

Cabinet

Wednesday 8 March 2023

10:00

Oak Room, County Buildings, Stafford

The meeting will be webcast live which can be viewed at any time here:

<https://staffordshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

John Tradewell
Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Services
28 February 2023

A G E N D A

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Declarations of Interest in accordance with Standing Order 16**
- 3. Decision notice of the meeting held on 15 February 2023** (Pages 1 - 8)
- 4. Staffordshire Electoral Review - Staffordshire Boundary Proposals** (Pages 9 - 132)

Leader of the Council

- 5. Exclusion of the Public**

The Chairman to move:-

“That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business which involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of Local Government Act 1972 indicated below”.

PART TWO

(All reports in this section are exempt)

Membership	
Alan White (Chair)	Jonathan Price
Philip White	Mark Sutton
Mark Deaville	Simon Tagg
Julia Jessel	David Williams
Paul Northcott	Victoria Wilson
Ian Parry	

Notes for Members of the Press and Public

Filming of Meetings

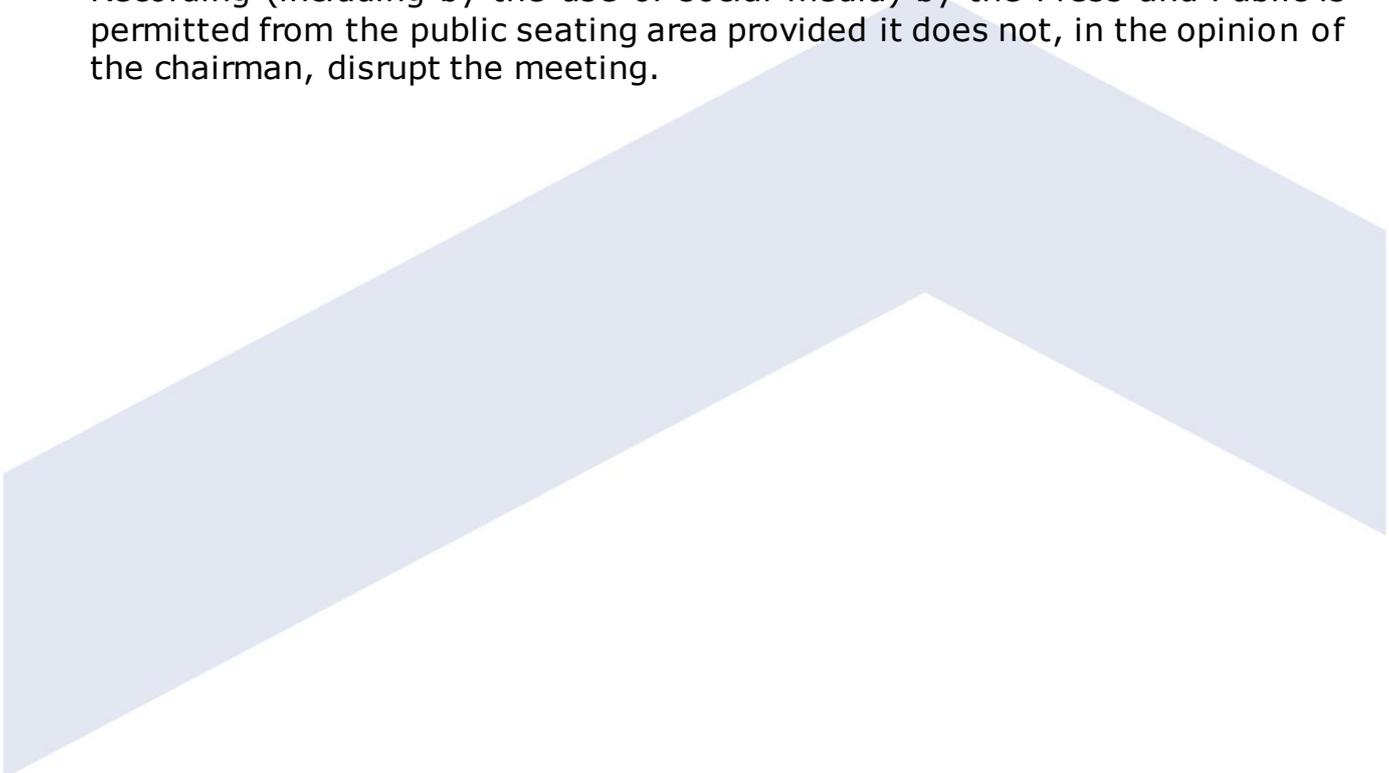
Staffordshire County Council is defined as a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 2018. The County Council has agreed that Public meetings should be the subject of live web transmission 'webcasting'. Fixed cameras are located within meeting room for this purpose.

The webcast will be live on the County Council's website and recorded for subsequent play-back for 12 months. The recording will also be uploaded to YouTube. By entering the meeting room and using the seats around the meeting tables you are deemed to be consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for the purpose of webcasting.

If you have privacy concerns about the webcast or do not wish to have your image captured then please contact the Member and Democratic Services officer named at the top right of the agenda.

Recording by Press and Public

Recording (including by the use of social media) by the Press and Public is permitted from the public seating area provided it does not, in the opinion of the chairman, disrupt the meeting.



Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on 15 February 2023

Attendance	
Mark Deaville	Simon Tagg
Julia Jessel	Alan White (Chair)
Ian Parry	Philip White
Jonathan Price	David Williams
Mark Sutton	Victoria Wilson

Cabinet Support Member in attendance: Paul Northcott

PART ONE

103. Declarations of Interest in accordance with Standing Order 16

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

104. Decision notice of the meetings held on 18 and 25 January 2023

Decision – That the notes of the meetings held on 18 and 25 January 2023 be approved.

105. Leader's Update

Decision – That the oral report of the Leader of the Council giving an update on a range of issues including the many businesses and employees talking about the benefits of apprenticeships during National Apprenticeship Week; the launch of the Staffordshire Dignity in Care Awards, now in their ninth year; the commencement of works near Saredon in South Staffordshire and on the A34 near Stone, part of the County Council's £5.2 million investment into improving eight major gateways into the county's towns; the support available from the County Council for businesses, including new businesses start-ups; the commencement of work on the new Stafford History Centre, a £5.4m project funded predominantly by the Heritage Lottery Fund; and the Council giving away 5,000 trees to residents to encourage more tree planting in gardens across Staffordshire; be noted.

106. Minutes of the meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held on 1 February 2023

Decision – That the minutes of the meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held on 1 February 2023 be received.

107. Staffordshire Means Back to Business - Oral Update

Decision – That the oral report of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills giving an update on “Staffordshire Means Back to Business” activity including the following matters be noted:

- The claimant count which this month saw a further increase of 265 claimants, with the total number of claimants in the county now standing at 14,700. This increase is higher than the rise seen nationally, with the claimant rates for Staffordshire increasing from 2.7% to 2.8%. However, the rate in Staffordshire remains one of the lowest rates in the West Midlands and far lower than the average for England of 3.7% of the working age population.
- The youth claimant count in Staffordshire saw a slight increase of 45 to a total of 2,685 young people. The proportion of young people in Staffordshire aged 18-24 that are claiming work-related Universal Credit has increased this month from 4.2% to 4.3%, although this remains lower than the national rate of 4.7%.
- The publication of the Council’s Economic which sets out the Council’s economic priorities in the coming years, namely:
 - Working with our partners to regenerate our town centres.
 - Enabling people to benefit from higher paid, higher skilled and high social value jobs.
 - Supporting people to start and grow a business.
 - Encouraging greater levels of innovation activity.
 - Developing those investment-ready projects that will be vital to the future of the county.
 - And, developing our A50 / A500 and A38 strategic corridors for transformational economic growth of national significance.
- The Council’s success in supporting innovation, including the delivery of multiple business premises on Keele University Science & Innovation Park that are now home to many high-value, highly skilled companies.
- The Government’s granting of permission for JCB’s hydrogen-powered backhoe loaders to be used on UK roads. JCB’s hydrogen project has already led to the creation of 150 new jobs with the promise of hundreds of more to come. We are now driving forward plans to consider how the county council and our partners can best support our businesses and institutions to further increase innovation activities, improve connectivity and ultimately support growth in highly paid jobs.

- The Council’s successful bid for £20 million of Levelling Up Funding. This will be used to improve a number of major roads around the county, reduce journey times, put greener, cleaner buses on main roads, improve walking and cycling routes and, as part of the delivery of our Strategic Infrastructure Plan, support the substantial growth in jobs and housing planned to be delivered in the county.
- Staffordshire Moorlands District Council’s success in securing £17.1 million to redevelop Leek town centre, including substantial investment in the Nicholson Institute, home to Leek’s library, museum and art gallery. Together with Cannock Chase District Council’s success in round one, this means that the Staffordshire local authorities have secured over £57 million for the county from the Levelling Up Fund alone.

108. Diversity and Inclusion - Progress Update

	<p>“Working to ensure everyone in Staffordshire has the best opportunity they can to do well, to thrive and be happy is at the core of the values of this council.</p> <p>As a major employer, we want to lead by example to others across the county. I am proud of the progress which has been made but recognise too that more work still needs to be done to make Staffordshire a truly inclusive place to live and work.”</p> <p>Alan White, Leader of the Council</p>
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Reasons for the Decision – To consider progress in 2022 and proposed areas of focus for 2023/24 to further strengthen the Council’s approach to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion both within the organisation and across Staffordshire.

Decision – (a) That the progress of the Council’s work to further strengthen its approach to equality, diversity and inclusion, including delivery of the delivery plan be noted.

(b) That the Council's Gender Pay Gap report and Workforce profile as reported in April 2022 be noted.

(c) That the emerging priorities for 2023/24 as part of the Council’s continued commitment to promote equality, diversity and inclusion, be approved.

109. Empowering our Communities



"Our amazing communities across Staffordshire really are at the heart of what makes this county such a fantastic place to live.

Friends helping friends, neighbours helping neighbours and people stretching out a helping hand to those most in need, is what makes a difference to the quality of so many people's lives.

As a county council, we are committed to empowering our communities and in the last year this approach, with the support of our voluntary, community and public sector partners, helped more than 1,200 families improve their lives, supported just under 110,000 people through our community-based public health drives and distributed more than £200,000 worth of grants to help communities recover from the pandemic.

But we know together we can do even more, and in 2023 we aim to do just that by empowering our wonderful communities here in Staffordshire."

Victoria Wilson, Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture

Reasons for the Decision – To consider the Communities Position Statement which reviews progress in 2021/22, provides a clear and detailed delivery plan for 2023, and sets out the Council's intention to develop a long-term, innovative, and aspirational Communities Strategy for Staffordshire

Decision – (a) That the Communities Position Statement, including a review of the progress made with partners and communities in 2021/22, be approved.

(b) That the Communities Delivery Plan for 2023 be approved.

(c) That the proposal to engage with partners and communities to develop a long-term, innovative, and ambitious Communities Strategy for Staffordshire, be approved.

110. Integrated Performance Report - Quarter 3, 2022/23



"Creating the right conditions for businesses and our economy to thrive remains a priority for the county council while managing the inflationary pressures we continue to face.

Our here to Help campaign and dedicated webpages which launched in October continue to signpost families to help and support with rising cost of living pressures. The Holiday Activity and Food programme also ran over the Christmas holidays helping families by providing eligible children with a healthy meal and positive activities.

The next phase of the successful Staffordshire Warmer Homes scheme (Sustainable Warmth Competition) is underway and is helping residents by installing measures to make their homes more energy efficient. This scheme will be able to help people across the county and will run until March 2023.

We continue to face challenges in both adult social care and children's services including in recruitment and retention. Due to the delay in the adult social care charging reforms until 2025, the recruitment of additional capacity has been paused, however work to streamline pathways and explore digital solutions continues.

We continue to support our local businesses to start up, survive, and adapt, including supporting five hundred individuals through the Staffordshire Start Up Programme. The number of business start-ups in the county have been increasing and are now in line with the national average for the first time. Businesses started within Staffordshire are also more likely to survive compared to the national average.

Despite the inflationary pressures facing councils like ours, we will invest to keep growing the county in a sustainable way to make a positive difference in the lives of our residents".

Alan White, Leader of the Council



“Significant progress has been made across the organisation during Quarter 3, however inflationary, recruitment and retention pressures continue.

Levels of demand also remain challenging, particularly in children’s services where there remain areas of financial risk. However, there have been improvements in some areas of adult social care over the quarter.

The latest revenue forecast outturn shows a forecast overspend of £16.135m (2.74%), prior to additional funding for inflationary pressures being taken into account. Once this one-off funding is included and an allocation from the Inflation Reserve is assumed, the overspend reduces to £11.635m (1.97%). This is compared to an overspend of £6.408m reported at Quarter 2.

Like many local authorities, we still face financial challenges, but we are a well run council and continue to keep our finances in as strong a position as possible. Well managed finances means we can continue to invest in our future, grow our economy and improve people’s lives.”

Ian Parry, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources

Reasons for the Decision – To consider an overview of Staffordshire County Council’s progress, performance, and financial position in delivering against the Council’s Strategic Plan and Delivery Plan

Decision – (a) That the report be received.

(b) That the use of the remaining £4m of Contingency plus £1.189m of earmarked reserves be approved.

111. Decisions taken by Cabinet Members under Delegated Powers

Decision – That the following decisions taken by Cabinet Members under delegated powers be noted:

Cabinet Member	Decision
Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND)	In approving the determination of admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools in 2024/25, and coordinated admissions scheme in 2024/25.
Cabinet Member for Health and Care	In approving the relocation of the Newcastle Specialist Day Opportunities service to the Brackenberry site along with refurbishment and modernisation of the building.
Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND)	In approving the recommended revised Staffordshire Agreed Syllabus in Religious Education, under Schedule 31(2) of the Education Act 1996.
Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport	In approving the level of support from the approved concessionary travel budget which will be used to support local bus services in Staffordshire to avoid extensive bus network reductions during 2023.
Leader of the Council	In approving the amendment of the pay structure to accommodate the deletion of spinal column point 1 on the national pay spine.

112. Forward Plan of Key Decisions

The Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period 15 March to 19 July 2023, which detailed the following issues, was approved:

Subject Matter	Contact
Our People Strategy 2023 and Beyond	Name: Sarah Getley Tel: (01785) 854265
Capital Programme for Schools 2023/ 2024	Name: Ian Tuner Tel: (01785) 277228
Highways and Transport Capital Programme 2023/24	Name: James Bailey Tel: (01785) 276591
Staffordshire County Council Local Flood Risk Management Strategy	Name: James Bailey Tel: (01785) 276591
Mental Health and Mental Wellbeing Strategy 2023-2028	Name: Andrew Jepps Tel: (01785) 278557
Corporate Delivery Plan 2023/4	Name: John Tradewell Tel: (01785) 276102
Joint Coroners Service - Legal Framework and Financial Protocol	Name: Catherine Mann Tel: (01785) 278320
Maintenance and Minor Works Framework	Name: Ian Turner Tel: (01785) 277228

Alan White
Leader of the Council

Cabinet – Wednesday 08 March 2023

Staffordshire Electoral Review – Staffordshire Boundary Proposals

Recommendations of the Leader of the Council

I recommend that Cabinet:

- a. Note the progress made to date on the County's Electoral Review;
- b. Recommends Full Council to agree to the proposals for Staffordshire's boundary changes:
 - i. Requests a single member per division review
 - ii. Review the boundary changes proposed
 - iii. Removal of one elected member in Tamworth
 - iv. Addition of one elected member in East Staffordshire
- c. Recommends to Full Council that the Leader of the Council and the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Corporate Services be authorised to finalise the proposals prior to submitting to the Boundary Commission.

Local Member Interest: N/A

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Services

Background

1. In March 2022, the Local Government Boundary Commission initiated an Electoral Review of Staffordshire. The rationale for undertaking an Electoral Review is both due to our changing population which has led to electoral inequality, and the length of time since our last review.
2. The last Electoral Review was undertaken between 2010-12 and resulted in Staffordshire maintaining the existing council size of 62 Members, with division boundaries being altered to address voter inequality and reflecting the identities and interests of local communities.
3. There are two key stages to an Electoral Review:
 - a. Stage 1 – which considers the Council Size
 - b. Stage 2 – which considers division arrangements

4. Stage 1 commenced in June 2022 and was completed in November 2022.
5. Stage 2 commenced officially on January 10th, 2023, following the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) 'in principle' decision to retain the Member size of 62. With that decision came the confirmed data/projections which have been used to refine Staffordshire's proposals.
6. Stage 2 focuses on:
 - a. Total number of divisions
 - b. Division boundaries
 - c. Number of Councillors elected to each division
 - d. Name of each division
7. Consultation dates:
 - a. Public consultation on warding patterns 10th January 2023 to March 2023
 - b. Consultation of their draft recommendations 20th June 2023 to the 4th September 2023
8. Following consultation, Staffordshire County Council will then have eight weeks to respond to the draft recommendations, prior to these being finalised in November 2023.
9. Proposals will be taken through Staffordshire County Council's Governance process for final approval at Full Council on 16th March 2023, ahead of submission to the LGBCE by the 20th of March 2023.
10. It is expected that the Commission will publish its final division arrangements recommendations in November 2023. The new division arrangements will be elected to in 2025.

Developing Staffordshire's new boundaries

11. Whilst this is a County Council Electoral Review, a significant amount of information is required from Staffordshire's Districts and Boroughs to inform our proposals. The Project Team have been working closely with District and Borough colleagues since June 2022 to gain access to the required data and information and have worked with them to review and quality assure the information provided.
12. Once the data projections were understood (November 2022) these have been used to create mapping drafts to discuss with elected members at district workshops, allowing maximum time for engagement. These initial

discussions helped to shape new warding patterns with community insight and knowledge to support the proposals.

13. Following the first round of workshops and the information and feedback received, new iterations of maps for each District/Borough have been created to ensure that we have a set of proposals that are supported by elected members with a robust and compelling argument.
14. In January 2023, the Project Team began the last phase of workshops, which allowed the team to refine and shape the final set of proposals to submit to the boundary commission.
15. Throughout the process SCC officers have collaborated closely with the elected members and Strategic Delivery Managers to ensure that any proposals are cognisant of community knowledge and insight, keeping the communities at the heart of the changes proposed.
16. The proposals Staffordshire submit must address the three criteria as set out below:
 - a. **Electoral Equality**- Ideally all divisions need to be within a +/- 10% of the County Average
 - b. **Community Identity** – Well evidenced community arguments need to be provided to support the proposals
 - c. **Effective and Convenient Local Government** – Proposals need to reflect and consider remaining coterminous with District/Borough and Parish boundaries, where possible

Stage 2 Summary

17. Stage 2 is a consultation led and conducted by the LGBCE. The County Council, and other interested parties including members of the public, have 12 weeks to submit their initial proposals for new division arrangements. These proposals will need to include where the boundaries lie between divisions, the number of Members for each division, and the names of divisions.
18. During the preparation of our division proposals there has been a range of opportunities for elected members to input and shape the formulation of the proposals. Regular member briefing sessions continue to take place alongside individual meetings to discuss specific division proposals. The Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee will continue to provide scrutiny and oversight of the process.
19. Staffordshire's division proposals need to be submitted to the Boundary Commission by 20th March 2023. The Commission will then have a further

12 weeks to analyse all the representations made and produce their draft recommendations. We expect their draft recommendations to be published on 27th June 2023. SCC will then have eight weeks to respond to the draft recommendations, prior to final recommendations being produced in November 2023.

List of Background Documents/Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Lichfield Draft Proposals
Appendix 2 - South Staffs Draft Proposals
Appendix 3 - Cannock Chase Draft Proposals
Appendix 4 - East Staffs Draft Proposals
Appendix 5 - Stafford Draft Proposals
Appendix 6 - Tamworth Draft Proposals
Appendix 7 - Newcastle Draft Proposals
Appendix 8 - Moorlands Draft Proposals

Please note that all the attached appendices are draft and still undergoing various edits, sign off and are far from the final stages of completion.

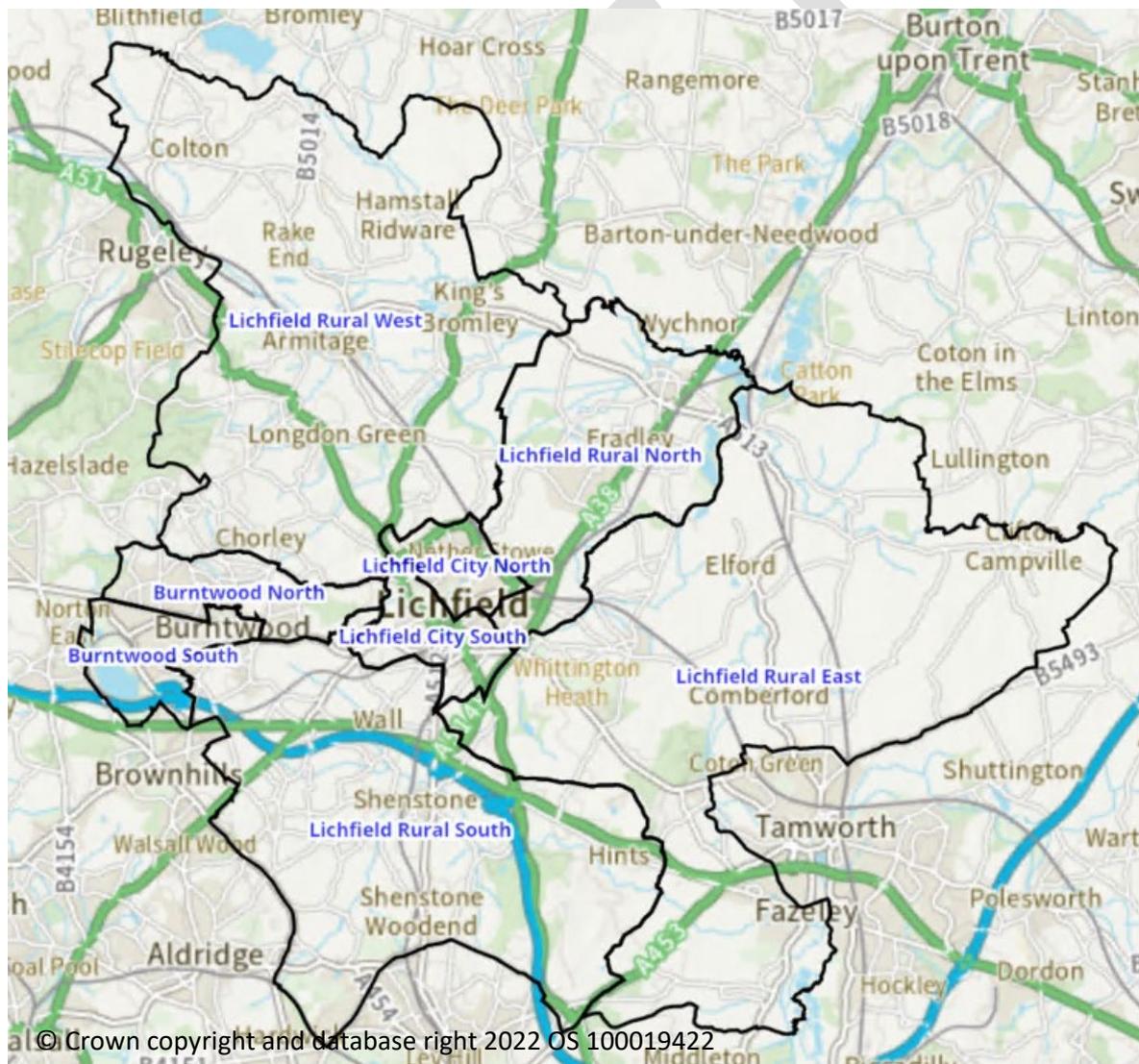
Contact Details

Report Author: Katie Marshall
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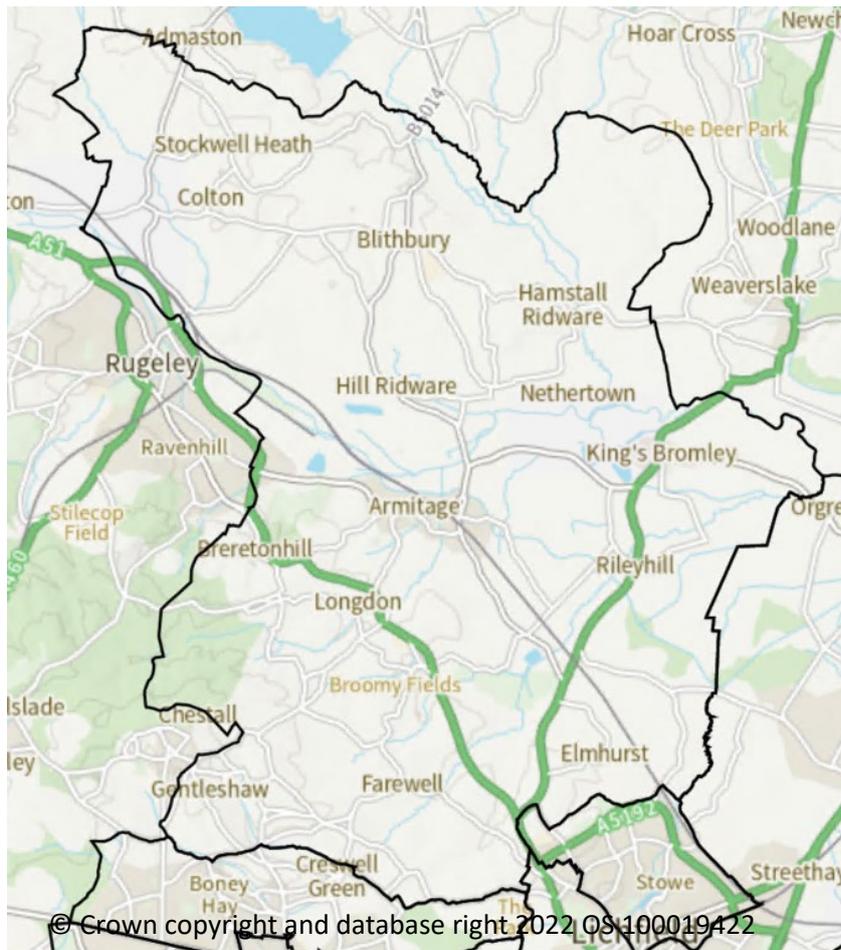
Lichfield District

Overview

Lichfield District total electorate is forecast to rise from 83,085 in 2022 to 91,177 in 2028. Lichfield will continue to have 8 single member divisions. This gives an average electorate in the district of 11,397, 1.9% below the average division size for Staffordshire of 11,617. Large areas of housing led population growth have been identified in Lichfield Rural North and Lichfield City South, resulting in both divisions having a forecast electorate variance of above 14% by 2028. In contrast, the two Burntwood divisions and Lichfield Rural South are forecast to have forecast variances of over -10% by 2028.



Division 1: Lichfield Rural West



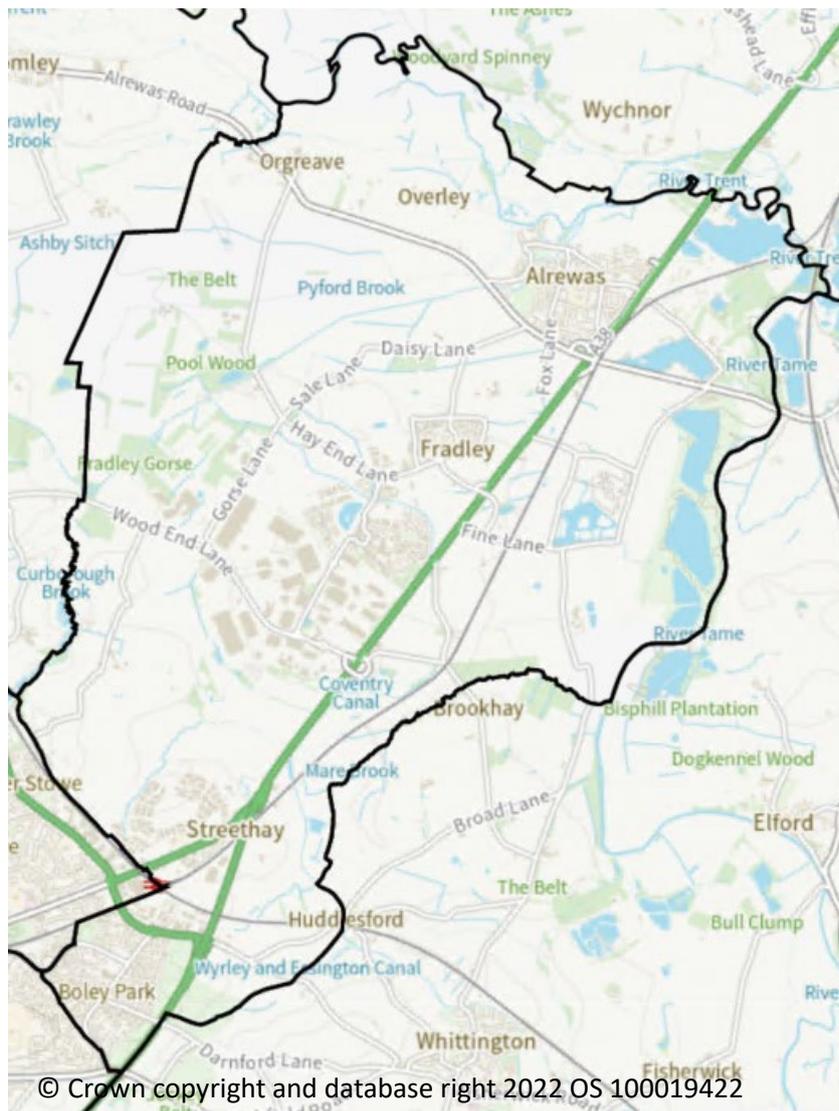
Summary of Division: Lichfield Rural West lies in the north-west of Lichfield district. The proposed division would comprise in full the wards of Colton & the Ridwares, Armitage with Handsacre and Longdon.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,498 – a variance of -9.6% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity. Councillors highlighted that electors in Woodhouses/St Matthews consider themselves part of Burntwood rather than identifying with the rural nature of the rest of this division; this proposal moves the St Matthews area (Highfield parish ward, Burntwood parish) out of the current Lichfield Rural North and into Burntwood North, therefore better reflecting that sense of community identity.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good as the division now comprises the entirety of 3 wards – Colton & the Ridwares, Armitage with Handsacre and Longdon.

Division 2: Lichfield Rural North



Summary of Division: Lichfield Rural North lies in the north of Lichfield district. The proposed division would comprise all of Alrewas and Fradley ward, a small western area of Whittington and Streethay ward, and the majority of Boley Park ward. In the south-west of the division, a small area of Stowe ward which currently sits in Lichfield Rural North would move to Lichfield City North.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,439 – a variance of +7.1% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Bus service comes from Lichfield City Centre and from Burton upon Trent. In the past year or so the bus service has changed from a single decker bus to a double decker bus because of volume of people travelling.

Alrewas has a very close relationship with their communities. Fradley is different owing to the new residential developments and large manufacturing units. Both villages rely on the Bus Service for shopping and for the children going to and from school in either Lichfield or Barton under Needwood. Fradley has a small area of shops also. There is also a doctor's surgery in Alrewas Village plus a Chemist and small Supermarket. Alrewas and Fradley have working Farms which serve the community.

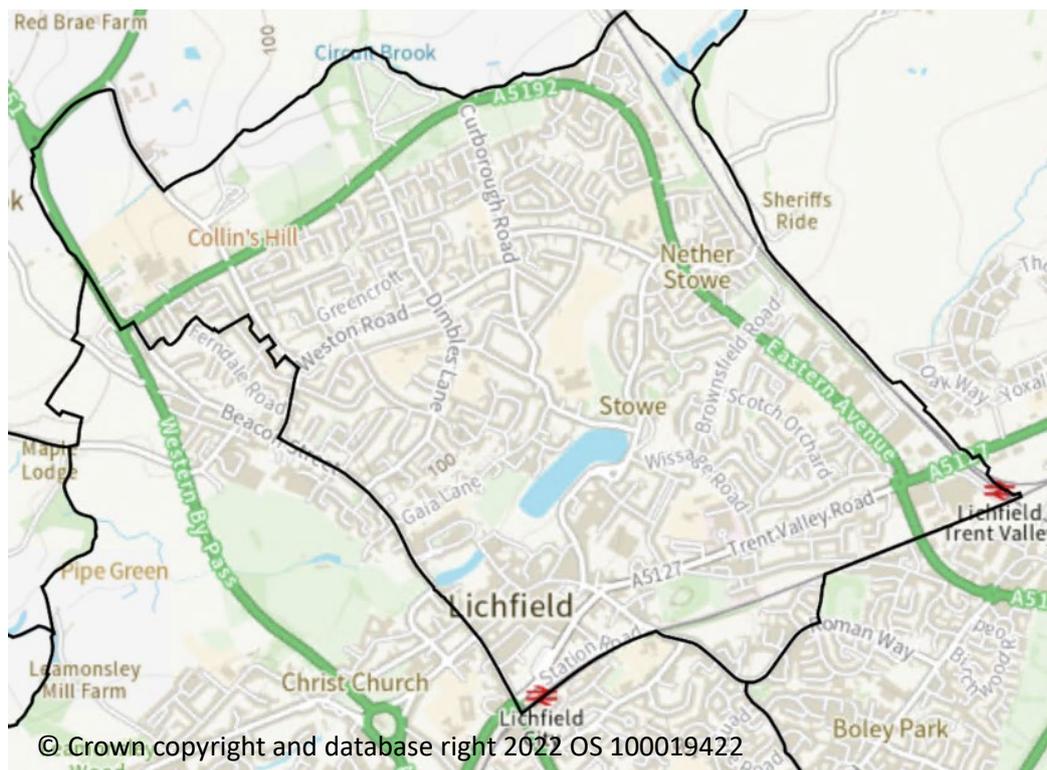
Fradley has a community which is growing owing to the large new residential developments in its mist. A Village Hall along with a community hall serve the residents with activities being put on. This is where all communities get together, scouts, brownies etc. There is also the local church which is very active in the community.

This division currently has three parish councils. Fradley – Alrewas – Boley Park it is part of the Larger Parish of Lichfield City Council. Boley Park is situated within walking distance to the main City Centre of Lichfield. Boley Park has a very good shopping area together with a Community Hall which is well used by the local people with all different activities. It uses Green Hill Health centre for the doctor's surgery. There is however a bus service which travels to Tamworth. Plus, a bus service from Lichfield City Centre to Alrewas and Fradley and on to Burton on Trent. Villages have their own way of entertaining through the residents living in the Villages, such as active arts and music festivals every other year. However, Fradley Village is no longer considered a village it has a large industrial area withing its mist. Plus, very large and new residential developments taking place which lends to the fact that Fradley is no longer considered a village. A new infant's school has just opened with plans to expand as the residential development gets larger. Shopping wise most people travel to larger supermarkets for their main shopping. However, Alrewas has a small shopping area plus a doctor's surgery as mentioned above.

A Canal runs through Fradley and Alrewas which bring lots of visitors. Fradley has a canal lock gates which hosts a local café. It also has a holiday caravan park. Fradley and Alrewas have large development of Sand and Gravel extractions Cemex and Tarmac which brings concerns of HGVs to local residents- in its self this has created a community culture. Alrewas has many large ponds of water from the digging of the sand and gravel. Alrewas also has The National Memorial Arboretum off the A38 on the A515. Many people from the area acting as volunteers to maintain this facility. The NMA sees many visitors from all over the world so residents feel very proud.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the proposed changes improve coterminosity for the division – the proposed new boundary to the south-west of the division would follow the existing ward boundary between Boley Park and Stowe wards.

Division 3: Lichfield City North



Summary of Division: Lichfield City North lies in the centre of Lichfield district. The proposed division would therefore comprise the entirety of 3 wards - Chadsmead, Curborough and Stowe wards.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,096 – a variance of +4.1% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Insight:

Transport links provide a critical part of this proposal, in recent dealing with the Transport team, it was confirmed that the current level of provision is only possible with linking to the X12 bus service for example.

Shared interests are identified within this proposal as the existing efforts of the City Council, together with District wards and County divisions are

effective in this area and will further support with the improved alignment.

Community groups will be able to continue to provide their valuable contribution to the area.

In addition, the vast majority of these have considerable reach across the district, whilst based in this division.

Facilities wise, this division is unique locally with the provisions of public facilities, being the City Centre, and NHS services being it GP practice or Samuel Johnson hospital. It is not anticipated that any further difficulties effecting access of these services with the changes proposed.

Identifiable boundaries - The majority of these in this division are arterial road networks. The addition towards the south of the area will refer to train line and provides a clear boundary.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good - the proposed changes improve coterminosity for the division – a small area of Chadsmead ward currently in Lichfield City South division and a small area of Stowe ward currently in Lichfield Rural North division are incorporated into Lichfield City North.

from Blake Street or Four Oaks stations which are geographically closer, albeit outside of Staffordshire.

The discreet villages within the division have some shared interests but these may be different to the issues faced within the new area of the division, which is on the fringes of Lichfield city.

The proposed area is a new housing estate sitting within the boundary of Lichfield City and will have representation on the larger Lichfield City Council and with District Councillors representing City Wards. There are no proposals to change the city or district wards at this time. This local representation is distinctly different to the more rural areas which will have representation from smaller Parish Councils.

The rural villages within the division offer a range of local activities for residents and most settlements have active village and church halls.

Residents within the new Deanslade Farm estate, on the fringe of Lichfield, that is part of Lichfield City, will enjoy City activities in the city that are within walking distance and residents are unlikely to make use of rural facilities in the widespread villages. There are no new community facilities planned within this development.

The division is widespread, so residents call on services from Tamworth, Lichfield, Shenstone, Walsall and Stonnall.

Those in Shenstone also have the options of commuting via the train line to Sutton Coldfield or further afield to Birmingham.

Dr's surgeries are in both Staffordshire and West Midlands.

The main hospitals with A&E facilities used by this divisions' residents are located in Sutton Coldfield or Walsall. This means that many residents will travel out of county if seeking emergency A&E interventions rather than travel to Burton / Stafford.

Smaller community hospitals with Minor Injury Units can be found in Tamworth and Lichfield.

The main divisional boundary is formed by the County boundary to the south, where it borders Walsall and Birmingham. A number of national roads cross the division including the M6 toll, A38 and A5 although none are used as administrative boundaries.

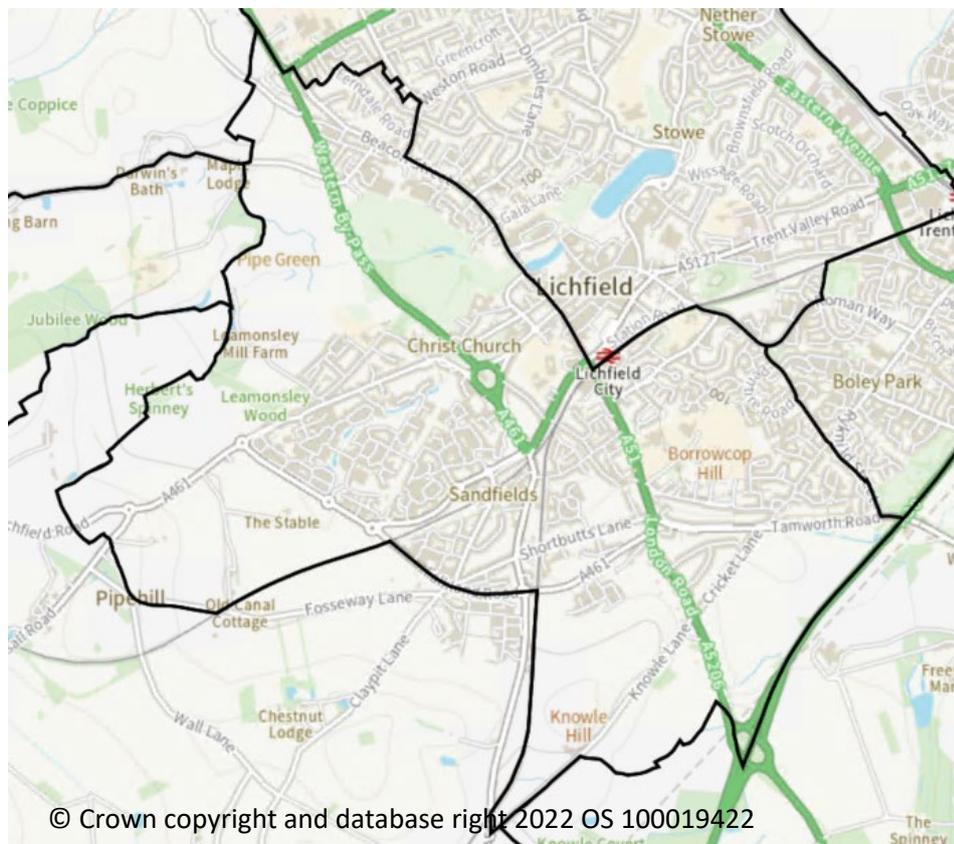
The division is currently made up of five rural Parishes ranging from the largest in Staffordshire (Shenstone) to one of the smallest (Hints & Canwell).

Other Parishes in the division are Hammerwich, Wall and Weeford.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government. Coterminosity is in the main good, following ward and parish boundaries where possible. It is accepted that it is not ideal to add into the division the area in the south of St John's ward, given that this will result in the creation of a new parish ward, and that the general nature of the division is more rural. However, given the nature of housing developments in the south of Lichfield City South, and the resulting forecast variances for the 2 divisions (-15.6% for Lichfield Rural South and +16.9% for Lichfield City South) it is inevitable that the continuing development in the south of the city cannot be contained entirely within the city divisions. This proposal identifies an area of predominantly new housing development, with close geographic ties to Lichfield Rural South, as the best fit to balance the two divisions.

DRAFT

Division 5: Lichfield City South



Summary of Division: Lichfield City South lies in the centre of Lichfield. The division is proposed to comprise Leomansley ward, a small part of Bolely Park ward, and the majority of St John's ward.

The new proposed boundary would start along the boundary with St John's ward to the west, before moving east along the Lichfield southern bypass, and then south following the railway line to re-join the boundary with St John's ward. The new division boundary is required to address the forecast variance in the division of +16.9% by 2028. The area of St John's that would be moved from the division into Lichfield Rural South primarily consists of new housing developments that do not have a strong community identity linked to Lichfield city itself.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,951 – a variance of +2.9% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Transport links: The Division between Lichfield City South with Lichfield City North (being Upper St John St, St John St and Beacon

Street) is clear and understood by residents and gives a good balance of facilities and housing either side of the boundary.

Shared interests: Lichfield City South ED enjoys many older properties with sizeable gardens, driveways, and garage facilities.

The Proposal of separating Lichfield City South from Lichfield Rural South by the Lichfield Southern Bypass will keep that distinctive character for those in Lichfield City South, whereas those newer estates, south of the bypass, will be of a character of more density and a more urban style.

Lichfield City South ED residents tend to be users of city centre shops and community halls, whereas those south of the bypass may be drawn to out of town supermarkets (Waitrose and Morrisons), the newly built Cooperative Convenience Store or even to Burntwood centre.

Community groups: There are a number of existing resident groups:

Beacon Street Area Residents Association (BSARA)

Borrowcop and District Residents Association (BADRA)

Leomansley Area Residents Association (LARA)

Sandfields Area Residents Association (SARA)

Our proposals encapsulate the needs of the residents and whilst trying to balance the electorate we have factored in these groups as best as we could.

Facilities: The new Anna Seward School will become a new education and community facility to support the new housing, rather than the new Lichfield Rural South ED residents relying on city centre facilities.

As above, Lichfield City South ED residents tend to be users of city centre shops, whereas those south of the bypass in what will be Lichfield Rural South ED may be drawn to out of town supermarkets (Waitrose and Morrisons), the newly built Cooperative Convenience Store or even to Burntwood centre.

GP surgery locations are yet to be agreed but it is hoped they will be provided closer to the new Lichfield Rural South ED housing, to help create new focal points.

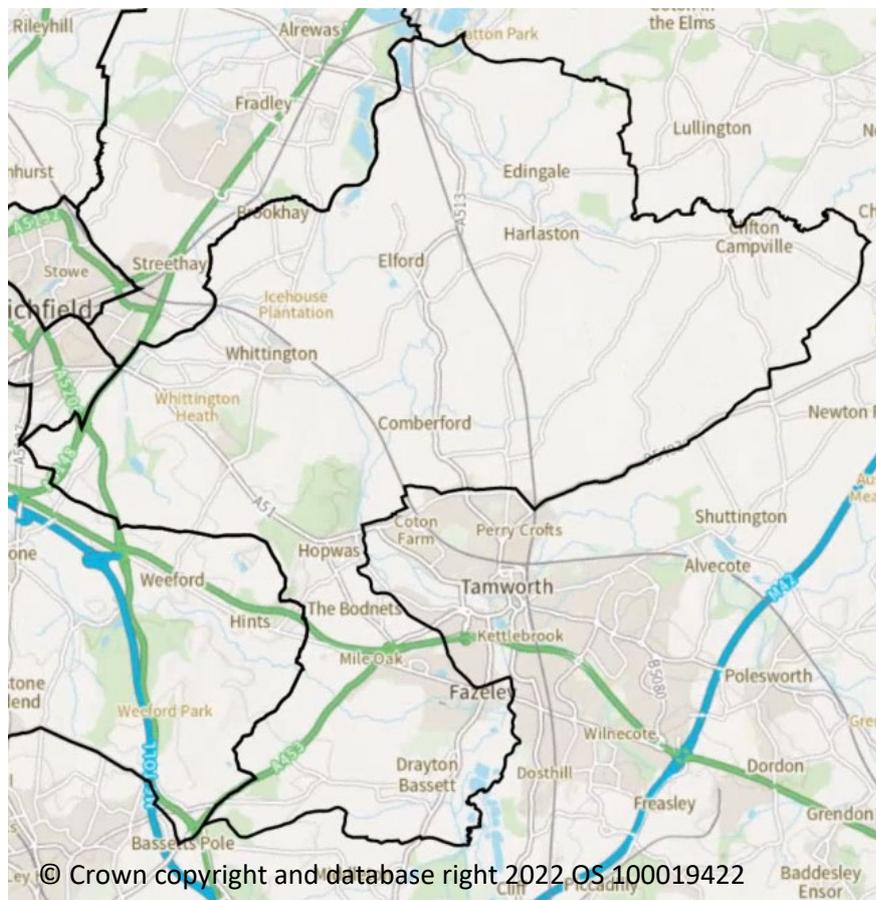
Identifiable boundaries: We believe that the Lichfield Southern Bypass is a strong and recognisable boundary which, over time, will act as an artificial boundary between communities.

Parishes: Our proposal moves an area of St John's ward away from Lichfield City. This is not ideal but is an acceptable split of the ward, given the other compelling reasons for the move, given all of the above factors we believe this provided the best balance across all 3 criteria.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government. Coterminosity is reduced by the split of St John's ward/Lichfield Parish, however, as described above this appears to be unavoidable. The division remains geographically compact and easy for a councillor to navigate. Consideration was given to moving the small area of Boley Park ward that is currently in this division into Lichfield Rural North with the rest of Boley Park ward. However, this negatively impacts the forecast electoral variance in Lichfield Rural North (resulting in a variance of more than 10%). In addition, the current boundary along Broad Lane is geographically sensible and continues the boundary between Boley Park ward and Stowe ward uninterrupted.

DRAFT

Division 6: Lichfield Rural East



Summary of Division: Lichfield Rural East lies to the east of Lichfield district. The division is proposed to incorporate Mease Valley ward, Fazeley ward, most of Whittington and Streethay and parts of Bourne Vale ward.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,702 – a variance of +0.7% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Transport links: The Division consists of several discrete settlements (villages). Some have public transport, and some do not. The villages mostly have parish councils to support them and seem to reasonably happy with the current transport arrangements.

Shared interests: Fazeley looks to Tamworth rather than Lichfield, however due to the fact that County Divisions have to align to District boundaries, it is included in this Division.

Facilities: Due to the convenient location for the residents within this division, they are close to a few local areas to shop, they have a choice of

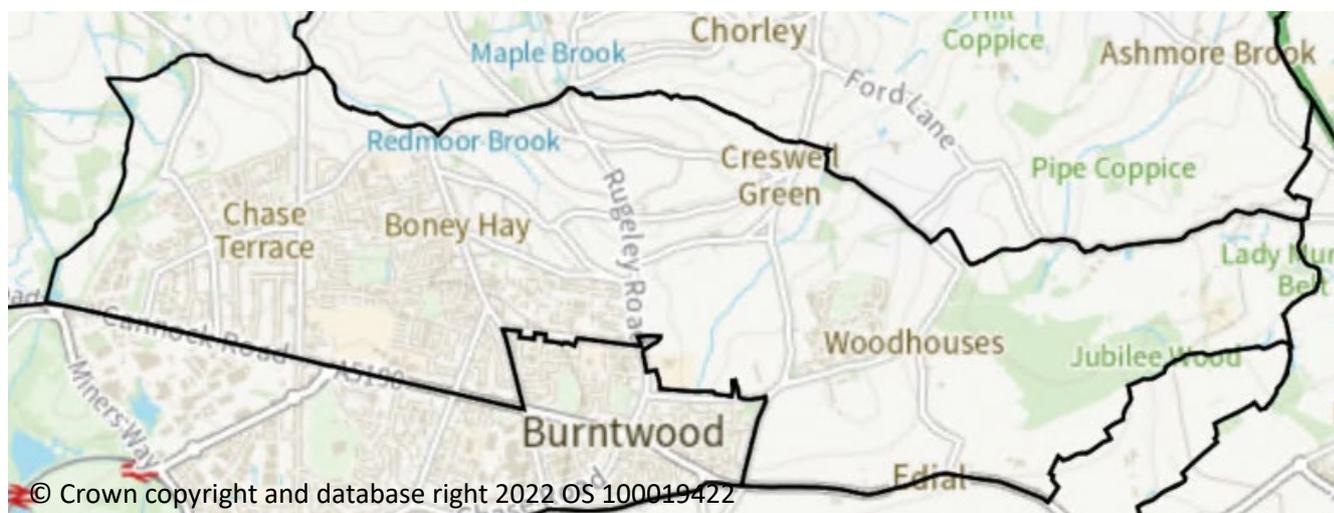
Tamworth, Lichfield and Sutton Coldfield for example, it appears they frequent all areas and would not be affected by any changes facility wise.

Identifiable boundaries: The A38, A5, River Mease and District Boundary are the obvious boundaries within this division. The existing division uses those in several areas.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government. Coterminosity is in the main good, with the division following ward and parish boundaries.

DRAFT

Division 7: Burntwood North



Summary of Division: Burntwood North lies in the west of Lichfield district. The proposal is for Burntwood North to comprise Boney Hay and Central ward, most of Chase Terrace ward excluding the small triangle to the south of the A5190 Cannock Road, plus the Hunslet and Highfield parish wards from Burntwood parish.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,744 – a variance of -7.5% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity. Councillors highlighted that electors in St Matthew’s consider themselves part of Burntwood rather than identifying with the rural nature of the Lichfield Rural West, this proposal moves St Matthew’s (Highfield parish ward, Burntwood parish) into the division to reflect that sense of community identity.

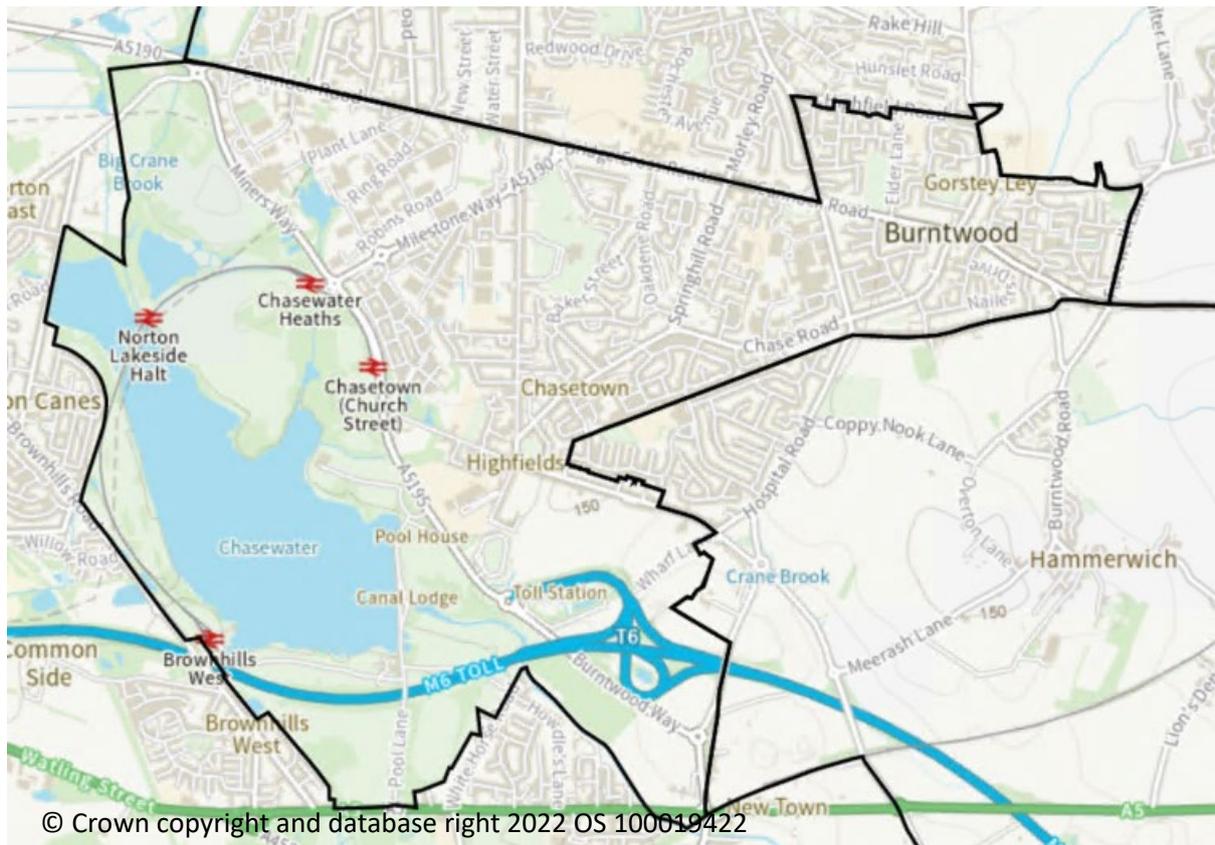
Residents in Burntwood use a wide range of facilities and the changes proposed wouldn’t suggest any change here. There is plenty of access to different medical centres across Burntwood, Salters Meadow Centre and the new Burntwood Medical Centre.

Identifiable boundaries: There are clear boundaries within our proposals, we believe the boundaries are exactly where the community ties would end and where the residents feel they would identify cut offs.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is improved with the new boundary in the east following the existing ward boundary for Highfield ward.

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Division 8: Burntwood South



Summary of Division: Burntwood South lies in the west of Lichfield district. The proposal is for the division to comprise the entirety of Chasetown and Summerfield & All Saints wards, plus a small part of the west of Hammerwich with Wall ward (Pool parish ward), a small part of the south of Highfield ward (Gorstey Ley parish ward) and a small part of Chase Terrace ward, south of the A5190 Cannock Road (requiring a split of the Chase Terrace parish ward in Burntwood parish).

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,620 – a variance of -8.6% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

There are the existing transport links along the A5190 Cannock Road to both Lichfield and Cannock. The A5190 is the route that residents living in this area already use now.

There are no issues that would adversely affect residents moving into Burntwood South. Residents already use Chase Terrace local shops and amenities.

Residents use Chase Terrace (Sankey's Corner) and Morrisons, Aldi and smaller outlets that they would be using now.

Health provision is at either Burntwood Health and Walk -in Centre at Burntwood Leisure Centre or Salters Meadow (Sankey' Corner)

There are no natural or identifiable boundaries that would have worked for Burntwood South as it would have cut communities in half. We have worked with the roads that we feel provide natural boundaries for the communities.

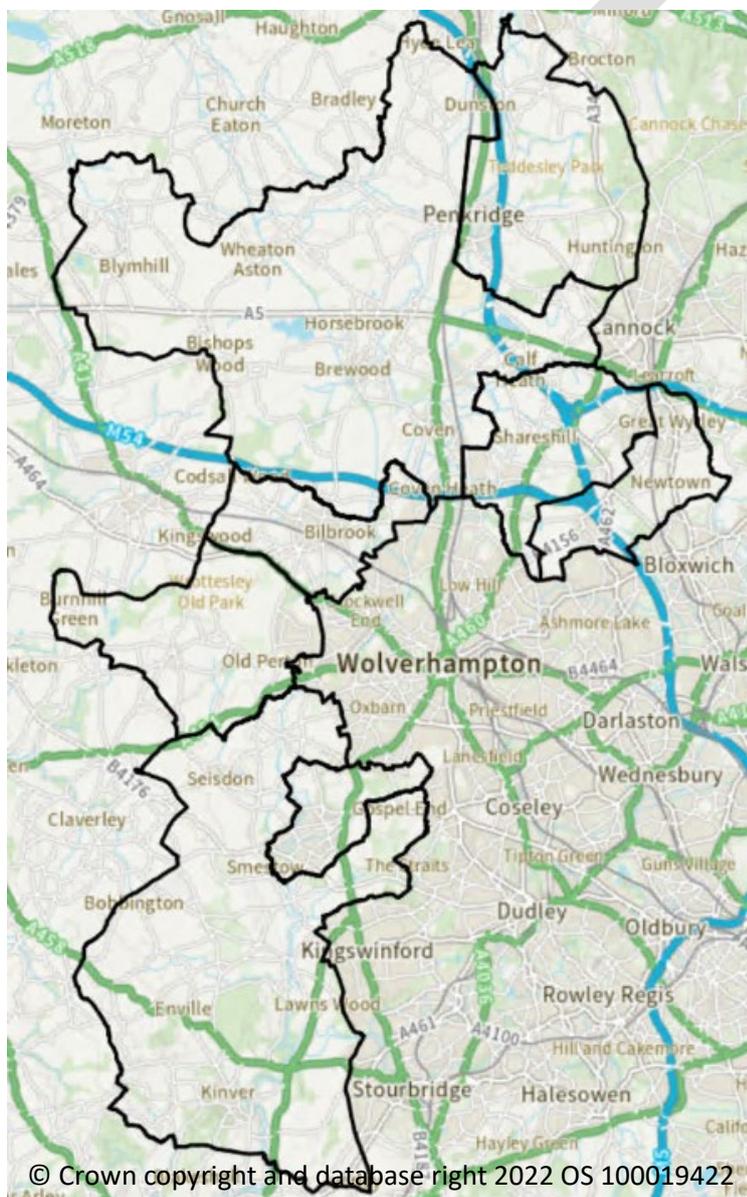
All area's fall under Burntwood Town Council.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity remains a challenge in this area, with the division comprising two full wards and two parts wards. However, the area is compact, and allows easy coverage for a councillor from a geographical perspective.

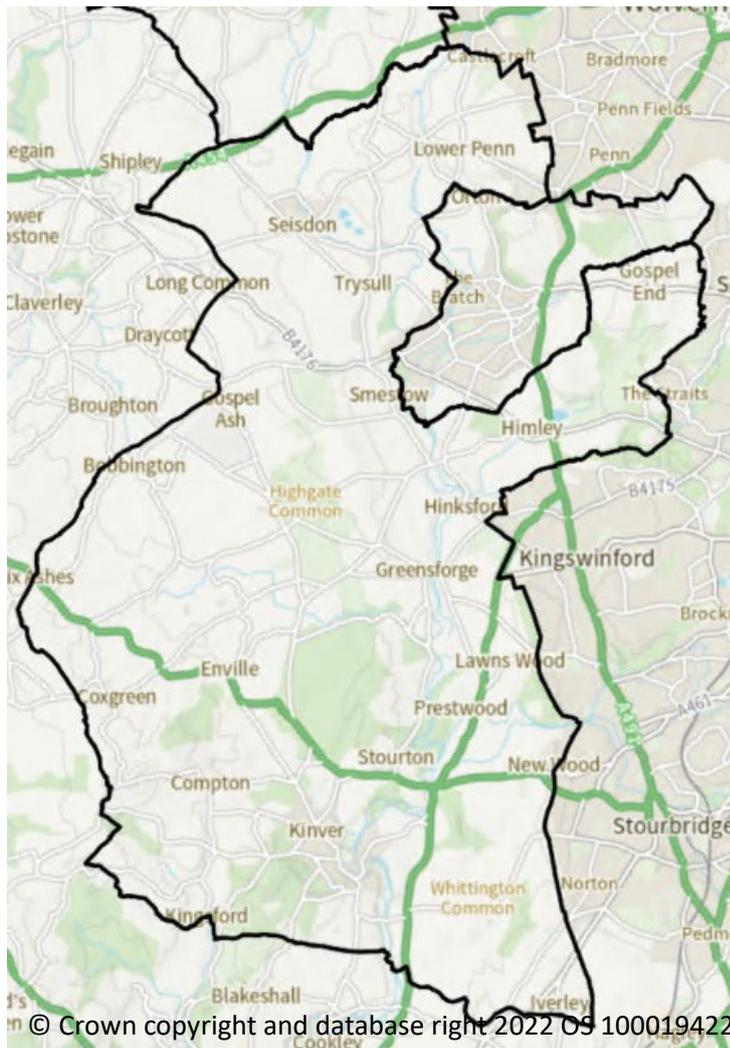
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South Staffordshire District

South Staffordshire District total electorate is forecast to rise from 85,093 in 2022 to 88,881 in 2028. South Staffs will continue to have 8 members – it is proposed these should all be single member divisions. This gives an average electorate in the district of 11,110, 4.4% below the average division size for Staffordshire of 11,617. This means that there is a degree of electoral over-representation in South Staffordshire. Taking this into account, the range in the total number of electors per member is relatively small when compared with other areas of the County. This factor limits the potential options for boundary changes. Further limitations arise from the geography and electorate distribution across the district – the south of the district is long and narrow, offering few opportunities to change the boundaries whilst maintaining community cohesion and coterminosity with existing ward and parish boundaries.



Division 1: Kinver



Summary of Division: Kinver division is a geographically large division in the south of the district. The boundaries on three sides are county boundaries, leaving little scope for changes to existing boundaries. To the north of the division the boundary follows the boundary with Perton Wrottesley ward, before following the A454 Bridgnorth Road to join the county boundary in the west.

As electoral equality is within acceptable variances in this division, it is therefore proposed that the division remains unchanged.

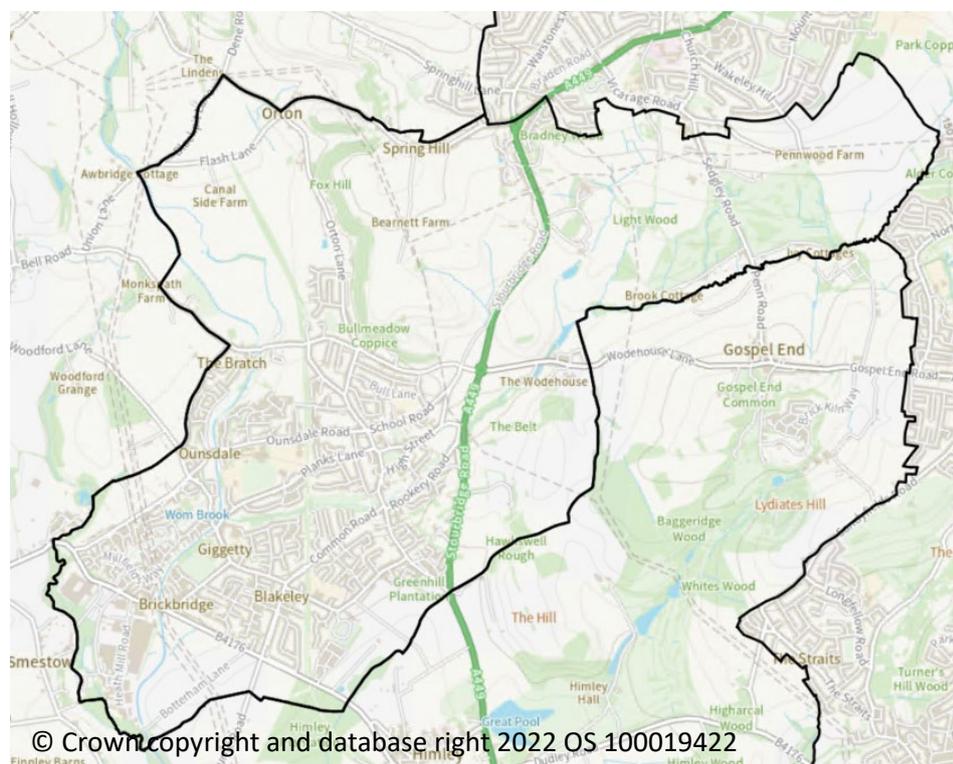
Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,057 – a variance of -4.8% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity: TBC Victoria Wilson

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is high with the division recognising the ward boundaries of Wombourne North, Wombourne South and Perton Wrottesley. Only a small portion of the northern boundary is not coterminous – however this follows the natural boundary of the A454 Bridgnorth Road.

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Division 2: Wombourne



Summary of Division: Wombourne division sits primarily within the Kinver division, with a small county boundary to the north and the west. Wombourne is proposed to remain unchanged, comprising the wards of Wombourne North and Wombourne South.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,583 – a variance of -0.3% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Transport links: There are two commercial bus services which pass through Wombourne providing basically connectivity with Wolverhampton and Dudley.

Wombourne's boundaries are right up against the existing development boundary as over time housing has been allowed up the development boundary outside of which is that defined as Green Belt.

The main resident's group is Wombourne and District Community Association which is the umbrella organisation of perhaps eighty small groups all working on a variety of community activities.

Facilities: For residents shopping local there is the village centre or one of the two parades of shops where there a variety of retail business. Close to the southwest boundary however within the division there is also a Sainsburys. In addition, there is a Lidl under construction expected to open 2024 which will tie in nicely with the proposals.

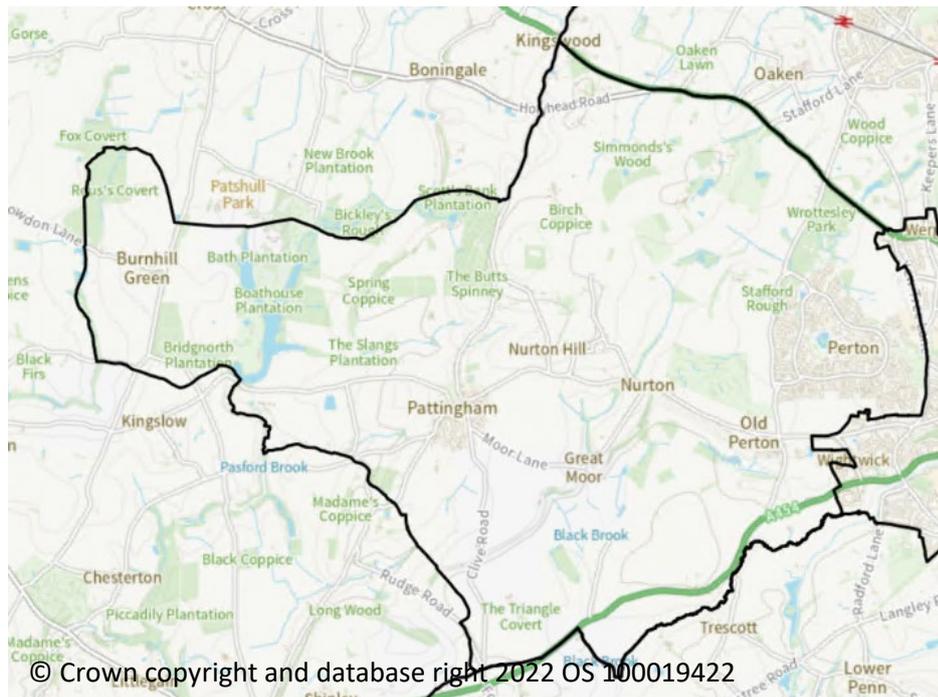
There are two doctors' surgeries serving the residents of Wombourne located on Gravel Hill and Planks Lane. Residents choose which practice they join from the general population of Wombourne. Likewise, there are two dental practices.

Identifiable boundaries: The residential area of Wombourne is defined by the present development boundary meaning the population is quite condensed. There is one small community slightly isolated on Penn Common to the north east of the main conurbation.

Wombourne has only one Parish.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is achieved as the division matches the boundaries of Wombourne North and Wombourne South ward.

Division 3: Perton



Summary of Division: Perton division has county boundaries to the east and west, and shares a boundary with Kinver ED to the south (following the ward boundary with Perton Wrotesley and the A454), and Codsall ED (along the boundary with Codsall ward which follows the Holyhead Road) to the north. There are 2 main populated areas in the division – Perton and Pattingham. The rest of the division is not heavily populated, and options to redraw the boundaries to the north and south are limited – coterminosity would be reduced and communities split as a result.

The following changes were considered:

- 1) Moving the northern boundary further north. This was discounted as the current boundary is coterminous with the boundary of Perton Wrotesley ward and also follows the natural geographical boundary of the A41. In addition, moving the boundary further north would result in drawing electors who are clearly within the Codsall community for the sake of balancing the numbers.
- 2) To the south of the division, we have explored moving the area around Lower Penn to Perton ED. However, this option has been discounted on the grounds that it does not reflect community identity, and also that the consequence of this change is to worsen the variance in Kinver division – this then requires part of Wombourne division to move into Kinver division to reduce this variance, another move that may balance electorate but at the expense of community cohesion and identity.

Therefore, even though the forecast variance by 2028 is -13.3%, no changes are proposed for this division.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,071 – a variance of -13.3% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Transport links: With the proposed division staying the same, the existing transport and communications links are long established and provide unity throughout the division.

Shared interests: Perton as a semi-rural village fits well with the neighbouring villages of Pattingham and Patshull (which are in the same Division) with shared communities, rural challenges and authorities.

Community groups: Perton library provides the social hub for all villages in the Perton, Pattingham and Patshull division. This area which is sandwiched between Shropshire and Wolverhampton enjoy the luxury of having of facilities such as Perton Civic Centre which provides large spaces for groups which would not be able to be facilitated in Pattingham, Trescott or Patshull.

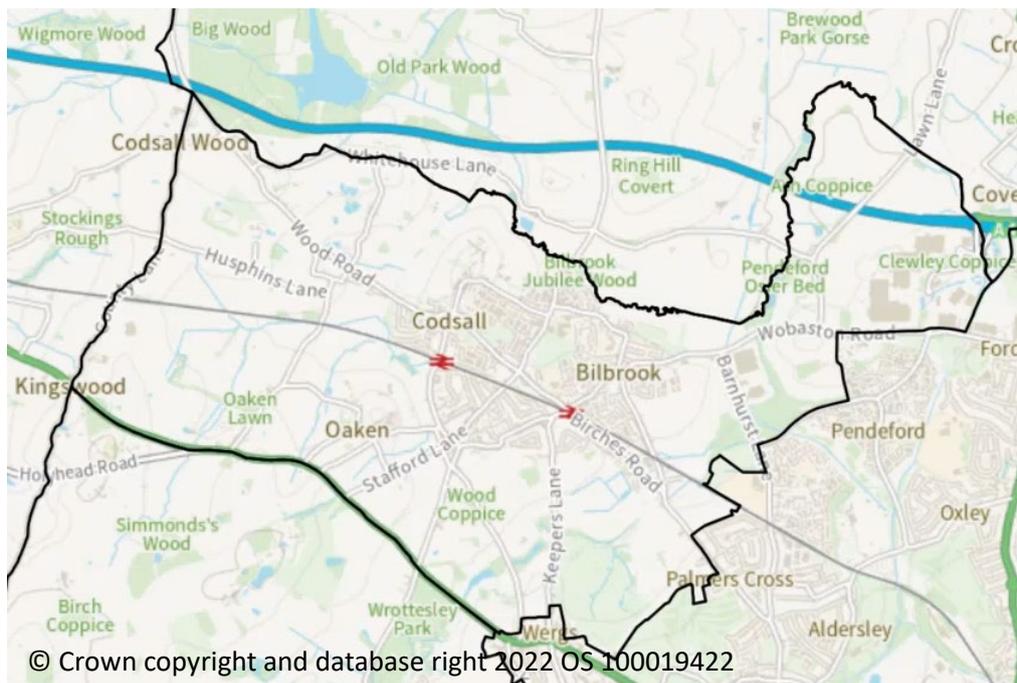
Facilities: Perton offers the only supermarket for Pattingham and Pathsull whilst also offering a chemist and local shops. Whereas Pattingham offers rural walks and cafes so both villages can enjoy the difference in communities.

Identifiable boundaries: The Perton division has the clear boundary of the A41 to the North and clear village and communities' boundaries to the south.

Parishes: Perton has 2 parishes. Perton Parish and Pattingham & Patshull. All members of the public in this Division fall under one of those Parishes.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good – the division encompasses the entirety of Perton Wrottesley, Perton East and Perton Lakeside, plus the northern part of Pattingham, Trysull, Bobbington and Lower Penn ward.

Division 4: Codsall



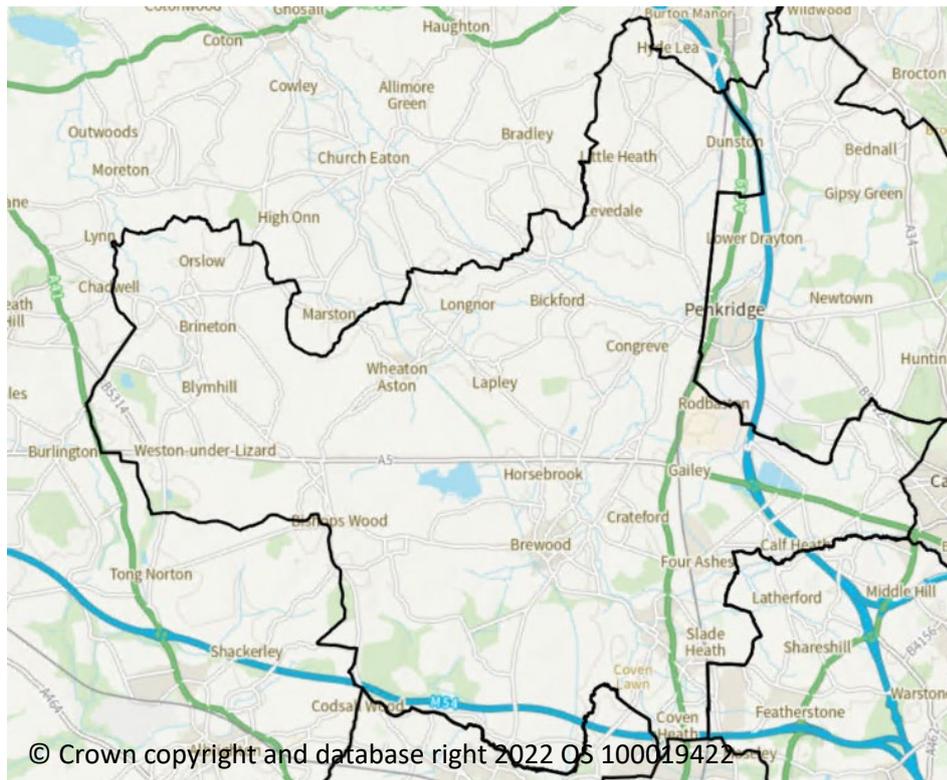
Summary of Division: Codsall division has county boundaries to the east and west, and then shares a boundary with Perton ED to the south (following the ward boundary with Perton Wrottesley), and Brewood ED (along the boundary with Brewood Coven and Blymhill ward) to the north. There are 2 main populated areas in the division – Codsall and Bilbrook. The rest of the division is not heavily populated, and options to redraw the boundaries to the north and south are limited – coterminosity would be reduced and communities split as a result. Consideration has been given to moving Coven Heath parish ward into Codsall ED from Brewood ED, however this worsens coterminosity and also splits Coven parish – leaving Coven parish ward in Brewood whilst Coven Heath parish ward would be in Codsall – this would undermine the sense of community identity that exists between the two areas. Therefore, even though the forecast variance by 2028 is -9.9%, no changes are proposed for this division.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – the total division electorate is forecast to be 10,465 – a variance of -9.9% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity TBC- Bob Spencer

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good – the division encompasses the entirety of Bilbrook and Codsall wards.

Division 5: Brewood



Summary of Division: Brewood has county boundaries to the west, shares a northern boundary with Stafford Borough, a southern boundary with Codsall ED, and eastern boundaries with Penkridge ED, Cheslyn Hay, Essington and Great Wyrley ED, and Cannock District.

There is some existing degree of coterminosity, being comprised of Brewood, Coven and Blymhill ward, Lapley Stretton and Wheaton Aston ward, plus Levedale parish ward, Dunston CP and Coppenthal CP from Penkridge North and Acton Trussell ward, Gailey parish ward from Penkridge South ward and Hatherton parish from Huntington & Hatherton. Consideration has been given to adding an area from Penkridge ED (between the eastern boundary of the division along the railway line and the A449) to Brewood to reduce the variance, however this has not been proposed as it would involve splitting the parish ward of Penkridge North East. This would also add a predominantly urban area to a large, predominantly rural division.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – the total division electorate is forecast to be 10,501 – a variance of -9.6% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Transport: There is one day time bus that links Wolverhampton with Stafford that goes through Coven Brewood, Bishops Wood and Lapley, all villages within the Division.

That said the train station at Penkrige (a few metres outside the Division) would act as the main rail link (it's on the West Coast line) both North and South for most residents. The very west of the Division would go to stations in Shropshire.

The division centres on the crossroads of the A5 (from Shropshire border to Cannock border) and A449 (from Stafford boundary to Wolverhampton boundary (except small bit in Penkrige Division)). This is the main travel route for many residents and helps to link the Division together.

The A5 links the Parishes of Blymhill & Weston, Brewood & Coven, Wheaton Aston, Lapley and Stretton, Hatherton and the Gailey polling area.

The A449 Links Brewood & Coven, Gailey, Levedale and Dunston & Coppenhall.

Shared interests: The centre point of the Division at Gailey is soon to have one of the largest logistic and rail hubs in the country. It makes sense that this is kept within one division and as far as possible the adjacent rural communities impacted by its Gailey, Hatherton, Stretton, Brewood, Coven and Dunston are kept within the one Division. All these parishes came together in challenging the above proposal and are all active on the community group set up by the developers. Educationally the area is served by the three-tier system with first schools in Coven, Brewood, Bishops Wood, Wheaton Aston and Penkrige feeding into two middle schools Brewood (south and West of the area) and Penkrige for the remainder, both of which feed into Wolgarston High School. St Marys Brewood Primary is the catholic primary that serves most of the Division. In Brewood there is a Community Managed Library that draws its volunteers from across the Division and serves a large section of the area. There is also another Community library in Penkrige, this serves the Northern part of the Division.

Community groups: There isn't one community group as being a rural area each parish or village tends to have their own. However, there are good working relations between the Parish Councils and most of the area is covered by the same District Council locality.

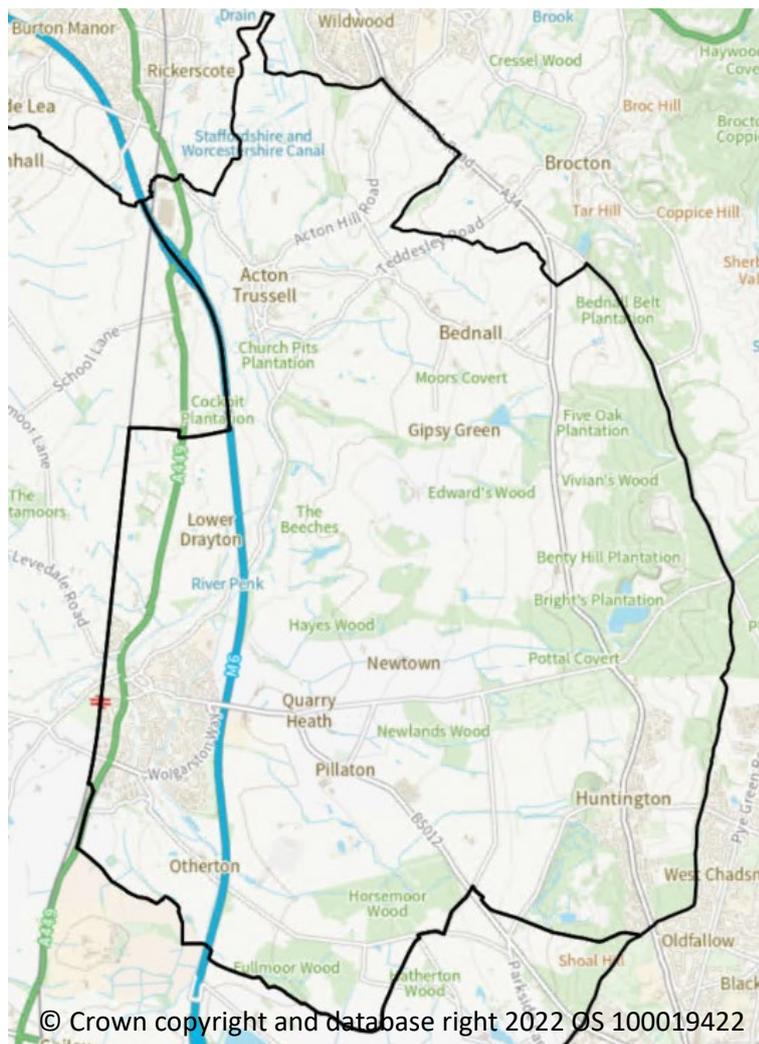
Facilities: All the residents are served by two medical practices one at Brewood and the other at Penkridge, both of whom are in the same Stafford medica group.

Coven, Brewood and Wheaton Aston have their own shops but being equal distance from Wolverhampton, Cannock, Stafford and Telford these would be the shopping areas used when residents go supermarket shopping.

Identifiable boundaries: The river Penk travels through the centre of the Division and does the Staffordshire and Worcestershire canal which links Coven and Gailey. The Shropshire canal links Brewood and Wheaton Aston. The Eastern edge of the Division is the Cannock Boundary, most of the south boundary is with Wolverhampton (or Codsall) the west boundary is the County Boundary with Shropshire and the Northern boundary is with Stafford Borough.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is generally good, with the division following ward and parish boundaries as described above.

Division 6: Penkridge



Summary of Division: Penkridge division shares an eastern boundary with Stafford Borough and Cannock District, and western and southern boundaries with Brewood ED. Consideration has been given to moving an area into Brewood ED (between the eastern boundary of the division along the railway line and the A449) to reduce the variance in the Brewood division, however this has not been proposed as it would involve splitting the parish ward of Penkridge North East.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – the total division electorate is forecast to be 11,482 – a variance of -1.2% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

There are good communication links including identified trunk roads with appropriate separation to allow for differing parish area identification.

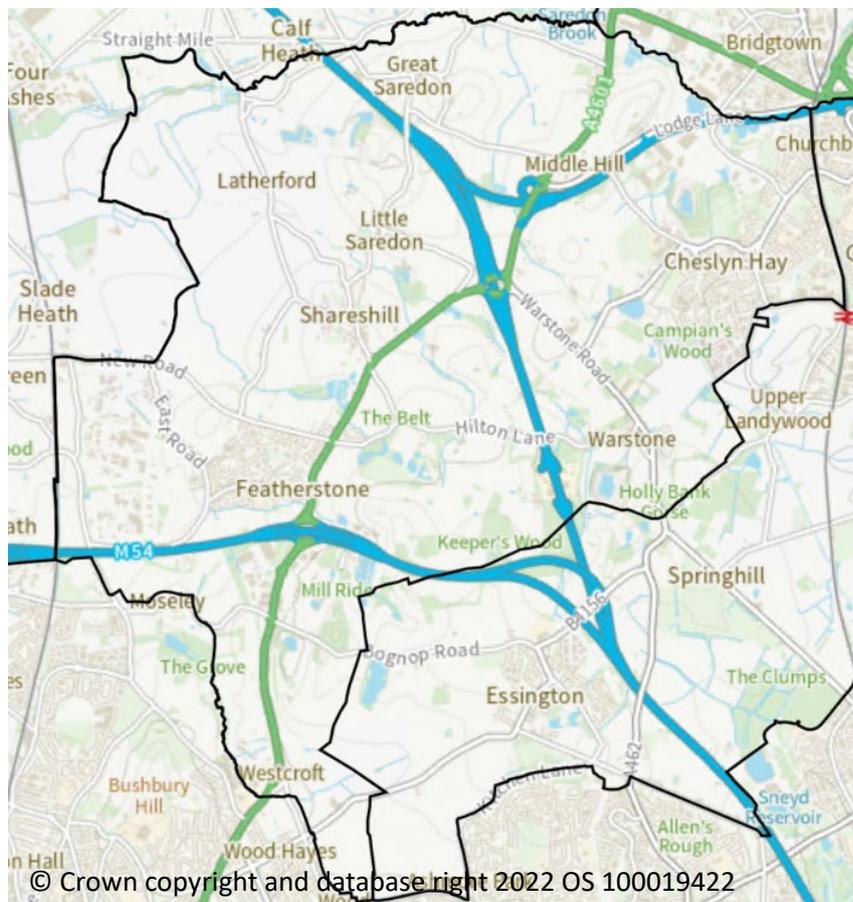
All areas have a Parish Council and therefore local identification is important to them.

Due to the rural nature local shops are used well, larger supermarkets are located around the areas and home delivery is used well especially since COVID.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good – the division comprises Huntington from Huntington and Hatherton ward, all of the Penkrige parish ward with the exception of Levedale, plus Acton Trussell and Bednall parish.

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Division 7: Cheslyn Hay Village, Featherstone and Shareshill



Summary of Division: It is proposed that the current 2-member division of Cheslyn Hay, Essington and Great Wyrley is replaced with 2 single member divisions. The first of these would be Cheslyn Hay Village, Featherstone and Shareshill. The division would comprise the wards of Cheslyn Hay Village and Featherstone, Shareshill and Saredon ward, plus the Westcroft parish from Essington ward.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – the total division electorate is forecast to be – a variance of -3.9% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Transport links: The A460/A4601 Highway runs between Wolverhampton and Cannock. Essington is on the border with Wolverhampton and Wedges Mills, Saredon is on the border with Cannock.

There are frequent Bus transport links at Cheslyn Hay and busses to and from Wolverhampton/Cannock running along the A460 calling into the villages of Featherstone and Shareshill as part of the route.

The area including Westcroft is well served by its transport links where there are no obstacles to the regular traveller in the area.

The Parishes of Saredon, Shareshill, Hilton and Featherston have a border lying along the A460 Highway.

Bordering Featherstone and Hilton lies the area of Westcroft that straddles the A460 with a single line of houses both sides of the A460 running along the stretch of the A460 that leads to the border of Wolverhampton at the Underhill/Scotlands area.

At this area of Westcroft there is a very small development of houses off Wood Hayes Road, a lane that leads to Blackhalve Lane/Wood End Road, Wednesfield Wolverhampton. Cheslyn Hay borders Saredon and the A462 to Essington.

Facilities: Shopping can be done at Sainsburys or in Cannock plus local shopping opportunities in Featherstone, Shareshill, Cheslyn Hay and Great Wyrley. Over the boundary to the shops of Wolverhampton that are in easy reach. Medical facilities include a medical centre at Featherstone plus a Chemist. Cheslyn Hay and Great Wyrley have medical centres.

Cheslyn Hay has sporting facilities and open-air leisure facilities for villagers to enjoy. From Football at Wyrley Juniors to Allotments at Wedges Mills there are opportunities for individuals to use varied facilities. A new football pitch at Featherstone will be laid as part of a S106 agreement due to the construction of a new housing site there, which will naturally tie into being part of that community.

Identifiable boundaries: The A460 applies acts as a natural boundary.

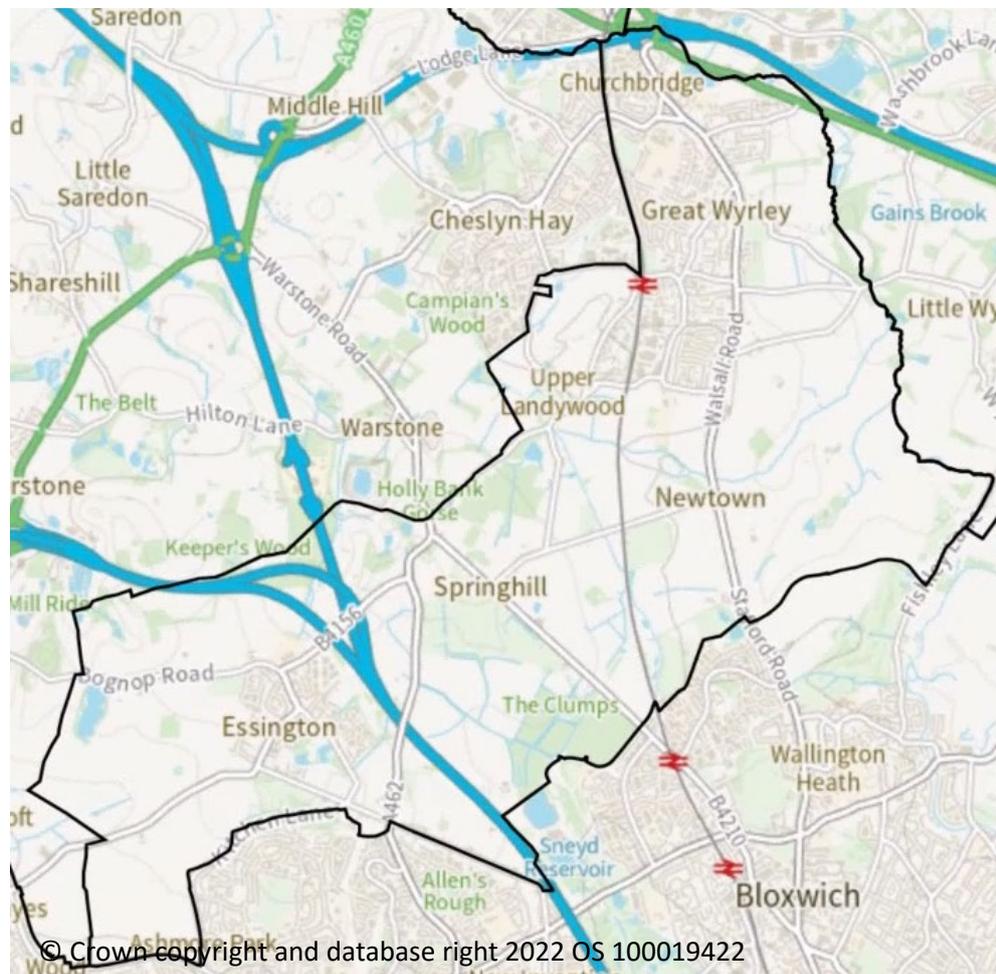
The M6 The A5 at Wedges Mills. Mill Lane, Saredon, M54 and New Road, Featherstone, A462 Shareshill and Latherford Lane Cheslyn Hay/Great Wyrley plus a railway line passing through. All recognisable boundaries that tie in with where the communities place themselves.

Parishes: It is felt that the residents would have less trouble identifying their Parishes with going to single member divisions, it would be very clear for them.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good, following ward and parish boundaries as outlined above.

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Division 8: Great Wyrley and Essington



Summary of Division: The second of the new divisions to replace the current 2-member division would be Great Wyrley and Essington. The division would comprise the wards of Great Wyrley Town and Great Wyrley Landywood, plus Essington ward with the exception of Westcroft parish to the south west.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – the total division electorate is forecast to be 12,559 – a variance of +8.1% from the Staffordshire average.

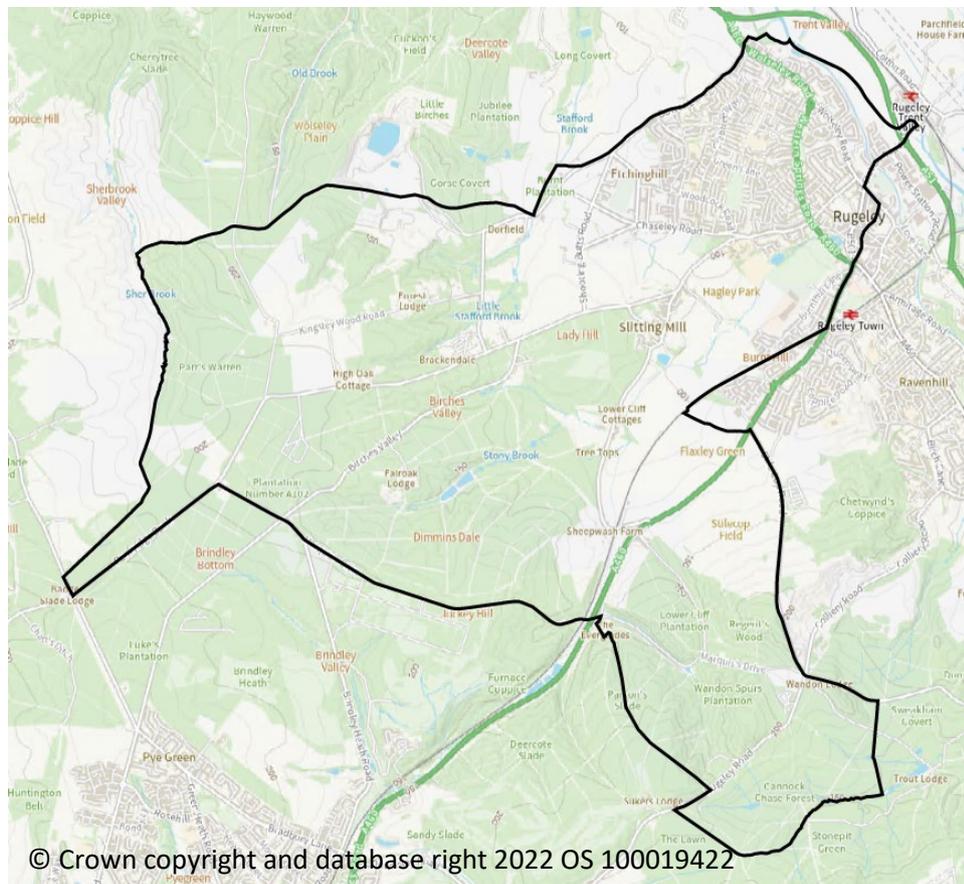
Criteria 2: Community Identity. KATH PERRY- pending

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good, following ward and parish boundaries as outlined above.

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Cannock District

Division 1: Etchinghill & Heath



Summary of Division: The proposal is for Etchinghill & Heath to be extended to the east to incorporate part of Western Springs and Hagley (current) wards.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,823– a variance of –6.8% from the Staffordshire average. To improve the variance further it would be necessary for the division to traverse the sparsely populated Cannock Chase Forest area.

Criteria 2: Community Identity –

Transport links: Springfield estate is within walking reach of the town however bus services are limited. Elsewhere, walkways through housing estates do ensure easy routes through to main roads.

Rugeley Town Railway Station has a reliable service to Hednesford, Cannock and Birmingham

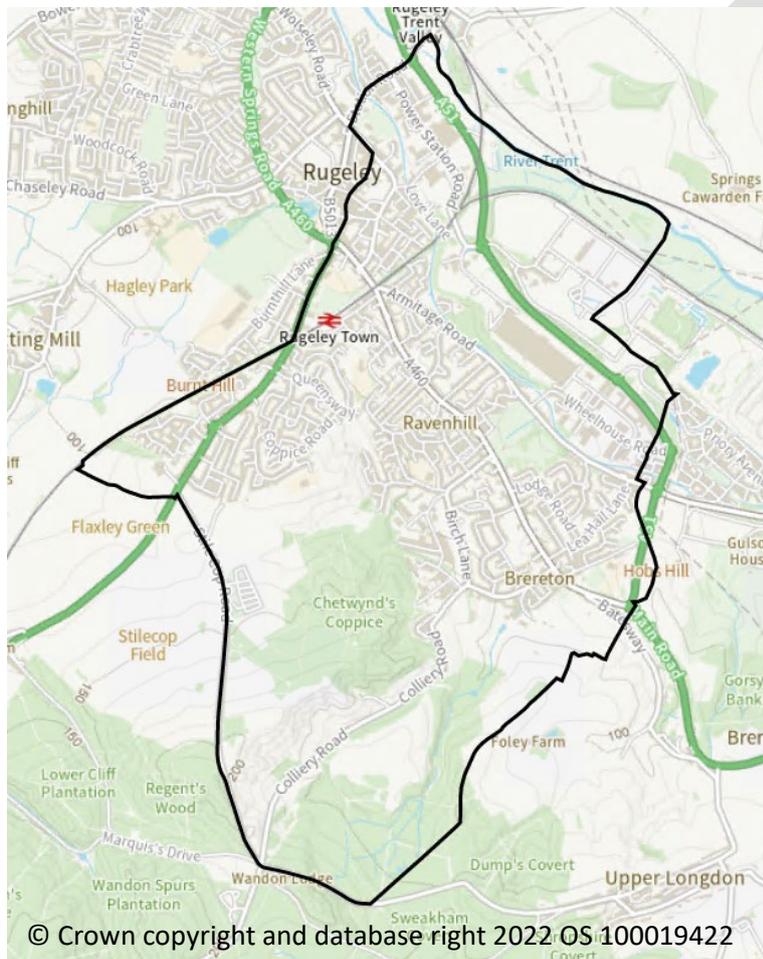
Etchinghill as a community have a strong affiliation to Cannock Chase, and the AONB and believes in its protection.

- Slitting Mill Victory Hall is a well establish village facility that continues to thrive as it offers numerous local groups who use the hall for meetings and activities as well as private hire.
- Church of the Holy Spirit, and Hall, Mount Road are used by local groups, for meetings and activities.

- Rugeley Community Centre, Community Church, Rugeley Foodbank and Voyage Care. It is widely used as a central community hub across Rugeley and Brereton for meetings and events.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the proposed changes result in two split (current) wards, Western Springs and Hagley. There would be a reasonable level of coterminosity should the draft recommendations for Cannock Chase wards be agreed, with this division including the whole of Etching Hill & the Heath ward and part of the Western Springs ward. To improve the variance, it would be necessary to traverse the sparsely populated Cannock Chase Forest area. This would likely result in one councillor serving very distinct and geographically distanced communities.

Division 2: Brereton & Ravenhill



Summary of Division: The proposal is for Etchinghill & Heath to be extended to the east to incorporate part of Western Springs and Hagley (current) wards, therefore reducing the geographical area of Brereton & Ravenhill.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,743– a variance of –7.5% from the Staffordshire average. To improve the variance further it would be necessary for Etchinghill & Heath division to traverse the sparsely populated Cannock Chase Forest area.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Brereton, Ravenhill and Hagley are connected by a walkway.

The current Division is predominantly an old mining community as is Rugeley as a town. The Pear Tree Estate situated in Hagley was built to house the workers of the former Lea Hall Colliery and Power Station that were in Brereton. Since the last boundary review Brereton, Ravenhill and Hagley have all increased in size due to housing development and have become densely populated areas.

Community Groups: Brereton and Ravenhill residents tend to involve themselves with community groups that are run from Ravenhill Park and Parish Hall, whereas the residents of Hagley tend to utilise the Community Church and Rose Theatre in Rugeley itself. There are many organisations that meet and run events at the Community Church, this location tends to attract residents from all parts of this Division, the Food Bank, Cannock Chase District Housing team, Citizens Advice and Police are examples of organisations that utilise this venue. There is also the Victory Church that runs events for families and children, Elmore Park that is utilised by residents from Hagley, these two facilities will also move from Brereton and Ravenhill into Etching Hill.

In terms of recreational facilities, currently this division has the leisure centre and the community centre on Burnthill Lane, there will also be a number of football pitches installed at this location, these will all be moved into Etching Hill after the changes take place. Brereton has Ravenhill Park which has a football pitch and tennis courts, there are no other recreational facilities within Brereton.

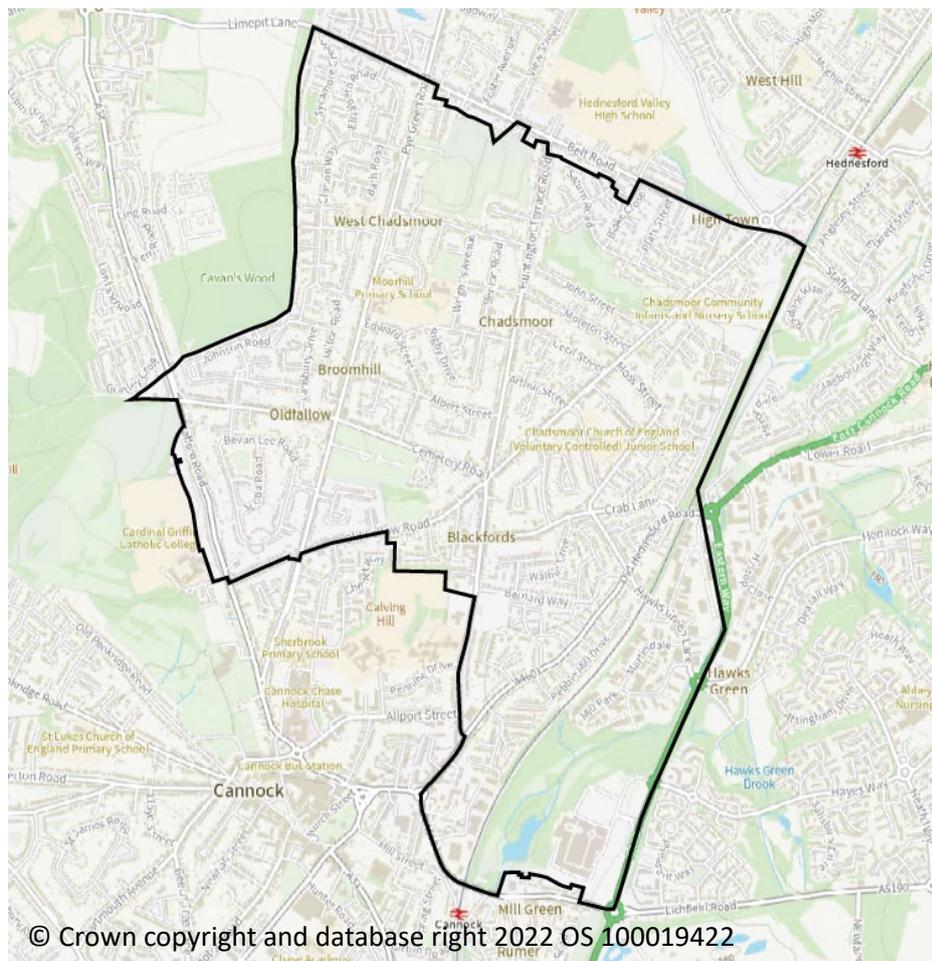
Facilities: The residents of the Division tend to shop in Rugeley as it is the main town, Hagley have a convenience store, but choice is limited hence the reason residents utilise the town which has several supermarkets. In terms of medical provision, there is a medical centre on the main road into Rugeley, Sandy Lane Health Centre, this serves the community of Hagley, and some of the town centre. In addition to Sandy Lane, there are four further doctor's surgeries in the current division which will tie into the new division nicely. There are currently three primary schools in Brereton that serve the community, Redbrook Hays, Hob Hill and St Josephs, Hagley has two, Chase View and Churchfield. The children on Pear Tree Estate can also access St Josephs as there is a walkway that allows access to the school from the estate. Currently children also have access to the Chancel School which is on the boundary.

Identifiable boundaries: Etching Hill and Hagley, Hagley will be effectively split in two, the railway line being the natural boundary. In terms of the boundary in the town centre there is little change, the boundary has only moved one road across and will make little difference.

Parishes: Brereton and Ravenhill fall under the current Brereton and Ravenhill Parish. The Hagley part of the Division has always been part of the Rugeley Town and has its own Town Councillor. With the proposed changes to the boundaries, Hagley will effectively be split between two Divisions.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the proposed changes result in two split (current) wards, Western Springs and Hagley. There would be a reasonable level of coterminosity should the draft recommendations for Cannock Chase wards be agreed, with this division including the whole of Brereton & Ravenhill ward and part of the Western Springs ward.

Division 3: Chadsmoor



Summary of Division: The proposal is for Chadsmoor ED to comprise the current boundary, plus a small area to the south of Old Fallow Road.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,390 – a variance of –1.9% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity – the inclusion of the area to the south of Old Falls Road and Blackfords has an affinity with the Cannock East Ward/ Chadsmoor division. Residents are likely to travel to Chadsmoor for schools and to Blackfords rather than Cannock Town Centre.

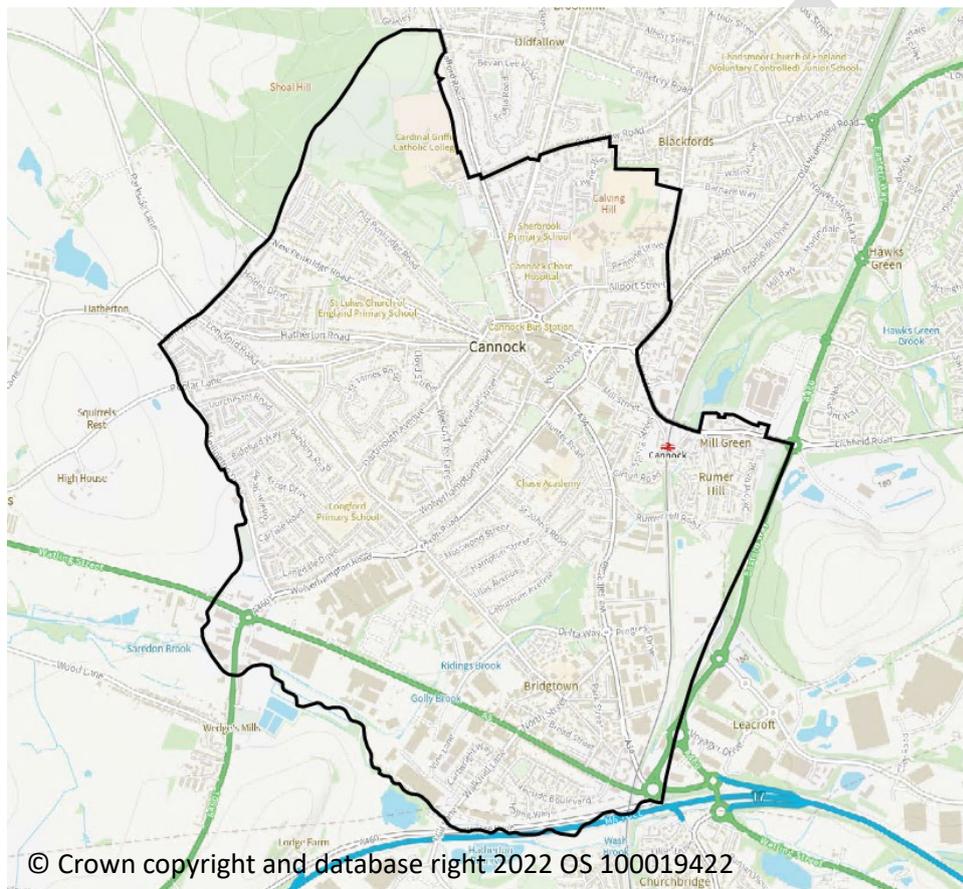
Consideration was given to including a larger area to the south of Old Falls Road, including Chenet Drive however, the lower part of the road and the estates off, would consider themselves part of Cannock Town. Children would use Cannock Schools, they would shop and socialise in Cannock Town and would probably use Cannock Railway Station, whereas the Chadsmoor side are more likely to use the station at Hednesford.

Community groups: Community groups are likely to attend St Aidens Church and the community sessions offered by them.

Facilities: People in the additional area would access the high street in Chadsmoor. They would also fall into the catchment for the local primary schools within Chadsmoor. There is a local pharmacy on the high street and residents are close to local well-developed parks. We believe there is a strong identifiable boundary as the main road acts as a natural boundary.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the division provides a reasonable level of coterminosity as it includes the existing Cannock North and Cannock East ward boundaries, but also includes a small part of Cannock West ward. Coterminosity with the draft recommendations for Cannock Chase wards would be a challenge in this area. The division would incorporate all of Cannock North ward and parts of the Cannock West and Hawks Green wards. Once the ward boundaries are finalised other options may need to be explored in this area to improve coterminosity.

Division 4: Cannock Town



Summary of Division: The proposal is for Cannock Town to comprise of the current boundary, except for a small area to the north of Cannock Chase High School. Much of the division falls outside the Town Centre and therefore it is proposed that the division name reflects this.

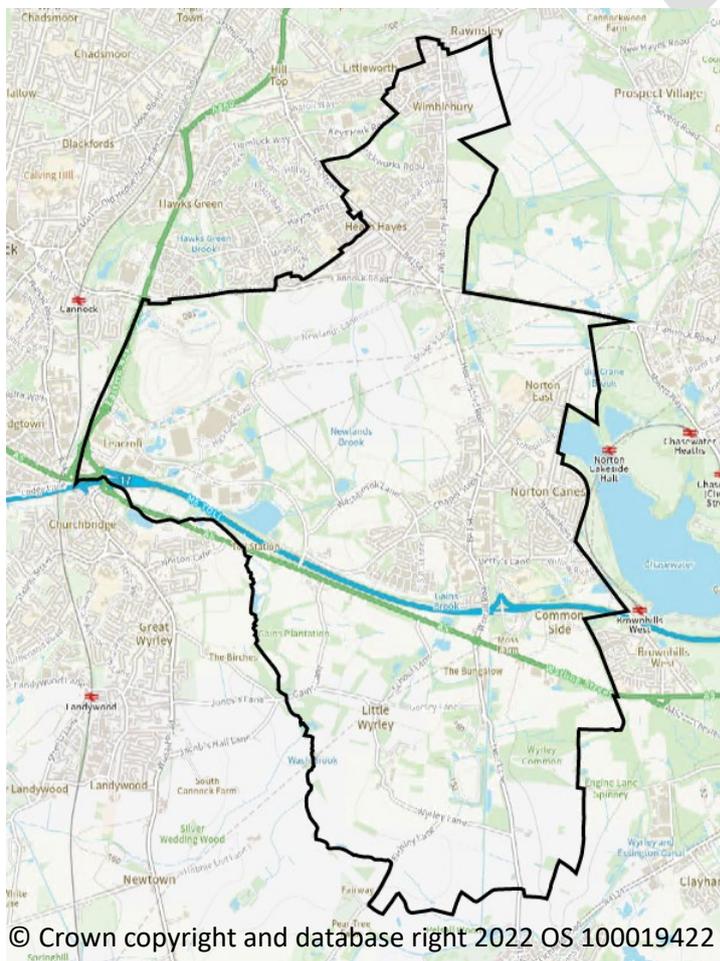
Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,014 – a variance of +3.4% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity – Transport links: There is currently sufficient community transport with bus services across the whole division from the top of Old Fallow Road into Cannock Town Centre. From Longford and Bridgetown, and the Shoal Hill area into Cannock Town Centre. Bus routes then from Cannock Bus Station to Cannock Railway Station, for onward journeys into the West Midlands and to Rugeley, for onward travel to London and Stafford and the North of England.

The New Cycle and walking routes from the top of Rumour Hill into Cannock Town Centre for students to attend Chase High School and Cardinal Griffin Catholic College. Also, for older Students to attend Cannock College for further education courses. Assist students to live healthier lifestyles and prevent later life obesity. By keeping these areas as one, it will prevent the need to alter the currently well serviced transporter links.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the division provides a reasonable level of coterminosity with existing ward boundaries as it includes all of Cannock South ward and the majority of Cannock West ward. Coterminosity with the draft recommendations for Cannock Chase wards would be a challenge in this area. The division would include all of Cannock South ward and parts of Cannock West and Hawks Green wards.

Division 5: Norton Canes, Heath Hayes & Wimblebury



Summary of Division: The proposal is for the division (currently named Cannock Villages) to remain largely unchanged, except for incorporating a small area of Hednesford South (current) district ward and the Rawnsley (current) district ward into the division.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,535 – a variance of +7.9% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Transport Links: The areas proposed in Cannock Villages in regards to how easily you can travel between them is a case of that both areas can be walked to from one to the other within minutes, Nelson Drive and Bryans Way are on the Wimblebury road which residents just assume they are part of Wimblebury and there is a regular bus service which travels the road on a regular timetable however should you want to walk to the village shop this would take less than 10 minutes. Keys Park Road is all that separates Foxtail and Meadowsweet Way and again residents assume they are part of Wimblebury as the estates were built around the same time.

Shared interests: Wimblebury is a mixture of old and new estates however this does not cause a divide within the community and the area has its own shops, community centre and in Heath Hayes there is a doctor's surgery, there are 3 primary schools in Cannock Villages which are all well attended and the closest one is on the Wimblebury road which runs into Heath Hayes. There are also fully functioning parish council which is for Heath Hayes and Wimblebury. There is a bus route which runs along the Wimblebury Road which is adjacent to Keys Park Road and Nelson Drive and Bryans Way.

Community groups: There is a nursery run from the local community centre which has good community links with in the village, working with the parish council and councillors should they have residents' concerns passed to them.

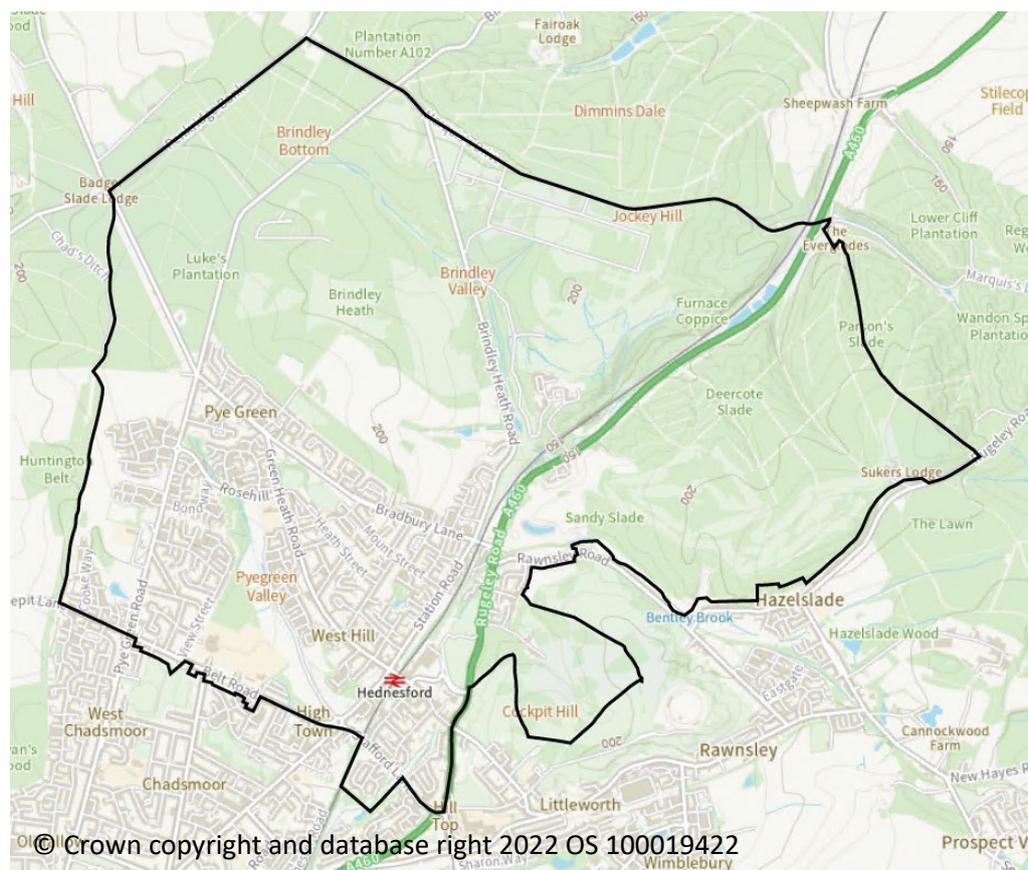
Facilities: The division has a small local shop in Wimblebury however there is also a Tesco, a library, dentist, and doctors and a fully functioning high street in Heath Hayes with no empty shops which is within walking distance from Wimblebury or a quick 5-minute car journey. Alternatively, the bus runs from Heath Hayes to Wimblebury. In Wimblebury itself there is a small high street with small grocery shop and hairdressers and take away food shops again there isn't an empty shop.

Identifiable boundaries: For the cut-off point of Wimblebury the road joins the Littleworth Road which people then recognise as Hednesford, The Trafalgar public house is sat on that junction of traffic lights, and this is where residents see Wimblebury ends and Hednesford starts. This acts perfectly as a natural boundary.

Parishes: There is a parish council which works for Heath Hayes and Wimblebury as a whole rather than separate villages

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the proposed changes reduce coterminosity with existing ward boundaries for this division as it splits the Hednesford South (current) ward and the Rawnsley (current) ward. However, the proposed areas to the west of Wimblebury are incorporated in the Heath Hayes East & Wimblebury ward in the draft recommendations for Cannock Chase Wards. A split ward would still be required to achieve electoral equality. The area to the east of Heath Hayes and Wimblebury could be included in this division (no electors) should that area form part of a Wimblebury ward.

Division 6: Hednesford



Summary of Division: Hednesford & Rawnsley is currently a two-member division. The council has requested a review of two member divisions, and therefore the mapping has been based on two single member divisions. Hednesford North ward and Hednesford Green Heath ward could form a Hednesford division, along with a small area of Hednesford South ward (current wards).

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,591, a variance of +8.4% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity: Transport links: There are reasonable bus links in Hednesford that also serve Hawks Green and Rawnsley. Trains run from Hednesford to Rugeley and Birmingham. Rugeley and Cannock Stations are within reasonable reach for Cannock Wood and Rawnsley.

Shared interest: Hednesford has a thriving town and major shops that are well used by Hednesford residents, it is very much the focal point of the area. It differs from the other areas in that it is made up largely of housing estates. Cannock Wood is a rural village that as clear road links to Rawnsley, each are connected by the Chase. Hawks Green is a newer development but of a similar make up of residents to Cannock Wood and Rawnsley.

Community Groups: There are clear divisions as far as Parish Councils and community groups. The Hednesford area is represented by Hednesford Town Council with a small crossover. Hednesford has a thriving voluntary sector that organises major events in the town and park, this includes a summer gala as well as Remembrance Sunday and other national events that are celebrated locally.

There is also a monthly Farmers Market, major supermarkets very close to the Town are used by the wider public in addition to this. Cannock Wood, Rawnsley, Hawks Green and Cannock Wood although are separate areas they are very similar in makeup, each with a strong local identity.

Cannock Wood and Hawks Green are represented by Cannock Wood Parish Council and Heath Hayes Parish Council respectively. Hazelslade (this would include areas of Rawnsley) have an active residents' group, all have good volunteer groups working in their particular area.

The Chase is a common bond for these areas, there is active visiting to the local country parks including Castle Ring and Marquis Drive visitor Centre.

Facilities: Shopping for the Hednesford area is in Hednesford, there are two major supermarkets as well as a Market Town with bars and restaurants. There is a medical practice in the Town and schools are also close by. Hednesford is a close-knit community and generally all needs can be met within a reasonable distance, there is also a busy train line to wider communities including Birmingham, train links are very good and electrified. There is a strong link with the Town centre from residents. Cannock Wood, Rawnsley, and Hawks Green are separate communities served by local amenities. Cannock Wood have no retail centre and would shop at numerous areas including outside the borough in Rugeley, they are a tight community much of village life is centred around the community Centre, there is a monthly newsletter delivered as well as an active Parish Council. Junior school children would go to the village school, there is also an active church.

Hawks Green have an active shopping centre with a large supermarket and a well-used community centre.

There are numerous schools close by as well as a medical centre.

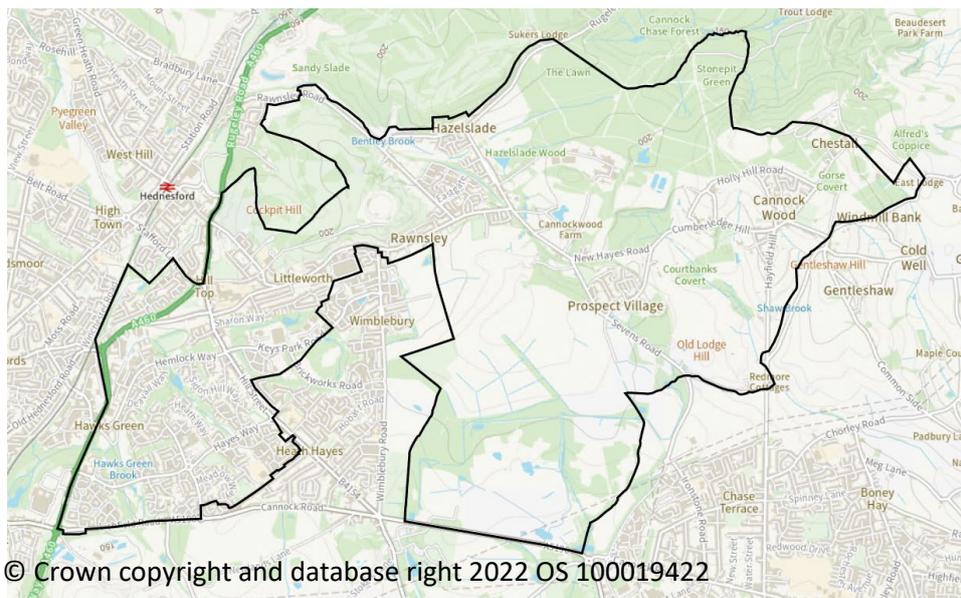
Rawnsley is very rural and like Cannock Wood connected to the Chase, it has a medical centre. Shopping would be done at Rugeley or Hednesford.

Identifiable boundaries: The boundary to Hednesford would be the A460. All three areas Hawks Green, Cannock Wood and Rawnsley have good road connections. The Hednesford Ward is well connected with no internal natural barriers. The North barrier would be the Chase.

Parishes: Hednesford as a single Town Council representing all of Hednesford. Hawks Green is served by Heath Hayes and Wimblebury Council, the council is based in Hawks Green. Rawnsley has no Parish Council but there is a Community Group. Hazelslade residents meet monthly with residents.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the proposed changes reduce coterminosity with existing ward boundaries for this division as it splits the Hednesford South (current) ward. The division could be made coterminous if the draft proposal of district wards is agreed as it would incorporate Hednesford Green Heath and Hednesford Pye Green wards. The boundary near Cockpit Hill/Hednesford Hills Common area could be changed to align with the draft recommendations.

Division 7: Hawks Green, Rawnsley and Cannock Wood



Summary of Division: Hednesford & Rawnsley is currently a two-member division. The council has requested a review of two member divisions, and therefore the mapping has been based on two single member divisions. Hawks Green ward, Rawnsley ward and Hednesford South ward (excluding the areas mentioned above in relation to Norton Canes, Heath Hayes & Wimblebury division and Hednesford division) could form a Hawks Green, Rawnsley & Cannock Wood division.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,241, a variance of +5.4% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity: The road links within Hednesford are good and there is a Hednesford railway station on the rail to Rugeley and Lichfield Trent Valley which goes through Cannock to Birmingham and London Euston. There are a lot of new houses going up in the area and demands on the road network are ever increasing. The bus services are also frequent and will support the growth in communities.

Shared interests: The other common interest is the mining legacy and the part the Chase played during the first world war and the Hednesford Memorial. These issues bind the community. There are numerous active community groups in Hednesford, they particularly revolve around the environment and helping others which cements and influences the communities well. Facilities wise, the Chase and the Park, Library, Mining Museum and WWI Museum on Marquis Drive offer a vast number of local facilities and experiences for residents to enjoy.

Identifiable boundaries: The main geographical boundary is the Chase though it is defined more by its community than geography.

Community groups: Hednesford Parish Council is particularly active in the Community and the Community Centre run by the Council in North Hednesford is another strong community asset.

The shared interests again revolve around the spectacular natural asset the Chase and the mining heritage. Community Groups thrive in Cannock Wood but are less apparent in Rawnsley. Cannock Wood has a very strong and vocal Parish Council and a community centre which is a locus of the community. Hawks Green is different largely by virtue of the fact it is particularly integrated into Cannock. It is adjacent to the new West Midlands retail outlet and close to Cannock Railway Station.

It is served by Heath Hayes parish Council which has gone from strength to strength over the past few years. There is a strong community identity, and it is blessed by being part of both Cannock and Hednesford communities whilst having an identity. There are primary care facilities in Hednesford with the centre on station road and reasonable access to the Chads Moor practices from Hednesford north. Rawnsley has a primary Care Facility as does Hawks Green through the practice in Heath Hayes. The villages of Hazelslade, Cannock Wood and Prospect village are not blessed with a local service.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the proposed changes reduce coterminosity with existing ward boundaries for this division as it splits the Hednesford South and Rawnsley (current) wards.

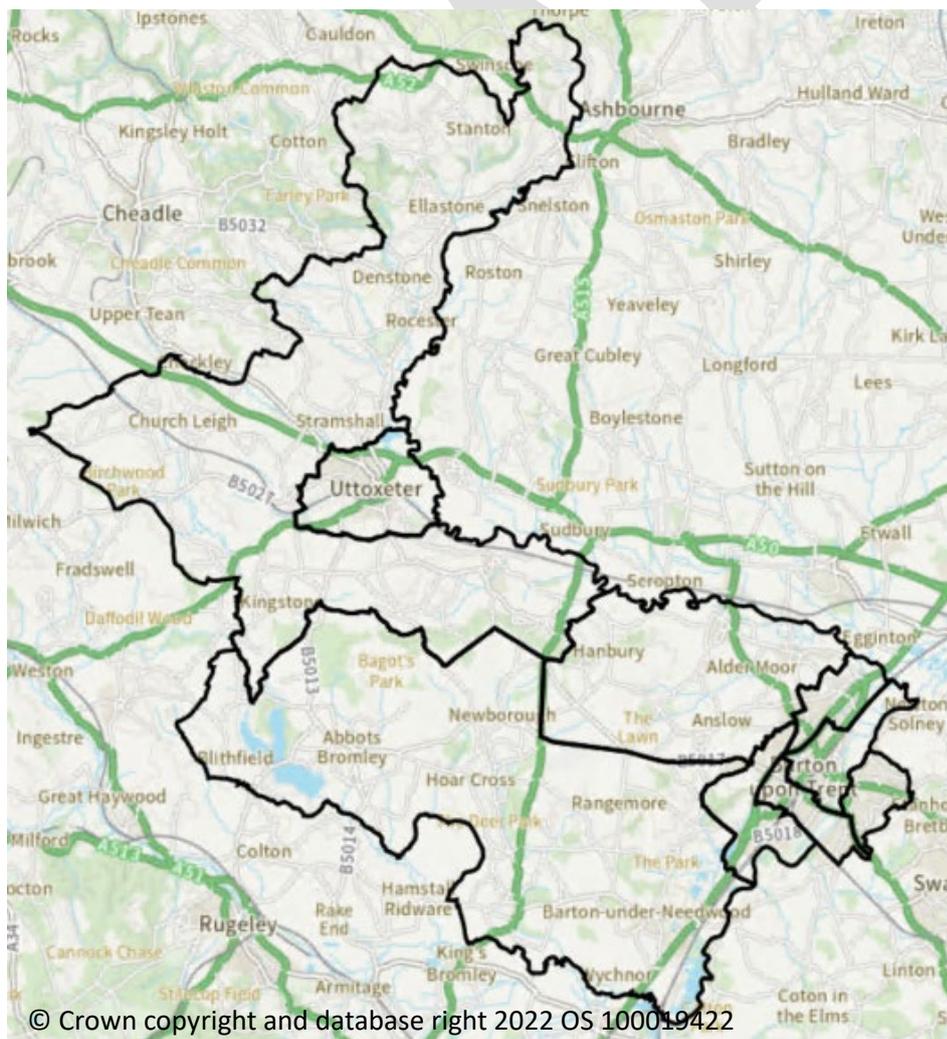
Coterminosity to the draft recommendations for Cannock Chase ward boundaries should they be agreed could be improved in relation to the Hednesford Hills & Rawnsley ward (by aligning in the Cockpit Hill/Hednesford Hills Common area) and by moving the area to the east of Wimblebury into the Norton Canes, Heath Hayes & Wimblebury division (no electors). Coterminosity for this division is still a challenge as the Hawks Green, Heath Hayes & Wimblebury, and Hednesford Hills & Rawnsley wards would however be split.

The proposals have been drawn up with consideration of both the current ward boundaries and the draft recommendations for wards. With the final report being published on 9 May 2023, SCC recognises that the proposed boundaries may need to be amended to ensure effective and convenient local government (improve coterminosity with ward boundaries), however it is important that the community identities and interests identified as part of these proposals are reflected.

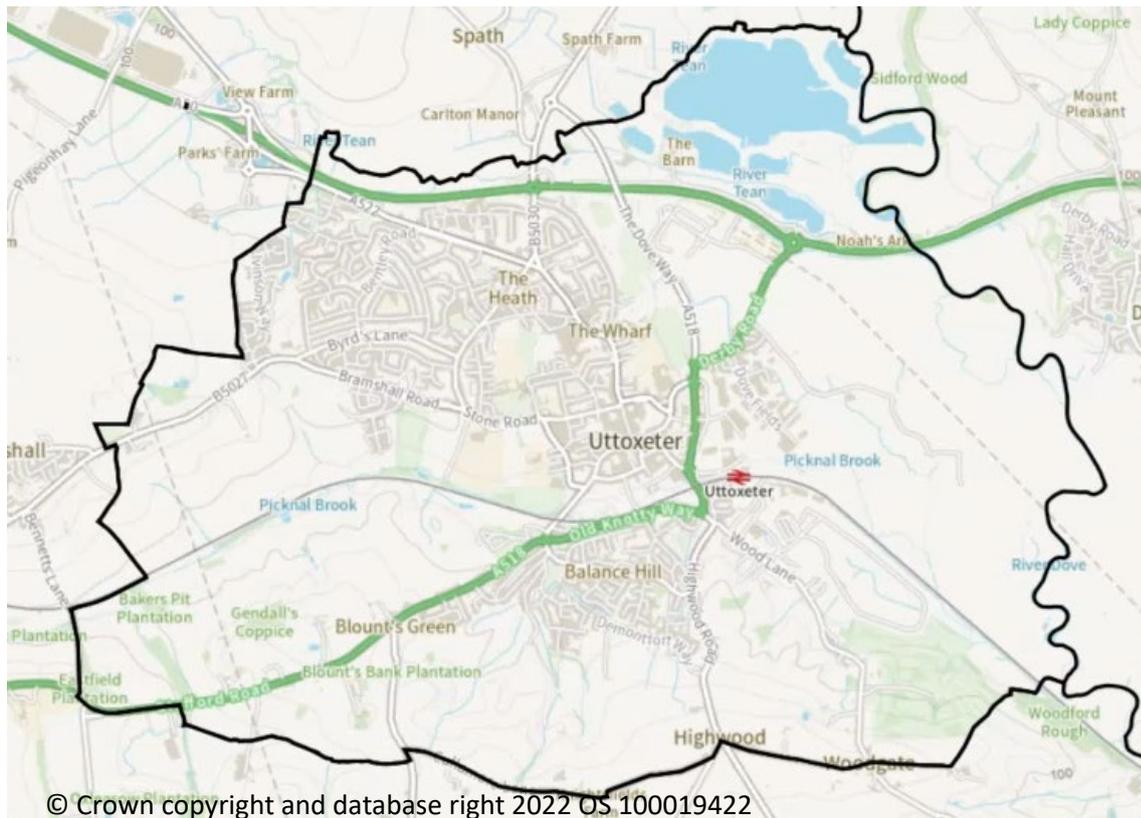
East Staffordshire

East Staffordshire Borough total electorate is forecast to rise from 89,636 in 2022 to 104,023 in 2028. Due to this large forecast increase, to maintain electoral equality across the districts and boroughs, East Staffs will require 1 additional councillor, bringing the total number of councillors to 9. East Staffordshire will have an average electorate per division of 11,558, -0.5% below the average division size for Staffordshire.

The geography and electorate distribution across the borough has made it difficult to find a proposal that satisfactorily meets the three LG BCE criteria, particularly with regards to community identity. For example, Uttoxeter, and the area to the east of the River Trent, are both areas that have distinct community identities that cannot be reflected through single division arrangements due to the numbers of electors in these areas. In addition, as the highly urban developed areas to the west of Burton town start to give way to large, rural areas, it is difficult to find a proposal that does not have to combine urban and rural electors within a single division.



Division 1: Uttoxeter Town



Summary of Division: Uttoxeter Town is proposed to comprise the ward of Town, plus the majority of Heath ward with the exception of an area of new housing developments to the north-west of the division, which is proposed to be in Uttoxeter Rural.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,609 – a variance of +8.5% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity. Uttoxeter Town has a strong community identity, distinct from the surrounding rural areas. Ideally it would be possible for the entirety of Town and Heath wards to continue to form one electoral division, however, given the forecast electors by 2028 this is not possible. The proposal therefore identifies a new area of housing development on the edge of Uttoxeter that it not closely aligned to the existing Uttoxeter Town community and moves the area into Uttoxeter Rural.

Transport links: There are three main routes within Uttoxeter Town.

A50, A518, A522, all are connected services.

The proposed boundary for Uttoxeter Town Division appears to be what is viewed as most logical by the County Cllr.

Shared interests: This division is well compact and is contained well within the Town Boundary, it has a natural split of urban and rural. Our proposals have been created with strong backing from the rural side of Uttoxeter and Urban. It is understood that all residents will be drawn to the interests in the Town Centre.

Community groups: There are several community groups within the Division but as there is very little change to the proposed boundary, they will still be able to easily access facilities.

Facilities: Residents will mainly shop in the town centre.

There are NHS facilities in the town centre also. Two doctors' surgeries, several dentists, and opticians.

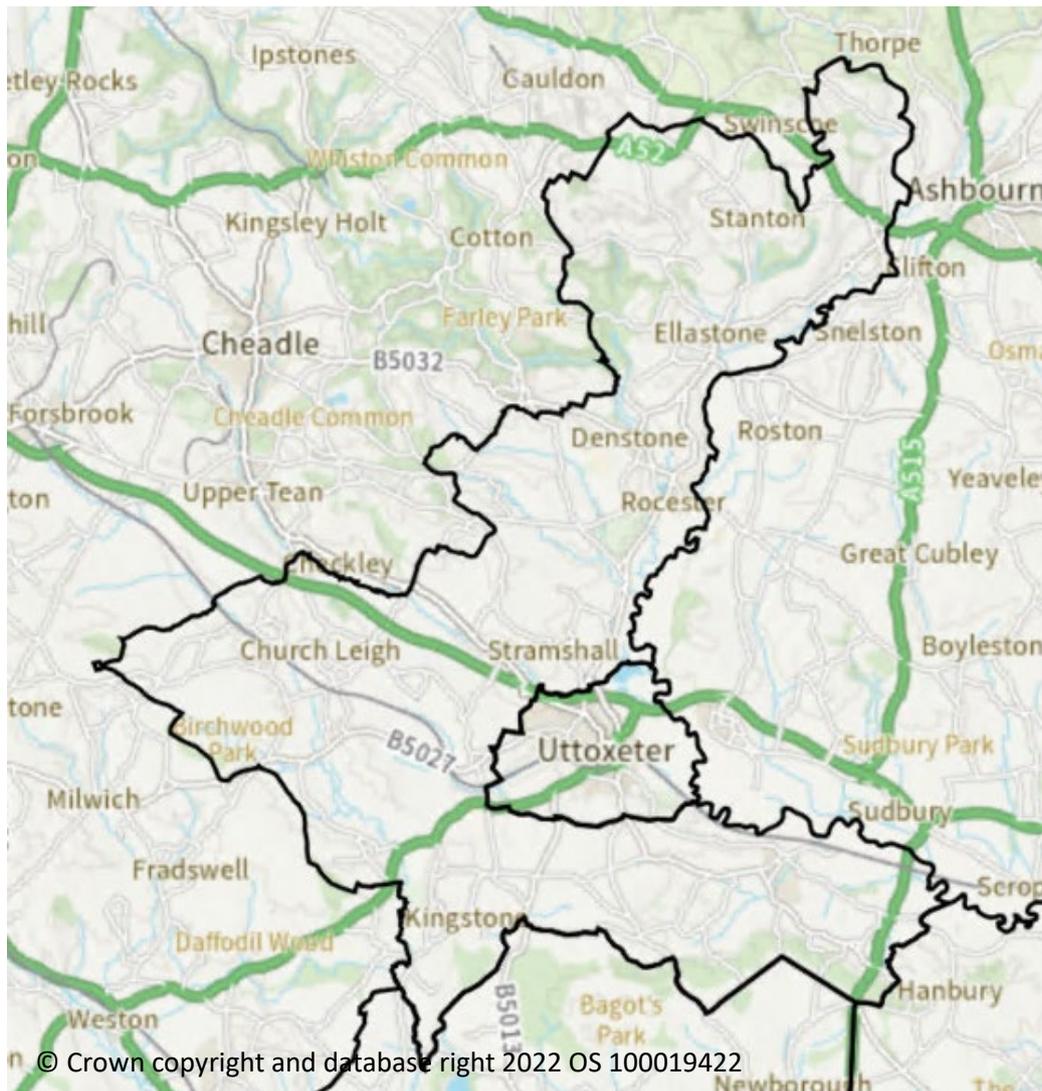
The local hospital is Queens Hospital Burton on Trent. Some residents use Derby which is part of the University of Derby and Burton Hospital Trust.

The River Dove and the A50 act as a natural boundary.

Parish wise there is Stramshall, Bramshall, Marchington and Kingstone.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good, with the division comprising the entirety of Town ward plus the majority of Heath. The proposal would require a split of the Parish ward of Heath, in Uttoxeter Parish.

Division 2: Uttoxeter Rural



Summary of Division: Uttoxeter Rural is proposed to comprise all of Stramshall and Weaver and Blythe wards, plus the parishes of Marchington and Draycott in the Clay. In addition, a small area to the north-west of Uttoxeter Town division is also included (as outlined under Division 1: Uttoxeter Town).

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,092 – a variance of -4.5% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity: This is a predominantly rural division; transport links include good bus services from the larger villages to Uttoxeter town. The Swift service connects Mayfield through Ellastone Denstone and Rocester and there are bus services from Draycott to

Uttoxeter through Marchington and from Abbots Bromley through Kingstone to Uttoxeter.

Shared interests: The villages in Uttoxeter Rural while clearly separate communities, are also defined areas set apart from Uttoxeter itself. Some of the new build on the edge of Uttoxeter close to the A50 could develop interests in common with the neighbouring villages of Stramshall and Bramshall with the A50 junction. It is set apart from the rest of Uttoxeter itself on the edge of town. Rural villages and this area on the edge of the town share peri urban characteristics.

The villages still have farming as well as local pubs, village halls, a shared deanery, and attend the local middle and high schools.

Community groups: The villages all have their own parish councils and come together within the local churches and other social organisations.

There are youth groups, churches, chapels, and village halls along with darts, cricket and football teams competing in local leagues

Facilities: The doctors' surgeries are either in Rocester or Uttoxeter. Uttoxeter Rural villages are all in the Thomas Alleyne's High School catchment and children attend the Middle schools in Uttoxeter or Ryecroft Middle CoE School at Rocester.

Identifiable boundaries: Being at the northern end of the Borough, the rural areas are distinct from the urban area of Uttoxeter itself. The A50 and A515 are important to all the communities, as diversions when the road is blocked used the rural roads as a diversion.

Parishes: Uttoxeter Rural Parish Council encircles Uttoxeter Town Council completely with a defined rural area separate to the Town itself.

The whole Uttoxeter Rural area has active Parish Councils who represent their parishes and lobby or fund local efforts.

To the north and south of Uttoxeter the Rural areas are clearly defined with their own rural issues.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – whilst this is a geographically large division with a high number of parishes, coterminosity is good, with the division proposed to take in two wards in their entirety plus two additional parishes and a small area of Heath ward in Uttoxeter.

The new proposed boundary does exclude the majority of Branston Parish, which is very different in nature, being an area of high development and very much suburban in nature. There is an additional area which is part of Branston i.e. Henhurst. This area joins directly to the Tatenhill & Rangemore Parish and is in many ways detached from the main part of Branston Parish. The B5017 forms a logical boundary for this new additional population.

Community groups: The proposed Needwood Forest Division has a number of very active parish councils, which form an integral part of their local communities.

Currently Cllr Jessel hosts a Needwood Division Forum, which includes the parishes of Branston, Barton under Needwood, Dunstall, Tatenhill & Rangemore, Wychnor (parish room) Newborough, Hoar Cross, Yoxall. As an example of the topics we discuss, in a previous meeting Cllr Jessel invited the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner to talk about proposed changes to local policing and at a meeting in February 2023, representatives of National Highways spoke to us about forthcoming roadworks on the A38 which will impact on all these communities. It has proved to be a useful forum for parish and borough councillors to share ideas, common areas of concern and an opportunity to meet key individuals representing organisations that impact on local communities. At the February meeting Cllr Jessel presented the proposed boundary changes and they were generally supported, and they understood the rationale for the changes.

Facilities: Across the new division residents generally use Burton, Lichfield and Uttoxeter for a range of services. Most of the larger villages, e.g. Abbots Bromley, Barton under Needwood and Yoxall have their own medical and small retail facilities. Branston has a large GP Practice, but because of the high levels of development, patients access primary care services from a range of practices.

Access to schooling is an important factor; some of the rural communities have their own primary schools, but most access the John Taylor High School in Barton under Needwood or the John Taylor Free School in Tatenhill.

Identifiable boundaries: The proposals utilise the current Needwood Divisional boundary with the addition of Abbots Bromley, Admaston and Blithfield, providing co-terminosity with borough boundaries, but also including Newborough which is already part of the Division. The only

other addition is the Henhurst part of Branston Parish and as mentioned the B5017 forms a logical boundary for that addition.

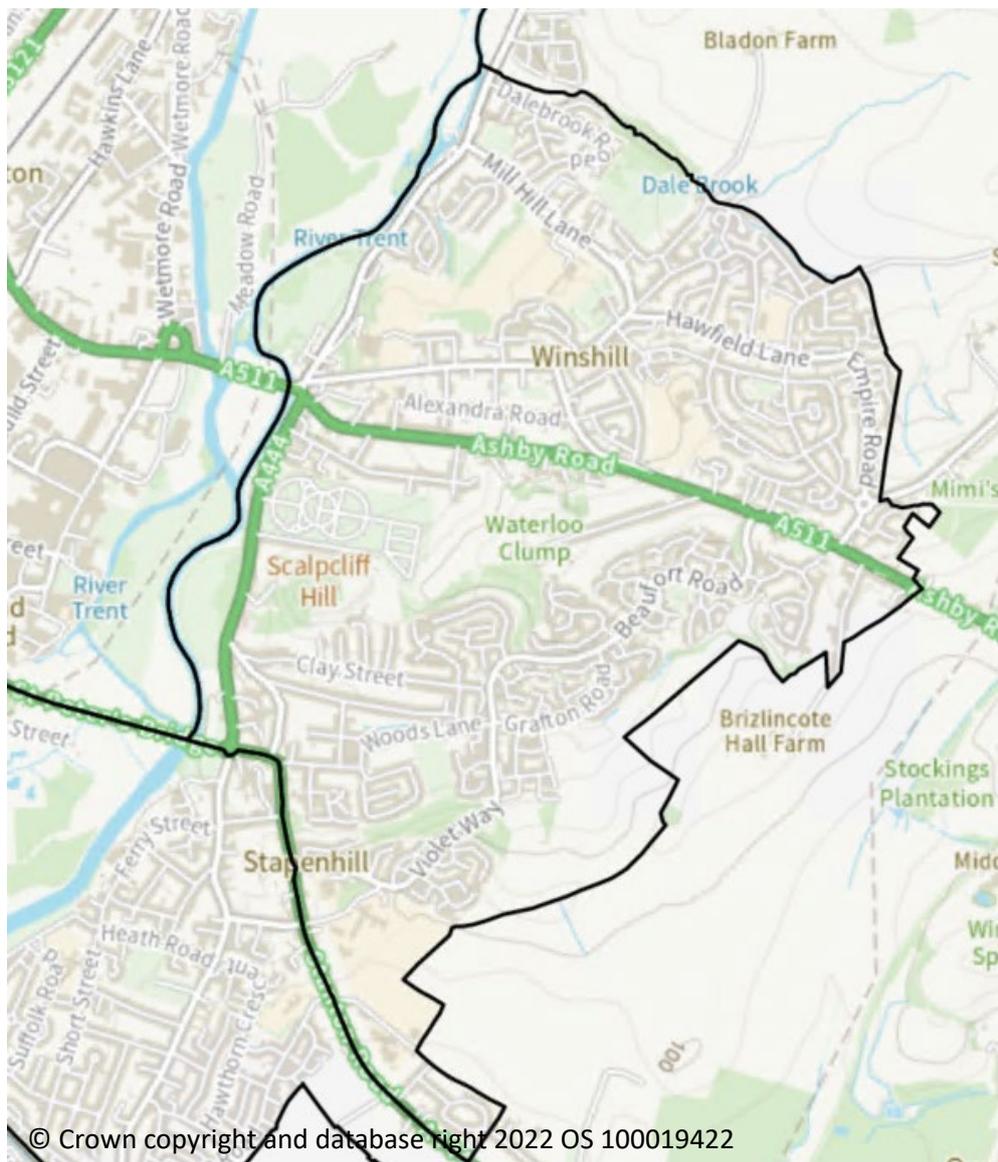
There are no natural barriers or major physical developments which separate the communities.

Parishes: As above mentions the importance of parishes within the current and proposed Division and they form important community links and building blocks. Newborough and Hoar Cross are closely aligned as a community and that is why we believe they should remain in the Division.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – whilst this is a geographically large division with a high number of parishes, coterminosity is good, with the division proposed the entirety of Bagot and Needwood ward, plus an additional parish⁰ and a small of Henhurst Parish ward in Branston parish.

DRAFT

Division 4: Burton Tower



Summary of Division: The proposal is for the Burton Tower division to comprise the new East Staffs wards of Brizlincote and Winshill. The division would therefore use the River Trent as a natural boundary to the west and the A444 Stanton Road to the south. The other division boundaries are county boundaries.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,563 – a variance of -0.5% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Transport links: There are good transport links within the proposed division. The road network is particularly well established with key routes being the A444 and A511.

The area being added to the current division runs up the A444 so is well connected to the rest of the division. there are also bus routes running along the A444 and out to Burton town centre and nearby Swadlincote.

Shared interests: The community is a suburban part of Burton on Trent. There are several shared interests:

1. Traffic and congestion concerns due to living on the "east side of the river". Cllr Wilemans residents are required to travel over two busy road bridges to get to Burton town centre. The additional area proposed to be included with this division in the new proposals is similar in this regard.

2. The area Cllr Wileman represents used to be in Derbyshire many years ago – there are strong connections with the nearby Derbyshire areas of Newhall and Swadlincote and good transport links support this connection.

3. Residents in this division have a shared concern about over development and protection of green spaces and fields especially with a slither of greenbelt land between Burton and Swadlincote. The additional area proposed to be included with this division also borders the green belt.

4. The area as mentioned is a suburb of Burton upon Trent. Winshill and Brizlincote parish have very different priorities to the centre of burton which is predominately an urban, retail and industrial centre with high density housing.

Community groups: Winshill has its own very well-established community groups with the main group being Winshill Neighbourhood Resource Centre. It provides youth activities, lunch clubs, a food bank etc.

Brizlincote has a local shopping precinct area with a Tesco Express which provides a focus.

The additional area proposed to be included is on the east side of the river and therefore residents tend to use facilities on this side of the river given convenience. In terms of demographic, it is similar to many parts of Winshill, and the community is likely to face the same issues.

Facilities: Convenience stores are located on the east side of the river and these are used frequently by residents in Winshill and Brizlincote. Larger supermarkets are available in the town centre.

There are two GP practices covering Winshill and Brizlincote (Winshill Medical centre and Bridge Surgery). Both are east of the river.

The leisure centre is in the town centre (Meadowside Leisure Centre).

In other words, for GP surgeries and convenience stores, residents will tend to use those facilities east of the river. For larger stores/shopping/leisure facilities, residents have no choice but to travel to the town centre.

Identifiable boundaries: The River Trent and Washlands flood plain run through the middle of Burton upon Trent. There is a distinct east and west split with the river and washlands playing the dividing line. This creates a recognisable boundary for this division. The two road bridges mentioned provide the gateway to Burton town centre and all traffic must travel over these two bridges from the east of Burton to get to the centre.

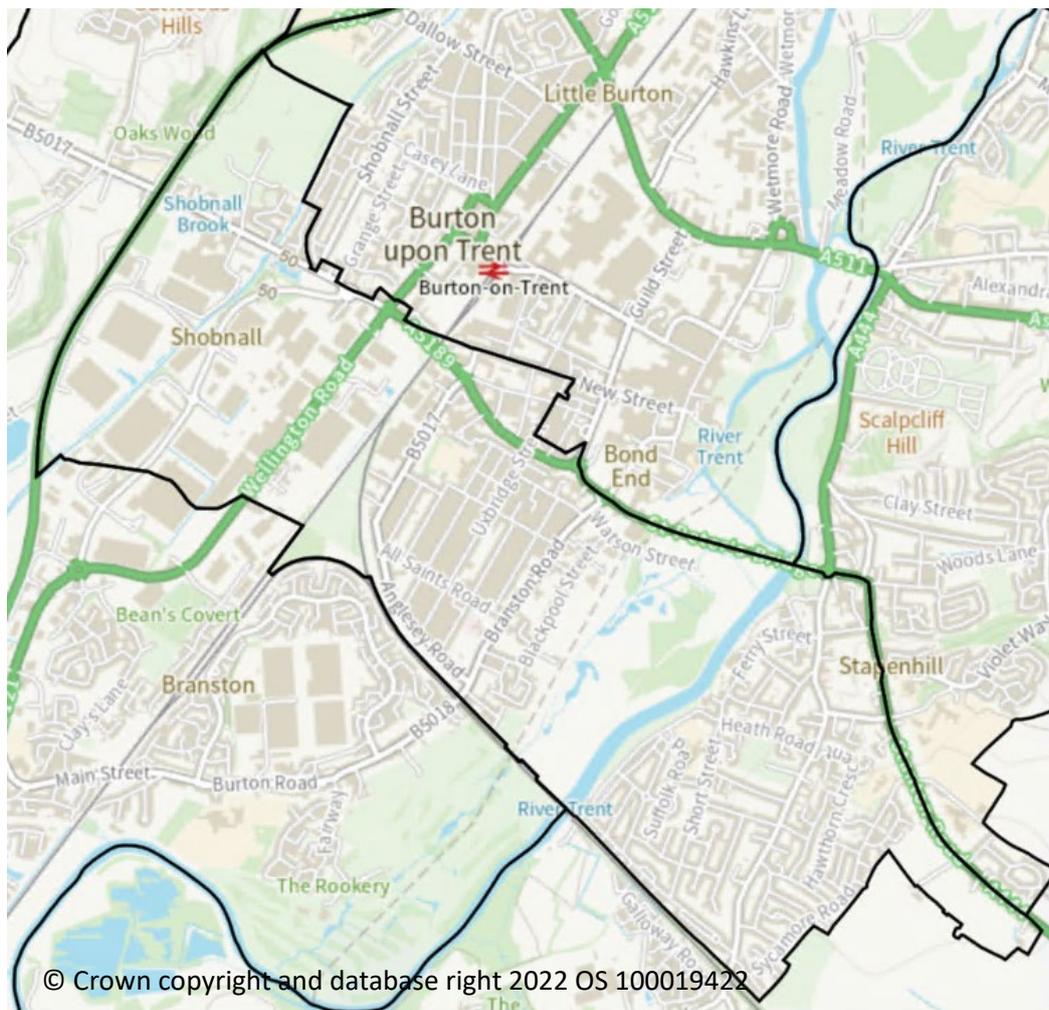
The rest of the division border on the other side is the dividing line between the east and west midlands and Staffordshire and Derbyshire.

Parishes: Winshill Parish and Brizlincote Parish make up the current division. The outline of their borders make up the border of this division.

It was agreed in a recent review of East Staffordshire Borough Council's ward boundaries that Brizlincote Parish's boundaries would be extended. The additional area proposed to be included in this division is the extension of Brizlincote Parish. This in our view keeps boundaries consistent with ESBC ward boundaries and will limit any confusion.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good, with the division comprising two wards in their entirety.

Division 5: Burton Trent



Summary of Division: The proposal is for Burton Trent to comprise all of the new East Staffs wards of Stapenhill and Anglesey, with the addition of part of Shobnall ward – part of the parish ward of Canal. The boundary here skirts round Shobnall Leisure Complex, along the Trent and Mersey Canal, cuts across to the B5017 Shobnall Road, and then meets the boundary of Anglesey ward which runs down Moor Street.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,086 – a variance of -4.6% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity. The River Trent forms a natural boundary for electors to the east and west of the River. However, the number of electors to the east of the river is approximately 17,000 – this is too large to be one division and too small for two divisions, meaning that it is inevitable that there will be a division combining two different communities from the east and west of the river. Transport links: Bus

services and a shared railway station are two examples of the strong connection linkages that exist across the planned divisions of the territory. Both places that are to be included in the same division be readily accessible by bus and, in many circumstances, that they be able to be walked between.

Shared interests: Although over forty distinct languages are spoken in both regions, there is a strong sense of community togetherness, mutual respect, and civic pride that permeates the area. As an example, during the COVID epidemic, people living in both regions used the same hub for testing, monitoring, and vaccine purposes. In addition, there are members of the broader family residing in each of these locations. It will be an outstanding enhancement on our existing efforts to combat forced marriages, female genital mutilation (FGM), domestic abuse, women's education, women's empowerment, and awareness against the appropriation of women's inheritances. Both regions include urban traits and share comparable interests and requirements for development. They also both have a need for improvement. They are also impacted by urban problems like as depravity, road conditions, housing shortages, and other such challenges.

Community groups: In our proposals many people use the central mosque, more than five churches, over 30 shops and minimarket (mainly ethnic and continental food trades). At present the existing Anglesey parish council also cover the proposed area and most recently borough council very successfully amended the boundary.

Facilities: The primary commercial district is located along Uxbridge Street in Anglesey Ward. Both general practitioners (GPs) in Angeseey see patients who live in both locations. Residents and guests of the proposed neighbourhood will find that the central mosque, more than five churches, more than 30 businesses, and a minimarket are all popular places to go (mainly ethnic and continental food trades). The proposed territory is currently within the jurisdiction of the existing Anglesey parish council, and it was until recently that the borough council's attempts to amend the geographical boundaries of the region were met with some measure of success.

Identifiable boundaries: Uxbridge Street, a place of worship for several churches, an ancient goat malting plant, and a commercial park that is often used are all separated by an overpass and terrace residences

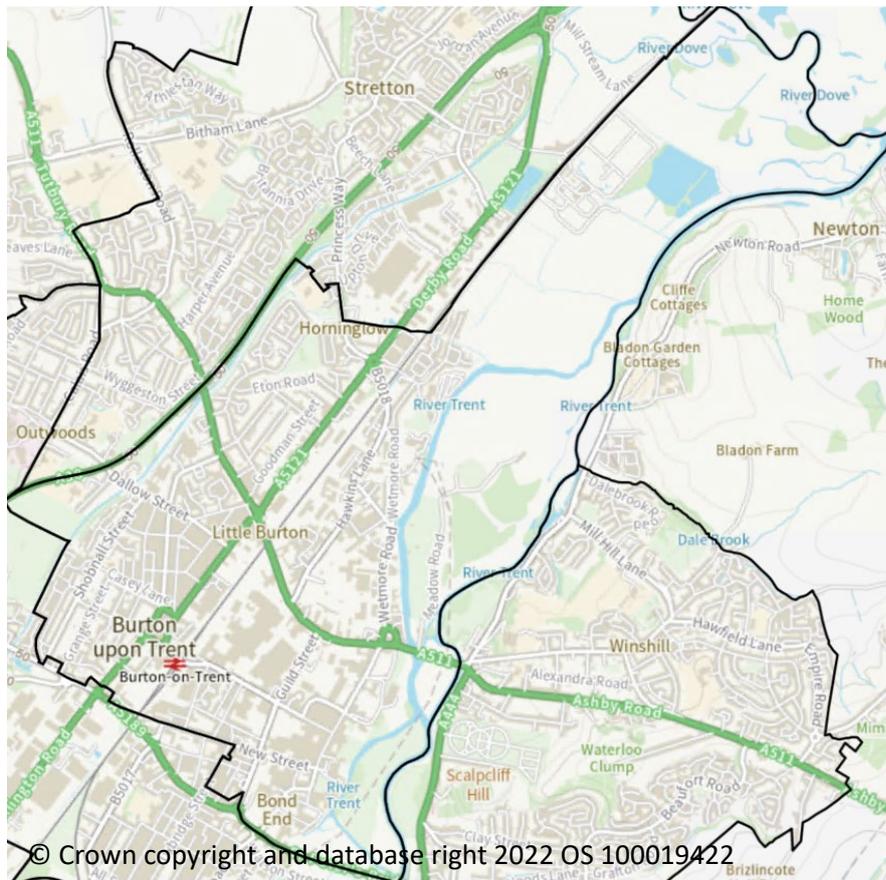
located on Anglesey Road exemplify the robust and well recognised identity.

Parishes: At the moment, the current Anglesey parish council also includes the planned region, and the borough council has very recently altered the boundaries.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good, with the division comprising two wards in their entirety (Stapenhill and Anglesey) plus part of Shobnall ward – part of the parish ward of Canal.

DRAFT

Division 6: Burton Town



Summary of Division: The proposal is for Burton Town to comprise the new ward of Burton and Eton, plus the part of Canal parish ward, (Shobnall ward) that is not in Burton Trent as described above.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,491 – a variance of +7.5% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Strong relationship links occur across the proposed segments of the area, such as bus service and a common train stop. If two locations are to be grouped together, they will be close enough together that they can be reached by transport and, ideally, strolled to one another.

Strong community cohesion, reciprocal respect, and civic pride can be found within this division and the proposed changes will not alter this.

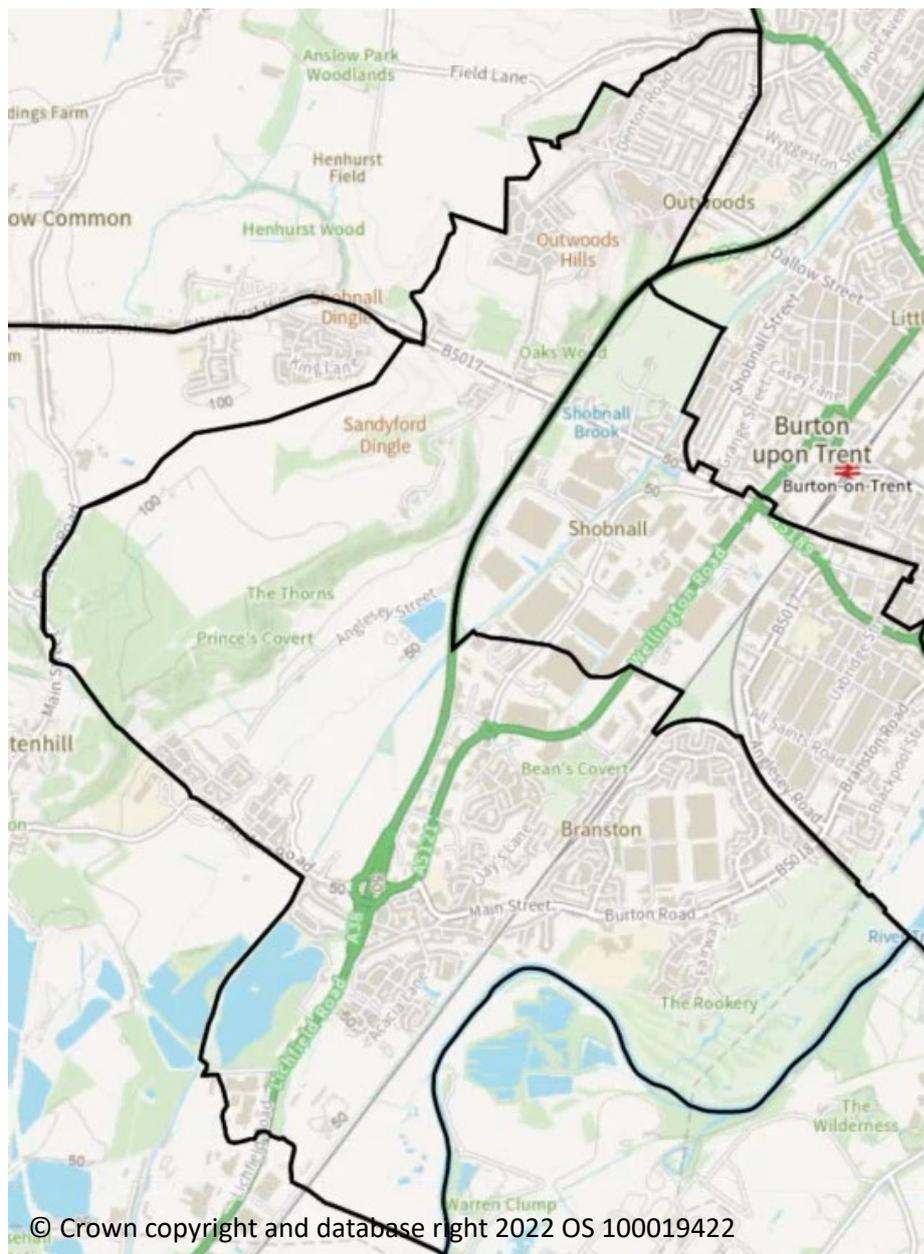
There are various stores available (mainly small businesses). In the current day, the suggested territory is also covered by the existing Eton parish council.

The proposed territory is currently within the jurisdiction of the existing Eton and nearby parish council, but the borough council's efforts to amend the geographical boundaries have been successful.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good, being comprised the ward of Burton and Eton plus part of the parish ward of Canal.

DRAFT

Division 7: Burton South



Summary of Division: Burton South division is proposed to comprise most of Branston ward (the exception being the area to the north around Shobnall Dingle that will be in Needwood division and is part of Branston Henhurst Parish ward), and then extend out to the north-east to incorporate Oaks Wood Parish ward (Shobnall Parish), plus an additional area of Outwards South Parish ward (both in Dove ward), and part of Outwoods between Field Lane and Calais Road (from Horninglow and Outwoods ward).

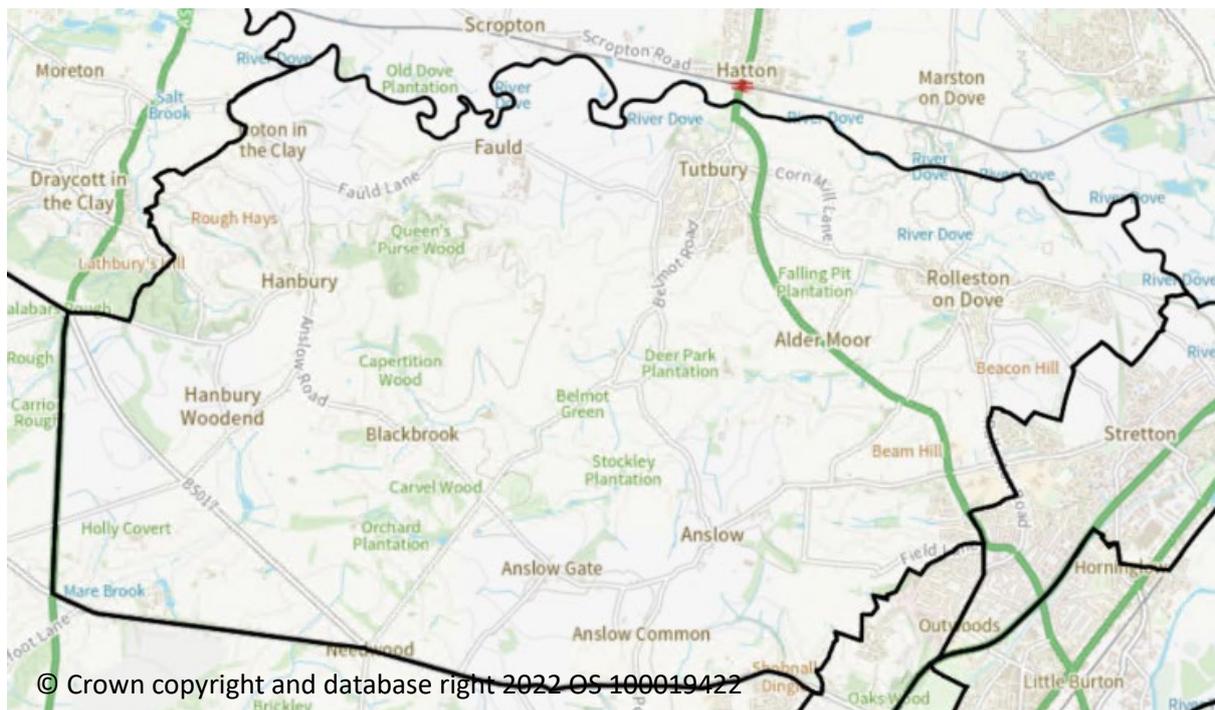
Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,921 – a variance of +2.6% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity. It is recognised that this division, which is in essence a new division, may lack an obvious community identity, being comprised of a large part of Branston plus Outwoods Hills and part of Outwoods. However, a range of options have been explored, all of which resulted in splitting existing communities and parishes for the sake of balancing the electorate numbers. It is therefore felt that this option provides the best outcome for both this division and the adjacent divisions of Dove, Needwood and Stretton.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good, with the division following much of the ward boundary for Branston, plus the Oaks Wood parish ward from Shobnall Parish, and additional areas of Dove ward and Horninglow and Outwoods ward.

DRAFT

Division 8: Dove



Summary of Division: Dove is proposed to comprise Hanbury parish from Crown ward, the majority of Dove excluding the Outwood Hills area, most of Horninglow and Outwoods ward to Field Lane, and North Parish ward from Horninglow and Outwoods Parish (Stretton ward).

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,517 – a variance of -9.5% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Transport links: The communication links within the proposed Dove Division are strong with short journey times and good quality routes to use.

Shared interests: The community links between Rolleston-on-Dove, Tutbury and Anslow are very strong, as are the links between Tutbury, Hanbury and Anslow. These communities share services, use the same key transport links, and have other ties such as a shared Church of England Benefice. The issues these areas face, particularly those that are relevant to the County Council are very similar.

Community Groups: There is a strong network of parish councils across the Division who are mutually supporting. There is also a shared Church of England Benefice between Anslow, Rolleston and Tutbury.

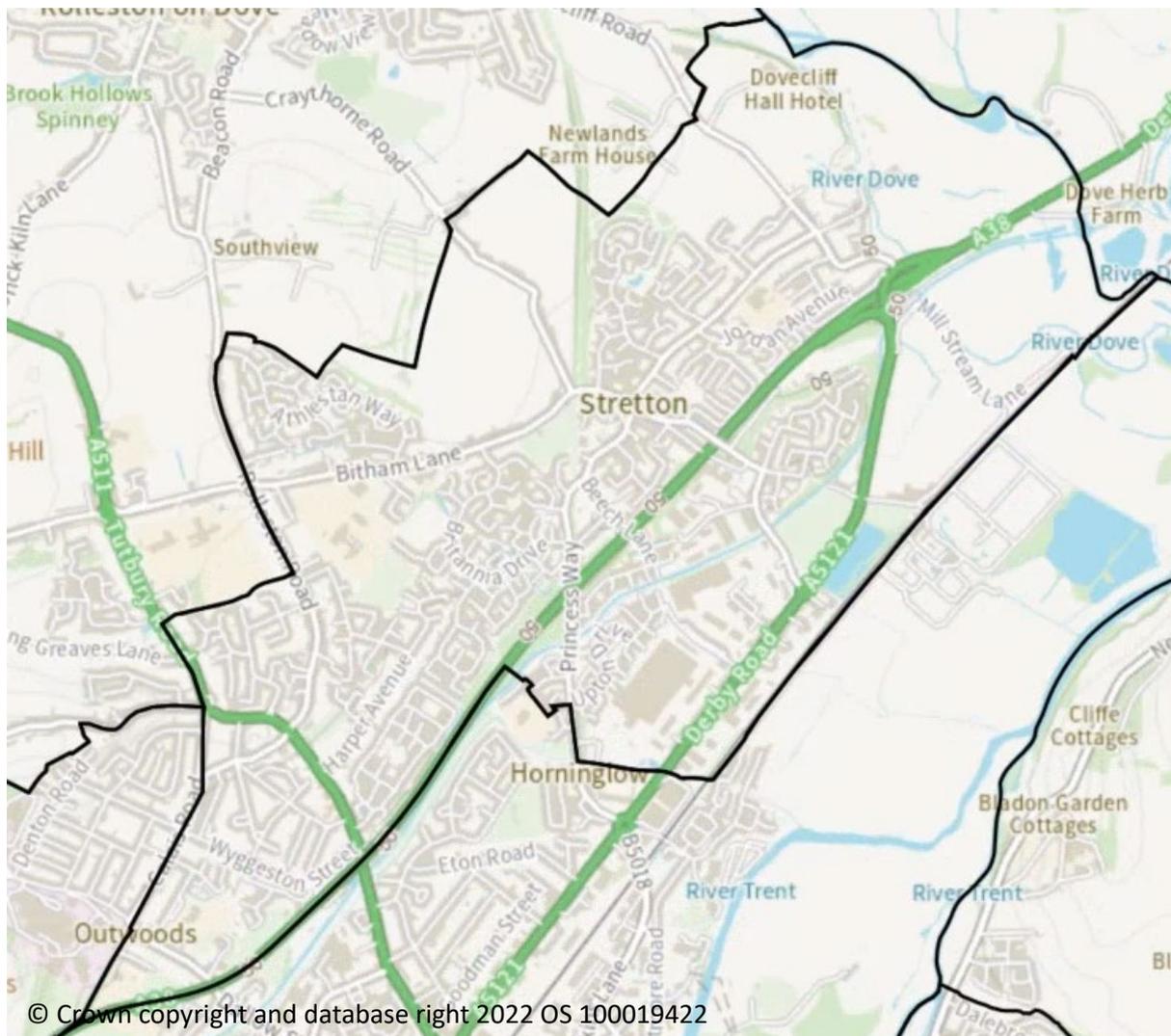
Facilities: Tutbury is the local service centre for residents in Rolleston, Anslow and Hanbury in terms of shops, primary healthcare, and other services. It is also the transport hub, benefitting from Tutbury & Hatton railway station. The public houses in Rolleston are also popular with residents across the area. Most schoolchildren attend local primary schools before progressing to De Ferrers High School on the edge of the Division.

Identifiable boundaries: The Derbyshire border is the most obvious border together with the "green gap" between Rolleston and Stretton, Tutbury and Outwoods and Anslow and Outwoods. This is much valued by local residents who view themselves as the first "rural" communities outside Burton. There is also a strong dividing line at Field Lane with the areas below this closer to the hospital/town forming a more distinct community and with their primary issues relating to Burton Hospital.

Parishes: Rolleston on Dove, Tutbury, Anslow and Hanbury Parish Councils all sit within the boundaries of the proposed Division. There are also some elements of Outwoods Parish but unlike the others mentioned this area does not have a strong community identity and is more a series of corridors along the A511, Beamhill Road and the B017 each of which has its own identity.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good as the division follows much of the boundary of Dove, plus the parish of Hanbury, the parish ward of North from Horninglow and Outwoods parish, and most of Horninglow and Outwoods ward. It would be easy for the elected Member to be in all parts of the Division on a regular basis

Division 9: Stretton



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Summary of Division: Stretton division is proposed to comprise all of Stretton ward with the exception of North Parish ward, plus part of Horninglow and Outwoods ward long Calais Road.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,264 – a variance of +5.6% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity: There are many shared concerns for residents within this division, congested road networks which means that the Cllr representing this division is well known amongst residents for dealing with their complaints.

Community groups are mainly driven by Parish Councils in this division, regular meetings with the community invited to attend. There are a

selection of focus groups attracting likeminded people, amateur boxing club, sports clubs, bowling green groups and church groups.

There are shared shopping facilities used by locals, however a lot of travel to nearby towns happens within residents own transport.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good, following the majority of the ward boundary of Stretton ward, plus a portion of the boundary of Burton and Eton ward.

Rationale:

Criteria 1: We worked with the Boroughs/Districts and Parishes to get the data producing and electoral forecast, we have used the strategy that is suggested by the LGCBE to ensure there is a balance over the 3 criteria. The sum used for the electoral equality was to take the Cllr size, calculate the projected electorate to create an actual allocation on the council size per district. Our calculation resulted in 62 – thus remaining at our current Council size, and the removal of one Cllr in Tamworth, and placing an additional Cllr in East Staffs.

Criteria 2: We have worked closely with the Strategic Delivery Managers (SDM's) who work closely with our District, Parish and Borough Councils and provide support to our County Councillors for their divisions. Strategic Delivery Managers hold a vast amount of local knowledge and insight for their patches across Staffordshire. Alongside working with the SDM's we held workshops with the Councillors which enabled us to help them to understand the criteria we need to work with for this review. We worked with them to understand their divisions, their communities and geography which naturally helped us to collate that much needed local insight and community identity.

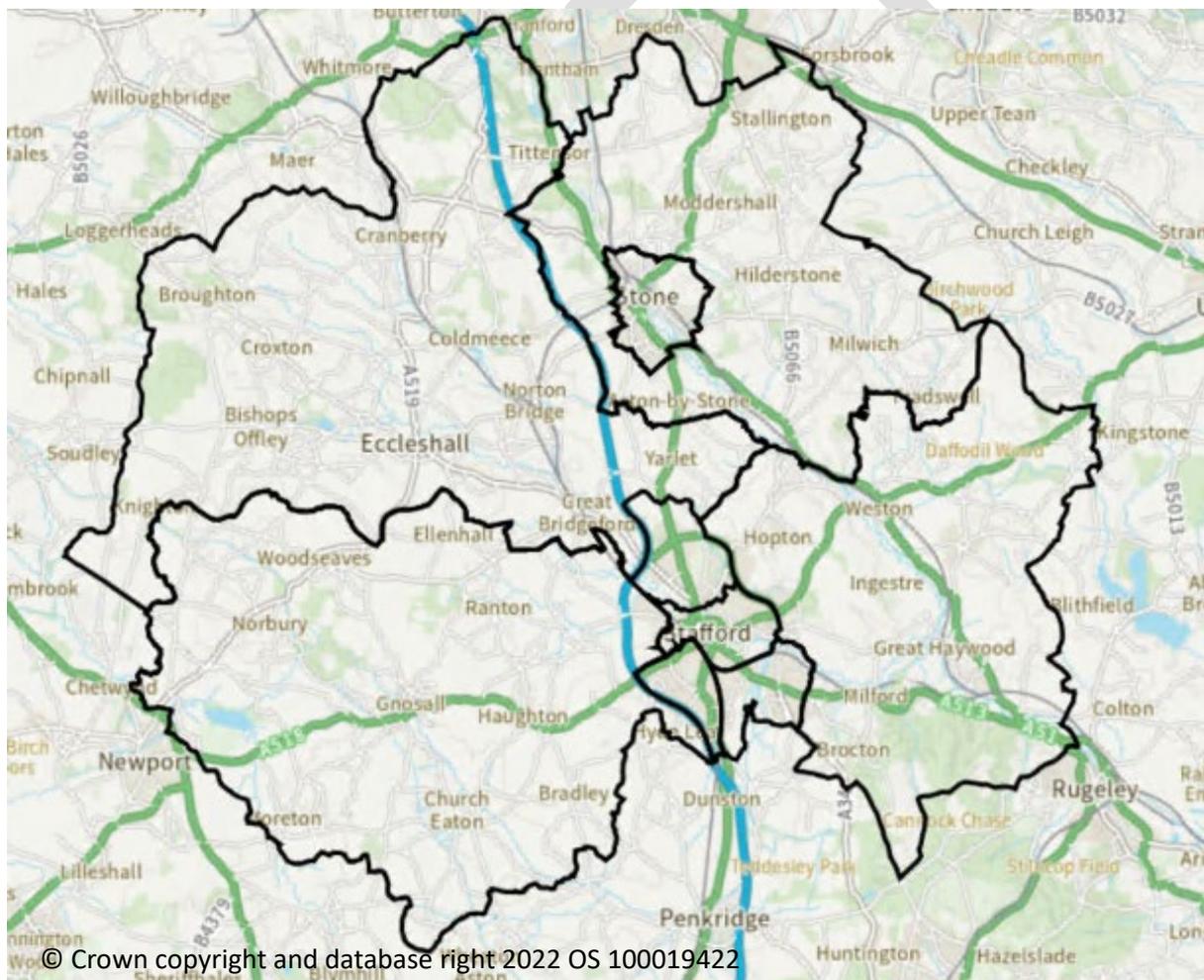
Criteria 3: Due to working with the Councillors and our local councils we have been able to remain as coterminous as possible and provide a healthy balance across all 3 of the criteria.

Stafford Borough

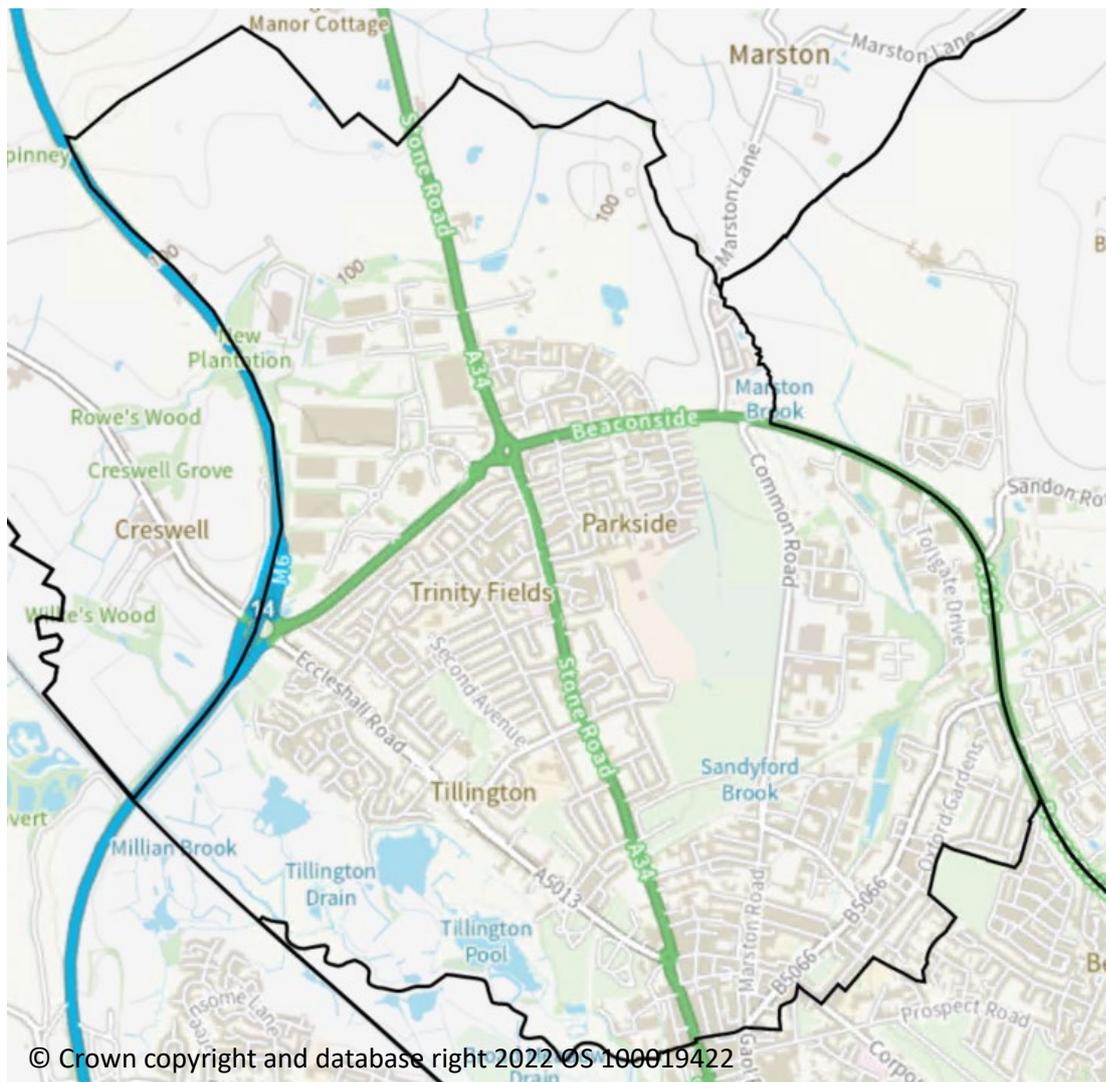
Overview

Stafford Borough is forecast to have a total electorate of 108,355 by 2028. It will retain 9 councillors and will therefore have an average division size of 12,039, 3.6% above than the average division size for Staffordshire as a whole.

In order to maintain electoral equality and represent community identities, it has been difficult to maintain coterminosity between division and ward boundaries in the borough. The warding pattern for the borough, particularly around the town centre, means that the divisions in this area cross a number of wards, and that divisions need to combine rural and urban populations in a less than ideal way.



Division 1: Stafford North



Summary of Division: It is proposed that Stafford North division will comprise all of Holmcroft ward, all of Common ward, part of Coton ward to the south and part of the Creswell parish from Eccleshall ward to the north. The split for Creswell parish uses the M6 as a natural boundary, with the new Marston Grange development to the east of the motorway, an area which looks to Stafford town for shopping, schools, transport, and community facilities, proposed to fall within Stafford North.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,286 – a variance of +5.8% from the Staffordshire average.

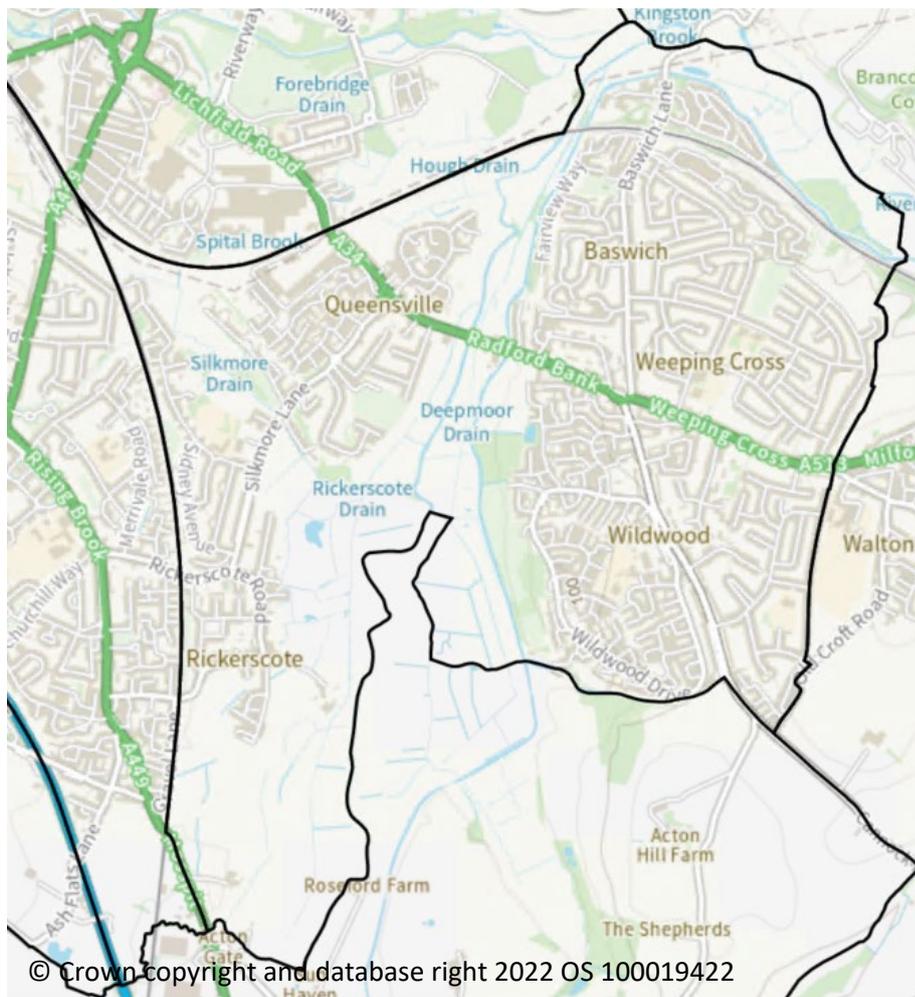
Criteria 2: Community Identity- Jonathan Price

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good, with the division comprising 2 entire wards, part of Creswell parish

following the boundary with Milwich ward to the north, and an unparished area of Coton ward to the south.

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Division 2: Stafford South East



Summary of Division: The proposal is for Stafford South East to comprise all of Penside, Weeping Cross and Wildwood and Baswich wards.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,240 – a variance of +5.4% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity: The Meadowcroft Park sits within the Penside Ward for Stafford Borough it has the same interest as the neighbouring Meadow estate. The same with The Saltings site and Lodgefield Park sits within the Baswich ward for Stafford Borough and has the same needs as the rest of the Baswich War.

There is Baswich Community Group covering the whole of Baswich and part of the Weeping Cross are, activities include riverway link, speed watch, litter picking, a club for the lonely and isolated, Tree planting and various activities throughout the year. The Baswich Library also play an active part with different clubs holding events throughout the week.

Holy Trinity Church Baswich Lane also hold various activities on different occasions. The Gateway for the Weeping Cross area hold coffee mornings for residents who feel isolated.

Meadows Community Group covering the Meadows have various activities at Easter and Bonfire night bringing the community together. Penkside Champions and Silkmore Community Group covering the Penkside Area. There is a food bank and warm clothing group each week. St Peters Penkside take community work seriously and hold various events throughout the week.

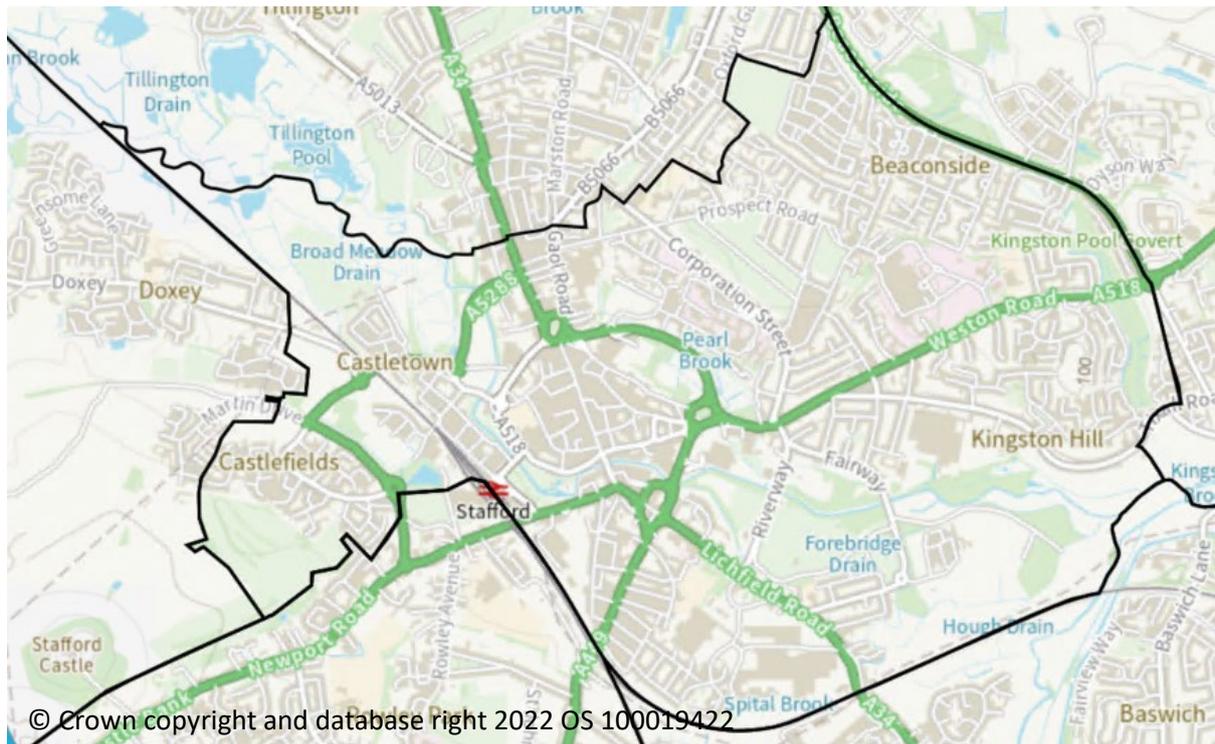
Penkside has a small shopping parade, and a convenience Co-op. Weeping Cross has a very large Co-op and Baswich has a small shopping parade plus two convenience Co-ops. The whole area has a medium size Aldi store to utilise. Baswich and Weeping Cross has a medium size Doctors Surgery catering for 22,000 patients. This surgery also has an alternative surgery in Manor Ward and Beaconside area. There are other various Surgeries throughout Stafford to which people have a patient choice.

The Leisure facilities consist of a large park within the Weeping Cross area facilities include Football Tennis Skate Board and a children's play area. There is currently work ongoing to upgrade the small park in Baswich..

Meadowcroft Park sits this side of the West Coast main line coming out of Stafford town so it is adjoining the Stafford South East Division

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity with existing ward and parish boundaries is good.

Division 3: Stafford Central



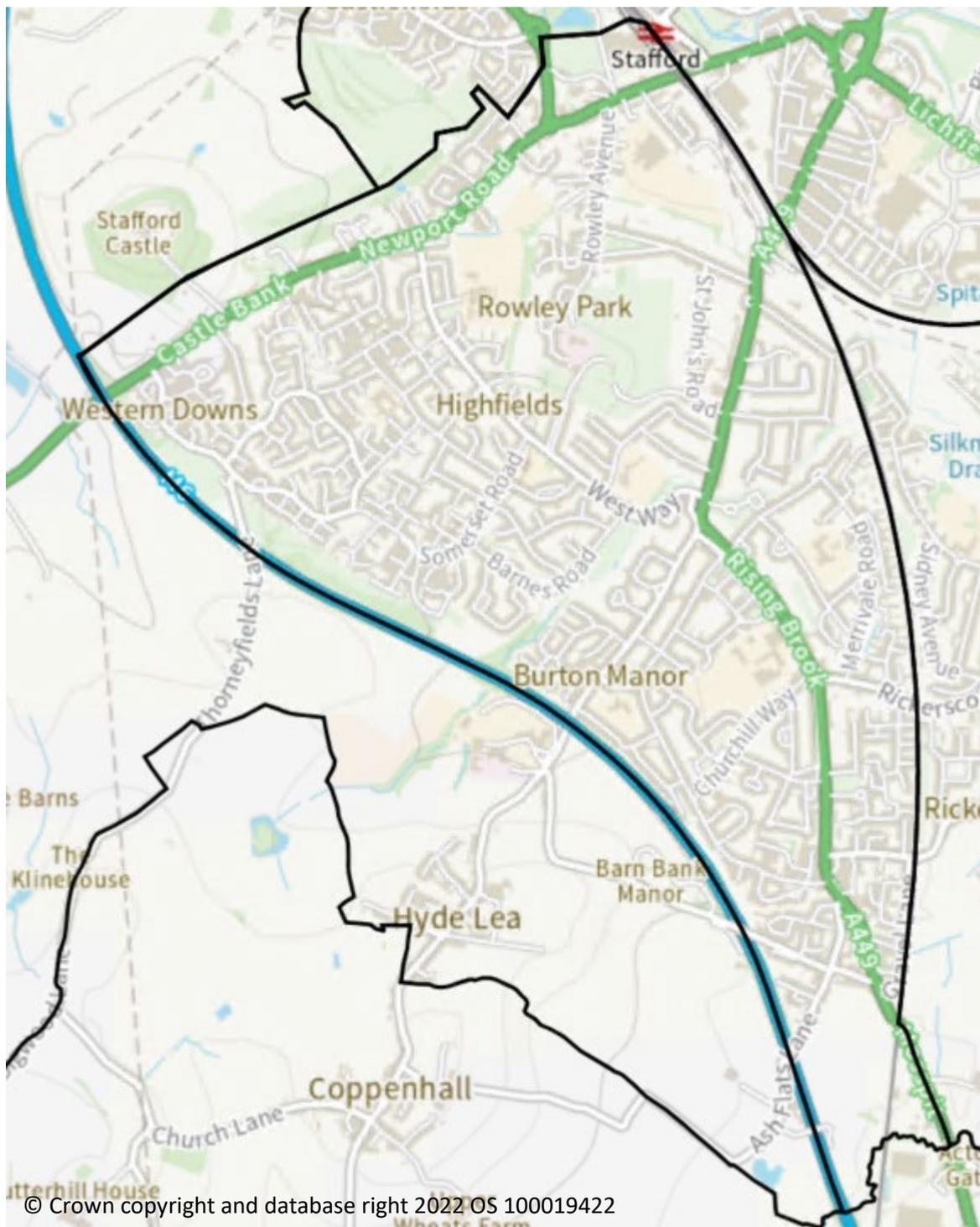
Summary of Division: The proposal is for Stafford Central comprise all of Forbridge and Littleworth wards, a large part of Coton ward, plus the Castletown area of Doxey and Castletown ward and the Castlefields area of Rowley ward.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,698 – a variance of +9.3% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity- Gillian Pardesi

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the area is not parished, and coterminosity with existing ward boundaries is good, taking in the entirety of 2 wards, the majority of Coton ward and following part of the boundaries of Doxey and Castletown to the north west.

Division 4: Stafford West



Summary of Division: The proposal is for Stafford West to comprise all of Manor and Highfields and Western Downs wards, plus around half of Rowley ward. The boundary to the north includes those electors in Rowley ward but to the south of Stafford Castle, which provides a natural geographical boundary.

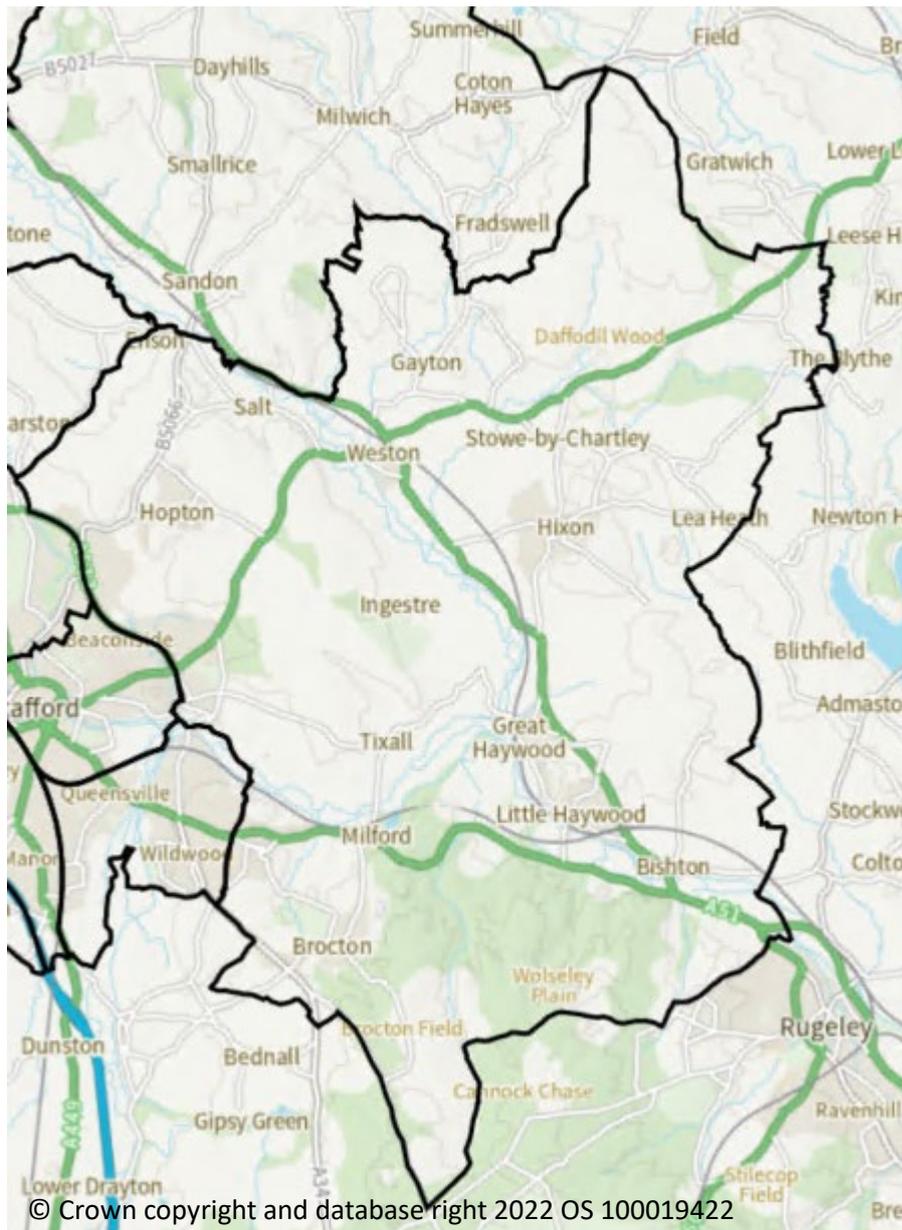
Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,984 – a variance of +3.2% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the area is not parished, and coterminosity with existing ward boundaries is good, taking in the entirety of 2 wards, and following the boundary with Rowley ward along the train line to the north-east of the division.

DRAFT

Division 5: Stafford Trent Valley



Summary of Division: Stafford Trent Valley would comprise all of Haywood and Hixon and Milford wards, plus around half of Milwich ward.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,069 – a variance of +3.9% from the Staffordshire average.

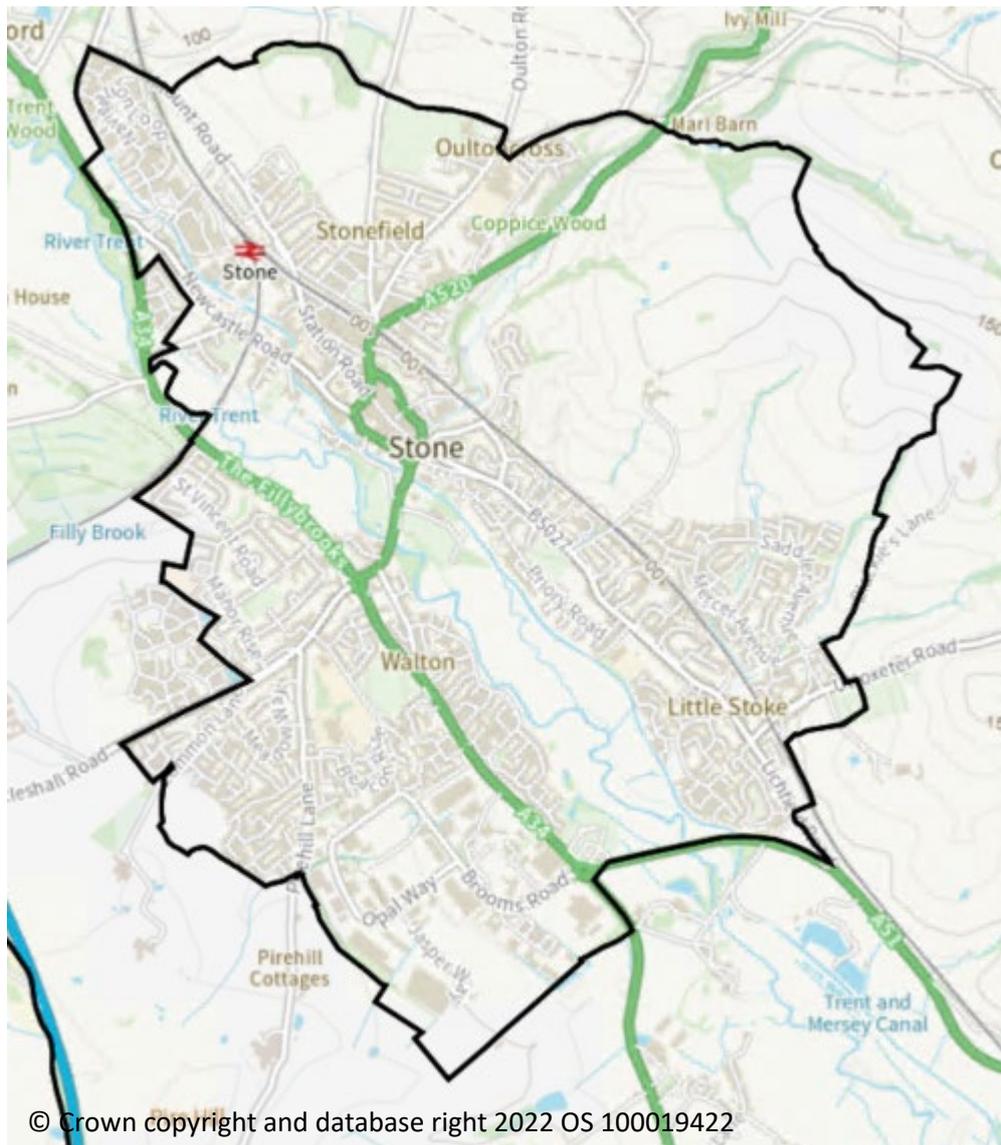
Criteria 2: Community Identity.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good, comprising the entirety of 2 wards and the split of Milwich ward has

been proposed using the existing parish boundaries of Salt and Enson, Gayton, Stowe by Chartley and Hopton and Coton.

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Division 6: Stone Urban



Summary of Division: Stone Urban is proposed to comprise all of St Michael's & Stonefield ward plus the majority of Walton ward. The boundary that runs through Walton ward ensures that all of the Manor Rise estate is kept together in Stone Urban, whilst the ongoing new developments at Udall Grange will be in Stone Rural.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is above +/-10% – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,864 – a variance of +10.7% from the Staffordshire average. However, this is felt to be justified through the demonstration of community identity below.

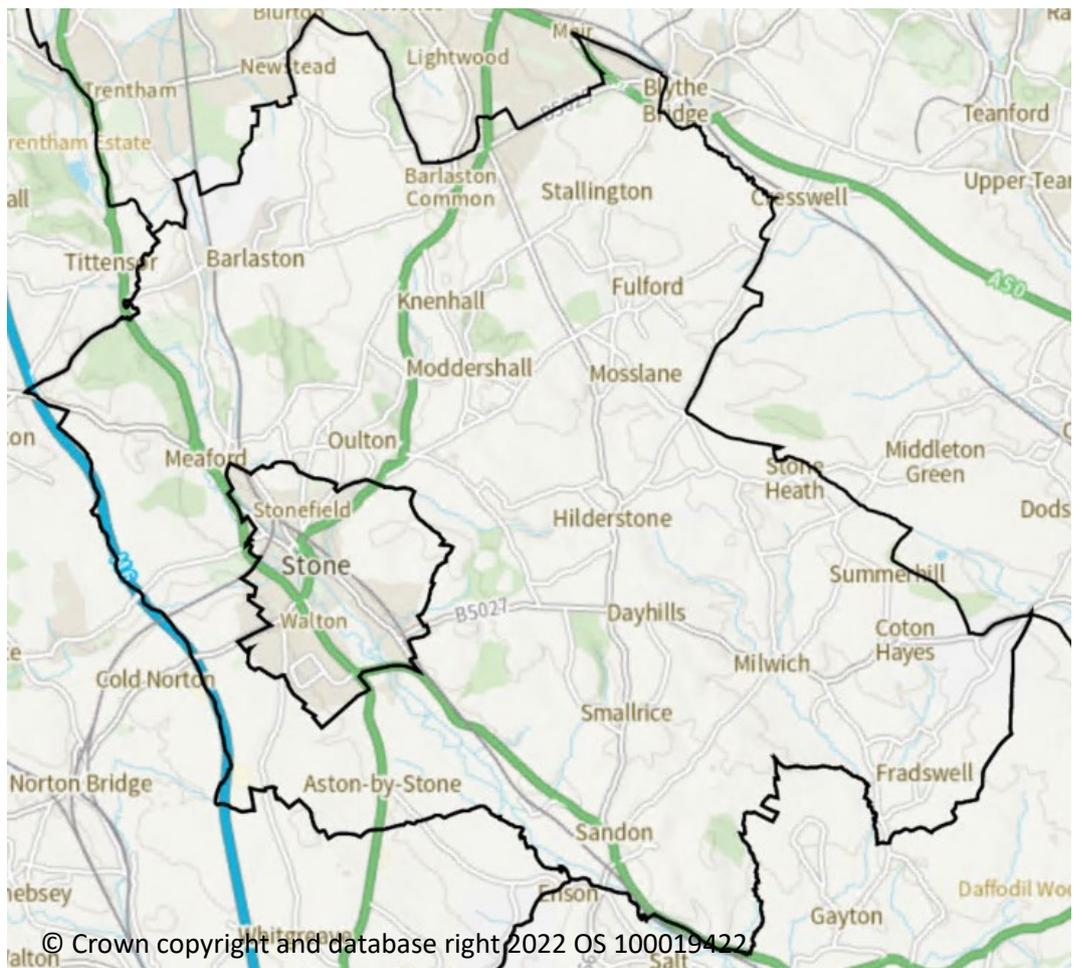
Criteria 2: Community Identity. Ideally the whole of St Michael's and Stonefield and Walton wards would form one Stone Urban division. However, this is not possible from an electoral equality perspective,

therefore the proposal uses the natural boundary between the existing Manor Rise estate and the new development at Udall Grange to split the area between Stone Urban and Stone Rural.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the division will follow much of the boundaries of St Michael’s and Stonefield and Walton wards. A new parish ward split will be required as additional areas of Walton ward that currently sit in Stone Rural move into Stone Urban, however it is unlikely that any proposal would result in the parish and ward boundaries being coterminous in this area.

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Division 7: Stone Rural



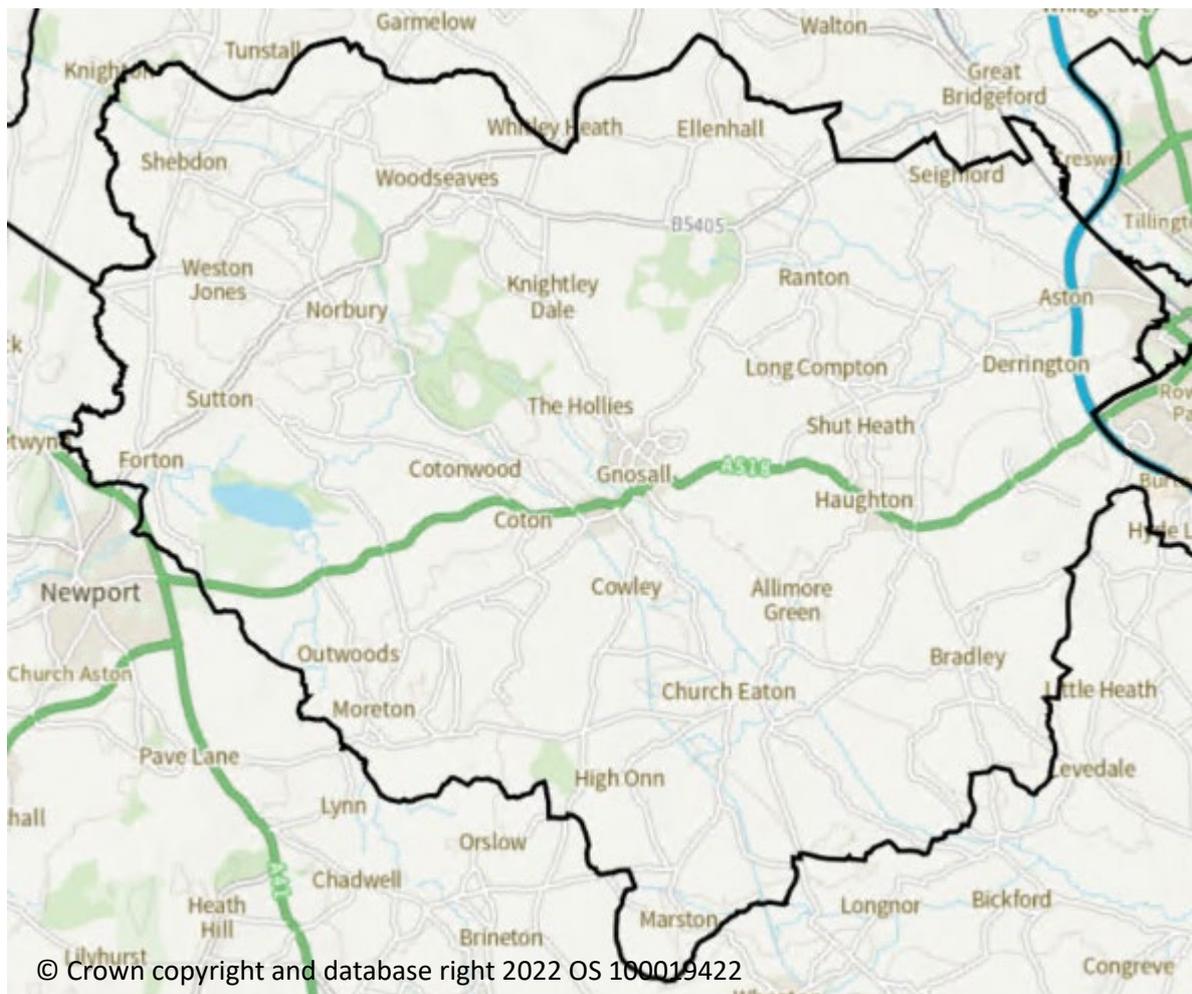
Summary of Division: Stone Rural is proposed to comprise all of Fulford and Barlaston wards, plus around half of Milwich and Swynnerton and Oulton wards.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,583 – a variance of -8.9% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – this is a geographically large but primarily rural division. Division boundaries closely follow ward boundaries. In the Milwich and Swynnerton and Oulton wards the proposed boundaries follow existing parish boundaries.

Division 8: Gnosall & Doxey



Summary of Division: It is proposed that Gnosall and Doxey will comprise all of Gnosall and Woodseaves ward, plus all of Seighford and Church Eaton ward with the exceptions of Great Bridgeford Parish ward, Whitgreave parish and part of Creswell parish to the north, plus the Doxey area of Doxey and Castletown ward, and the new Burleyfields development in Rowley ward.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,748 – a variance of +9.7% from the Staffordshire average.

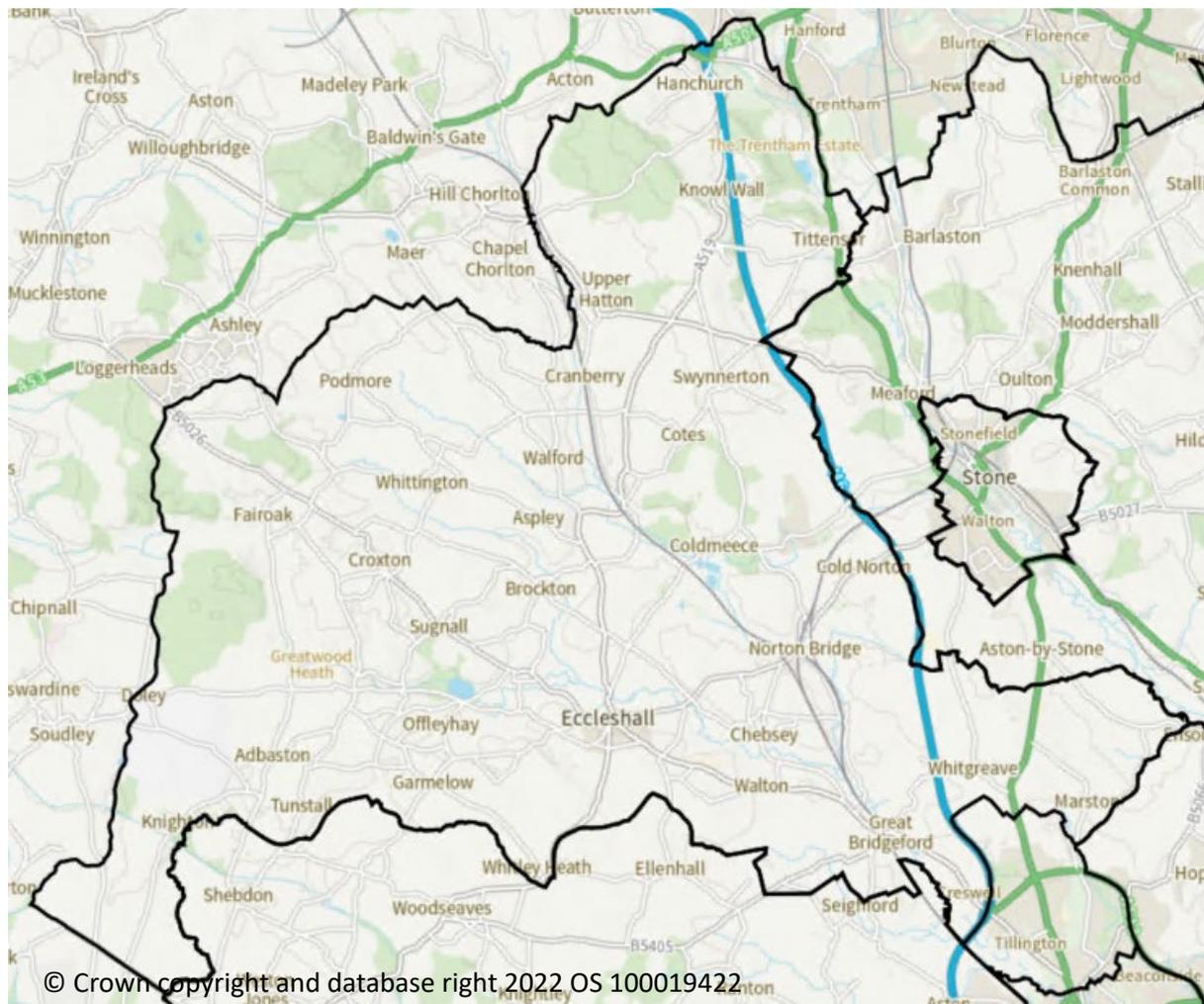
Criteria 2: Community Identity.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – Gnosall and Doxey primarily follows existing ward and parish boundaries. The numbers in the rural area of this division are not sufficient for one division, and to extend the division further north into additional rural areas towards Eccleshall would make the division geographically too

large. It therefore makes sense for the division to incorporate the new developments at Burleyfields into the division.

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Division 9: Eccleshall



Summary of Division: It is proposed that Eccleshall division comprises all of Eccleshall ward, part of Swynnerton and Oulton ward, Great Bridgeford parish ward, Whitgreave Parish and part of Creswell parish from Seighford and Church Eaton ward, and Marston parish from Milwich ward.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,883 – a variance of -6.3% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

The existing division is a curious mix of densely packed housing – with approximately two thousand people – in newly built houses on the northern fringe of Stafford. Being part of Stafford means the road network is better and the area is well covered by public transport as you would expect of being 'attached' to the County Town. They are however, separated from Stafford by the 'ring road' of Beaconside.

The rest of the division is principally rural with a lot of smaller settlements, with little public transport round and through the more rural areas which officers better fits for Eccleshall residents. The proposals seek to remove the more urban element from the division, so that it is now principally made up of rural settlements.

The vast majority of the division is bordered by the M6 motorway. This forms a natural break-line between communities as well as the division itself.

Stone with its two divisions operate relatively homogeneously so with Eccleshall bordering parts of the Stone divisions, this forms another obvious boundary / border, with its own centres and identities.

As referenced above, the new division is now principally made up of rural settlements, interspersed with deeply rural areas.

The proposed new boundaries are by and large the same as today, with the exception of the loss of the large housing estates developed in the northern end of Stafford town. These align well with the existing Parish Council boundaries.

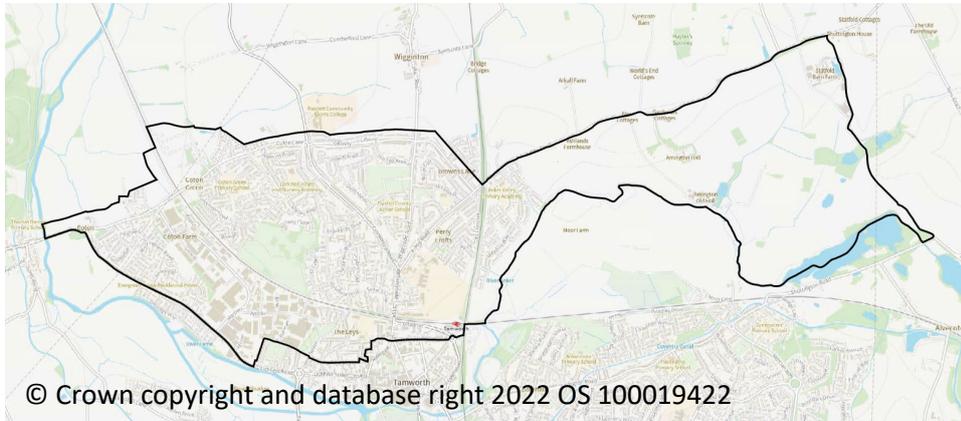
The vast majority of residents will have their health needs met by a GP Practice in Eccleshall. Those living in the northern part of the division will ultimately take medical services from Newcastle under Lyme, Stoke on Trent and Stone due to their geographical proximity to there.

The people living in the northern part of Stafford on Beaconside will decidedly draw health services from GP Practices in Stafford.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the boundaries for the division primarily follow the Eccleshall ward boundaries, then following current parish boundaries in the other wards.

Tamworth District

Division 1: Perrycrofts



Summary of Division: The proposal is for the Merican ward and Spital ward to form a division.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,579– a variance of +8.3% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity – Perrycrofts is a name that is known and understood locally for this area.

The Arriva route 2 and 3 operate within the division as circular routes. The main road links are the A51, Comberford Road and Ashby Road

There is Wigginton Park, and Tamworth town centre for facilities. The Community church on Masefield Drive also hosts lots of community activities and acts as a community staple.

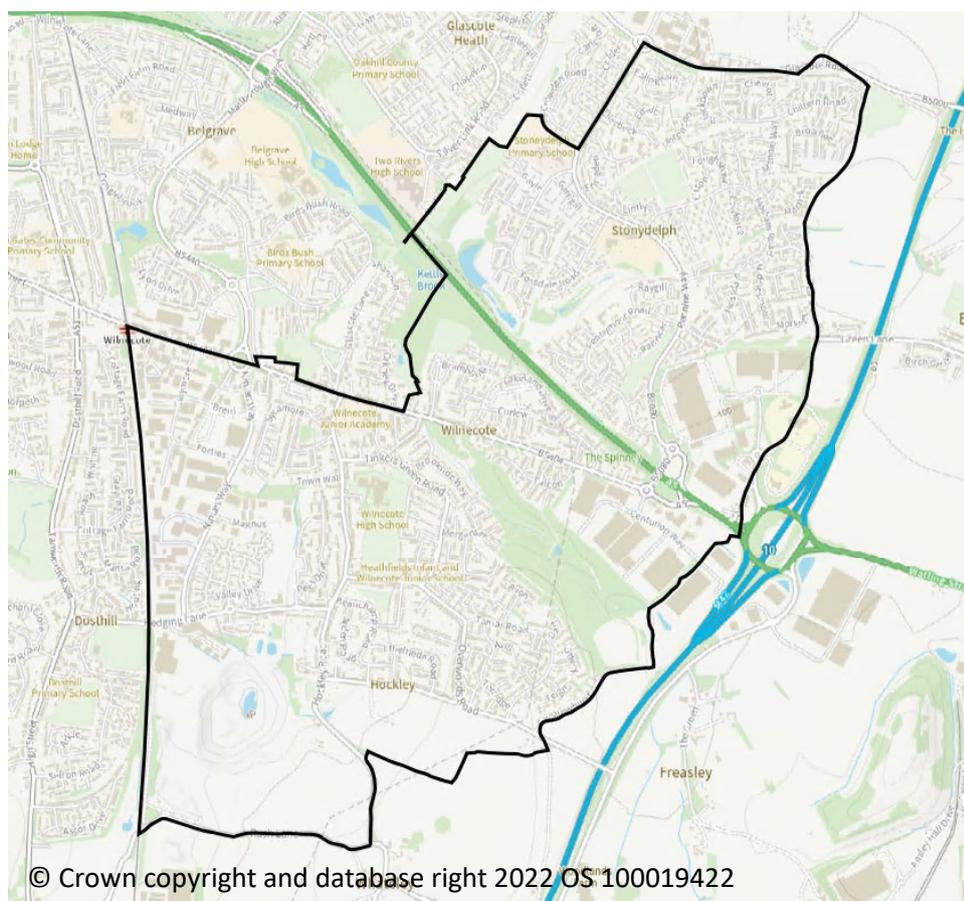
There are 2 high schools (Rawletts and Quems) within catchment in this division.

Facilities wise there is the choice of Masefield Road, Gillway and the Town Centre for locals to shop at.

Identifiable boundaries are natural within this division- the River Anker and Tame.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the division would be coterminous with the ward boundaries as it would be formed of the Mercian and Spital wards.

Division 2: Wilnecote



Summary of Division: The proposal is for the Stonydelph ward and Wilnecote ward to form a division, except for a small area of the Wilnecote ward to the east of the cemetery. There is a natural dividing line in the form of a brook.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,537– a variance of +7.9% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity – much of Stonydelph has Wilnecote in its postal address and therefore residents recognise the links to Wilnecote.

Transport links: Wilnecote and Stonydelph have a good bus network in addition to Wilnecote having its own train station. Road network meets both wards effectively as they naturally neighbour one another.

Shared interests: Most of the people in Stonydelph have a Wilnecote postcode so will be more than happy to have this as one division. Wilnecote is having a new retail park built all on a bus route from both wards which will suit the residents from both Stonydelph and Wilnecote.

Community groups: Wilnecote has a resident's group which covers the whole of the ward. Here local issues are discussed covering the area. Stonydelph meanwhile have a thriving community centre, and there are many youth groups that cover both wards. We feel these communities will sit well together.

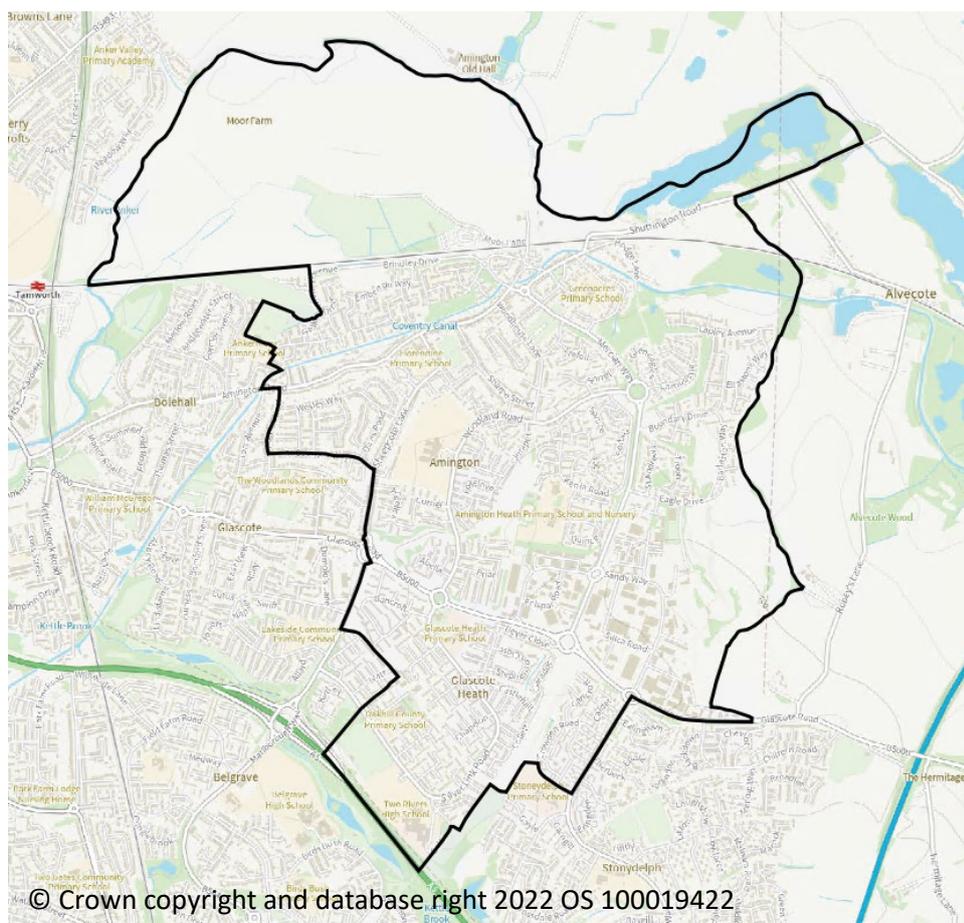
Facilities: Each ward has access to its own medical practises which is a triage service across the two wards. Shopping tends to be at local shops whilst the option is there to venture into the local town. The triage services covering both wards have their own patient participation group where residents get involved. Leisure facilities available at all schools throughout the area also which ensures the communities have equal opportunities.

Identifiable boundaries: The A5 Watling Street and dual carriageway are natural boundary lines.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – there is a reasonable level of coterminosity as the division would be formed of the Stonydelph ward and the majority of the Wilnecote ward. Consideration was given to including the whole of the Wilnecote ward, but the electoral variance was considered too high.

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Division 3: The Heaths



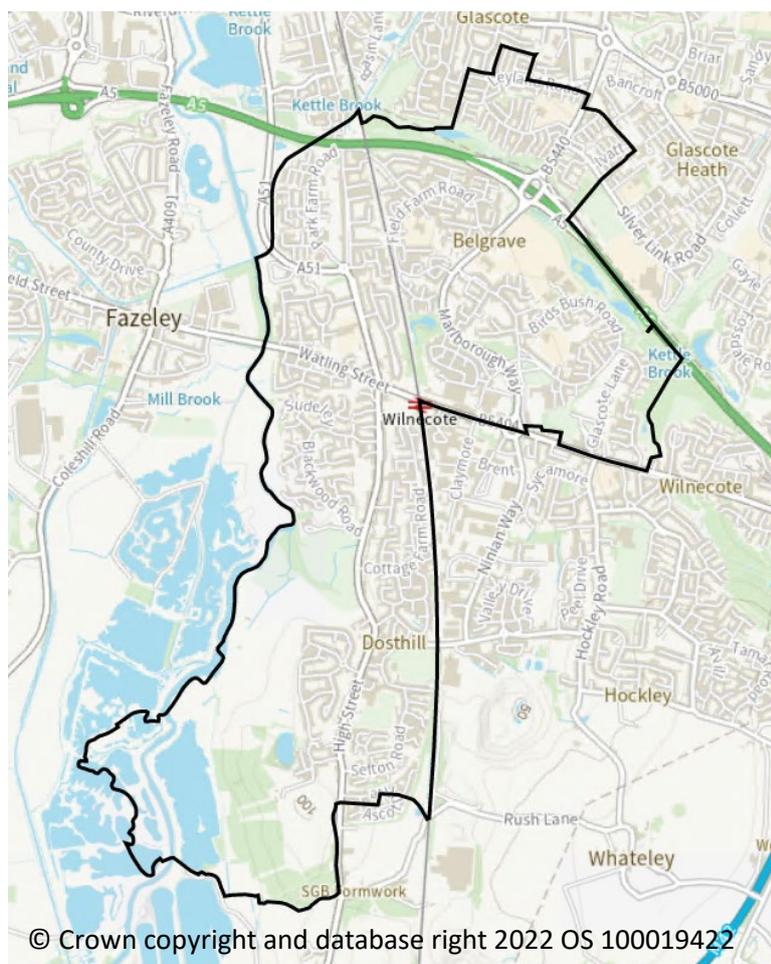
Summary of Division: The proposal is for the Amington ward and Glascoate ward to form a division, with the exception of a small area to the north-east of the A5 – Marlborough Way roundabout.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is just over the acceptable variance – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,627 – a variance of +8.7% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity. - Pending

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – there is a reasonable level of coterminosity as the division would be formed of the Amington ward and the majority of the Glascoate ward. Consideration was given to including the whole of the Glascoate ward, but the electoral variance was considered too high.

Division 4: Watling



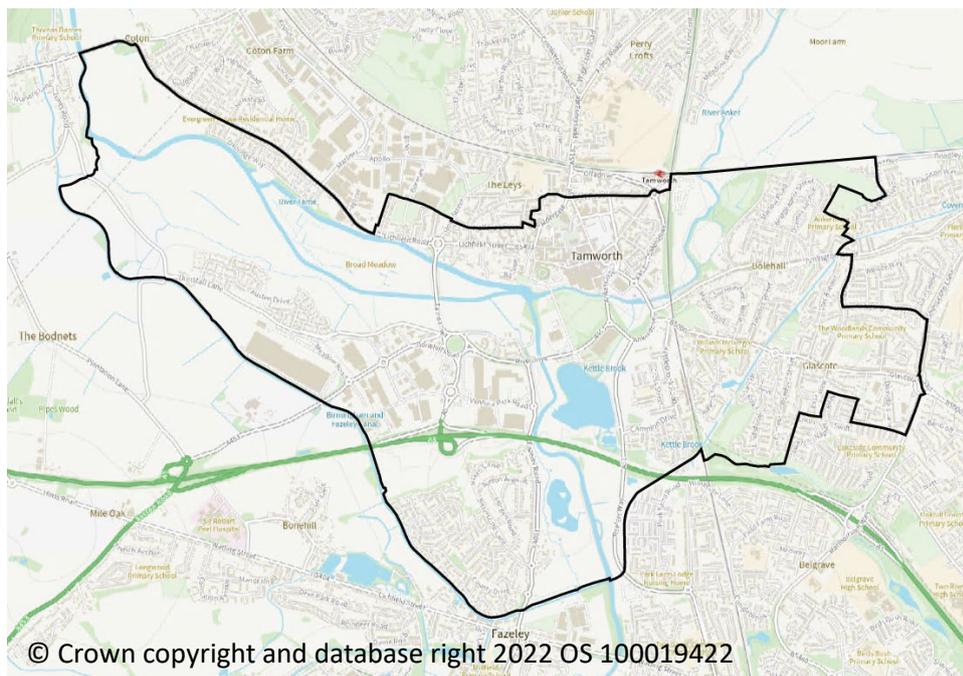
Summary of Division: The proposal is for the Belgrave ward and Trinity ward to form a division, with a small area of both Glasgote ward and Wilnecote ward.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,743 – a variance of +9.7% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity – Belgrave and Trinity are two communities off Watling Street and therefore have links.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the division would incorporate two full wards and two split wards.

Division 5: The Cotes / Two Rivers



Summary of Division: The proposal is for the Bolehall ward and Castle ward to form a division.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,680 – a variance of +9.2% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: **Community Identity**- pending

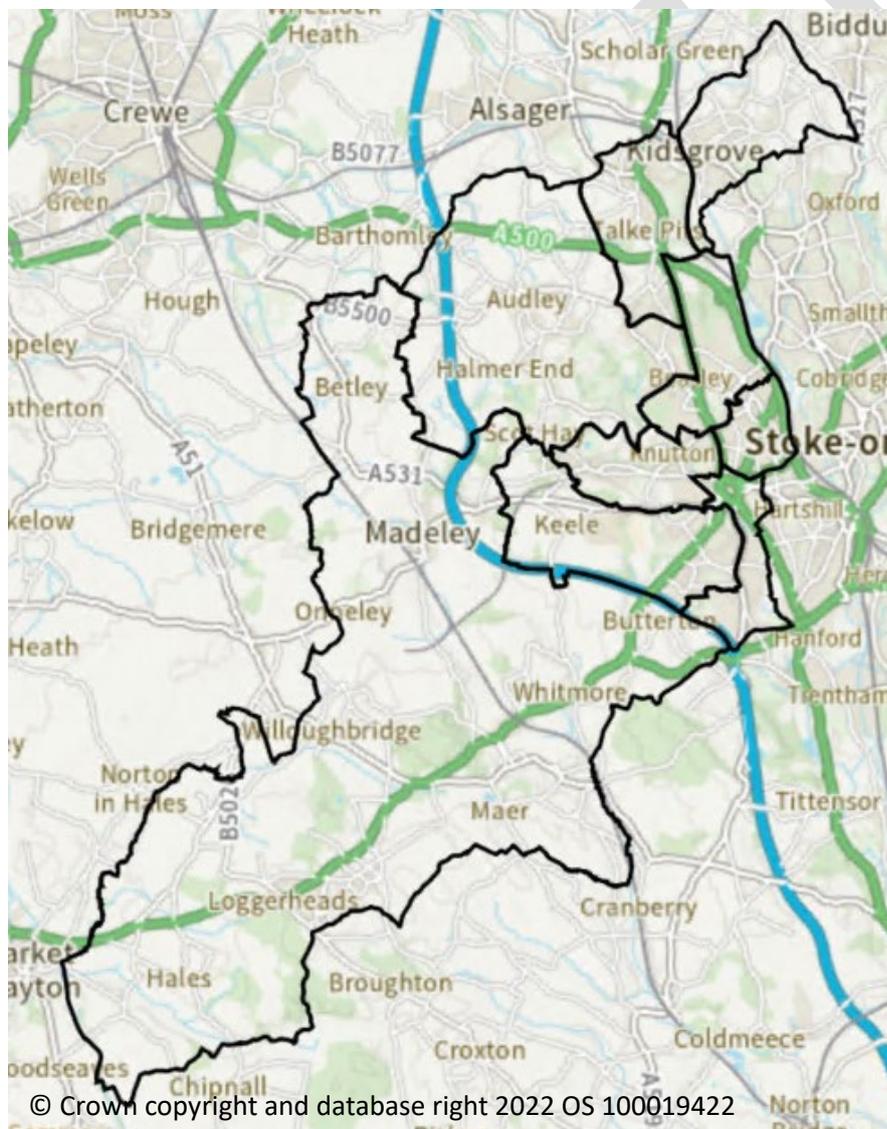
Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the division would be coterminous with the ward boundaries as it would be formed of the Bolehall and Castle wards.

Newcastle Borough

Overview

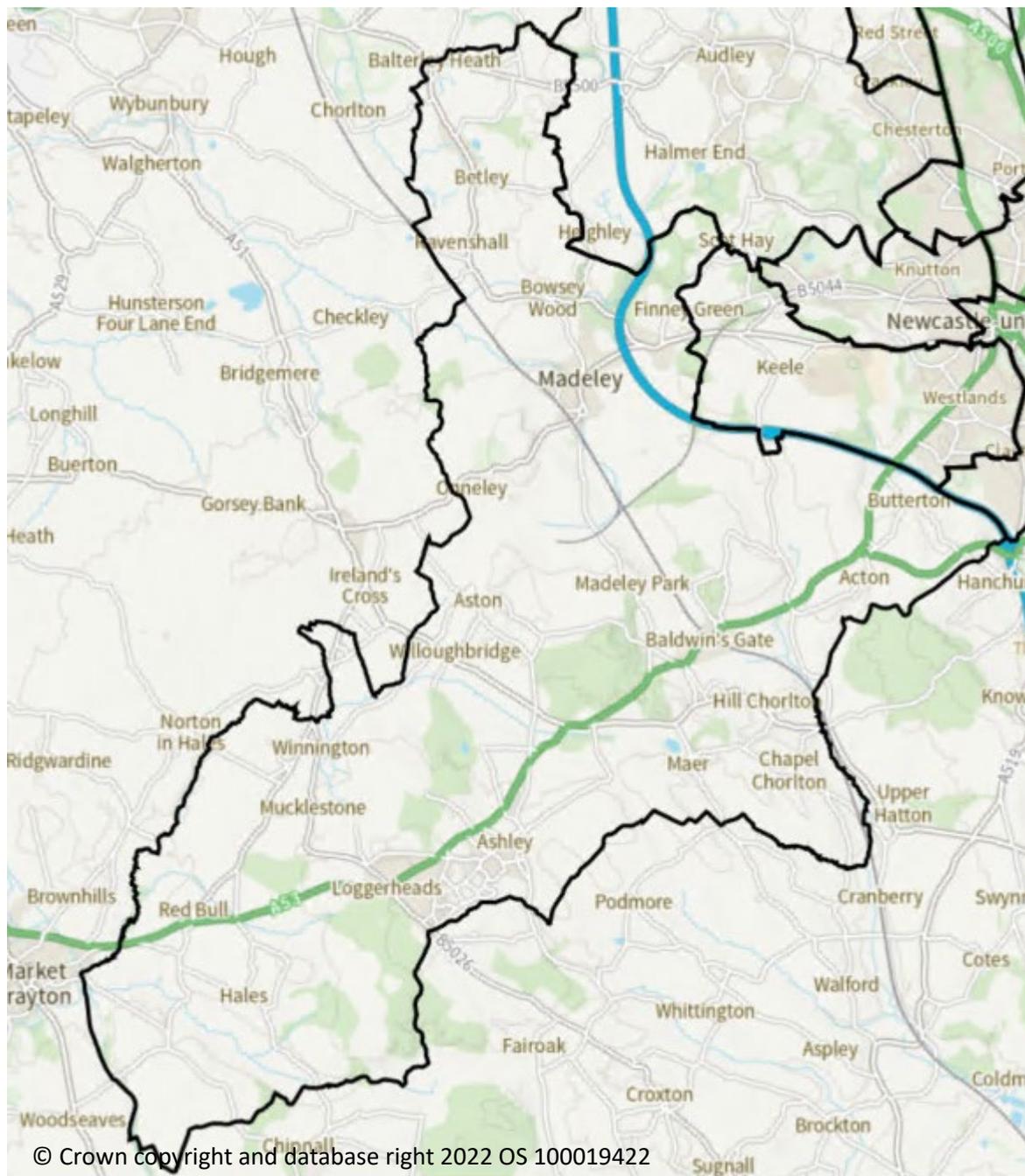
Newcastle Borough electorate is forecast to rise from 92,106 in 2022 to 99,332 in 2028. This results in an average electorate in the borough of 11,037, 5% lower than the average division size for Staffordshire as a whole.

In proposing new division arrangements, it has been difficult to maintain coterminosity between division and ward boundaries in the borough whilst also maintaining electoral equality and representing community identities. The warding pattern for the borough, particularly around the town centre, means that there is a necessity for divisions in this area to cross a number of wards.



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Division 1: Newcastle Rural



Summary of Division: Newcastle Rural is a geographically large division in the south of the borough. The proposal is for Newcastle Rural to comprise the entirety of Loggerheads, Maer and Whitmore and Madeley and Betley wards.

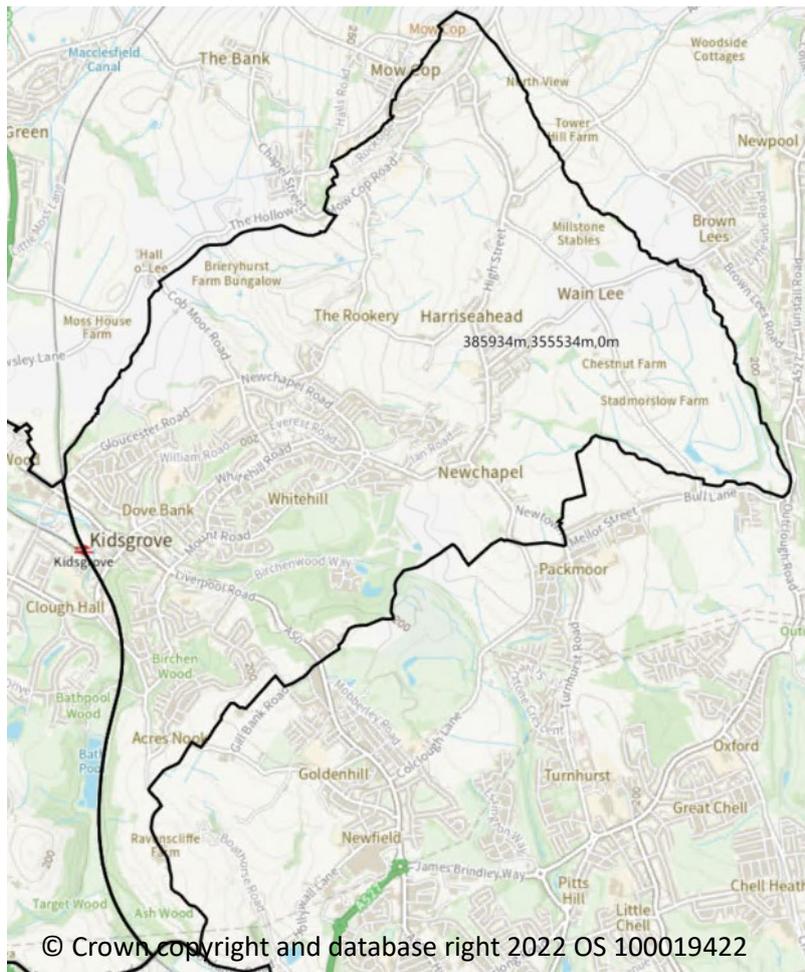
Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,053 – a variance of -4.9% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity- We feel across Newcastle Borough the divisions represent themselves well within these proposals. Communities fit well together and with Newcastle Rural being quite large, communities within it will fall into their own naturally. In our proposals we have tried to work with those natural communities to adjust the boundaries to represent them effectively. There are numerous schools that residents have to choose from, catchment areas have been known to dictate communities and we have worked with that in mind.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good, with the division comprising the wards of Loggerheads, Maer and Whitmore and Madeley & Betley in their entirety. The division also encompasses in full the parishes of Betley and Loggerheads. The division size is already in line with the average for Newcastle, and given that the division is already geographically large, it would not seem logical to extend the division boundary any further to the north.

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Division 2: Kidsgrove



Summary of Division: Kidsgrove division sits in the most northerly part of Newcastle Borough. It is proposed that the division comprises all of Newchapel & Mow Cop ward, plus the majority of Kidsgrove and Ravenscliffe ward. Options for this division are restricted by having two county boundaries and 1 district boundary. To improve coterminosity, consideration was given to moving the remainder of Kidsgrove ward into the division from Talke and Red Street, however this resulted in a positive variance for the division which in turn impacted options for the adjacent divisions.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,165 – a variance of -3.9% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

The Kidsgrove Ward has excellent transport links to the wider Borough and beyond and benefits from a train station in its centre. The proposals will not alter these current arrangements.

Shared interests: Kidsgrove ward encompasses the town centre which has a distinct shopping, and leisure identity. The proposals will continue to support these interests.

There are range of community groups from Go Kidsgrove that promotes the town to the elected Town Council, again the majority of their focus is on the town centre and new community facilities are being developed in the town centre to expand the opportunities for local activities. The proposals reinforce the distinct nature of the division and support the activities of these groups.

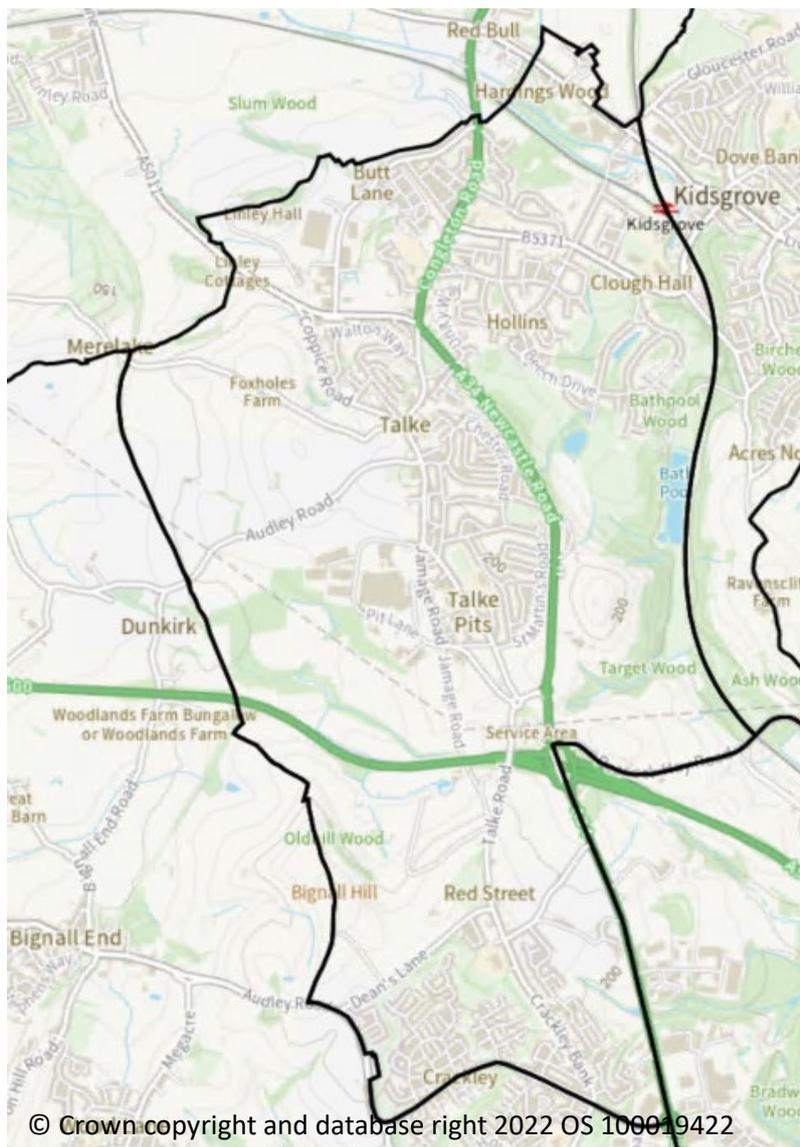
There are facilities in the town centre for shopping, health, job centre, library, post office etc. The majority of the shops are independent and well used with a few major chains including Aldi, Tesco and Home Bargains. The transport links from the town also make is highly accessible for residents to access the local hospitals, larger shopping offers and to connect to major cities.

The railway line and canal run through the Town Centre and the ward connect to the A500 which links to the M6, which help form a barrier for the division, and are well known features to residents.

Kidsgrove ward is within the Town Council area and there is on-going work between the Town Council, Borough Council and County Council within this locality to further its economic regeneration.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is fairly good, with the division comprising all of Newchapel & Mow Cop ward, plus the majority of Kidsgrove and Ravenscliffe.

Division 3: Talke & Red Street



Summary of Division: Talke and Red Street neighbours Kidsgrove division in the north of Newcastle. The proposal is for the division to comprise all of Talke and Butt Lane ward, the north-western part of Kidsgrove and Ravenscliffe ward that is not in Kidsgrove division, plus a portion of Crackley and Red Street ward. Where the boundary deviates from the ward boundary of Crackley and Red Street in the south of the division, it is proposed that the boundary would run along Cedar Road before joining the main Audley Road and the existing western boundary of Crackley and Red Street ward.

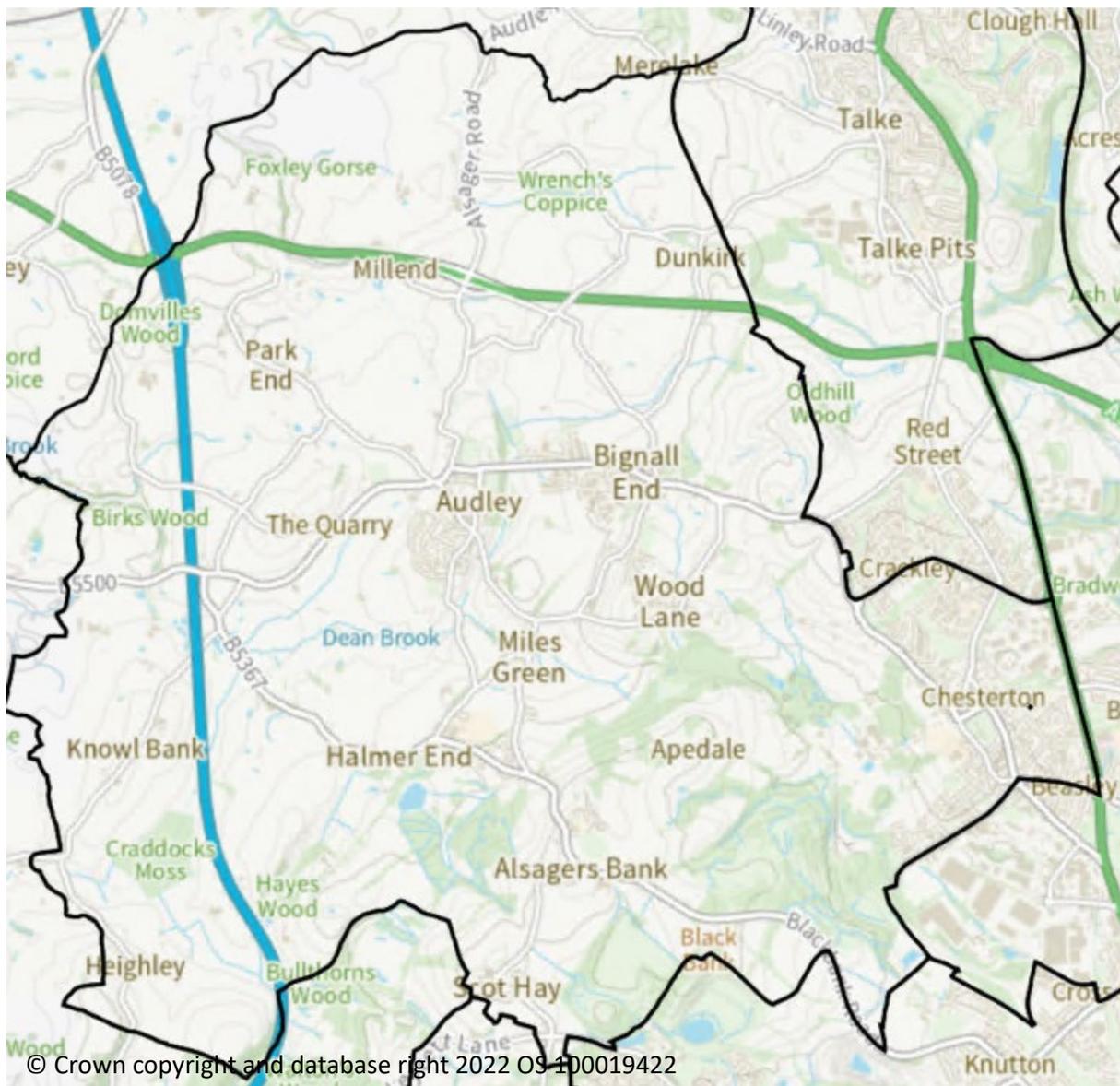
Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,875 – a variance of -6.4% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is fairly good, comprising the entirety of Talke and Butt Lane ward plus a small part of Kidsgrove & Ravenscliffe ward and part of Crackley and Red Street ward. Crackley and Red Street is not parished so there is no impact from the proposed boundary from a parish perspective.

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Division 4: Audley & Chesterton



Summary of Division: Audley & Chesterton is a geographically large division in the west of Newcastle, neighbouring Talke and Red Street. The proposal is for the division to comprise the entirety of Audley ward, plus the part of Crackley and Red Street ward not in Talke and Red Street division, and a part of Holditch and Chesterton ward.

The division boundary with Talke and Red Street to the north is outlined in the proposal for division 3 above. To the south, the boundary is proposed to follow Loomer Road and then along the B5369 Wolstanton Road.

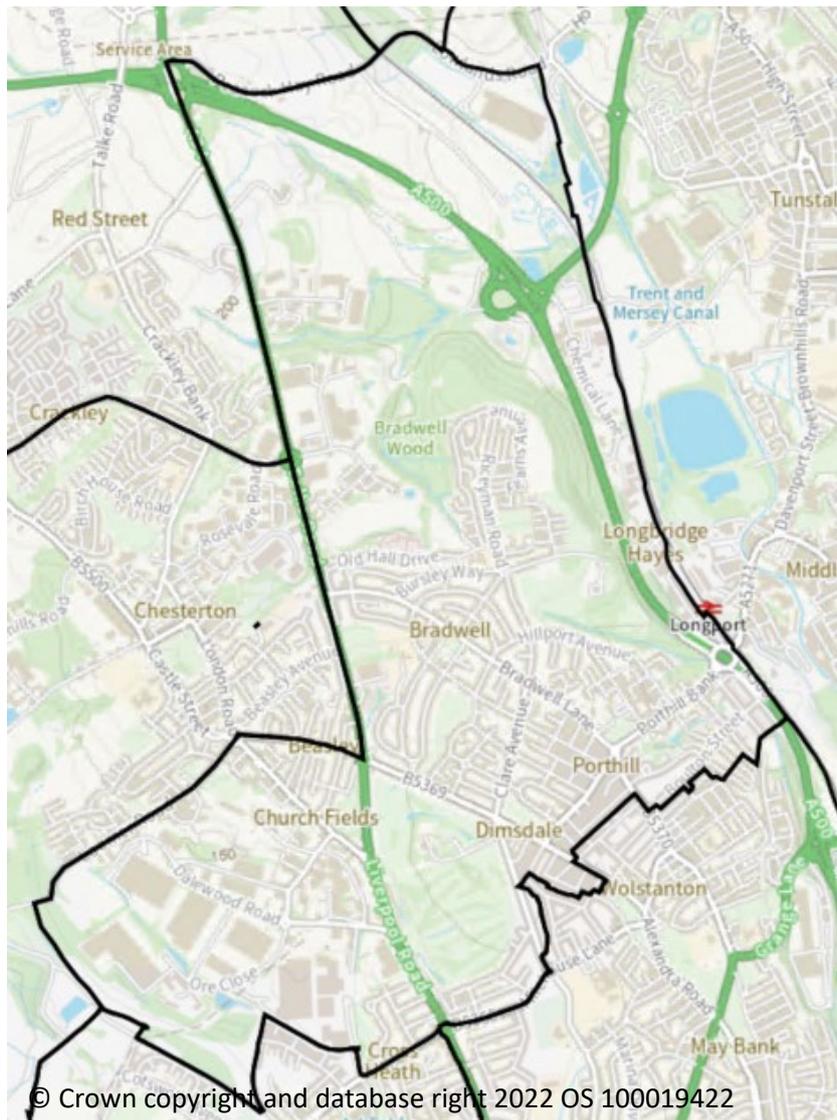
Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,056 – a variance of +3.8% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is fairly good, with the division comprising the entirety of Audley ward plus non parished areas of Crackley and Red Street and Holditch and Chesterton wards.

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Division 5: Bradwell & Porthill



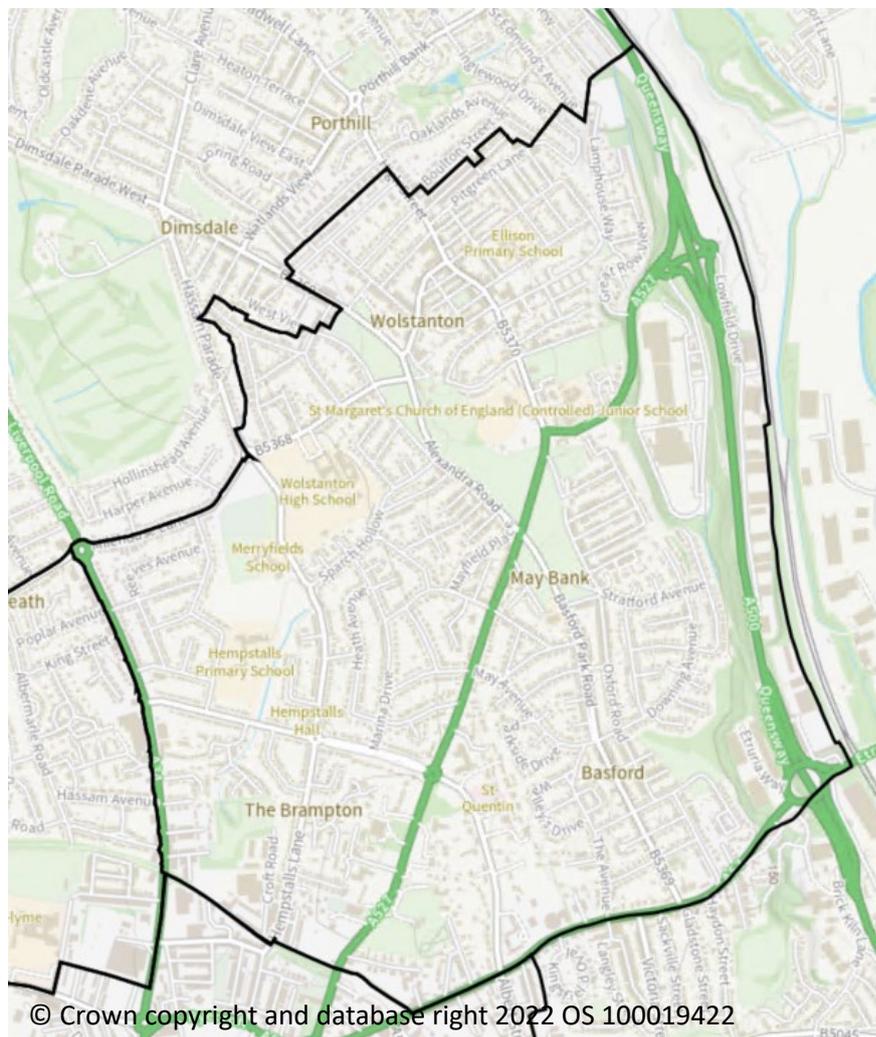
Summary of Division: Bradwell & Porthill division, in the north-east of Newcastle, is proposed to comprise all of Bradwell ward, plus parts of Holditch and Chesterton, Wolstanton and Cross Heath wards.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,756 – a variance of -7.4% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – Despite the fact that this division crosses 4 ward boundaries, this is not a parished area of Newcastle, with electors based around the centre of the division geographically, meaning it is manageable from a councillor perspective.

Division 6: May Bank and Wolstanton



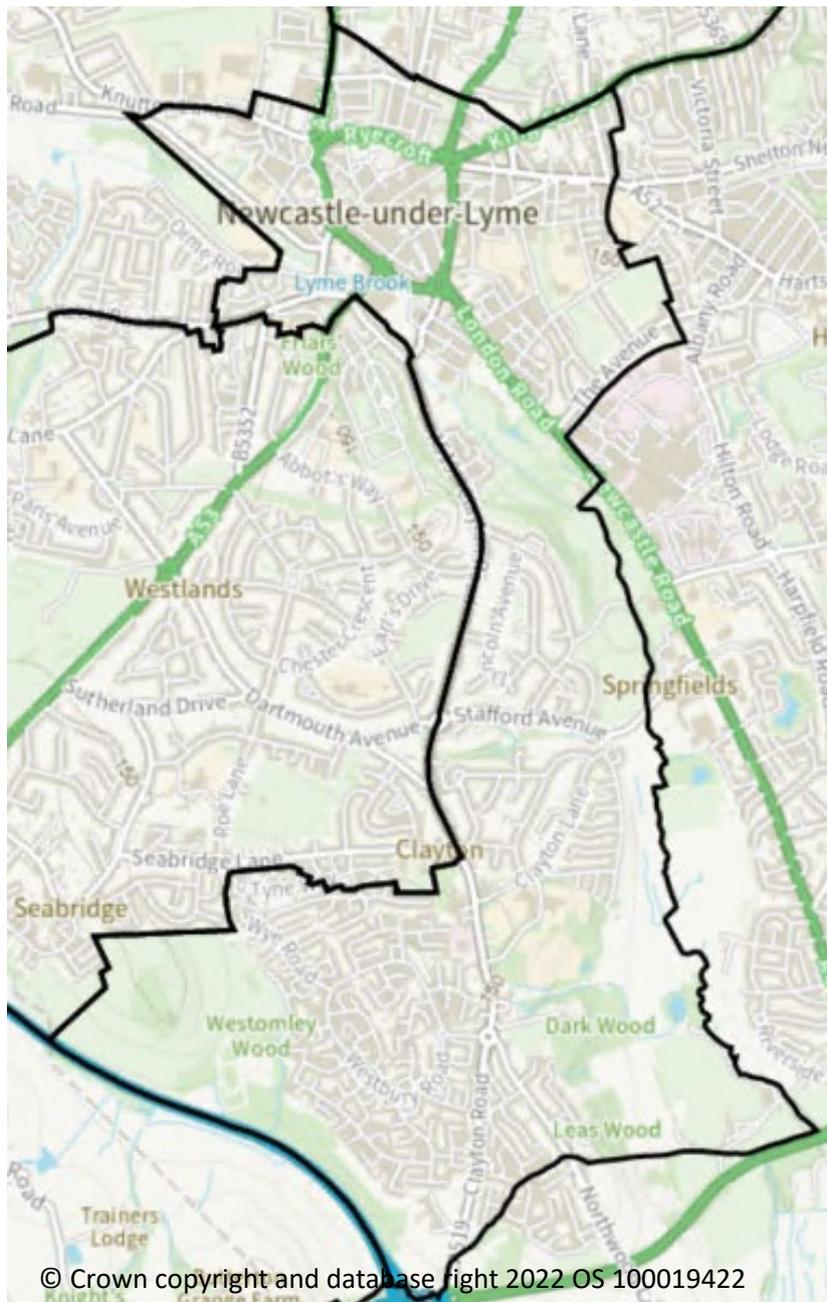
Summary of Division: The division comprises all of the May Bank ward, plus the southern parts of Wolstanton ward and Cross Heath ward. The division has two county boundaries to the east and south.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,689 – a variance of -8.0% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – Despite the fact that this division crosses 3 ward boundaries, this is not a parished area of Newcastle, and the division is geographically fairly compact, meaning it is manageable from a councillor perspective.

Division 7: Newcastle South



Summary of Division: Newcastle South, in the south-west of the borough is proposed to comprise all of West Park and Northwood ward, all of Clayton ward, the majority of Town ward and a small area of the Westlands ward along the A519 Clayton Road – this road being the access road from the north to the south of this division.

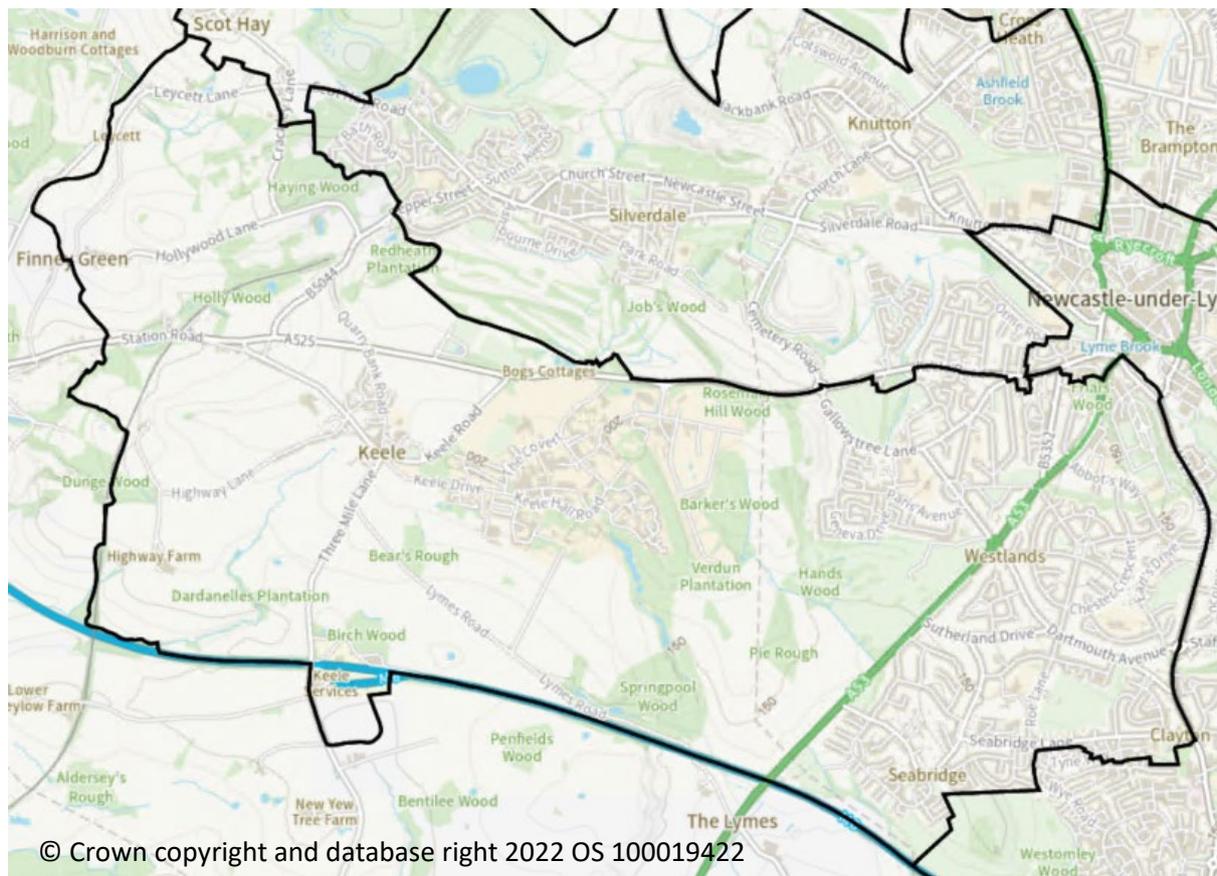
Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,928 – a variance of -5.9% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good with the division comprising 2 full wards, following much of the ward boundary of Town ward, and a small area of Westlands ward. There is no perishing in this division.

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Division 8: Westlands, Thistleberry and Keele



Summary of Division: The division comprises all of the Keele ward, the southern part of the Thistleberry ward using the A525 Keele Road as a boundary, and the majority of the Westlands ward excluding a small section which is in Newcastle South division.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,747 – a variance of -7.5% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

There are good transports links Westlands & Thistleberry and Keele. A bus service connects Keele village and the university through Westlands & Thistleberry to the town centre.

Westlands and Thistleberry have been a settled community for many years. With shared local shopping areas both are on the edge of Newcastle town centre. There are a high number of retired people in the area who use local communities' amenities and also travel into the town centre.

It is also a commuter area with workers travelling to work at Keele University and the Science Park, local hospital and town centre as well accessing the M6 motorway to travel to work.

Keele is a parish that borders Westlands & Thistleberry and shares many of the same characteristics which makes it well suited to be part of the same division as it was up to 2013.

Westlands & Thistleberry and Keele have many church groups and places of worship, 2 Community Centres and a village hall.

Westlands, Thistleberry and Keele are served primarily by the Highland Pharmacy in Orme Road, served by the same police command area, and share a common Member of parliament.

Westlands, Thistleberry and Keele are well connected by the road network (A525, A53 & A519) and bus services.

Keele University and the Science Park are a source of jobs for people in the local area.

Keele has a Parish Council. Westlands & Thistleberry area is unparished.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – coterminosity is good, with the division comprising the entirety of Keel ward, plus the majority of Westlands ward and following much of the boundary of Thistleberry ward. Only the Keele area of the division is parished.

Division 9: Silverdale & Knutton



Summary of Division: The division comprises all of Silverdale ward, all of Knutton ward, plus parts of Thistleberry, Town and Cross Heath wards.

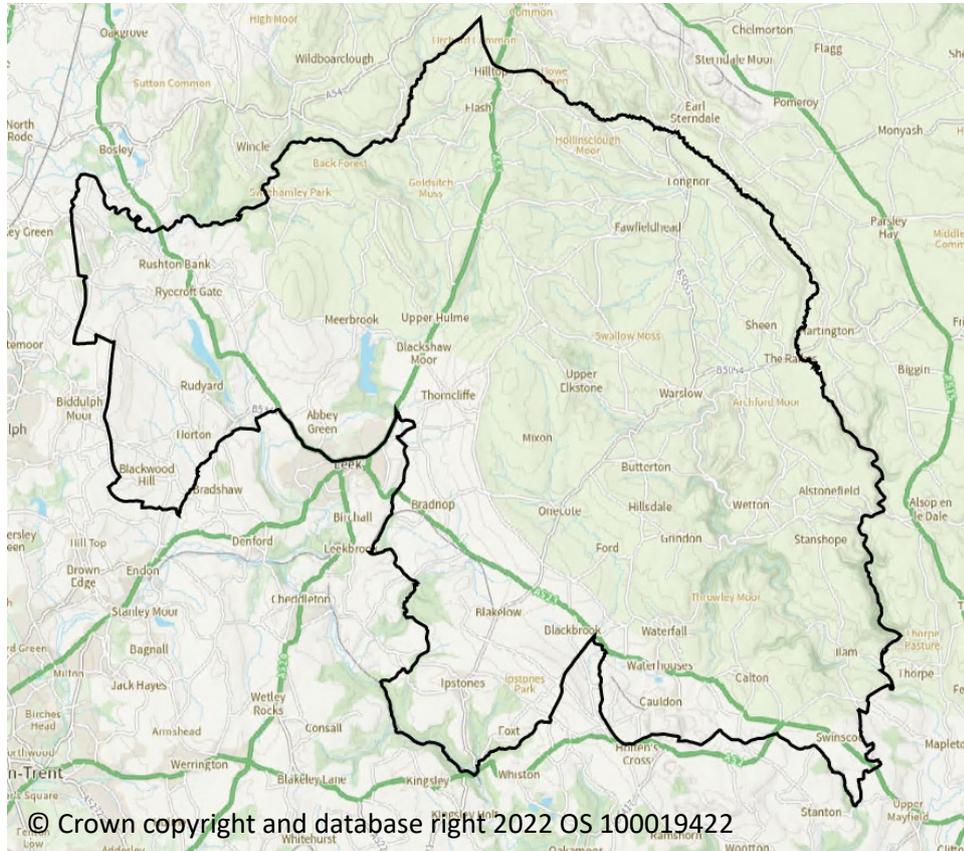
Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,063 – a variance of -4.8% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity- pending Derrick Huckfield

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – although the division crosses 5 wards, it is geographically manageable, and contains only one parished area – Silverdale.

Staffordshire Moorlands District

Division 1: Leek Rural



Summary of Division: The proposed Leek Rural division covers a large geographical area, consisting of 22 parishes, to the north-east of Staffordshire Moorlands division. It comprises the existing boundary excluding Longsdon Parish.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,377– a variance of -2.1% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Transport links: Leek Rural Division consists of 23 small and medium sized villages plus Leek North Ward SMDC. Leek North Ward is well supported with Transport and accessibility to amenities. The rural villages have limited transport but the distances in the land mass mean they stay independent.

Shared interests: The urban and rural parts of Leek Rural have different community characteristics and fit well together whilst their needs are diverse.

Community groups: Leek north has a highly used Community Centre, and many of the villages have lunch clubs for the elderly. There is always willingness to share activities however land mass and distance is a factor, so groups tend to stay in their own villages.

Facilities: Leek north have access to shops in town and villagers in the north of the division have choice of Leek, Ashbourne, Buxton, and Macclesfield. As the division adjoins Cheshire and

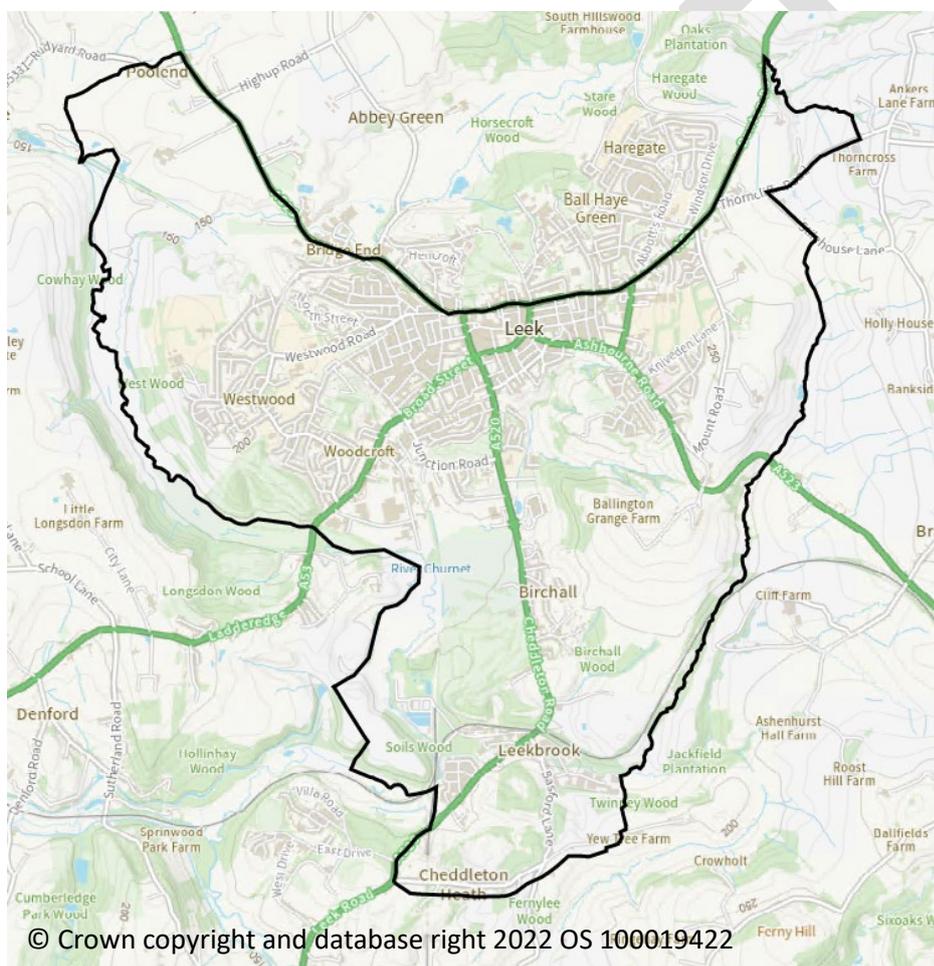
Derbyshire with their towns nearer for shopping, schools, medical facilities, and employment in some of the villages.

There are no identifiable boundaries that suggest any change.

Parishes: All the villages have their own parish council or parish meeting

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – there is reasonable coterminosity with ward boundaries as the division incorporates the wards of Dane, Hamps Valley, Ipstones, Leek North, Manifold, and part of the Horton ward. The division contains 22 parishes.

Division 2: Leek South



Summary of Division: It is proposed that Leek South would comprise of Leek East, Leek West and part of Leek South ward.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,351– a variance of +6.3% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Transport links: The two areas suggested as additions, Birchall and Leekbrook are on the outskirts of Leek. Many people from these areas already assume that they are in the Leek South County Division because they associate with Leek rather than Cheddleton village. There are very few buses running in the Staffordshire Moorlands, but they will travel down the main A520 road that links Leek to both Birchall and further on to Leekbrook.

Shared interests: It is viewed by Cllr Atkins that there are many shared issues and interests- and a lot of the time she deals with the same issues across the board and residents always come to her for support from Leekbrook and Birchall, this adds to our reasoning for adding these areas into Leek south division.

Community groups: The residents of Birchall have come together to oppose several planning applications to build additional houses in the gardens of some properties. Whilst there is not a formalised community group there is certainly a community feel here. There is opportunity if the Birchall and Leekbrook do join into Leek south to combine the current groups into a more formal arrangement.

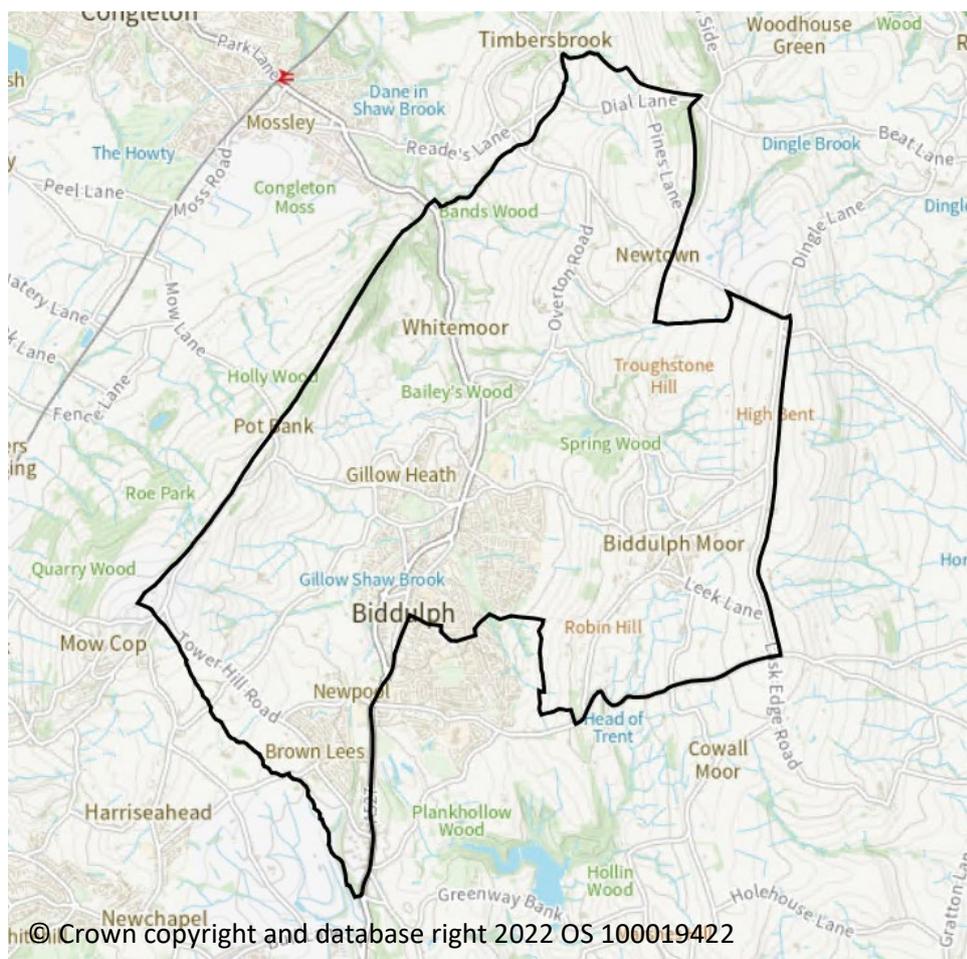
Facilities: The residents of Birchall and Leekbrook shop in Leek as there are no local shops and will access Leek GPs as there is no GP practice in nearby Cheddleton. There is a large, grassed area known as Birchall playing fields with a running track that is currently used a lot by families and dog walkers. Residents would have to travel to Leek for the Leisure Centre which houses a swimming pool, group exercise area and gym. There is a nearby village First school St Edwards Cheddleton. However, pupils would need to travel to Leek for Middle and High Schools in Year Five or to St Mary's Primary School in Leek if Catholic. Some First school pupils would also go to All Saints School situated on the A520 to the south of Leek. There is a church in Cheddleton so some residents of Leekbrook and Birchall are already part of that congregation.

Identifiable boundaries: Birchall is not separated from Leek by any significant boundaries. Leekbrook is separated from Leek by a disused railway line and the Caldon Canal. Both Birchall and Leekbrook are separated from Cheddleton by the River Churnet.

Parishes: Leekbrook and Birchall are tiny residential areas, but both are represented by two councillors each on Leek Town Council. Birchall and Leekbrook make up part of the Leek East and Leek South District Council wards of the Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – there is reasonable coterminosity with ward boundaries as the division incorporates all of Leek West and Leek East wards and part of the Leek South ward. Consideration was given to including the whole of Leek South ward, but this was discounted due to the variance from the Staffordshire average.

Division 3: Biddulph North



Summary of Division: It is proposed that Biddulph North would comprise the existing boundaries with the addition of a small area of the Biddulph East ward.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,610– a variance of –0.1% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity - Biddulph North division is a predominantly urban area that encompasses the original Biddulph (centred on St Lawrence Church), and the Town Centre (Bradley Green). Expanding the division area to the immediate east and north-east of the town centre, both encapsulates the whole original area of these settlements (John St, Albert St, Well St, Gunn St, and Congleton Rd), but would also include the original town centre expansion of Kingsfield Rd and Moorfield Avenue, which has a natural fit with the town centre.

Transport links: The proposed inclusion of Braddock's Hay into Biddulph North sits perfectly with the Town Centre, there is excellent connectivity in terms of walkability (all residents are within 5-minute walk of the Town Hall – the main focal point) Bus Route 93 financed by the Town Council Services Braddock's Hay, Biddulph Town and Biddulph Moor.

Shared interests: The viability of the Town centre, the public houses and the community hubs (e.g., Victoria Centre) all located within 5-minute walk of Braddock's Hay. The addition of Braddock's Hay balances the representation within the town centre and immediate post war development areas.

There is a mix of private (Kingsfield Rd, Gunn St, Albert St Areas) and Local Authority housing that mirrors the developments within the current Biddulph North Boundary (Station Road, Craigside, Walley St).

The proposed boundary change removes the unnatural separation of John St and Congleton Road within the Town Centre.

Community groups: The Biddulph Youth and Community Zone would remain in Biddulph South and Endon Division, this is the only hub that would service Braddock's Hay and the separated Park Lane (Miners) Estate, although the BYCZ has and is working hard to promote itself of Biddulph facility, so in that regard, separating Braddock's Hay would not reduce the catchment or use.

The Victoria Centre and Town Hall and Library Hubs again service the town as a whole and are positioned within 5-minute walk of Braddock's Hay and the John St, Congleton Road additions.

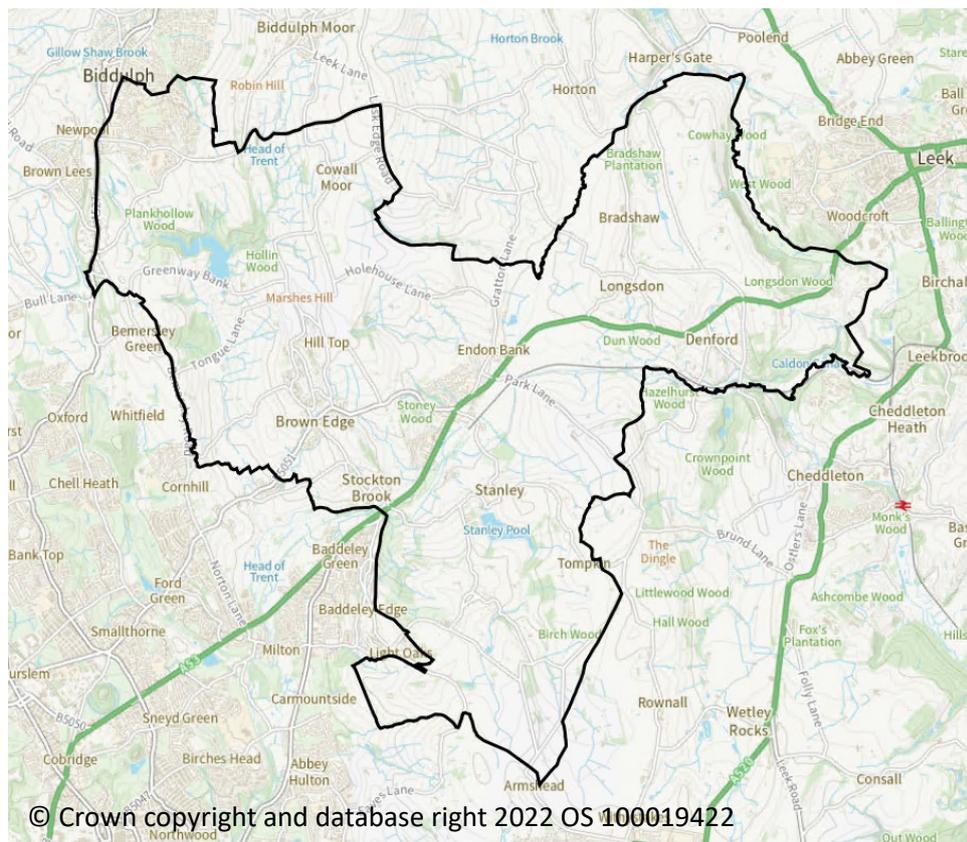
Facilities: These facilities are already located within the Biddulph North Division, all off the Town Centre, all within 5minutes walk, including the Leisure Centre which straddles the valley between Thames Drive and Moorland Road (Braddock's Hay).

Identifiable boundaries: Well St, Princess St and St John's Road make for a well-defined and well accepted boundary to Braddock's Hay, with the Biddulph South Park Lane Estate defined to the south.

Parishes: All the changes would remain within the Biddulph Town (Parish) Council

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – there is reasonable coterminosity with ward boundaries as the division incorporates all of Biddulph North, Biddulph West and Biddulph Moor wards and part of the Biddulph East ward.

Division 4: Biddulph South & Endon



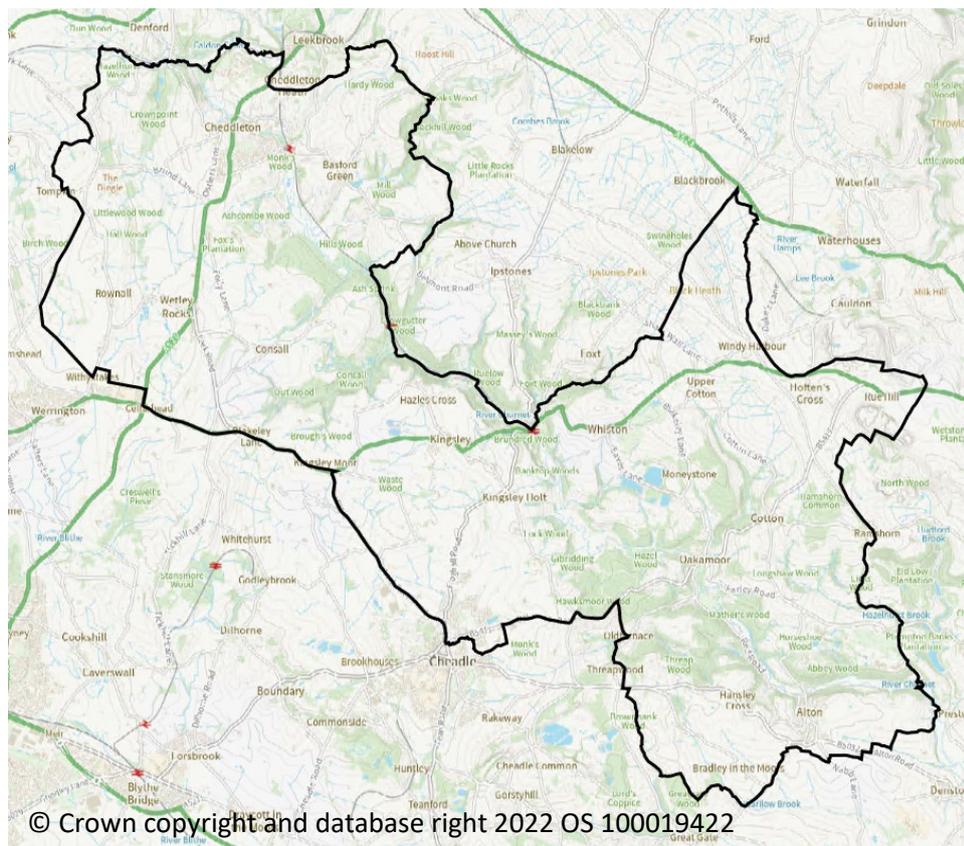
Summary of Division: It is proposed that Biddulph South & Endon ED would comprise the existing boundaries, except for a small area of the Biddulph East ward that would move into Biddulph North ED. Longsdon CP, and part of the Leek South ward (Ladderedge) are also proposed to form part of the Biddulph South & Endon division.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,233 – a variance of –3.3% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity - Longsdon and Densford are two villages that have strong connections with Endon, the Caldron Canal and train line and would bring the A53 corridor into one division with obvious administrative benefits. – Pending further- Keith Flunder

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the division incorporates all of Biddulph South, Brown Edge & Endon and Bagnall & Stanley wards and part of the Biddulph East, Horton and Leek South wards. Options to improve coterminosity with wards were explored but resulted in a greater negative variance from the Staffordshire average.

Division 5: Churnet Valley



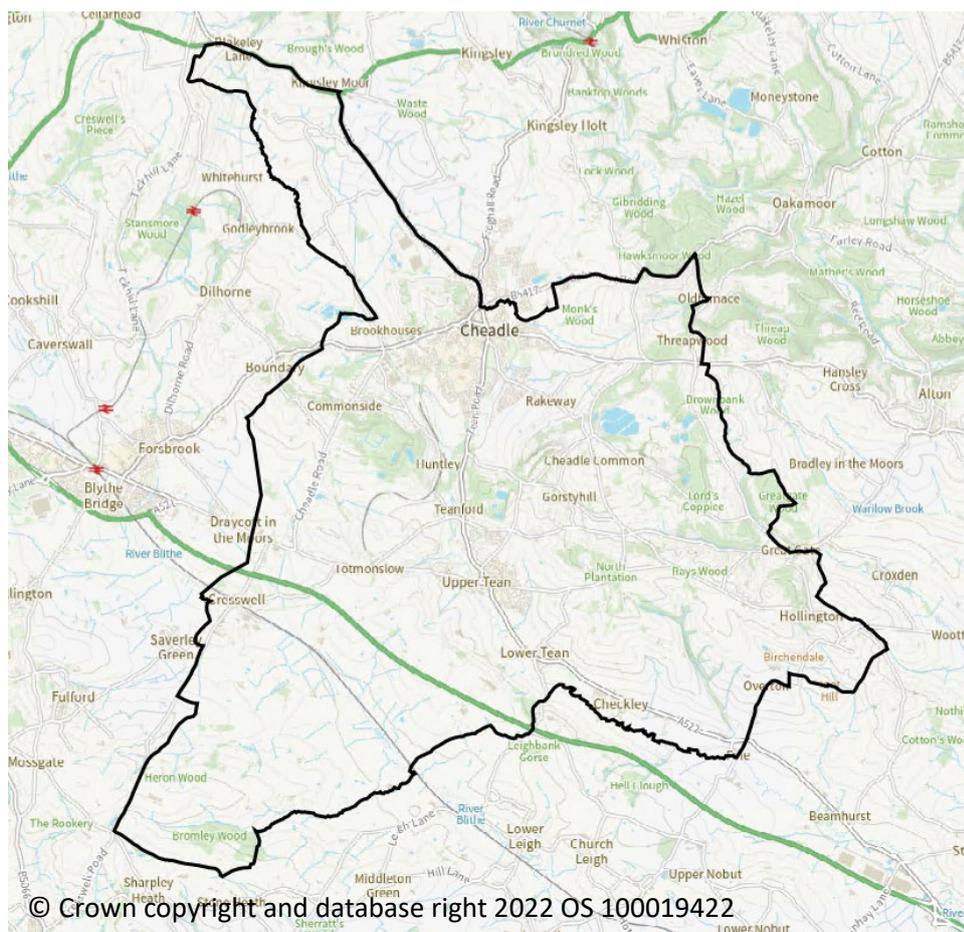
Summary of Division: It is proposed the division is made up of Churnet, Alton, Cheddleton North East and Cheddleton wards.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,991 – a variance of +3.2% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity – Churnet Valley has strong community identity based around the Churnet Valley railway. Cheddleton is at the heart of the Churnet Valley, being one of the stations. Mike Worthington- pending

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the proposed boundary is coterminous with ward boundaries.

Division 6: Cheadle & Checkley



Summary of Division: It is proposed that Cheadle & Checkley ED would incorporate the Cheadle South East, Cheadle West and the majority of Checkley ward, except for Draycott in the Moors.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,347 – a variance of +6.3% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

The main public transport is the bus service (number 32) which runs south to north through division from Uttoxeter to Hanley. Other bus services serve the Uttoxeter and Cheadle Schools. The nearest station is Blythe Bridge which serves Derby and Stoke, Manchester and Crewe. The road network is reasonably good however highly congested at times with traffic to Alton Towers and the peak district and HGVs from the local quarries and JCB- thus meaning residents share the same concerns and it is convenient for local issues to go through the same Cllr. In our proposals we have tried to address this by placing the most affected areas into one division.

The main suburban area in my division is Cheadle where people across the division travel for shopping, sport, and leisure. The rest of the division is rural with most journeys to work, school, leisure etc are taken by car.

There are also a number of active community groups that have grown since covid. There is a real sense of neighbourliness in the division and people tend to look after themselves and look after others.

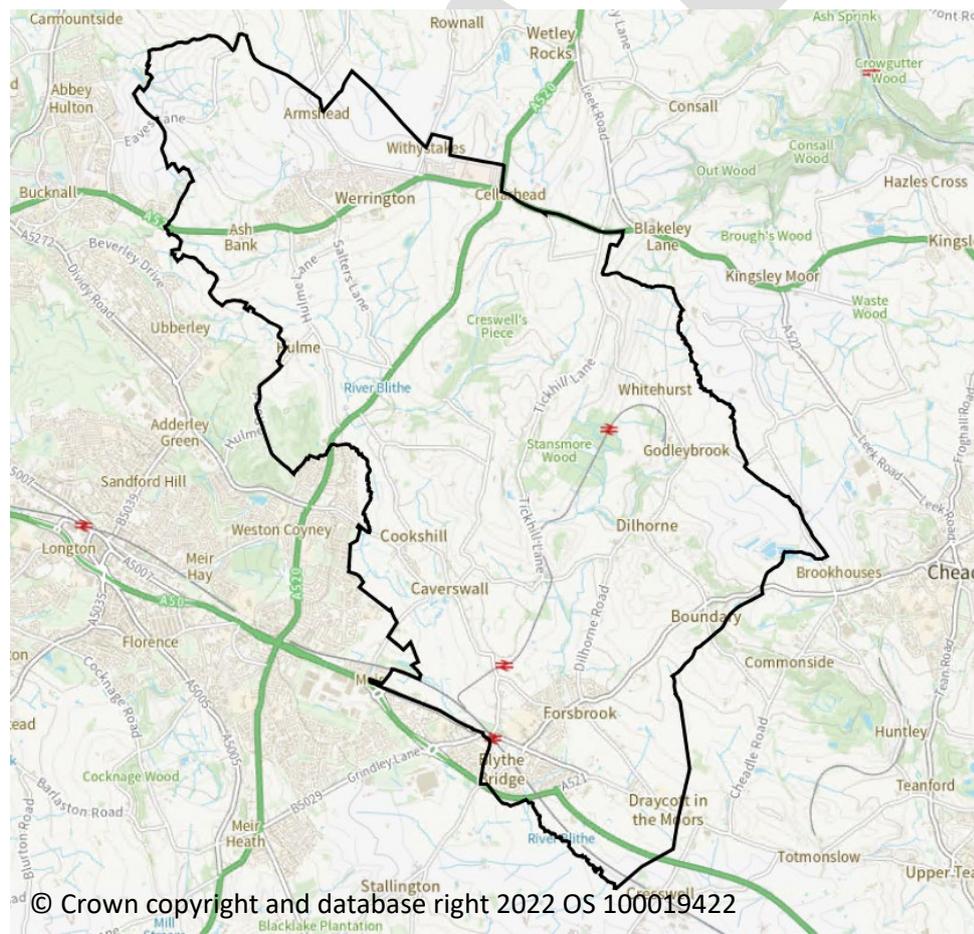
Shopping is available in Tean as is a doctor's surgery and 2 excellent primary schools, people from Draycott tend to shop in Cheadle or Stoke but there is an excellent centre in Draycott which supports our proposals from a community perspective as they serve themselves.

Facilities in Cheadle are good for leisure, medical and shopping. Plans are in progress to regenerate the South Moorlands Leisure Centre which will be very advantageous to the local community.

The western boundary roughly follows the A50. The Northern boundary is Kingsley Moor, and the Southern boundary is Fole near Uttoxeter. The eastern boundary is extremely rural and is around the Hollington, Great Gate Area and borders Uttoxeter Rural.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the proposed boundary has a reasonable level of coterminosity containing Cheadle South East, Cheadle West and the majority of Checkley ward.

Division 7: Caverswall



Summary of Division: It is proposed that Caverswall ED would incorporate Caverswall, Werrington, Cellarhead and Forsbrook wards, along with a small part of Checkley ward (Draycott in the Moors).

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,042 – a variance of +3.7% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: **Community Identity.** – Pending Ross Ward

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – there is reasonable level of coterminosity with ward boundaries as the division incorporates four wards and part of the Checkley ward.

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