

Bradford

Personal Details:

Name: Mrs Caroline Whitaker

Email: [REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

Organisation Name: City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council (District or county councillor)

Comment text:

Related subject: Craven Ward

To whom this may concern,

This is a submission from myself as a Ward Councillor focusing on Craven Ward.

I understand, it has been agreed that Bradford will retain 90 Councillors which means the existing mean ward sizes are the goal for redrawing.

Size

- Craven Ward is currently 13% of the benchmark for an equal ward.

Boundary

- There are five distinct areas of the ward the villages of Eastburn, Steeton and Addingham and the town of Silsden and the rural farming area surrounding these settlements.
- The area is covered by three parish councils - Addingham PC, Steeton with Eastburn PC and Silsden Town Council.

- Although these are distinct areas they are of a similar demographic and as such issues raised by residents are mainly about local infrastructure and services rather than personal issues such as education, special needs or neighbour disputes.
- Personally, I feel that Craven Ward is right as it is. It may be spread over a larger geographical area, but the settlements are linked by road and bus services.
- The communities are of a similar nature and share similar types of community clubs and facilities such as village halls/hubs, GP practices, pubs and churches, with Silsden, being the largest settlement acting as a hub because of its larger number and size of shops and supermarkets.

The nature of being a Councillor in Craven

The casework which I undertake in the ward is of a similar nature across the ward and is of a similar volume per head of population.

Ward Name

The ward name is “Craven” relates to the local name for this part of the district. In the past this has been confusing because over the border in North Yorkshire the neighbouring council was called Craven District Council. However, CDC has now ceased to exist because it has been absorbed into the recently formed North Yorkshire Council. I would therefore wish to keep the ward name as Craven.

I would strongly oppose plans to significantly break up the ward as it would damage the community connections that exist between them.

Attached Documents:

None attached