with Durham, at least to the same extent as Elvet and Gilesgate. All these places share the DH1 postcode.

Demographically the Shincliffe population shares greater similarity with Elvet and Gilesgate, which have comparable needs, than with Bowburn, Coxhoe, and the other villages, which are also more distant from the city.

While Shincliffe is linked by bus routes and the A177 to some of the more rural villages (principally Bowburn and Coxhoe), the same routes and road also link Shincliffe to Durham city itself. More people travel between the city and Shincliffe, than between Shincliffe and the other villages in the LGBC's proposed division.

We are not persuaded of the Local Government Boundary Commission's view that the roads and bus routes are a sufficiently good reason to separate Shincliffe from the city with which it has always been closely associated.

Attached Documents:

None attached