

Sefton

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Comment text:

Related subject: Southport

Please see attached.

Attached Documents:

- southport-liberal-democrats-response-to-lgbce-draft-proposals-for-sefton.docx

Southport Liberal Democrats Response to LGBCE Draft Proposals for Sefton

The Southport Liberal Democrats note with extreme disappointment the decision of the Commission not to adopt of 63 councillor plan and therefore ensure Southport's voice remains under-represented on the Council.

We hope, even at this last stage, the Commission will consider the merits of a 63 Councillor borough which would ensure Southport had its fair share of representation.

Should the commission wish to continue with its 66 Councillor approach we would like to make the following comments.

Cambridge & Meols Boundary

We would propose some minor changes to the boundaries in Meols & Cambridge ward.

1. Currently all bar 10 properties on Seaton Way fall within Cambridge ward. The final 10 properties are in Meols ward. This creates a needless boundary in the middle of the road. The boundary here also splits Northam Close between Meols and Cambridge ward. We propose all of Seaton Way and Northam Close be within Cambridge ward.

This suggestion is primarily to tidy up the boundary between the wards but would also have a minor positive impact on electoral equality.

2. Currently all bar 4 properties on Fairhaven Road are in Meols ward. The final 4 are in Cambridge ward. We propose moving the 4 properties into Meols ward.

Kew & Norwood Boundary

1. The vast majority of Haig Avenue currently falls within Kew ward. A small section of the odd side of the road falls within Norwood ward. We would propose changing the boundary so that all of Haig Avenue falls within Kew ward.
2. The current boundary places the relatively new development at Princes Gardens in Norwood ward but it is only accessible from Kew ward. We would propose the boundary is moved so that Princes Gardens is in Kew ward.

Kew & Birkdale Boundary

1. We note the Labour Party submission suggested moving several roads connected to Upper Aughton Road from Kew ward to Birkdale ward to improve the level of electoral equality for Kew ward. While the Commission were not initially persuaded, we would support this element of the Labour Party submission.

It is our view that moving the boundary back to Boundary Street, or as close as possible to it, would both aid electoral equality and restore the historic boundary between Kew and Birkdale. This was the boundary between Birkdale Urban District Council and the old Southport Council.

We appreciated the Commission may not have known the history of the area but residents in this area would consider themselves to be part of Birkdale. We would therefore suggest a boundary running along Banastre Road, Boundary Street and Warwick Street.

2. We support the decision to amend the boundary to ensure the new development near Dobbies was not split between Kew and Birkdale.

Dukes & Norwood

1. We would request the Commission to look at the boundary between Dukes & Norwood ward on Hall Street. The vast majority of Hall Street falls within Dukes ward but a small part of the eastern side of the road is in Norwood ward.