

Kingsley, Paul

From: Jean Relph [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 June 2012 12:00
To: Reviews@
Subject: Middlesbrough councillors

I would like to see a greater cut in the numbers of councillors. There are areas of little housing density in Middlesbrough which have more than one councillor, despite houses being demolished in large numbers these have not changed, and many others which could easily be combined. We are a community of only 142,000 residents and if we had 40 councillors they would each only have to represent 3,500 people - approximately one third of those being children. At a time when the country is being urged to make cuts in expenditure this is one area which could easily achieve cuts without any detriment to the residents.

The councillors cost the taxpayers of Middlesbrough nearly £600,000 last year, most of the Labour councillors claiming extra allowances for 'special' roles. I think the government should not only look into numbers of councillors but also into these payments. Most councillors are either working - we have one in Middlesbrough who works on the oil-rigs so is only in the area part-time - or have pensions, and some have multiple roles which allow them to have rolled up allowances which would challenge the earnings of an MP.

Regards
Jean E Relph
[REDACTED]