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From: Haworth, Susan (Councillor) <Susan.Haworth@bolton.gov.uk>
Sent: 23 September 2021 15:35
To: reviews
Subject: Response to Boundary Commission proposals for Bolton Council - from Cllr Sue Haworth re Farnworth North ward

Categories: Submissions, Matt

To: the Review Officer at the Boundary Commission.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Upon seeing the draft recommendations of the Boundary Commission for Bolton and their current ward reconfiguration, some ward residents are describing how they less recognise, in their daily lives, one of the boundaries on the diagram. A good number of extended families describe how they first lived in the Green Lane area and the streets off this main road; Rishton Avenue, Brook Hey Avenue, Oakleigh Avenue and Skelwith Avenue. Members of the extended families and friends have moved into homes in Farnworth especially so on Bradford Road towards Plodder Lane and many of the other roads in the area such as the Wilfred Andrews estate where Broadway is and the Flower Estate where Pansy Road is. They describe moving around this area on a daily basis visiting premises along with family and friends. A family home may be on Rishton Avenue with grown up children living in property on Avondale Road, Briarfield Road or Daffodil Road as examples. There are a notable number of families and close friends living this way.

Families living at other streets, for example Rishton Lane, Greenland Road and Glenside Drive have children attending schools and activities in Farnworth just over the border at Harper Green school at Harper Green Road, Mount St Joseph School at Minerva Road and St James School at Highfield Road. This is part of the daily interaction residents have between the two areas on either side of the boundary. Whilst there are road signs showing Welcome to Farnworth and Welcome to Bolton, in this area it is unsurprising that residents living in a border area do make use of local shops and amenities in an orbital pattern from their home. Residents at Bishops Road and Skelwith Avenue and other streets in the area do drive, cycle or walk to the shops and amenities on Plodder Lane and also those at the bottom of Lavender Road at Campbell Street, Farnworth.

Proposal for under population.

Farnworth North ward is under populated. The main part of the ward boundary that meets a well populated area is on Bradford Road at The Dell towards Bishops Road, Bolton. An area for inclusion to meet the under population can be; A set of roads to the North West that starts at Bishops Road (numbers 122 to 150), Oakleigh Avenue, the rest of Greenland Road not currently included, Glenside Drive, the new residential road of Westmorland Close, Skelwith Avenue, Rishton Avenue, Brook Hey Avenue, and the smaller part of Rishton Lane. This small local area is distinct with much of the local area having semi detached and detached homes with pretty front gardens with flowers and trees really very similar to the area just over the border in Farnworth North.

I support the ending of the Harper Green ward. Harper Green ward was 60% properties in Farnworth and 40% properties not in Farnworth. I was elected to a ward I did not design. That design has lacked resident supporters from inception. I have recognised and respected the great histories and distinction of Farnworth and Great Lever. A 60/40 split is quite something. When the ward was formed Farnworth was distinct, Great Lever was distinct and Morris Green was distinct. No one has mentioned the part of Morris

Green that is in the Harper Green ward. A corner of Morris Green, Bolton makes up the part of the ward often just referred to as Great Lever or as Lever Edge. Hundreds of residents in Morris Green have been part of the Harper Green ward. Another place with its own distinctiveness and history that I have always recognised and respected. Harper Green ward was named incorrectly. That Harper Green in Farnworth was used to name a ward with a 60/40 split, was not right.

Cllr Sue Haworth
Bolton MBC

kind regards,
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