

# Kirklees

## Personal Details:

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**Postcode:** HD4 6DH  
**Organisation Name:** (District or county councillor)

## Comment text:

**Related subject:** Ashbrow / Huddersfield North

Huddersfield North / Ashbrow

I'm submitting this on behalf of the three Labour Party Councillor is Ashbrow Ward and the Ashbrow Labour Party.

We believe that the proposed Huddersfield North ward should not be adopted and that a ward with the current Ashbrow boundaries should be maintained. This would allow Ashbrow ward to remain under 10% of the projected electorate 2029 variance, which would satisfy the commission's criteria to deliver electoral equality for local voters while retaining community ties.

Current LD04 polling district

We do not believe the inclusion of this area within a proposed Huddersfield North ward reflects the interests and identity of the local community.

1. This area is a significant distance from the rest of the proposed ward with no public transport links.
2. There are no direct road links from this area to the rest of the ward. The only direct access is across a large private golf course, and there are no connecting public rights of way.
3. There are no shared amenities or community organisations between the areas. This area is clearly much more linked to the village of Lindley, and the shared amenities in that area.

Deighton (current AB03 polling district)

1. This local identity of this area links very closely to the surrounding areas of Sheepridge, Brackenhall, Bradley and Fartown. The boundaries between Sheepridge, Brackenhall and Deighton overlap and as such we would consider this as one interlinked area.
2. Community amenities are shared across the area, this includes the Chestnut Centre (in AB01 polling district) which is a key focal point for the Deighton area,

providing support services; food via The Bread and Butter Thing; a library; a nursery and is host to numerous community groups.

3. The Deighton Sports arena is a key asset used by the wider community across this area.

4. Many community groups operate across the locality, working on key priorities such as tackling knife crime and providing youth services. The Deighton carnival takes place annually in this area and is a cultural event which brings together the wider community of Deighton, Brackenhall, Bradley, Sheepridge and Fartown. Splitting the Deighton polling district from the wider area would not be taking into account the strong and clear community ties and identity. In addition there are no clear community links between Deighton and the proposed Huddersfield East ward. Leeds Road, and its surround industrial area, provides a logical boundary between different communities. As does the Huddersfield Narrow Canal, which provides a boundary continuing past the Fartown area in Ashbrow ward.

Fartown (current AB02 polling District)

1. The Fartown area is split across two sides of Bradford Road. Linking both with the Sheepridge/Brackenhall area and Cowcliffe area. Huddersfield North Trust School is located here: a key link across the wider area with a large number of children from the current Ashbrow ward attending. The North Huddersfield Trust school also contributes an important provision of a wide range of social and sporting activities for the whole community of Ashbrow.

2. There is a lack of community buildings in Fartown (since the closure of the village hall) meaning residents use services in the Brackenhall and Deighton areas, such as the Chestnut Centre and Northfield Hall.

3. Bus services run directly through Fartown into Sheepridge, Deighton and Bradley, making the area well connected. We believe there is a clear link between this area of Fartown and the rest of the current Ashbrow ward, which if maintained would reflect the identity of the area.

Ward name

1. Under our proposal we believe the name Ashbrow should be retained. This has been the ward name for 20 years, since 2004, and residents understand the area contained within it .

2. ‘Ashbrow’ is used by community groups, Facebook and community websites pointing the way for residents to get help and take part in Ashbrow activities.

3. The name is more identifiable to the locality than a characterless name such as “Huddersfield North” or similar. In addition, the proposal to have 5 wards all with Huddersfield as part of the name, would become very confusing for residents.

Overall, we believe that there is clear evidence that the current Ashbrow ward boundaries bring together a community which has clear, long-standing links and a shared identity. The current proposed boundaries would break up existing defined communities and bring together areas with no clear link or valuable community ties.

N.B. Example of a Facebook community group covering the areas of the current Ashbrow ward with over two thousand members.

## Attached Documents:

- ward-boundary-consultation-ashbrow-labour-party.docx

## **Huddersfield North / Ashbrow**

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### **Current LD04 polling district**

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2. Community amenities are shared across the area, this includes the Chestnut Centre (in AB01 polling district) which is a key focal point for the Deighton area, providing support services; food via The Bread and Butter Thing; a library; a nursery and is host to numerous community groups.
3. The Deighton Sports arena is a key asset used by the wider community across this area.
4. Many community groups operate across the locality, working on key priorities such as tackling knife crime and providing youth services. The Deighton carnival takes place annually in this area and is a cultural event which brings together the wider community of Deighton, Brackenhall, Bradley, Sheepridge and Fartown. Splitting the Deighton polling district from the wider area would not be taking into account the strong and clear community ties and identity. In addition there are no clear community links between Deighton and the proposed Huddersfield East ward. Leeds Road, and its surround industrial area, provides a logical boundary between different communities. As does the Huddersfield Narrow Canal, which provides a boundary continuing past the Fartown area in Ashbrow ward.

### **Fartown (current AB02 polling District)**

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