

From: Michael King <town.clerk@whitbytowncouncil.gov.uk>
Sent: 12 April 2024 14:59
To: reviews
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Review of North Yorkshire Council - Develop council size proposal

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Dear Sirs,

Whitby Town Council has considered the work which the Commission is undertaking with North Yorkshire Council to propose new electoral arrangements for the whole local authority. The town council recognises that the Commission has omitted any express engagement with parish, town and city councils in North Yorkshire at this time, but that, nevertheless, there are issues currently under consideration which are significant to the Whitby parish and its citizens.

The town council has therefore resolved to send the following submission for your consideration at this phase of your review.

Submission from Whitby Town Council regarding the Local Government Boundary Review of North Yorkshire Council.

Stage One: Council Size

Whitby Town Council submits this representation regarding the number of councillors suitable for North Yorkshire Council.

As with the 2019 review of Scarborough Borough Council, we recommend that the area of Whitby be co-terminal with a whole number of county divisions. The Town Council is currently covered by two county divisions: Whitby West and Whitby Streonshalh. Although each division on its own is mis-sized and will need adjusting, the two divisions taken together are very close to the quota for exactly two divisions with the current 90 county councillors.

2023 Whitby electorate	10,095	1.9 seats
2028 Whitby forecast	11,215	2.1 seats
County quota for 90 seats	5,289	

There are housing developments currently in progress and granted for development at Green Lane, Broomfield Farm, and Stakesby Road which are likely to add around 1,120 electors, based on the number of houses multiplied by the average occupancy in town.

Whitby has a distinct local identity. The greater Whitby District, broadly the Esk Valley basin, also has a distinct local identity. The area has a distinct character and community of its own. Whitby is isolated on all sides, by the moors to the landward side and the sea to the other. The geography funnels the focus of the area towards Whitby which is the focus for local facilities and forms the urban core. The Town Council is also wholly outside the North Yorkshire National Park, with the Park

boundary being coterminous with the Town Council boundary other than the north-western border with Sandsend.

We believe that addresses the criteria of *Interests and Identities of Local Communities and Effective and Convenient Local Government* and would be best served if Whitby had a whole number of county councillors with no county division overlapping outside the Town Council area. Consequently, we recommend that the total number of county councillors is in a small range close to the existing 90.

Please let me know if you require any additional information.

Regards



Whitby
Town Council

Michael King
Town Clerk



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