



## SHERBURN IN ELMET TOWN COUNCIL

Council Office,  
Eversley Park Centre,  
Low Street,  
Sherburn in Elmet  
LS25 6BA

### **FAO: Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE)**

Sherburn in Elmet Town Council wishes to express its strong opposition to the splitting of our parish across two cross-constituency divisions. We further express support for the comments and recommendations provided by NY Councillor Bob Packham (Sherburn in Elmet Division) in relation to the ongoing boundary review process for this area.

We are deeply concerned about North Yorkshire Council's current proposal, which would separate the north-east portion of Sherburn (including key transport infrastructure such as the railway station) from the rest of the community and combine these areas with cross-parliamentary-boundary settlements in Church Fenton and Appleton Roebuck.

This is not an acceptable 'solution'. Not only will it fragment our community, but it will also diminish clarity in representation and responsibilities. Such a configuration would:

1. **Erode Community Cohesion:** Sherburn residents identify strongly with their town. Dividing the community would undermine long-established ties and local identity, and impact strategic planning for the town as a whole.
2. **Create Administrative Challenges:** The proposed division boundaries would require residents (and the Town Council) to liaise with multiple county councillors based on arbitrary street divisions, complicating efforts by the Town Council to advocate effectively for our residents and confusing matters for the community. One of the key aims of the shift from District and County Councils to a single unitary authority in 2022 was to simplify representation for residents. North Yorkshire Council's current proposal for 89 councillors, with wards crossing parliamentary lines and fragmenting our community, will fundamentally reverse that.
3. **Fail to Address Workload Concerns:** The issue of councillor workload is not addressed by reducing the total number of councillors by one. Instead, it exacerbates the problem by concentrating responsibilities further. Only an increase in councillor numbers can resolve this.

**In summary, we, as a Council, strongly oppose any solution that splits the parish of Sherburn in Elmet across two divisions.**

Addressing the points raised in Cllr Packham's submission is vital to preserving the integrity, cohesion, and functionality of our local community, and we urge the Commission to give them the fullest consideration.

Sherburn in Elmet is a thriving and unique community that has experienced significant residential and industrial growth in recent years, far surpassing the rates of surrounding areas (40% increase since 2011). Our town serves as a central hub for neighbouring villages, providing essential amenities and transport links, and North Yorkshire's largest industrial estate. These factors underline Sherburn's role as a growing and interdependent community that must not be arbitrarily divided.

We believe that Sherburn's unique circumstances demand a tailored solution that retains its unity and adequately reflects its growth trajectory. To this end, the Town Council has worked with Cllr Packham to highlight a number of potentially viable alternatives, all of which are preferable to the current proposal (which is the worst of all scenarios):

- **Option A:** A single-councillor Sherburn parish-only division, over the target number of electors but preserving community unity.
- **Option B:** A two-member division comprising the existing division of Sherburn in Elmet, as well as the polling districts of: South Milford South, Monk Fryston, Hillam, Fairburn & Burton Salmon Main.
- **Option C:** The same as Option B, but with the polling district of Brotherton added for a two-member division.
- **Option D:** A two-member division comprising both Sherburn in Elmet and South Milford parishes in their entirety, and the parish of Huddlestone with Newthorpe. Through residential development, this would grow into the tolerant variance for electors per councillor.

Each option represents a practical solution that prioritises community ties, ensures clarity of representation, and aligns with Sherburn's status as a vital local hub. We have also provided data spreadsheets (see appendix and separate attachment, enclosed) which outline how these divisions would satisfy the LGBCE's variances for our proposed divisions, and across the former Selby district.

We firmly believe that Sherburn in Elmet as a unified two-councillor ward or as an over-subscribed single-councillor ward are the only appropriate outcomes for this review. We strongly urge the Commission to prioritise solutions that maintain Sherburn's unity, reflecting the town's unique growth trajectory and its role as a central hub for surrounding areas. Recognising that Sherburn holds a unique position with 10,000+ additional 'non-electors' (for example community-space users, students, shoppers, workers) travelling to, through or from the division on a daily basis.

In providing multi-member division options, we believe that we have provided solutions that would bring the elector-to-councillor ratio down to be more in line with other unitary authorities, potentially diversify councillor demographics, reduce individual councillor workloads (particularly problematic in busy urban areas), and provide more continuous access to councillor support year-round.

We thank the Boundary Review Commission for considering our submission and Councillor Packham's detailed analysis. We are confident that by considering the options above, we can achieve a boundary solution that reflects the needs and aspirations of Sherburn in Elmet and its residents.

Yours sincerely,



**Peter Baumann**

Chair, Sherburn in Elmet Town Council  
For and on behalf of Sherburn in Elmet Town Council

Appendix I: Sherburn Division Compositions

Option A – Single Sherburn in Elmet Parish-only Division

22.77% Oversubscribed for the target number of electors (2030).

Polling District	Name of Polling District	Parish	Existing Division	Electorate 2024	Electorate 2030	Total 2030 Electorate	No. of Cllrs
SEJB	Sherburn – North	Sherburn in Elmet CP	Sherburn in Elmet	3709	3957	7144	1
SEJC	Sherburn - South	Sherburn in Elmet CP	Sherburn in Elmet	2986	3187		

Option B – Dual Councillor Sherburn in Elmet and Monk Fryston Division

A 2 Councillor division with a 1.91% oversubscription on the target number of electors (2030) per councillor.

Polling District	Name of Polling District	Parish	Existing Division	Electorate 2024	Electorate 2030	Total 2030 Electorate	No. of Cllrs
SEJA	Huddlestone with Newthorpe	Huddlestone with Newthorpe CP	Sherburn in Elmet	59	63	11860	2
SEJB	Sherburn – North	Sherburn in Elmet CP	Sherburn in Elmet	3709	3957		
SEJC	Sherburn - South	Sherburn in Elmet CP	Sherburn in Elmet	2986	3187		
SEJD	South Milford - North	South Milford CP	Sherburn in Elmet	57	60		
SEFC	Fairburn	Fairburn CP	Monk Fryston and South Milford	678	698		
SEFF	Burton Salmon Main	Burton Salmon CP	Monk Fryston and South Milford	343	356		
SEFG	Hillam	Hillam CP	Monk Fryston and South Milford	552	622		
SEFH	Monk Fryston	Monk Fryston CP	Monk Fryston and South Milford	810	824		
SEFI	South Milford – South	South Milford CP	Monk Fryston and South Milford	2037	2093		

Option C – Dual Councillor Sherburn in Elmet and Monk Fryston Division (plus Brotherton)

A 2 Councillor division with a 6.76% oversubscription on the target number of electors (2030) per councillor.

Polling District	Name of Polling District	Parish	Existing Division	Electorate 2024	Electorate 2030	Total 2030 Electorate	No. of Cllrs
SEJA	Huddlestone with Newthorpe	Huddlestone with Newthorpe CP	Sherburn in Elmet	59	63	12425	2
SEJB	Sherburn – North	Sherburn in Elmet CP	Sherburn in Elmet	3709	3957		
SEJC	Sherburn - South	Sherburn in Elmet CP	Sherburn in Elmet	2986	3187		
SEJD	South Milford - North	South Milford CP	Sherburn in Elmet	57	60		
SEFA	Brotherton	Brotherton CP	Monk Fryston and South Milford	548	565		
SEFC	Fairburn	Fairburn CP	Monk Fryston and South Milford	678	698		
SEFF	Burton Salmon Main	Burton Salmon CP	Monk Fryston and South Milford	343	356		
SEFG	Hillam	Hillam CP	Monk Fryston and South Milford	552	622		
SEFH	Monk Fryston	Monk Fryston CP	Monk Fryston and South Milford	810	824		
SEFI	South Milford – South	South Milford CP	Monk Fryston and South Milford	2037	2093		

Option D – Dual councillor Sherburn in Elmet and South Milford Division

A 2 Councillor division with a 19.58% undersubscription on the target number of electors (2030) per councillor.

Polling District	Name of Polling District	Parish	Existing Division	Electorate 2024	Electorate 2030	Total 2030 Electorate	No. of Cllrs
SEJA	Huddlestone with Newthorpe	Huddlestone with Newthorpe CP	Sherburn in Elmet	59	63	9360	2
SEJB	Sherburn – North	Sherburn in Elmet CP	Sherburn in Elmet	3709	3957		
SEJC	Sherburn - South	Sherburn in Elmet CP	Sherburn in Elmet	2986	3187		
SEJD	South Milford - North	South Milford CP	Sherburn in Elmet	57	60		
SEFI	South Milford – South	South Milford CP	Monk Fryston and South Milford	2037	2093		