

Liverpool City Council

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Comment text:

Liverpool Green Party acknowledges that urgent change was required in Liverpool following the arrest of the Labour mayor and the subsequent revelations of bullying and poor practice in several departments within the city council. However, the changes directed by the Secretary of State do not address the need for better scrutiny and a more responsive democracy. Rather than moving to single member wards with elections only once every four years, we would have liked to see proportional representation brought in for the local authority and the scrapping of the mayoral system, which has only served to concentrate power in the hands of one person and their hand picked cabinet. We acknowledge the huge effort of council officers in developing a set of indicative wards, and appreciate that genuine attempts were made to ensure the process gave every political party, and members of the public a chance to be heard. We will propose some specific changes here and explain our reasoning for the proposed changes. Unlike some others we will not pull a political stunt of proposing changes which ignore the directions and therefore have no chance of being accepted by the commission, but will propose some small changes which reflect our local knowledge about existing communities and seek to strengthen the existing indicative wards. Change 1. Move some dwellings from ward 65 "Greenbank" to ward 56 "Arundel." These are the 5 blocks of flats, two to the west and three to the east of St Hildas School, in an area between Ullet Road and Mossley Hill Drive to the far west of the proposed ward. These blocks are named after 5 of the "Avenues" off Arundel Avenue and as such have a historical affinity with that area. Change 2. Move some streets from Indicative ward 49 "Wavertree Village" into ward 50 "Wavertree Garden Suburb." This is largely because the latter is at the very limit of the 10% tolerance, so in the interest of equality of representation it would be beneficial to increase numbers there somewhat. The former is 4% over, so balancing is possible between the two wards. Looking at the boundaries between the two, the most appropriate place to look at is the north east of ward 49 and the following streets: Maberley View; Larch Grove; Birch Grove; Crawford Drive and Thorley Close. If these were moved across the balance between the tow wards would be improved.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded