

Sunderland

Personal Details:

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

Comment text:

Related subject: Hastings Hill

Dear Sir/Madam,

After considering the proposed merging of Hastings Hill, Pennywell, and South Hylton my family and I oppose the suggestion for various reasons.

To begin, it makes no logical sense to merge Hastings Hill with Pennywell, as Chester Road is a major through road dividing the two boundaries and not to mention it is extremely difficult to cross that road. Whereas the current boundary of having Hastings Hill, Grindon, Thorney Close, and Springwell have easy links through a very well-established bus route and walking routes. They are all closely connected. It would make more sense to merge Pennywell, South Hylton and Ford Estate more than adding Hastings Hill.

To further my above point, the public transport is very easily connected to each of the current boundary areas. If you were to merge Hastings Hill, then it would become more difficult to get a bus between the three areas- Hastings Hill, Pennywell and South Hylton.

Walking routes, Hastings Hill, Grindon, and Thorney Close share the Park Extension and various green spaces. The Park Extension even leads to Springwell making a close connection with each community.

It is also known that Sandhill View School is the feeder school for the current boundaries as the school is directly in the middle of each location. Pennywell already has its own Secondary Schools (Academy 360 and Christ's College- formerly known as Grindon Hall). The predominant

amount of children from Hastings Hill, Grindon, Thorney Close, and Springwell do attend Sandhill View School. The same case is for the children in Pennywell attending the other two schools mentioned above. There is a clear divide between the two areas and by merging them, I do not believe it would be of any great benefit to the area.

Tay Road has the cadets, Thorney Close has the family hub (Thorney Close Action and Enterprise) and Grindon has the Young People's Centre which are all very easily accessed for the current boundary estates. I believe Pennywell already has their own community centre for young people and adults, but we do not share this local space with the Pennywell Community. Therefore, if we already have our own local community facilities where would be the benefit for Hastings Hill to merge with Pennywell when we use our current facilities?

The areas are already well established, and many people know of Hastings Hill being connected with the current boundaries. If you were to change it, it would cause a lot of confusion especially when the estates are not closely linked.

Also, Thorney Close has Hasting Hill Primary School which also indicates another close connection with the communities. Around the current boundary locations, we have Grindon Infants, Thorney Close Primary, and Hasting Hill. Pennywell has their own nursery, infants, and primary school. Very close by they also have Highfield which also relates to my earlier point of Ford Estate being more connected to the area than it would Hastings Hill.

On another note, by merging the proposed boundaries this could potentially have an impact on the value of properties- decreasing the value of homes on the Hasting Hill estate.

We have not been presented with any benefits of an area merge. It is a needless change that the Council has decided to propose and in fact it's just wasting time when there are plenty of more valuable causes that need addressing. As the old saying goes, "don't fix what isn't broken." It has worked for years and it will for many more.

I have lived in my current address for 13 years (my address will be written at the bottom of this email). Previous to my current address I lived in Penshaw for 5 years, but before that move I lived in [REDACTED] Hastings Hill for 12 years and my parents 26 years.

Attached Documents:

None attached