

Staffordshire Moorlands - Electoral Divisions Draft Proposals

26 January 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

Staffordshire Moorlands - Projected Division Variances 2028

Name of Division	Electorate 2022	% Variance to Staffordshire Average 2022	Forecast Electorate 2028	% Variance to Staffordshire Average 2028
Biddulph North	9,851	-8.3%	10,281	-11.5%
Biddulph South & Endon	11,019	2.6%	11,545	-0.6%
Caverswall	10,792	0.5%	11,677	0.5%
Cheadle & Checkley	11,311	5.3%	12,711	9.4%
Churnet Valley	11,677	8.7%	12,877	10.8%
Leek Rural	11,385	6.0%	11,878	2.3%
Leek South	11,069	3.0%	11,982	3.1%
Staffordshire Moorlands Total	77,104		82,951	
Staffordshire Total	666,097		720,224	
Staffordshire Moorlands Average	11,015	2.5%	11,850	2.0%
Staffordshire Average	10,744		11,617	

Staffordshire Moorlands - Key Points

- Staffordshire Moorlands District total projected electorate in 2028 is 82,951.
- Staffordshire Moorlands District will continue to have 7 divisions.
- The average electorate per division in Staffordshire Moorlands is forecast to be 11,850. This is slightly higher 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 Biddulph North and Churnet Valley, with forecast variances of over +/- 10%. Boundary changes will be required to improve electoral equality across the district.
- Even in divisions where variances are theoretically within acceptable levels, the effects of natural population change and the impact of housing developments across the district means that changes may be required in order to meet the Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBCE) requirements of electoral equality for voters, reflecting community identities and interests, and effective and convenient local government.

Moorlands Divisions & Projected Variances by 2028

Biddulph North
-11.5%

Biddulph South &
Endon -0.6%

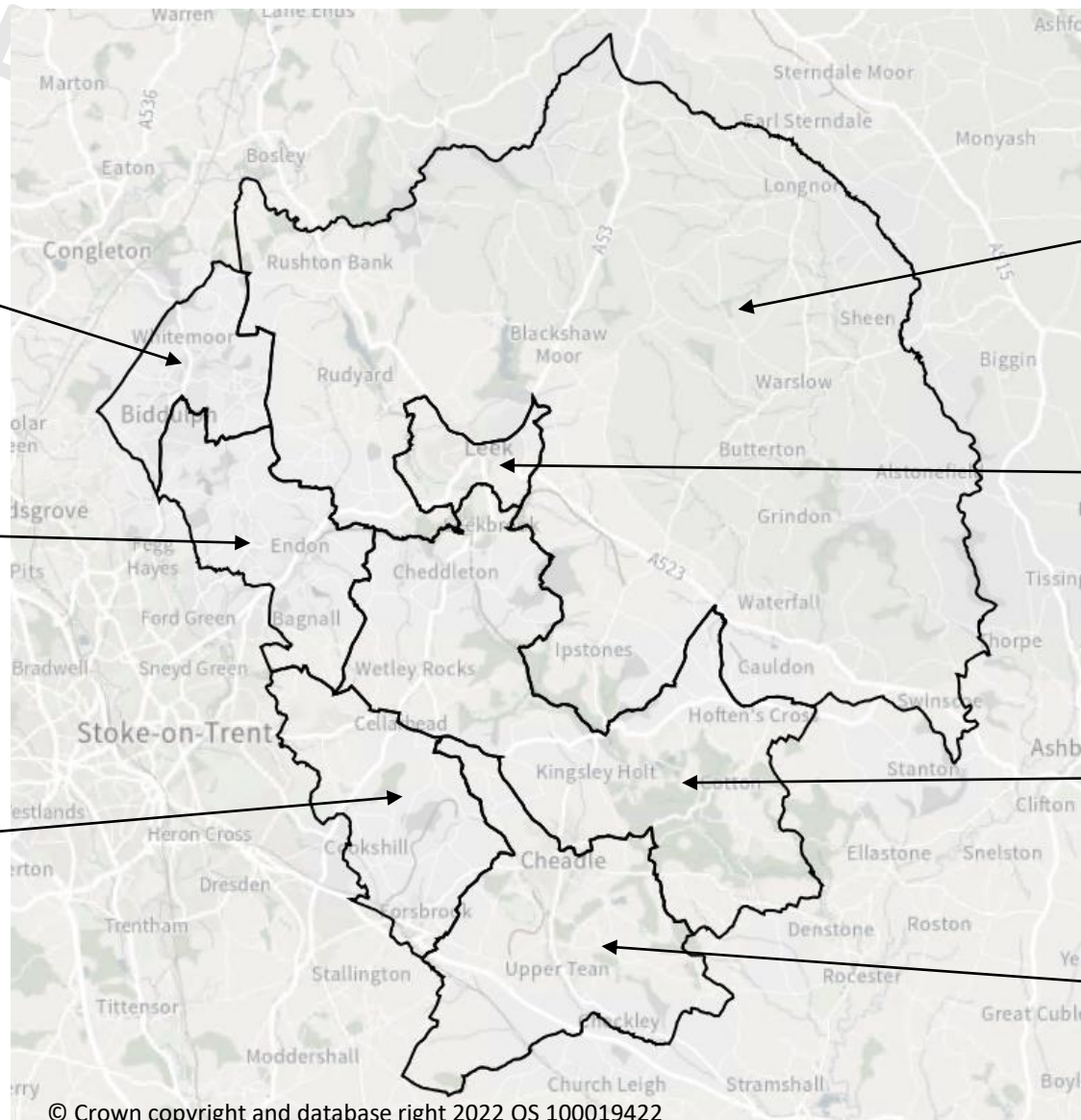
Caverswall 0.5%

Leek Rural +2.3%

Leek South +3.1%

Churnet Valley +10.8%

Cheadle & Checkley
+9.4%

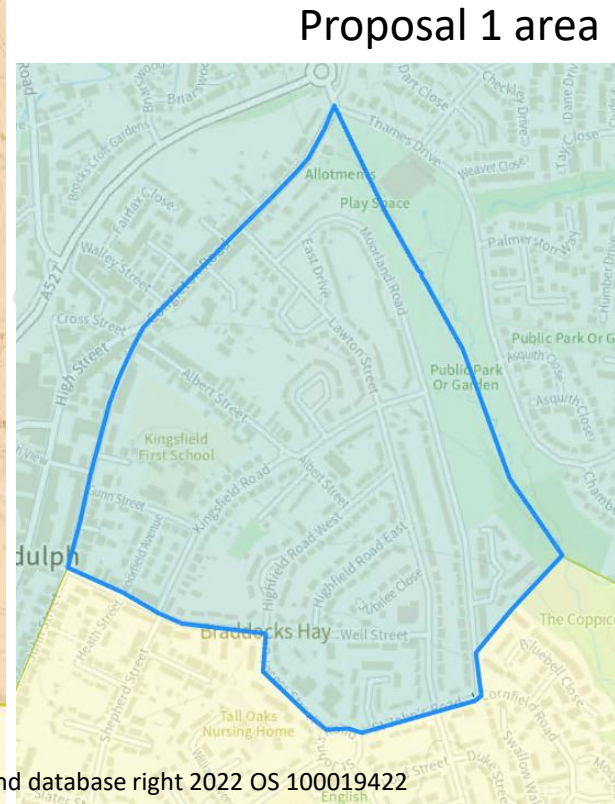
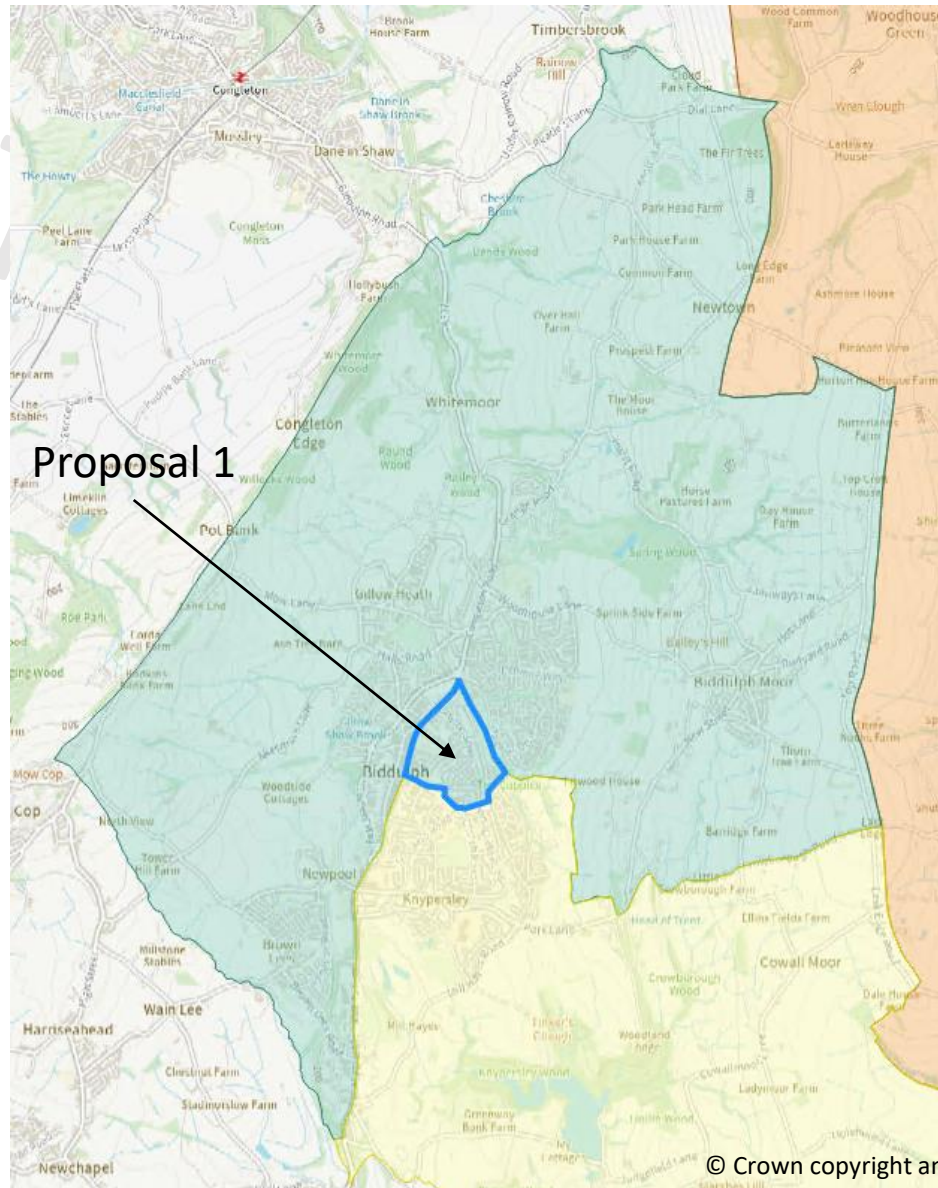


Biddulph North

Biddulph North ED is currently forecast to have a variance of -11.5% by 2028, and therefore the division requires more electors.

Proposal 1, as shown on the map, moves an area of the Biddulph East Ward into Biddulph North ED.

Forecast 2028 Variance: -11.5%
Variance after proposed changes: -0.1%



Biddulph South & Endon

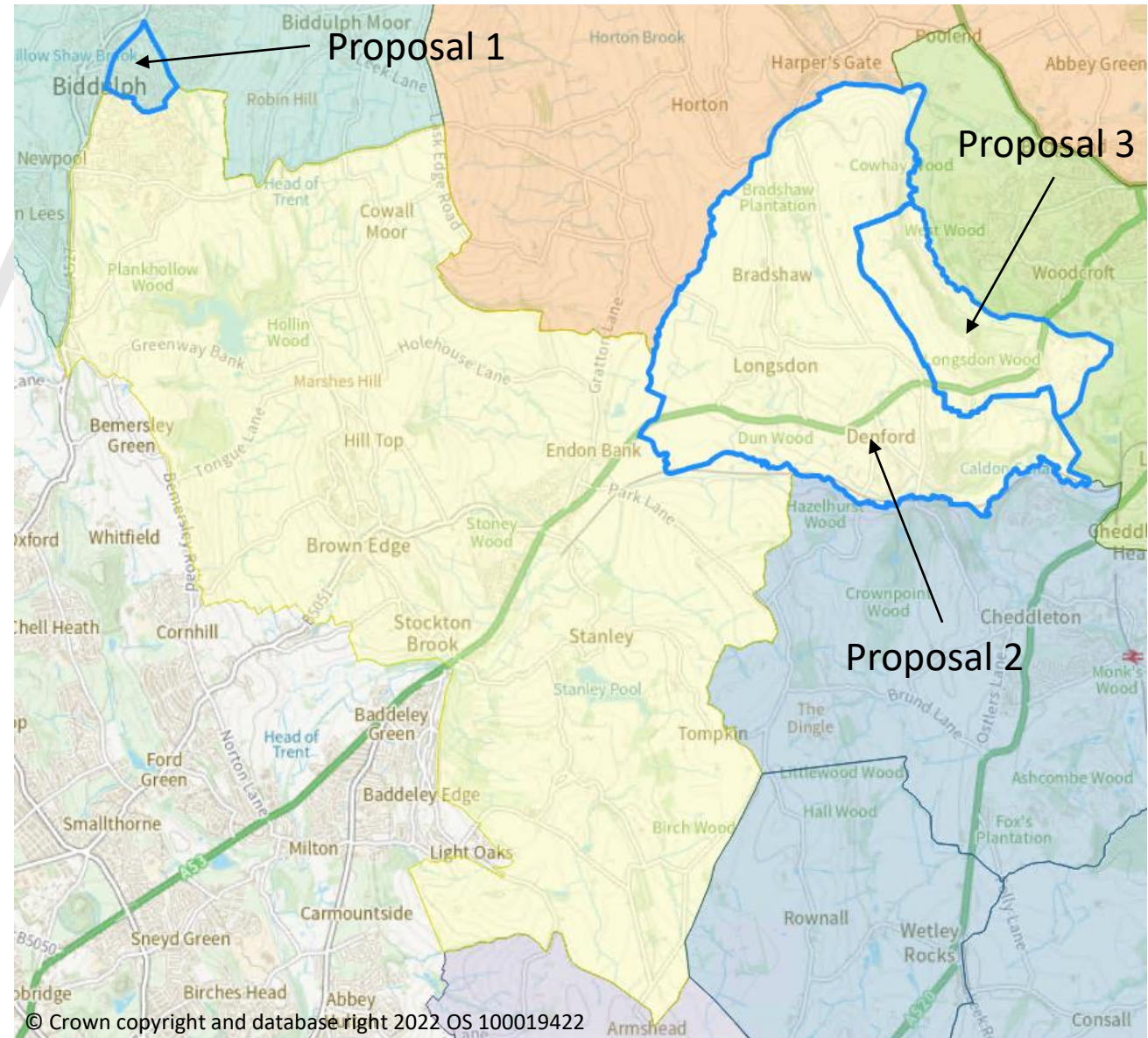
Biddulph South & Endon division is currently forecast to have a variance of -0.6% by 2028. This variance will increase due to changes required in neighbouring Biddulph North ED.

Proposal 1, as outlined previously, moves part of the Biddulph East Ward into Biddulph North division.

Proposal 2, as shown on the map, moves Longsdon Parish into Biddulph South & Endon ED.

Proposal 3, as shown on the map, moves part of the Leek South Ward (Ladderedge) into Biddulph South & Endon ED.

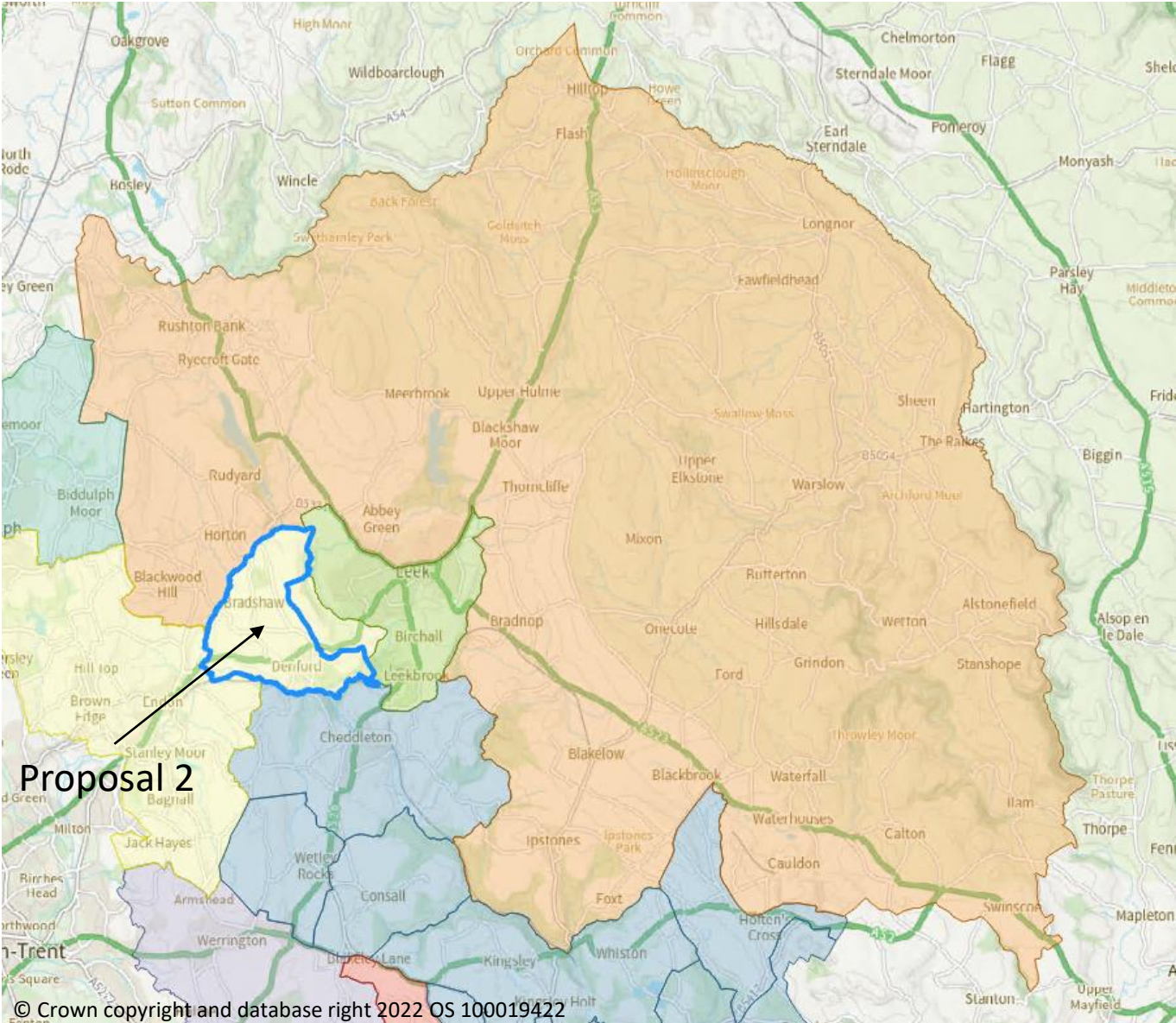
Forecast 2028 Variance: -0.6%
Variance after proposed changes: -3.3%



Leek Rural

Leek Rural ED is projected to have a variance of +2.3% by 2028. This is in line with the expected variances within the district.

Proposal 2, as outlined previously, moves the Longsdon Parish into Biddulph South & Endon ED.



Forecast 2028 Variance: +2.3%
Variance after proposed changes: -2.1%

Leek South

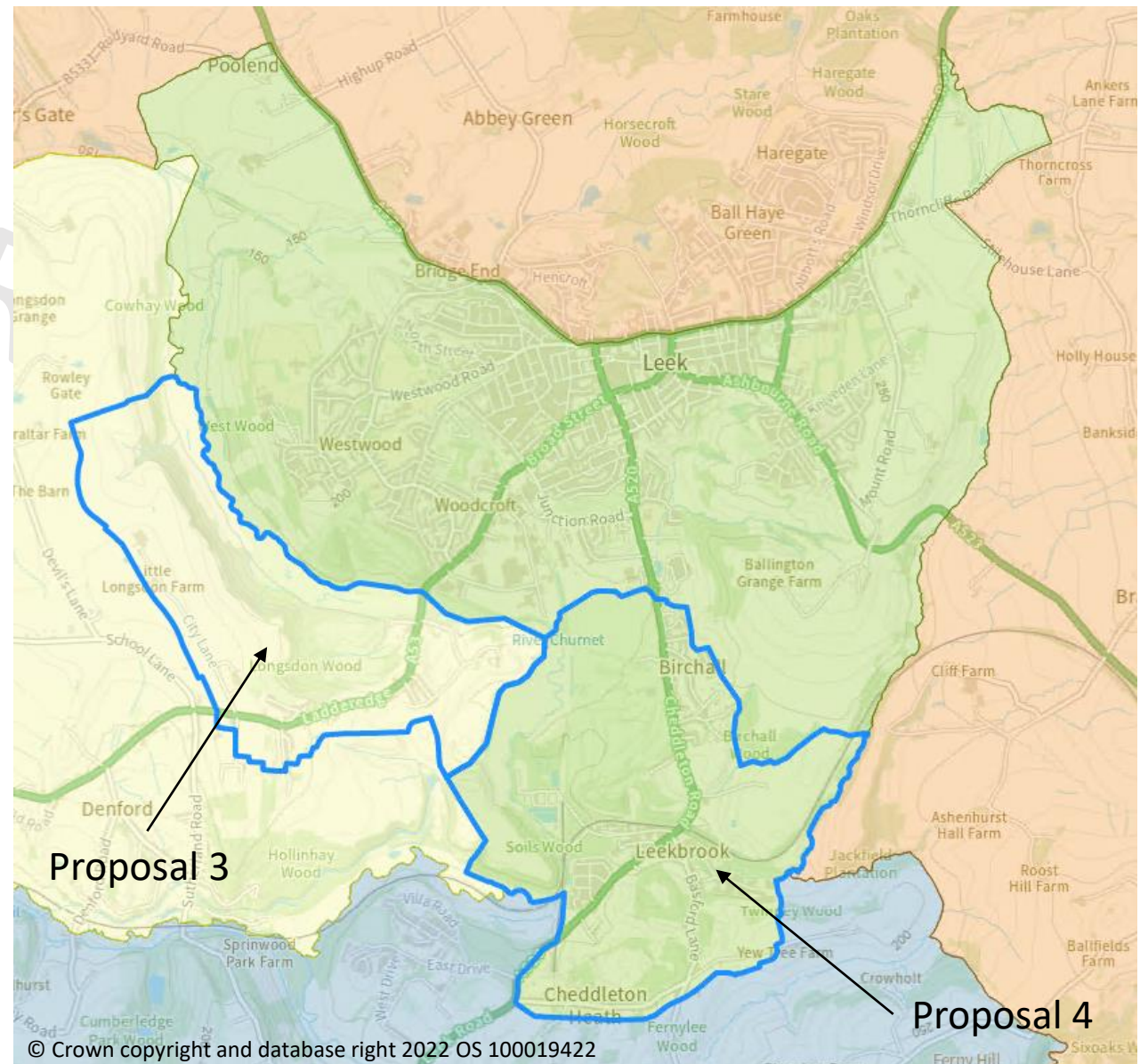
Leek South ED is projected to have a variance of -3.1% by 2028.

Proposal 3, as outlined previously, moves part of the Leek South Ward (Ladderedge) into Biddulph South & Endon ED.

Proposal 4, as shown on the map, moves the rest of Leek East Ward (Birchall) and Leek South Ward (Leekbrook) into Leek South ED. Whilst this further increases the variance, it does improve coterminousity.

If Leekbrook was to remain in Churnet Valley, the variance for Leek South would be 1.3% and Churnet Valley +8.2%.

Forecast 2028 Variance: +3.1%
Variance after proposed changes: +6.3%



Churnet Valley

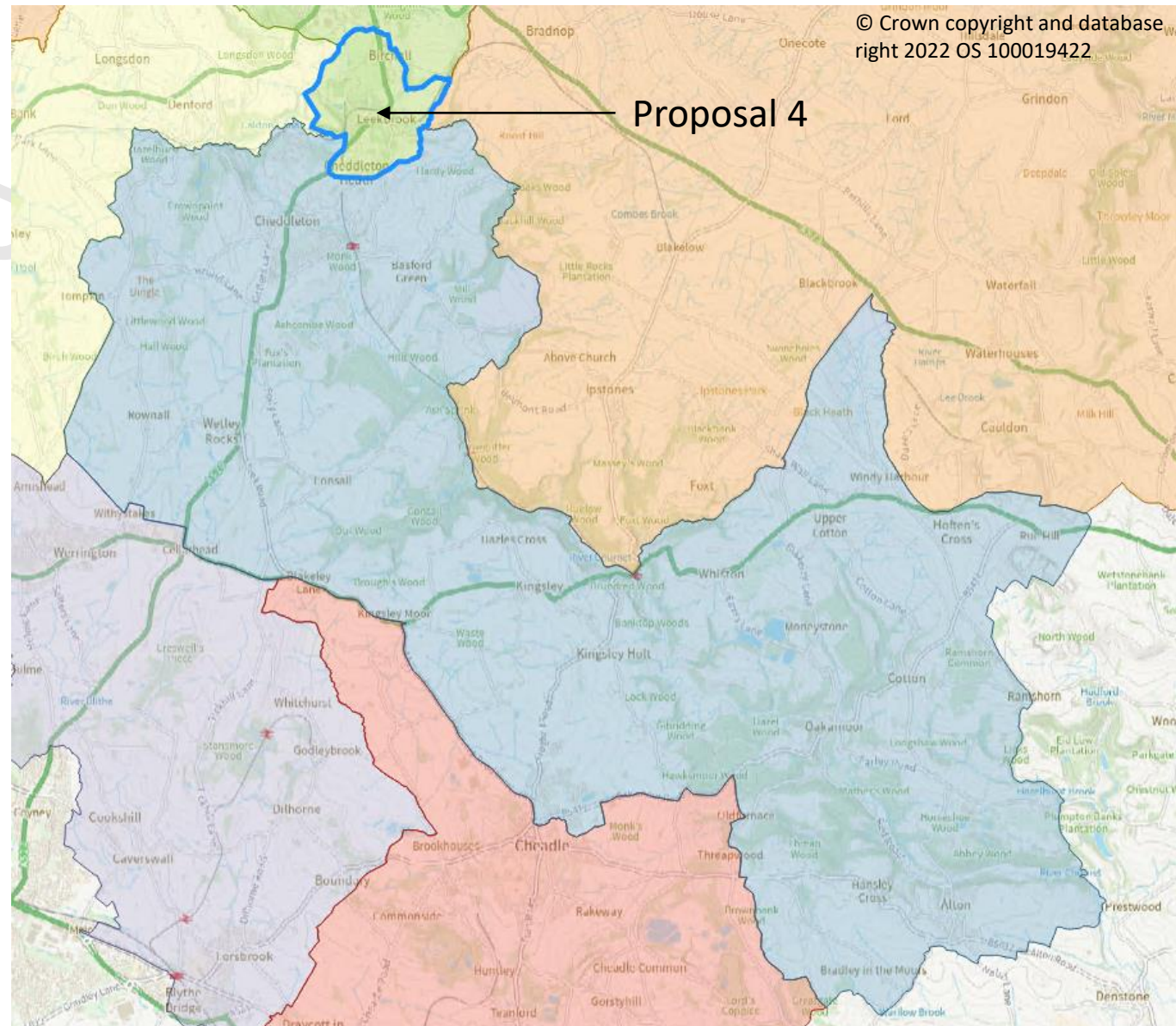
Churnet Valley ED is projected to have a variance of +10.8% by 2028 and therefore the number of electors needs to decrease.

Proposal 4, as outlined previously, moves the rest of the Leek East Ward (Birchall) and Leek South Ward (Leekbrook) into Leek South ED.

If Leekbrook was to remain in Churnet Valley, the variance for Leek South would be 1.3% and Churnet Valley +8.2%.

Forecast 2028 Variance: +10.8%

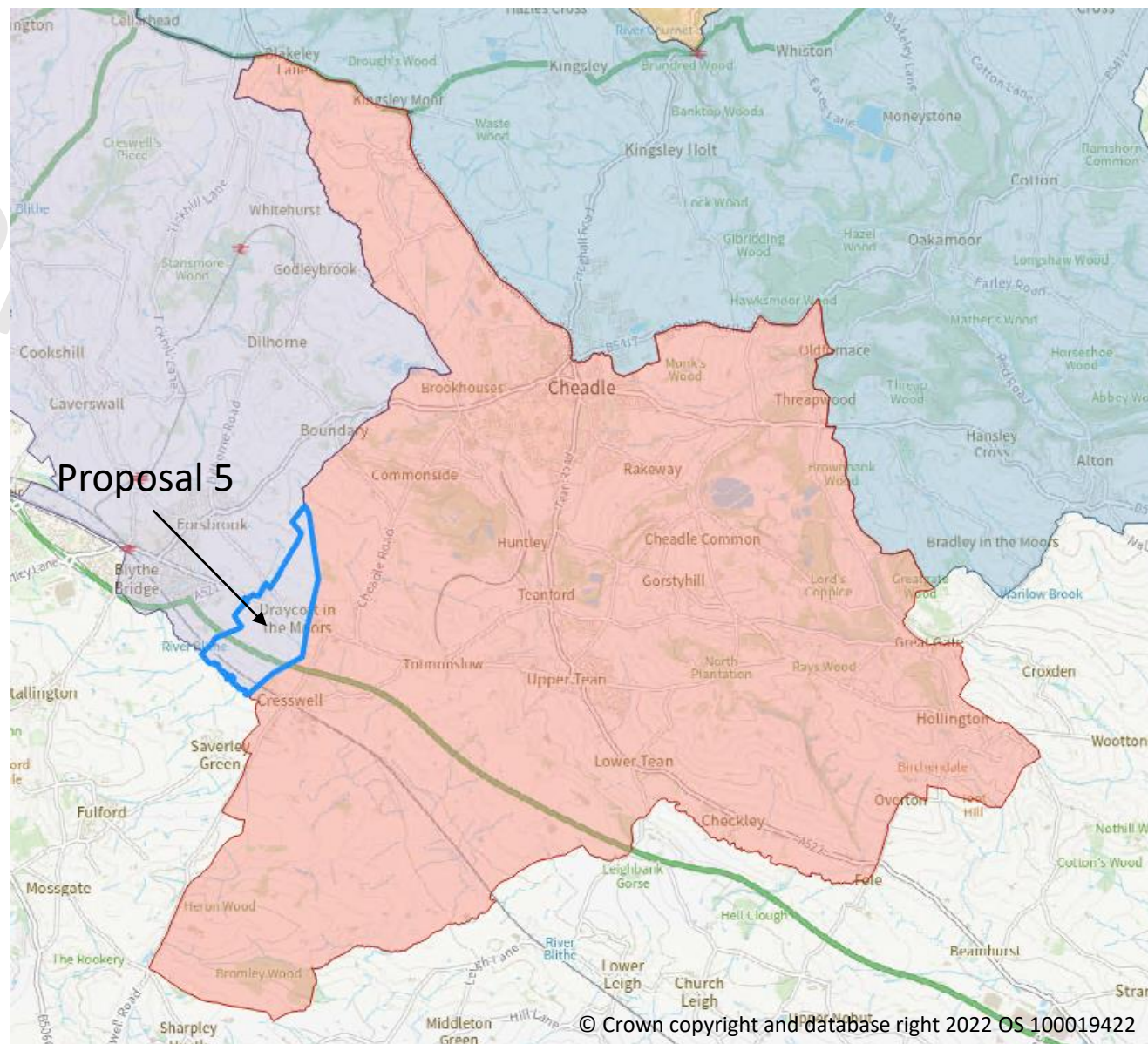
Variance after proposed changes: +3.2%



Cheadle & Checkley

Cheadle & Checkley ED is projected to have a variance of +9.4% by 2028 and therefore the number of electors needs to decrease.

Proposal 5, as shown on the map, moves a Draycott in the Moors into Caverswall ED.



Forecast 2028 Variance: +9.4%

Variance after proposed changes: +6.3%

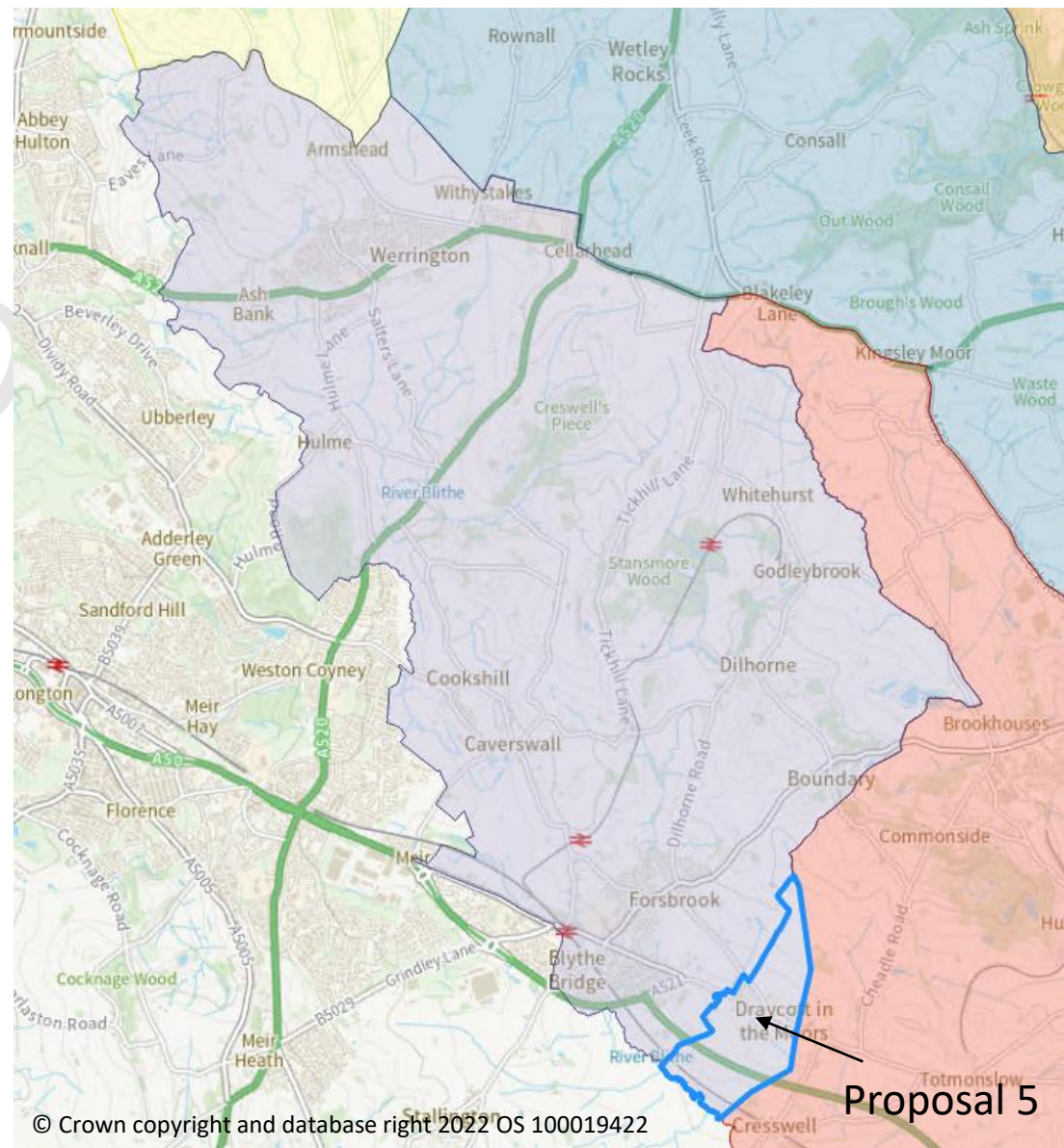
Caverswall

Caverswall ED is projected to have a variance of +0.5% by 2028.

To reduce the variance in Cheadle & Checkley, as outlined previous, it is proposed that Draycott in the Moors (Proposal 5) is included in the Caverswall ED.

Forecast 2028 Variance: +0.5%

Variance after proposed changes: +3.7%



Staffordshire Moorlands Proposals- Summary

- The potential changes outlined in this analysis are shown on the following slide, including the potential new variances across each division.
- This could achieve better electoral equality and maintain a reasonable level of coterminosity.
- With the changes suggested here, all divisions would have an electoral variance of less than +/- 10%.
- The LG BCE will want to explore all alternative options before accepting any division pattern and variance.

Staffordshire Moorlands Proposed Divisions

Biddulph North
-0.1%

Biddulph South &
Endon -3.3%

Caverswall +3.7%

Leek Rural -2.1%

Leek South +6.3%

Churnet Valley +3.2%

Cheadle & Checkley
+6.3%

