

Carlsson-Hyslop, Dan

From: Mike Siebert [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 January 2018 09:50
To: reviews
Subject: boundary changes

Review Officer (Nottingham)

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England 14th Floor Millbank Tower London SW1P 4QP

12 January 2018

Dear Review Officer

I am writing as Chair of the Nottingham Park Residents' Association regarding the proposed boundary changes. We have read a number of submissions that have gone into great detail, and for both of our benefits I am going to keep this brief. I sense that there are a number of submissions that are making very similar observations, namely that:

Two councillor wards are preferable to single councillor wards, There is a synergy between our 'inner city suburbs' that means they would benefit from being combined rather than mixed with more suburban wards such as those surrounding Wollaton Park, The council's area committee system seems to work well and should form the basis of this review wherever possible.

We would agree with all of these comments, and add that The Park in particular does not want to become an isolated ward. We have a longstanding connection with Lenton and Dunkirk and from what I gather there is an equally strong desire from Lenton & Dunkirk to be joined with The Park rather than with Wollaton. We are, all three, inner city suburbs sharing similar concerns and using the same amenities. Our residents' associations work closely together and we support each other's social events. The Park has a broad demographic and is constantly having to refute the perception held of us as an insular gated community. The current proposal to set us up as a single councillor ward only feeds into this narrative to the detriment of us and the wider community.

Going forwards, I see The Park, Lenton and Dunkirk serving an important role in rebalancing the City's demographics by providing much needed inner city family housing, which can be provided here at an affordable level once the University of Nottingham's student population begins to be relocated in the city centre and into purpose built accommodation. This transition also needs us to incorporate new purpose built retirement / downsizing accommodation on our many available development sites. This will help free up the family housing currently held by retired couples and individuals who do not want to leave the area they have grown up in but currently have no viable alternative to staying put.

Please do not underestimate the bonds that exist between these three communities. We share the same schools, the same roads, the same amenities, and are constantly working together to confront the same issues that are important to us. Whether or not we are then joined with The City to make a three councillor ward I see as less of an issue and would be happy for that decision to be based on other ward's requirements and electoral numbers.

Yours,

Mike Siebert

Chair
Nottingham Park Residents' Association