

Bradford

Personal Details:

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

Comment text:

Related subject: Bingley

I am a long time resident of Bingley and actively engaged in many aspects of community life. The new proposals will worsen the representation for me and many other people living in the core of the traditional town area of Bingley.

I am a senior member of Myrtle Parkrun held every Saturday in Myrtle Park. We have had very helpful assistance from Bingley councillors when setting up and when there have been any operational issues to resolve with the council. Under the proposals the park would lie in the Bingley West area - where the councillors main communities would be Harden, Wilsden and Cullingworth. The majority of our runners live in what would be Bingley East so the link between participants and their representatives would be lost. This does not fulfil the 'Secure effective and convenient local government' test.

My children swam at Bingley Pool - an important resource for the people of Bingley and our Bingley councillors have been very helpful in the campaign to get this reopened. I would lose the representation on this issue if the centre of Bingley fell into the Bingley East. The greater part of the population of Bingley under the proposal would be represented by councillors whose area of responsibility would not cover the town centre - so key issues such as transport, town square, cultural events and a whole range of important aspects of their role would be made more difficult. This is not consistent with the 'reflect identities and interests of local communities criterion'.

On a more general point it seems perverse to impose this disruption on Bingley to avoid some division of representation for Eldwick - the solution to not dividing Eldwick appears to be to divide Cottingley! Cottingley is an important part of Bingley with very few services in common with Shipley. I hope that the louder voices of advantaged Eldwick won't impose a dysfunctional solution on the less affluent of Cottingley. This would not be consistent with either the 'identities and interests' criterion or 'effective local government'.

I am aware that securing equality of representation is challenging, and that no part of Bingley will want to be 'given away' to balance voter

numbers. The initial proposal, to transfer part of Eldwick to Baildon, disrupts a relatively small number who had in fact historic representation across the moor and have only relatively recently joined Bingley. The new proposal has adverse effects for all in Bingley East who will lose our councillor links into the town centre.

Attached Documents:

None attached