

Dear Boundary Commission,

We are writing to you as local residents on behalf of the “Keep Leigh in Leigh” campaign, following your controversial proposals to split a number of communities in Leigh across several constituencies.

Firstly, we would like to express our concerns that a large part of Leigh town centre, part of Westleigh and Crankwood would be unnaturally transferred to the Makerfield constituency, a seat based on the southern suburbs of Wigan, under your proposals. In exchange, Leigh would get Ashton-in-Makerfield.

We would also like to express similar concerns over your proposals to divide unnaturally the communities of both Astley and Gin Pit Village between the successor to the Leigh seat and the Worsley seat, leaving parts of both communities split across both seats.

We do however, support the proposals to ensure the town of Atherton will not be divided between two constituencies, and instead will be unified within a single constituency.

The Boundary Commission’s proposals to remove Leigh Town Hall, Leigh Library, Parsonage Retail Park, and Westleigh High School from Leigh and place them within Makerfield rips the civic and administrative heart out of our constituency, as well as a large part of the commercial centre of the seat, damaging community ties.

A number of years ago, similar proposals were put forward by the Boundary Commission, but thanks to the work of Leigh residents who came together to fight the proposals, those plans were dropped, preserving the Leigh constituency that we know and are proud to live in.

We believe that these proposals must be fought, just as we fought them last time, which is why we support the “Keep Leigh in Leigh” campaign, to help fight these controversial plans that would tear our community apart.

We urge you to listen to our community, revise your plans to avoid splitting local communities and above all, “Keep Leigh in Leigh”.

Kind Regards

James Grundy, MP for Leigh **Les Thomas**, Chair of Leigh Means Business

Adam Vause, President of Astley Rotary Club **Astley Youth Band Group**

Trevor Barton, MBE Chair of Trustees of the Lancashire Mining Museum

Charles Shepherd, Managing Director the Atmore Group (Spinning Gate Shopping Centre)

James Morley, Representative of Leigh Market Traders

Cllr Stuart Gerrard, Cllr Jamie Hodgkinson, Cllr James Paul Watson, Atherton Independent Network Councillors

and supported by:

Signature Name

Address

.....

.....

Please sign the above and return to:

Boundary Commission England, 35 Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BQ