

Kirklees

Personal Details:

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Organisation Name: (Member of the public)

Comment text:

Related subject: Golcar ward

Golcar Ward / Colne Valley East Ward

Name

The proposed Colne Valley East ward is largely derived from the present Golcar ward, but it extends further east along the Colne Valley towards Huddersfield. The name change is appropriate because the proposed ward boundary takes in many settlements. Golcar is at one end of the ward. The suggested name also fits well with the proposal to change the name of the existing Colne Valley ward to Colne Valley West ward. The existing name of the ward is confusing for many as the Golcar ward actually encompasses several villages with very distinct names, so I believe a change will be welcomed.

Transferred Areas

1. Salendine Nook

The transfer of Salendine Nook (polling district GC10) back to Lindley ward, proposed in the recent draft report of the Boundary Commissioners, is sensible. The Salendine Nook voters in GC10 share a polling station with the Lindley ward voters in LD05 and were part of Lindley ward before 2004. They are also in Facebook groups with others in Lindley ward, rather than in the groups associated with Longwood. The GC10 residents do not see themselves as been part of the current Golcar ward ss they are more aligned with the Kindley ward.

2. Paddock

The Colne Valley East ward takes in the whole of Paddock and combines Golcar ward GC09 with Greenhead ward GH04. It unites the settlement of Paddock within the proposed ward. The ward will include all on the north side of the River Colne from Milnsbridge to Longroyd Bridge. All the

secondary students in this area go to Royds Hall School. All local Paddock residents on both sides of the existing Golcar/ Greenhead boundary use the shopping centre on Church Street, Paddock.

3. Marsh/Oakes/Quarmby

Golcar Labour Party originally proposed that Quarmby be included in Golcar ward to balance the elector numbers with Lindley and because this area was close to Paddock and Longwood. However, the Boundary Commission chose to include the whole of Lindley LD06 within Golcar ward (of which Quarmby is a small part). This not only produces a very large number of electors for the ward, but also brings into it those who travel to and from work or leisure along the New Hey Road (A640), rather than the Manchester Road (A62). They are likely to have a different range of concerns and issues. The shopping centre for most of the electors in LD06 will be Marsh rather than Paddock, Milnsbridge or Golcar. It is proposed that LD06 is not included in the Colne Valley East ward.

Elector Numbers

The changes in the ward proposed by the Boundary Commission would make Golcar the second biggest in Kirklees, right up to +10% in 2023 and +7% in 2029. This significant change would give the 3 ward councillors more work. This is unwelcome on top of their existing workload.

The proposed Colne Valley East ward will consist of GC01 to GC09 and GH04. It will not include GC10 or LD06.

2023 Electors 2029 Electors

Colne Valley East Ward 14,653 15,812

Average Ward Size 13,761 15,157

%age Difference +6% +4%

These numbers for the Colne Valley East ward are much nearer the average for Kirklees than the Boundary Commission proposals. The boundary for the Colne Valley East ward links electors with common interests and social connections. Over the next 5 years the projections move a new Colne valley East ward nearer to the Kirklees average.

These proposed changes are compatible with changes suggested by the Kirklees Labour Group for other wards in Kirklees. They reflect the knowledge and experience of local people.

05/05/2024

Attached Documents:

- colne-valley-east-ward.docx

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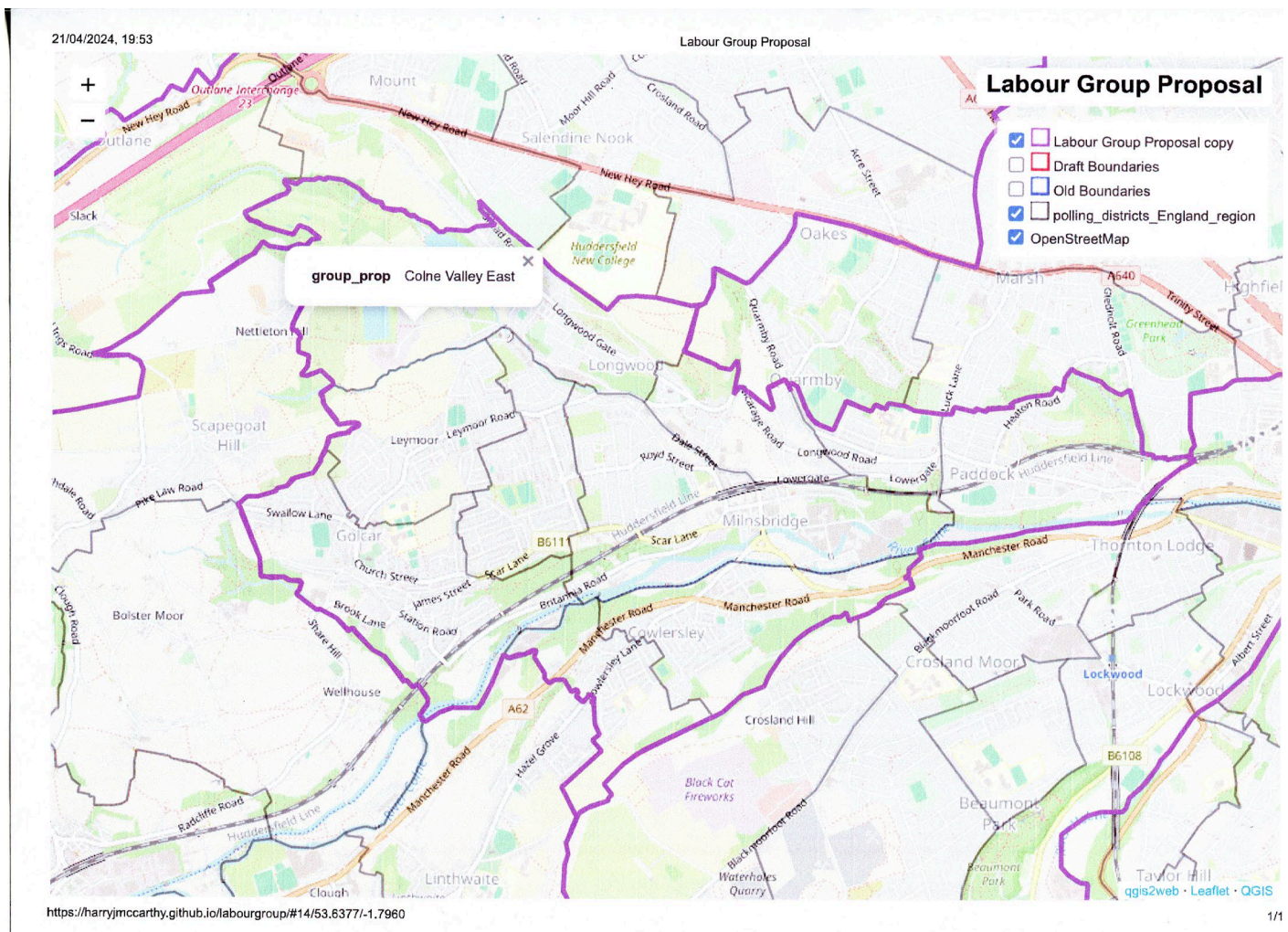
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Map of Proposed Colne Valley East Ward