

## Owen, David

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**From:** Colin Blackburn (Cllr) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 18 February 2018 21:35  
**To:** Owen, David  
**Subject:** Bath & North East Somerset LGBR - submission  
**Attachments:** Map A.pdf; ATT00001.htm; Map B.pdf; ATT00002.htm

Dear Mr Owen,

Please see below and attached my comments and concerns regarding your proposals effecting many of the residents that I currently represent. I would appreciate if you would give careful consideration to the issue I raise over proper & fair representation.

Regards

Colin Blackburn  
Independent Councillor - Westmoreland  
[REDACTED]

Submission to the LGBC on the new electoral arrangements for Bath & North East Somerset Council

My comments are with regards to the Bath City South West proposals. In particular the proposed ward of Oldfield Park and the proposal to make this a three Councillor Ward.

Whilst I acknowledge that 2 Councillor wards can be workable, 3 Councillor wards are unpractical for both the Councillors and residents, giving Councillors no opportunity to get close to the residents and communities.

I believe that you should start with the premise that the area should be able to be covered by individual Councillors so not to discriminate against any individual standing for election. Single wards achieve this and so can two Councillor Wards. But when you get to 3 Councillors wards this is impractical for both Councillors and residents, the areas are too large for any reasonable level of service, this can cause confusion and frustration as everybody is trying to do everything or nobody is doing anything.

A 3 Councillor ward could also cause problems for Council Officers as the rest of the district are either 1 or 2 Councillors Wards. This ward would be an anomaly, and one Councillor could well be 'forgotten' when it comes to consolations and briefings.

Approx half of the proposed Oldfield Park ward has a large amount of HMO properties. Many of these residents choose not to register on the electoral role, whilst I realise that you do not recognise these residents, we still need to serve them and look after them.

The current proposals for Oldfield Park ward has taken no account of identified communities and is proposed to cut across distinct different community needs.

I believe strongly that for the benefit of residents and the Council this proposed ward should be split as follows Either

Split your proposed Oldfield Ward into two making, one 2 Councillor Ward and one 1 Councillor Ward. As shown on Map A attached. Area 1 (orange) 2 Councillors and Area 2 (pink) 1 Councillor

Or

Split your proposed Oldfield Ward into two, joining the pink section with your proposed Moorlands Ward making this also a two Councillor Ward. As shown on Map B attached.