Sheffield

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Related subject: Sheffield Boundary changes 2028

SHEFFIELD ELECTORAL BOUNDARY REVIEW 2026
Representation Based on Community Identity, Local Connections and Belonging
Formal Submission
I welcome the opportunity to respond to the Sheffield Electoral Boundary Review.
I believe the review provides an important opportunity to ensure that Sheffield's electoral wards reflect the real communities, neighbourhood identities and local connections of the people who live within them.
While electoral equality is essential, ward boundaries should also recognise established community identities. Residents should feel that their ward represents the area they live in, rather than being grouped with communities with which they have limited connection.
I therefore propose the following changes.
1. BURNGREAVE & FIRVALE WARD
I propose that the existing Burngreave Ward be renamed:
BURNGREAVE & FIRVALE WARD
Firvale is an established community with a strong local identity and close connections with Burngreave. It should therefore be properly recognised within the ward name and its community composition.
I am proposing a specific and limited change to the existing Burngreave boundary.
The Norwood and Bishopsholme section should be removed from Burngreave, including:
Norwood Avenue

Bishopsholme
the adjoining Bishopsholme streets
the surrounding Norwood area forming part of this same community section
This proposal is not intended to remove wider areas from Burngreave. It is specifically focused on the Norwood/Bishopsholme section, where the community identity and geographical connections are more appropriately aligned with the neighbouring Firth Park and Longley area.
The remaining Burngreave community, together with Firvale, would therefore form a much more coherent:
Burngreave & Firvale Ward
2. SHIRECLIFFE, SOUTHEY & FOXHILL WARD
I propose that the existing Southey Ward be renamed:
SHIRECLIFFE, SOUTHEY & FOXHILL WARD
Shirecliffe has strong geographical and community connections with the wider Southey and Foxhill area and should be properly recognised within the ward.
The established Southey area should remain together, particularly those roads and neighbourhoods which are locally recognised and identified as Southey.
The inclusion of Shirecliffe and Foxhill in the ward name would provide greater recognition to these communities and better reflect their local connections.
A ward carrying the names Shirecliffe, Southey and Foxhill would provide residents with a stronger sense of identity, ownership and belonging.
3. FIRTH PARK & LONGLEY WARD
I propose that the existing Firth Park area be developed into:
FIRTH PARK & LONGLEY WARD
Longley should be properly recognised within the ward name because of its established community identity.
The Norwood and Bishopsholme section transferred from Burngreave, including Norwood Avenue, Bishopsholme and the adjoining streets forming part of that community, should be considered for inclusion within this ward.
This would create a more logical arrangement based on the actual geographical and community relationships between Norwood, Bishopsholme, Firth Park and Longley.
The proposed ward name would also ensure that Longley is properly recognised rather than being absorbed into a ward whose name does not reflect its identity.
4. NETHER EDGE AND SHARROW
The existing boundaries of Nether Edge and Sharrow should also be reviewed carefully.
The Commission should consider whether these wards extend beyond the natural and established community boundaries.
Particular consideration should be given to the geographical significance of:
Cemetery Road
Plaster Lane
Bannerdale Road

These roads and surrounding areas should be examined when determining the most appropriate boundary.
The objective should be to avoid unnecessarily stretching wards across areas which have different identities and community connections.
5. DARNALL & TINSLEY WARD
I propose that the existing Darnall Ward be renamed:
DARNALL & TINSLEY WARD
Tinsley is an established and identifiable Sheffield community and should be properly reflected in the name of the ward representing its residents.
Bringing Darnall and Tinsley together under one ward name would provide greater recognition of both communities and strengthen their sense of local representation and belonging.
THE PRINCIPLE BEHIND THESE PROPOSALS
The central principle of my submission is simple:
Electoral wards should reflect real communities.
Ward boundaries are not simply lines on a map. They determine how residents identify with their local area and how they engage with their elected councillors.
Where neighbourhoods have established names, identities, community organisations, schools, places of worship, shopping areas, local facilities and established social connections, these factors should be properly considered when drawing electoral boundaries.
I therefore ask the Commission to consider:
Community identity
Established neighbourhood names
Geographical connections
Local roads and natural boundaries
Schools and community facilities
Local shopping and community centres
Patterns of movement and interaction
Residents' sense of belonging
The avoidance of unnecessarily splitting established communities
Electoral equality between wards
I fully recognise that the Commission must ensure broadly equal electoral representation.
However, where different boundary arrangements can achieve appropriate electoral equality, the arrangement which best reflects community identity and local belonging should be preferred.
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED WARD NAMES
Existing / Area
Proposed Ward Name
Burngreave + Firvale
Burngreave & Firvale

Shirecliffe + Southey + Foxhill
Shirecliffe, Southey & Foxhill
Firth Park + Longley + Norwood/Bishopsholme section
Firth Park & Longley
Darnall + Tinsley
Darnall & Tinsley
Nether Edge / Sharrow
Boundary review required around Cemetery Road, Plaster Lane and Bannerdale Road
CONCLUSION
I respectfully ask the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to give serious consideration to these proposals.
The aim is to create wards which are not only electorally balanced but also recognisable, coherent and meaningful communities.
In particular, I ask the Commission to carefully examine the Norwood Avenue, Bishopsholme and adjoining Norwood/Bishopsholme section and its relationship with Firth Park and Longley, while ensuring that the wider Burngreave community remains properly represented alongside Firvale.
A boundary review should ultimately produce wards where residents can say:
“This is our community, this is our ward, and this is where we belong.”

Attached Documents:

None attached