

Gateshead

Personal Details:

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Organisation Name: (Member of the public)

Comment text:

My view is that the number of councillors should be reduced.

The number of councillors at Gateshead Council is far too high. From what I can see most councils typically have a larger number of voters to councillors. Why has Gateshead Council not followed this trend before now?

Also, many activities that used to be the responsibility of Gateshead Council have either been transferred to other organisations or are not done at all. These include, for example, removed functions such as many educational services and those now run by the voluntary sector, such as some libraries, looking after flowerbeds and managing community centres and bowling greens. Without these organisations stepping in, Gateshead Council would have simply just stopped them.

Yet, despite this, Gateshead Council has remained plus sized for over 40 years. The money that Gateshead Council would save from reducing councillor numbers should be redirected to the essential services that Gateshead residents deserve and pay for.

Labour run Gateshead Council have one of the highest Council Tax rates in the UK although seem intent in retaining the current councillor numbers and other wasteful use of Council Tax payers hard earned wages.

To sum, there is no evidence I have seen that a higher number of councillors at Gateshead Council brings about a comparable increase in services that benefits its constituents in the local wards.

Attached Documents:

None attached