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Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
7th Floor  
3 Bunhill Row  
London  
EC1Y 8YZ

7 January 2026

**By post and email**

Cc: Councillor Chris Steward, Copmanthorpe ward - [REDACTED]  
Councillor Carl Les OBE, Leader, North Yorkshire Council - [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Boundary Review of City of York Council / North Yorkshire Council – Proposals for Copmanthorpe Ward**

I am writing as a resident of Copmanthorpe to submit my views on the ongoing electoral review of City of York Council, as invited by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, and with reference to the boundary for North Yorkshire Council.

My submission focuses on two key proposals concerning Copmanthorpe:

1. **Establishing Copmanthorpe as a Two-Member Ward** Copmanthorpe is currently a single-member ward with an estimated electorate of around 3,800, based on the Commission's own 2025 estimate. This is out of line with the current average of about 3,321 electors per councillor across the City of York (with a total electorate of 156,099 and 47 councillors). However, the population of Copmanthorpe is about to increase by several hundred.



Two major housing developments in our village – adding around 240 households – are due to come on stream by the end of 2026 and likely to add many more voters to the village, beyond the Commission’s own estimates in its spreadsheet used for this consultation.

**It is right therefore that Copmanthorpe residents receive better representation within this ward.**

This adjustment would also promote electoral equality without necessitating mergers with neighbouring areas that may not share our community's identity or priorities.

I therefore urge the Commission to consider increasing the representation for Copmanthorpe to two councillors to ensure sustainable and responsive local governance.

**2. Allowing a Referendum for Reallocation to North Yorkshire Council** In addition to internal ward adjustments, I propose that residents of Copmanthorpe be afforded the opportunity to vote in a local referendum on whether our village should be reallocated from City of York Council to North Yorkshire Council.

Copmanthorpe has a rural character and strong ties to surrounding areas in North Yorkshire, and many residents feel that our needs—such as rural infrastructure, **local bus services**, agricultural support, and community planning—would be better served under North Yorkshire's jurisdiction.

While I understand this review primarily concerns wards within York, boundary changes between principal authorities could significantly impact local democracy and service delivery. A referendum would empower residents to express their preference democratically, aligning with principles of localism and community consent.

I request that the Commission explore or recommend mechanisms for such a referendum as part of or following this review.

I believe these changes would enhance democratic representation and better reflect the evolving needs of our community. I would be happy to provide further details or

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participate in any consultations. Please confirm receipt of this submission and keep me informed of the review's progress.

Thank you for considering my views.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]