

Calderdale

Personal Details:

Name:

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Postcode:

[REDACTED]

Organisation Name: Calderdale Council (District or county officer)

Comment text:

Related subject: Todmorden

At present much of Todmorden is actually in the neighbouring ward. This makes no sense to the people who live there, who think of themselves as living in Todmorden. They therefore approach Todmorden Ward councillors, attend the Todmorden Ward Forum, and approach the council officers associated with Todmorden with any concerns or issues. It is counter-intuitive that even such as Todmorden Health Centre, which is pretty close to the centre, is not in Todmorden Ward. These areas are however, in the parish boundary of Todmorden and are therefore represented by Todmorden Town Councillors. It doesn't really make sense and isn't easy to explain. If there were an opportunity to include the whole of Todmorden centre, including the Poets Estate, Castle Hill and the area around Kilnhurst, that would make far more sense from an organisational and small p political perspective. I understand that it is around population numbers, but it might make more sense to put some more rural areas e.g. Shore (above Cornholme), Cross Stone Rd area and so on, with Hebden into Calder Ward.

It would definitely make things much more difficult if the Todmorden/Calder Ward boundary were to move even closer to Todmorden town centre and would, I think, be really unpalatable to residents. Todmorden has a lot of civic pride, and likes to define itself in opposition to Hebden Bridge, so many would object to being politically conjoined with Hebden as opposed to being included in their own town. Further, expecting some residents who, to all intents and purposes live in central Todmorden, to travel to Hebden Bridge to attend meetings with councillors and ward forum meetings etc, is unfair as it costs money and takes time. It will also mean that people living in these areas are more disenfranchised.

Attached Documents:

None attached