

North Tyneside

Personal Details:

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Organisation Name: (District or county councillor)

Comment text:

Related subject: Preston with Preston Grange

Please see the attached letter

Attached Documents:

- [REDACTED]Preston letter .pdf

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my full support for the proposed boundary changes to create a new Preston with Preston Grange Ward. As a local Councillor for the existing Preston Ward and having grown up in the area, I can attest to the fact that this proposal will have a positive impact on our community.

The three primary principles behind this proposal have been well-considered and will reunite previously divided communities, while creating a clear and distinct community with strong natural road boundaries. The unification of Preston and Preston Grange will allow us to work more effectively as local councillors to address issues such as anti-social behaviour, building on green space and healthcare services at Rake Lane hospital, which is within the proposed ward. These issues are a commonality between the two areas of the new ward and provide a good community basis for the proposed boundary.

The new Preston with Preston Grange Ward will also provide excellent transport links to the local hospital, supermarkets, schools and coastal communities. It will be well-served by buses, with the 306 bus running through the centre of the ward and providing links to Newcastle and the coast. Additionally, plans to build a cycle path along Preston Road North will create excellent cycling routes and unite communities across Preston and Preston Grange.

This proposal will also benefit our schools, with Spring Gardens Primary and Preston Grange Primary already located within the proposed ward. The ward will have good transport links to John Spence, St. Thomas Moore, Marden and Monkseaton High Schools, which are all within walking distance of the ward.

The community of Preston Grange is a relatively new one in North Tyneside, but its distinct character means the entire community looks towards its namesake in Preston Village. The Preston Grange Community Centre, run by local volunteers, organises a number of events and is increasingly working with the Preston Village Association. There have recently been a number of community clean-ups across both areas, and councillors have worked together with local police to tackle anti-social behaviour.

The small and compact geographical size of the proposed ward will help ensure councillors can understand the issues and be highly visible within the ward. The new ward will also create a clear and distinct community that will be easily identifiable to both residents and visitors.

The proposed ward also allows for the creation of a North Shields town centre ward which has been long overdue, in encompassing the town centre, fish quay and Marina I feel this very well reflects the central North Shields community. The Chirton and Percy Main ward also unites communities which have previously been split along ward and constituency lines.

The public response to the Preston with Preston Grange ward has been overwhelmingly positive.

In conclusion, I fully support the proposed boundary changes to create a new Preston Ward that includes Preston Grange. This proposal will create a strong and united community with excellent transport links, schools and community resources. It will also provide an effective governance structure that will enable local councillors to work effectively with residents to address common issues and build a better future for our community.

Thank you for considering my views on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Cllr Liam Bones
Preston Ward