

York

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Comment text:

Related subject: Osbaldwick and Derwenthorpe

The Commission's criteria require it to avoid breaking local ties and to maintain easily identifiable boundaries. Splitting Derwenthorpe between three wards conflicts with these criteria.

As a planned estate, Derwenthorpe has clear physical boundaries and strong internal connections. Its four quarters share a district heating system, estate-wide broadband and television networks, and an integrated network of footpaths and cycle routes. Residents use facilities across the estate, including the two lakes and shared green spaces, which serve the whole community rather than any single quarter.

The estate also has a shared community facility, the Super Sustainability Centre, and a network of estate-wide governance bodies, including the Derwenthorpe Residents' Association, the Derwenthorpe Governing Group, as well as volunteer-run sub-committees that bring together residents with shared interests. Community groups and activities for all age groups draw participants from across all four quarters.

The green spaces shared by residents help foster strong neighbourhood relationships. Dedicated communication channels further strengthen community cohesion, enabling residents to exchange information, goods and support. These networks have been particularly important in responding to recent anti-social behaviour affecting people living on the estate.

I therefore object to the proposal to divide Derwenthorpe across three separate wards and urge the Commission to recognise it as a single community that should be represented within one ward.

Attached Documents:

None attached