

Northumberland

Personal Details:

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Organisation Name: Conservative Party (Member of Parliament)

Comment text:

Related subject: Blyth Valley

Comments of Ian Levy MP regarding proposed county council boundary changes in Blyth Valley Parliamentary Constituency:

I have through the period of the consultation by the Boundary Commission been in regular contact with a number of my councillors and my local Northumberland Conservatives management team.

My feedback has been fed into the Northumberland Conservatives consultation response which I am fully in agreement with.

Specifically I highlight a number of issues here however that are worth additional emphasis.

Firstly there had been significant public comment and feedback regarding the splitting of New Hartley village in half by the proposals by the BC. Residents are against and I do not support it either. I recognise the challenge regarding the size and geography of the Hartley Division and support local calls for the Division to be made an anomaly and allowed to be sized just over the 10% level. As such it should ideally be allowed to remain unchanged from its existing boundary.

The Hartley Division changes proposed by the BC necessitate changes to the Newsham Division which I do not support. Newsham in Blyth has little to no connection with New Hartley or other areas proposed for that division. The changes proposed by Northumberland Conservatives remove this issue.

The BC propose logical changes to Cowpen. I am in full support of these changes. Considering the neighbouring “Bebside” Division I agree entirely with this being a logical division but agree with Northumberland Conservatives on the need for their suggested name of the division.

The changes proposed by Northumberland Conservatives to Newsham to add the Newsham Farm Estate back into the division are logical as are the various changes that are made to the Isabella, Croft and South Blyth divisions that link with this.

Finally turning to Cramlington. Again I am in full agreement with Northumberland Conservatives submission. The changes they propose are refinement of the BC proposals to add important local context.

Attached Documents:

None attached