

Bradford

Personal Details:

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

Comment text:

Related subject: Queensbury Ward and across the district

I believe that Queensbury Ward should be renamed as the current name inadvertently creates a divide within the local population. The knock-on effects of this are a detrimental impact on community cohesion and confusion/disenfranchisement of voters. For example, the population of Queensbury Village don't accept shared resources with other areas inside the ward boundary like Clayton Heights and Mandale. I also believe that areas like Clayton Heights and Mandale feel inferior in terms of the priorities of both the council and councillors within the ward, particularly with things like play areas and youth services. This should also be looked at in other wards like Wyke and Wibsey which face the same issues.

I also believe that the number of councillors should be reduced to 60 with larger wards whilst retaining 3 councillors per ward. With the 33% decrease in allowances, I would allocate half to increasing the remaining 60 basic allowances and half to giving councillors a fund dedicated to improving communication and interaction with constituents. The increased basic allowance would attract better people to the role and allow them to dedicate more time, especially with younger people. Bradford is the UK's youngest city but the average age of councillors is around 60 years old which means representation does not effectively reflect the population.

Attached Documents:

None attached