



Department
for Work &
Pensions

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4 February 2019

Stuart Andrews MP
House of Commons

Dear Stuart

I am writing to advise you of the outcome of the Cold Weather Payments scheme annual review.

The scheme is reviewed after the end of each winter season to ensure that the weather station network remains viable and representative. Expert advice is sought from the Met Office and changes made where appropriate before the start of the next winter period. As part of this, we consider representations made during the previous winter about the suitability of individual weather stations and the links with postcode districts.

Last year we were asked if further consideration could be given to whether the Cold Weather Payment weather station at Linton-on-Ouse was the most appropriate for the LS20 postcode. The Head of the Met Office National Climate Information Centre reviewed the data for the LS20 postcode and advised that:

The town of Guiseley sits within the LS20 postcode district, which along with LS1-19 and LS22-28 are linked to Linton-on-Ouse weather station. The town of Guiseley has a winter mean temperature of 3.8 °C which is closer to the winter average temperature at Linton-on-Ouse weather station (4.0 °C) than Bingley (3.1 °C).

The postcode districts LS21 and LS29 are more rural postcodes, extending into the Yorkshire Dales, and parts of these postcode districts have winter mean temperatures below 3 °C. The LS20 district is linked to Linton-on-Ouse, while the districts LS21 and LS29 being on average

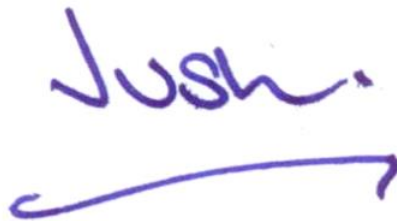
colder than LS20 are linked to Bingley. there are inevitably boundaries between some adjacent postcode districts.

In his findings, the Head of the Met Office National Climate Information Centre stated that there are inevitably boundaries between some adjacent postcode districts and recommended that the Linton-on-Ouse weather station should remain as the weather station within the Cold Weather Payment scheme.

If you have any further questions, please contact my officials at socialfundstrategy.singlepointofcontact@dwpgsi.gov.uk

I will place a copy of this letter in the House Library.

Kind regards



Justin Tomlinson

Minister for Family Support, Housing and Child Maintenance