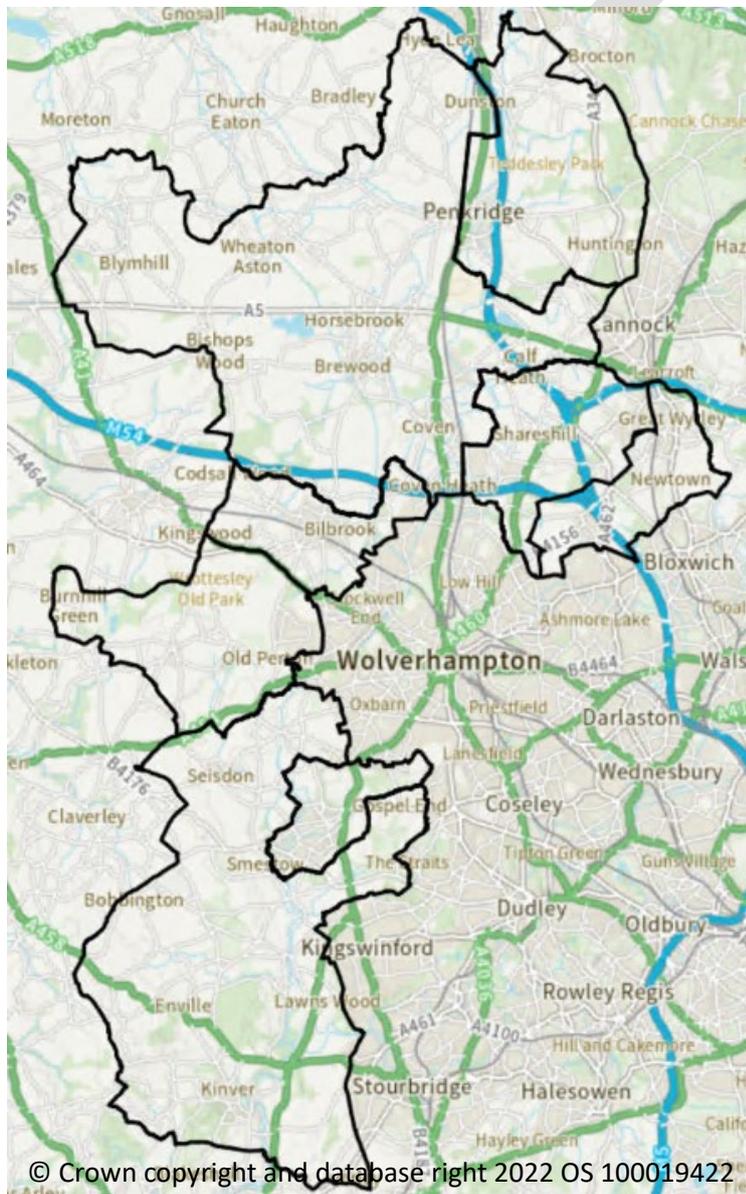
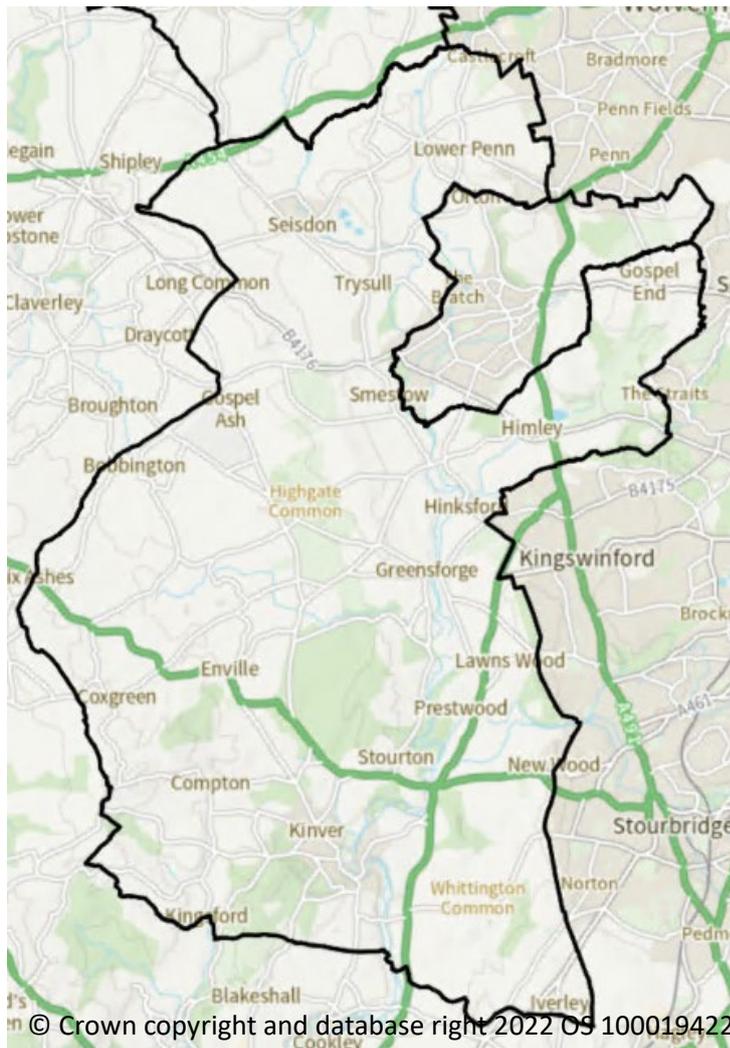


South Staffordshire District

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 coterminousity 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.

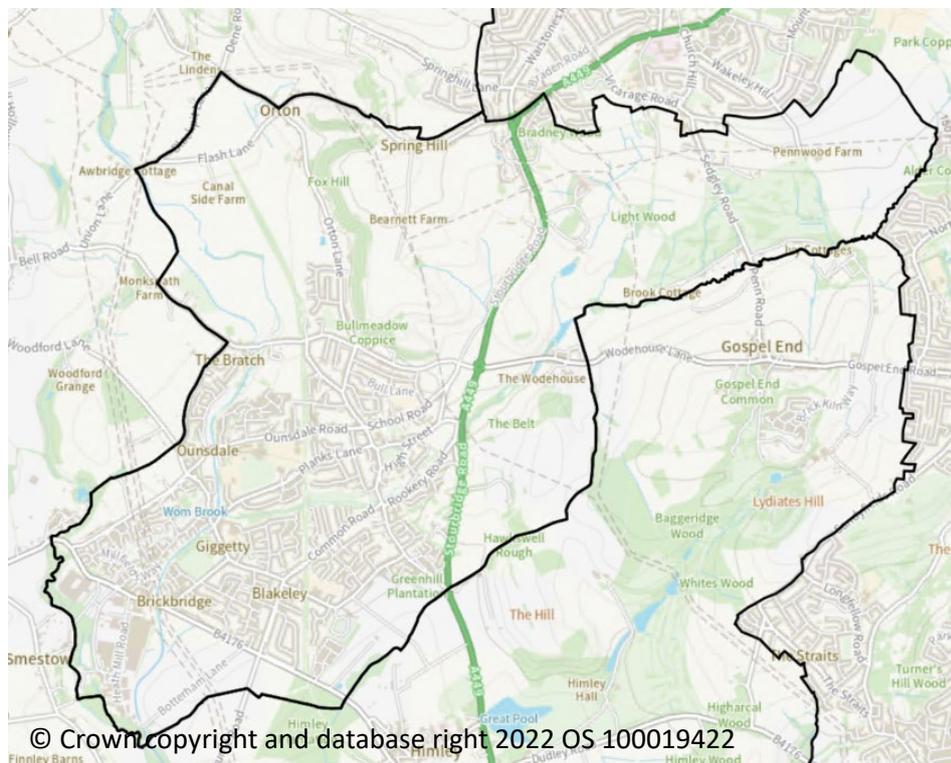
Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,057 – a variance of -4.8% from the Staffordshire average.

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.

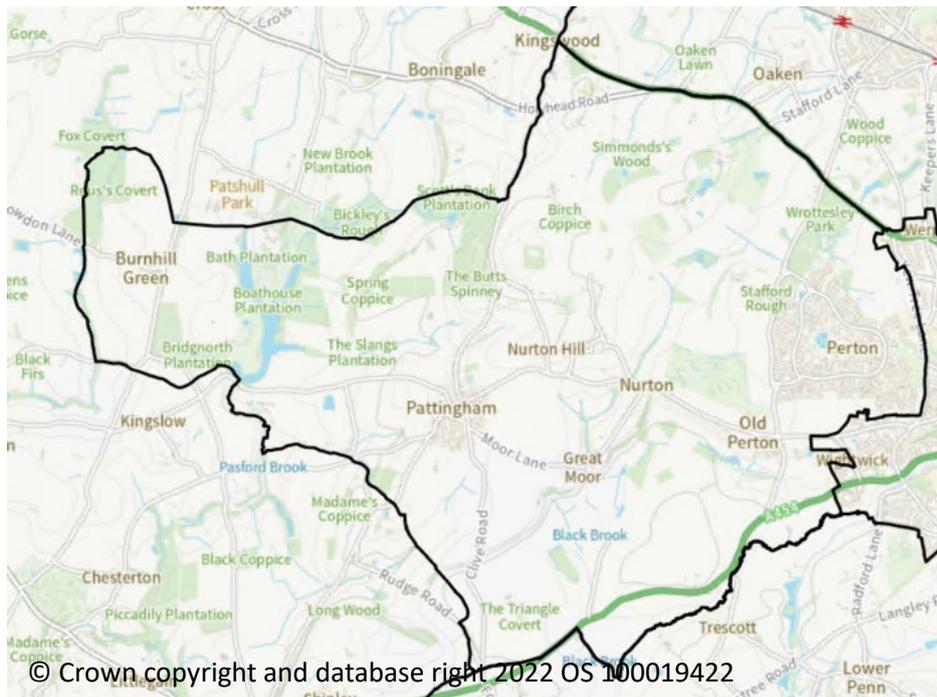
There are two doctors' surgeries serving the residents of Wombourne located on Gravel Hill and Planks Lane. Residents choose which practice they join from the general population of Wombourne. Likewise, there are two dental practices.

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 Wrottesley 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 Wrottesley 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.

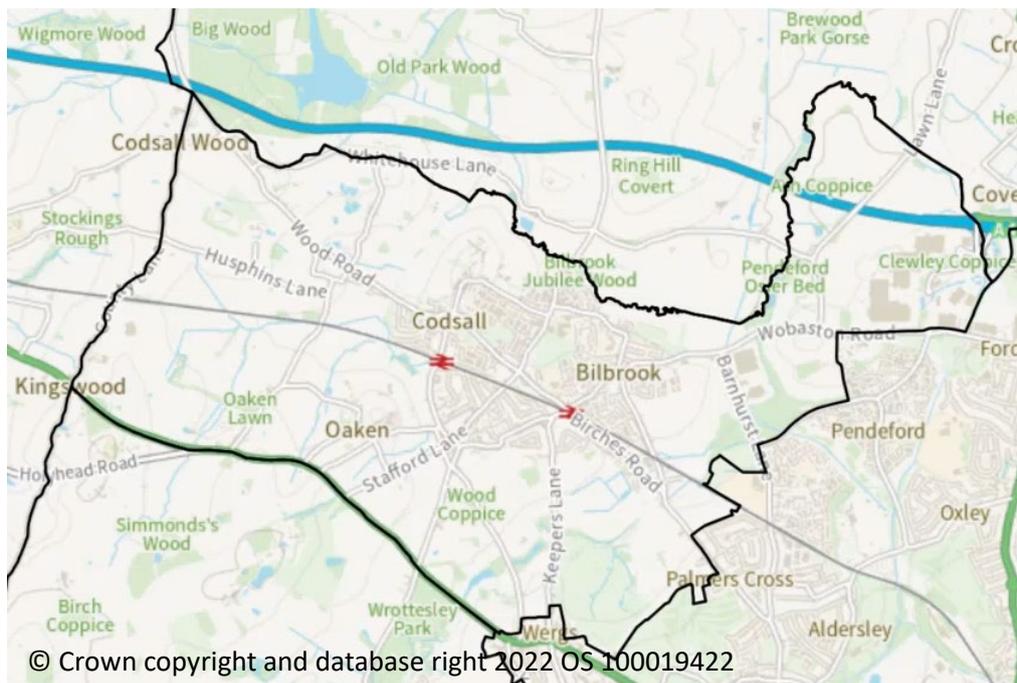
Facilities: Perton offers the only supermarket for Pattingham and Pathsull whilst also offering a chemist and local shops. Whereas Pattingham offers rural walks and cafes so both villages can enjoy the difference in communities.

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



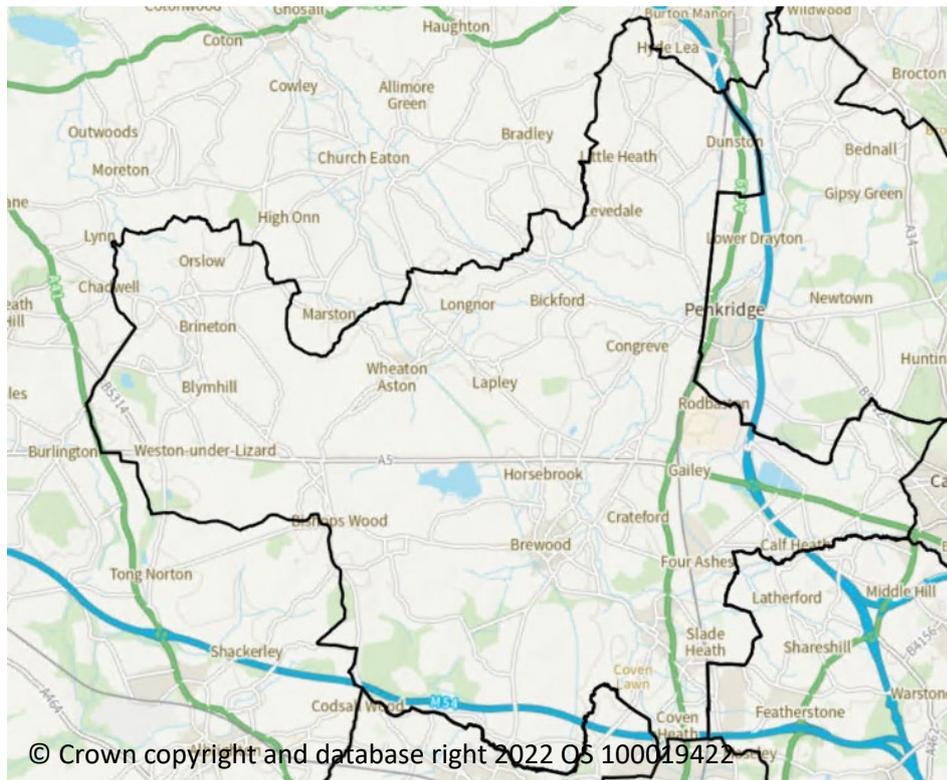
Summary of Division: Codsall division has county boundaries to the east and west, and then shares a boundary with Perton ED to the south (following the ward boundary with Perton Wrottesley), and Brewood ED (along the boundary with Brewood Coven and Blymhill ward) to the north. There are 2 main populated 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 Penkridge (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 Penkridge 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 Penkridge feeding into two middle schools Brewood (south and West of the area) and Penkridge 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 Penkridge, 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.

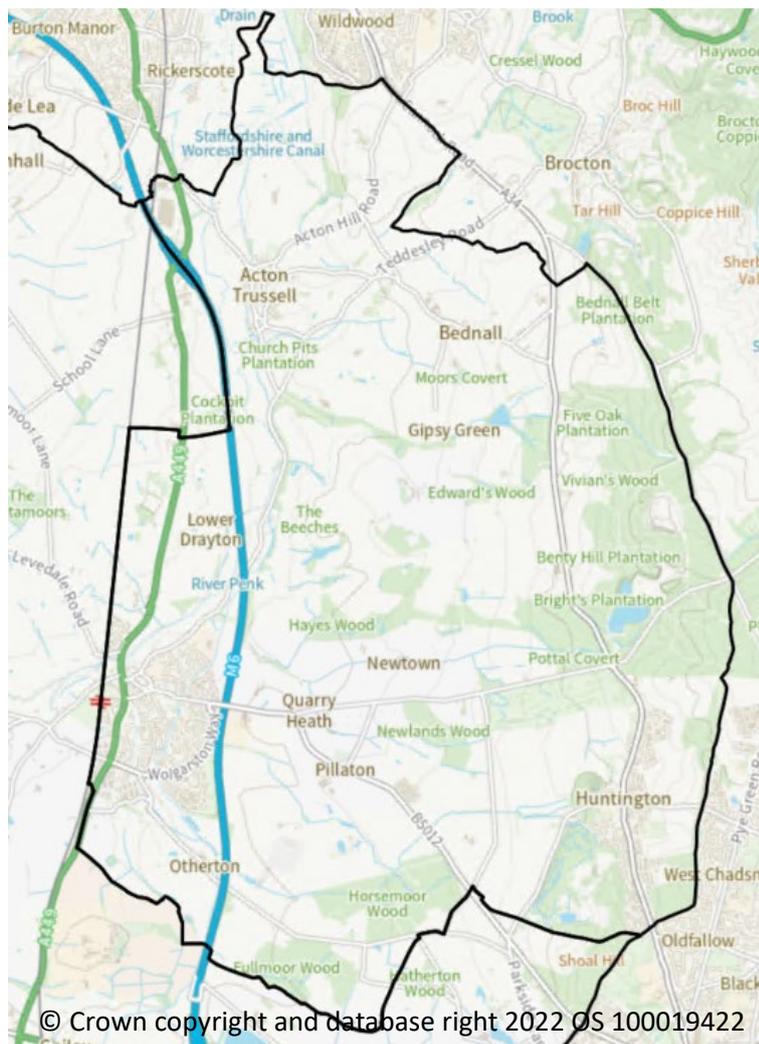
Facilities: All the residents are served by two medical practices one at Brewood and the other at Penkridge, both of whom are in the same Stafford medica group.

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.

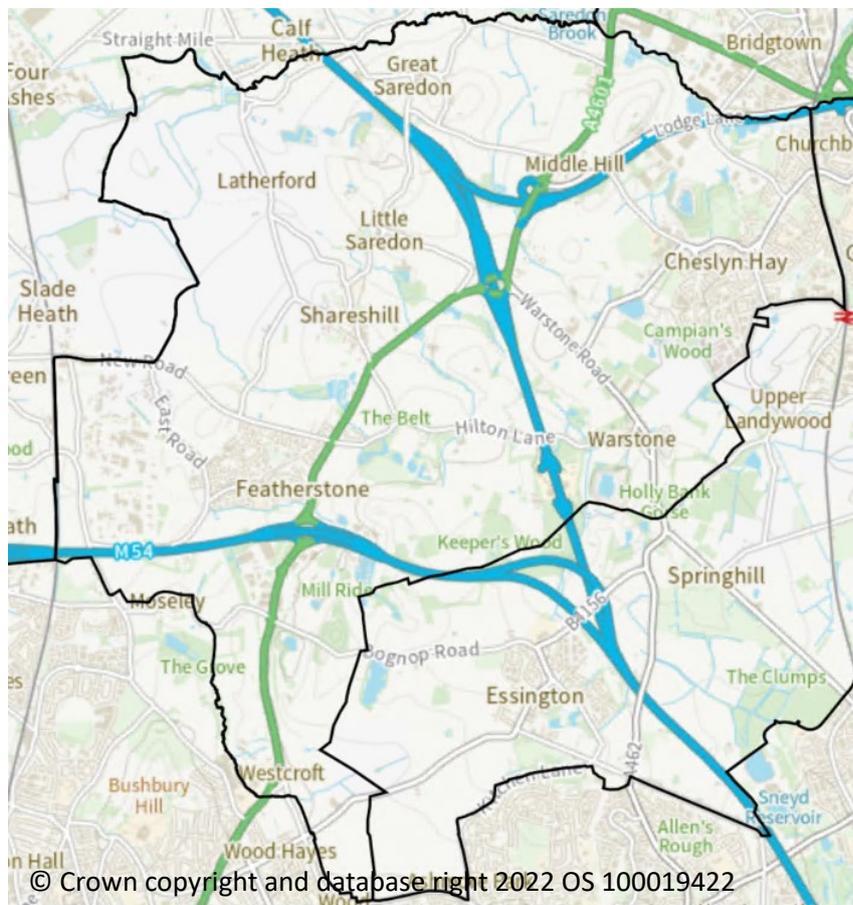
All areas have a Parish Council and therefore local identification is important to them.

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.

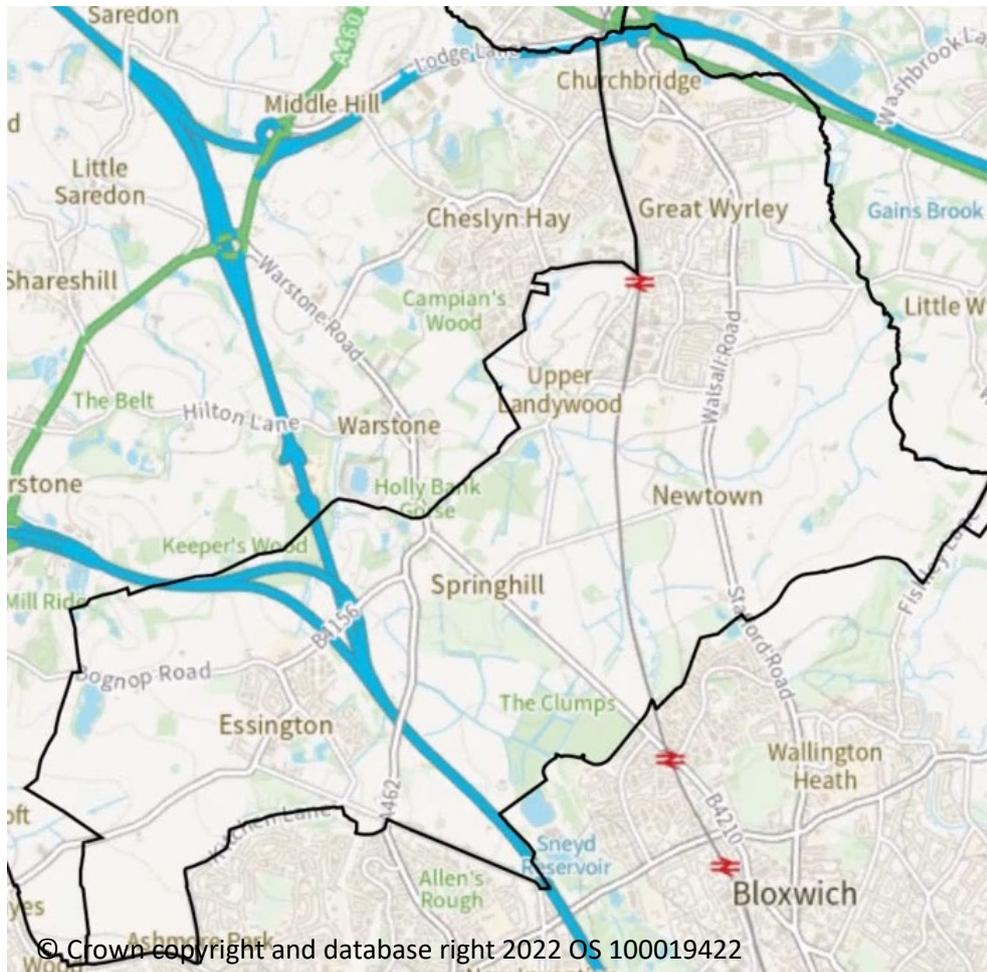
The M6 The A5 at Wedges Mills. Mill Lane, Saredon, M54 and New Road, Featherstone, A462 Shareshill and Latherford Lane Cheslyn Hay/Great Wyrley plus a railway line passing through. All recognisable boundaries that tie in with where the communities place themselves.

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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