

**From:** [Dean Ranyard](#)  
**To:** [reviews](#)  
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At the moment there are some three member, two member and single member divisions across County Durham. With the proposal to reduce councillor numbers to 98, I would ideally like to see this to be 49 two member divisions. This gives uniformity and every resident across the County then has the option of seeking assistance and representation from two County councillors.

In my area Spennymoor, the ideal would be to see the whole Parish area together within the same County Council divisions. Currently the villages of Kirk Merrington and North Close are outwith the rest of the Parish area and are part of a County Council division with Ferryhill. Although this is the ideal the numbers do not quite fit this aspiration. The total electorate of the Spennymoor Parish area in 2028 is expected to be 17,882. With 4,150 electors per Councillor, this would equate to 4.3 councillors and a variance of around +7.5%

It may be that Kirk Merrington & North Close remain within a Ferryhill division of which there is close geographical proximity in order that 4 County councillors can represent the remainder of the Spennymoor Parish area split into two divisions.

However, I would strongly suggest though that the streets BELL ROAD, EDISON DRIVE, MOORE ROAD and CLAUDE ROAD are moved out of the Merrington polling district. This is a new estate built across a boundary that previously ran through fields. These streets should be together with the rest of the Merrington Lane estate and part of the BAAFB Low Spennymoor & Tudhoe Grange 2 polling district.

I would suggest two x 2 member divisions for Spennymoor to be named SPENNYMOOR WEST and SPENNYMOOR EAST.

SPENNYMOOR WEST to be comprised of the BAAHC (Byers Green), BAAHA (Middlestone) and BAAGB (Spennymoor 2) polling districts. It should also take part of the BAAFC (Spennymoor 3) and BAAGA2 (Spennymoor 1A) polling districts.

My suggestion is that Carr Street/Carr Lane forms the boundary between SPENNYMOOR WEST & SPENNYMOOR EAST.

This would put the streets CANTERBURY CLOSE, CARTMEL COURT, DUNELM COURT, EASBY COURT, EBBERSTON COURT, GERVAULX COURT, GLASTONBURY CLOSE, NEWBURGH COURT, RIEVAULX COURT, TROUTBECK CLOSE, WANSBECK CLOSE & WINCHESTER COURT from BAAFC (Spennymoor 3) into the SPENNYMOOR WEST division.

This would put the streets BIRCHMERE, BURNMERE, BUTTERMERE, CALDERMERE, ELLESMERE, GLENMERE, GRASMERE, HAZELMERE, KELDMERE, KENTMERE, KIRKDALE, LANGMERE, MOSSMERE, ROSSMERE, TANGMERE, THIRLMERE & WINDERMERE from BAAGA2 (Spennymoor 1A) into the SPENNYMOOR WEST division.

SPENNYMOOR EAST to be comprised of BAAEA1 (Tudhoe 1), BAAEA2 (Tudhoe 1A), BAAEB1 (Tudhoe 2), BAAEB2 (Durhamgate), BAAFA1 (Low Spennymoor & Tudhoe Grange 1), BAAFA2 (Low Spennymoor & Tudhoe Grange 1A), BAAFB (Low

Spennymoor & Tudhoe Grange 2), BAAGA1 (Spennymoor 1) as well as parts of BAAFC (Spennymoor 3) and parts of BAAGA1 (Spennymoor 1).

This would put the streets JACKSON STREET, MAYFIELDS and OX CLOSE CRESCENT from BAAFC (Spennymoor 3) polling district into the SPENNYMOOR EAST division. The streets BRANSDALE, FARNDAL, GLAISDALE, PARKDALE, PARKSIDE, ROSEDALE, WESTERDALE and WESTFIELDS from the BAAGA2 (Spennymoor 1A) polling district would go into the SPENNYMOOR EAST division in line with the Carr Street/Carr Lane boundary between the SPENNYMOOR WEST & SPENNYMOOR EAST divisions.

As stated before the streets BELL ROAD, EDISON DRIVE, MOORE ROAD and CLAUDE ROAD should switch out of the BAAHB (Merrington) polling district and into the BAAFB (Low Spennymoor & Tudhoe Grange 2) polling district to be part of the SPENNYMOOR EAST electoral division.

The proposal above creates two divisions each with an electorate close to the 8,300 figure.

It could also make sense for the neighbouring villages of Croxdale, Hett & Sunderland Bridge to be included within a SPENNYMOOR EAST electoral division. Although these villages are outwith the Spennymoor Parish area, they are closely linked to Spennymoor. Tudhoe Colliery Primary School within the Spennymoor Parish serves as the local school for Croxdale. The residents of these villages will use Spennymoor for much of their local services and these villages are already part of the Spennymoor Area Action Partnership Area which is a geographical area created by Durham County Council to distribute community funding. These villages are currently part of the Coxhoe electoral division, but are arguably more connected to Spennymoor than the other parts of the Coxhoe electoral division they are currently with.

Cllr Dean Ranyard

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