

Barnsley

Personal Details:

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

Comment text:

Subject: Objection to Boundary Change Proposal – Stainborough Parish Dear Local Government Boundary Commission, I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to formally object to the proposed boundary change involving Stainborough Parish, as part of the Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (BMBC) review, which would move Stainborough Parish into the newly proposed rural ward of "Dodworth, Stainborough and Tankersley." My concerns are as follows:

1. **Lack of Consultation** I was not consulted about this proposal in any meaningful way. There were no letters, emails, or in-person communications (such as door-knocking) directed at myself or other affected residents. I only became aware of the proposal through a casual conversation with neighbors during a dog walk and subsequently at a parish meeting. This lack of consultation has left many residents uninformed about the potential impacts of this change.
2. **Inappropriate Reallocation of Stainborough Parish** Stainborough Parish has a population of just 350 electors. Moving such a small number of residents into a new ward to balance the electorate numbers seems unnecessary, particularly given the new housing developments in Dodworth, which will likely surpass the number of residents in Stainborough Parish.
3. **Loss of Rural Identity** Stainborough Parish is a rural community, historically part of Penistone East Ward, which includes 8 other rural parishes. The proposed new ward, combining Stainborough with Dodworth and Tankersley, does not reflect our rural character. Dodworth and Tankersley are significantly more urban in nature, with access to the M1 motorway and different community priorities. Stainborough Parish does not share these characteristics, and the new ward's so-called "rural" nature does not align with the identity of our parish.
4. **Community Ties** Stainborough Parish residents have strong, long-standing ties to Penistone for recreation, education, and commercial purposes. We have no direct links to Dodworth or Tankersley. For example, bus services from Hood Green and Stainborough connect to

Penistone but not Dodworth. Additionally, our children attend schools in Silkstone Common and Thurgoland, progressing to Penistone Grammar, rather than Dodworth schools.

5. ****Disparity in Population and Influence**** The proposed new ward would consist of over 10,000 residents in Dodworth, approximately 2,000 in Tankersley, and just 350 in Stainborough. This population imbalance raises concerns that Stainborough Parish will have little to no influence within the new ward. Our small, rural parish could easily be overshadowed by the much larger and more urban Dodworth, which would make it difficult for our local issues to be adequately represented.

6. ****Lack of Affinity with Dodworth and Tankersley**** Stainborough Parish residents feel no community connection with either Dodworth or Tankersley. Our issues and priorities as a small rural parish are vastly different from those of larger, more urban areas, and we do not share any common community identity with them. For these reasons, I strongly object to the proposed boundary changes and request that Stainborough Parish remains within the Penistone East Ward, where it has historically belonged and where its rural identity is preserved alongside similar parishes. Thank you for considering my objection.

Kind regards, 

Attached Documents:

None attached