

Wakefield

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Comment text:

Related subject: Various

I appreciate that council areas have to be equalised but I live in the Walton area of Wakefield and for a few years this has been paired with Crofton and Ryhill. As the crow flies these are areas that appear to be relatively close but the incidence of lakes and farmland means that the distance from Walton to Ryhill by road is considerably more than Walton to Newmillerdam, Sandal, or even the new conurbation in Wakefield East. I would support any move to dissolve the boundary between Walton and Ryhill as they are 2 very different places. Crofton, I can just about understand but this has expanded in recent years and is far larger than Walton. There is also the question of what to do with the huge number of new houses on the Wakefield Eastern relief road. They are located in the East of Wakefield but if they sit within Wakefield East this presumably would create a huge discrepancy. It's the same for my parliamentary constituency, I live around 3-4 miles from the centre of Wakefield yet elect the MP for Hemsworth, a town I rarely have visited around 8-9 miles away. The system is a bit crackers but lines have to be drawn somewhere and I guess if my ideas are taken on board then somebody's nose is pushed out of joint elsewhere. Wakefield South used to be where Walton was included because there is less than half a mile between Sandal and Walton whereas there is a mile between Walton and Crofton and Ryhill is another 3 miles on. Good luck with the exercise, I'm sure it will prove challenging to satisfy all demands. At the end of the day it doesn't matter that much, turn out is usually only around 1/3 at local elections and even at a general election is unlikely to exceed 2/3 by much if at all. To me this indicates that people just don't place importance on the political system and whether boundaries are a factor in this I don't know, it's doubtful that this is the case.

Attached Documents:

None attached