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LEEDS
CITY COUNCIL

Councillor TOM LEADLEY



28th NOVEMBER 2016



Dear Sirs,

BOUNDARY BETWEEN LEEDS CITY COUNCIL ARDSLEY & ROBIN HOOD WARD (POLLING DISTRICT ARA) AND MIDDLETON PARK WARD (POLLING DISTRICT MIE).

By way of response to the current round of public consultation on proposals to change municipal ward boundaries in Leeds, I ask you to look at the attached map showing how the boundary between polling district ARA in Ardsley & Robin Hood ward and polling district MIE in Middleton Park ward cuts irregularly through the Middleton Heritage Village, or New Forest Village, which has been built since the 2004 ward boundary changes. This boundary goes so far as to cut through houses and their gardens so that one part of a property might be in Ardsley & Robin Hood and the other in Middleton Park; it shouldn't survive the ward boundary review. Although I represent Morley North ward on the City Council, I live in Ardsley & Robin Hood.

Sharp House Farm, of which this land was once a part, was in Middleton and so in Leeds County Borough, rather than in Thorpe and so in Rothwell Urban District, before 1974. Historically and topographically the highlighted area would fall naturally into Middleton Park ward within the main urban area of Leeds. Presumably the current ARA : MIE boundary here, which has no historic significance, arose as a polling district boundary drawn through neutral farmland in the days of the 1980 to 2004 Middleton Ward, which took in Thorpe and Lofthouse from the former Rothwell Urban District as well as Middleton from the former Leeds County Borough.

This northern part of ARA should be transferred to MIE; the only complication would seem to be that such a transfer would put elector numbers up a bit in Middleton Park, which is forecast already to be perilously close to exceeding the Leeds ward size average by more than 10% in 2021. About 90 dwellings, including two small low-rise blocks of flats, would change wards, along with about 150 electors.

Addresses affected are in Blenkinsop Drive, Blenkinsop Way, Glade Walk, Orrell Grove, Sharp House Place and Woodland Drive, all with LS10 postal addresses.

Yours sincerely,



(Councillor Tom Leadley, Leeds City Council Morley North Ward).



Ardsley and Robin Hood

Middleton Park

ARA

WOODLAND DRIVE

BLENNISOP WAY

BLENNISOP WAY

NEW FOREST WAY

WORCESTER AVENUE

WOODLAND PLACE

GLOCKE WALK

BLENNISOP WAY

DORSET GROVE

ARDREY DRIVE

Ward Boy