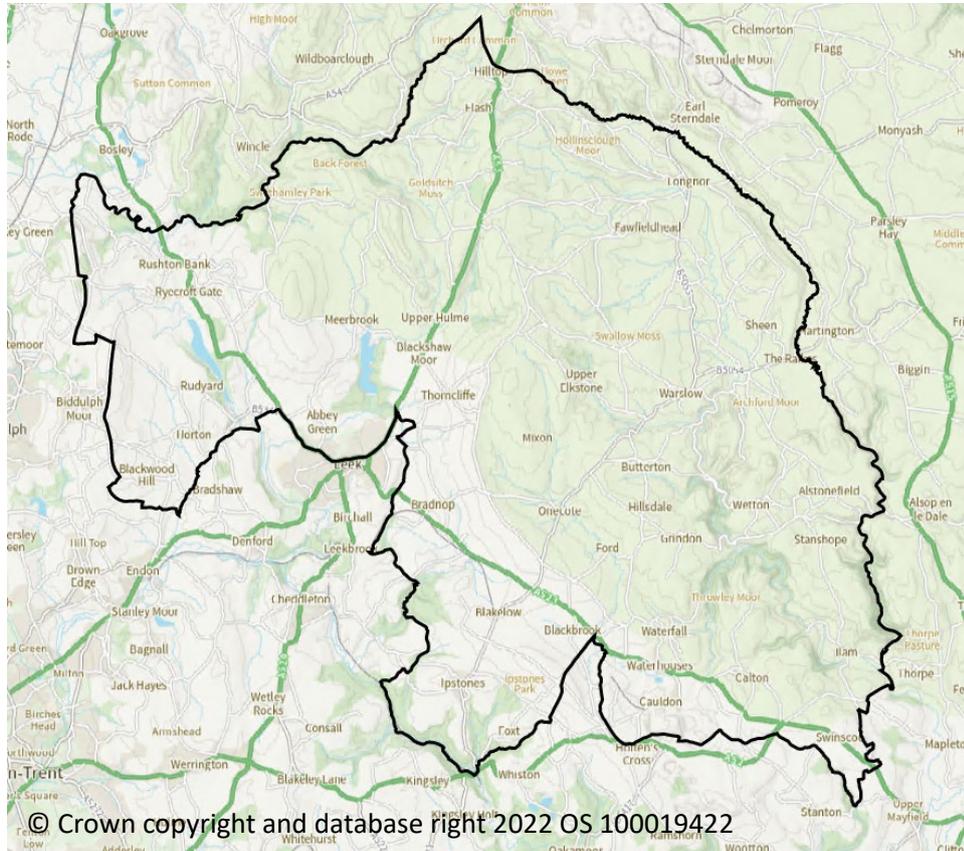


Staffordshire Moorlands District

Division 1: Leek Rural



Summary of Division: The proposed Leek Rural division covers a large geographical area, consisting of 22 parishes, to the north-east of Staffordshire Moorlands division. It comprises the existing boundary excluding Longsdon Parish.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,377– a variance of -2.1% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Transport links: Leek Rural Division consists of 23 small and medium sized villages plus Leek North Ward SMDC. Leek North Ward is well supported with Transport and accessibility to amenities. The rural villages have limited transport but the distances in the land mass mean they stay independent.

Shared interests: The urban and rural parts of Leek Rural have different community characteristics and fit well together whilst their needs are diverse.

Community groups: Leek north has a highly used Community Centre, and many of the villages have lunch clubs for the elderly. There is always willingness to share activities however land mass and distance is a factor, so groups tend to stay in their own villages.

Facilities: Leek north have access to shops in town and villagers in the north of the division have choice of Leek, Ashbourne, Buxton, and Macclesfield. As the division adjoins Cheshire and

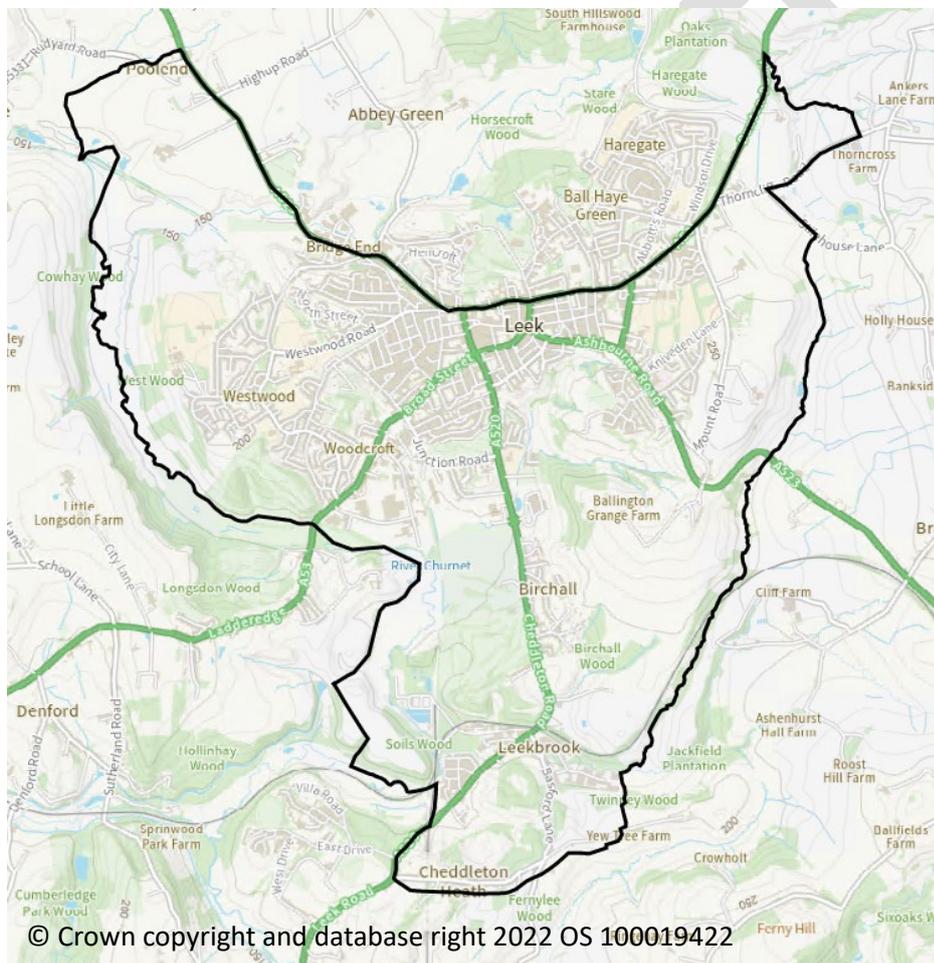
Derbyshire with their towns nearer for shopping, schools, medical facilities, and employment in some of the villages.

There are no identifiable boundaries that suggest any change.

Parishes: All the villages have their own parish council or parish meeting

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – there is reasonable coterminosity with ward boundaries as the division incorporates the wards of Dane, Hamps Valley, Ipstones, Leek North, Manifold, and part of the Horton ward. The division contains 22 parishes.

Division 2: Leek South



Summary of Division: It is proposed that Leek South would comprise of Leek East, Leek West and part of Leek South ward.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,351– a variance of +6.3% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

Transport links: The two areas suggested as additions, Birchall and Leekbrook are on the outskirts of Leek. Many people from these areas already assume that they are in the Leek South County Division because they associate with Leek rather than Cheddleton village. There are very few buses running in the Staffordshire Moorlands, but they will travel down the main A520 road that links Leek to both Birchall and further on to Leekbrook.

Shared interests: It is viewed by Cllr Atkins that there are many shared issues and interests- and a lot of the time she deals with the same issues across the board and residents always come to her for support from Leekbrook and Birchall, this adds to our reasoning for adding these areas into Leek south division.

Community groups: The residents of Birchall have come together to oppose several planning applications to build additional houses in the gardens of some properties. Whilst there is not a formalised community group there is certainly a community feel here. There is opportunity if the Birchall and Leekbrook do join into Leek south to combine the current groups into a more formal arrangement.

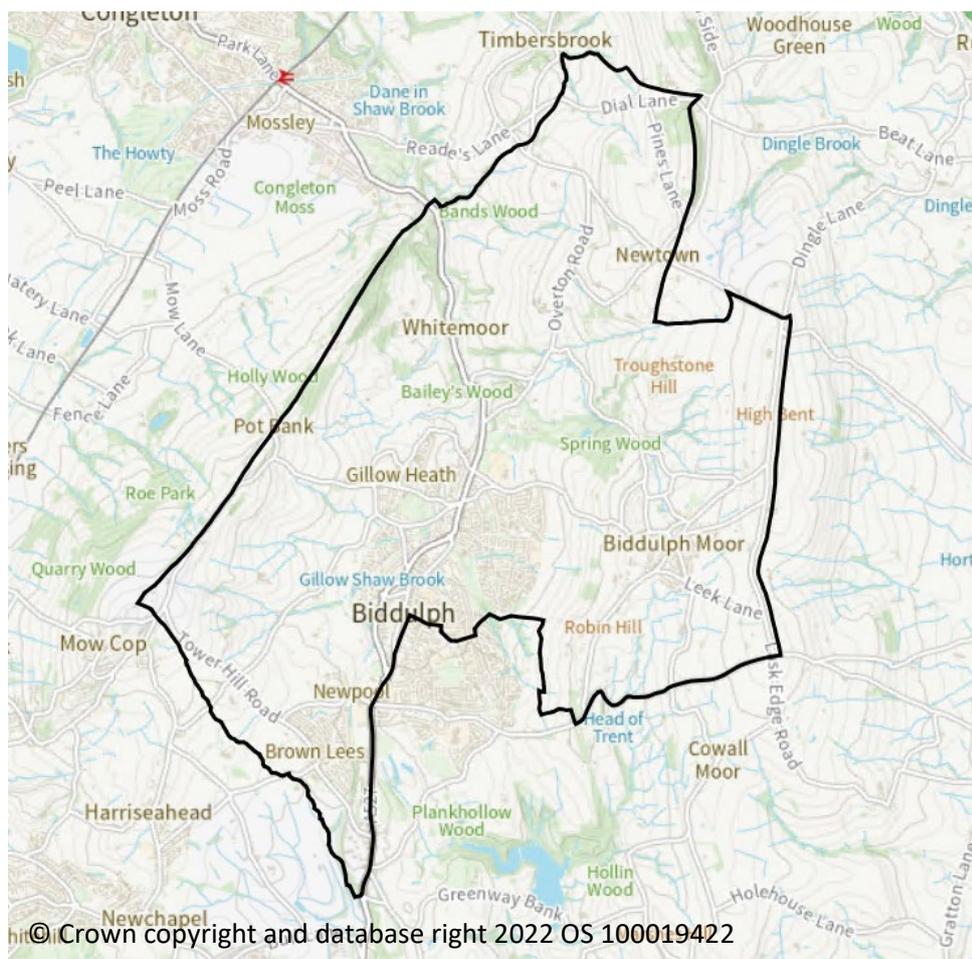
Facilities: The residents of Birchall and Leekbrook shop in Leek as there are no local shops and will access Leek GPs as there is no GP practice in nearby Cheddleton. There is a large, grassed area known as Birchall playing fields with a running track that is currently used a lot by families and dog walkers. Residents would have to travel to Leek for the Leisure Centre which houses a swimming pool, group exercise area and gym. There is a nearby village First school St Edwards Cheddleton. However, pupils would need to travel to Leek for Middle and High Schools in Year Five or to St Mary's Primary School in Leek if Catholic. Some First school pupils would also go to All Saints School situated on the A520 to the south of Leek. There is a church in Cheddleton so some residents of Leekbrook and Birchall are already part of that congregation.

Identifiable boundaries: Birchall is not separated from Leek by any significant boundaries. Leekbrook is separated from Leek by a disused railway line and the Caldon Canal. Both Birchall and Leekbrook are separated from Cheddleton by the River Churnet.

Parishes: Leekbrook and Birchall are tiny residential areas, but both are represented by two councillors each on Leek Town Council. Birchall and Leekbrook make up part of the Leek East and Leek South District Council wards of the Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – there is reasonable coterminosity with ward boundaries as the division incorporates all of Leek West and Leek East wards and part of the Leek South ward. Consideration was given to including the whole of Leek South ward, but this was discounted due to the variance from the Staffordshire average.

Division 3: Biddulph North



Summary of Division: It is proposed that Biddulph North would comprise the existing boundaries with the addition of a small area of the Biddulph East ward.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,610– a variance of –0.1% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity - Biddulph North division is a predominantly urban area that encompasses the original Biddulph (centred on St Lawrence Church), and the Town Centre (Bradley Green). Expanding the division area to the immediate east and north-east of the town centre, both encapsulates the whole original area of these settlements (John St, Albert St, Well St, Gunn St, and Congleton Rd), but would also include the original town centre expansion of Kingsfield Rd and Moorfield Avenue, which has a natural fit with the town centre.

Transport links: The proposed inclusion of Braddock’s Hay into Biddulph North sits perfectly with the Town Centre, there is excellent connectivity in terms of walkability (all residents are within 5-minute walk of the Town Hall – the main focal point) Bus Route 93 financed by the Town Council Services Braddock’s Hay, Biddulph Town and Biddulph Moor.

Shared interests: The viability of the Town centre, the public houses and the community hubs (e.g., Victoria Centre) all located within 5-minute walk of Braddock’s Hay. The addition of Braddock’s Hay balances the representation within the town centre and immediate post war development areas.

There is a mix of private (Kingsfield Rd, Gunn St, Albert St Areas) and Local Authority housing that mirrors the developments within the current Biddulph North Boundary (Station Road, Craigside, Walley St).

The proposed boundary change removes the unnatural separation of John St and Congleton Road within the Town Centre.

Community groups: The Biddulph Youth and Community Zone would remain in Biddulph South and Endon Division, this is the only hub that would service Braddock's Hay and the separated Park Lane (Miners) Estate, although the BYCZ has and is working hard to promote itself of Biddulph facility, so in that regard, separating Braddock's Hay would not reduce the catchment or use.

The Victoria Centre and Town Hall and Library Hubs again service the town as a whole and are positioned within 5-minute walk of Braddock's Hay and the John St, Congleton Road additions.

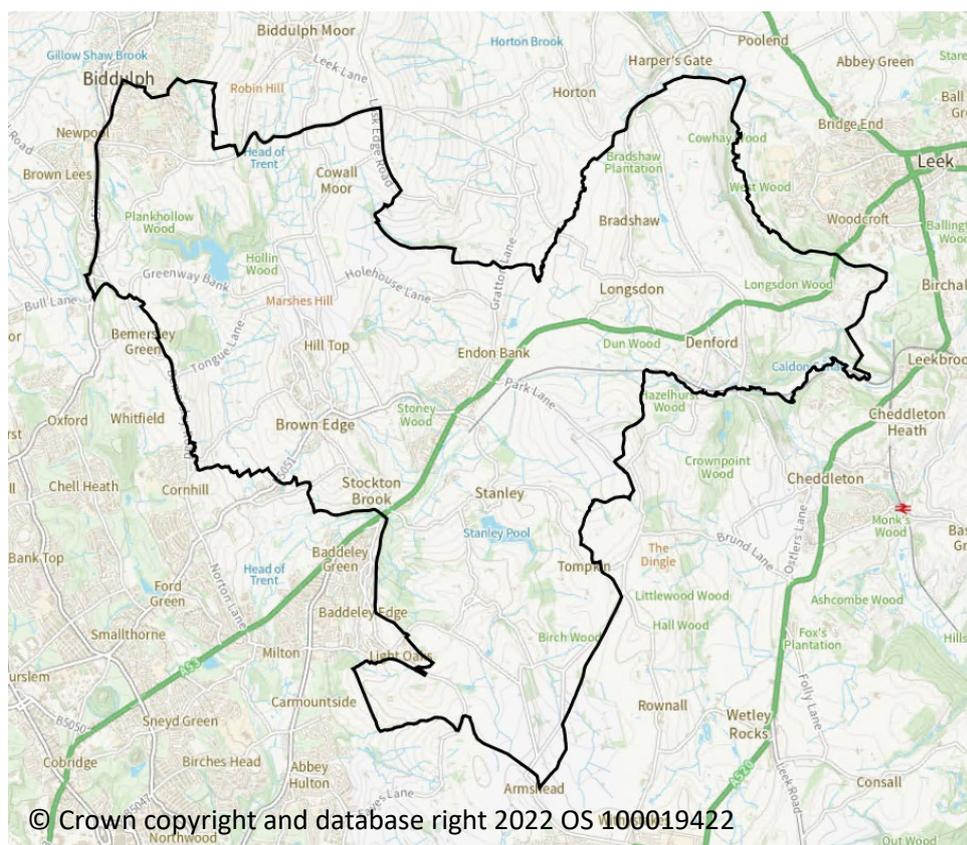
Facilities: These facilities are already located within the Biddulph North Division, all off the Town Centre, all within 5minutes walk, including the Leisure Centre which straddles the valley between Thames Drive and Moorland Road (Braddock's Hay).

Identifiable boundaries: Well St, Princess St and St John's Road make for a well-defined and well accepted boundary to Braddock's Hay, with the Biddulph South Park Lane Estate defined to the south.

Parishes: All the changes would remain within the Biddulph Town (Parish) Council

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – there is reasonable coterminosity with ward boundaries as the division incorporates all of Biddulph North, Biddulph West and Biddulph Moor wards and part of the Biddulph East ward.

Division 4: Biddulph South & Endon



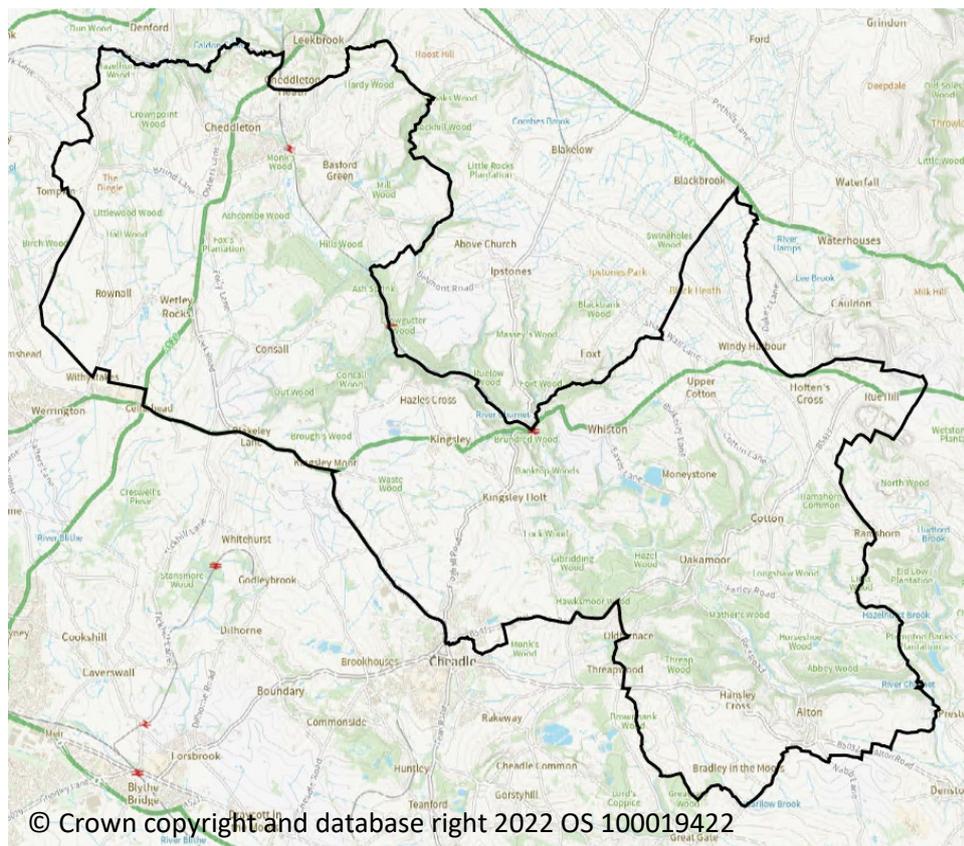
Summary of Division: It is proposed that Biddulph South & Endon ED would comprise the existing boundaries, except for a small area of the Biddulph East ward that would move into Biddulph North ED. Longsdon CP, and part of the Leek South ward (Ladderedge) are also proposed to form part of the Biddulph South & Endon division.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,233 – a variance of –3.3% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity - Longsdon and Densford are two villages that have strong connections with Endon, the Caldron Canal and train line and would bring the A53 corridor into one division with obvious administrative benefits. – Pending further- Keith Flunder

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the division incorporates all of Biddulph South, Brown Edge & Endon and Bagnall & Stanley wards and part of the Biddulph East, Horton and Leek South wards. Options to improve coterminosity with wards were explored but resulted in a greater negative variance from the Staffordshire average.

Division 5: Churnet Valley



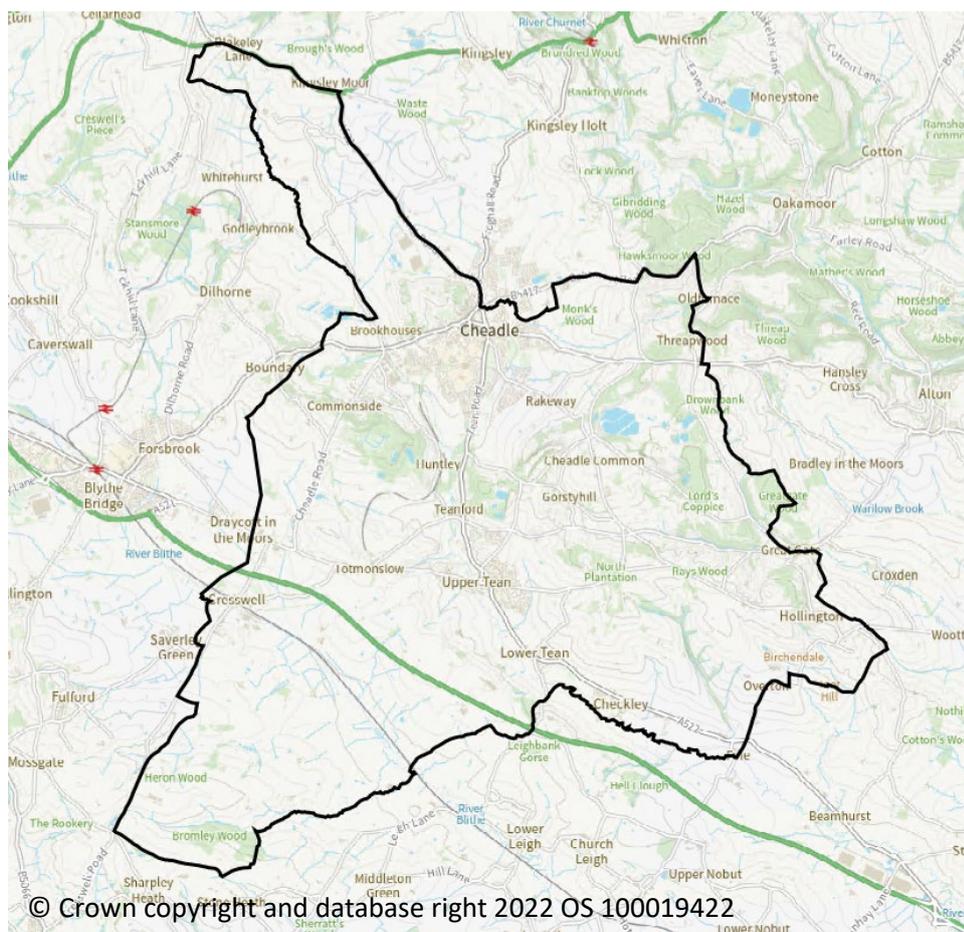
Summary of Division: It is proposed the division is made up of Churnet, Alton, Cheddleton North East and Cheddleton wards.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 11,991 – a variance of +3.2% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity – Churnet Valley has strong community identity based around the Churnet Valley railway. Cheddleton is at the heart of the Churnet Valley, being one of the stations. Mike Worthington- pending

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the proposed boundary is coterminous with ward boundaries.

Division 6: Cheadle & Checkley



Summary of Division: It is proposed that Cheadle & Checkley ED would incorporate the Cheadle South East, Cheadle West and the majority of Checkley ward, except for Draycott in the Moors.

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,347 – a variance of +6.3% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: Community Identity:

The main public transport is the bus service (number 32) which runs south to north through division from Uttoxeter to Hanley. Other bus services serve the Uttoxeter and Cheadle Schools. The nearest station is Blythe Bridge which serves Derby and Stoke, Manchester and Crewe. The road network is reasonably good however highly congested at times with traffic to Alton Towers and the peak district and HGVs from the local quarries and JCB- thus meaning residents share the same concerns and it is convenient for local issues to go through the same Cllr. In our proposals we have tried to address this by placing the most affected areas into one division.

The main suburban area in my division is Cheadle where people across the division travel for shopping, sport, and leisure. The rest of the division is rural with most journeys to work, school, leisure etc are taken by car.

There are also a number of active community groups that have grown since covid. There is a real sense of neighbourliness in the division and people tend to look after themselves and look after others.

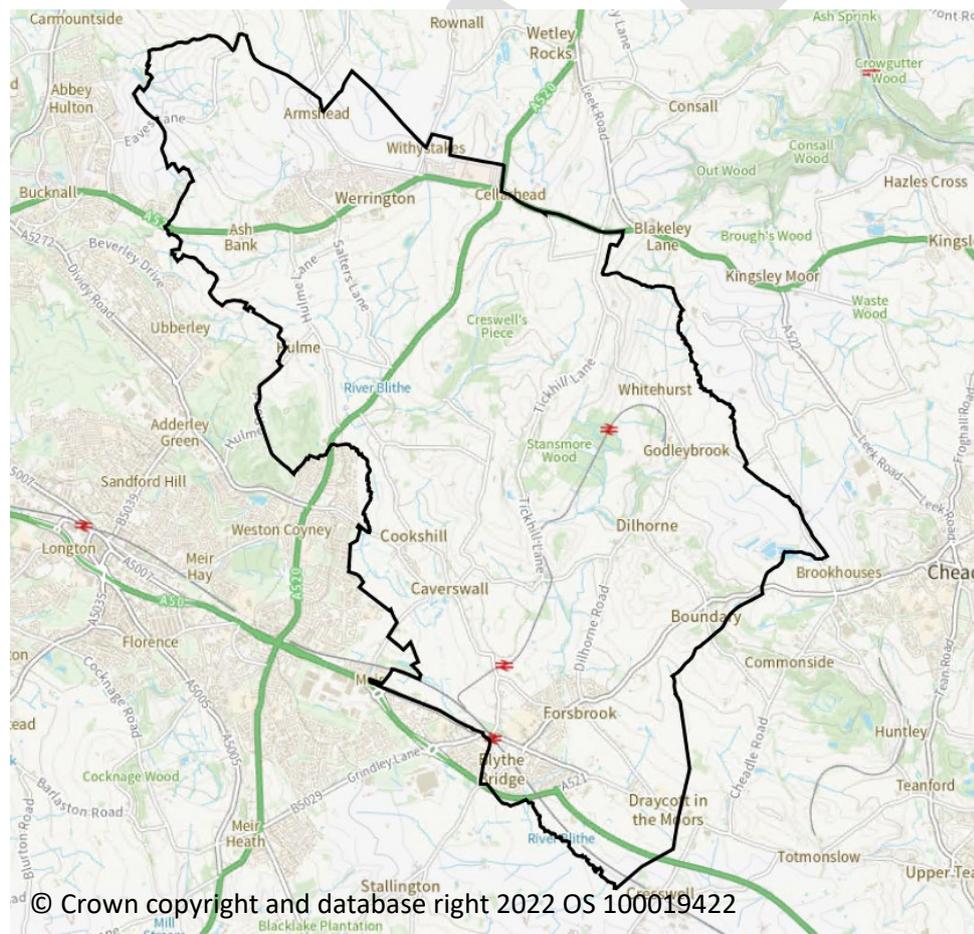
Shopping is available in Tean as is a doctor's surgery and 2 excellent primary schools, people from Draycott tend to shop in Cheadle or Stoke but there is an excellent centre in Draycott which supports our proposals from a community perspective as they serve themselves.

Facilities in Cheadle are good for leisure, medical and shopping. Plans are in progress to regenerate the South Moorlands Leisure Centre which will be very advantageous to the local community.

The western boundary roughly follows the A50. The Northern boundary is Kingsley Moor, and the Southern boundary is Fole near Uttoxeter. The eastern boundary is extremely rural and is around the Hollington, Great Gate Area and borders Uttoxeter Rural.

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – the proposed boundary has a reasonable level of coterminosity containing Cheadle South East, Cheadle West and the majority of Checkley ward.

Division 7: Caverswall



Summary of Division: It is proposed that Caverswall ED would incorporate Caverswall, Werrington, Cellarhead and Forsbrook wards, along with a small part of Checkley ward (Draycott in the Moors).

Criteria 1: Electoral Equality is acceptable – total division electorate is forecast to be 12,042 – a variance of +3.7% from the Staffordshire average.

Criteria 2: **Community Identity.** – Pending Ross Ward

Criteria 3: Effective and convenient local government – there is reasonable level of coterminosity with ward boundaries as the division incorporates four wards and part of the Checkley ward.

DRAFT