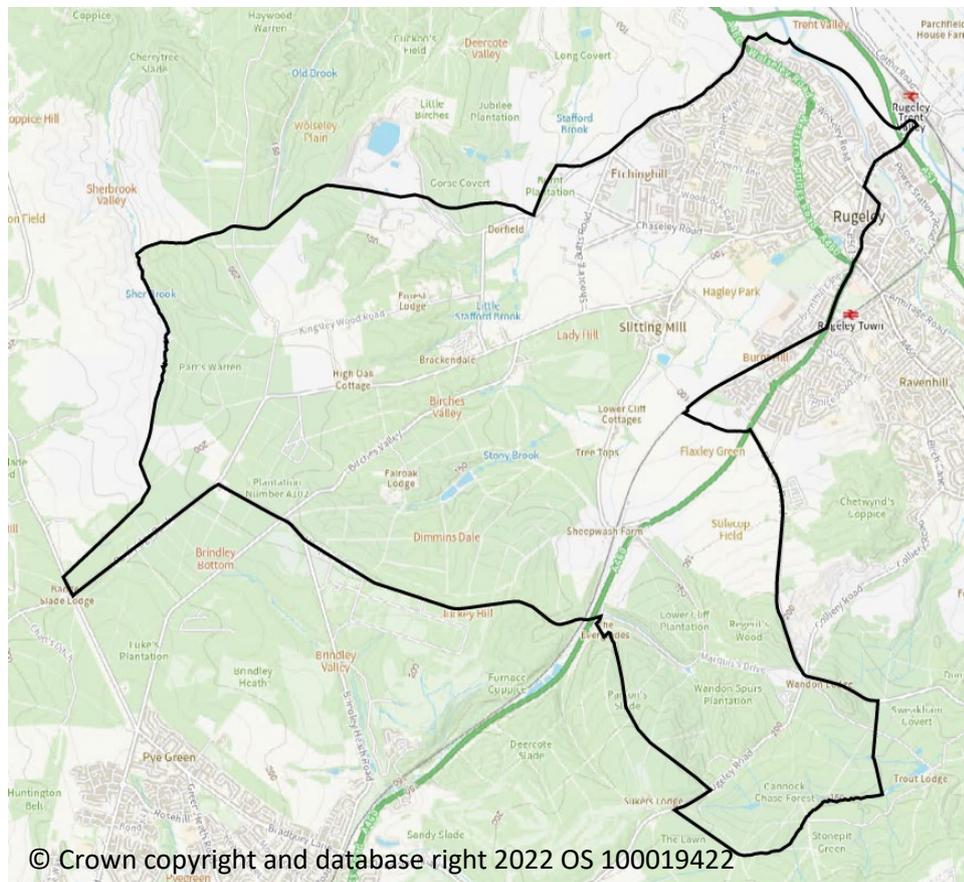


Cannock District

Division 1: Etchinghill & Heath



Summary of Division: The proposal is for Etchinghill & Heath to be extended to the east to incorporate part of Western Springs and Hagley (current) wards.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,823– a variance of –6.8% from the Staffordshire average. To improve the variance further it would be necessary for the division to traverse the sparsely populated Cannock Chase Forest area.

Criteria 2: Community Identity –

Transport links: Springfield estate is within walking reach of the town however bus services are limited. Elsewhere, walkways through housing estates do ensure easy routes through to main roads.

Rugeley Town Railway Station has a reliable service to Hednesford, Cannock and Birmingham

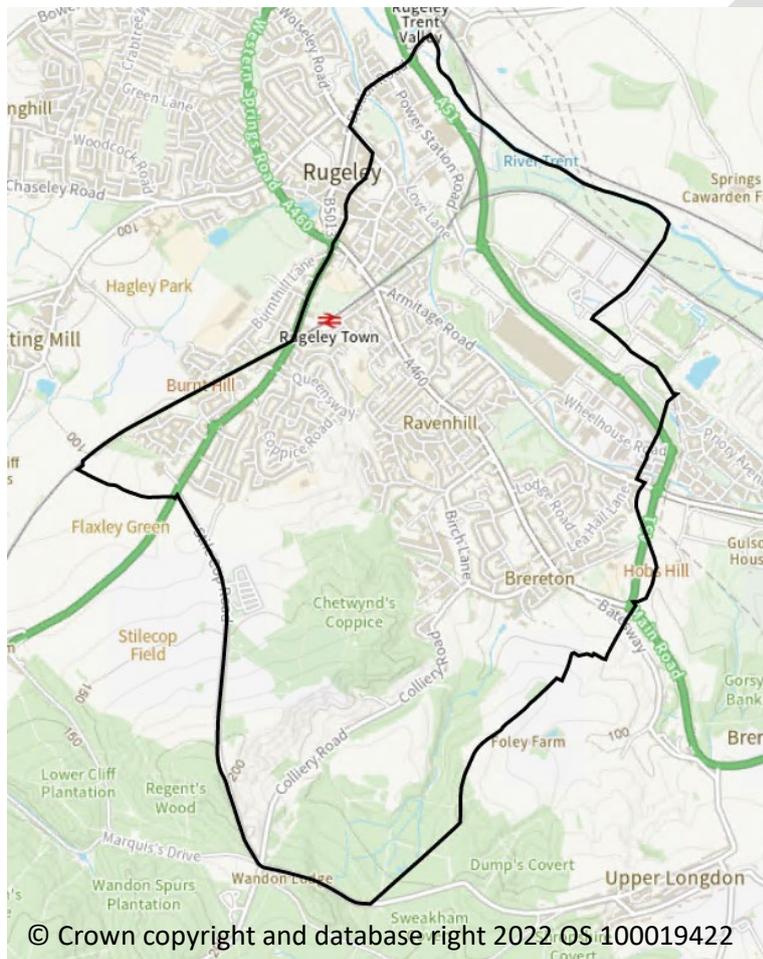
Etchinghill as a community have a strong affiliation to Cannock Chase, and the AONB and believes in its protection.

- Slitting Mill Victory Hall is a well establish village facility that continues to thrive as it offers numerous local groups who use the hall for meetings and activities as well as private hire.
- Church of the Holy Spirit, and Hall, Mount Road are used by local groups, for meetings and activities.

- Rugeley Community Centre, Community Church, Rugeley Foodbank and Voyage Care. It is widely used as a central community hub across Rugeley and Brereton for meetings and events.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the proposed changes result in two split (current) wards, Western Springs and Hagley. There would be a reasonable level of coterminosity should the draft recommendations for Cannock Chase wards be agreed, with this division including the whole of Etching Hill & the Heath ward and part of the Western Springs ward. To improve the variance, it would be necessary to traverse the sparsely populated Cannock Chase Forest area. This would likely result in one councillor serving very distinct and geographically distanced communities.

Division 2: Brereton & Ravenhill



Summary of Division: The proposal is for Etchinghill & Heath to be extended to the east to incorporate part of Western Springs and Hagley (current) wards, therefore reducing the geographical area of Brereton & Ravenhill.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 10,743– a variance of –7.5% from the Staffordshire average. To improve the variance further it would be necessary for Etchinghill & Heath division to traverse the sparsely populated Cannock Chase Forest area.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Brereton, Ravenhill and Hagley are connected by a walkway.

The current Division is predominantly an old mining community as is Rugeley as a town. The Pear Tree Estate situated in Hagley was built to house the workers of the former Lea Hall Colliery and Power Station that were in Brereton. Since the last boundary review Brereton, Ravenhill and Hagley have all increased in size due to housing development and have become densely populated areas.

Community Groups: Brereton and Ravenhill residents tend to involve themselves with community groups that are run from Ravenhill Park and Parish Hall, whereas the residents of Hagley tend to utilise the Community Church and Rose Theatre in Rugeley itself. There are many organisations that meet and run events at the Community Church, this location tends to attract residents from all parts of this Division, the Food Bank, Cannock Chase District Housing team, Citizens Advice and Police are examples of organisations that utilise this venue. There is also the Victory Church that runs events for families and children, Elmore Park that is utilised by residents from Hagley, these two facilities will also move from Brereton and Ravenhill into Etching Hill.

In terms of recreational facilities, currently this division has the leisure centre and the community centre on Burnthill Lane, there will also be a number of football pitches installed at this location, these will all be moved into Etching Hill after the changes take place. Brereton has Ravenhill Park which has a football pitch and tennis courts, there are no other recreational facilities within Brereton.

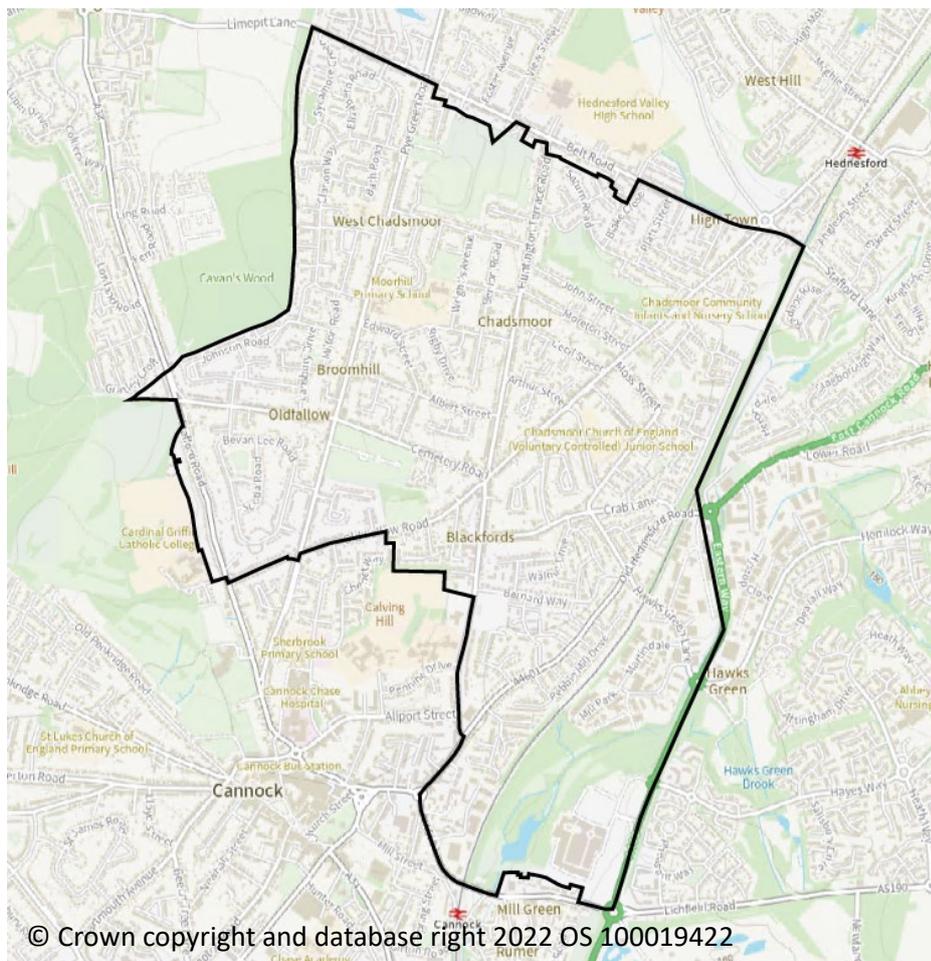
Facilities: The residents of the Division tend to shop in Rugeley as it is the main town, Hagley have a convenience store, but choice is limited hence the reason residents utilise the town which has several supermarkets. In terms of medical provision, there is a medical centre on the main road into Rugeley, Sandy Lane Health Centre, this serves the community of Hagley, and some of the town centre. In addition to Sandy Lane, there are four further doctor's surgeries in the current division which will tie into the new division nicely. There are currently three primary schools in Brereton that serve the community, Redbrook Hays, Hob Hill and St Josephs, Hagley has two, Chase View and Churchfield. The children on Pear Tree Estate can also access St Josephs as there is a walkway that allows access to the school from the estate. Currently children also have access to the Chancel School which is on the boundary.

Identifiable boundaries: Etching Hill and Hagley, Hagley will be effectively split in two, the railway line being the natural boundary. In terms of the boundary in the town centre there is little change, the boundary has only moved one road across and will make little difference.

Parishes: Brereton and Ravenhill fall under the current Brereton and Ravenhill Parish. The Hagley part of the Division has always been part of the Rugeley Town and has its own Town Councillor. With the proposed changes to the boundaries, Hagley will effectively be split between two Divisions.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the proposed changes result in two split (current) wards, Western Springs and Hagley. There would be a reasonable level of coterminosity should the draft recommendations for Cannock Chase wards be agreed, with this division including the whole of Brereton & Ravenhill ward and part of the Western Springs ward.

Division 3: Chadsmoor



Summary of Division: The proposal is for Chadsmoor ED to comprise the current boundary, plus a small area to the south of Old Fallow Road.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,390 – a variance of –1.9% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity – the inclusion of the area to the south of Old Falls Road and Blackfords has an affinity with the Cannock East Ward/ Chadsmoor division. Residents are likely to travel to Chadsmoor for schools and to Blackfords rather than Cannock Town Centre.

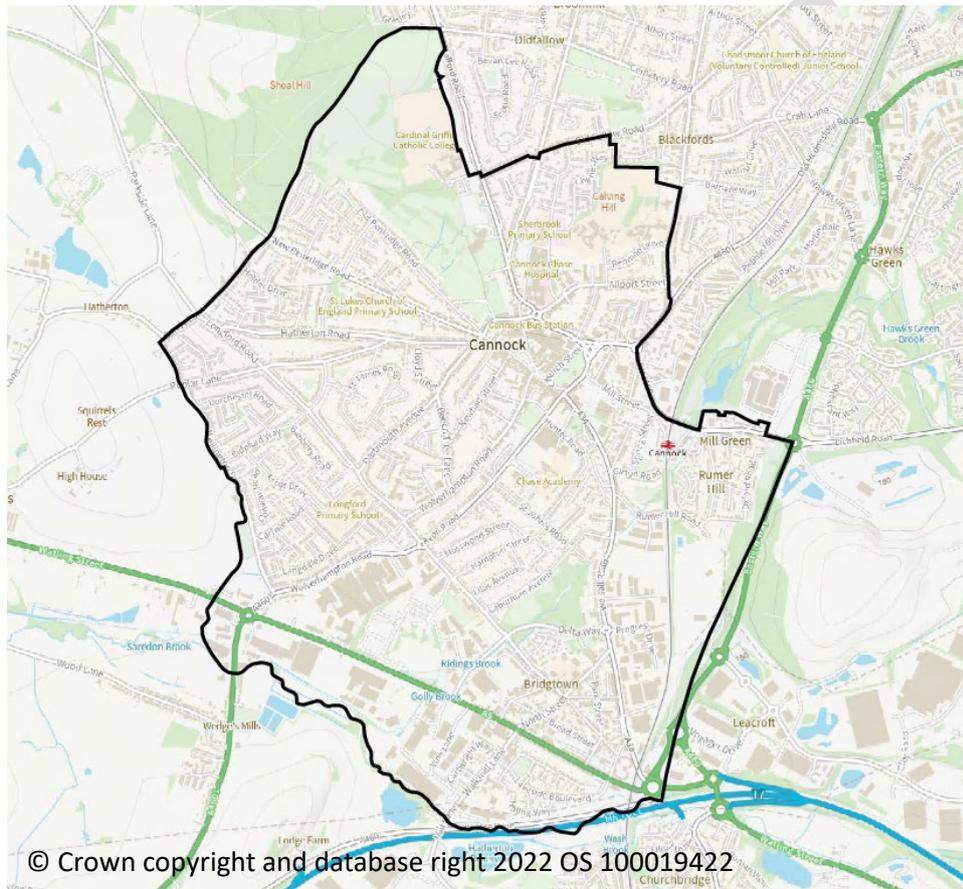
Consideration was given to including a larger area to the south of Old Falls Road, including Chenet Drive however, the lower part of the road and the estates off, would consider themselves part of Cannock Town. Children would use Cannock Schools, they would shop and socialise in Cannock Town and would probably use Cannock Railway Station, whereas the Chadsmoor side are more likely to use the station at Hednesford.

Community groups: Community groups are likely to attend St Aiden's Church and the community sessions offered by them.

Facilities: People in the additional area would access the high street in Chadsmoor. They would also fall into the catchment for the local primary schools within Chadsmoor. There is a local pharmacy on the high street and residents are close to local well-developed parks. We believe there is a strong identifiable boundary as the main road acts as a natural boundary.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the division provides a reasonable level of coterminosity as it includes the existing Cannock North and Cannock East ward boundaries, but also includes a small part of Cannock West ward. Coterminosity with the draft recommendations for Cannock Chase wards would be a challenge in this area. The division would incorporate all of Cannock North ward and parts of the Cannock West and Hawks Green wards. Once the ward boundaries are finalised other options may need to be explored in this area to improve coterminosity.

Division 4: Cannock Town



Summary of Division: The proposal is for Cannock Town to comprise of the current boundary, except for a small area to the north of Cannock Chase High School. Much of the division falls outside the Town Centre and therefore it is proposed that the division name reflects this.

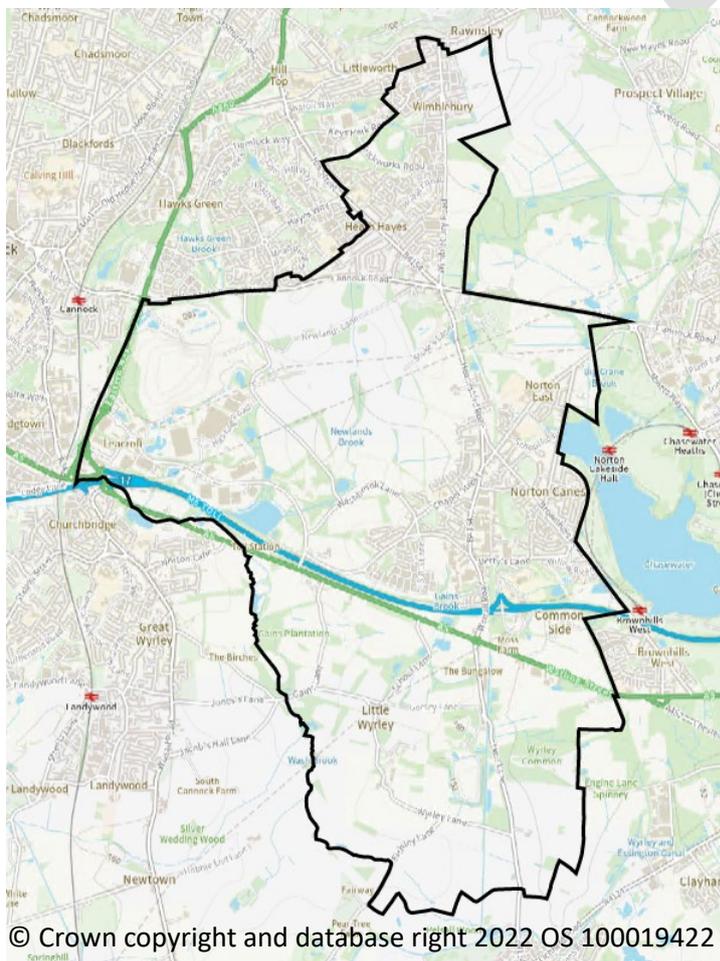
Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,014 – a variance of +3.4% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity – Transport links: There is currently sufficient community transport with bus services across the whole division from the top of Old Fallow Road into Cannock Town Centre. From Longford and Bridgetown, and the Shoal Hill area into Cannock Town Centre. Bus routes then from Cannock Bus Station to Cannock Railway Station, for onward journeys into the West Midlands and to Rugeley, for onward travel to London and Stafford and the North of England.

The New Cycle and walking routes from the top of Rumour Hill into Cannock Town Centre for students to attend Chase High School and Cardinal Griffin Catholic College. Also, for older Students to attend Cannock College for further education courses. Assist students to live healthier lifestyles and prevent later life obesity. By keeping these areas as one, it will prevent the need to alter the currently well serviced transporter links.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the division provides a reasonable level of coterminosity with existing ward boundaries as it includes all of Cannock South ward and the majority of Cannock West ward. Coterminosity with the draft recommendations for Cannock Chase wards would be a challenge in this area. The division would include all of Cannock South ward and parts of Cannock West and Hawks Green wards.

Division 5: Norton Canes, Heath Hayes & Wimblebury



Summary of Division: The proposal is for the division (currently named Cannock Villages) to remain largely unchanged, except for incorporating a small area of Hednesford South (current) district ward and the Rawnsley (current) district ward into the division.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,535 – a variance of +7.9% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Transport Links: The areas proposed in Cannock Villages in regards to how easily you can travel between them is a case of that both areas can be walked to from one to the other within minutes, Nelson Drive and Bryans Way are on the Wimblebury road which residents just assume they are part of Wimblebury and there is a regular bus service which travels the road on a regular timetable however should you want to walk to the village shop this would take less than 10 minutes. Keys Park Road is all that separates Foxtail and Meadowsweet Way and again residents assume they are part of Wimblebury as the estates were built around the same time.

Shared interests: Wimblebury is a mixture of old and new estates however this does not cause a divide within the community and the area has its own shops, community centre and in Heath Hayes there is a doctor's surgery, there are 3 primary schools in Cannock Villages which are all well attended and the closest one is on the Wimblebury road which runs into Heath Hayes. There are also fully functioning parish council which is for Heath Hayes and Wimblebury. There is a bus route which runs along the Wimblebury Road which is adjacent to Keys Park Road and Nelson Drive and Bryans Way.

Community groups: There is a nursery run from the local community centre which has good community links with in the village, working with the parish council and councillors should they have residents' concerns passed to them.

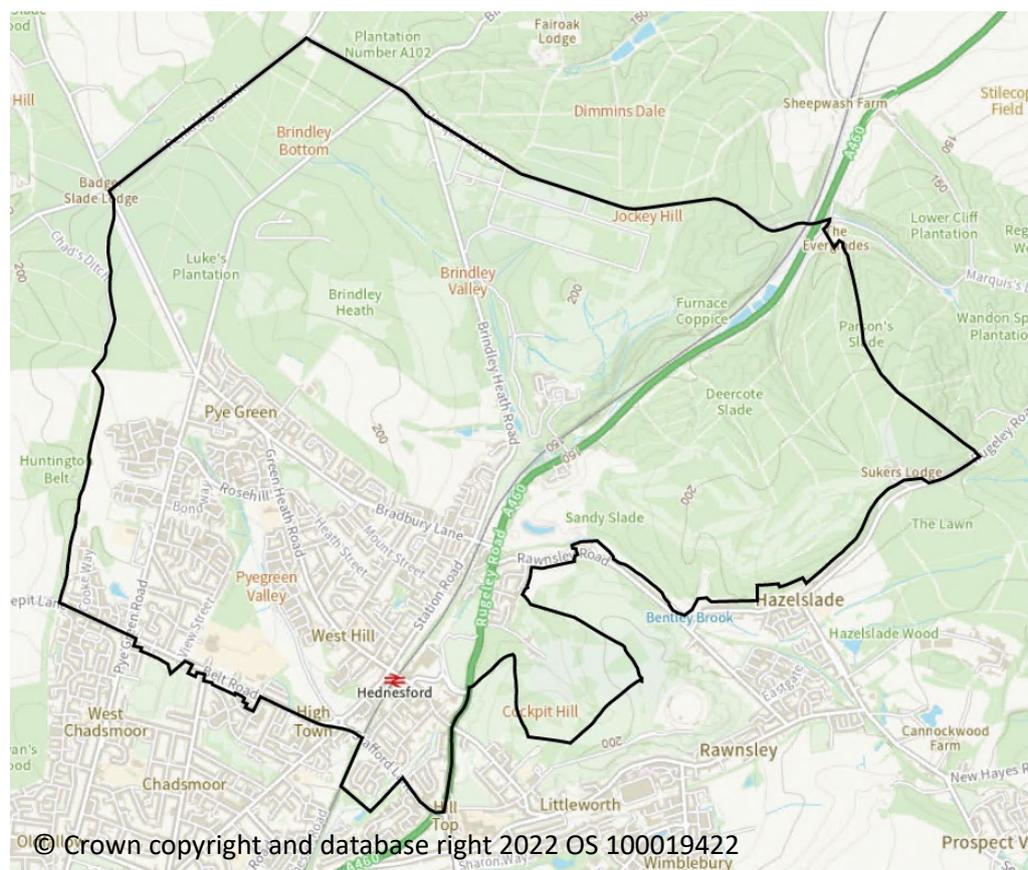
Facilities: The division has a small local shop in Wimblebury however there is also a Tesco, a library, dentist, and doctors and a fully functioning high street in Heath Hayes with no empty shops which is within walking distance from Wimblebury or a quick 5-minute car journey. Alternatively, the bus runs from Heath Hayes to Wimblebury. In Wimblebury itself there is a small high street with small grocery shop and hairdressers and take away food shops again there isn't an empty shop.

Identifiable boundaries: For the cut-off point of Wimblebury the road joins the Littleworth Road which people then recognise as Hednesford, The Trafalgar public house is sat on that junction of traffic lights, and this is where residents see Wimblebury ends and Hednesford starts. This acts perfectly as a natural boundary.

Parishes: There is a parish council which works for Heath Hayes and Wimblebury as a whole rather than separate villages

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the proposed changes reduce coterminosity with existing ward boundaries for this division as it splits the Hednesford South (current) ward and the Rawnsley (current) ward. However, the proposed areas to the west of Wimblebury are incorporated in the Heath Hayes East & Wimblebury ward in the draft recommendations for Cannock Chase Wards. A split ward would still be required to achieve electoral equality. The area to the east of Heath Hayes and Wimblebury could be included in this division (no electors) should that area form part of a Wimblebury ward.

Division 6: Hednesford



Summary of Division: Hednesford & Rawnsley is currently a two-member division. The council has requested a review of two member divisions, and therefore the mapping has been based on two single member divisions. Hednesford North ward and Hednesford Green Heath ward could form a Hednesford division, along with a small area of Hednesford South ward (current wards).

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,591, a variance of +8.4% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity: Transport links: There are reasonable bus links in Hednesford that also serve Hawks Green and Rawnsley. Trains run from Hednesford to Rugeley and Birmingham. Rugeley and Cannock Stations are within reasonable reach for Cannock Wood and Rawnsley.

Shared interest: Hednesford has a thriving town and major shops that are well used by Hednesford residents, it is very much the focal point of the area. It differs from the other areas in that it is made up largely of housing estates. Cannock Wood is a rural village that as clear road links to Rawnsley, each are connected by the Chase. Hawks Green is a newer development but of a similar make up of residents to Cannock Wood and Rawnsley.

Community Groups: There are clear divisions as far as Parish Councils and community groups. The Hednesford area is represented by Hednesford Town Council with a small crossover. Hednesford has a thriving voluntary sector that organises major events in the town and park, this includes a summer gala as well as Remembrance Sunday and other national events that are celebrated locally.

There is also a monthly Farmers Market, major supermarkets very close to the Town are used by the wider public in addition to this. Cannock Wood, Rawnsley, Hawks Green and Cannock Wood although are separate areas they are very similar in makeup, each with a strong local identity.

Cannock Wood and Hawks Green are represented by Cannock Wood Parish Council and Heath Hayes Parish Council respectively. Hazelslade (this would include areas of Rawnsley) have an active residents' group, all have good volunteer groups working in their particular area.

The Chase is a common bond for these areas, there is active visiting to the local country parks including Castle Ring and Marquis Drive visitor Centre.

Facilities: Shopping for the Hednesford area is in Hednesford, there are two major supermarkets as well as a Market Town with bars and restaurants. There is a medical practice in the Town and schools are also close by. Hednesford is a close-knit community and generally all needs can be met within a reasonable distance, there is also a busy train line to wider communities including Birmingham, train links are very good and electrified. There is a strong link with the Town centre from residents. Cannock Wood, Rawnsley, and Hawks Green are separate communities served by local amenities. Cannock Wood have no retail centre and would shop at numerous areas including outside the borough in Rugeley, they are a tight community much of village life is centred around the community Centre, there is a monthly newsletter delivered as well as an active Parish Council. Junior school children would go to the village school, there is also an active church.

Hawks Green have an active shopping centre with a large supermarket and a well-used community centre.

There are numerous schools close by as well as a medical centre.

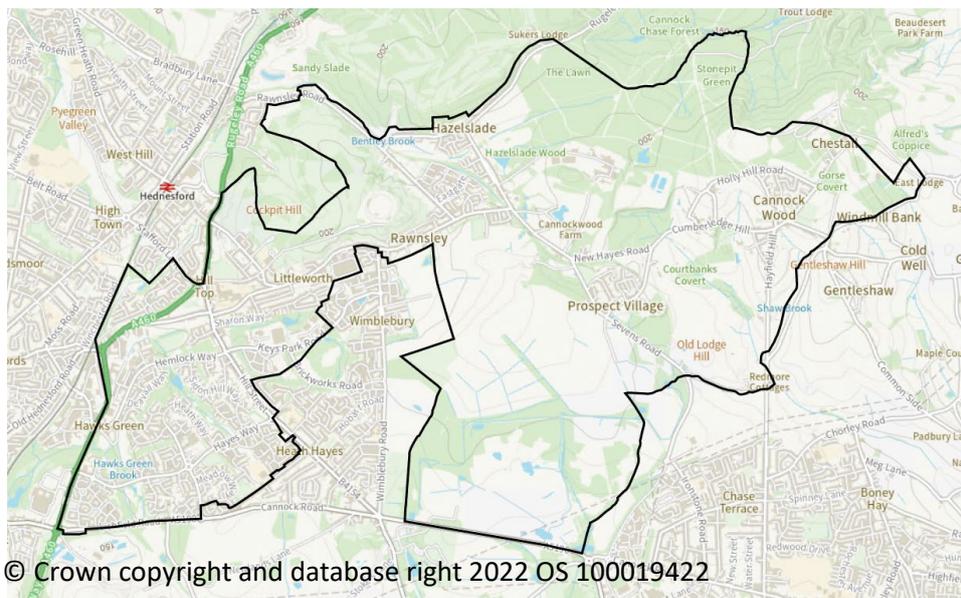
Rawnsley is very rural and like Cannock Wood connected to the Chase, it has a medical centre. Shopping would be done at Rugeley or Hednesford.

Identifiable boundaries: The boundary to Hednesford would be the A460. All three areas Hawks Green, Cannock Wood and Rawnsley have good road connections. The Hednesford Ward is well connected with no internal natural barriers. The North barrier would be the Chase.

Parishes: Hednesford as a single Town Council representing all of Hednesford. Hawks Green is served by Heath Hayes and Wimblebury Council, the council is based in Hawks Green. Rawnsley has no Parish Council but there is a Community Group. Hazelslade residents meet monthly with residents.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the proposed changes reduce coterminosity with existing ward boundaries for this division as it splits the Hednesford South (current) ward. The division could be made coterminous if the draft proposal of district wards is agreed as it would incorporate Hednesford Green Heath and Hednesford Pye Green wards. The boundary near Cockpit Hill/Hednesford Hills Common area could be changed to align with the draft recommendations.

Division 7: Hawks Green, Rawnsley and Cannock Wood



Summary of Division: Hednesford & Rawnsley is currently a two-member division. The council has requested a review of two member divisions, and therefore the mapping has been based on two single member divisions. Hawks Green ward, Rawnsley ward and Hednesford South ward (excluding the areas mentioned above in relation to Norton Canes, Heath Hayes & Wimblebury division and Hednesford division) could form a Hawks Green, Rawnsley & Cannock Wood division.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,241, a variance of +5.4% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity: The road links within Hednesford are good and there is a Hednesford railway station on the rail to Rugeley and Lichfield Trent Valley which goes through Cannock to Birmingham and London Euston. There are a lot of new houses going up in the area and demands on the road network are ever increasing. The bus services are also frequent and will support the growth in communities.

Shared interests: The other common interest is the mining legacy and the part the Chase played during the first world war and the Hednesford Memorial. These issues bind the community. There are numerous active community groups in Hednesford, they particularly revolve around the environment and helping others which cements and influences the communities well. Facilities wise, the Chase and the Park, Library, Mining Museum and WWI Museum on Marquis Drive offer a vast number of local facilities and experiences for residents to enjoy.

Identifiable boundaries: The main geographical boundary is the Chase though it is defined more by its community than geography.

Community groups: Hednesford Parish Council is particularly active in the Community and the Community Centre run by the Council in North Hednesford is another strong community asset.

The shared interests again revolve around the spectacular natural asset the Chase and the mining heritage. Community Groups thrive in Cannock Wood but are less apparent in Rawnsley. Cannock Wood has a very strong and vocal Parish Council and a community centre which is a locus of the community. Hawks Green is different largely by virtue of the fact it is particularly integrated into Cannock. It is adjacent to the new West Midlands retail outlet and close to Cannock Railway Station.

It is served by Heath Hayes parish Council which has gone from strength to strength over the past few years. There is a strong community identity, and it is blessed by being part of both Cannock and Hednesford communities whilst having an identity. There are primary care facilities in Hednesford with the centre on station road and reasonable access to the Chadsmoor practices from Hednesford north. Rawsley has a primary Care Facility as does Hawks Green through the practice in Heath Hayes. The villages of Hazelslade, Cannock Wood and Prospect village are not blessed with a local service.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the proposed changes reduce coterminosity with existing ward boundaries for this division as it splits the Hednesford South and Rawsley (current) wards.

Coterminosity to the draft recommendations for Cannock Chase ward boundaries should they be agreed could be improved in relation to the Hednesford Hills & Rawsley ward (by aligning in the Cockpit Hill/Hednesford Hills Common area) and by moving the area to the east of Wimblebury into the Norton Canes, Heath Hayes & Wimblebury division (no electors). Coterminosity for this division is still a challenge as the Hawks Green, Heath Hayes & Wimblebury, and Hednesford Hills & Rawsley wards would however be split.

The proposals have been drawn up with consideration of both the current ward boundaries and the draft recommendations for wards. With the final report being published on 9 May 2023, SCC recognises that the proposed boundaries may need to be amended to ensure effective and convenient local government (improve coterminosity with ward boundaries), however it is important that the community identities and interests identified as part of these proposals are reflected.