

Bradford

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Comment text:

Related subject: Baildon

As a resident of Baildon for the past 30 years I am writing to strongly support the Boundary Commission's proposal to unite the PD22A (Baildon South West) polling district with the rest of Baildon Ward.

This area, around Coach Road and Baildon Green, directly borders onto the current Baildon Ward. It contains Baildon's only secondary school, attended by the majority of Baildon children (including my own children, when they were teenagers). As such, it is an integral part of the community of Baildon.

It is a historical anomaly that this part of Baildon should be electorally separated from the rest of its community. It is quite distinct from the rest of Shipley and 'fits' much more naturally within Baildon.

The area is one of relative financial disadvantage (much of the housing being ex-council housing) and often feels as though it is not properly represented in political terms - being peripherally 'tacked on' to the Shipley Ward rather than an integral part of it.

The counter proposal to fabricate a new joint polling district of Baildon and Eldwick makes no sense whatsoever. The two communities are totally distinct, being separated by a large expanse of moorland. There is very little interaction between the respective residents of Baildon and Eldwick and they do not share common amenities - Eldwick is a place that Baildon people drive through to go elsewhere, and vice versa. There is no support from the peoples of Baildon or Eldwick for a combined electoral district. Eldwick is, and always has been, a part of Bingley. To

manufacture a totally artificial joint district of Baildon and Eldwick would be a piece of blatantly political gerrymandering with no logical coherence whatsoever.

[REDACTED]

18th August 2024

Attached Documents:

None attached