

North Tyneside

Personal Details:

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

Comment text:

Postal sub - please see attachment

Attached Documents:

- 20230511151245764.pdf

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
26.04.2023

Dear Sir / Madam,

We are writing in reference to the LGBCE proposed changes to the 'Benton Ward' North Tyneside.

Please find enclosed copies of documentation we received from NTC on 30 March 2023.

NTC's consultation closed at midnight on 10 April 2023, effectively leaving only 6 working days to respond due to weekends and Easter Bank Holidays.

Our concerns are:

- 1: The lack of time to think about and respond before the stated closing date of 10 April 2023
- 2: The boundary change information was sent to us just prior to a holiday period when people could be 'distracted' e.g. on holiday, or carrying out 'child care duties', etc.
- 3: No map of the existing 'Benton Ward' was provided to compare to the proposed 'Map A' or 'Map B'.
- 4: 'Map A' and 'Map B' as provided by NTC are in different scales and different orientations.
- 5: NTC have not provided an explanation why they want to propose 'Map B' to the LGBCE.
- 6: NTC's letter does not state that the LGBCE consultation ran until 17 April 2023. (We discovered this in a phone call to NTC)

As we do not have Internet access and concerned that we may not be able to respond in time via letter, we phoned NTC and stated our concerns. A very helpful NTC representative said that she could record our opinions and option choice.

Having lived in the 'Benton Ward' area for over 60 years the LGBCE's 'Map A' was our choice because it most closely resembled the existing 'Benton Ward'. We quoted continuity of road links, Conservation Area's, Councillors and Communities amongst our reason to choose 'Map A'.

We asked NTC's representative about the points listed above, the only information we gained was the LGBCE's closing date was 17 April 2023 and that NTC had known about the boundary changes since November 2022 - ample time we would have thought to communicate with residents.

In addition to the points above, we asked how will NTC present resident responses to the LGBCE. For example: if only 100 residents respond and 75 choose 'Map A' and 25 choose 'Map B', how will NTC judge the non-respondent's – will they not be counted as in the election of a councillor or MP, or will they be considered neutral and therefore, by default in favour of NTC's proposal of 'Map B'.

NTC's representative said she did not know how NTC would assess the consultation results or how NTC would present the results to the LGBCE, she recommended that we write to you, hence this letter and our concerns.

For your information, in co-operation with a neighbour we recently undertook a 'doorstep survey' amongst local residents about the possible introduction of 'Permit Parking' in Cheviot View and Southfield Road. NTC's Ward Boundary changes cropped up during our parking survey. Many residents showed concern about the changes and did not understand the Maps provided by NTC, hence our addition of 'markers' for Southfield Road to help us explain to residents the issues of scale and orientation. No resident who commented during our parking survey was in favour of 'Map B' and thought 'Map A' best represented our community.

Another issue that arose on the 'doorstep' and to add to the confusion came from the fact that the LGBCE's website/consultation for 'Benton Ward' only showed 'Map A' and did not include NTC's 'Map B'.

It is our opinion that NTC has not carried out this consultation in an appropriate manner, full information was not provided, the information provided was not in a consistent format and not enough time to consider and respond to the consultation was given.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or require clarity on any of the points we have raised.

Yours Sincerely

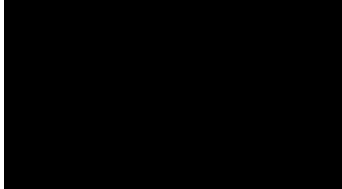
[Redacted signature]

[Redacted contact information]



North Tyneside Council

Quadrant, The Silverlink North,
Cobalt Business Park,
North Tyneside, NE27 0BY
Tel: 0191 643 2828



23 March 2023

Dear Resident,

As you may know, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is conducting a review into the electoral wards in North Tyneside. This is to make sure local councillors all represent a similar number of electors. You can comment directly on the LGBCE's consultation at consultation.lgbce.org.uk

North Tyneside Council intends to respond to the LGBCE's proposals, suggesting some changes.

This includes a possible change to the electoral ward covering the area you live in. We would like to know which of the attached maps you consider best reflects your community and why. 'Map A' is the LGBCE's proposal, and 'Map B' is our proposal.

You can give your feedback by scanning this QR code or going to the link, answering a couple of questions, and telling us if you prefer A or B. The feedback form will close at midnight on 10 April 2023.

If you require further assistance to submit your feedback, you can contact us on the telephone number at the top of this letter.

Thank you.

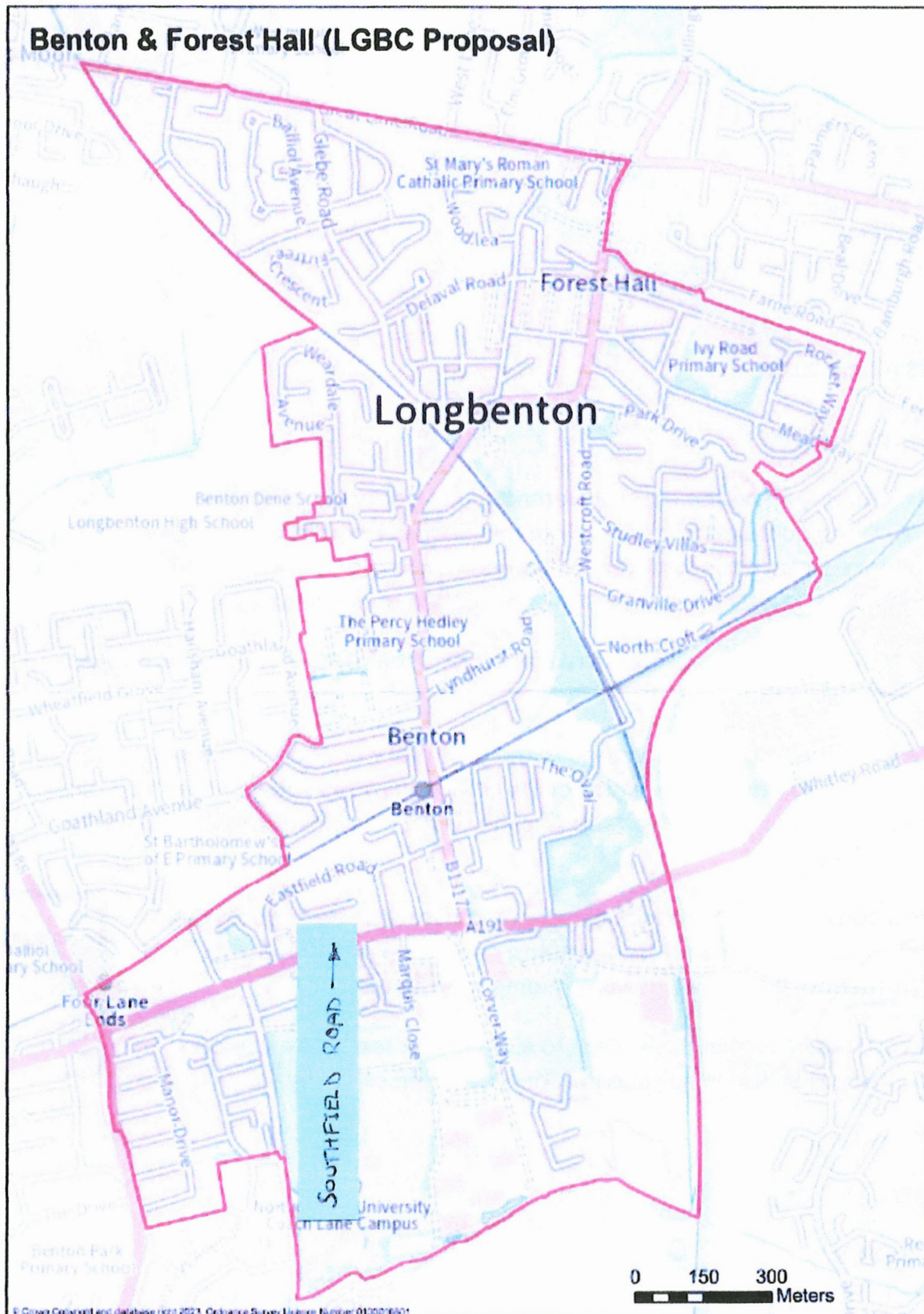


Jon Ritchie
Director of Resources



bit.ly/LGBCE-NT

Map A



Map B

