

Bradford

Personal Details:

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Organisation Name: (Member of the public)

Comment text:

Related subject: Bingley

I oppose the current proposal; the revision is in contravention of LGBCE statutory criteria, please see key points below:

The proposed change is harmful to the identities and interests of residents of both Bingley and Bingley Rural. It would undermine both historic and contemporary arguments that ensure the interests of the outer villages (Harden, Wilsden, Cullingworth and Cottingley) are represented by elected officials rooted and focused on village concerns rather than inner town interests. Likewise, residents of Bingley Town have sought to ensure representation by elected officials that articulate and reflect the town's interests within the wider district.

A boundary would be drawn through central, shared amenities including shops, parks, theatres, art centres, and more. When future planning applications might impact the residents of both Bingley East or West, only the Ward Councillors for the area where the planning application was made would have a right to speak at the planning panel. Residents would not have elected representatives responsible for the amenities and services that are within walking distance, and that form part of the community they identify with. Additionally, Bingley Ward Councillors work together on a number of projects that span the ward. This results in excellent inter-community support, activities and projects that residents see real benefit from.

Bingley Ward has a very clear geographical, social and community cohesion with current representation and BMDC organisation that enables our councillors to respond to local issues quickly and effectively. The proposed boundary would be destructive of our natural and successful community cohesion. The secure, effective and convenient local government would therefore be lost in this proposal.

It should also be noted that all other core towns within the Bradford Metropolitan District sit within one ward, and this proposed boundary change would draw a line through the heart of the town.

Lastly, the proposed changes were submitted by a single Town Council within the Shipley Constituency with no reference to wider community consultation. This is at the expense and disregard of the historic boundaries, community interests and community identities of the three other local wards.

Attached Documents:

None attached