

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the benefits of the separation?

- Money raised from Council tax in the Shipley and Keighley constituencies would be spent in the local area rather than subsidising other parts of Bradford. For example, Bradford Council (BDMC) recently proposed closing the swimming pool in Bingley at the same time as they proposed building five brand new swimming pools in Bradford.
- Spending will be concentrated in our local community by people who know you and your issues, rather than being delivered by more remote Councillors in Bradford with little interest in our area.
- All planning decisions would also be taken by local Councillors rather than Councillors in Bradford, thereby helping us protect our precious greenbelt, which Bradford Council has been concreting over for too long.

How much will this cost?

- Bradford Council has raised Council tax to the maximum amount allowed for 2018/19: 5.99%. The same Council tax bands would apply so no new Council could increase it beyond this percentage each year.
- The smaller area included in the new Council boundaries will result in resources being distributed across a smaller region meaning more for your money. All money will be spent locally, rather than in other parts of Bradford.

What will it look like?

- Shipley and Keighley constituencies are very similar in size to Calderdale, so the new Council would be of a similar size and just as viable as Calderdale Council.
- All the same issues Bradford Council deal with would transfer to the new local authority.

Frequently Asked Questions

What would it be called and where would it be based?

- The new local authority will be based within the Shipley and Keighley constituencies.
- It is up to the Boundary Commission to decide the name of the new Council, however given that the new boundaries would incorporate the Aire and Wharfe Valleys, the name might take this into consideration.

What is the process for this to happen?

- **First step:** to gain an appropriate amount of petition signatures to highlight clear demand for this change.
- **Second Step:** the petition will be sent off to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government. The petition asks the Secretary of State to instruct the Boundary Commission to conduct a review of the Council boundaries.
- **Third Step:** The Boundary Commission conduct the review and feedback to the Secretary of State, who ultimately has the final say.

Will there be more bureaucrats?

- The new Council would look to share back office functions with other local Councils, therefore ensuring money can be spent on local services.
- The Boundary Commission would decide how many district Councillors there would be, but we would expect there to be 36 district Councillors, far less than the current 90 in Bradford. The existing wards can remain the same with 3 Councillors per ward.

Does this affect local Town and Parish Councils?

- No, this has no impact on Parish and Town Councils- they would remain the same.

If you have any more questions or for more information please contact
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