

Dudley

Personal Details:

Name: Mr Adam Davies

Email: [REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

Organisation Name: Brierley Hill ward - DMBC (District or county councillor)

Comment text:

Related subject: Brierley Hill ward

Please see attached.

Attached Documents:

- “Further evidence from the community” in support of the proposal to rename “Brierley Hill” ward as “Brierley Hill & Wordsley South”.docx

Presentation of “further evidence from the community” in support of the proposal to rename “Brierley Hill” ward as “Brierley Hill & Wordsley South” – Local Government Boundary Commission for England review, Dudley MBC 2023

Submission from: Councillors Adam Davies & Wayne Little

By and large, we support the draft proposals put forward by the LGBCE and were pleased to read that the Commission is “open to making the change” (to rename ‘Brierley Hill’ ward as ‘Brierley Hill & Wordsley South’) proposed by Councillor Davies at the first consultation.

Therefore, in this consultation on the Commissions proposals, we would like to put forward the “further evidence from the community” requested by the Commission to help clarify the feelings of local people in relation to the identity of their area.

Having, at the first consultation, presented data on the breakdown of postal addresses within the ward (highlighting that approximately one third of all addresses within the currently named ‘Brierley Hill’ ward have a Wordsley postal address rather than a Brierley Hill address), we have since carried out a mail survey of households right across the Wordsley South area to seek their view in relation to this proposal.

In the survey, we asked households two key questions, as well as asking for any further comments they may like to add in relation to the proposal.

The questions put to residents, and responses received (from 101 households), were as follows:

Question 1) –

“Do you agree that the current ward name (Brierley Hill ward) isn’t as representative as it should be of the place you live? (Yes/No/Not sure)”

Households responded:

Yes – 94 (representing 93%)

No – 2 (representing 2%)

Not sure – 5 (representing 5%)

Question 2) –

“Do you agree that ‘Brierley Hill & Wordsley South’ would be a more representative ward name? (Yes/No/Not sure)”

Households responded:

Yes – 97 (representing 96%)

No – 4 (representing 4%)

Not sure – 0 (representing 0%)

Sample of further comments given by residents:

- *“Totally agree that this needs changing, Thank You.”*
- *“I think where I live should be called Wordsley South”*
- *“I have never liked being part of Brierley Hill Ward. I always thought it should contain Wordsley as I consider myself to live in Wordsley, not in Brierley Hill”*
- *“I live in Wordsley. I am a 10 min walk from Wordsley Church. I am 30 to 40 minute walk from Brierley Hill church.”*

We feel this data shows clear evidence of overwhelming support from the community for the proposed ward name change.

Therefore, we once again urge the Commission to use the opportunity of this boundary review to change the name of the present ‘Brierley Hill’ ward to ‘Brierley Hill & Wordsley South’ to better reflect the identities of the areas, communities and feelings of residents who live within it.

We thank you for considering this request.

Yours faithfully,

Councillors Adam Davies and Wayne Little

(Local ward councillors for Brierley Hill ward on Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council)

C/O The Council House

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Dudley

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