

Darlington

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Comment text:

I support the recommendations for Hurworth ward as outlined in the Commissions draft proposals. The proposed boundaries reflect existing community identities and future expansion to incorporate the whole of the developments around the Darlington Arena into one Hurworth ward. The residents of these communities already share the same local facilities, transport roots, and activities.

My co-councillor and I presented the Commissions draft proposals at the May/June Hurworth annual assembly, Hurworth parish council and Neasham parish council and assembly meetings and residents in attendance at these meetings were supportive.

There is already a parish councillor on Hurworth parish council representing the new Elderbrook/Hurworth Gardens housing developments, so this particular community already has strong representation in Hurworth. Maintaining this will ensure that all local councillors can continue to represent the interests and priorities that are common across the area.

It was also agreed at these meetings that the whole ward should retain the name of Hurworth. Suggested name changes by the Commission did not seem appropriate; just calling the whole ward Hurworth is far more likely to build an even greater sense of community cohesion; no individual name tags are currently given to Neasham, Low Dinsdale or Dinsdale Park who are already part of Hurworth Ward.

Overall I believe the draft proposals strike an appropriate balance between electoral equality and community identity and I encourage the Commission to retain the proposed Hurworth Ward in its final recommendations.

Attached Documents:

None attached