

Review Officer (York)

Local Government Boundary Commission for England
LGBCE Electoral Review Team
Web Submission: <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/york>

Date: June 6, 2026

Formal Objection to the Proposed Electoral Boundary Changes: Reallocation of Upper Poppleton (Langley Gate) to West Acomb Ward

Dear Review Officer,

I am writing to formally log my strongest possible objection to the proposed boundary changes currently under consideration for the City of York, specifically regarding the reclassification of my home within the Langley Gate (Miller Homes) development from Upper Poppleton (York Outer) to West Acomb (York).

I recently purchased my new-build property at Langley Gate in June 2025. A primary, deciding factor in my family's significant financial investment in this specific development was its location within the premium, semi-rural parish of Upper Poppleton. Moving to Poppleton represented a conscious lifestyle choice based on the established identity, schools, historical rural environment, and socio-economic character of the area. Redrawing the boundaries to arbitrarily strip our community of its Poppleton identity less than a year into our residency is profoundly disappointing and unacceptable.

I object to the proposed draft recommendations on the following specific grounds:

- **Severance of Longstanding Community and Historical Ties:** The Langley Gate development is physically and socially integrated with Upper Poppleton. The area has deeply historical and geographic ties to the Poppleton community. Residents here identify strongly with the surrounding rural parish and look toward Poppleton for local village amenities, community identity, and civic engagement. Forcing a transition into an urban city ward like West Acomb completely disregards our local community identity.
- **Severe Impact on Education and Catchment Areas:** The proposed shifting of the boundary threatens our access to the Poppleton Ousebank School catchment area, reassigned instead to Carr Lane School. This introduces massive, unexpected disruption to young families who moved to this development specifically for its established local educational paths.
- **Negative Financial Repercussions for Homeowners:** Moving from a low-crime, semi-rural parish ward to a higher-density, urban city ward carries measurable adverse financial consequences. On paper, this

transition will result in immediate hikes to both our car insurance and buildings/contents insurance premiums due to the differing risk profiles of West Acomb. Furthermore, disconnecting our homes from the desirable Poppleton designation risks artificially devaluing our hard-earned property investments.

- **Flawed Methodology in Elector Balancing:** While I understand the stated objective of the LGBCE review is to balance elector numbers across wards to achieve an average of approximately 3,200 electors per councillor, this mechanical approach shouldn't override logical community boundaries. Moving our area to West Acomb actively strips representation from Rural West York, leaving it around 10% below that target average, thereby fracturing cohesive rural communities to arbitrarily balance urban numbers.

There is no clear or justifiable community need for this change. Acomb is an entirely separate urban area with its own distinct identity. Absorbing a newly established semi-rural development into a metropolitan ward serves only as a statistical exercise on paper, completely ignoring the lived reality and wishes of the residents who actually live here.

We bought our house in Poppleton, not Acomb. I urge the Commission to reconsider this proposal, respect the integrity of the parish boundaries, and maintain Langley Gate's designation within the Upper Poppleton / Rural West York boundary where it belongs.

Yours sincerely,

Langley Gate Homeowner & Resident