

Wyre Forest District

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Comment text:

The present number of councillors for WFDC is 42. The proposed recommendation is for 33. Given the size of increasing number of residents and the numbers of extra homes needed, I find this number of 33 to be far too low and would cause too much extra work for the ones left to cope. Considering Stourport with over 20,000 residents and with 9 councillors, the number each would be over 2,000. Also considering the poorness, lack of jobs, the lack of housing and their many family problems in Stourport and especially the Walshes area, which is in the top 10 of deprived areas, less than 3 councillors would be extremely difficult to manage in the area. Across the whole of Wyre Forest there are 3 such areas which take a lot of time and effort and given the hope to attract younger members for WFDC, a working person would not be able to give the time or effort to do this job properly. The dedication would be affected by lesser councillors, the roles would increase, the number of attendances to meeting would be increased or the fewer councillors would have to make more decisions giving them far too much work and responsibility. Being a councillor affects the rest of your lives as invitations come in thick and fast to join other societies, governorships at schools, council owned property management such as village halls etc, trusteeship to locally needed organisations as CAB, Age UK etc. Fewer councillors would make this nigh on impossible to manage. Thanks for the opportunity to speak.