

Westmorland and Furness

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Organisation Name: Westmorland & Furness 25-30hrs (District or county councillor)

Comment text:

Related subject: Sedbergh & Tebay

The Westmorland & Furness Council proposal to place Sedbergh and Tebay in the same ward totally ignores the fact there is a range of hills 2218 feet (676m) high situated between the two towns, namely the Howgills. There are virtually no cultural or historic links between the two centres. Sedbergh a Yorkshire town until 1973 looks to Hawes and or Kendal. Sedbergh has always been in the Yorkshire Dales. Tebay a former Westmorland railway town has looked to Appleby and Kirkby Stephen the latter of which it was connected to via rail and is now connected to via the A685 which utilises the former rail track bed the result a high speed road connection between the two. The Westmorland & Furness proposal in regard to the current Sedbergh & Kirkby Lonsdale, Kirkby Stephen and Tebay and Appleby & Brough Wards is all about creating a two member ward centred on Kirkby Stephen. It totally ignores the historic and cultural links between Appleby & the former Westmorland towns and villages including Brough, the links between Sedbergh the Dales and Kirkby Lonsdale and the logistical links between Tebay and Kirkby Stephen. Kirkby Stephen is a transit town a place that people pass through it has linkages to local villages but nothing more. The logical solution could be to retain the current (2 member) Kirkby Stephen and Tebay ward or to create a (1 member ward) centred on Kirkby Stephen. It is not necessary to destroy the historic and cultural links that exist in all the surrounding and adjacent wards.

Attached Documents:

None attached