

Darlington

Personal Details:

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Organisation Name: Darlington Borough Council (Councillor)

Comment text:

Dear Local Government Boundary Commission for England,

Please find attached 2 documents. I realise the first does not contain the overall map for the different wards discussed – this is included at the very beginning of the second document.

It is important to note that the first document, and ward boundary layout attempt, was worked on with a sizeable group from Darlington Green Party, including multiple of our councillors who obviously have experience of representing different parts of the town. Others had experience of living in different areas, both past and present. However, there was sufficient disagreement / objection to the outcome, that it cannot be classed as an “official” submission. It is nevertheless worth spelling out that it was the product of work by a relatively large group of us, discussing where felt like a community, where should and shouldn’t boundaries fall, and why. I felt it was important to send it in as my own submission, so that the work was not lost.

Attempt 2 is mostly the same, but (done by me alone) I tweaked the boundaries in the south east side of the town to attempt to get a better fit & community feel, and a better match with electorate numbers. Again, all justification is provided as to reasons why.

Critically, there are key dividing lines in Darlington such as railway lines, old railway line routes (currently walking and cycling routes, but which nevertheless form relatively hard boundaries between communities), the A1(M) which divides off the west side of the town, and the A66 which divides off the eastern rural area. I’ve tried to put outer greenfield sites which are due to become part of the urban area of the town into the urban

wards, to ensure that when the properties are complete and occupied, the new residents get the most relevant representation. Also, so that ward councillors are able to deal with issues in areas that are likely to become “their responsibility” in the future, rather than being left for rural ward councillors to deal with who may be less invested in that development site. This does leave the southern and western outer wards over-represented (as their councillors would have a lower than normal number of constituents each), but I felt this was preferable to allocating “random” chunks of the urban area to them just to make up numbers, and again, those new residents may find it harder to get relevant representation if that was done.

I hope these 2 submissions of ideas as to where and why can be taken into account, and the former given more weight as a product of a group of c. 8-10 people working together, whereas the second submission being my own personal tweak on the first attempt to try to improve it.

Attached Documents:

- ward-boundaries-justification-2nd-attempt_0.docx
- ward-boundaries-justification_0.docx

1. Hurworth

2 councillors

Electorate: 3,517 (-19.85)

All current Hurworth wards, but remove Neasham Rd new development (boundary is A66, except properties on s. side of Bridge Rd - move into nearest urban ward.

HUA-S1-S1 - Hurworth: 1,102

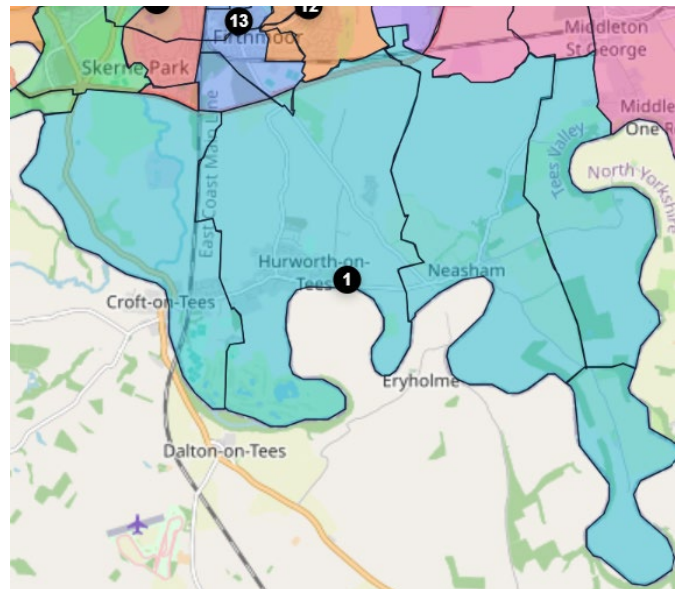
HUB - Hurworth: 1,979

HUC - Neasham: 310

HUD - Neasham: 99

HUE - Neasham: 19

Why?: contiguous southern rural area



2. Heighington & Coniscliffe

2 councillors

Electorate: 3,607 (-17.79%)

Everything west of A1 except Low Consiciliffe & around Burtree Gate (no voters)

HCA - Heighington: 2,333

HCB - Houghton-le-Side: 56

HCC - Killerby: 44

HCD - Summerhouse: 82

HCE - Denton: 38

HCF - Walworth: 91

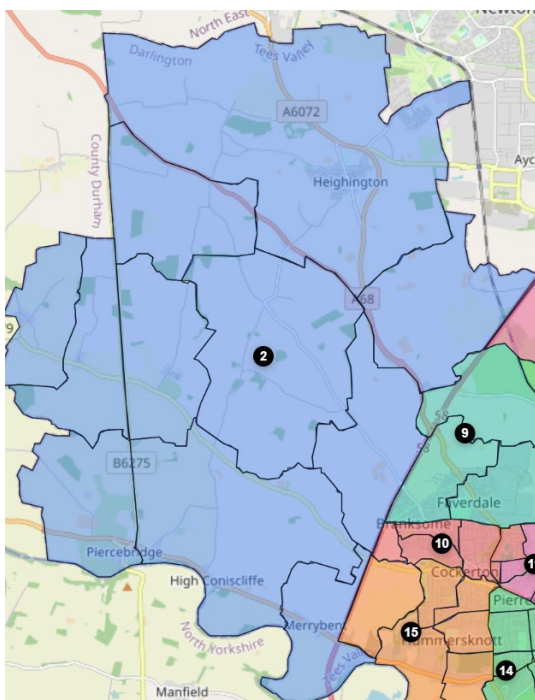
BFA - Archdeacon Newton: 17

HCG - Piercebridge: 102

HCH - High Consiccliffe: 214

HCI-S1 - Low Consiccliffe & Merrybent: 584

Why?: Contiguous western rural area



3. Sadberge & MSG

3 councillors

Electorate: 6,829 (+3.76%)

All land east of A66 (lose SMG & SME land within Barmpton into urban wards), gain Brafferton HCL & Coatham Mundeville (east of A1) split from HCJ.

HCJ-S2 - Coatham Mundeville: 46

HCL - Brafferton: 116

SMA - Great Stainton: 80

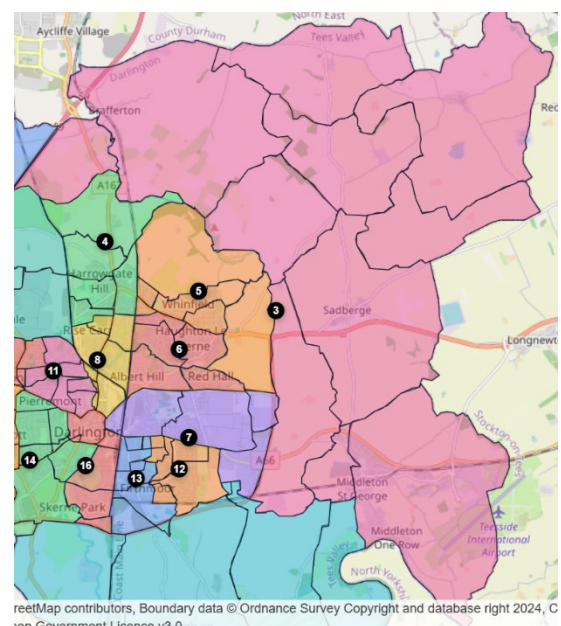
SMB - Bishopton: 315

SMC - Little Stainton: 70

SME-S1 - Barmpton: 50

SMD - East & West Newbiggin: 20

SMF - Sadberge: 654



reetMap contributors, Boundary data © Ordnance Survey Copyright and database right 2024, Crown Government Licence v3.0

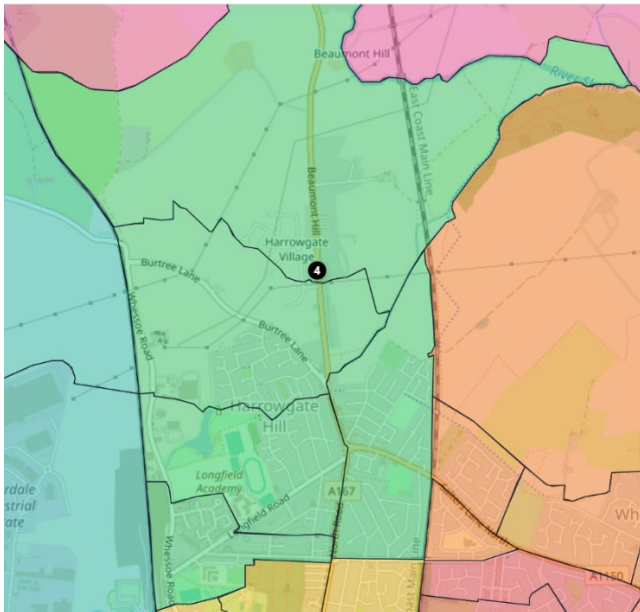
SMH – S1 – Morton Palms – 342

SMI – Middleton St George: 882

SMJ – Middleton St George: 4,254

Morton Palms polling district could move into Hurworth to rebalance numbers slightly, but doesn't make significant difference & doesn't seem contiguous / logical area.

Why?: Contiguous eastern rural area – Brafferton & Coatham Mundeville more impacted by Skerningham & Darlington Northern Link Rd issues on east side of town (but could be moved back to H&C if needed). Areas on edge of urban area (Great Burdon polling district) due to be developed moved into urban wards.



4. Harrowgate Hill

3 councillors

Electorate: 6,350 (-3.52%)

Add Whessoe parish east of Bishop Auckland rail line, & add south side of Thompson St W, Harrowgate Hill school & whole of Rolling Mills site. Lose Whitebridge Drive estate to Whinfield.

HCK-S2 – Whessoe: 700

HHA – Harrowgate Hill: 1,442

HHB-S1: 2328

HHC: 1,332

NRA-S1: 548

Why?: Harrowgate Hill school should be in

HH ward! Lots of new building just north should logically be joined onto urban area. (Part of Whessoe parish east of East Coast Mainline could be split into Whinfield ward, but nobody lives there (for now)!) Neat & defensible dividing line of railway lines apart from that.

5. Whinfield

3 councillors

Electorate: 5,893 (-10.46%)

Added area allocated for Skerningham GV & Barmpton (from MSG), Whitebridge Drive estate (HH), newer Kingsway estate (H&S) & Great Burdon (from MSG, allocated for development)

SME-S2 – Barmpton: 973

HHB-S2: 400

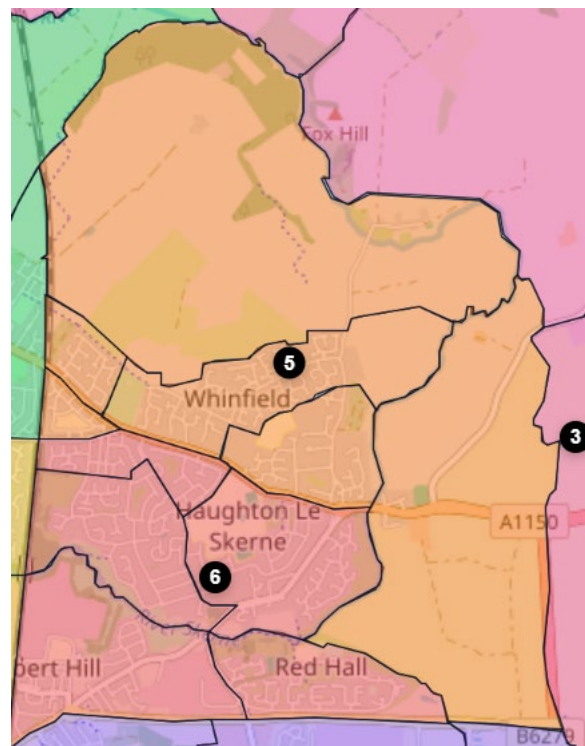
HSB-S2: 420

WHA – Whinfield: 2,263

WHB – Whinfield: 1,074

SMG-S1 – Great Burdon: 763

Why? Logical new “outer urban area” ward of new(er) development with similar feel. Bit low nos. but more building may come forward faster on Bishopton Lane (Tiviot planning app).



6. Haughton

3 councillors – see image above, with Whinfield (5)

Electorate: 6,724 (+2.16%)

What done & why?: Communities either side of Haughton Rd & north of Tornado Way. Red Hall may not “really fit” but has to go somewhere & was felt to fit better here than Lingfield, physically closer! Some more modern development north of Thompson St East shaved off, feels more like Whinfield.

HSB-S1: 853

HSA: 1,926

HSC: 1,685

STA – Albert Hill: 1,248

RLA – Red Hall: 1,012

7. Hundens & Morton Park

2 councillors

Electorate: 4,741 (+8.05%)

Borough Rd area (felt to be closer in feel to this area than Skerne Park), Central Park, Hundens Lane, Lingfield Green & Point (& Morton Park to have it easier to manage all in one ward).

PEB-S1 – Borough Rd: 180

STB – 2,043

RLB – 2,496

SMG-S2: 2 (probably zero!)

SMH-S2: 20

EAB-S2 – Cummings & behind: 0

Why?: Yarm Rd / Haughton Rd & Tornado Way are community dividers, so these sit together within them. Could remove relic of Hurworth / Neasham parish boundaries & move them to railway line or A66? Nobody lives in most of Morton Park area, but makes sense to have it all together in one ward (more cohesively managed?). Or some / all could go in Eastbourne as it has more councillors, so more capacity?

8. North Road

2 councillors

Electorate: 4,591 (+4.63%)

What & Why? Either side of Northgate & North Road, bounded by railway lines & the Denes. Obvious HH bits moved into HH.

NRA-S2: 548

NRB: 1,245

NRC: 1,223 (split but then kept together)

NRD: 732

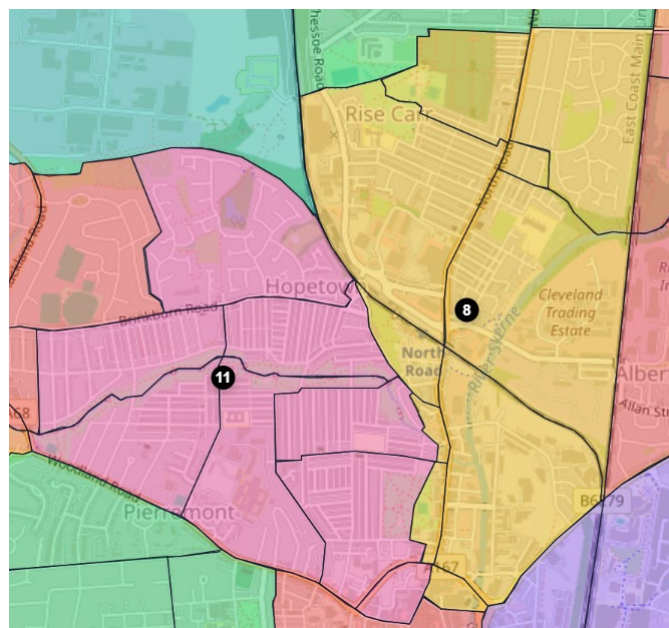
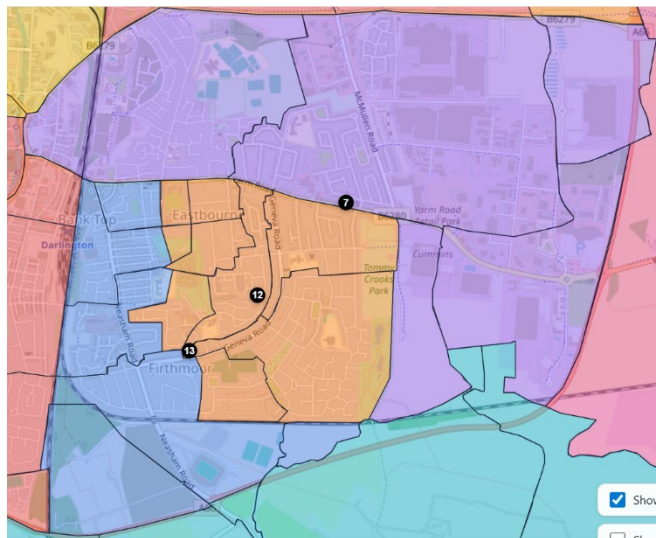
NGB-S2: 100

NGB-S1-S2: 80

NGA-S2: 70

NGC: 493

Tiny bit of town centre on Northgate, probably zero electorate.



9. Faverdale & Burtree

2 councillors

Electorate: 4,783 (+9.01%)

What & Why?: Keeping all the new Faverdale, West Park & Burtree building sites together as these all feel quite similar! Using A1 as NW divider (mainly, except Burtree Interchange where nobody lives), old railway line as southern divider, & Bishop line as eastern boundary – very defensible.

HCK-S1 – Burtree GV site: 359

BFB-S1: 2,847

BFC: 1,577

10. Cockerton

3 councillors

Electorate: 7,316 (+11.16%)

BFB-S2: 500

CKA: 2,105

CKB: 1,479

CKC: 1,152

BFD-S2: 1,800

PIA-S2: 280

What & Why?: Feels like Cockerton village & Branksome. Northern divider is old SD railway line, A1 to west, Cocker Beck to south, & “where ceases to feel like Cockerton & more like The Denes” in the east. (Old Brinkburn area of B&F currently split between older & newer housing. Could split after Railway athletic grounds & Auckland Oval if that’s too big, making The Denes ward bigger.) Cockerton shops, club & police station MUST be in Cockerton ward!

11. The Denes

3 councillors – see image with North Road ward (8)

Electorate: 6,703 (+1.84%)

What & Why?: Combines Hopetown, Pierremont, much of old Northgate ward into defensible bloc north of Woodland Rd, west of (but not on) Northgate or North Road, eastern Brinkburn Rd, focussed on The Denes, Brinkburn nature reserve & North Lodge Park. Mostly tight-packed terraced streets, except for Darrowby Drive estate (but that can’t naturally go anywhere else).

BFD-S1: 650

PID: 778

PIA-S1: 1,066

NGB-S1-S1: 989

PIB: 1,085

NGA-S1: 1,005

PIC: 1,034

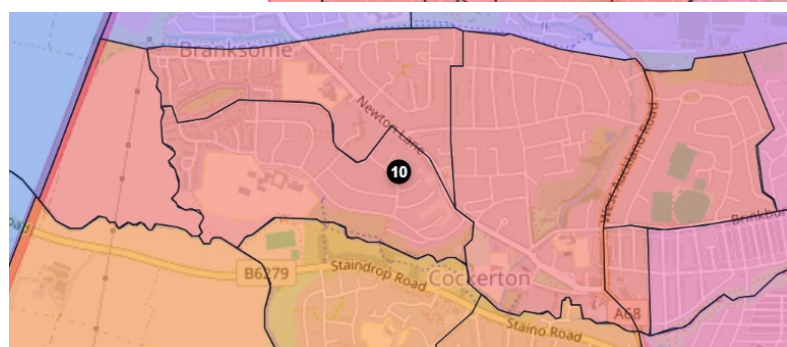
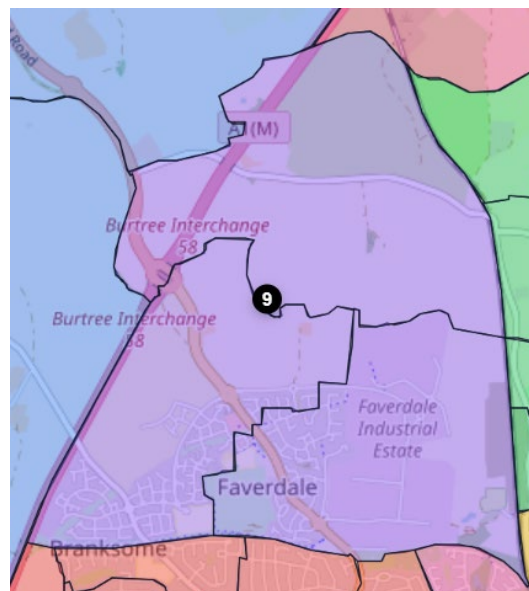
PEA-S2-S1: 96 (may be overestimate, just Regent House as residential?)

12. Eastbourne (& Firthmoor)

3 councillors – see picture with Hundens & Morton Park (7)

Electorate: 5,494 (-16.53%)

Area south of Yarm Rd, West of Tommy Crooks Park & Maidendale nature reserve, north of railway line to Teesside & west of streets immediately off Neasham Rd.



EAA: 1,060

BLD: 952

EAB-S1-S1: 2,162

BLA-S1 (east of Ridsdale St): 500

EAC-S2: 300

BLB-S2 (Eastbourne Park eastwards): 200

Why?: 1 councillor short (or each area too large, new development at south end of Neasham Rd was felt to fit better with Bank Top & Neasham Rd area than Firthmoor (or Hurworth, as it's urban area). No other area nearby to logically find more electorate!

13. Bank Top & Neasham Rd

2 councillors – see picture with Hundens & Morton Park (7)

Electorate: 4,208 (-4.10%)

What & Why?: Tightened up to area either side of Neasham Rd, to include the new development at the southern end, so some previously included in BTL moved into Eastbourne. Couldn't include any of South Park ward, as railway line forms physical boundary.

BLA-S1: 459

EAC-S1: 1,402

BLB-S1: 1,042

HUA-S2: 200

BLC-S1: 1,105

14. West End (or College & Blackwell)

3 councillors

Electorate: 7,114 (+8.09%)

COA: 1,478

COB: 1,118

COC: 895

PWB: 698

PWC-S1 (just removing Northumberland St area which seems like it should be in with the town centre): 1,333

PWA: 1572

HUA-S1-S2 (Bridge Rd at Blackwell): 20

What & Why?: Park West is too small (1 councillor ward), doesn't feel similar to other surrounding areas, but similar in nature to College ward, so combine.

Added few homes on Bridge Rd, Blackwell which may feel more urban than rural (Hurworth)?

15. Hummersknott & Mowden

3 councillors

Electorate: 7,364 (+11.89%)

HCI-S1: 1,000

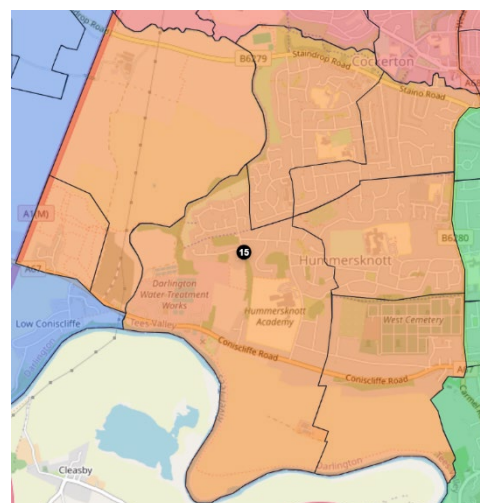
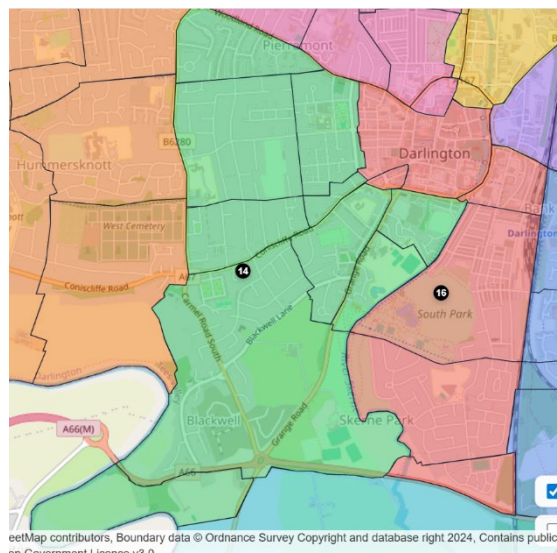
MOA: 1,407

MOB: 1,773

HKA: 1,196

HKB: 1,988

What & Why?: All previous HK & Mw areas, plus new development beyond Baydale Beck. Very defensible area to east of A1, between Staindrop & Consiccliffe Roads (& properties off them on both sides). Does NOT include Low Consiccliffe as that feels like a small village, more suited to H&C ward. Potential to reduce slightly by moving Merrybent Drive back into H&C with Merrybent & Low Consiccliffe (reduces to +8.85%), though it feels more urban? Also Consiccliffe Grange Farm may feel more like it should be in a rural ward?



16. South Park

2 councillors – see picture with West End (College & Blackwell) (14)

Electorate: 4,811 (+9.65%)

What & Why?: Mostly existing Park East ward but with some parts trimmed off in town centre which may go best with their respective wards (The Denes, Northgate & Hundens), plus Northumberland St area from Park West (which goes best with town centre feel).

PEA-S1: 550 (may be underestimate)

PWC-S2 – Northumberland St area: 100 (may be overestimate)

PEB-S2: 347

PED: 1,618

PEC:1,995

PEE: 201

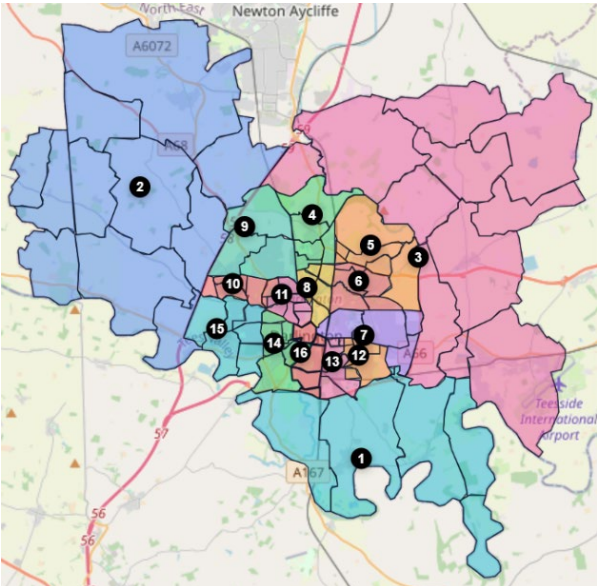
Submission for Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Review of Darlington

Overall maps (ignore colour differences between attempts 1 and 2)

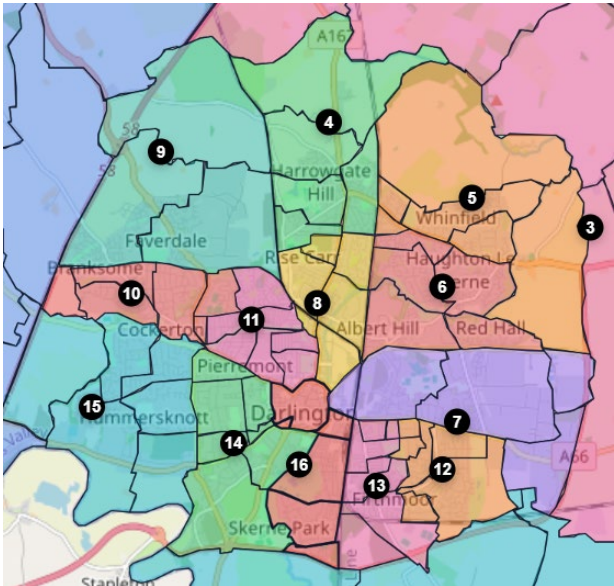
Attempt 1 was worked on with a sizeable group from Darlington Green Party, however, there was sufficient disagreement / objection that it cannot be classed as an “official” submission. It is nevertheless worth spelling out that it was the product of work of a large group of us, discussing where felt like a community, where should and shouldn’t boundaries fall, and why.

Whereas Attempt 2 is mostly the same, but tweaked the boundaries in the south east side of the town to attempt to get a better fit & community feel, and a better match with electorate numbers.

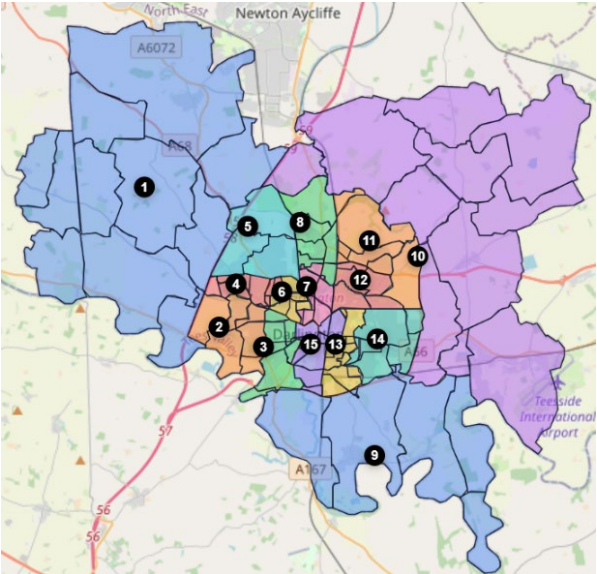
Attempt 1: overall -



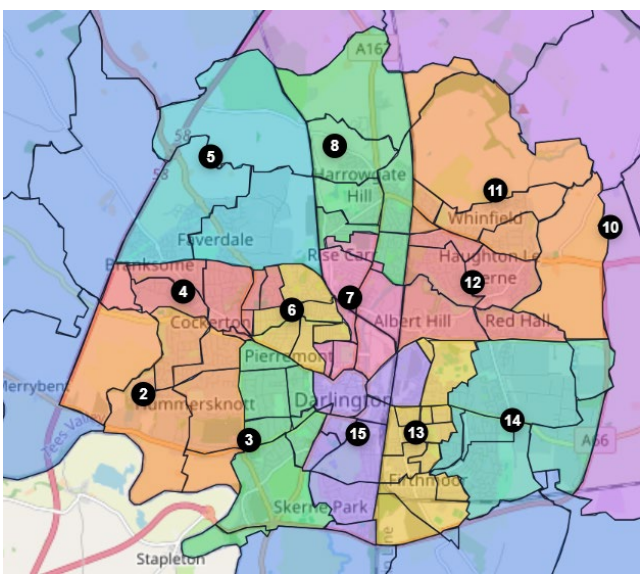
Zoomed in:



Attempt 2: overall -



Zoomed in:



1. Hurworth

2 councillors

Electorate: 3,517 (-19.85)

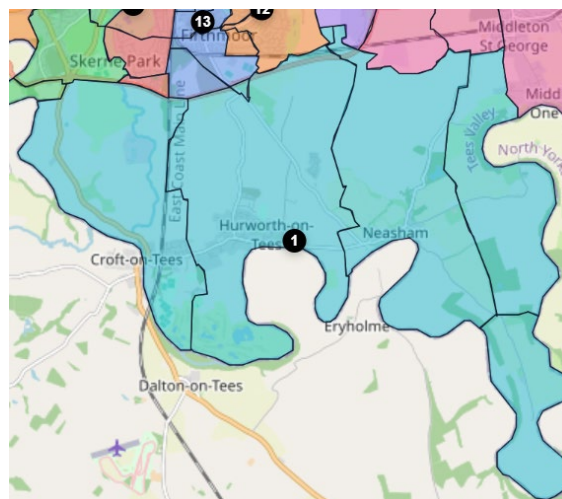
All current Hurworth wards, but remove Neasham Rd new development (boundary is A66, except properties on s. side of Bridge Rd - move into nearest urban ward.

HUA-S1-S1 - Hurworth: 1,102

HUB - Hurworth: 1,979 HUC - Neasham: 310

HUD - Neasham: 99 HUE - Neasham: 19

Why?: contiguous southern rural area



2. Heighington & Coniscliffe

2 councillors

Electorate: 3,681 (-16.11%)

Everything west of A1 except Low Consiciliffe (feels more rural village) & around Burtree Gate (no voters)

HCA - Heighington: 2,333

HCB - Houghton-le-Side: 56

HCC - Killerby: 44

HCD - Summerhouse: 82

HCE - Denton: 38

HCF - Walworth: 91

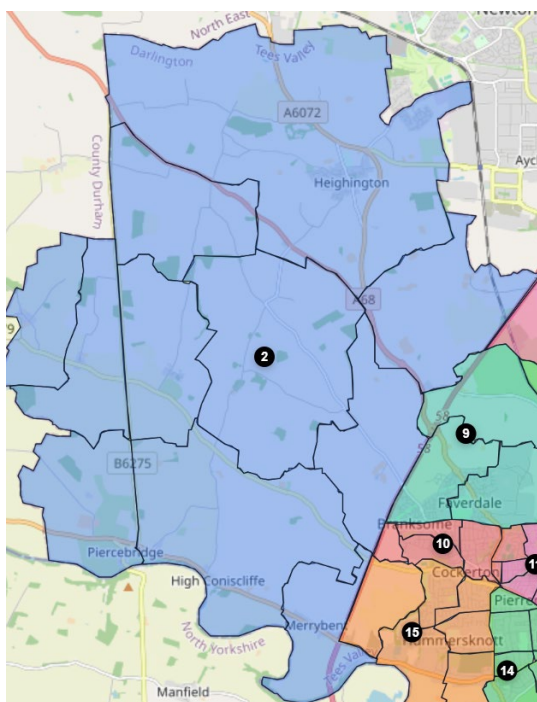
BFA - Archdeacon Newton: 17

HCG - Piercebridge: 102

HCH - High Consiccliffe: 214

HCI-S1 - Low Consiccliffe & Merrybent: 684

HCI-S1 - Coatham Mundeville: 20



Why?: Contiguous western rural area. Could put Merrybent Drive (existing development north of Low Coniscliffe & East of A1(M)) into this to rebalance numbers but it feels more urban.

3. Sadberge & MSG

3 councillors

Electorate: 6,829 (+4.61%)

All land east of A66 (lose SMG & SME land within Barmpton into urban wards), gain Brafferton HCL & Coatham Mundeville (east of A1) split from HCJ.

HCJ-S2 - Coatham Mundeville: 72

HCL - Brafferton: 116

SMA - Great Stainton: 80

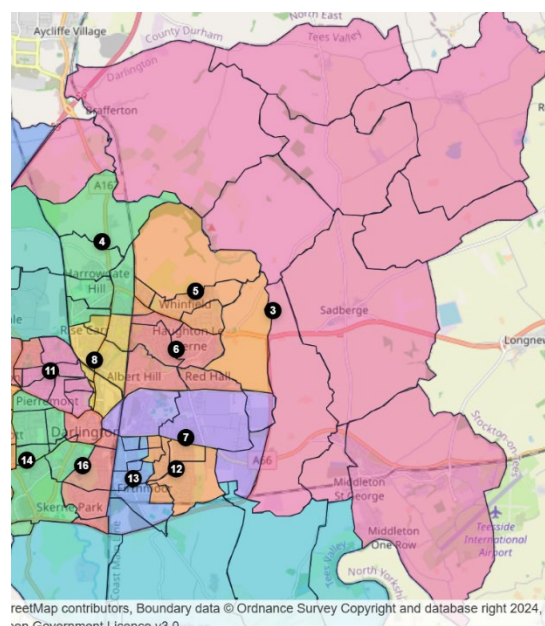
SMB - Bishopton: 315

SMC - Little Stainton: 70

SME-S1 - Barmpton: 50

SMD - East & West Newbiggin: 20

SMF - Sadberge: 654



SMH – S1 – Morton Palms – 342

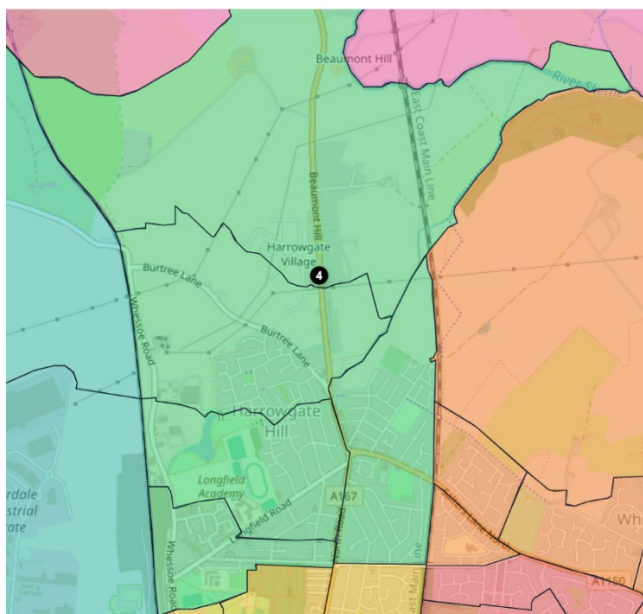
SMI – Middleton St George: 882

SMJ – Middleton St George: 4,254

Morton Palms polling district could move into Hurworth to rebalance numbers slightly, but doesn't make significant difference & doesn't seem a contiguous / logical area. Take any more from MSG and you eat into the village itself

Why?: Contiguous eastern rural area – Brafferton & Coatham Mundeville seem to be more impacted by Skerningham & Darlington Northern Link Rd issues on east side of town (but could be moved back to H&C if needed). Areas on edge of urban area (Great Burdon polling district, and edge of Morton Park) already or due to be developed, so moved into urban wards.

4. Harrowgate Hill



3 councillors

Electorate: 6,350 (-3.52%)

Add Whessoe parish east of Bishop Auckland rail line, & add south side of Thompson St W, Harrowgate Hill school & whole of Rolling Mills site. Lose Whitebridge Drive estate to Whinfield.

HCK-S2 – Whessoe: 600

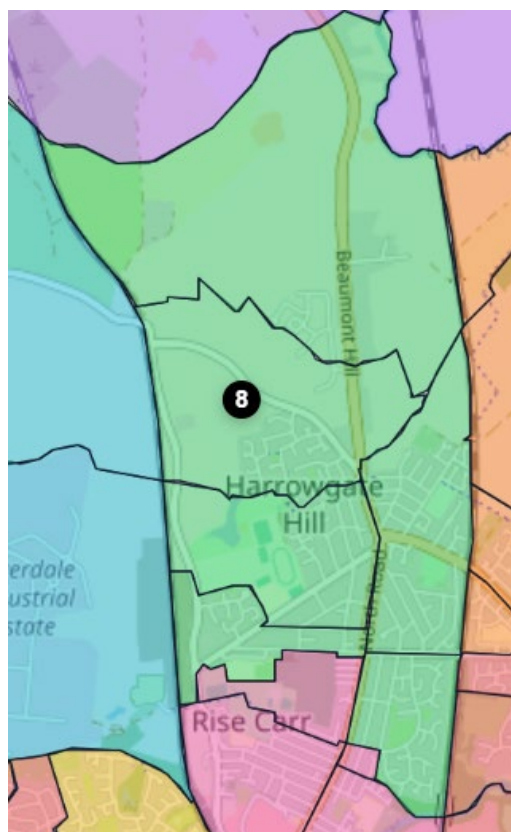
HHA – Harrowgate Hill: 1,442

HHB-S1: 2,278

(NRC-S1: 1,123 – makes it +9.12% or a bit higher)

Why?: Harrowgate Hill school should be in HH ward! Lots of new building just north in Beaumont Hill area should logically be joined onto urban area. (Part of Whessoe parish east of East Coast Mainline could be split into Whinfield ward, but nobody lives there (for now), so not bothered if this stays part of Harrowgate Hill or moved to become part of Whinfield ward!) Neat & defensible dividing line of railway lines apart from that, and area north of Thompson Streets East and West.

Possibility to also include the relatively new estate off Fitzwilliam Drive, which may feel more like leafy green Harrowgate Hill than North Road.



HHC: 1,332

NRA-S1: 548

5. Whinfield

3 councillors

Electorate: 5,893 (-10.46%)

Added area allocated for Skerningham Garden Village & Barmpton (from MSG), Whitebridge Drive estate (from Harrowgate Hill), newer Kingsway estate (from Haughton & Springfield ward) & Great Burdon (from MSG, allocated for development, and will feel more contiguous with Whinfield)

SME-S2 – Barmpton: 973

HHB-S2: 400

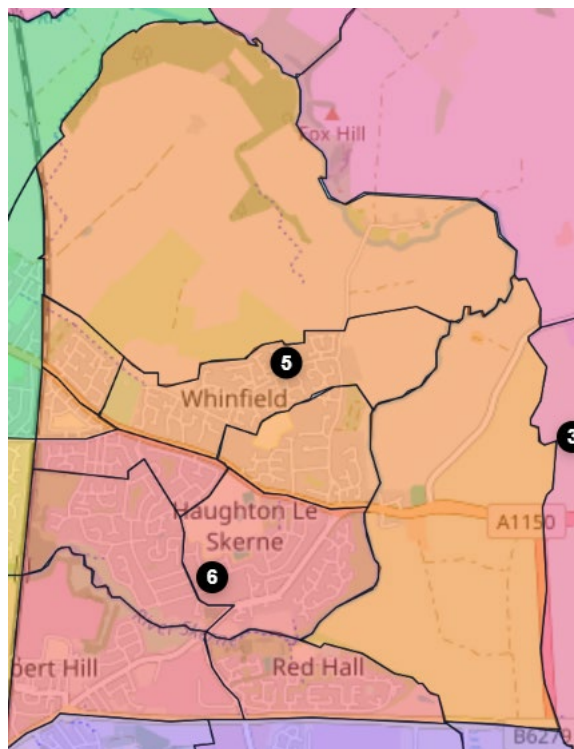
HSB-S2: 420

WHA – Whinfield: 2,263

WHB – Whinfield: 1,074

SMG-S1 – Great Burdon: 763

Why? Logical new “outer urban area” ward of new(er) development with similar feel. Slightly lower than variance / tolerance on projected numbers, but more building may come forward faster on Bishopton Lane (a planning application has recently come forward there).



6. Haughton & Red Hall

3 councillors – see image above, with Whinfield (5)

Electorate: 6,724 (+2.16%)

What done & why?: Communities either side of Haughton Rd & north of Tornado Way. Red Hall may not “really fit” but has to go somewhere & was felt to fit better here than Lingfield, physically closer! Some more modern development north of Thompson St East shaved off, as it feels more like Whinfield.

HSB-S1: 853

HSA: 1,926

HSC: 1,685

STA – Albert Hill: 1,248

RLA – Red Hall: 1,012

7. Hundens & Lingfield

2 councillors

Electorate: 4,741 (+8.05%)

Borough Rd area (felt to be closer in feel to this area than Skerne Park), Central Park, Hundens Lane, Lingfield Green & Point (& Morton Park to have it easier to manage all in one ward).

PEB-S1 – Borough Rd: 180

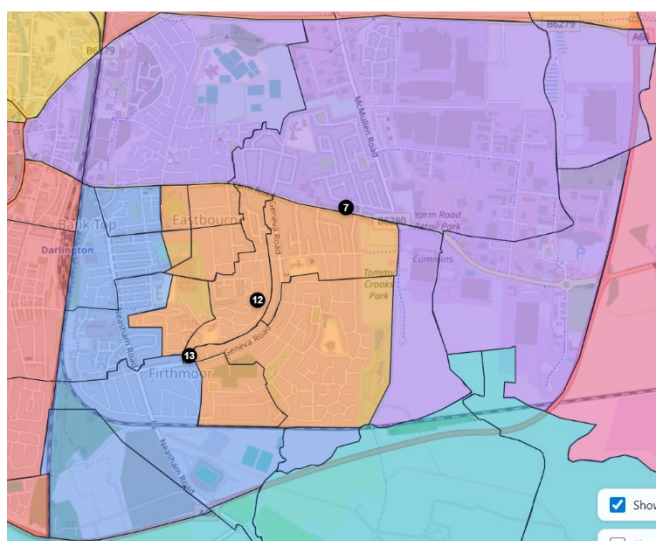
STB – 2,043

RLB – 2,496

SMG-S2: 2 (probably zero!)

SMH-S2: 20

EAB-S2 – Cummings & behind: 0



Why?: Yarm Rd / Haughton Rd & Tornado Way are community dividers, so these sit together within them. Could remove relic of Hurworth / Neasham parish boundaries & move them to railway line or A66? Nobody lives in most of Morton Park area, but makes sense to have it all together in one ward (more cohesively managed?). Or some / all could go in Eastbourne as it has more councillors, so more capacity?

8. Northgate & North Road

2 councillors

Electorate: 4,591 (+4.63%)

What & Why? Either side of Northgate & North Road, bounded by railway lines & the Denes. Obvious HH bits moved into HH.

NRA-S2: 548

NRB: 1,245

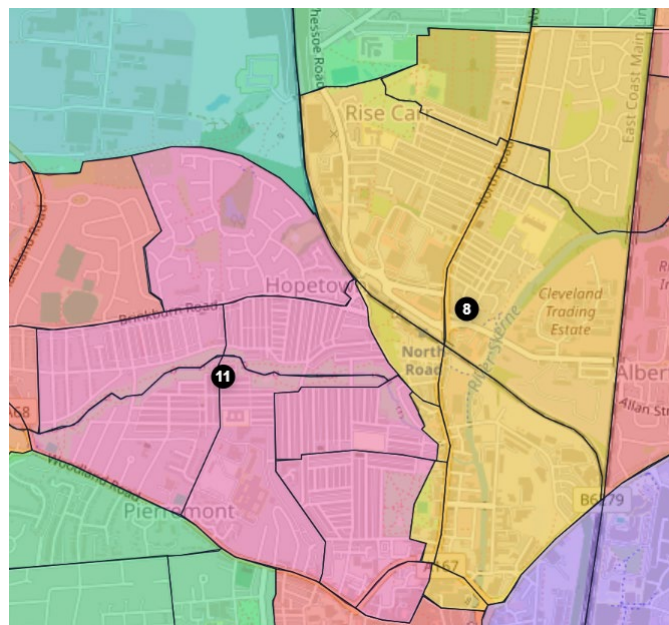
NRC: 1,223 (split but then kept together)

NRD: 732

NGB-S2: 100 NGB-S1-S2: 80

NGA-S2: 70 NGC: 493

Tiny bit of town centre on Northgate, probably zero electorate.



9. Faverdale & Burtree

2 councillors

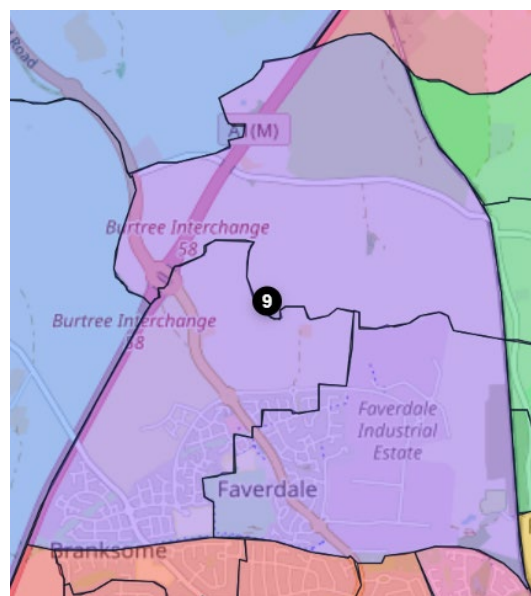
Electorate: 4,783 (+11.28%)

What & Why?: Keeping all the new Faverdale, West Park & Burtree building sites together as these all feel quite similar! Using A1 as NW divider (mainly, except Burtree Interchange where nobody lives), old railway line as southern divider, & Bishop line as eastern boundary – very defensible. Will be slightly outside variance tolerance when all new homes built out, but that won't be for some time, as Burtree Garden Village is only now at the planning stages.

HCK-S1 – Burtree GV site: 459

BFB-S1: 3,047

BFC: 1,577



10. Cockerton

3 councillors

Electorate: 6,516 (-0.41%)

BFB-S2: 300

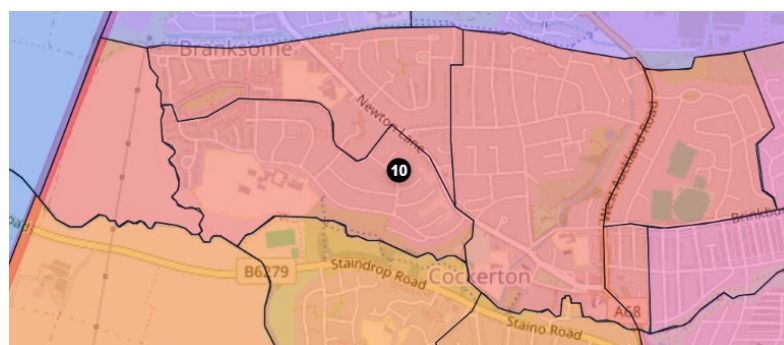
CKA: 2,105

CKB: 1,479

CKC: 1,152

BFD-S2: 1200

PIA-S2: 280



What & Why?: Feels like Cockerton village & Branksome. Northern divider is old Stocketon & Darlington railway line (footpath & bridleway, which splits communities), A1 to west, Cocker Beck to south, & “where it ceases to feel like Cockerton & more like The Denes” in the east. (Old Brinkburn area of Brinkburn & Faverdale ward currently split between older & newer housing. Could split closer to Cockerton, after Railway athletic grounds & Auckland Oval if that’s too big, making The Denes ward bigger.) N.B. Cockerton shops, Club & police station MUST be in Cockerton ward!

11. The Denes

3 councillors – see image with North Road ward (8), pink area labelled 11, or alternative possibility (labelled 6 as done in a different order):

Electorate: 6,703 (+1.84%)

What & Why?: Combines Hopetown, Pierremont, much of old Northgate ward into defensible bloc north of Woodland Rd, west of (but not on) Northgate or North Road, eastern Brinkburn Rd, focussed on The Denes, Brinkburn nature reserve & North Lodge Park. Mostly tight-packed terraced streets, except for Darrowby Drive estate (but that can’t naturally go anywhere else). Query re. how much of the area around North Lodge Park “felt” like Northgate ward, and how much feels like The Denes, hence 2 variations, the latter including North Lodge Park fully in with Northgate & North Rd.



BFD-S1: 650

PID: 778

PIA-S1: 1,066

NGB-S1-S1: 989

PIB: 1,085

NGA-S1: 1,005

PIC: 1,034

PEA-S2-S1: 96 (may be overestimate, just Regent House as residential?) – not in 2nd variation.

12. Eastbourne (& Firthmoor)

3 councillors – see picture with Hundens & Morton Park (7)

Electorate: 5,494 (-16.53%)

Area south of Yarm Rd, West of Tommy Crooks Park & Maidendale nature reserve, north of railway line to Teesside & west of streets immediately off Neasham Rd.

EAA: 1,060

BLD: 952

EAB-S1-S1: 2,162

BLA-S1 (east of Ridsdale St): 500

EAC-S2: 300

BLB-S2 (Eastbourne Park eastwards): 200

Why?: 1 councillor short (or each area too large, new development at south end of Neasham Rd was felt to fit better with Bank Top & Neasham Rd area than Firthmoor (or Hurworth, as it’s urban area). No other area nearby to logically find more electorate!

13. Bank Top & Neasham Rd

2 councillors – see picture with Hundens & Morton Park (7)

Electorate: 4,208 (-4.10%)

What & Why?: Tightened up to area either side of Neasham Rd, to include the new development at the southern end, so some previously included in BTL moved into Eastbourne. Couldn’t include any of South Park ward, as railway line forms physical boundary.

BLA-S1: 459

BLC-S1: 1,105

BLB-S1: 1,042

EAC-S1: 1,402

HUA-S2: 200

14. West End (or College & Blackwell)

3 councillors

Electorate: 7,114 (+8.09%)

COA: 1,478 COB: 1,118

COC: 895 PWB: 698

PWC-S1 (just removing Northumberland St area which seems like it should be in with the town centre):

1,333

PWA:1572

HUA-S1-S2 (Bridge Rd at Blackwell): 20

What & Why?: Park West is too small (1 councillor ward), doesn't feel similar to other surrounding areas, but similar in nature to College ward, so combine.

Added few homes on Bridge Rd, Blackwell which may feel more urban than rural (Hurworth)?

15. Hummersknott & Mowden

3 councillors

Electorate: 7,364 (+11.89%)

HCI-S1: 1,000 MOA: 1,407

MOB: 1,773 HKA: 1,196

HKB: 1,988

What & Why?: All previous HK & Mw areas, plus new development beyond Baydale Beck. Very defensible area to east of A1, between Staindrop & Consiccliffe Roads (& properties off them on both sides). Does NOT include Low Consiccliffe as that feels like a small village, more suited to Heighington & Consiccliffe (H&C) ward. This results in slightly higher than target variance of elector numbers when all of the homes are built out – but they won't be for some time. There is the potential to reduce numbers slightly by moving Merrybent Drive back into H&C with Merrybent & Low Consiccliffe (reduces to +8.85%), though it feels more urban? Also, Consiccliffe Grange Farm (just east of A1 on Staindrop Rd) may feel more like it should be in a rural ward?

16. South Park

2 councillors – see picture with West End (College & Blackwell) (14)

Electorate: 4,811 (+9.65%)

What & Why?: Mostly existing Park East ward but with some parts trimmed off in town centre which may go best with their respective wards (The Denes, Northgate & Hundens), plus Northumberland St area from Park West (which goes best with town centre feel).

PEA-S1: 550 (may be underestimate)

PWC-S2 – Northumberland St area: 100 (may be overestimate)

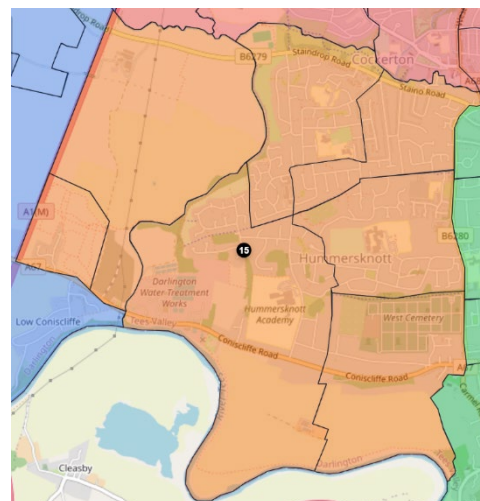
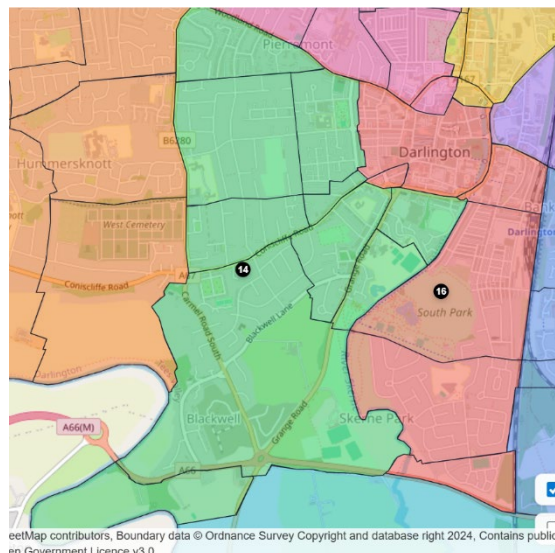
PEB-S2: 347

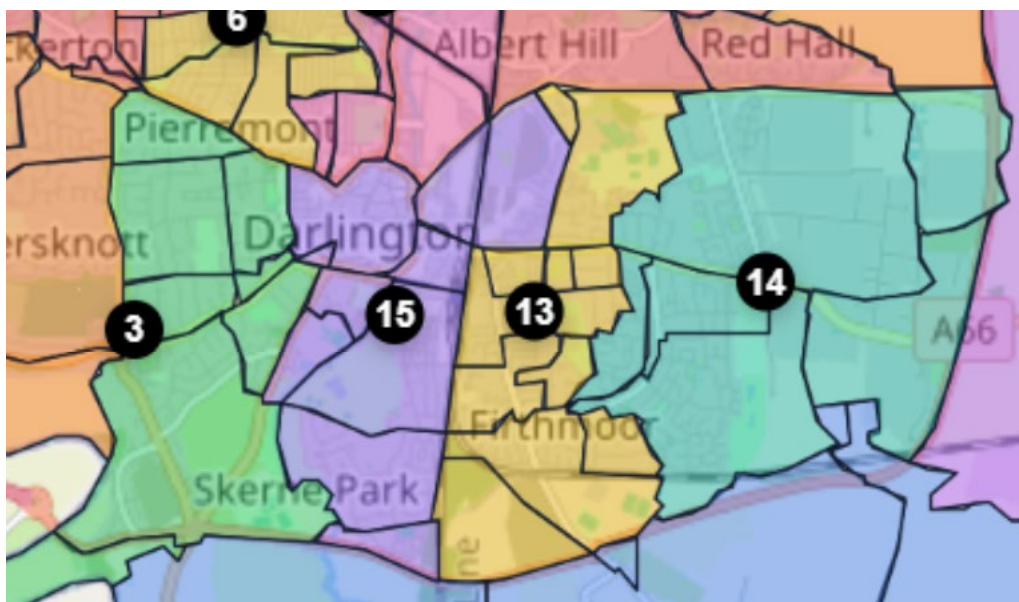
PED: 1,618

PEC:1,995

PEE: 201

Alternative attempt, zoomed in:





Main changes were that

- some inner parts of what are currently Park West ward were split off to form a **Central & South Park ward** (labelled **15** in the image above), with 3 councillors, incorporating the area west of Grange Rd including Polam School and the Cricket ground, plus Central Park and the town centre.
- This makes **College and Blackwell ward** (labelled **3** in the image above, formed of all of the existing College ward, plus most of Park West), 3 councillors, closer to the target number of electors. It also includes properties along Bridge Road at Blackwell, which were felt would feel more connection to the urban area as they are physically closer to it. A spur along Northumberland Street was lost to the Central ward, as it was felt closer in feel to the town centre.
- **Eastbourne and Neasham Rd ward** (labelled **13** in the above image), with 3 councillors, keeps the similar-feeling Eastbourne sports centre and the older housing around it & Hundens Lane in with Eastbourne Park, and other estates down Neasham Rd to include the new developments near the arena (correcting boundaries so urban areas are within this, and more rural areas are moved into Hurworth ward). The dividing line north-south would need to be worked out with communities.
- **Firthmoor & Lingfield ward** (no. **14** on the above map), 3 councillors, would take in all Lingfield Point & Lingfield Green area, Morton Park plus Firthmoor south of Yarm Road, and splitting north-south wherever logical through Eastbourne & Firthmoor.