

North Yorkshire

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Comment text:

Related subject: Nidderdale

I am very concerned (if I'm even understanding this correctly?!) by any intention to chop Nidderdale in 2 and partly subsume it with areas that have minimal community or geographical links. Looking at the boundary for this Upper Nidderdale and Wharfedale area, google maps shows it as a full 1 hour drive from Eavestone in the SE part to Oughtershaw in the NW part. Nidderdale has a real shared sense of community which simply does not translate across places one hour apart.

Links from the top to the bottom of Nidderdale are smoother, quicker (flatter!) and also part of people's existing lives and habit (Anyone in Lofthouse at the top of the dale will frequently travel down through Pateley and onwards..... not via Upper Wharfedale.

It also seems to include areas both within and without the Yorkshire Dales National Park yet there are vastly different restrictions/opportunities that are driven by whether areas are in or out (and why Nidderdale needed to stay out, when it was formed).

This would come at a hugely damaging time, just as there are growing community ground-up efforts taking place to make Nidderdale a vibrant and sustainable place to live, work and visit. To cut us in two would deflate these efforts.

I understand how you might wish/need to group places together but that is completely different from deliberately dividing into two, places that currently have a clear single and shared identity.

Attached Documents:

None attached