

Hendry, Angela

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 September 2018 11:03
To: FOI
Subject: FOI request

Please provide me with all information that you hold relating to the site visit to Town Close Ward in Norwich which took place as part of the work in preparing the current proposals to change the boundary of Town Close (referred to in page 15, point 59 of your draft recommendations for Norwich City Council boundaries)

Please include details of who was present at the site visit, locations visited, method (ie. were the routes walked or viewed from a vehicle) notes / records of the visit and all related internal communication pertaining to the site visit.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

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Hendry, Angela

From: Hendry, Angela
Sent: 05 October 2018 15:08
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Response to your FOI request
Attachments: Norwich Tour Notes (FOI).pdf

Dear [REDACTED]

FOI ref: 10487

Thank you for your email of 10th September 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested:

Please provide me with all information that you hold relating to the site visit to Town Close Ward in Norwich which took place as part of the work in preparing the current proposals to change the boundary of Town Close (referred to in page 15, point 59 of your draft recommendations for Norwich City Council boundaries)

Please include details of who was present at the site visit, locations visited, method (ie. were the routes walked or viewed from a vehicle) notes / records of the visit and all related internal communication pertaining to the site visit.

The Review Team visit all local authorities as part of the process of drawing up Draft Recommendations. This visit is done on a day that suits the Commission and is not done in conjunction with either the council or any other interested party, similarly we do not notify any parties as to our attendance. These 'tours' are designed to help staff verify the boundaries proposed to them, and test the merits of alternative proposals. We look at the different proposals on the ground to help us decide which offers the best balance of the statutory criteria.

In this case the Review Officer and Lead Commissioner for the Norwich Electoral Review were in attendance. The Review Officer is responsible for the day-to-day running of the review, and the Lead Commissioner has an in depth knowledge of the review and acts as the Commission's representative, supporting both the Review Officer and the Commission during the course of the review.

The tour of Norwich took place on 3rd May 2018. A number of sites, including the area around Town Close, were identified by the Review Team for inspection ahead of the tour date and were viewed either from a vehicle or on foot. These sites were agreed between the Review Officer and Lead Commissioner based on the submissions received.

As detailed in the report, the team visited Brazen Gate and parked the vehicle. From there they walked to the Lakenham Way footpath and back. Next they drove to Hall Road and along Hall Road twice to compare the proposed boundaries. From Hall Road they drove to Mount Pleasant to compare the different boundaries proposed in this area, namely Mount Pleasant, Christchurch Road and York Street . These boundaries were viewed from the vehicle.

Attached are a scanned copy of the notes made by the Review Officer on the day of the tour that relate to the Town Close area. There is no further internal communication pertaining to either the specific site or the visit.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me, quoting the reference number above in any correspondence.

If you are unhappy with the response or the way in which your request was dealt with and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to:

Lynn Ingram
Director of Finance & Resources
Local Government Boundary Commission for England
1st Floor
Windsor House
50 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0TL

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision; Details of this procedure can be found on the ICO website: <http://www.ico.gov.uk>.

Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Local Boundary Commission for England.

Kind regards

Angela

Angela Hendry
Office Manager and HR Lead
1st Floor, Windsor House
50 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0TL

0330 500 1264

The
Local Government
Boundary Commission
for England



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Norwich City Council

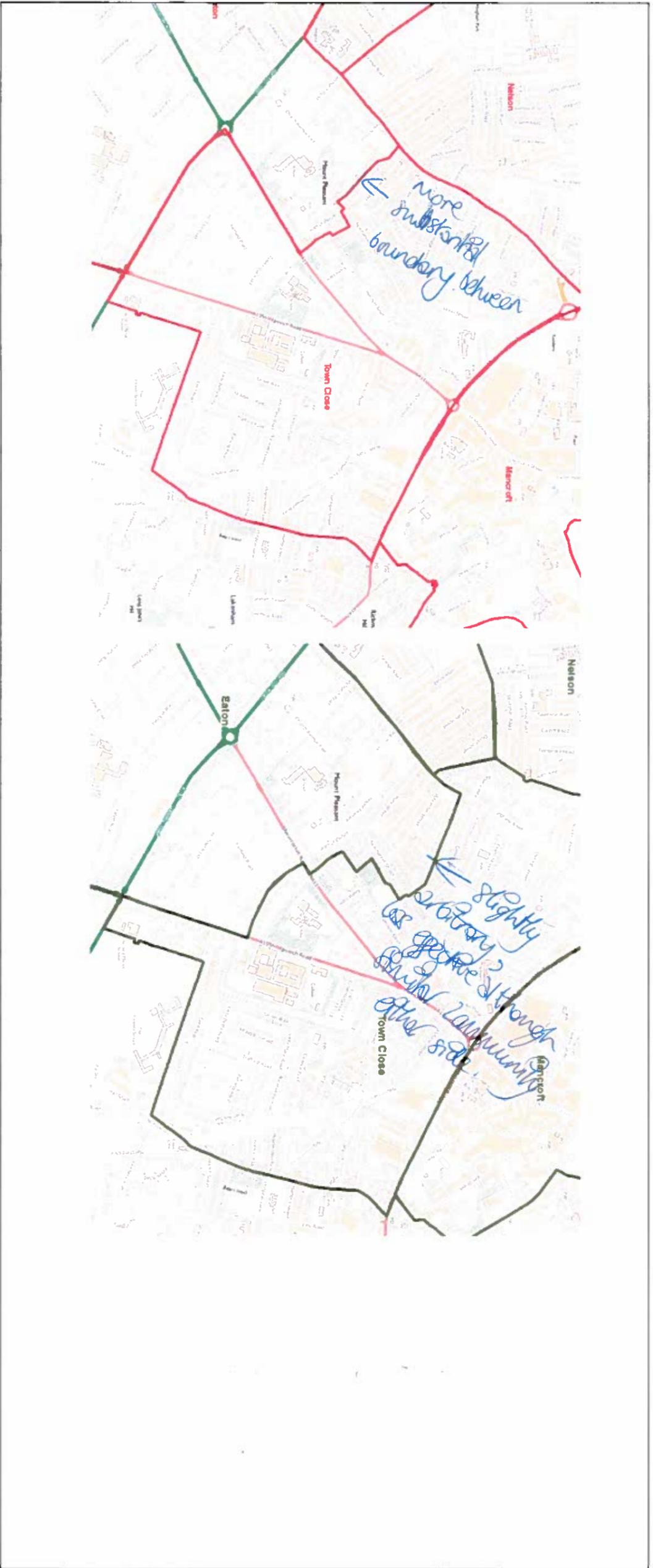
Lakenham/Town Close

Site No. & Area Address: Boundary between Lakenham and Town Close – Brazengate or Hall Road?		
Polling District: TC3	Current Ward: Town Close	Proposed Ward: Lakenham
Directions: Drive to Hall Road – proposed boundary for Green and Labour. Conservatives propose using Brazengate. Drive to Brazengate – park and walk down footpath to see if boundary is more effective...? Which way do Traftalgar street and Southwell road link? Also supported by submission from local resident.		
Area Map:		
Observations:		

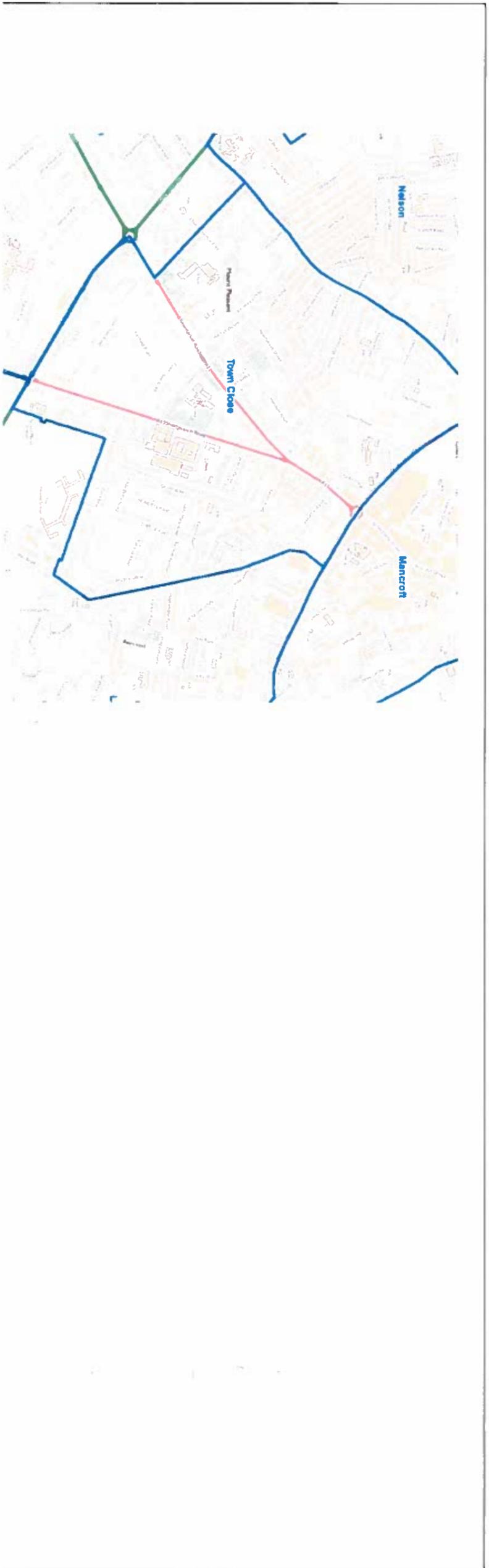
Norwich City Council

Town Close

Site No. & Area Address: Town Close ward		
Polling District: TC2 and TC4	Current Ward: Town Close	Proposed Ward: Town Close/Eaton
Directions: Turn left out of Brazen Gate and then immediate left onto St Stephen's Road. Continue on to Newmarket Road and turn right onto Mount Pleasant.		
<p>Comments: Does the housing in the Mount Pleasant area indicate that it should belong in Town Close or Eaton? The Conservative scheme retains it in Town Close, the Labour and Green groups suggest Mount Pleasant/Arlington should be split between Town Close and Eaton.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Green scheme reasoning: The streets to the south of York Street are largely made up of pleasant Victorian houses, who demographically and from a sense of community aren't too dissimilar from those in the new Eaton Ward which would stretch to the south as far as the city boundary. Including TC4 into the new Eaton ward makes sense as the area around Mount Pleasant fits in neatly with the areas on the other side of Colman Road. Demographically TC4 isn't dissimilar from EA2 and EA5, which it currently borders. Combining the areas together actually makes more sense than the current arrangements. By including TC4 it would also make sense to include at least part of TC2 given that the streets around Mount Pleasant are quite similar in terms of community and demographics - Labour reasoning: used to be part of Eaton until 2004, will achieve better electoral equality, residents share amenities e.g. GP surgery, high school, average age of residents is more in line with Eaton, residents shop in Eaton and use Eaton Park. 		



Norwich City Council



Observations: