

Kirklees

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Comment text:

Related subject: The whole area

I have attached two files: one a narrative Word file, which gives information on reasons, and the other an Excel file showing polling district and ward totals

Attached Documents:

- boundaries-2024.xlsx
- boundaryproposals2024.docx

Kirklees Liberal Democrats

Boundary Review of Kirklees Council, May 2024

This submission is made on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group by Cllr Andrew Pinnock.

There have been some discussions with the Labour Group on this submission, and to a very large extent the two groups agree on their proposals. There are one or two differences in our submission, which I will point out when they occur. Attached to this document is a spreadsheet which shows in detail the composition of various wards in the Huddersfield area.

Almondbury

The boundaries of this ward should remain as they are, as they reflect a very strong community of interest. This is particularly true of the area surrounding the Tolson Museum (in AL05). Wakefield Road at this point provides a strong dividing line between Almondbury and Dalton. Also there is no necessary association between Almondbury and Kirkheaton (DA06).

Lindley

Lindley ward is currently well over the average for Kirklees wards, so some reduction is clearly necessary. The Commission's proposals take the ward too far towards the town centre; and they also remove Birchencliffe (LD04) from the ward. A more satisfactory solution would be to move the Quarmby polling district (LD06) to Golcar. The GC10 polling district is also moved from Golcar to Lindley, where it has greater community of interest.

Ashbrow

We agree with the Labour Group proposal that would keep the boundary of Ashbrow ward the same as now.

Dalton

Again, following the Labour group's proposal, we think that Dalton's boundaries should stay the same, with the addition of NE08 (Huddersfield town centre).

Greenhead

The Labour group would keep Greenhead ward the same as at present. The Liberal Democrat group would however add GC09 to this ward as this polling district has little affinity with Golcar.

Netherton & Newsome and Crosland Moor

The Labour group propose the creation of two wards with the above names. The Commission has received many representations suggesting that Netherton and Crosland Moor should not be in the same ward, as at present. We agree that that has some merit. Crosland Moor ward would be composed of all the polling districts from the current Crosland Moor & Netherton, with the exception of CN03. Netherton & Newsome ward would be all the Newsome wards (except NE08 in Dalton), but NE07 and NE04 would need to be split, largely along the line of Chapel Hill and Lockwood Road. This would mean that Netherton & Newsome would not fall under the 10% variance.

We also support the Labour group's suggestion that the boundary of CN03 be drawn so that Crosland Moor airfield remains in Crosland Moor ward (there are few houses in that area).

Colne Valley and Golcar

No discussions have taken place about these two wards, and the following suggestions have not been agreed with the Labour group.

As already mentioned, we propose that GC09 should go to Greenhead and GC10 to Lindley, with LD06 moving from Lindley to Golcar. We would also propose the move of CV04 from Colne Valley to Golcar. This comprises the communities of Bolster Moor and Scapegoat Hill, much of whose postal addresses is Golcar. We also disagree about the naming of these two wards, believing that they should remain as Colne Valley and Golcar (not Colne Valley East and West).

Dewsbury

We agree with the Labour group on the following points:

1. The boundaries of Dewsbury East should remain the same.
2. Polling district DS07 should move from Dewsbury South to Kirkburton.
3. The river Calder should remain the boundary between Dewsbury West and Dewsbury South.
4. The move of part of DW04 makes no sense at all.
5. The Labour group have made proposals to move the Dewsbury West/ Mirfield boundary further west into Mirfield. I believe they have submitted a map showing this change, with which we agree. There is a precedent for parish council boundaries to cross district wards, as happens with Kirkburton Parish Council.

Batley & Spen

Once again, we agree with some of the Labour group proposals:

1. An area around the north end of Oxford Road and Bradford Road (in BB01) should remain in Birstall & Birkenshaw, not Liversedge & Gomersal; the existing proposal means that to travel from Birstall to Birkenshaw one needs to leave the ward.
2. Moving the Stubley estate (part of LG05) to Heckmondwike ward makes no sense at all as it is on the opposite side of Leeds Road to that ward.
3. There are a couple of moves between Birstall & Birkenshaw and Batley West which do not seem to have any reason for them.

Andrew Pinnock

6 May 2024

Lindley	LD01	3184	Ashbrow	AB01	3175	Golcar	GC01	2327	Colne Valley	CV01	1576	Dalton	DA01	1074	Almondbury	AL01	2778	Greenhead	GH01	2988	Crosland Moor	CN01	2058	Netherton/ Newsome	NE01	396
	LD02	2678		AB02	3337		GC02	1829		CV02	1989		DA02	1995		AL02	1741		GH02	2560		CN02	3010		NE02	2956
	LD03	3623		AB03	1753		GC03	892		CV03	843		DA03	1604		AL03	1936		GH03	2797		CN04	1937		NE03	1181
	LD04	3239		AB04	4117		GC04	1824		CV05	2619		DA04	1732		AL04	1448		GH04	1701		CN05	2031		NE05	1074
	LD05	1996		AB05	1622		GC05	2416		CV06	2829		DA05	1017		AL05	1401		GH05	2256		CN06	1189		NE06	1599
	GC10	786		AB06	2541		GC06	2018		CV07	936		DA06	3283		AL06	2624		GH06	2569		CN07	2341		NE09	1850
		15506			16545		GC07	1063		CV08	745		DA07	1156		AL07	1737		GC09	902		NE04	656		NE10	567
							GC08	840		CV09	2860		DA08	1679		AL08	798			15773		NE07	2144		NE11	678
							LD06	2137			14397		NE08	2216			14463					15366		CN03	3193	
							CV04	590					15756												13494	
							15936																			

NE07 will need to be split between the above two Wards,
probably along the line of Chapel Hill