**Birmingham District**

**Personal Details:**

- **Name:** Lord Kumar Bhattacharyya
- **E-mail:** [REDACTED]
- **Postcode:** [REDACTED]
- **Organisation Name:** [REDACTED]

**Comment text:**

As a resident of Moseley, I strongly object to the proposed boundaries, because in them Moseley is divided without regard to the historical, cultural, business, sporting and social makeup of our community. Moseley’s historical and social legacy encompasses being the home of great industrialists and philanthropists such as Joseph and Harry Lucas, the grandeur of Moseley Hall and the community spirit of Cadbury’s s gift of his property for the public good. Socially, the famous Moseley Rugby Club, Moseley Village and Moseley Park contribute to over 150 years of cultural and social history. This cohesive tradition of growth, philanthropy and community were foremost in my mind when I was raised to the peerage a Baron Bhattacharyya of Moseley in the County of the West Midlands, and I wish to support Moseley’s unique community in any way I can. Today, Moseley’s unity has led to an energetic civic spirit which adds a great deal to the quality of life of our area. Organisations like the Moseley Forum, Moseley Community Development Trust, The Moseley Society, Moseley in Bloom, Moseley Interfaith Group, Moseley Festival, Sustainable Moseley, Moseley Arts Market and Moseley Farmers Market all rely on a single, shared identity for their success. I am sorry to say that the draft proposals would divide Moseley, and I can see no logic to the proposals other than that they are based on the current polling districts of the city, and therefore offer a degree of convenience in assembly. Such administrative ease cannot be placed above the community a ward exists to serve. A Moseley ward which divides the two Moseley conservation areas would lead to a sense of competition, not cohesiveness. We would have the strange situation in which Moseley Park and Moseley Parish Church would be in Balsall Heath and Balsall Heath Park would be in Moseley ward. Moseley Village would no longer be in Moseley. Nor would St Mary’s Church, As the Chairman of the Moseley Forum has said, this is ‘ripping the heart out of Moseley and cutting off its limbs’. There is no partisan or sectional interest at work here. The opposition to the draft proposals is genuine and community driven, with over four hundred local people recently attending a discussion of the proposals being unanimous in their opposition to them. Further, all the main political parties, community groups, business representatives and faith leaders of Moseley oppose the draft proposals. Moseley has a clear physical identity, but it is also a social place and a community. The draft proposals split both the locations and the people of the area in a way that is at best bewildering, and at worst, destructive of tradition, current quality of life and future growth. The Moseley Forum, the political parties and others are working to offer a workable Two-councillor ward that serves all of Moseley, including the Village, the churches, the Park and Moseley Exchange. I urge you to accept their understanding of our community has both weight and merit, and to revise the draft proposals accordingly.

**Uploaded Documents:**

[Download]
The Review Officer (Birmingham),
Local Government Boundary Commission for England,
14th Floor, Millbank Tower,
Millbank,
London SW1P 4QP

5th February 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

I write in regard to your consultation on the draft electoral review (FER) of Birmingham City Council set out in your publication of the 15th December 2015.

As a resident of Moseley, I strongly object to the proposed boundaries, because in them Moseley is divided without regard to the historical, cultural, business, sporting and social makeup of our community.

Moseley’s historical and social legacy encompasses being the home of great industrialists and philanthropists such as Joseph and Harry Lucas, the grandeur of Moseley Hall and the community spirit of Cadbury’s s gift of his property for the public good. Socially, the famous Moseley Rugby Club, Moseley Village and Moseley Park contribute to over 150 years of cultural and social history.

This cohesive tradition of growth, philanthropy and community were foremost in my mind when I was raised to the peerage a Baron Bhattacharyya of Moseley in the County of the West Midlands, and I wish to support Moseley’s unique community in any way I can.

Today, Moseley’s unity has led to an energetic civic spirit which adds a great deal to the quality of life of our area. Organisations like the Moseley Forum, Moseley Community Development Trust, The Moseley Society, Moseley in Bloom, Moseley Interfaith Group, Moseley Festival, Sustainable Moseley, Moseley Arts Market and Moseley Farmers Market all rely on a single, shared identity for their success.

I am sorry to say that the draft proposals would divide Moseley, and I can see no logic to the proposals other than that they are based on the current polling districts of the city, and therefore offer a degree of convenience in assembly.
Such administrative ease cannot be placed above the community a ward exists to serve. A Moseley ward which divides the two Moseley conservation areas would lead to a sense of competition, not cohesiveness.

We would have the strange situation in which Moseley Park and Moseley Parish Church would be in Balsall Heath and Balsall Heath Park would be in Moseley ward. Moseley Village would no longer be in Moseley. Nor would St Mary's Church, as the Chairman of the Moseley Forum has said, this is 'ripping the heart out of Moseley and cutting off its limbs'.

There is no partisan or sectional interest at work here. The opposition to the draft proposals is genuine and community driven, with over four hundred local people recently attending a discussion of the proposals being unanimous in their opposition to them. Further, all the main political parties, community groups, business representatives and faith leaders of Moseley oppose the draft proposals.

Moseley has a clear physical identity, but it is also a social place and a community. The draft proposals split both the locations and the people of the area in a way that is at best bewildering, and at worst, destructive of tradition, current quality of life and future growth.

The Moseley Forum, the political parties and others are working to offer a workable Two-councillor ward that serves all of Moseley, including the Village, the churches, the Park and Moseley Exchange. I urge you to accept their understanding of our community has both weight and merit, and to revise the draft proposals accordingly.

Yours Faithfully,