

STEPS & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Working with North Lanarkshire Council for the Stepps Communities
- Stepps, Stepphill, Cardowan, Craigmuir, Crowwood Grange, Coshneuk & Millerston

Chairperson: Ken Maxwell



Secretary: Marvyn Mackay



Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland
Cardowan Review
Thistle House,
91 Haymarket Terrace,
Edinburgh
EH12 5HD

5th September 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

Cardowan Review 2017

Thank you for your correspondence of 18th August 2017 inviting the Community Council to comment on the Commission's proposals arising from the Administrative Area Review between Glasgow City Council area and North Lanarkshire Council area at Cardowan, Stepps. Unfortunately, the Council has been in recess during the period of this consultation but at its last meeting in June 2017, it gave me delegated authority to submit comments based on previous consideration of this matter by the Community Council since it was first raised with the Community Council by the local residents of the area under consideration.

The Community Council is in support of the proposals made by the Commission for much the same reasons stated by the local residents in their original submission. Indeed, the local residents of this area approached the Community Council at that time and were given support and encouragement in making their request for the Review. The Community Council's position is consistent with its position in regard to the earlier Review in 2008/09 of an adjacent area which was subsequently transferred from Glasgow City Council to North Lanarkshire Council.

The residents in the area under Review do indeed regard themselves as part of the community of Stepps with their affiliations and associations being in the main with this community and area rather than Glasgow City. The area has no direct access route to Glasgow City and all local government services have to come via a circuitous route through North Lanarkshire for at least 3 miles. The area is bounded on the North and West by areas already in North Lanarkshire and on the South and East by open countryside or farmland with no adjacent housing or route to Glasgow City Council area and its services.

As a result, despite claims that any change in the boundary as proposed by the Commission would put undue pressure on the infrastructure services provided by North Lanarkshire and that services such as Education would not be able to cope, the majority of the residents of the area have been successful in placements requests to local North Lanarkshire schools where their children are already receiving education provided by North

Lanarkshire. The same is true for health services for which many residents are registered with General Practitioners in North Lanarkshire rather than Glasgow and community health services are provided by NHS Lanarkshire as the case for all areas of Stepps and District.

The Council also notes objections from Glasgow City Council to the Commission's proposals based on the impact this may have on the delivery of the proposed new railway station at Robroyston. The Community Council understands the residents of this area using train services as a means of public transport already use Stepps Railway Station for which additional car parking spaces are approved and under development. It would be inconvenient and unrealistic for the residents of this area to consider using a new station Robroyston given the distance from the area and the proximity of Stepps Station. Indeed, the rationale supporting this case is no longer valid since the new Robroyston Station has now been approved for development and will be delivered whether or not the Commission's proposals are implemented. The statement that services in the Millerston area are already delivered by Glasgow City Council is self-evident and not comparable since the properties in this area have a direct and long-standing link and access along Station Road, Millerston within Glasgow City Council Administrative area, which does not require any access through North Lanarkshire in order to provide these services. Finally, the proposed Link Route in the Glasgow City Development plan is not supported by North Lanarkshire Council nor as far as the Community Council understands, would North Lanarkshire Council support housing developments which would link Easterhouse to Gartcosh in North Lanarkshire as this would create continuous urban development joining up two community growth areas in different Council areas and seriously impinge on the integrity of the Seven Loch Wetlands Park now approved and funded for significant development and consolidation in this area.

The residents of the area under Review already gravitate to the local clubs, societies and amenities of Stepps and District and other neighbouring areas of North Lanarkshire rather than Glasgow City based facilities and as stated above regard this Community Council as the one which serves their area rather than any within Glasgow City.

Overall, the Community Council is in full support of the Commission's proposals and would have no objections to raise in regard to them being followed through and implemented by the Scottish Government.

Yours faithfully

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of Marvyn Mackay.

Marvyn Mackay
Secretary
Stepps and District Community Council