

# Newcastle upon Tyne

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## Comment text:

**Related subject:** Changes to Jesmond Ward boundary

Jesmond Vale (the area bounded by the roads Churchill Gardens, Lansdowne Gardens, Northumberland Gardens, Selborne Gardens, Roseberry Place, Roseberry Crescent, the A1058 and Jesmond Dene Road) should remain part of the Jesmond ward. Not only is there considerable history linking these parts of Jesmond, but the following reasons to remain are also pertinent:

- Services that are most accessible for residents of Jesmond Vale are within the wider Jesmond ward - doctors, dentists, opticians, supermarkets and local shops;
- Limited accessible routes connecting to Ouseburn and Shieldfield exist for walking and cycling, making Jesmond a natural choice for those with mobility issues and those with small children.
- In the 1980s when the A1058 Cradlewell bypass was constructed the new road was specifically built in a tunnel to reduce the severance of Jesmond.

One of the key reasons for keeping Jesmond Vale in Jesmond Ward came to light in the recent experiences of the East Jesmond Low Traffic Neighbourhood (EJLTN) experiment. This had a direct and negative effect on numerous residents in Jesmond (and beyond) including those who live in Jesmond Vale, isolating residents, in particular the elderly and infirm with mobility issues. This isolation was made acute by severing the connection to the Jesmond services and exacerbated by the poor choice of alternative routes for residents. The scheme was eventually removed because of the negative effect on residents. The failed LTN caused widespread concern among the community and severance highlighted the importance of ward boundaries reflecting community boundaries. The current ward boundaries mean that only part of wider Jesmond is in North Jesmond and a smaller part in South Jesmond. South Jesmond ward is largely Sandyford and parts of Shieldfield (the majority of this community were not concerned about the impact of the EJLTN as it had no direct effect on their community).

Jesmond Vale should not be severed from the wider Jesmond ward as it forms part of the wider community of Jesmond and the new ward would no longer be representative of the natural community of the area.

## **Attached Documents:**

*None attached*