

Newcastle upon Tyne

Personal Details:

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

Comment text:

Related subject: Blakelaw & Cowgate; Gosforth; Jesmond

1) Blakelaw and Cowgate

As a former elected representative [REDACTED] I strongly support the proposal to rename the ward to Blakelaw and Cowgate. I believe this would be strongly supported in the cowgate section of the ward (broadly the part east of Ponteland road, but also encompassing a smaller chunk around the pharmacy and the Aldi west of the road, close to the junction). Cowgate and Blakelaw are two distinct, identifiable areas, with distinct identities, a view that is in my experience, also shared by residents in the Blakelaw section of the ward. Cowgate is also now substantially more ethnically diverse, which is borne out by recent census statistics.

2) Jesmond, Gosforth, South Gosforth

I think it is possible to achieve a better level of electoral equality by reshuffling boundaries in these areas. The area immediately north of the boundary of north Jesmond, either side of Ilford road is sometimes known as 'High West Jesmond' and has significant similarities to the area of north Jesmond around the former la sagesse school (Crossway, Towers Avenue, etc). While I can't be that specific due to a paucity of publicly available data, I suggest including enough of this area to move North Jesmond up to the desired number. This can be accommodated by reshuffling territory in the other gosforth wards, which will also mostly create cleaner ward lines and improve electoral equality. For example The salient south of Regent centre (Regent Road, Elsdon Road, Hedley Street, Hedley Terrace) could be moved from Fawdon into Gosforth, which it much more strongly identifies with, while some or all of the area east of the high street could be moved consequentially into Dene and south Gosforth, which is well linked to south Gosforth. As manor park is also slightly under currently, this boundary could also be adjusted (for example in the area of Swaledale gardens as this area is currently divided awkwardly and is connected strongly to both sides of the boundary) to ensure D&SG does not become too populous.

Attached Documents:

None attached