

Bradford

Personal Details:

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Organisation Name: (Member of the public)

Comment text:

Dear Sir/Madam, I am writing as a concerned resident of Cottingley to formally object to the proposal by the Local Government Boundary Commission to divide Cottingley's representation on the Bradford Council between the Bingley Rural and Shipley wards.

My objection is based on the following reasons:

1. Community Identity:

Cottingley has a strong and distinct community identity, characterized by a shared history, local institutions, and a deep sense of belonging among its residents. The proposal to split Cottingley between two wards threatens to undermine this identity by dividing our community's representation. Currently, Cottingley functions as a cohesive unit with residents who identify strongly with the area. Dividing Cottingley would dilute this sense of identity and could lead to a weakening of the community ties that have been carefully nurtured over many years.

2. Representation of Community Interests:

Cottingley has specific local needs and interests that are best represented by a unified voice on the Bradford Council. By splitting the community between Bingley Rural and Shipley wards, there is a risk that the distinct needs of Cottingley residents will not be fully understood or effectively advocated for. Each ward has its own priorities and concerns, and Cottingley's unique issues could be marginalized or overlooked if we are represented by councillors whose primary focus is on other areas.

3. Impact on Local Services and Development:

As a single community, Cottingley benefits from coordinated planning and delivery of local services. The division of the area could lead to fragmented service provision, with residents potentially facing inconsistencies in the quality and availability of services. Additionally, future development projects that could benefit Cottingley as a whole might be compromised if decisions are made in the interests of separate wards rather than the community as a unified entity.

4. Social Cohesion:

Maintaining social cohesion within Cottingley is crucial for the well-being of all residents. The proposed boundary changes could lead to a sense of division among community members, as people may feel more aligned with their new ward rather than with Cottingley as a whole. This could have a long-term impact on the social fabric of the community, affecting everything from local events to neighborhood cooperation. In conclusion, I believe that the proposal to divide Cottingley between Bingley Rural and Shipley wards is not in the best interests of our community. I strongly urge the Commission to reconsider this proposal and to preserve Cottingley's representation as a single, unified entity within the Bradford Council. Thank you for considering my objection.

I trust that the Commission will take into account the importance of community identity and effective representation when making its final decision.

[Redacted signature block]

Attached Documents:

None attached