

Darlington

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Comment text:

Related subject: Haughton and Springfield Ward

Haughton and Springfield Ward

As a resident of this current ward, I would like to comment on both new wards suggested in the 1st consultation draft.

Springfield Ward Proposal

Overall, I believe that the Boundary Commission have got it just about right for this area of Darlington. Springfield always seemed to be something of an afterthought in the old Haughton and Springfield ward, where Haughton Village was a much more prominent feature, so it makes much more sense for Springfield to be a ward in its own right with 2 dedicated councillors.

The East Coast Mainline provides a strong boundary to the west and Whinfield Road provides a strong boundary with the existing Whinfield ward to the north. Many of the children from the Springfield area, including my own granddaughter and her friends, attend Haughton School, which is set to remain in the new Springfield Ward.

Under the current boundaries, we have 3 ward councillors and I feel that a reduction in size to 2 councillors will ensure that there is more focus on our part of the ward rather than Haughton Village as in the past.

Having said that, if numbers allow, would it not make more sense to use Salters Lane North and Springfield Park as a boundary and include the Oakwood Drive estate in with Springfield. I live in an area near Springfield Care Home that has many bungalows built in the 1980s and many

elderly people living in them.

Houses around Oakwood Drive are of a similar age and type to those around Cairngorm Drive.

Haughton and Whinfield Proposal

There is so much new development going on in this part of town that it would either have to be a 1 member ward to accommodate all the new houses, or the whole area would need to be a 3 councillor ward so that all the communities that share the anxieties caused by large scale development are together. Including Skerningham with Whinfield and adding Haughton Village and the houses off Winchester Way to Whinfield to make a 3 councillor ward definitely has its merits and is probably the best solution for this part of the town.



Attached Documents:

None attached