

# Gateshead

## Personal Details:

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## Comment text:

**Related subject:** Winlaton

Please find my submission attached.

## Attached Documents:

- Boundary Commission Submission - 30.10.23.pdf
- Map 1.png

I would like to highlight to the Commission an anomaly in the existing ward boundaries of Winlaton & High Spen and Blaydon wards.

In the boundary review that took effect in 2004, a significant portion of the historic village of Winlaton was separated from the rest of the village.

The area running down Tyne Street to Axwell View and then along Axwell View (including Winlaton Rugby Club) to the current boundary, includes some of the oldest parts of Winlaton and forms part of the historic core of the village. However, it is currently within Blaydon ward.

Urbanisation over the last 100 years in the gap between Winlaton and Blaydon has understandably made the boundary between the two distinct places more difficult to discern on modern maps. Therefore, I have attached a historic map showing the extent of the village prior to the extensive house building on both Blaydon and Shibdon banks in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Map 1 shows a portion of an Ordnance Survey map published in 1898. The map shows that to the west the village contiguously extends to just before the junction between Tyne Street and Axwell View.

I have also drawn on Map 1 the approximate existing ward boundaries to demonstrate that the western portion of the village is not in the same ward as the rest of Winlaton.

I now live in Birmingham, but I moved to California when I was 8 months old and it remained my main home until my early twenties. I therefore know the area well. I, and everyone one I know who lived on California or the surrounding streets, would identify themselves as being from, or living in, Winlaton. This is also supported by the names of local amenities in this part of the village:

- The fields to the west of Axwell View now form part of Winlaton Vulcans Rugby Club.
- On Tyne Street (on the corner of Clara Street) is a local convenience shop, named "Winlaton Stores".
- Sore Paws Veterinary Clinic now occupies the old Commercial pub on Commercial Street. Its website refers to the locations of its two clinics as being in Newton Aycliffe and *Winlaton*.

The houses on California, up to the junction with Northlands, are some of the oldest in the village with the property I grew up in built in 1849 and a number of other properties date to a similar period on the street. It can also be seen from the map that the old Commercial pub and several buildings running down Tyne Street and around what is now Clara Street have been present since at least 1898.

This area is also very close to Front Street, which is the high street of the village. Most the area I have identified is no more than 100 to 200 meters from this street.

It is my view that the above evidence clearly shows there is a strong community tie to Winlaton between the area referred to and the rest of the village and ask that the commission ensure that this area is included with the rest of the village of Winlaton shown in Map 1 in any new configuration of ward boundaries.

