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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 January 2023 09:36
To: reviews
Subject: Boundary changes for local government

Categories: Submissions, [REDACTED]

Sirs

I have a number of comments regarding the proposed changes in boundaries in North West Durham. I live in Hamsterley Mill, a small hamlet on the main A694 road between Rowlands Gill and Consett. We have no facilities here. There are approximately 190 homes.

For the 30 years I have lived here we have been part of the Medomsley and Leadgate ward. This has served us well - we have had excellent councillors who recognise our specific needs and have balanced them perfectly with needs of the rest of the ward.

I do not have any objections to the reduction in number of councillors and the aim of having wards that serve roughly the same number of residents.

I do stress that we look towards Consett as our centre for everyday transactions, e.g. banks, shops, entertainment. Our link with Consett is the village of Medomsley and a bit further Leadgate. I believe some of the change that is being considered is breaking our link with Medomsley and putting us closer to Burnopfield. I do not believe this would serve our little hamlet well.

I would urge the decision-makers to take into account our historical and practical link to the village of Medomsley, which is directly up the road, Medomsley Bank, from us and keep us closely attached to this village.

Our hamlet is fairly isolated and changing the boundary now would leave us feeling more so.

Keep us in the new ward, which includes Medomsley, whatever shape that ward is decided.

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