

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 01 August 2021 11:13  
**To:** reviews  
**Subject:** RESPONSE to: South Staffordshire residents - Have your say on new council ward boundaries by 02 August 2021

**Categories:** Submissions, [REDACTED]

This is our submission for the above :-

Thinking mainly about Kinver, which is where we live, it seems that we have been subjected to much housing development with little to no regard to local employment or local shopping or local vehicle parking needs. It seems that developers think that people only work from home in Kinver, as I observed from a meeting I attended regarding local planning applications from developers a couple of years ago. The reality is much different to this as a lot of people I know who live in Kinver work in caring or retail or manual work, where they are unable to work from home and therefore need to travel outside of Kinver to work and shop. This, in relation to Council Ward boundaries may not seem to matter but in the event, it is the Ward boundaries that seem to be used when calculating any housing needs. So I am opposed to any plans that will widen the area of Kinver up to being seen as a much larger area for the purposes of calculating how many more houses can be crammed into the area it occupies - therefore the Ward boundaries for Kinver should be carefully considered.

We have lost enough green space already, and due to lose even more so that developers can cram even more properties into Kinver, without regard for the need for employment, shopping and road travel. The villages nearest to Kinver have even less facilities than Kinver, apart from Wombourne, and it is bad enough that we have been included in the same Tier for Planning purposes with Wombourne. If the Ward boundaries are changed so that Kinver and Wombourne are in the same Ward, that will sway the figures even more in favour of using Kinver as a place to plan more housing development away from Wombourne.

There is also the situation of the UK Census Data and the fact that if there are Ward changes, this will affect the Data recorded for the Census and the stats in subsequent years for the purposes of calculating many things, including housing and population, which will no doubt have an impact on how Kinver is seen for the purposes of calculation housing needs. It is my opinion that any Ward changes around Kinver need to be carefully thought about so that we are not left in the situation of being treated any more unfairly than we seem to have already been treated when it comes to looking at housing matters.

Kinver is in a rural/countryside area, but it is vastly becoming more urban with every new house built, but without the facilities of many of the Urban places that surround Kinver, such as Wombourne, which are not easily reached from Kinver without the aid of public or private transport. For the purposes of calculating Employment, I believe that Kinver has already been included in the statistics that include Wombourne, which is my view is a vast travesty, given the distance between Kinver and Wombourne, but this does have an impact on how the calculations are made that include housing needs.

What will happen to the Parish Councils in all this reorganisation too? Will bigger Wards mean that persons representing them will have less time to consider the local issues? Will some areas get forgotten in the Ward changes and therefore have less representation than currently?

Therefore, in conclusion I am against any Ward changes that will have an impact on how Kinver is treated, especially with regard to calculating housing needs that will impact on taking away more green space in and around Kinver. If that can be achieved then it will be a triumph.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

## South Staffordshire District Council

### Personal Details:

Name:

[REDACTED]

E-mail:

[REDACTED]

Postcode:

[REDACTED]

Organisation Name:

### Comment text:

Thinking mainly about Kinver, which is where I live, it seems that we have been subjected to much housing development with little to no regard to local employment or local shopping or local vehicle parking needs. It seems that developers think that people only work from home in Kinver, as I observed from a meeting I attended regarding local planning applications from developers a couple of years ago. The reality is much different to this as a lot of people I know who live in Kinver work in caring or retail or manual work, where they are unable to work from home and therefore need to travel outside of Kinver to work and shop. This, in relation to Council Ward boundaries may not seem to matter but in the event, it is the Ward boundaries that seem to be used when calculating any housing needs. So I am opposed to any plans that will widen the area of Kinver up to being seen as a much larger area for the purposes of calculating how many more houses can be crammed into the area it occupies - therefore the Ward boundaries for Kinver should be carefully considered. We have lost enough green space already, and due to lose even more so that developers can cram even more properties into Kinver, without regard for the need for employment, shopping and road travel. The villages nearest to Kinver have even less facilities than Kinver, apart from Wombourne, and it is bad enough that we have been included in the same Tier for Planning purposes with Wombourne. If the Ward boundaries are changed so that Kinver and Wombourne are in the same Ward, that will sway the figures even more in favour of using Kinver as a place to plan more housing development away from Wombourne. There is also the situation of the UK Census Data and the fact that if there are Ward changes, this will affect the Data recorded for the Census and the stats in subsequent years for the purposes of calculating many things, including housing and population, which will no doubt have an impact on how Kinver is seen for the purposes of calculation housing needs. It is my opinion that any Ward changes around Kinver need to be carefully thought about so that we are not left in the situation of being treated any more unfairly than we seem to have already been treated when it comes to looking at housing matters. Kinver is in a rural/countryside area, but it is vastly becoming more urban with every new house built, but without the facilities of many of the Urban places that surround Kinver, such as Wombourne, which are not easily reached from Kinver without the aid of public or private transport. For the purposes of calculating Employment, I believe that Kinver has already been included in the statistics that include Wombourne, which is my view is a vast travesty, given the distance between Kinver and Wombourne, but this does have an impact on how the calculations are made that include housing needs. What will happen to the Parish Councils in all this reorganisation too? Will bigger Wards mean that persons representing them will have less time to consider the local issues? Will some areas get forgotten in the Ward changes and therefore have less representation than currently? Therefore, in conclusion I am against any Ward changes that will have an impact on how Kinver is treated, especially with regard to calculating housing needs that will impact on taking away more green space in and around Kinver. If that can be achieved then it will be a triumph.

### Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded