

Newcastle Borough - Electoral Divisions Draft Proposals Post Workshop Amendments

8 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 for review at the forthcoming workshops.

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

Newcastle – Projected Division Variances 2028

Division	Electorate 2022	% Variance to Staffordshire Average 2022	Forecast Electorate 2028	% Variance to Staffordshire Average 2028
Audley and Chesterton	11,105	3.4%	11,803	1.6%
Bradwell, Porthill and Wolstanton	10,798	0.5%	11,687	0.6%
Keele, Knutton and Silverdale	7,384	-31.3%	8,283	-28.7%
Kidsgrove	10,601	-1.3%	11,165	-3.9%
May Bank and Cross Heath	10,939	1.8%	11,679	0.5%
Newcastle Rural	10,080	-6.2%	11,053	-4.9%
Newcastle South	10,468	-2.6%	11,431	-1.6%
Talke and Red Street	11,201	4.3%	11,786	1.5%
Westlands and Thistleberry	9,530	-11.3%	10,445	-10.1%
Newcastle Total	92,106		99,332	
Staffordshire Total	666,097		720,224	
Newcastle Average	10,234	-4.7%	11,037	-5.0%
Staffordshire Average	10,744		11,617	

Newcastle Divisions – Key Points

- Newcastle borough total projected electorate in 2028 is 99,332.
- Newcastle will continue to have 9 single member divisions.
- The average electorate per division in Newcastle is forecast to be 11,037. 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 is in Keele, Knutton and Silverdale – this division has a forecast variance of over 25%; 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.

Newcastle Divisions & Projected Variances by 2028

Talke and Red Street +1.5%

Audley and Chesterton
+1.6%

Keele, Knutton and
Silverdale -28.7%

Newcastle Rural -4.9%

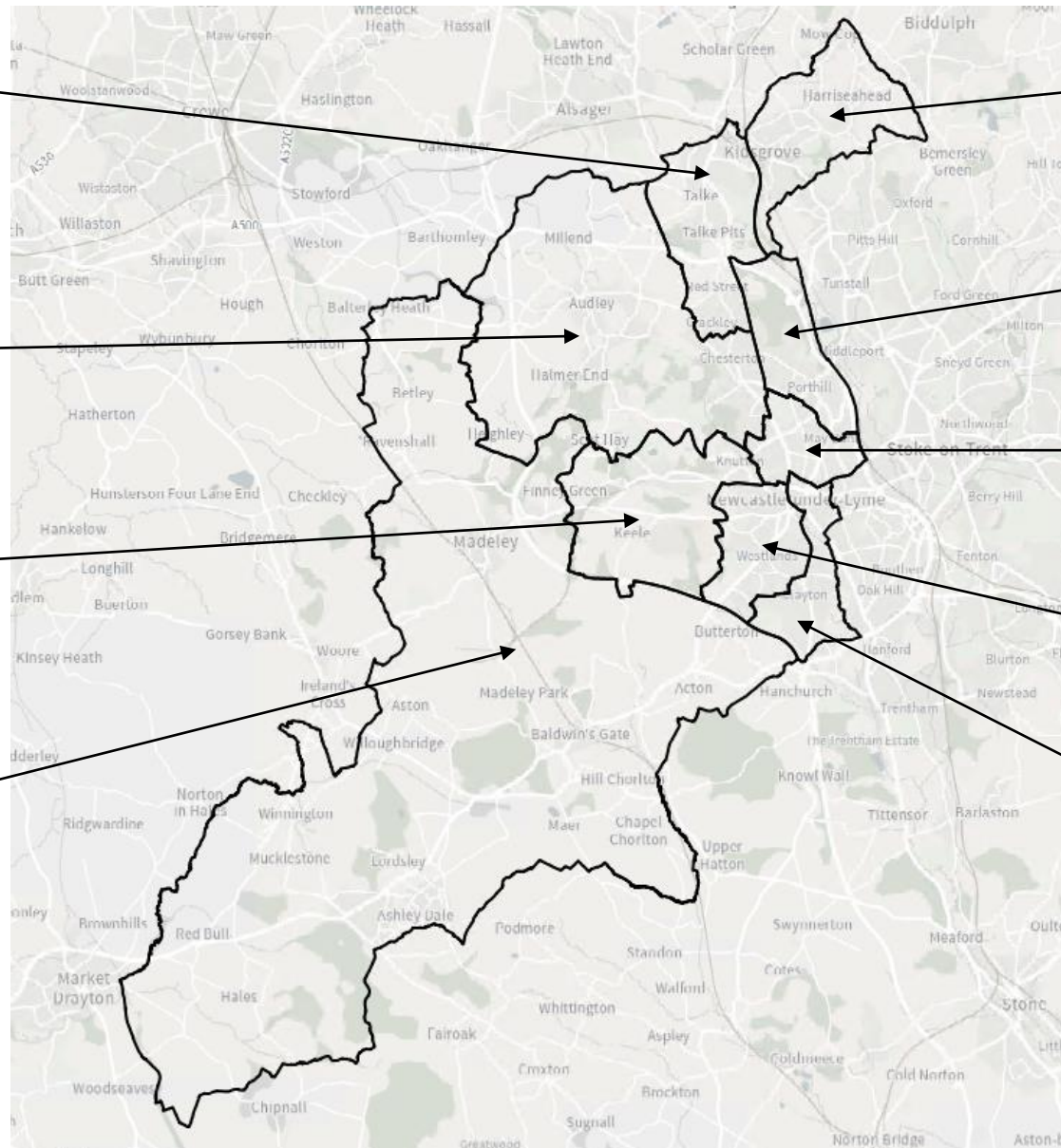
Kidsgrove -3.9%

Bradwell, Porthill and
Wolstanton +0.6%

May Bank and Cross
Heath +0.5%

Westlands and Thistleberry
-10.1%

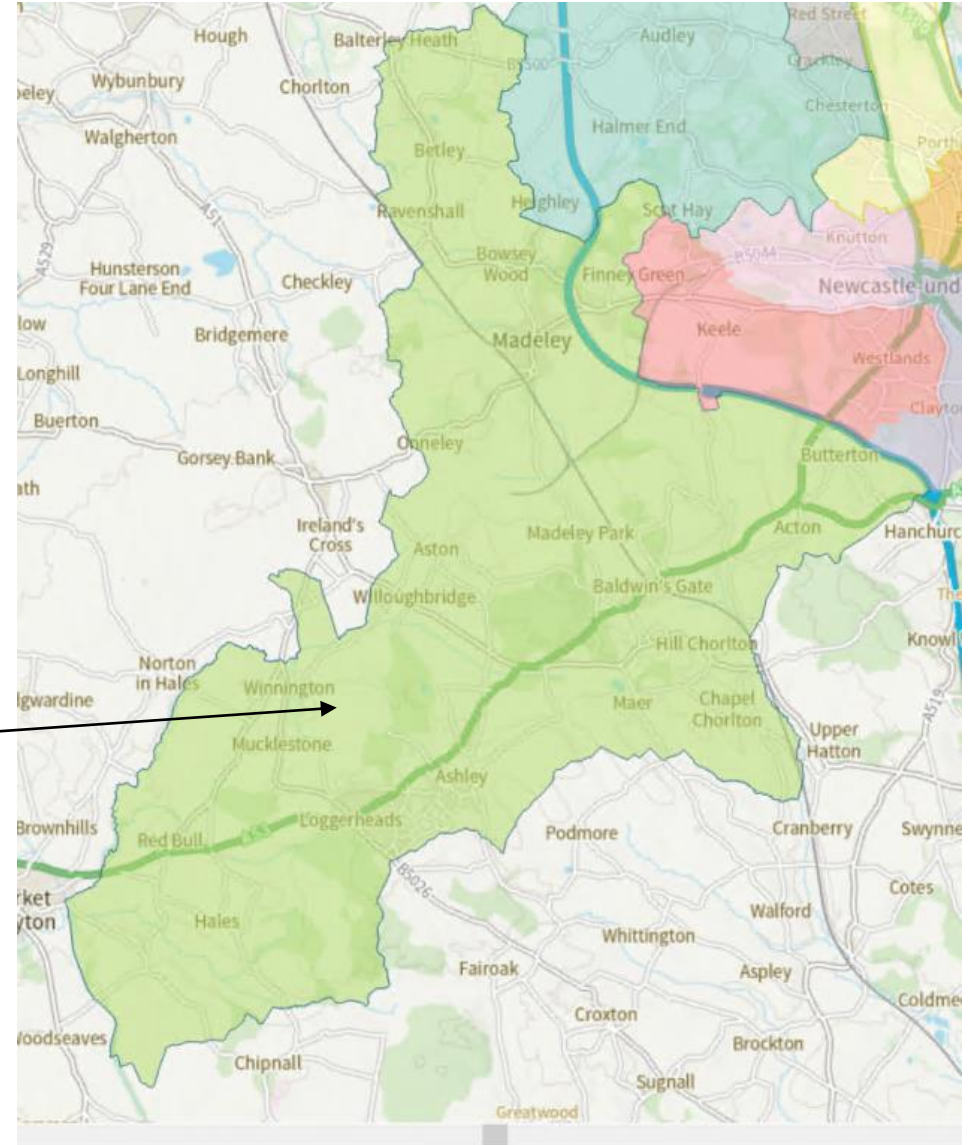
Newcastle South -1.6%



Newcastle Rural

Newcastle Rural ED is projected to have a variance of -4.9% by 2028. This is in line with the average variance that can be expected across the borough. Current boundaries also achieve a good level of coterminousity with ward and parish boundaries, and therefore no suggestions are made to change this division.

Newcastle Rural



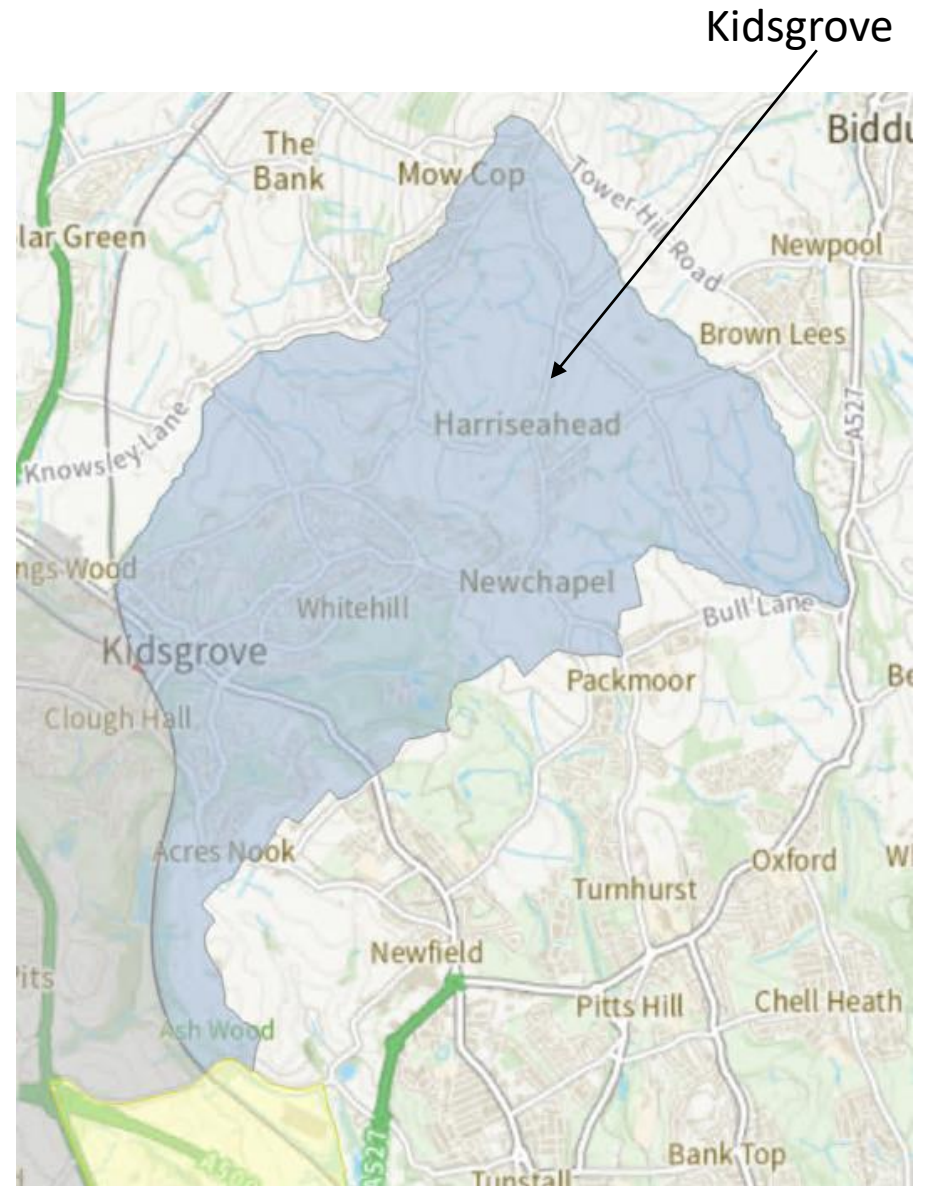
Forecast 2028 Variance: -4.9%
Variance after proposed changes: -4.9%

Kidsgrove

To the north of the borough, Kidsgrove ED is projected to have a variance of -3.9% by 2028. This is fairly close to the average variance that can be expected across the borough.

No proposals are made for changes to this division.

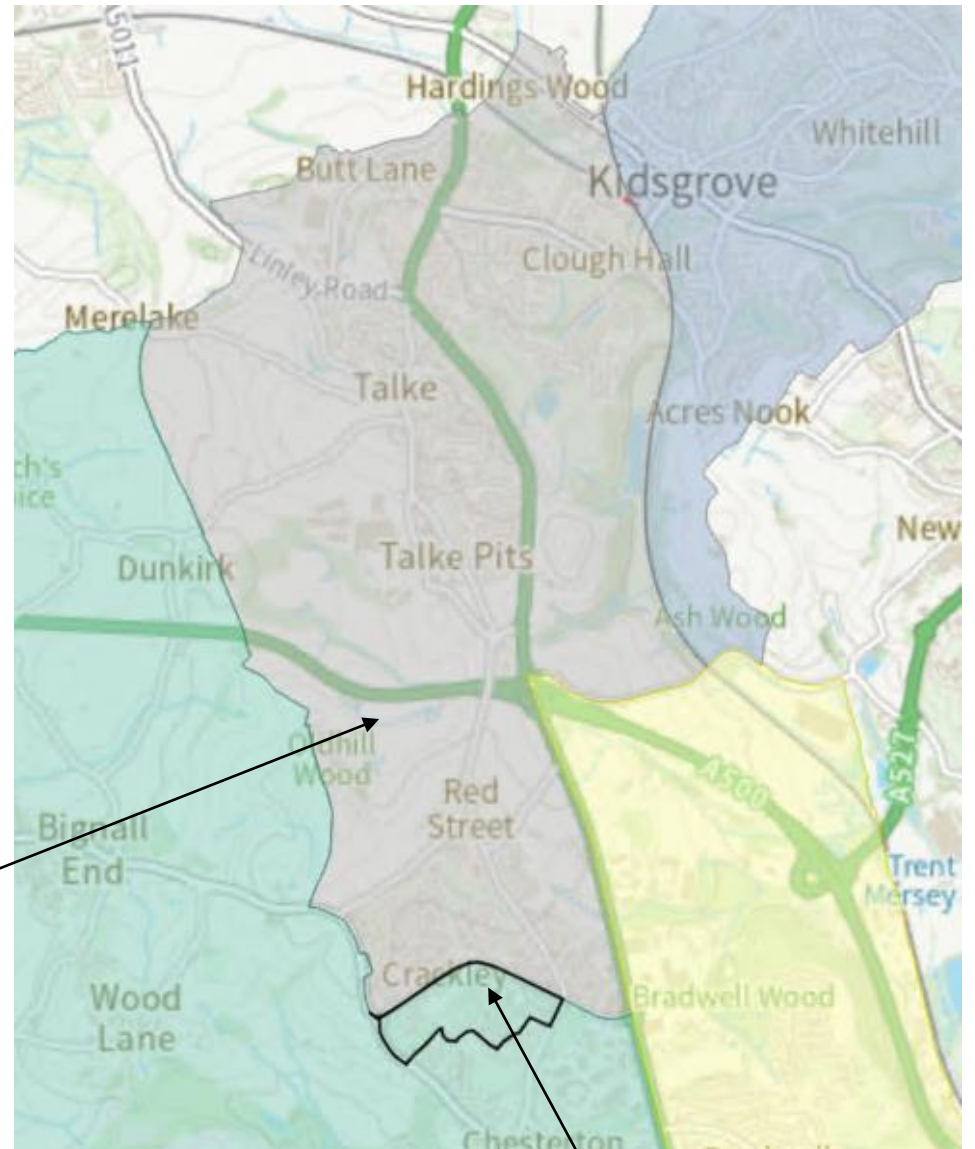
Forecast 2028 Variance: -3.9%
Variance after proposed changes: -3.9%



Talke & Red Street

Talke and Red Street ED has a projected variance of +1.5%. The area marked as 'Proposal 1' shows the proposal to move a small area of Crackley into the existing Audley and Chesterton division.

Neither the existing nor the proposed boundaries are coterminous with the ward boundaries at this point so a logical split taking into account community identity and area geography is proposed.



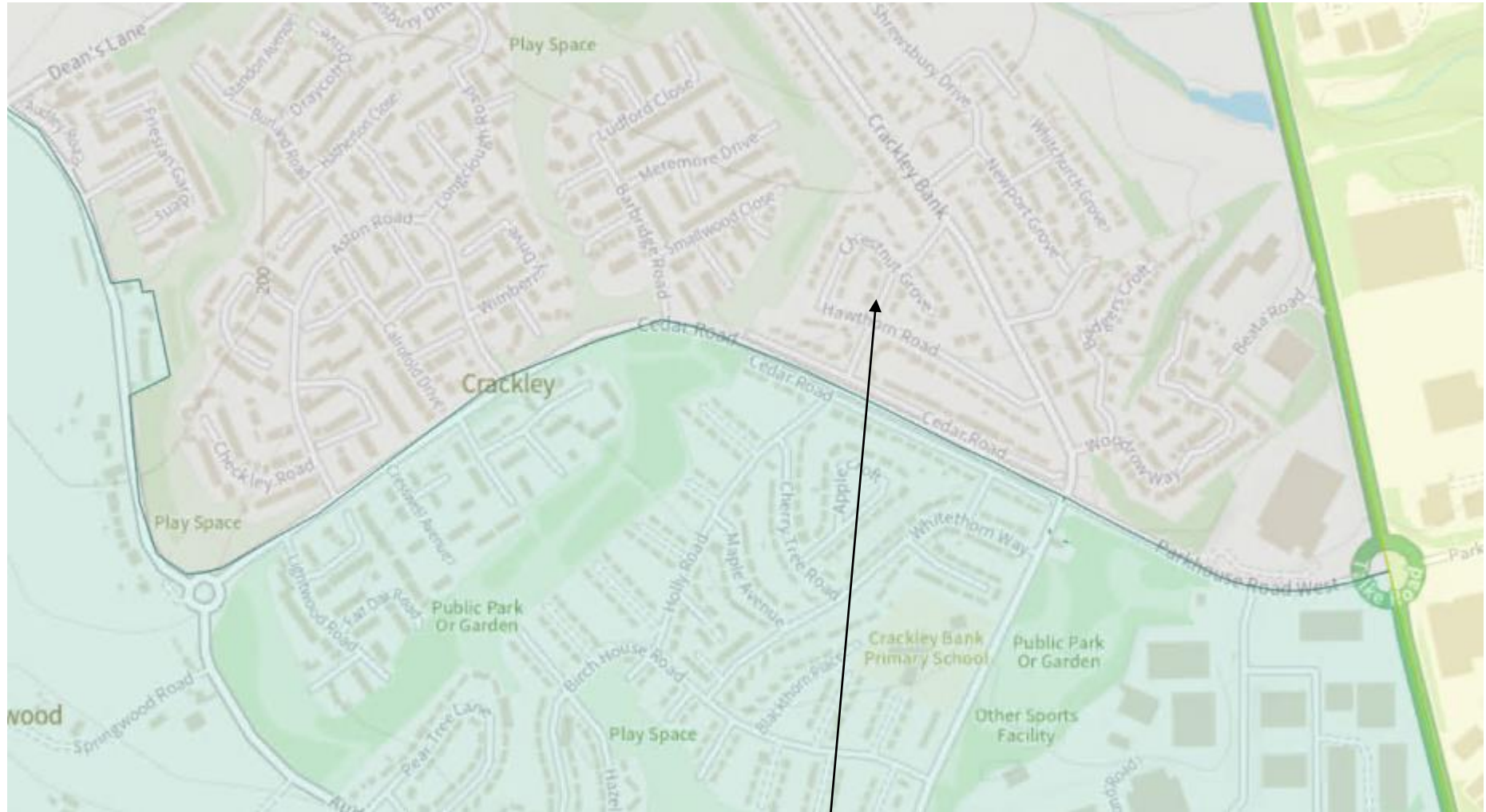
Talke and Red Street

Proposal 1

Forecast 2028 Variance: +1.5%
Variance after proposed changes: -6.4%

Talke & Red Street (2) – Boundary Detail

This is a zoomed in view of the proposed new division boundary, which follows Cedar Road.



Forecast 2028 Variance: +1.5%
Variance after proposed changes: -6.4%

Talke and Red Street

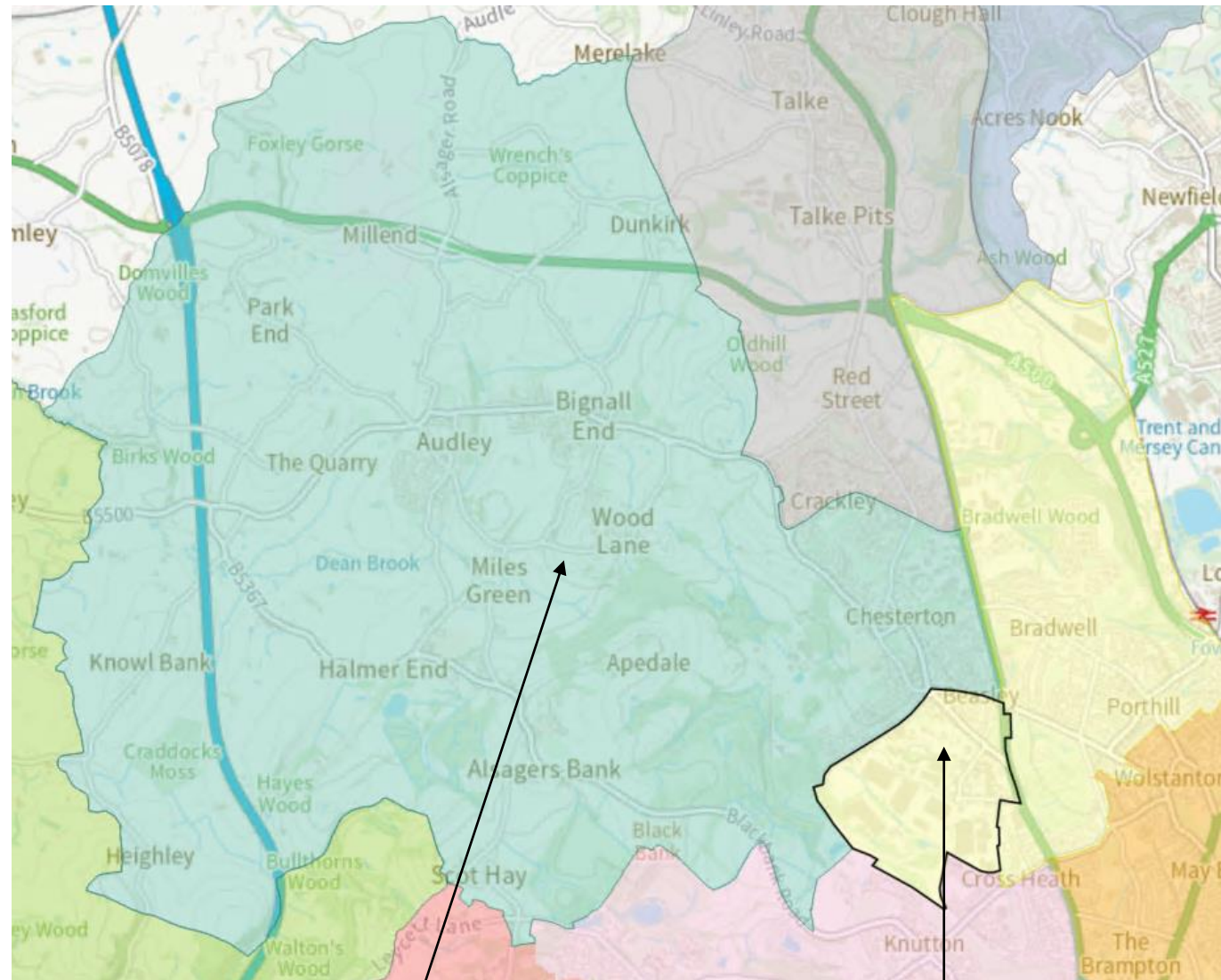
Audley & Chesterton

Audley and Chesterton ED is projected to have a variance of +1.6% by 2028. Proposal 1 (outlined on the previous page) adds additional electorate to the division from Talke & Red Street division.

The area in yellow to the south east of the existing division boundary outlined in black and marked as 'Proposal 2' shows the proposal to move an area of Church Fields out of the division and into Bradwell, Churchfields and Porthill.

The new proposed Audley and Chesterton boundary follows Wolstanton Road and Loomer Road, before rejoining the boundary with Audley ward.

Forecast 2028 Variance: +1.6%
Variance after proposed changes: +3.8%



Audley & Chesterton

Proposal 2

Audley & Chesterton (2) – Boundary Details

This is a zoomed in view of the proposed new division boundary. Electors are concentrated to the north of London Road, with the rest of the yellow area predominantly industrial.

Audley & Chesterton



Forecast 2028 Variance: +1.6%

Variance after proposed changes: +3.8%

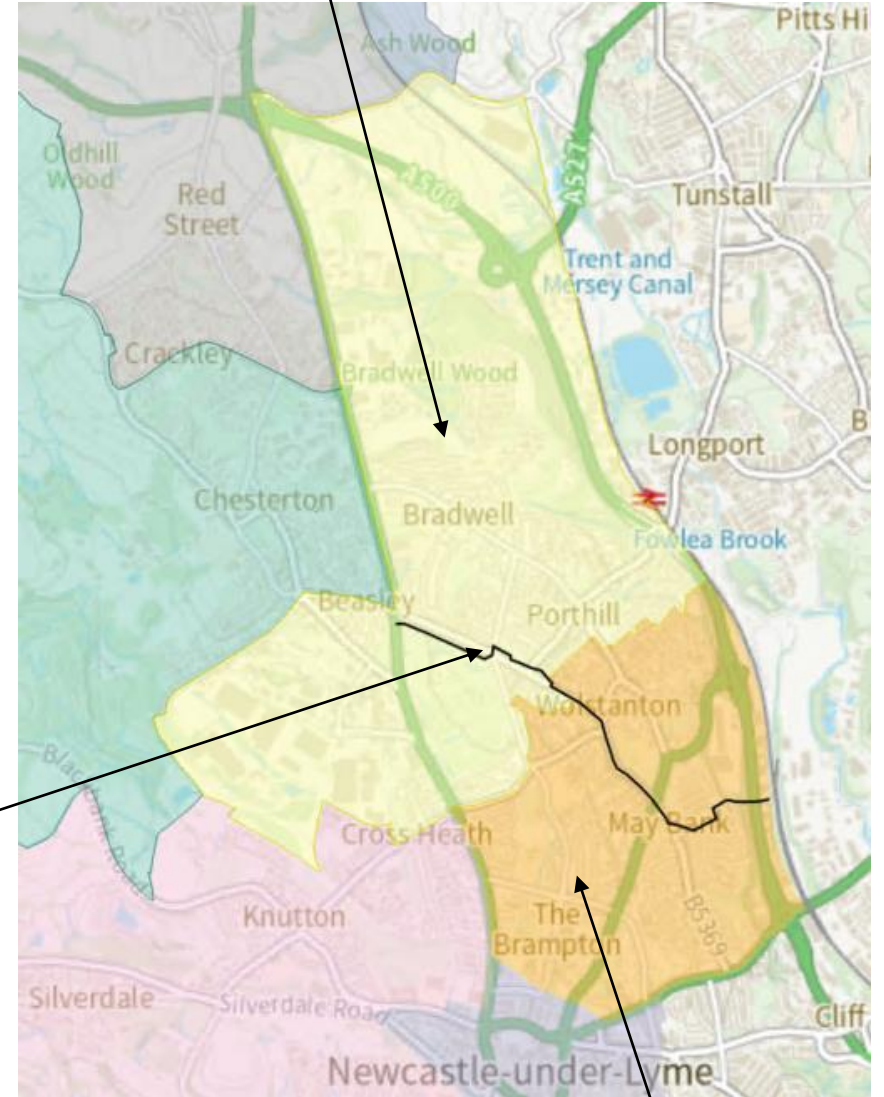
Bradwell Porthill & Wolstanton (Bradwell, Churchfields & Porthill)

The current Bradwell, Porthill and Wolstanton ED is projected to have a variance of +0.6% by 2028.

To help balance the electorate across the other divisions around the town centre, along side adding electorate from Audley ED as outlined in Proposal 2, it is proposed that the division boundary with the existing May Bank and Cross Heath ED is redrawn to run from the north east to south west (proposal 3). The black line shows the existing boundary for the division.

A new name is likely to be required for this division given the changes proposed – this is suggested as ‘Bradwell, Churchfields & Porthill’.

Bradwell, Porthill and Wolstanton



Proposal 3

Forecast 2028 Variance: +0.6%
Variance after proposed changes: -7.4%

May Bank and Cross Heath

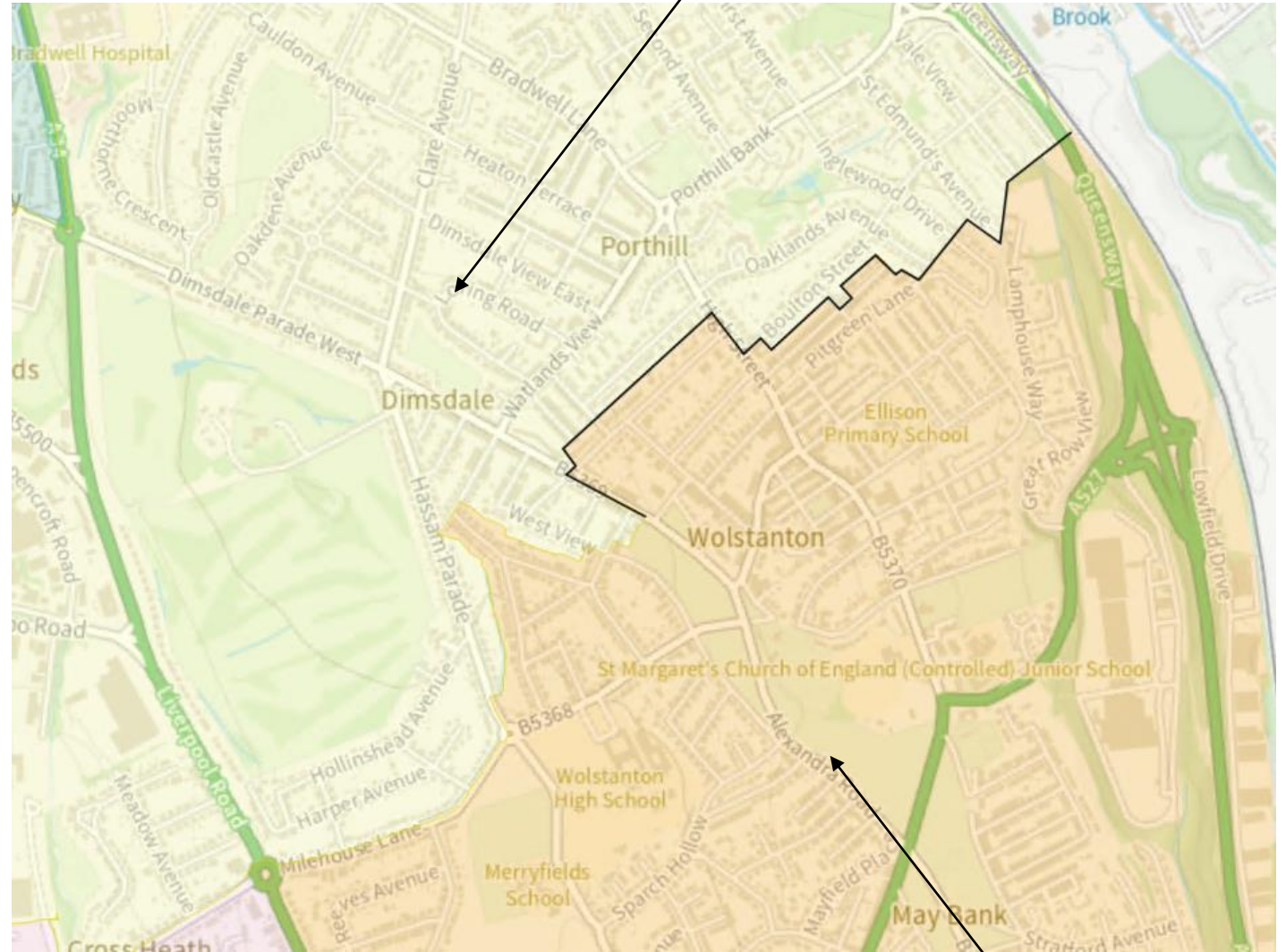
Bradwell Porthill & Wolstanton (Bradwell, Churchfields & Porthill) (2)– Boundary Detail

This is a zoomed in view of the proposed new division boundary.

The new boundary follows Milehouse Lane to the west, then a portion of the ward boundary for May Bank ward, and then cuts across Wolstanton ward. The portion of the new proposed boundary shown with a black line on the map currently follows polling district boundaries, and any useful knowledge to support or amend this specific boundary would be helpful.

Forecast 2028 Variance: +0.6%
Variance after proposed changes: -7.4%

Bradwell, Porthill and Wolstanton



May Bank and Cross Heath

May Bank and Cross Heath (May Bank and Wolstanton)

May Bank and Cross Heath ED is projected to have a variance of +0.5% by 2028.

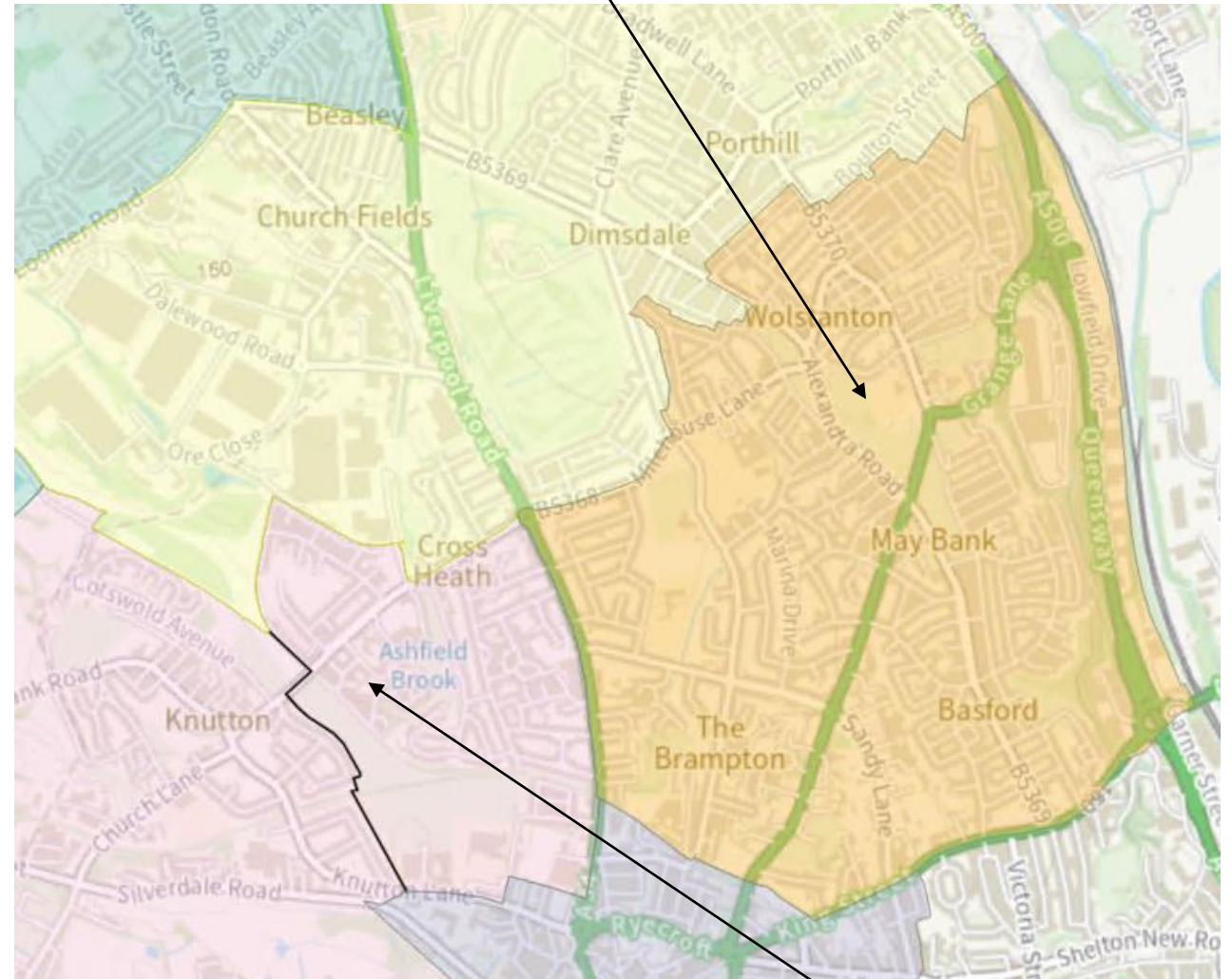
In the suggestion on the map to the right, the division boundary with Bradwell, Porthill & Wolstanton ED is redrawn, (as outlined on the previous slide, proposal 3) and the area in pink around Cross Heath (marked as 'Proposal 4') moves out of the division and into the division that is currently Keele, Knutton and Silverdale ED.

The new division would compromise less of the Cross Heath area and more of Wolstanton, and therefore is suggested to be called 'May Bank and Wolstanton'.

Forecast 2028 Variance: +0.5%

Variance after proposed changes: -8.0%

May Bank and Cross Heath



Proposal 4

Newcastle South

Newcastle South ED is projected to have a variance of -1.6% by 2028.

It is proposed that the division boundary to the west changes to match the ward boundaries between Westlands, Clayton and Westbury Park and Northwood wards. This would mean that electors in the red area marked Proposal 5 would move out of Newcastle South ED and into Westlands, Thistleberry and Keele ED.

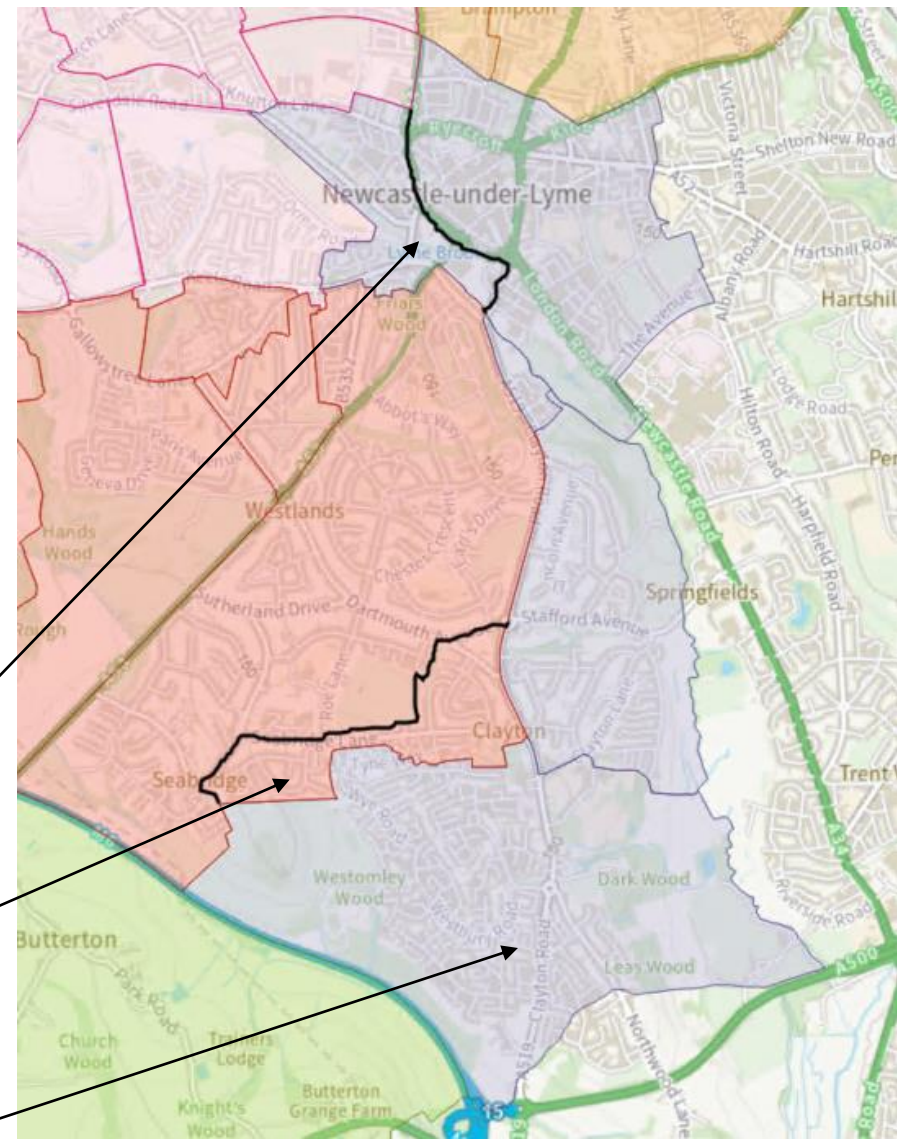
Secondly, it is proposed to add the area to the north west of the division (marked Proposal 6). This moves electors into Newcastle South ED from the current Westlands and Thistleberry ED and follows the existing boundary of the Town ward (Proposal 6).

Forecast 2028 Variance: -1.6%
Variance after proposed changes: -5.9%

Proposal 6

Proposal 5

Newcastle South



Westlands & Thistleberry (Westlands, Thistleberry and Keele)

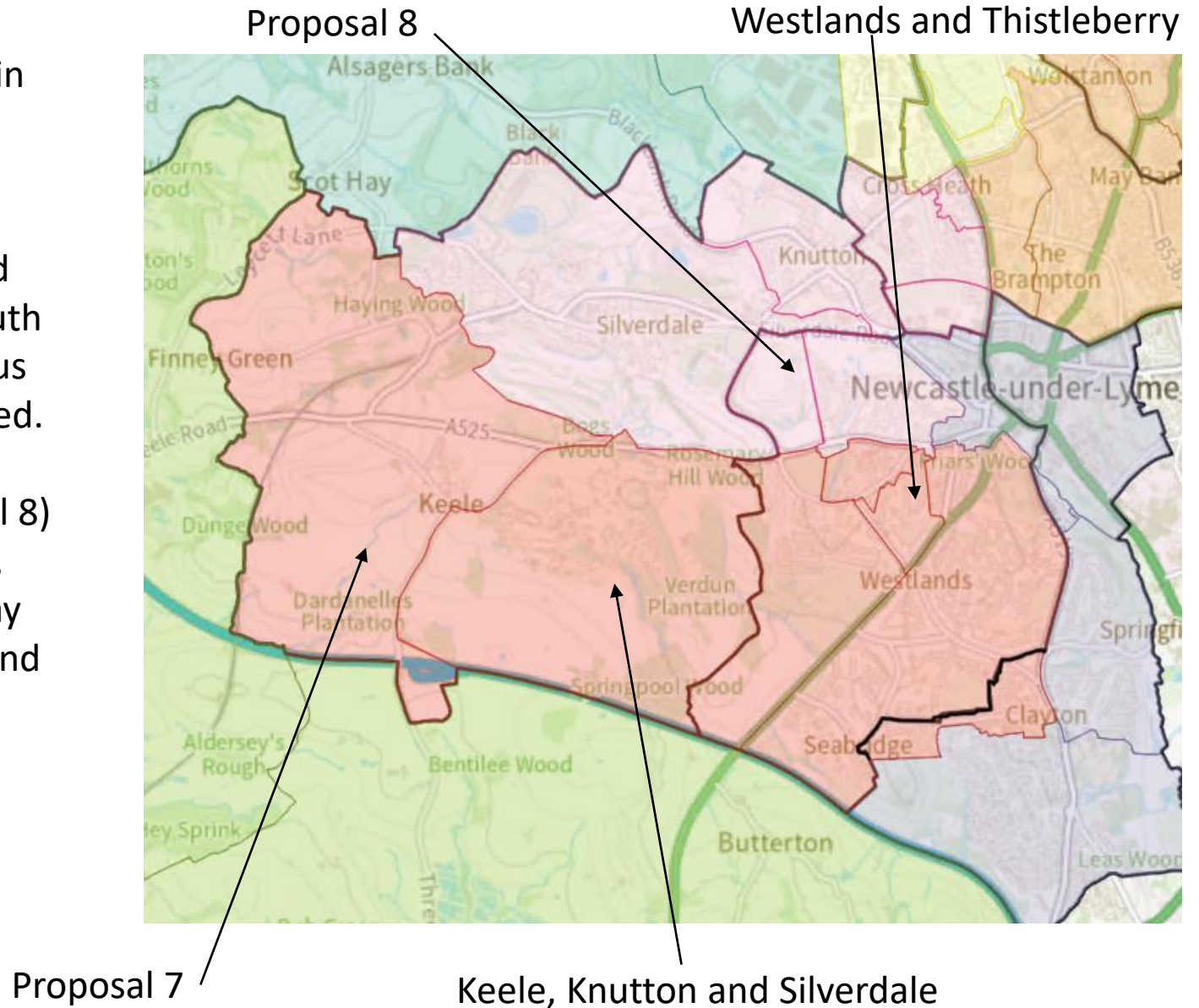
Westlands and Thistleberry ED is projected to have a variance of -10.1% by 2028 and therefore needs to gain electors.

In the suggestion on the map to the right, the division gains a large portion of the current Keele, Knutton and Silverdale ED (Proposal 7), and a small area to the south east from Newcastle South (as outlined on the previous slide, Proposal 5). The proposed division is shown in red.

The area to the north of the existing division (Proposal 8) then moves along with the Silverdale area from Keele, Knutton and Silverdale ED, and part of the existing May Bank and Cross Heath division, into a new Silverdale and Knutton ED.

The initial suggestion is to rename this division 'Westlands, Thistleberry and Keele'.

Forecast 2028 Variance: -10.1%
Variance after proposed changes: -7.5%



Keele, Knutton and Silverdale (Silverdale & Knutton)

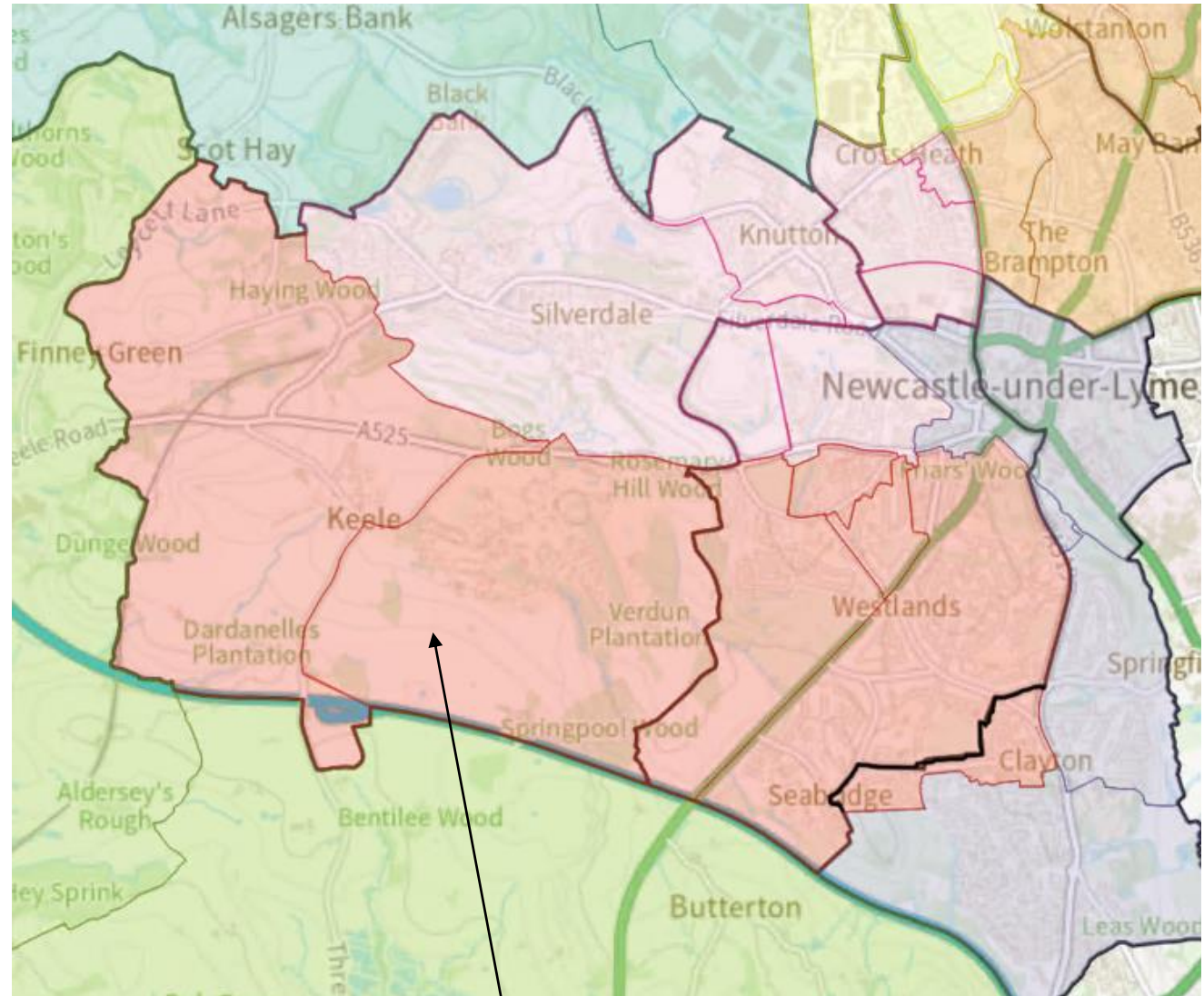
Keele, Knutton and Silverdale ED is projected to have a variance of -28.7% by 2028 and therefore requires significant boundary changes.

In the proposal on the map to the right, and as outlined on the previous slides, the south of the division around Keele joins with Westlands and Thistleberry ED, and the north of the division around Silverdale joins with the area of Knutton.

The initial suggestion is to rename this division 'Silverdale and Knutton' division, the proposed new division is shown in pink on the map.

Forecast 2028 Variance: -28.7%

Variance after proposed changes: -4.8%



Keele, Knutton and Silverdale

Newcastle Proposed Divisions

Talke & Red Street -6.4%

Audley and Chesterton
+3.8%

Westlands,
Thistleberry and
Keele -7.5%

Newcastle Rural -4.9%

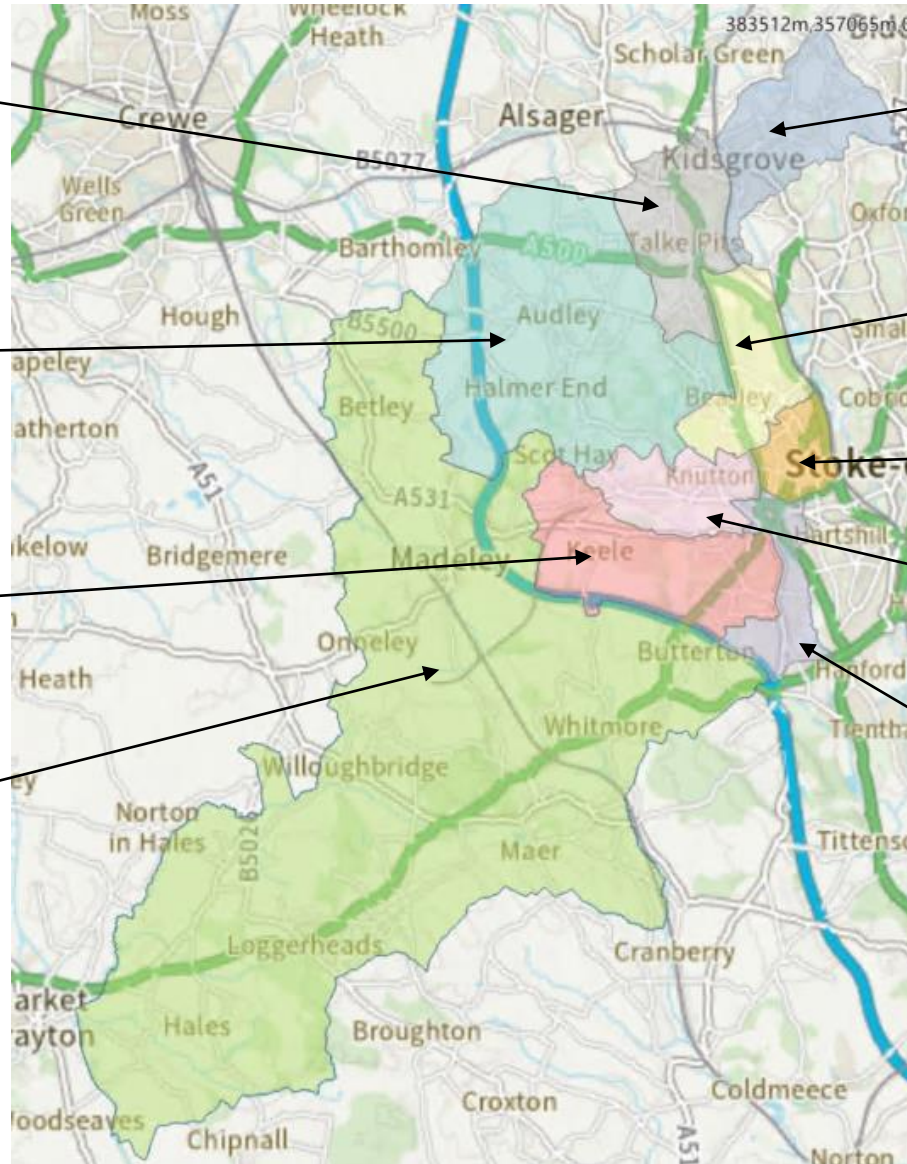
Kidsgrove -3.9%

Bradwell, Churchfields and
Porthill -7.4%

May Bank & Wolstanton -
8.0%

Silverdale & Knutton -4.8%

Newcastle South -5.9%



Division names shown are suggestions based on the geographic areas and also aim to have a good community fit.