

North East Lincolnshire

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Comment text:

Related subject: All

The following is a proposal with an enclosed map to suggest a balanced option for ward boundaries in North East Lincolnshire.

The proposal has been made with both vital suggestions for balance of community representation and cohesion with the need to have a fair in scope number of electors per Councillor Per Ward. As well as some options for boundaries that could be altered to better balance electoral numbers, but are not vital to that end, simply preferred options if required.

The following proposals have been made with several key principles.

- Existing community areas should be preserved where possible, as there is little appetite across the Brorugh for sweeping changes.
- All proposals are built around need based on population changes over the last twenty years.
- Where possible, it will be an opportunity to strengthen existing communities.
- There should be a mix of Two and Three member wards, as all attempts to work within a strict three member model have met resistance and objectively failed a community cohesion test.
- Villages that are not divided should remain so
- Distinction between Town Centre areas, residential estate areas, as well as Suburban and Rural areas.
- All numbers are calculated to be in scope for the 2030 population targets as well as the 10% either way thresholds.

Summary of submission.

Having considered option, the NEL Labour group decided to reject the Three members to a Ward approach as this created a scenario in which essentially a ward was to be in effect deleted and redistributed, namely as if NEL was to remain with forty two members divided by three members to a ward, it creates an inevitable reduction of one ward, in effect having to be deleted and then redistributed to its neighbours, regardless of community cohesion, and then leading to a 'domino effect' in surrounding wards in terms of electoral population, forcing a number of undesirable consequences. To that end, this submission retains the current balance of twelve wards with three members, and three wards with two members, but where appropriate, rearranged to meet the challenges of population changes, most notably in the Southern Suburban parts of the Borough that have and will continue to see large amounts of housing development, and the radical fall in electoral numbers for the East Marsh area.

Prevalent Community identities within North East Lincolnshire.

Demographically, North East Lincolnshire is not particularly diverse, historically it has a low BAME population and in only recently it has seen a growth of diversity, namely Iraqi Kurds, East Europeans, and more recently West Africans, and although they do tend to be more prevalent in the middle and lower income housing area, it is not felt that boundaries can currently be drawn to offer any better representation for these groups, and that the proposal would capture these communities within the wider narrative.

One of if not the biggest distinction in North East Lincolnshire is that of Grimsby and Cleethorpes. These areas make up most of the population, and almost the entirety of the urban town population. Within that distinction, many residents within these towns have a distinct identity between each other in spite of proximity, thus this proposal is built within the principle that Areas that currently reside outside of Grimsby and Cleethorpes Wards should remain to do so, and the boundary dividing the Grimsby and Cleethorpes towns should be a 'hard boundary' moving forwards.

The boundary can be seen clearly along Park Street, Carr Lane to Hamont Road, then along the Carr Lane allotment Boundary, following Clee Road just past Beacon Court, turning up Humberston road, before finishing at the junction with Davenport drive, or put in Ward time, the Boundaries with East Marsh and Heneage on one side and Sidney Sussex on the other.

Although the boundary no longer exists in parliamentary terms, it is not felt that locally this has impacted on sense of distinction and identity in this regard.

Parish Council areas

North East Lincolnshire has a number of Parish and Town Council areas, and it is felt that these should be respected in that identity, for those that are not already linked with other areas or find themselves divided historically across ward boundaries, we feel it is not wise or necessary to split any of the currently Parished parts of the Borough, and like the current Wolds and Waltham Wards, these should be grouped together from a community affinity perspective to allow consistent representation.

Croft Baker

In effect the central ward of Cleethorpes Town, CB is a good mix of generally higher end and moderate-income housing as well as ex council and social housing. It is generally regarded as a well-shaped and balanced ward area with some good local community groups.

There is little appetite for change within this ward, however, it is worth considering minor changes of the nature of balancing electors because of changes to its neighbour to the south in Haverstoe Ward, by extending the Southern Boundary of Oxford Street on the East Side of the road to Cromwell road before and to reduce its number of electors in the North before Proceeding East along Queen's Parade placing the North side of the road in the road and all road areas between into the CB boundary, Including sections of Bradford Avenue, Lindum Road, Sighnhill ave and all of Seacroft road, expanding the CB population by a few hundred. It is thought that this wouldn't meet much resistance from the local community as this area regards itself as central Cleethorpes regardless of ward boundaries.

To the North, there is the option to also reduce CB slightly, suggested by moving the boundary at the junction of St Peter's Avenue to place the border working South along the middle of StPeter's avenue, heading East Along Albert Road all the way up and out along to Central Prom, Switching streets such as Mill Place, Dolphin Street and Cosgrove Street.

It should be noted, however, that these are not changes we favour, and strongly want to see the CB boundaries maintained as they are unless there is felt to be a need to further 'balance' the number of electors across wards.

East Marsh.

An Urban town centre area, the traditional East Marsh area was originally built around dock worker housing, traditionally located within the railway line, Park Street and Durban Road, but also includes the housing area to the South that borders the Old Clee area. This area forms a natural ward with a sense of self, spanning from Grant Thorlad Park to Freeman Street and Cleethorpe Road, but needs amendment as the number of electors has drastically declined because of demolished social housing and empty properties. For that reason and others, it is proposed that this becomes a two-member ward to better reflect the changing demographic nature. The number of electors has naturally reduced to very close to that threshold, and so it is recommended that part of EM be moved south to Heneage ward to reflect that change, with the boundary moving to the middle of Fairmont Road or furthermore to balance the numbers. It is felt that expansion of the Ward would compromise its neighbouring traditional communities of West Marsh, Sidney Sussex/Cleethorpes North and Heneage/Old Clee area. Which would breakup those communities that identify differently and thus not compatible

Freshney

Freshney is somewhat a confederate ward, comprising of four suburban areas, namely the Willows estate, the Wybers Estate, Aylesbury Park

estate, and Great Coates. This is largely Suburban area with a strategic gap away from the town centre, meaning that moves to put it in whole or in part with a town centre area would be at best flawed. It would be fair to say that the composite areas have become in effect 'sister estates' by proximity and familiarity, and are a natural fit. It is noted that the electoral numbers are low, and our recommendation would be if needed, the current 'YA2' are would be the best fit, containing the new Freshney Green estate and the Yarrow Road area, up to and including the North side of Great Coates road as they share a common identity around Park land located close to Yarrow Road.

Haverstoe.

Haverstoe is and area of Southern Cleethorpes and North Humberston of largely higher income housing, a highly suburbanised area for the most part. This has a coherent natural Ward affinity, and would be a good opportunity to take some of the higher electoral numbers from Humberston and New Waltham, it's neighbour to the south, Namely in the form of the HE1 area, putting more of Humberston together as a community. To help balance numbers, there is a proposal for part of HE2 to be relocated into Croft Baker listed in the Croft Baker entry.

Heneage

Heneage represents essentially two areas that blend well where they meet. To the North and North West is the Hainton-Heneage area that sat under the old Borough Council, built around the Parallel roads of Wilingham Street, Hainton Avenue and Heneage Road. To the South and East, the Weelsby and Old Clee areas made from the old farming villages that have urbanised. Heneage Ward is Locked between Cleethorpes to the East, Peaks ParkWay/Park Ward to the West, the Weelsby Woods Park and strategic gap to the South, making it a ward that builds itself from shared history and natural boundaries. In the northern Old Clee Area/Carr Lane area, there is a border with EM1 which we would recommend is pushed North to accommodate all of Columbia Road and most our all or Fairmont Road, areas with their own identity as part of the Carr Lane area to reduce the East Marsh number slightly to make it a two member Ward and Heneage more sustainable.

Humberston and Newl Waltham.

Humberston and NewWaltham is a highly Suburban area and a logic ward from a coherent community perspective, however, it finds itself highly overpopulated and in need of losing electors, we suggest as set out above that HU1 be located into the North of Humberston as part of Haverstoe that would give the required numbers, and would also bring about the bonus of not having to divide New Waltham into two separate wards and trigger a judicial review for the parish council, it is felt this would allow both the New Waltham and Waltham areas to maintain community cohesion and representative identity within the NEL areas.

Immingham

Immingham Ward is made of Immingham town, Haborough and Stallingborough, essentially two smaller villages and the Town itself This is largely an obvious Ward, and it is land locked by it's docks and borough boundaries, Immigham town should remain unified, with Haborough to its West by geography, giving it the mass it needs to form a ward. The are has and continues to see high levels of house building and to that end, we suggest that Stallingborough be removed to allow expansion as the village has no direct affinity to it's Western neighbours, allowing for expansion for both areas, placing Stallingborough in the Wolds Ward.

Park

Park Ward has a strong sense of self, especially in the areas around People's Park. To the East it has a natural boundary of the 'Peaks ParkWay' non pedestrian main road, as well as the Strategic southern gap in effect pushing it to grow to the north and west in terms of natural areas. It contain the more Southern parts of the town centre and Wintringham Road areas that in turn fit with the Park areas. The only amendment we propose is to amend the PA1 area to accommodate the expansion of Yarborough Ward for the numbers it needs by Moving the Marshall Avenue border South to the Middle of Littefield Lane, putting the North Side of Cromwell Road into West Marsh, the South Side into Yarbough, Making Park only on the South Side of Little Field Lane meeting it's existing boundary with what is currently South Ward but Proposed to by moved into Yarborough.

Scartho Ward

A Suburban area built around a traditional village, has a very strong sense of self and community, would only need minor amendments, please see other attached file.

Waltham

Currently a self-contained village community with the neighbouring areas of Ashby and Brigsley, this area as it stands is a very strong stand alone Ward and community that has the numbers to continue as a two member Ward, we propose it remains the same for continuity and avoids proposals that might see other areas or part wards attached purely for electoral numbers.

West Marsh

The principle town centre ward of Grimsby with exceptionally strong heritage and community roots, no part of the borough has a stronger sense of self. Land locked in various directions, it is felt that to make up the numbers it needs to be a two member Ward, the boundary can be relocated South, from the new access road on Sidings Road, all the Way down to Deansgate Bridge at the end of Dudley Street, Meaning that the North side of all of Cromwell road from the Sidings to and including the left side of the Bridge would form a boundary, the rest to continue with the current railway boundary. Attempts to consider expansion into other areas and create a two member ward were felt to attempt to blend incompatible communities, such as suburban and urban areas.

Wolds Ward

A confederate war of multiple Parish areas, it currently sits as a two member ward, and it is felt that the addition of Stallingborough will allow it to become a three member ward and continue as a rural ward blending both it's expansion over recent years in the Laceby/Healing areas, whilst allowing the Immingham ward space to expand.

Yarborough

A mixed area Ward to the West of Grimsby, it largely marries the areas of Laceby acres, Toot Hill, the Market Hotel area and others between. As

this is quite a diverse mix of areas, it is felt there is a level of flexibility to consider the YA2 area to be moved into Freshney to make up the numbers if needed, as this is largely an area that shares a common park Space with the Willows neat the River Freshney. The numbers can further be made up by expanding into the PA1 are listed in Park Ward which is highly similar to the YA1 and 3 areas.

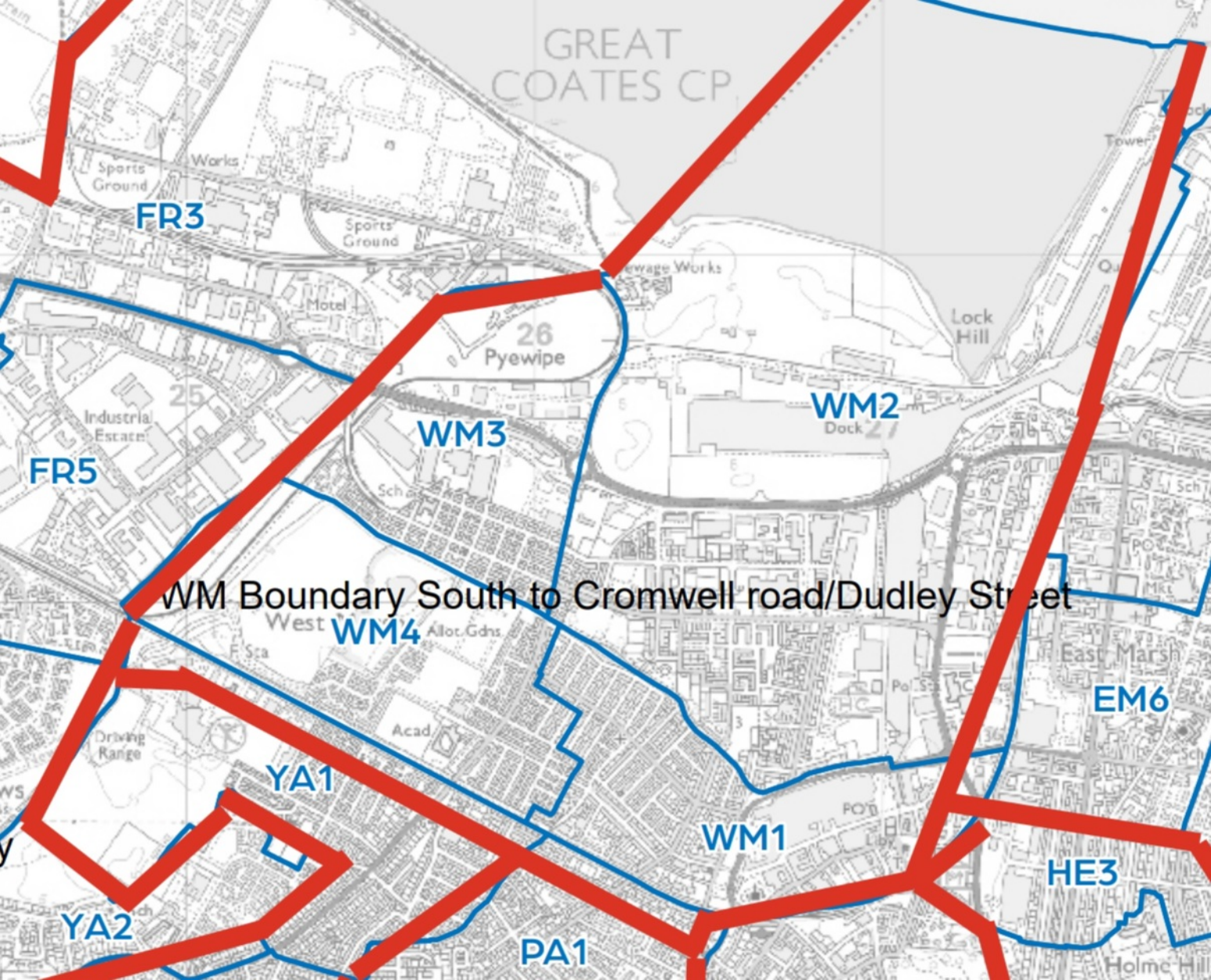
Attached Documents:

- inbound4353589342953612914.jpg
- inbound1976793257340894358.pdf

**North East Lincolnshire
Polling Districts 2024**

The map displays the North East Lincolnshire Local Authority area, outlined in red. The River Humber is shown at the top. The map is divided into numerous polling districts, each labeled with a code. The districts are color-coded: blue for urban areas, green for rural areas, and yellow for water bodies. The map also shows various towns and villages, including Immingham, Stallingborough, Grimsby, and Humberston. The map is titled 'North East Lincolnshire Polling Districts 2024' in large black text at the top right.

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GREAT
COATES CP

FR3

FR5

WM3

WM2

WM4

WM1

EM6

HE3

PA1

YA1

YA2

WM Boundary South to Cromwell road/Dudley Street