

Broxtowe Conservative Group

Review of Broxtowe Borough Council size and ward boundaries.

The Conservative Group of the Council has given serious consideration to the proposal by the Local Government boundary Commission for England's to review the Council size and ward boundaries of Broxtowe Borough Council.

The Conservative Group has decided not to support the Council's recommendation for the Council size to remain at 44. We believe that the Council's submission was based on a start point of justifying the status quo rather than examining what number of members was required to effectively carry out the required duties within the Broxtowe Borough Council.

In coming to our recommendation, we considered the following points :-

- The final number of Councillors must be of sufficient number to effectively carry out the representation of their constituents and needs of the Council to operate the various democratic processors.
- The revised ward representation must take into account areas covered by the three town councils, five parish councils and the remaining urban areas.
- It is also important that local affinities between communities should be maintained in any revised warding arrangements.
- Possible financial savings
- The possible retention in broad terms of the current warding system.

Following consideration of all aspects of the review the Conservative Group is recommending a 10% reduction in the number of Councillors to 40.

Currently the 2013 electorate is 83,418 with 44 members, giving 1,896 electors per member. The electorate size has remained stable over the last five years and although we accept that the population may rise we believe that the statistical projection supplied by Broxtowe Borough Council to 95,489 by 2019 is incorrect.

If the number of electors remains stable, then with 40 members the ratio would be 2,085 electors per member and assuming a future electorate of 95,489 in 2019 this would equate to 2,387 electors per member. We believe that this is an acceptable number of electors per Councillor, which enables effective democratic representation.

We believe that 40 members would be sufficient to carry out all of the democratic arrangements required by the Council.

It provides a 10% reduction in Councillors with reasonable reduction in terms of potential cost savings.

The reduction from 44 to 40 Councillors would enable the current warding system to be broadly maintained

Yours truly

Richard Jackson
Leader of Broxtowe Conservative Group