

Newcastle upon Tyne

Personal Details:

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Organisation Name: (Member of the public)

Comment text:

Related subject: Throckley and Walbottle

I welcome the work overall to ensure Wards are of more similar population size and that populations have a similar level of voice. I note that in these proposals no wards would have a greater than 10% variance in electorate population compared to other wards, but was disappointed to not see any data on total population (rather than just electorate) shown for each ward. Our councillors should represent all members of their local communities, not just those eligible to vote, and i would like to see recognition of the numbers of under 18s and others without the right to vote, factored into the thinking. My expectation is that this would show that the communities in the most deprived parts of the city will have higher numbers of children and immigrants without the right to vote, and therefore these people will be under represented by councillor numbers on the full council.

In terms of the specific boundary changes proposed, I welcome the proposal to move the western boundary of Chapel ward and the eastern boundary of Throckley and Walbottle to run down North Walbottle Road, and to include the bridge over the A69 in Throckley and Walbottle. As a resident of North Walbottle I feel greater affinity with Walbottle, Throckley and Newburn than i do with Chapel. This is particularly noticeable when I come to vote when I am required to vote in Chapel House polling station rather than a location in Walbottle which is a more natural flow of activity and community.

Attached Documents:

None attached