

Bradford

Personal Details:

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Comment text:

To whom it may concern,

As the MP for Shipley Constituency I write to register my opposition to the Commission's further draft recommendations for the new electoral arrangements in the areas of Baildon, Bingley and Shipley.

I believe the new proposal would be detrimental to the established community interests and identities and would run counter to the need for effective and convenient local government.

More specifically, my concerns regarding the proposals are as follows:

- splits the town of Bingley into two separate wards, ignoring its historic identity
- splits Cottingley village in two
- splits the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Saltaire across two different wards
- diminishes the longstanding democratic benefit for the residents of the outer villages of Harden, Wilsden, Cullingworth and to be represented by elected officials rooted and focused on village concerns.

There is clearly no perfect solution given the tight requirements set by the Review for wards of similar or equal numbers of electors. I am particularly mindful of the desire of Baildon Town Council to be coterminous with the ward and for the village of Eldwick to remain with Bingley but to achieve these would be at the expense of dividing other communities. On balance I am of the view that the Commission's original recommendation, which includes transferring part of Eldwick into the Baildon ward, better fulfils the Commission's three statutory criteria in causing the least disruption to established community links and best supporting effective and convenient local government in this part of the district.

Thank you for considering my representations.

Yours sincerely
Anna Dixon

Attached Documents:

None attached