

Lichfield District - Electoral Divisions Draft Proposals Post Workshop Amendments

3 February 2023



Key Context

The Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBCE) in-principle decision on council size is to retain the existing council size of 62.

Forecast electorate figures for 2028 have now been finalised.

A public consultation on new division arrangements will run from 10/01/2023 to 20/03/2023. During this period, any individuals, groups or organisations can submit their proposals for new arrangements.

We are working to finalise our SCC proposals for all our districts and boroughs. The following proposal is amended following feedback at the recent workshop.

All proposals need to consider the following LGBCE criteria, which are given equal weighting:

- Electoral equality for electors
- Community identities and interests
- Effective and convenient local government

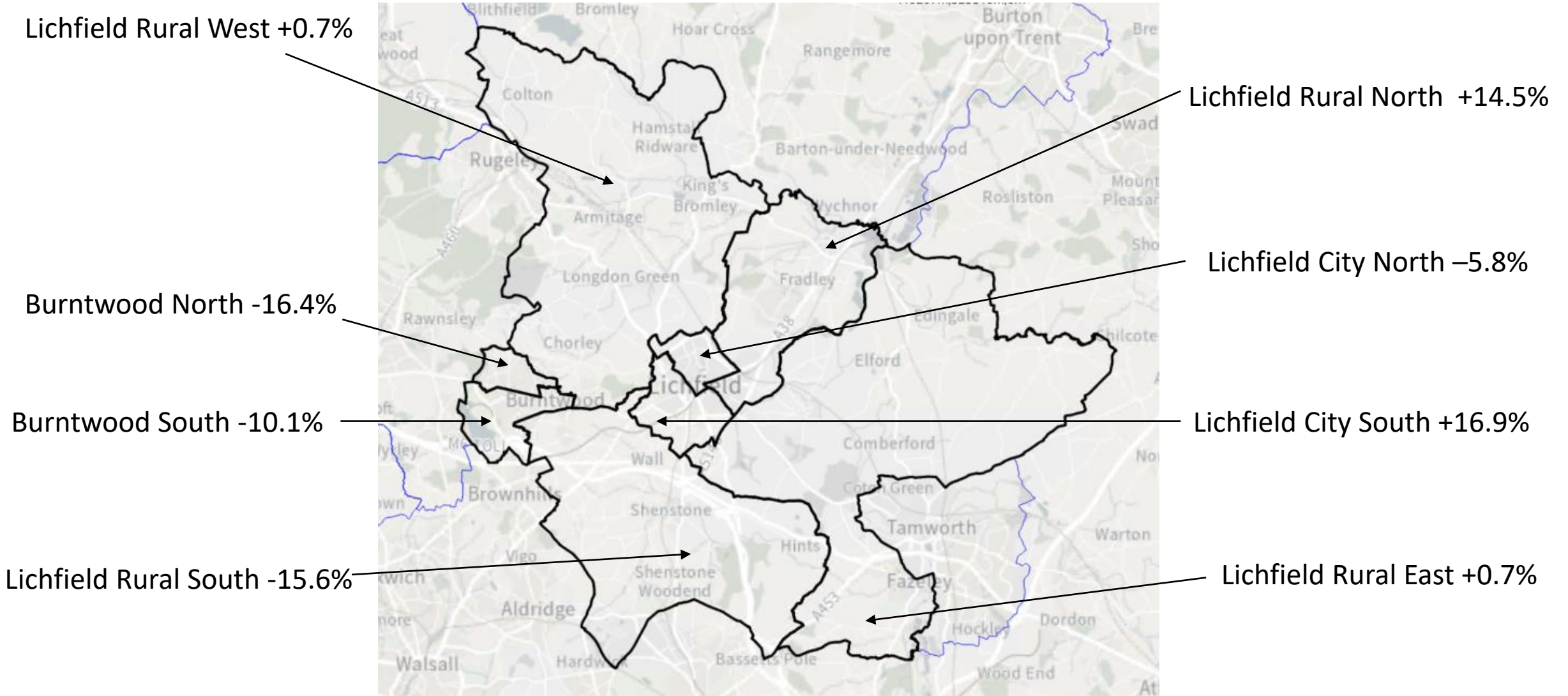
Lichfield – Projected Division Variances 2028

Name of Division	Electorate 2022	% Variance to Staffordshire Average 2022	Forecast Electorate 2028	% Variance to Staffordshire Average 2028
Burntwood North	9,753	-9.2%	9,713	-16.4%
Burntwood South	10,295	-4.2%	10,449	-10.1%
Lichfield City North	10,405	-3.2%	10,937	-5.8%
Lichfield City South	11,137	3.7%	13,576	16.9%
Lichfield Rural East	10,060	-6.4%	11,702	0.7%
Lichfield Rural North	10,850	1.0%	13,296	14.5%
Lichfield Rural South	9,698	-9.7%	9,804	-15.6%
Lichfield Rural West	10,887	1.3%	11,700	0.7%
Lichfield Total	83,085		91,177	
Staffordshire Total	666,097		720,224	
Lichfield Average	10,386	-3.3%	11,397	-1.9%
Staffordshire Average	10,744		11,617	

Lichfield Divisions – Key Points

- Lichfield district total projected electorate in 2028 is 91,177.
- Lichfield will continue to have 8 single member divisions.
- The average electorate per division in Lichfield is forecast to be 11,397. This is slightly lower than the average electorate per division across Staffordshire as a whole, which is forecast to be 11,617.
- The highest forecast variances by 2028 are in Lichfield City South, Burntwood North, Lichfield Rural South and Lichfield Rural North – all have forecast variances of over 10%; boundary changes will be required to improve electoral equality across the borough.
- Even in divisions where variances are theoretically within acceptable levels, the effects of natural population change and the impact of housing developments across the borough means that changes may be required in order to meet the Local Government Boundary Commission requirements of electoral equality for voters, reflecting community identities and interests, and effective and convenient local government.

Lichfield Divisions & Projected Variances by 2028



Lichfield Rural West

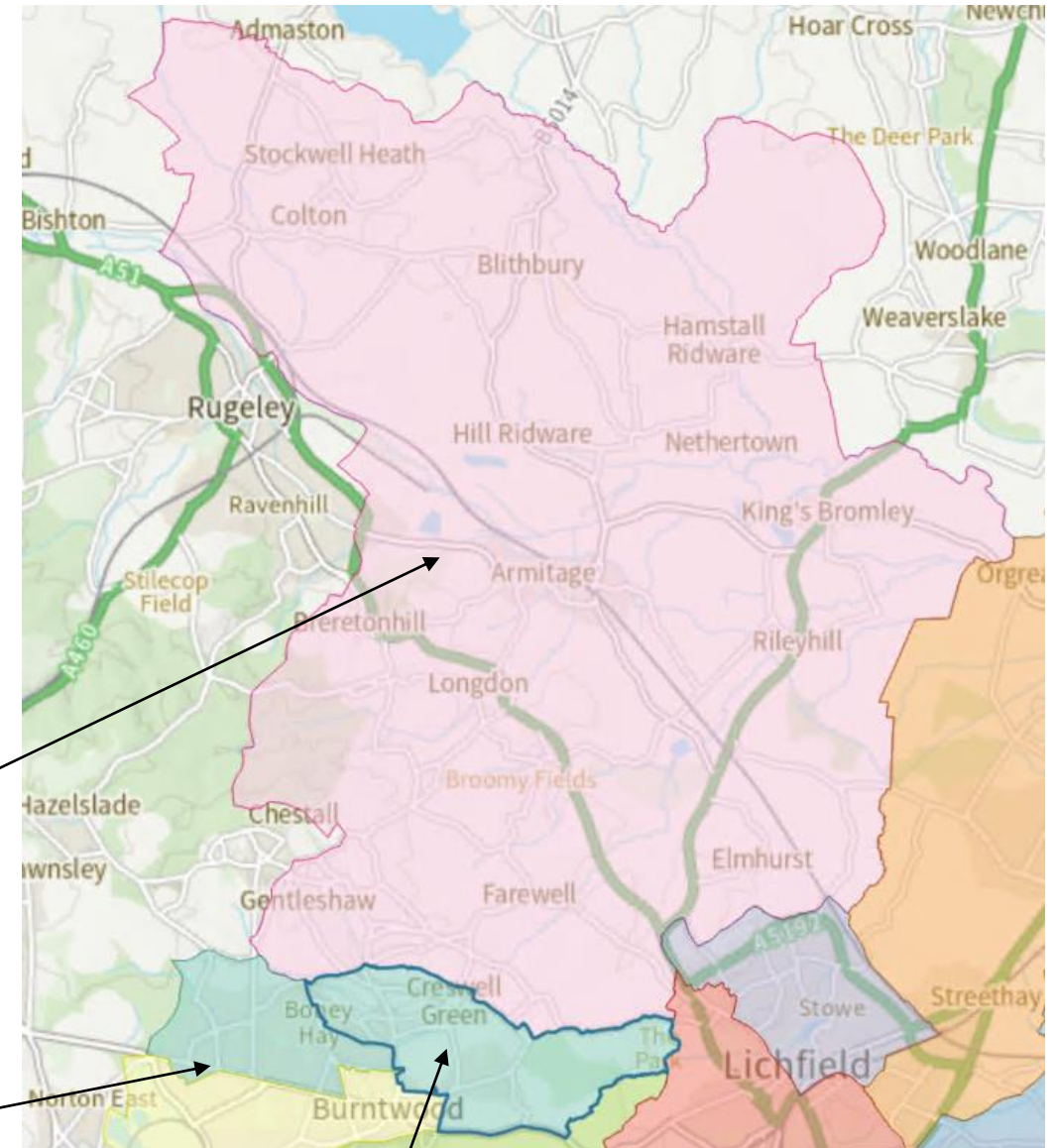
Lichfield Rural West ED is currently forecast to have a variance of +0.7% by 2028, slightly above the average division size for Lichfield. However, to improve the high negative variance in Burntwood North ED, it is proposed to move the area of St Matthew's (Proposal 1 as marked) from Lichfield Rural West ED into Burntwood North ED. See the Burntwood North slide for further detail.

The new boundary is coterminous with the boundary of Longdon ward, and means the division would comprise Colton and Ridwares, Armitage with Handsacre and Longdon wards.

Forecast 2028 Variance: +0.7%
Variance after proposed changes: -9.6%

Lichfield Rural West

Burntwood North

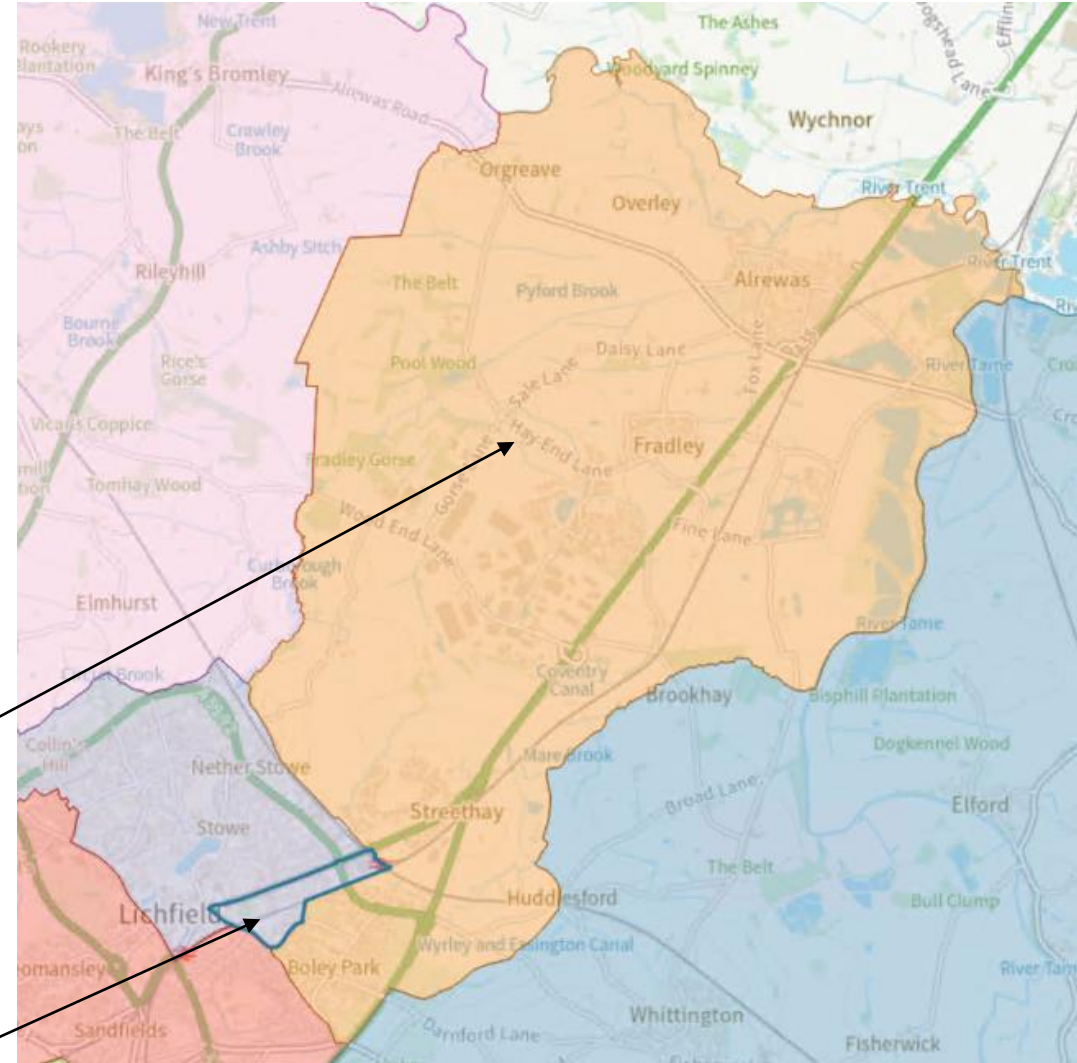


Proposal 1 - St Matthew's

Lichfield Rural North

Lichfield Rural North ED is currently forecast to have a variance of +14.5% by 2028, and therefore the division will need to reduce the number of electors.

It is proposed to move the area marked Proposal 2 out of Lichfield Rural North ED and into Lichfield City North ED. This would improve coterminosity as the new suggested boundary would match the existing boundaries of the Stowe and Boley Park wards.



Lichfield Rural North

Proposal 2

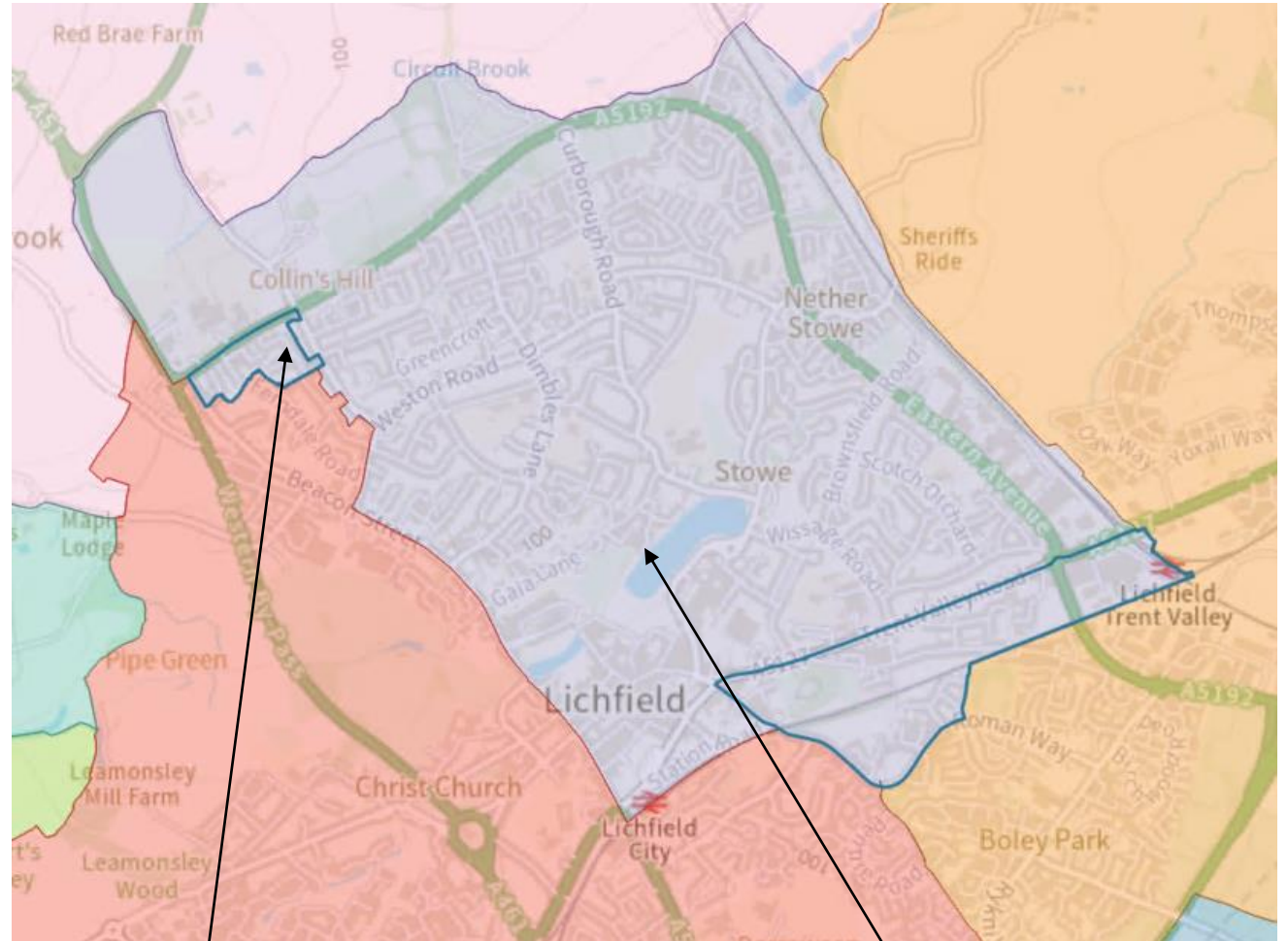
Forecast 2028 Variance: +14.5%
Variance after proposed changes: +7.1%

Lichfield City North

Lichfield City North ED is currently forecast to have a variance of -5.8% by 2028. Proposal 2, as outlined on the previous slide, would help improve this variance by adding an area currently in Lichfield Rural North.

To further improve the variance it is also proposed to move the area marked Proposal 3 into Lichfield City North ED from Lichfield City South ED. This would improve coterminousity as the new boundary would match the existing Chadsmead and Leomansley ward boundaries.

Forecast 2028 Variance: -5.8%
Variance after proposed changes: +4.1%



Proposal 3

Lichfield City North

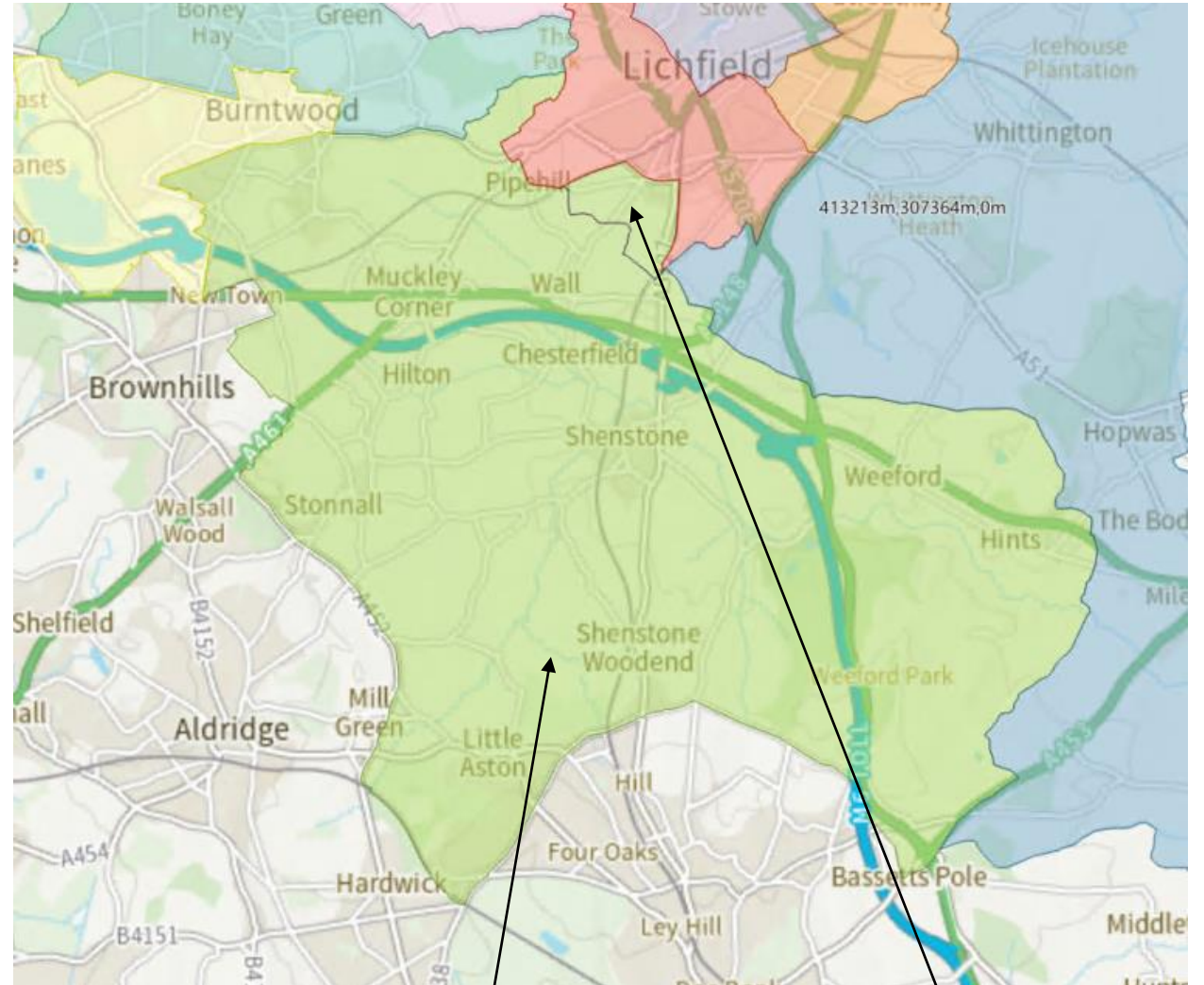
Lichfield Rural South

Lichfield Rural South ED is currently forecast to have a variance of -15.6% by 2028, and the division therefore requires more electors.

Proposal 4, as per the marked map, adds an area currently in the south of Lichfield City South ED, and mainly comprising new housing developments, into Lichfield Rural South ED.

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.

Forecast 2028 Variance: -15.6%
Variance after proposed changes: -4.2%



Lichfield Rural South

Proposal 4

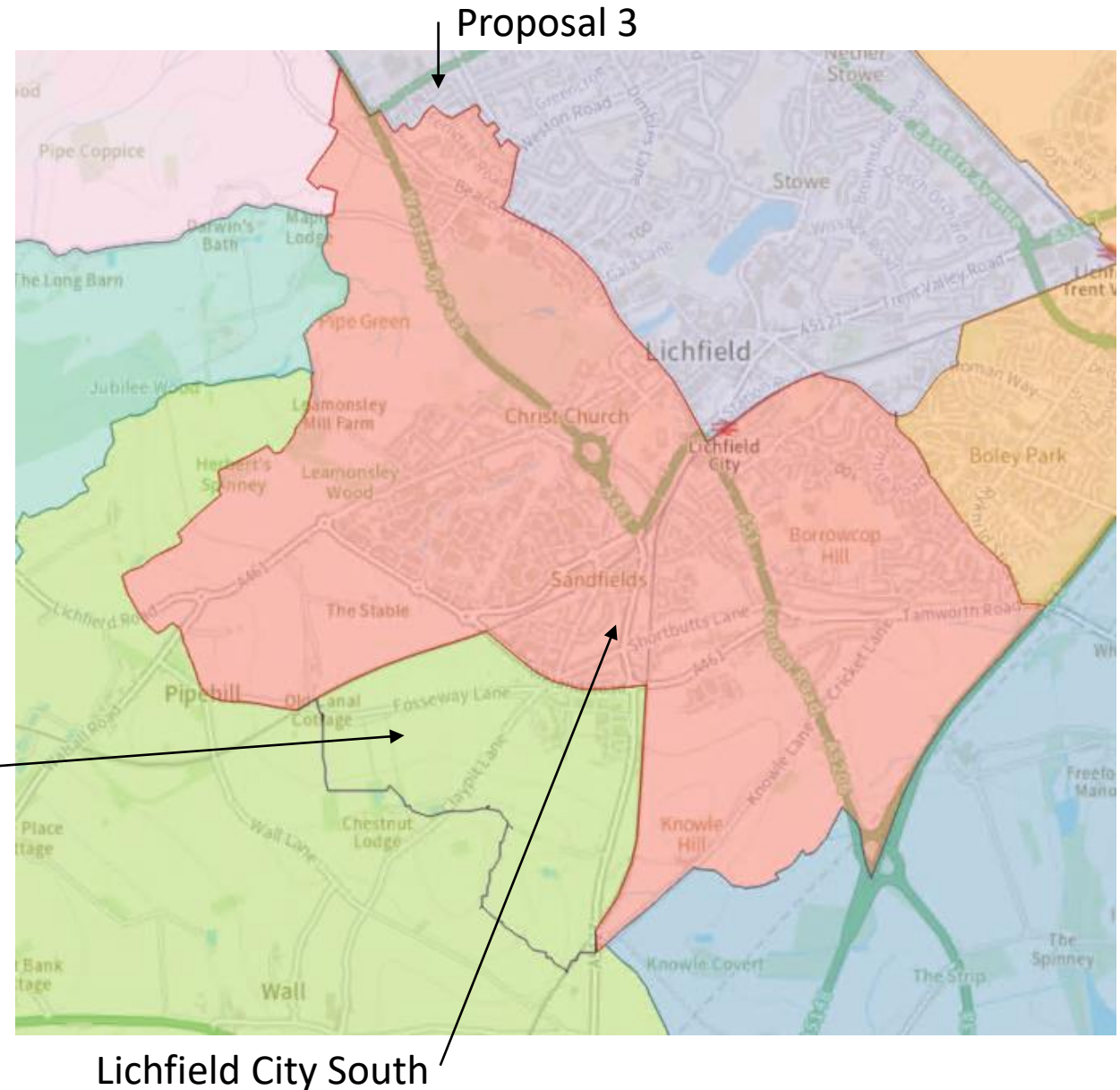
Lichfield City South

Lichfield City South ED is currently forecast to have a variance of +16.9% by 2028, and therefore the number of electors in this division needs to reduce.

Proposal 3 as outlined previously moves an area into Lichfield City North ED from Lichfield City South ED, improving coterminousity as the new boundary would match the existing Chadsmead and Leomansley ward boundaries.

Proposal 4, as outlined on the previous slide, moves an area of St John's ward out of the division and into Lichfield Rural South.

Forecast 2028 Variance: +16.9%
Variance after proposed changes: +2.9%



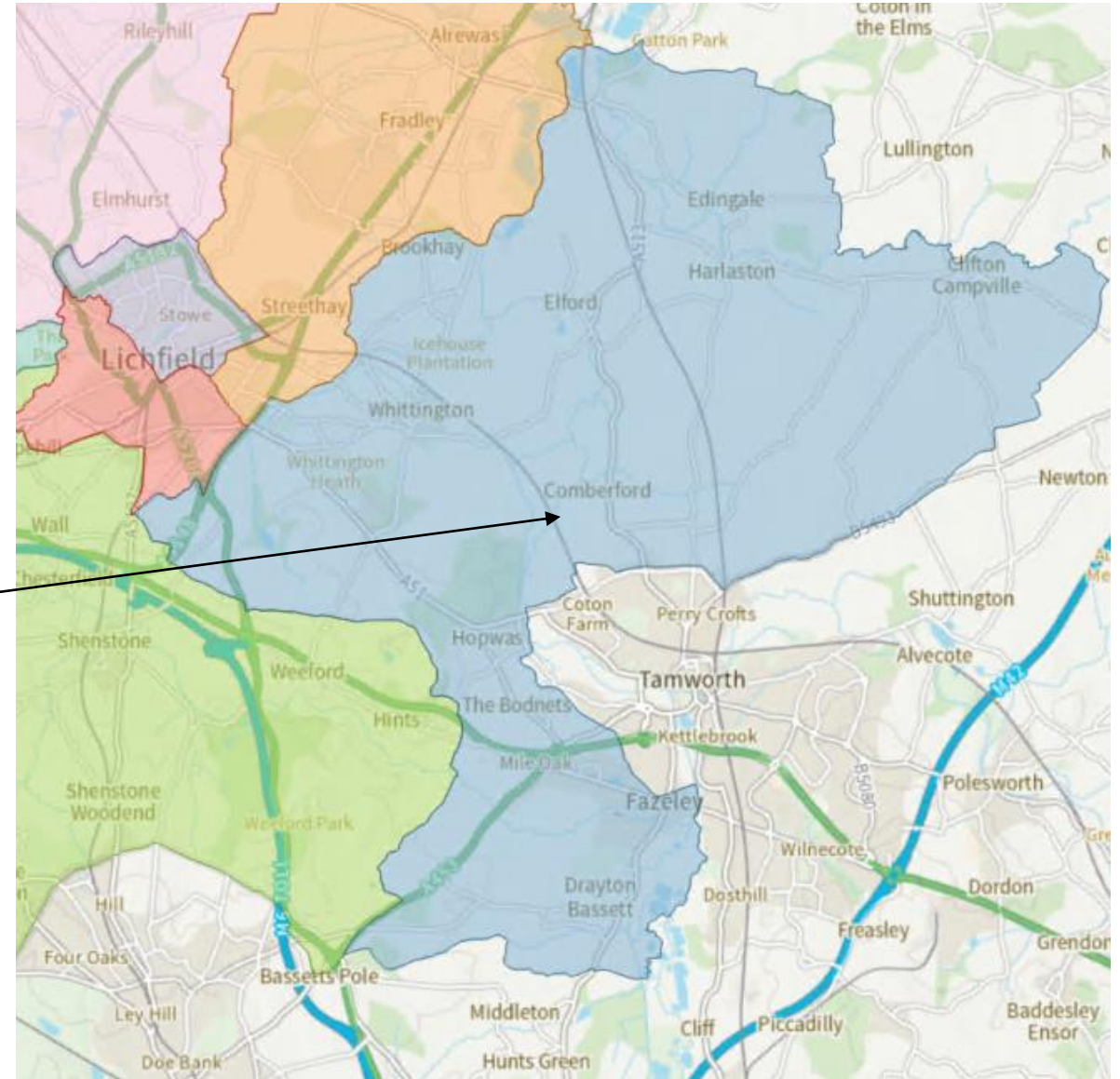
Lichfield Rural East

Lichfield Rural East ED is currently forecast to have a variance of +0.7% by 2028.

No proposals are made for changes to this division.

Lichfield Rural East

Forecast 2028 Variance: +0.7%
Variance after proposed changes: +0.7%



Burntwood North

Burntwood North ED is currently forecast to have a variance of -16.4% by 2028, and therefore requires more electors in the division.

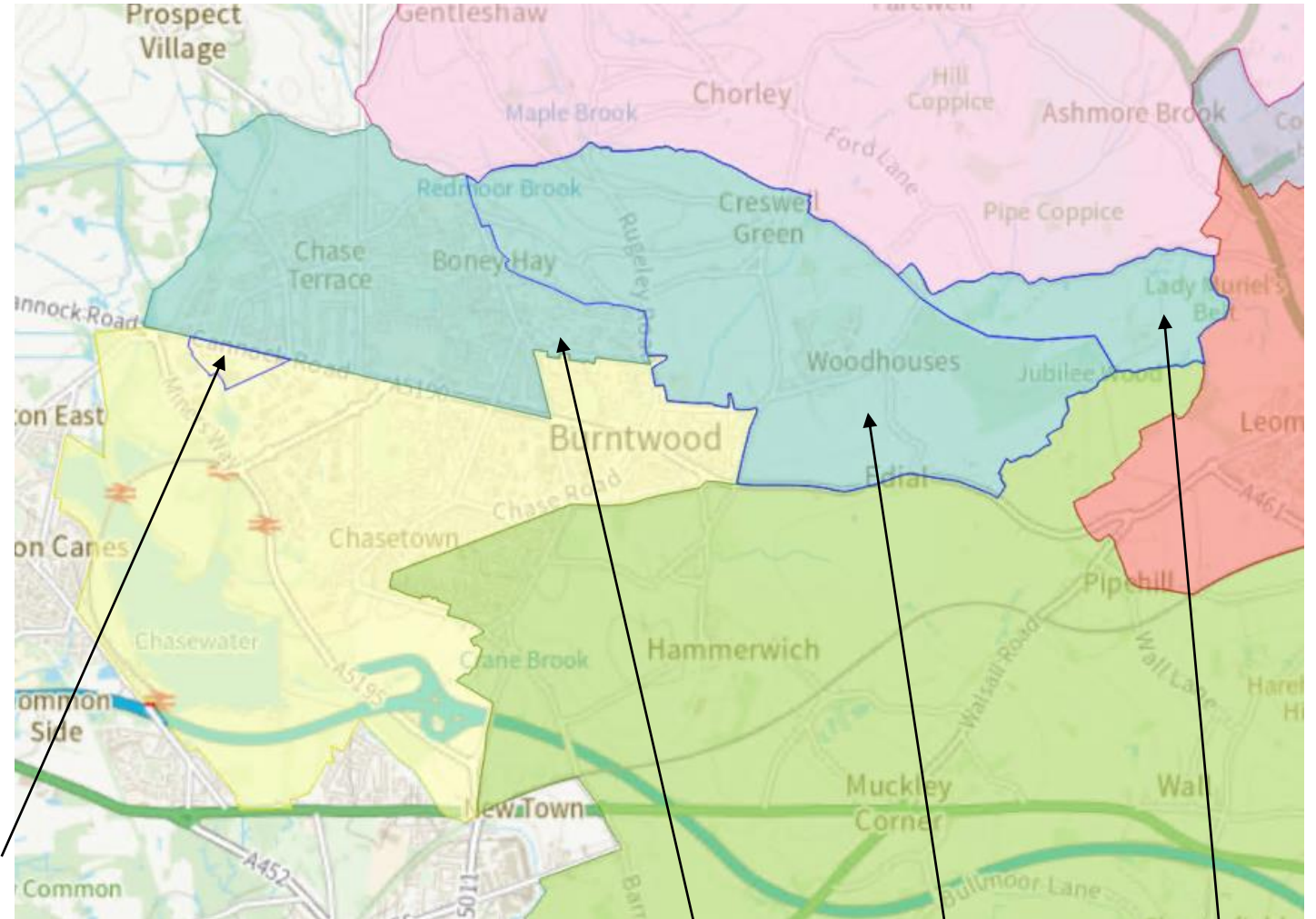
As outlined in Proposal 1 earlier in the slides, it is proposed to move the area of St Matthew's from Lichfield Rural West into Burntwood North. St Matthew's is the parish ward of Highfield. Consideration has been given to splitting the parish ward, with the more rural area to the north and east of Jubilee Wood (marked Proposal 1A) forming a separate parish ward which would remain in Lichfield Rural West. However, as the electorate in this area is less than 100, a parish ward is not viable and the proposal has been discounted.

Proposal 5 is to move the small area marked on the map from Burntwood North to Burntwood South, along the A5190 Cannock Road. This would result in the variances for both Burntwood divisions being within +/-10%. The creation of a new parish ward would be required but with an electorate of C.175 this is considered a viable threshold by the LGBC.

Proposal 5

Forecast 2028 Variance: -16.4%

Variance after proposed changes: -7.5%



Burntwood North

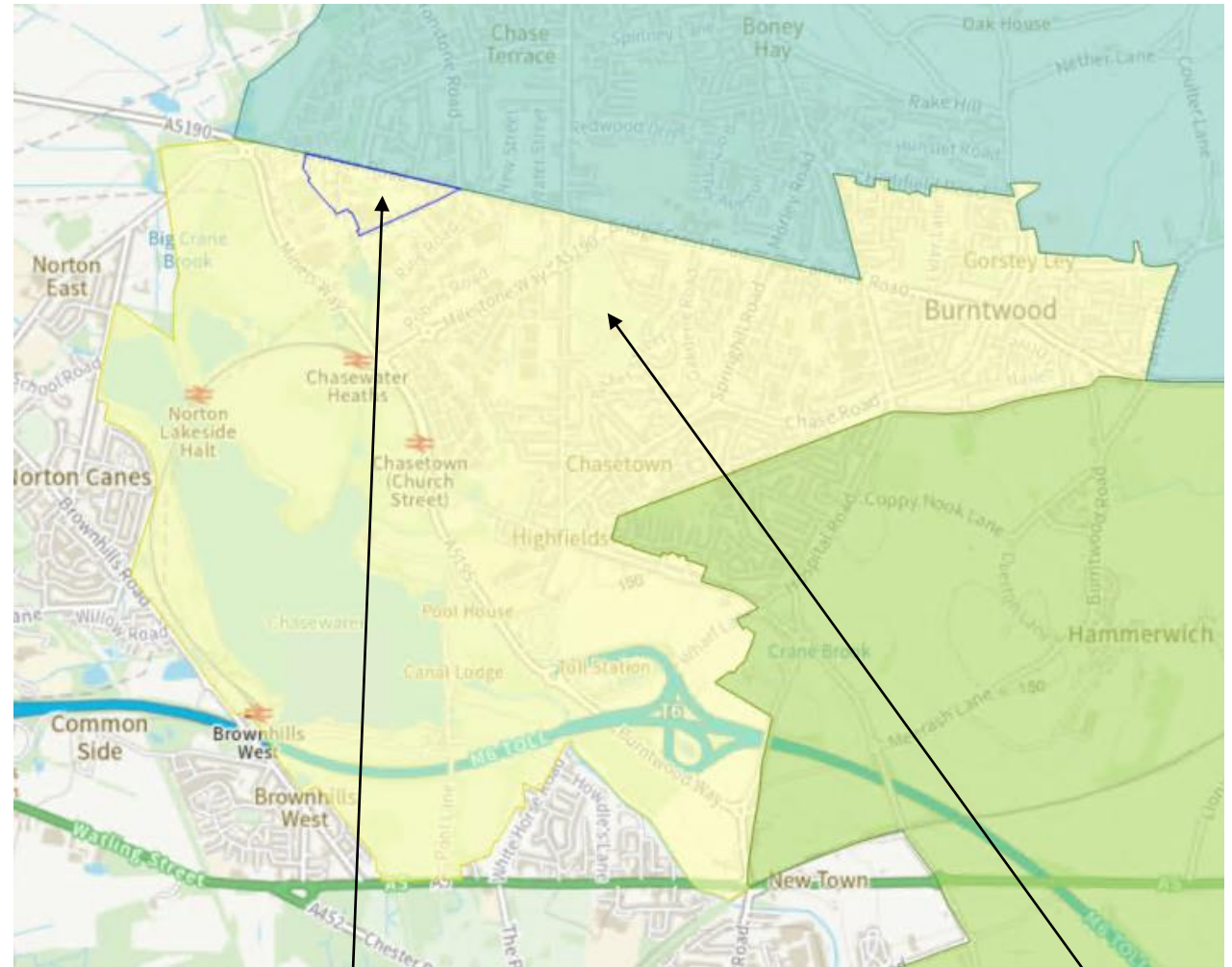
Proposal 1

Proposal 1A

Burntwood South

Burntwood South is currently forecast to have a variance of -10.1% by 2028, and therefore below the average division size.

As per Proposal 5 outlined on the previous slide, it is proposed to move the area outlined in blue on the map from Burntwood North to Burntwood South.



Forecast 2028 Variance: -10.1%
Variance after proposed changes: -8.6%

Proposal 5

Burntwood South

Lichfield Proposed Divisions

