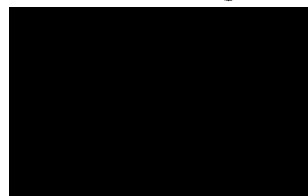
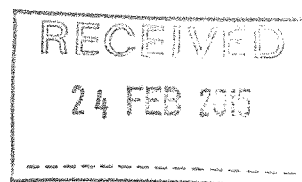


Mrs Tania Leigh



Review Officer (Bristol)  
The Local Government  
Boundary Commission for England  
Layden House  
76 - 86 Turnmill Street  
LONDON  
EC1M 5LG

20th February 2015



Dear Sirs

**Boundary Change for Bishopsworth, Bristol BS13 area**

I write with regard to the boundary change for my area, this being Bishopsworth, Bristol.

I am aware that the date to submit representations has now passed, however I have been working away from home and have not had the opportunity to submit any representations until now. I am though given to understand that, with discretion, they may still be taken into consideration. I shall be grateful if you would please do so.

I am extremely upset to be made aware that Bishopsworth is now considered to be part of the Hartcliffe area of Bristol. I have lived in Bishopsworth all my life and bought my marital home in the area in 2008. My husband and I struggled to buy our home as Bishopsworth was considered a 'desirable' area, however had we bought in Hartcliffe there really would have been no difficulty at all as the house prices for this 'deprived' area of Bristol are considerably cheaper than in Bishopsworth.

I understand that when my postcode is used for direction it states the address as Hartcliffe! How dare you make that change without significant consultation with the residents, some of whom have been resident since Bishopsworth was still known as 'Bishopsworth Village'. My Grandparents, in their 80's, have lived in Bishopsworth since 1962 and were absolutely horrified at the fact that they are now considered within the boundary of Hartcliffe. They remember Hartcliffe being built in the 1960's, whereas

Bishopsworth has a history stretching back over 1000 years which is something as a resident we can be proud of. Clearly, that pride has been snatched away from us without our knowledge.

I have worked in Criminal Law (I am an Associate Legal Executive) since 1989 and am well aware of the criminal element in Hartcliffe. I can state therefore that my observations of Hartcliffe are not unfounded, they are a fact, and a fact I have dealt with every day for over 20 years. It is, quite frankly, embarrassing to be included in the boundary of Hartcliffe.

With regard to the issue of voting, I can speak for myself, my husband, grandparents and parents – all of whom live in Bishopsworth that we will not vote in the Hartcliffe constituency. As far as we are concerned, our address is Bishopsworth, our properties were purchased in Bishopsworth (that is what my DEEDs state) and not forgetting the Council Tax we pay is most certainly Bishopsworth, therefore we want to be able to vote for a Bishopsworth Councillor in the Bishopsworth constituency. Is it in the interests of the local Government to have many residents refusing to vote as they will not attend the polling station. Obviously, you have never attended the Hartcliffe Polling Station and been subject to the intimidation from Hartcliffe residents as to who you should vote for? I have not faced this, as quite frankly I would not have been intimidated (dealing with criminal clients as a profession hardens you to such matters), however my grandparents – and the ‘thugs’ were targeting the elderly – were intimidated. Why should people who have worked all their lives now be afraid to cast their vote?

Whilst mentioning Council Tax this is, I believe, a key issue with regard to the boundary change as the Council Tax paid by Hartcliffe residents is less than is paid by those in Bishopsworth. Would you please advise me as to what measures are being put in place to reduce the Bishopsworth Council Tax to fall in line with Hartcliffe?

I would like to ask what would give you the assumption that residents, once aware of the boundary change, would simply accept it? You have clearly made these changes with the minimal of fuss so as not to alert knowledge or concern, and to not give the residents a chance to respond. I understand that details could be found on the internet a) useful if you have access to the internet as many elderly residents don't and b) only useful if you are given prior knowledge.

Finally, Under the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013;

When did your consultation period for the review commence?

When were the residents notified of any boundary changes that were to take affect?

Please advise me as to what steps were taken to advertise the consultation period and the changes; ie I would require copies of any leaflets which were

distributed, notices placed in the area, residents meetings I may have missed and detail of the local newspaper which was used to notify of the boundary review, together with the dates the notification was placed.

I thank you for considering my representations and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Mrs Tania Leigh.

Mrs Tania Leigh