

# County Durham

## Personal Details:

Name: [REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Postcode: [REDACTED]  
Organisation Name: (Member of the public)

## Comment text:

Dear Sirs,

As a resident of Hamsterley Mill we will be very adversely impacted by the Boundary Commission draft proposals.

I do not support the Boundary Change proposals for the Leadgate/Medomsley Division for the following reason.

- 1 The proposals in Para 43 refer to the difference in elevation of communities. No one seems to get dizzy going up to Medomsley! (It seems inconsistent that the current proposals then include merging with Consett north which has more altitude).
- 2 The proposed division into South and North Consett creates an arbitrary boundary of a homogeneous urban area with similar challenges and needs that can best be understood and addressed by elected members across the area.
- 3 There is almost no synergy generated by a merger of North Consett and any of the rural villages of Medomsley, Hamsterley Mill, Ebchester, Burnopfield etc.

Looking at the information available it seems that there is a far more appropriate solution to achieving similar population numbers for elected representatives.

1 If the reason for the boundary changes is to create a similar number of electors to councillors, then the logical solution is to have two or three to each constituency . Leadgate/Medomsley at 6850 combined with Burnopfield/Dipton of 6212 would 13062 voters. Three councillors would serve 4354, very close to the Boundary Commission target.

2 It makes sense to merge the divisions of Leadgate/Medomsley with the Burnopfield/Dipton. This is a logical geographically and more importantly community grouping as there are strong similarities, community networks, environmental and landscape homogeneity's, Schools, medical provision, and churches etc. Elected members would be able to engage with local needs across a contiguous area rather than have very diverse constituencies such as the proposed half of the very urban Consett linked to the small settlements of the Leadgate/Medomsley Division.

Please take my concerns into account and come forward with a proposal that addresses the needs of local people as well as the 'mathematical' model.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## **Attached Documents:**

*None attached*