

#### South Staffs District - Electoral Divisions Draft Proposals Post Workshop Amendments



# 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.

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:

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

## South Staffs – Projected Division Variances 2028

Name of Division	Number of Members	Electorate 2022	Electorate	% Variance to	Forecast	Electorate	% Variance to
			per	Staffordshire	Electorate	per	Staffordshire
			Councillor	Average 2022	2028	Councillor	Average 2028
Brewood	1	10,141	10,141	-5.6%	10,501	10,501	-9.6%
Cheslyn Hay, Essington & Great Wyrley	2	22,301	11,151	3.8%	23,721	11,860	2.1%
Codsall	1	9,951	9,951	-7.4%	10,465	10,465	-9.9%
Kinver	1	10,615	10,615	-1.2%	11,058	11,058	-4.8%
Penkridge	1	11,163	11,163	3.9%	11,482	11,482	-1.2%
Perton	1	9,691	9,691	-9.8%	10,071	10,071	-13.3%
Wombourne	1	11,231	11,231	4.5%	11,583	11,583	-0.3%
South Staffs Total	8	85,093			88,881		
Staffordshire Total	62	666,097			720,224		
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				1.00/			4.494

South Staffs Average	8	10,637	-1.0%	11,110	-4.4%
Staffordshire Average	62	10,744		11,617	

## South Staffs Divisions – Key Points

- South Staffs total projected electorate in 2028 is 88,881.
- South Staffs will continue to have 8 councillors this proposal is made on the basis of 8 single member divisions but this is yet to be confirmed.
- The average electorate per division in South Staffs is forecast to be 11,110. This is 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 Perton which has a forecast variance of over -10%.
- Workshop feedback was to recognise that the unique geography and electorate distribution in South Staffordshire limits practical options for change in the district. This challenge is increased by the fact that South Staffs divisions are on average 4.4% below the average Staffordshire division size, therefore a division such as Perton which is 13.3% below the average for Staffordshire is in fact within 10% of the average size of a South Staffordshire division. A number of potential options were considered, but it was felt that beyond the agreement to move forward with single member divisions in the Cheslyn Hay Essington and Great Wyrley area, further change was not in the interests of the communities of South Staffordshire, and was prioritising electoral equality at the expense of the other 2 Boundary Commission criteria. Our proposal for South Staffordshire will therefore need to evidence this clearly.

# South Staffs Divisions & Projected Variances by 2028



#### Perton

Perton ED is forecast to have a variance of -13.3% by 2028. As this is above the threshold of +/- 10%, a range of options to reduce this have been explored.

The northern boundary is a major road, the A41, and population density in this area is low. Therefore no changes are proposed for the northern boundary.

To the south of the division, we have explored moving the area around Lower Penn to Perton ED. This is marked Option 1 on the map. 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.

Forecast 2028 Variance: -13.3% Variance after proposed changes: -13.3%



#### Kinver

In the south of the district, Kinver ED has a variance of -4.8%.

Coterminousity with new ward boundaries is good, with the division comprising the entirety of Kinver and Enville and Himley and Swindon ward, and also following much of the boundary of Pattingham, Trysull, Bobbington and Lower Penn ward.

No proposals are made for changes to this division.



Kinver

Forecast 2028 Variance: -4.8% Variance after proposed changes: -4.8%

#### Wombourne

Wombourne ED has a variance of -0.3%.

The division has good coterminousity, comprising the wards of Wombourne North and Wombourne South.

No proposals are made for changes to this division.



Forecast 2028 Variance: -0.3% Variance after proposed changes: -0.3%

#### Codsall

Codsall ED has a variance of -9.9%.

No changes are proposed for this division, coterminousity is good as it comprises the wards of Codsall and Bilbrook.

Possible changes have been explored given the high variance in this division, but it has been concluded that there are no genuine options for change that reflect the three Boundary Commission criteria.

Forecast 2028 Variance: -9.9% Variance after proposed changes: -9.9%



#### Brewood

Brewood ED has a variance of -9.6%.

No proposals are made for changes to this division. There is some existing degree of coterminousity, being comprised of Brewood, Coven and Blymhill ward, Lapley Stretton and Wheaton Aston ward, plus Levedale parish ward, Dunston CP and Coppenhall 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 (outlined in black, Option 2) to Brewood to reduce the variance, however this has not been proposed as it would involve splitting the parish ward of Penkridge North East.

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



## Penkridge

To the north east of the district, Penkridge ED has a projected variance of -1.2%. Although this is below the average variance for the borough, and does not achieve coterminousity with new ward boundaries, it does achieve coterminousity with existing parishes and parish wards – comprising Acton Trussell and Bednall and Huntington parishes, plus Penkridge North East an South East parish wards.

As outlined on the previous slide, consideration has been given to moving a small area between the existing boundary to the west and the A449. This would improve the forecast variance in Brewood but would split the parish ward of Penkridge North East. Therefore no proposals are made for changes to the division.



Forecast 2028 Variance: -1.2% Variance after proposed changes: -1.2%

Penkridge

# Cheslyn Hay, Essington and Great Wyrley (Division 1)

Cheslyn Hay, Essington and Great Wyrley is currently a 2 member division, which is projected to have a variance of +2.1% by 2028. The council has requested a review of the 2 member division, and is seeking to replace it with 2 single member divisions.

This would require a split of the Great Wyrley, Cheslyn Hay and Landywood urban area, which is proposed to use the new ward boundaries.

The first division would incorporate Cheslyn Hay Village Ward, Featherstone, Shareshill and Saredon ward, plus Westcroft parish ward from the Essington ward.

The proposal is to name this division Cheslyn Hay Village, Featherstone and Shareshill.

is Broo Heath Little Wyrley Bloxwich ton Hall New Inve End Old Fallin Wyrley and Westcroft Parish ward Featherstone & Shareshill

Cheslyn Hay Village

Forecast 2028 Variance: +2.1% Variance after proposed changes: -3.9%

# Cheslyn Hay, Essington and Great Wyrley (Division 2)

The second division would incorporate Great Wyrley Town ward, Great Wyrley Landywood ward, and most of Essington ward, excluding Westcroft parish to the south west.

The proposal is to name this division Great Wyrley and Essington.



## South Staffs Proposed Divisions

