

City of Nottingham**Personal Details:**

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Comment text:

For approximately 14 years, I have been both a resident of the Dales Ward in Nottingham City and latterly the Chair of a residents association (Sneinton Tenants and Residents Association STARA) within that same area. As such, I am acutely aware of how much members of the community have sought and found support from their local councillors. The nature of this diverse and often demanding inner city ward means that dealing with local issues can sometimes be straightforward but can also require a very long-term commitment on the part of the councillor to resolve them. I find it almost inconceivable that the work currently undertaken by three elected representatives could be as effectively handled by one person, regardless of the numbers of people represented. The current system, whilst not perfect, allows for there to be a range of age, gender, ethnicity and experience. This self-evidently provides for a broader and more culturally diverse and appropriate representation for residents. Having had previous experience of purely individual representation in other parts of the country, I can attest to the positive impact, making our Councillors more effective and approachable to a broader part of the community. The current system has also allowed a newly elected Councillor to benefit from the experience of two other longer serving colleagues and it is clear that the benefit is reciprocal for all three in terms of culture, age-specific issues and gender representation. The present scheme has also meant that Councillors have been able to cover for one another's duties due to illness or conflicting meetings. Whilst I fully understand the need to look at possible revision of boundary designations to ensure that the system of representation is as effective as possible, I and many others in the Dales Ward, would undoubtedly experience a diminished service if the area were not able to continue with its current allocation of three Councillors. I believe that residents have benefitted from the current arrangement and that our elected representatives' demonstrable practical commitment to democratic principles would be the envy of other similar mono-represented wards. For these reasons, I would urge the LGBC to keep the present system largely unaltered. Kind regards, Greg Feltham

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded