

York

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Organisation Name: York Green Party (Representative of a local organisation)

Comment text:

Related subject: City of York council area

The key principles in our proposals are:

- i) That the required balance in number of potential electors to each councillor should be achieved with as little disruption as possible to established boundaries and the importance of established ward identities.
- ii) That ward boundaries should as far as possible define and support natural communities; to this end they should take account of natural boundaries and/or established infrastructure wherever possible.

West of the river Ouse

We believe that most wards west of the Ouse should remain as they are now. Dringhouses and Woodthorpe ward is somewhat low. We propose moving the area around Moorgarth Avenue and St George's Place out of Micklegate and into Dringhouses and Woodthorpe. This would keep both wards within a 10% tolerance.

East of the river Ouse

It seems that the major issue east of the river Ouse is that Hull Road ward is too small. At the same time, our understanding is that Fishergate, Fulford & Heslington, Osbaldwick & Derwent and Guildhall may all be seen as a bit too large. To balance this situation we propose moving the unparished parts of Fulford around Heslington Lane (previously in Fishergate) back into Fishergate ward. This would make Fulford and Heslington a more appropriate size but would of course add further to the size of Fishergate. To mitigate this we propose moving part of the area around Heslington Road (specifically the Thief Lane, Kexby Avenue, Green Dykes Lane area) into Hull Road Ward and likewise if required move some of the flats on the north side of Lawrence Street currently in Guildhall ward into Hull Road Ward. This would add around 400 voters to Fishergate in the south but remove 1,000+ in the north east. It would also make Guildhall ward somewhat smaller. Part of Osbaldwick could be moved into the

Hull Road ward too.

With respect to natural and permanent infrastructure boundaries such as the Foss Island cycle path, the railway line and the River Foss we would submit that these currently work well for Guildhall ward, keeping local neighbourhoods together and should not be changed. Likewise Walmgate Stray and Lawrence Street, Heslington Lane and the River Ouse currently form largely appropriate boundaries for Fishergate ward.

Our understanding is that Heworth Without ward is too big. This could be mitigated by moving some of the unparished areas previously moved from Heworth ward (now slightly understrength) back to where they were originally. An additional issue is that Strensall is rather low - a possibility would be to move in the whole of the area around Hopgrove Lane (currently split with Huntington) into Strensall ward, or to move Holtby from Osbalwick & Derwent, or both. Haxby & Wigginton is fairly much at the bottom end of the acceptable range but changing it would probably mean having to add in an area that doesn't naturally belong in the ward, so we would propose leaving it as it is.

Attached Documents:

None attached