

Worcestershire

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Comment text:

[REDACTED]
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17th March 2024

For the attention of the Review Officer(Worcestershire)
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England,
Dear Sirs,

I sent an email submission from my husband and myself last week. I now wish to add a further submission for myself with additional information Within Fairfield, a part of our neighbouring Woodvale division it seems that individuals are attempting to sway residents in our area by saying such things that if our area moves to theirs we will get Smart Water access etc etc. I understand that those striving for votes in the Woodvale division are wanting our rural area to be a part of their division area but they do not seem to want to consider the community identity and interests which reflect the communities local people live in here in the Clent Hills division, just electoral votes.

The documentation mentions that moving other rural parishes were limited as Clent Hills is the only rural neighbouring division. Accommodating these parishes would, it is said, result in poor electoral equality for both Clent Hills and Woodvale divisions. Point 50 concludes that, 'Our proposed Woodvale division is forecast good electoral equality by 2029 and we consider it to provide an effective balance or our statutory criteria.' This is a number of years away and fails to provide for our Bell Heath community.

All the efforts by those in the Woodvale division seem to be political, not considering the local people at all.

I first got to know this area as a young teacher in Birmingham and took several cohorts of children to the Bell Heath Field Study Centre for

residential and camping stays from Ladywood, Northfield and Handsworth. Our focus was always the immediate area including the Clent and Waseley Hills. Sometimes visits were arranged to Belbroughton and Chaddesley Corbet to study village locations. Now the centre does not belong to Birmingham but is called Bell Heath Boundless Outdoors, still benefitting from its rural location. When the land was sold there was a legal clause which stipulated that in perpetuity the land had to be used for 'Educational Purposes' reflecting its valuable location for our younger generations. I moved to this area when I retired to enjoy this location in my retirement. I strongly object to moving this area into the Woodvale division.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Attached Documents:

None attached