# Newcastle upon Tyne

## Personal Details:

**Name:** Mr Mark Mitchell

**Email:** ████████████

**Postcode:** ████

**Organisation Name:** (District or county councillor)

## Comment text:

**Related subject:** West Fenham/Fenham Ward

I am a ward councillor for the West Fenham Ward, elected in 2024.

In the light of the Commission's proposal to slightly change the West Fenham ward boundaries, and to change the name to Fenham, I instead propose that the ward be called "Fenham and Slatyford".

This reflects the fact that, geographically the ward will, as before, be made up of part of Fenham while also recognizing that Slatyford is, and is viewed by its residents as, not part of Fenham.

As a councillor, I have to ensure that I speak to residents as residents of "Fenham" or "Slatyford" or else I will be firmly corrected. I always mention Slatyford when talking about the ward, even through it is not currently part of the name of the ward.

The green area immediately west of Silver Lonnen on a map divides the two areas and results in two different communities. Slatyford has its own Community Centre and Tenants' Association. There is a clear community identity there.

I also note that the total electorate in Slatyford is comparable with that in the Fenham part of the ward, and there is therefore merit in recognizing the two communities equally in the ward name.

Other ward names in the city (Benwell and Scotswood, Denton and Westerhope etc) have two areas names in the ward title.

Otherwise, I would like to express my support for the fact that your proposal largely keeps the ward I represent intact. I would prefer that the boundaries not change at all, give that we meet the electoral quota but I understand that the Commission must look at other wards as well.

I also note that the people of West Fenham and Slatyford have been in a single ward for many years and emphasize that, despite my comments above, any proposal to split the two communities between different wards would cause significant concern.

## Attached Documents:

*None attached*