

Darlington

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Organisation Name: Darlington council (Member of the public)

Comment text:

Related subject: Albert hill and redhall

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed Albert Hill, Hundens and Red Hall ward boundaries, particularly from the perspective of someone living in the Lingfield area.

For many years, there has been a feeling among Lingfield residents that our community has struggled to establish its own identity because it has repeatedly been grouped together with Red Hall. While both are important parts of Darlington, they are distinct communities with different characteristics and local priorities.

One of the frustrations for many residents is that Lingfield often seems to be overlooked whenever the area is discussed. Red Hall is usually the name people recognise, the area that receives the attention, and the community that appears to define the wider ward. As a result, Lingfield can feel like it is playing second fiddle despite being a significant community in its own right.

The physical layout of the area also reinforces this separation. Tornado Way forms a substantial barrier between Lingfield and Red Hall, and there are limited convenient routes for pedestrians travelling between the two. For many residents, they do not feel like part of a single, closely connected community. The road creates a clear and obvious boundary that people recognise locally.

That is why I believe Tornado Way would make a much more appropriate ward boundary. It follows an established local feature and would help create wards that better reflect how residents view their communities.

My concern is not with Red Hall itself. Rather, it is about ensuring that Lingfield is properly recognised and represented. Too often, Lingfield's identity feels overshadowed, and these proposals risk continuing that pattern. Residents deserve boundaries that acknowledge Lingfield as a community in its own right and ensure its voice is heard clearly.

I hope the Commission will carefully consider these concerns and look again at whether the current proposals truly reflect local identities and the realities of life in this part of Darlington.

Attached Documents:

None attached