

# New electoral arrangements for East Staffordshire Borough Council

**Draft Recommendations**

June 2020

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### **A note on our mapping:**

The maps shown in this report are for illustrative purposes only. Whilst best efforts have been made by our staff to ensure that the maps included in this report are representative of the boundaries described by the text, there may be slight variations between these maps and the large PDF map that accompanies this report, or the digital mapping supplied on our consultation portal. This is due to the way in which the final mapped products are produced. The reader should therefore refer to either the large PDF supplied with this report or the digital mapping for the true likeness of the boundaries intended. The boundaries as shown on either the large PDF map or the digital mapping should always appear identical.

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# Introduction

## Who we are and what we do

1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament<sup>1</sup>. We are not part of government or any political party. We are accountable to Parliament through a committee of MPs chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons. Our main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

2 The members of the Commission are:

- Professor Colin Mellors OBE (Chair)
- Andrew Scallan CBE (Deputy Chair)
- Susan Johnson OBE
- Peter Maddison QPM
- Amanda Nobbs OBE
- Steve Robinson
- Jolyon Jackson CBE (Chief Executive)

## What is an electoral review?

3 An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority. A local authority's electoral arrangements decide:

- How many councillors are needed.
- How many wards or electoral divisions there should be, where their boundaries are and what they should be called.
- How many councillors should represent each ward or division.

4 When carrying out an electoral review the Commission has three main considerations:

- Improving electoral equality by equalising the number of electors that each councillor represents.
- Ensuring that the recommendations reflect community identity.
- Providing arrangements that support effective and convenient local government.

5 Our task is to strike the best balance between these three considerations when making our recommendations.

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<sup>1</sup> Under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009

6 More detail regarding the powers that we have, as well as the further guidance and information about electoral reviews and review process in general, can be found on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk).

## Why East Staffordshire

7 We are conducting a review of East Staffordshire Borough Council ('the Council') as the value of each vote in borough council elections varies depending on where you live in East Staffordshire. Some councillors currently represent many more or fewer voters than others. This is 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where votes are as equal as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal.

8 This electoral review is being carried out to ensure that:

- The wards in East Staffordshire are in the best possible places to help the Council carry out its responsibilities effectively.
- The number of voters represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the borough.

## Our proposals for East Staffordshire

9 East Staffordshire should be represented by 36 councillors, three fewer than there are now.

10 East Staffordshire should have 16 wards, five fewer than there are now.

11 The boundaries of all wards should change; none will stay the same.

## How will the recommendations affect you?

12 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which ward you vote in, which other communities are in that ward, and, in some cases, which parish council ward you vote in. Your ward name may also change.

13 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the borough or result in changes to postcodes. They do not take into account parliamentary constituency boundaries. The recommendations will not have an effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums and we are not able to consider any representations which are based on these issues.

## Have your say

14 We will consult on the draft recommendations for a five-week period, from 30 June 2020 to 7 September 2020. We encourage everyone to use this opportunity to comment on these proposed wards as, the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be in making our final recommendations.

15 We ask everyone wishing to contribute ideas for the new wards to first read this report and look at the accompanying map before responding to us.

16 You have until 4 August 2020 to have your say on the draft recommendations. See page 25 for how to send us your response.

## Review timetable

17 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for East Staffordshire. We then held a period of consultation with the public on warding patterns for the borough. The submissions received during consultation have informed our draft recommendations.

18 The review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
15 October 2019	Number of councillors decided
22 October 2019	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
24 February 2020	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
30 June 2020	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
7 September 2020	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
17 November 2020	Publication of final recommendations





## Analysis and draft recommendations

19 Legislation<sup>2</sup> states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors<sup>3</sup> there are now, but also on how many there are likely to be in the five years after the publication of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for our wards.

20 In reality, we are unlikely to be able to create wards with exactly the same number of electors in each; we have to be flexible. However, we try to keep the number of electors represented by each councillor as close to the average for the council as possible.

21 We work out the average number of electors per councillor for each individual local authority by dividing the electorate by the number of councillors, as shown on the table below.

	2019	2025
Electorate of East Staffordshire	86,785	91,392
Number of councillors	39	36
Average number of electors per councillor	2,225	2,539

22 When the number of electors per councillor in a ward is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the ward as having 'good electoral equality'. All of our proposed wards for East Staffordshire will have good electoral equality by 2025.

## Submissions received

23 See Appendix C for details of the submissions received. All submissions may be viewed at our offices by appointment, or on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

## Electorate figures

24 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2025, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2020. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 5% by 2025.

25 We considered the information provided by the Council and are satisfied that the projected figures are the best available at the present time. We have used these figures to produce our draft recommendations.

<sup>2</sup> Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

<sup>3</sup> Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

## Number of councillors

26 East Staffordshire Borough Council currently has 39 councillors. We looked at evidence provided by the Council and concluded that decreasing by two would ensure the Council could carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

27 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 37 councillors: for example, 37 one-councillor wards or a mix of one-, two- and three-councillor wards.

28 We received one submission about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. The submission presented evidence for reducing the number of councillors by two.

29 However, once we began to consider ward patterns for East Staffordshire, it became clear that a council size of 36 councillors would offer the best electoral arrangements for the borough in terms of electoral equality, community identity, and effective and convenient local government. This was particularly so as we developed our recommendations for the east of Burton upon Trent, where we found that allocating this area six councillors provided a more coherent warding pattern. We have therefore based our draft recommendations on a 36-councillor council.

## Ward boundaries consultation

30 We received 28 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included four borough-wide proposals from the Council – one of which was based on a model for 36 councillors – and one from a group of Conservative politicians who described themselves as community leaders (Community Leaders). We also received a borough-wide submission from Staffordshire County Council which was also submitted in almost identical form by Staffordshire County Councillor Philip Atkins. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for ward arrangements in particular areas of the borough.

31 The six borough-wide schemes provided mixed patterns of one-, two- and three-councillor wards for East Staffordshire. The Council's schemes were developed by officers and presented to councillors. However, as there was no majority for any of the schemes, all were submitted. We carefully considered the proposals received and were of the view that the proposed patterns of wards generally used clearly identifiable boundaries, though all the proposals contained several wards which did not result in good levels of electoral equality. Nonetheless, on the basis of the evidence received and our observations when we digitally visited the authority, a majority of our recommendations are based on the Community Leaders' proposals. The scheme submitted by Staffordshire County Council argued

for a council size of 41. A proforma table, featuring 23 wards and 42 councillors, was provided but detailed descriptions of the wards were not included. Furthermore, the scheme resulted in poor electoral equality; 10 wards with a variance above 10%, including four above 20% and one at -40%. This scheme did not therefore form the basis of our recommendations.

32 Our draft recommendations also take into account local evidence that we received, which provided further evidence of community links and locally recognised boundaries. In some areas we considered that the proposals did not provide for the best balance between our statutory criteria and so we identified alternative boundaries.

33 Given the travel restrictions, and the social distancing, arising from the Covid-19 outbreak, there was a detailed virtual tour of East Staffordshire. This helped to clarify issues raised in submissions and assisted in the construction of the proposed draft boundary recommendations.

## Draft recommendations

34 Our draft recommendations are for six three-councillor wards, eight two-councillor wards and two one-councillor wards. We consider that our draft recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

35 The tables and maps on pages 8–21 detail our draft recommendations for each area of East Staffordshire. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory<sup>4</sup> criteria of:

- Equality of representation.
- Reflecting community interests and identities.
- Providing for effective and convenient local government.

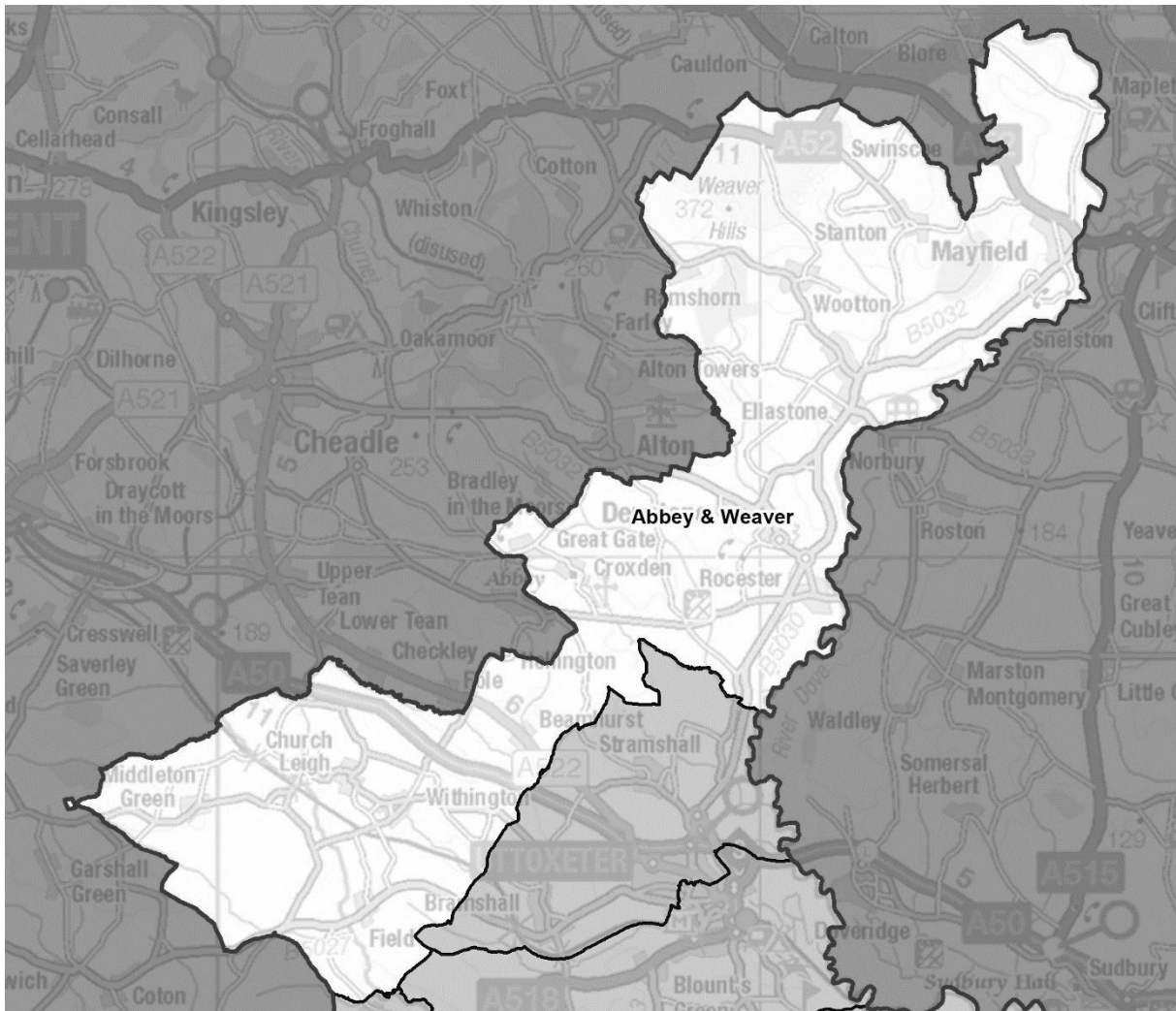
36 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 31 and on the large map accompanying this report.

37 We welcome all comments on these draft recommendations, particularly on the location of the ward boundaries, and the names of our proposed wards.

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<sup>4</sup> Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

## Abbey & Weaver



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2025
Abbey & Weaver	2	-2%

### *Abbey & Weaver*

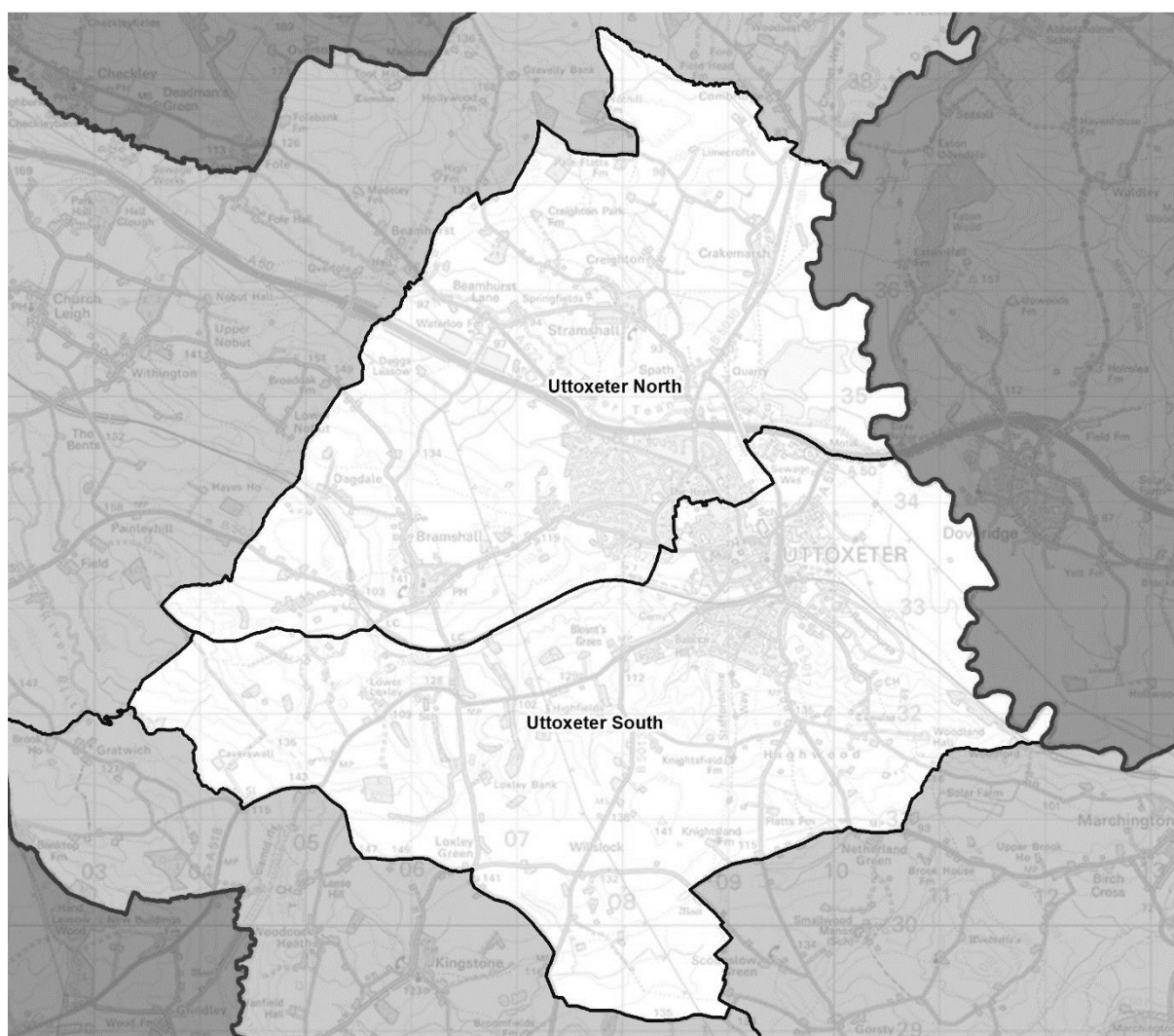
38 We received seven submissions for this area – six from residents and one from Denstone Parish Council – all of which stressed that the parishes of Denstone and Rocester ought to be kept within one ward. Among the evidence provided was shared schools, churches, and the presence of JCB’s international headquarters on the boundary of the two parishes, which serves as a major employer for both.

39 Both the Council’s and Community Leaders’ schemes split the two parishes, which together currently form the Churnet ward, by placing Denstone in an expanded Weaver ward and Rocester in a reconfigured Abbey ward. This was also proposed by one resident. This would provide excellent electoral equality for both wards, with variances of 0% and 1%, respectively.

40 However, we consider the evidence submitted for keeping Denstone and Rocester in one ward compelling, and do not believe community identity would be accurately reflected in the proposed wards. This posed challenges, however, as placing Rocester in a two-councillor Weaver ward created a -22% electoral variance. Three residents also proposed including the Churnet parish with Rocester in a two-councillor Weaver ward. However, this also created poor electoral equality, with a variance of -18%.

41 Given these challenges, but mindful of the importance of including Denstone and Rocester within one ward, we believe the best outcome for this area would be to create a two-councillor ward incorporating the existing Weaver and Churnet wards with the parishes of Croxden and Leigh. This Abbey & Weaver ward offers good electoral equality, with a variance of -2%, while reflecting local community identity. We would be particularly interested to receive feedback from residents on this proposal, as well as whether the proposed name accurately reflects local identities.

## Uttoxeter



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2025
Uttoxeter North	3	1%
Uttoxeter South	2	0%

### *Uttoxeter North*

42 We received five submissions for Uttoxeter, all from residents, and all proposing that the wards remain coterminous with the boundaries of Uttoxeter Town Council. These submissions suggested that the boundary between the existing Uttoxeter Heath and Town wards be redrawn to ‘rebalance’ the resulting electoral variances. However, three of these submissions recognised that the best variances which could be achieved were 15% for Uttoxeter Heath and 13% for Town, which would not produce good electoral equality for the area. We have therefore not adopted this proposal.

43 The Council's submission contained two configurations for Uttoxeter. One maintained the existing boundaries of Uttoxeter Heath and Town wards, with variances of 4% and 17%, respectively, on a 36-councillor model and 7% and 20% on a 37-councillor model. This was complemented by a Uttoxeter Rural ward which incorporated the parishes of Uttoxeter Rural and Marchington, creating variances of -5% on a 36-councillor model and -2% on a 37-councillor model. Given the poor electoral equality for Uttoxeter discussed in paragraph 42, and the community links with Marchington expressed in submissions by Draycott in the Clay and Hanbury parish councils, we have not adopted this proposal.

44 The second configuration submitted by the Council incorporates Uttoxeter Town Council and the parishes of Uttoxeter Rural and Marchington, split between two wards of three councillors each and both with variances of -8%. While this proposal offers good equality, we were convinced of the evidence mentioned in paragraph 42 for maintaining the parishes of Marchington, Draycott in the Clay, and Hanbury in a single ward, so have not adopted this proposal.

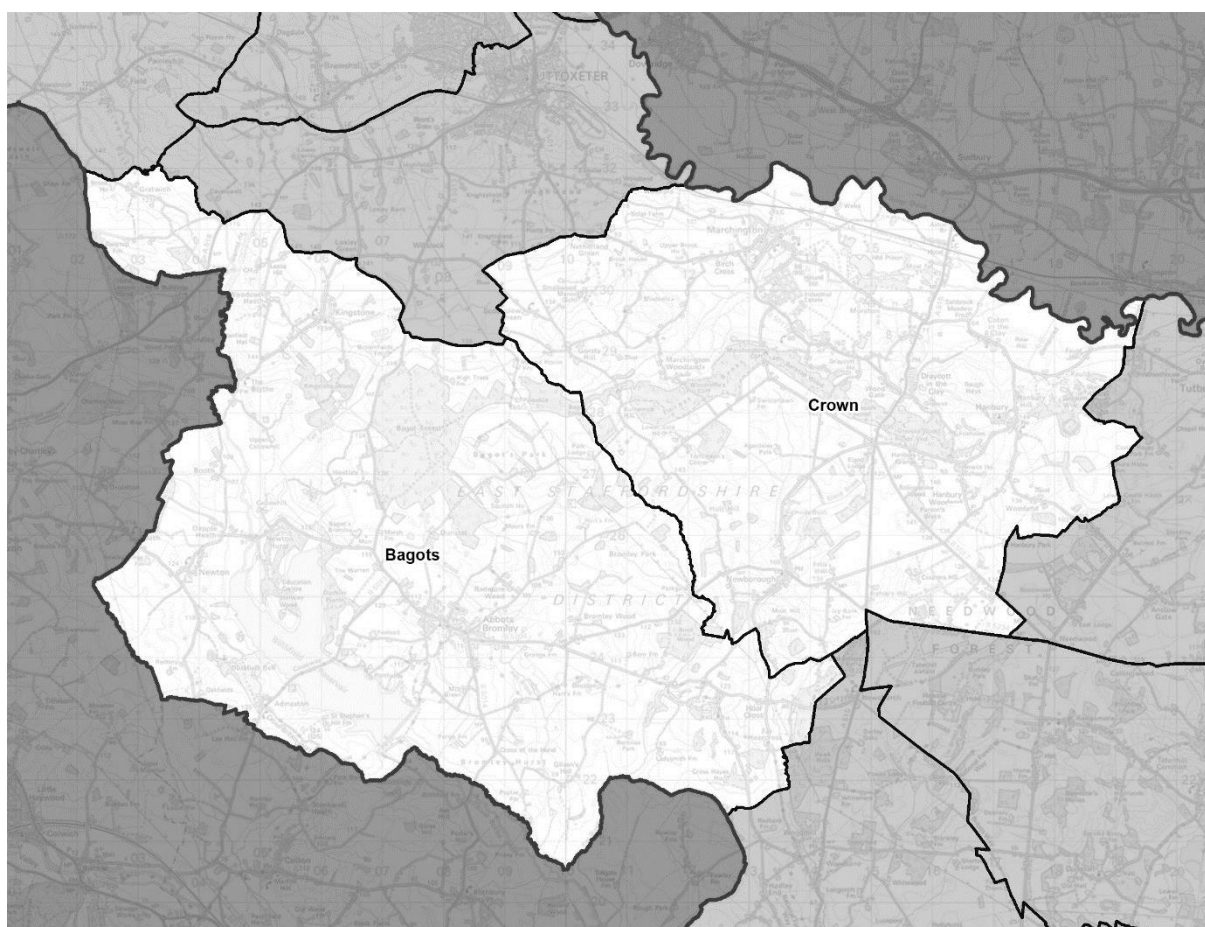
45 The Community Leaders' submission proposed a similar configuration to the one above, albeit without the inclusion of Marchington parish. This would produce a 4% variance for the proposed Uttoxeter Heath ward and 2% for the proposed Town ward. While taking into account the submissions from residents against expanding the ward boundaries of Uttoxeter, we believe this proposal provides the best balance for electoral equality, community identity, and effective and convenient local government. We have therefore adopted this proposal as part of our draft recommendations, but with minor modifications which are described below.

#### *Uttoxeter South*

46 Upon touring the area virtually, we made a minor modification the boundary between the two wards proposed by the Community Leaders, so that Windsor Park Church of England (Controlled) Middle School, Oldfields Sports Ground, the Allotment Gardens, and the Fox's Biscuits factory were moved from the proposed Town ward to the proposed Uttoxeter Heath ward. This provided a clearer boundary and ensured the access points to these sites were in a single ward.

47 Given the inclusion of the surrounding villages of Uttoxeter Rural parish in these wards, we did not consider the existing names of Uttoxeter Heath and Town appropriate for the proposed wards and have therefore named them Uttoxeter North and Uttoxeter South. However, we would be interested to receive feedback from members of the public on this decision during the consultation. Both Uttoxeter North and Uttoxeter South will have good electoral equality by 2025.

## Bagots & Crown



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2025
Bagots	1	-10%
Crown	1	-6%

### *Bagots*

48 Of the four schemes submitted by the Council, one expanded the existing boundaries of Bagots ward with the addition of Newborough parish, while the remaining three added both Newborough and Hoar Cross parishes to the ward. The Community Leaders' scheme added Hoar Cross parish to the existing Bagots ward. All these schemes offer good electoral equality for Bagots ward. However, mindful of the submissions by Draycott in the Clay and Hanbury Parish Councils expressing a preference for Crown ward to be expanded with the addition of Newborough parish (see paragraph 49), we have used the Community Leaders' submission as the basis for our recommendations. We received no localised submissions for Bagots ward. Bagots will have good electoral equality by 2025.

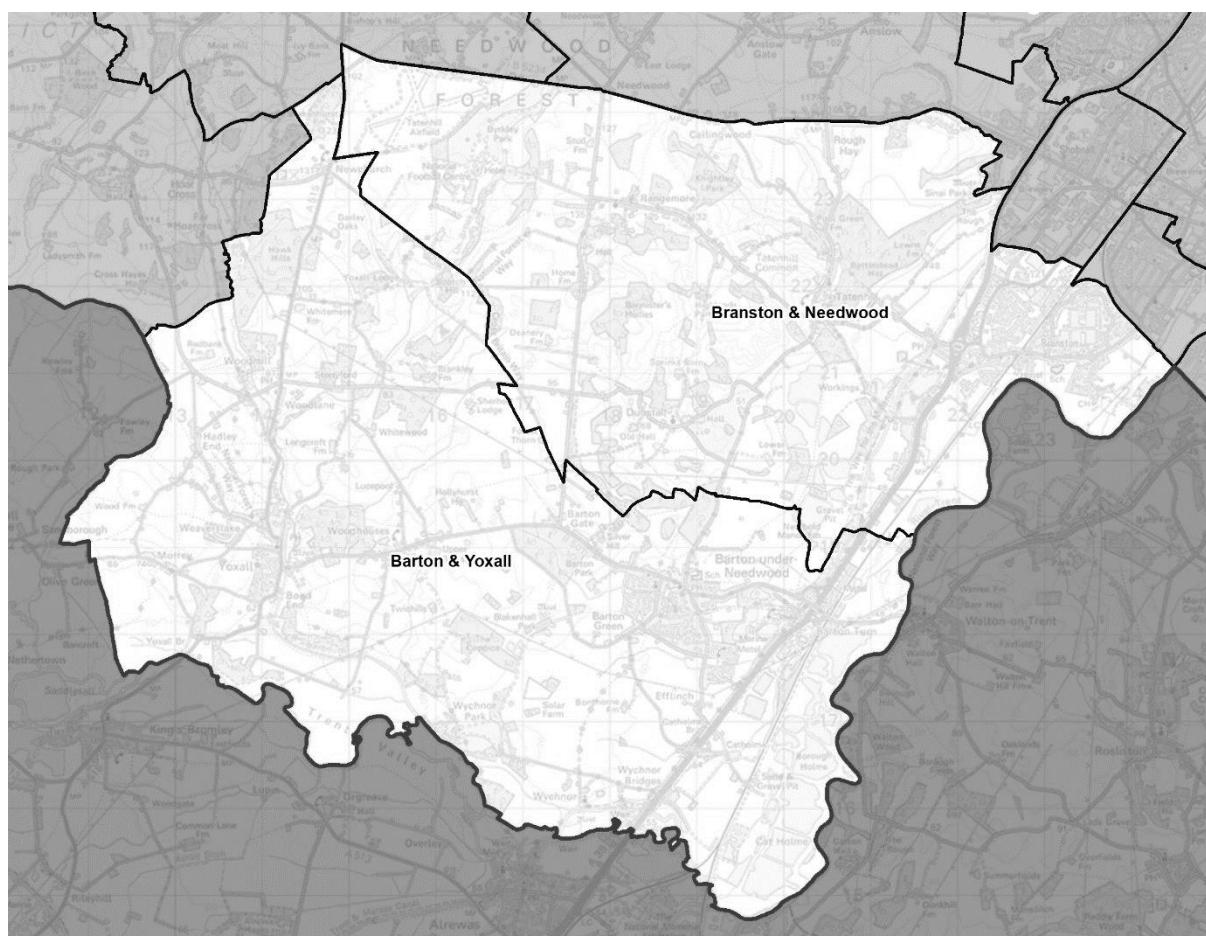


### *Crown*

49 We received four submissions for Crown ward, two of which were from Draycott in the Clay and Hanbury Parish Councils and two from residents. These submissions stressed the community links between Draycott in the Clay, Hanbury, and Marchington parishes and expressed a desire to keep these parishes together in a Crown ward. Both parish councils and a resident suggested adding Newborough parish to the ward. The submission by Hanbury Parish Council supported this with the claim that almost all Hanbury children go to school in Newborough, while Draycott in the Clay Parish Council cited the shared rural natures of the parishes. In addition, we received a submission from Newborough Parish Council which supported the current warding arrangement.

50 The Council broke up the existing Crown ward in all four of its schemes, grouping Anslow, Dunstall, Hanbury, Outwoods, Tatenhill & Rangemore, and Tutbury parishes in a Tutbury, Outwoods & Needwood ward in three schemes, and Anslow, Draycott in the Clay, Hanbury, Outwoods, and Tutbury parishes in a Tutbury & Outwoods ward in a fourth. The Community Leaders' scheme expanded the current boundaries of Crown ward to include the parish of Newborough. All these schemes offered good electoral equality. However, given the community evidence detailed in paragraph 49, we have based our recommendations on the Community Leaders' scheme for Crown ward. Crown will have good electoral equality by 2025.

## Southern East Staffordshire



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2025
Barton & Yoxall	2	7%
Branston & Needwood	3	6%

### *Barton & Yoxall*

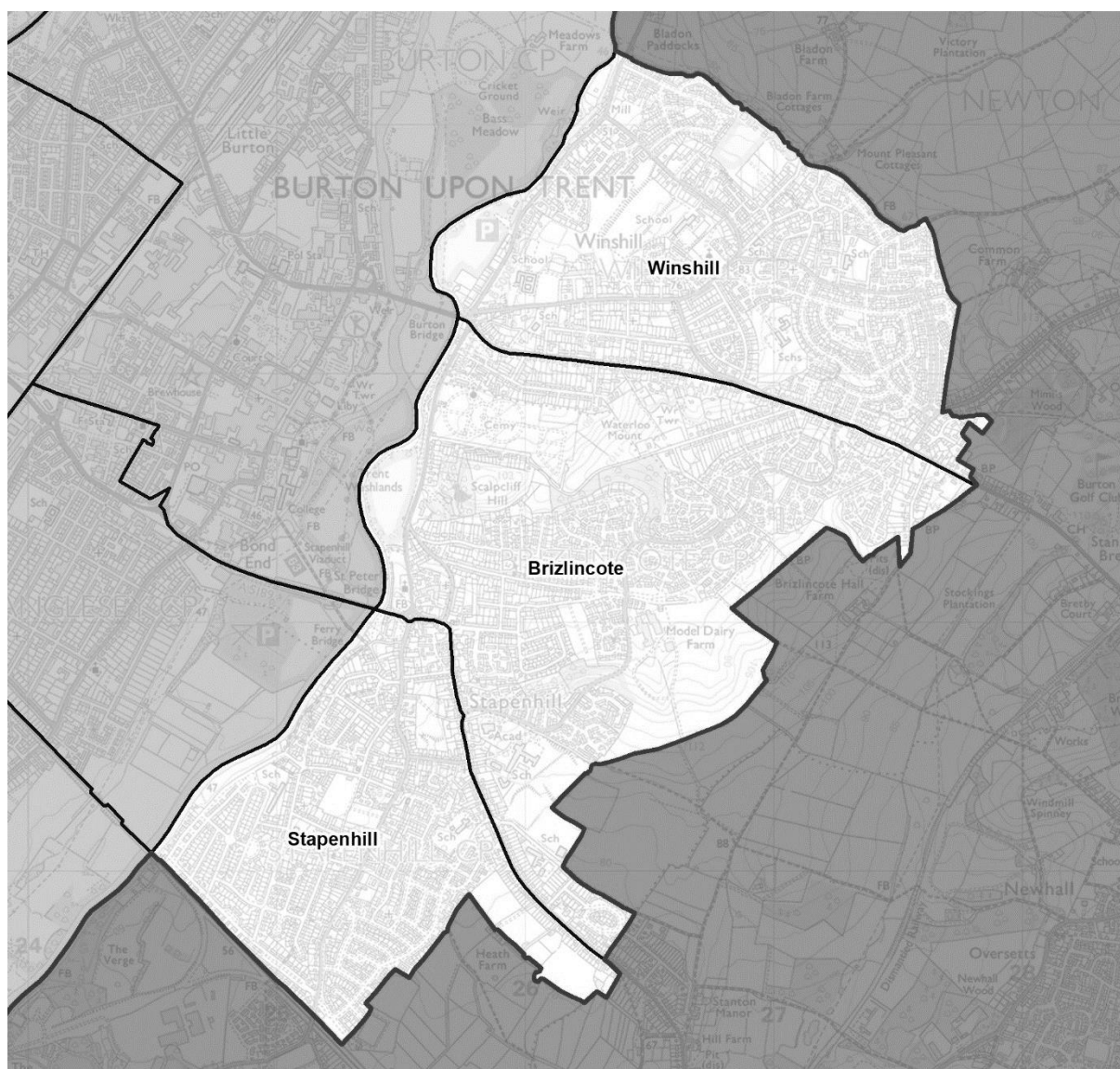
51 We received four identical proposals for a two-councillor Barton & Yoxall ward from the Council and Community Leaders, incorporating the parishes of Barton-under-Needwood, Wychnor, and Yoxall. These proposals provided good electoral equality, with variances of 10% under a 37-councillor model, and 7% under the Council's 36-councillor model. A fourth Council scheme included a three-councillor Barton & Yoxall ward with the addition of Dunstall and Tatenhill & Rangemore parishes. However, this proposal created a -15% variance for the ward. We have therefore based our recommendation on the two-councillor ward.

### *Branston & Needwood*

52 The Council's schemes for this area are discussed in paragraphs 50 and 51. The Community Leaders' scheme creates a Branston & Needwood ward incorporating the parishes of Branston, Dunstall, and Tatenhill & Rangemore, with an

electoral variance of 6%. We have based our ward on the Community Leaders' scheme, informed by the community evidence from Hanbury Parish Council that they have little to no community links with the parishes of Anslow, Outwoods, and Tutbury. Additionally, we were persuaded by evidence from Tutbury Parish Council and a resident on the fast-growing urban population of Outwoods, increasing its attachment to Burton upon Trent. Our recommended Branston & Needwood ward will have good electoral equality by 2025.

## East Burton upon Trent



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2025
Brizlincote	2	7%
Stapenhill	2	1%
Winshill	2	6%

### *Brizlincote, Stapenhill, and Winshill*

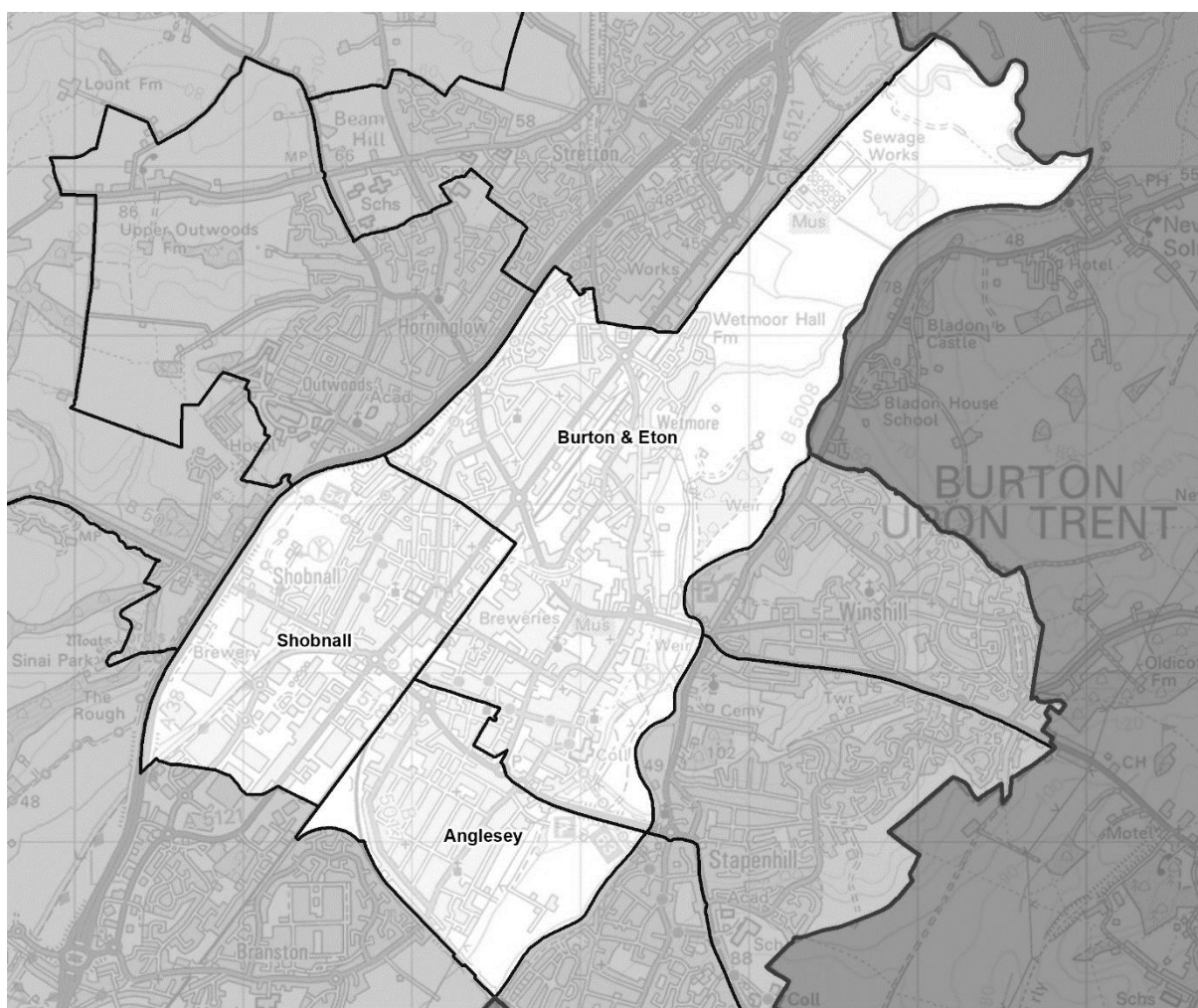
53 The schemes submitted by the Council and Community Leaders divided the south-east Burton upon Trent area into the two three-councillor wards of Stapenhill and Winshill. They proposed that the existing Brizlincote ward be broken up and included in these new wards. The Council's 36-councillor model produced a 0% variance for Winshill and a 10% variance for Stapenhill, while the 37-councillor model produced variances of 3% and 13%, respectively. The Community Leaders'

scheme produced a Winshill ward with a variance of 2% and a Stapenhill ward with a variance of 14%.

54 We were concerned that the Council's 36-councillor scheme, while providing good electoral equality, created an arbitrary boundary between the two wards. While the south side of Stapenhill Cemetery provided a strong northern boundary for Stapenhill ward, the eastern boundary ran down Beaufort Road and Grafton Road which, in our view, resulted in an arbitrary division of a single community. Furthermore, we received evidence from residents that the three parishes in this area represent distinct communities, of which Brizlincote is one.

55 One resident suggested expanding Brizlincote ward in order to accommodate a pattern of three wards. We believe the most effective way of achieving this while ensuring clearly identifiable boundaries, providing good electoral equality, and reflecting these local identities is to run the northern boundary of Brizlincote ward along the A511 Ashby Road and the southern boundary along the A444 Stapenhill Road from St Peter's Bridge. This is partly supported by a resident who said that residents who live in Ashby Road and Scalpcliffe Road do not consider themselves a part of Winshill, despite being within the parish boundaries. Brizlincote, Stapenhill, and Winshill wards will have good electoral equality by 2025.

## Central Burton upon Trent



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2025
Angleseley	2	-8%
Burton & Eton	3	-9%
Shobnall	2	-6%

### *Angleseley*

56 We received five identical proposals for a two-councillor Angleseley ward from the Council and Community Leaders. These extended the northern boundary of the existing Angleseley ward to Moor Street, Park Street, and Fleet Street. This pattern produced a -2% variance in the 37-councillor models and a -4% variance in the Council's 36-councillor model. This scheme was supported by Burton Councillor Helen Hall, whose submission noted that residents south of Evershed Way felt more connected to Angleseley ward than Burton, but that the "town centre" properties on New Street and Lichfield Street should stay in Burton ward.

57 We have based our recommendations on these schemes but, on visiting the area digitally, adjusted the northern boundary of Anglesey slightly. In particular it was noted that, in drawing a line from Park Street to Fleet Street, the boundary of the proposed ward goes through the middle of the car park in the Octagon/ASDA shopping centre. We therefore continued to run the western boundary down Uxbridge Street and along Orchard Street/St Peter's Bridge. In order to avoid the creation of an unviable parish ward, the boundary between Uxbridge Street and Orchard Street was run along James Street – taking in part of Ordish Court – rather than Evershed Way. Anglesey ward will have good electoral equality by 2025.

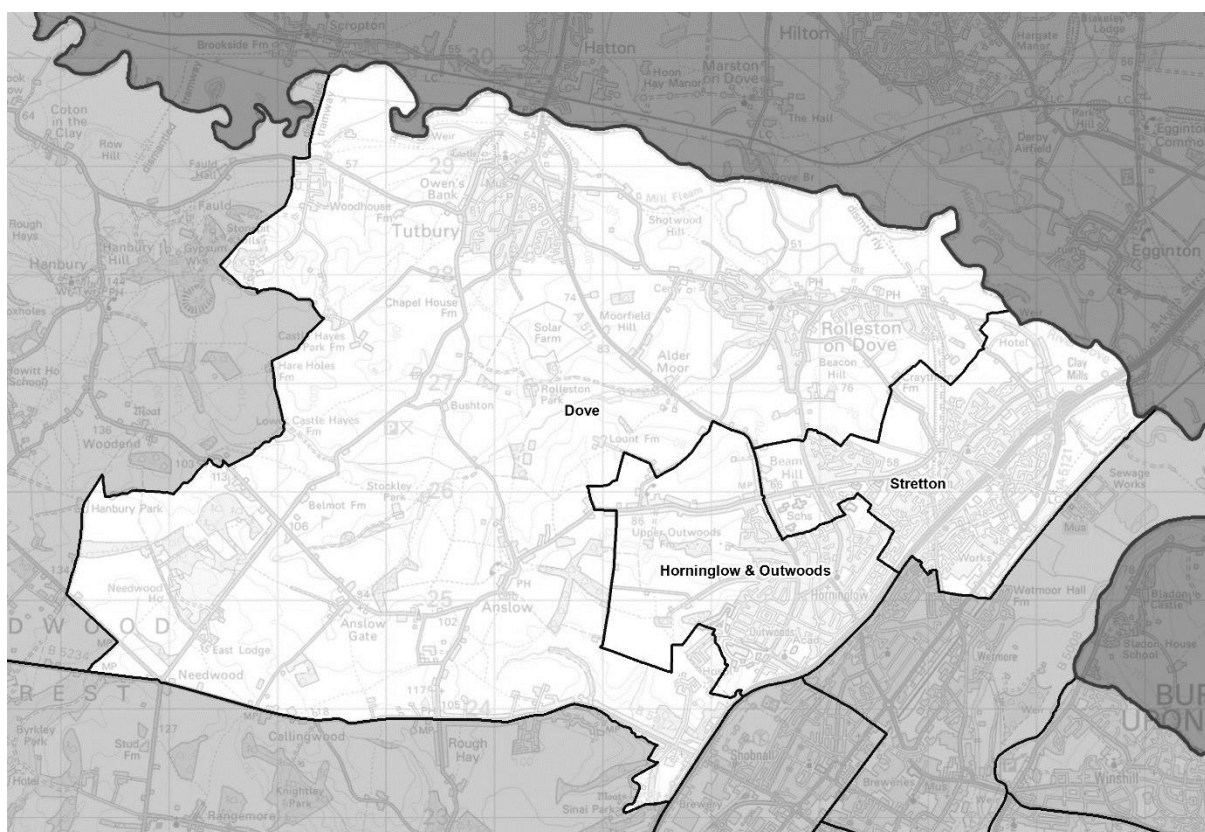
#### *Burton & Eton*

58 We received five identical proposals for a three-councillor Burton ward from the Council and Community Leaders, incorporating the boundaries of the existing Burton ward and the area of Horninglow & Eton parish east of the A38. This creates a ward with a variance of -9% under a 37-councillor model and -11% under the Council's 36-councillor model. We have adopted this as the basis of our recommendations which, with the modifications to the ward's southern boundary mentioned in paragraph 57, results in a variance of -9%. We are also suggesting the name Burton & Eton to reflect the addition of the Eton Park area to the ward and would be interested to receive feedback on this recommendation during the current consultation. Burton & Eton ward will have good electoral equality by 2025.

#### *Shobnall*

59 We received five identical proposals for a three-councillor ward for Shobnall, which made no changes to the existing boundaries. This would result in electoral variances of 1% under the Council's 36-councillor model and 4% under a 37-councillor model. We have based our draft recommendations on these proposals, with the exception of the area west of the A38, which forms part of our recommendations for Dove ward. The reasons for this are discussed in paragraph 61. Shobnall will have good electoral equality by 2025.

## Dove & North Burton upon Trent



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2025
Dove	3	2%
Horninglow & Outwoods	3	4%
Stretton	3	-4%

### *Dove*

60 For reasons detailed in paragraphs 50-52, we did not adopt the Council’s proposals for this area, and have instead based our recommendations on the Community Leaders’ proposed Dove ward. This proposal incorporates the parishes of Anslow, Rolleston on Dove, and Tutbury. It is notable that the existing ward of Rolleston on Dove, which is coterminous with the parish boundaries, was maintained as a one-councillor ward under the Council’s schemes. This would result in the relatively high electoral variances of 15% under a 36-councillor model and 18% under a 37-councillor model. The Community Leaders’ proposed Dove ward would still have a -13% variance, however, and required the addition of further areas to achieve good electoral equality.

61 We considered the evidence provided by a resident that the fast-growing Outwoods parish is becoming “a suburb of Burton” and noted that the Community Leaders’ Outwoods ward, which is coterminous with the parish boundaries, would



also result in a poor electoral variance of 14%. We therefore decided to separate the southern, less built-up, area of Outwoods and incorporate this into the proposed Dove ward. In addition, in the interests of effective and convenient local government, the area of Shobnall parish west of the A38 is included in this ward to reflect access routes to the housing estate off Reservoir Road. Dove ward will have good electoral equality by 2025.

#### *Horninglow & Outwoods*

62 We received four identical proposals for a three-councillor Horninglow ward from the Council and Community Leaders. This ward included the area of Horninglow & Eton ward west of the A38 and created variances of -12% under a 37-councillor model and -14% under the Council's 36-councillor model. A fifth scheme, submitted by the Council, added the homes either side of Field Lane to the ward to achieve a variance of 10% under 37 councillors. However, this creates a -13% variance under 36 councillors.

63 We therefore decided to include the remaining area of Outwoods parish, which is projected to experience significant growth by 2025, in our proposed Horninglow & Outwoods ward. This achieves good electoral equality at 4%. However, as this was not locally proposed, we would be particularly interested to receive feedback on this proposal during the current consultation.

#### *Stretton*

64 We received five identical proposals for a three-councillor Stretton ward from the Council and Community Leaders. These proposals expanded the existing ward to be coterminous with the parish boundaries and offered good electoral equality, achieving variances of -6% in a 37-councillor model and -9% in the Council's 36-councillor model. These proposals therefore formed the basis of our draft recommendations.

65 However, in order to improve electoral equality in both the Stretton and Horninglow & Outwoods wards – which would otherwise have variances of -9% and 9%, respectively – we decided to move the area of Outwoods parish east of the A511 Tutbury Road into Stretton ward. We would be particularly interested to receive feedback on our recommendations during the current consultation. Stretton ward will have good electoral equality by 2025.

## Conclusions

66 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our draft recommendations on electoral equality in East Staffordshire, referencing the 2019 and 2025 electorate figures. A full list of wards, names and their corresponding electoral variances can be found at Appendix A to the back of this report. An outline map of the wards is provided at Appendix B.

### Summary of electoral arrangements

	Draft recommendations	
	2019	2025
Number of councillors	36	36
Number of electoral wards	16	16
Average number of electors per councillor	2,411	2,539
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	5	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

#### Draft recommendations

East Staffordshire Borough Council should be made up of 36 councillors serving 16 wards representing two single-councillor wards, eight two-councillor wards and six three-councillor wards. The details and names are shown in Appendix A and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

#### Mapping

Sheet 1, Map 1 shows the proposed wards for East Staffordshire Borough Council. You can also view our draft recommendations for East Staffordshire Borough Council on our interactive maps at [www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

### Parish electoral arrangements

67 As part of an electoral review, we are required to have regard to the statutory criteria set out in Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (the 2009 Act). The Schedule provides that if a parish is to be divided between different wards it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single ward. We cannot recommend changes to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

68 Under the 2009 Act we only have the power to make changes to parish electoral arrangements where these are as a direct consequence of our recommendations for principal authority warding arrangements. However, East Staffordshire Borough Council has powers under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to conduct community governance reviews to effect changes to parish electoral arrangements.

69 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Burton Parish Council, Outwoods Parish Council, Shobnall Parish Council, Stapenhill Parish Council, Uttoxeter Town Council, Uttoxeter Rural Parish Council, and Winshill Parish Council.

70 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Burton parish.

#### Draft recommendations

Burton Parish Council should comprise nine councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Burton St Peter's	1
Burton Town	8

71 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Outwoods parish.

#### Draft recommendations

Outwoods Parish Council should comprise 11 councillors, as at present, representing three wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Outwoods Central	6
Outwoods North	1
Outwoods South	4

72 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Shobnall parish.

#### Draft recommendations

Shobnall Parish Council should comprise 11 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Shobnall Canal	10
Shobnall Oaks Wood	1

73 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Stapenhill parish.

#### Draft recommendations

Stapenhill Parish Council should comprise 11 councillors, as at present, representing three wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Stapenhill St Peter's	1
Stapenhill Stanton Road	1
Stapenhill Village	9

74 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Uttoxeter parish.

#### Draft recommendations

Uttoxeter Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Uttoxeter Heath	9
Uttoxeter Town	7

75 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Uttoxeter Rural parish.

#### Draft recommendations

Uttoxeter Rural Parish Council should comprise nine councillors, as at present, representing three wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Uttoxeter Rural Bramshall	5
Uttoxeter Rural Loxley	1
Uttoxeter Rural Stramshall	3

76 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Winshill parish.

#### Draft recommendations

Winshill Parish Council should comprise 11 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Winshill Village	10
Winshill Waterloo	1

## Have your say

77 The Commission has an open mind about its draft recommendations. Every representation we receive will be considered, regardless of who it is from or whether it relates to the whole borough or just a part of it.

78 If you agree with our recommendations, please let us know. If you don't think our recommendations are right for East Staffordshire, we want to hear alternative proposals for a different pattern of wards.

79 Our website has a special consultation area where you can explore the maps and draw your own proposed boundaries. You can find it at [www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

80 Submissions can also be made by emailing [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk) or by writing to:

**Review Officer (East Staffordshire)**  
**The Local Government Boundary Commission for England**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Windsor House**  
**50 Victoria Street**  
**London SW1H 0TL**

81 The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for East Staffordshire Borough Council which delivers:

- Electoral equality: each local councillor represents a similar number of voters.
- Community identity: reflects the identity and interests of local communities.
- Effective and convenient local government: helping your council discharge its responsibilities effectively.

82 A good pattern of wards should:

- Provide good electoral equality, with each councillor representing, as closely as possible, the same number of voters.
- Reflect community interests and identities and include evidence of community links.
- Be based on strong, easily identifiable boundaries.
- Help the council deliver effective and convenient local government.

83 Electoral equality:

- Does your proposal mean that councillors would represent roughly the same number of voters as elsewhere in East Staffordshire?

84 Community identity:

- Community groups: is there a parish council, residents' association or other group that represents the area?
- Interests: what issues bind the community together or separate it from other parts of your area?
- Identifiable boundaries: are there natural or constructed features which make strong boundaries for your proposals?

85 Effective local government:

- Are any of the proposed wards too large or small to be represented effectively?
- Are the proposed names of the wards appropriate?
- Are there good links across your proposed wards? Is there any form of public transport?

86 Please note that the consultation stages of an electoral review are public consultations. In the interests of openness and transparency, we make available for public inspection full copies of all representations the Commission takes into account as part of a review. Accordingly, copies of all representations will be placed on deposit at our offices and on our website at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk). A list of respondents will be available from us on request after the end of the consultation period.

87 If you are a member of the public and not writing on behalf of a council or organisation we will remove any personal identifiers. This includes your name, postal or email addresses, signatures or phone numbers from your submission before it is made public. We will remove signatures from all letters, no matter who they are from.

88 In the light of representations received, we will review our draft recommendations and consider whether they should be altered. As indicated earlier, it is therefore important that all interested parties let us have their views and evidence, **whether or not** they agree with the draft recommendations. We will then publish our final recommendations.

89 After the publication of our final recommendations, the changes we have proposed must be approved by Parliament. An Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in draft in Parliament. The draft

Order will provide for new electoral arrangements to be implemented at the all-out elections for East Staffordshire Borough Council in 2023.





## Equalities

90 The Commission has looked at how it carries out reviews under the guidelines set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. It has made best endeavours to ensure that people with protected characteristics can participate in the review process and is sufficiently satisfied that no adverse equality impacts will arise as a result of the outcome of the review.



# Appendices

## Appendix A

### Draft recommendations for East Staffordshire Borough Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2019)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2025)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Abbey & Weaver	2	4,850	2,425	1%	4,962	2,481	-2%
2	Anglesey	2	4,801	2,401	0%	4,656	2,328	-8%
3	Bagots	1	2,366	2,366	-2%	2,294	2,294	-10%
4	Barton & Yoxall	2	5,593	2,797	16%	5,445	2,723	7%
5	Branston & Needwood	3	6,239	2,080	-14%	8,089	2,696	6%
6	Brizlincote	2	5,448	2,724	13%	5,447	2,724	7%
7	Burton & Eton	3	6,126	2,042	-15%	6,964	2,321	-9%
8	Crown	1	2,467	2,467	2%	2,393	2,393	-6%
9	Dove	3	7,306	2,435	1%	7,782	2,594	2%
10	Horninglow & Outwoods	3	7,395	2,465	2%	7,941	2,647	4%
11	Shobnall	2	4,776	2,388	-1%	4,777	2,389	-6%
12	Stapenhill	2	5,212	2,606	8%	5,149	2,575	1%

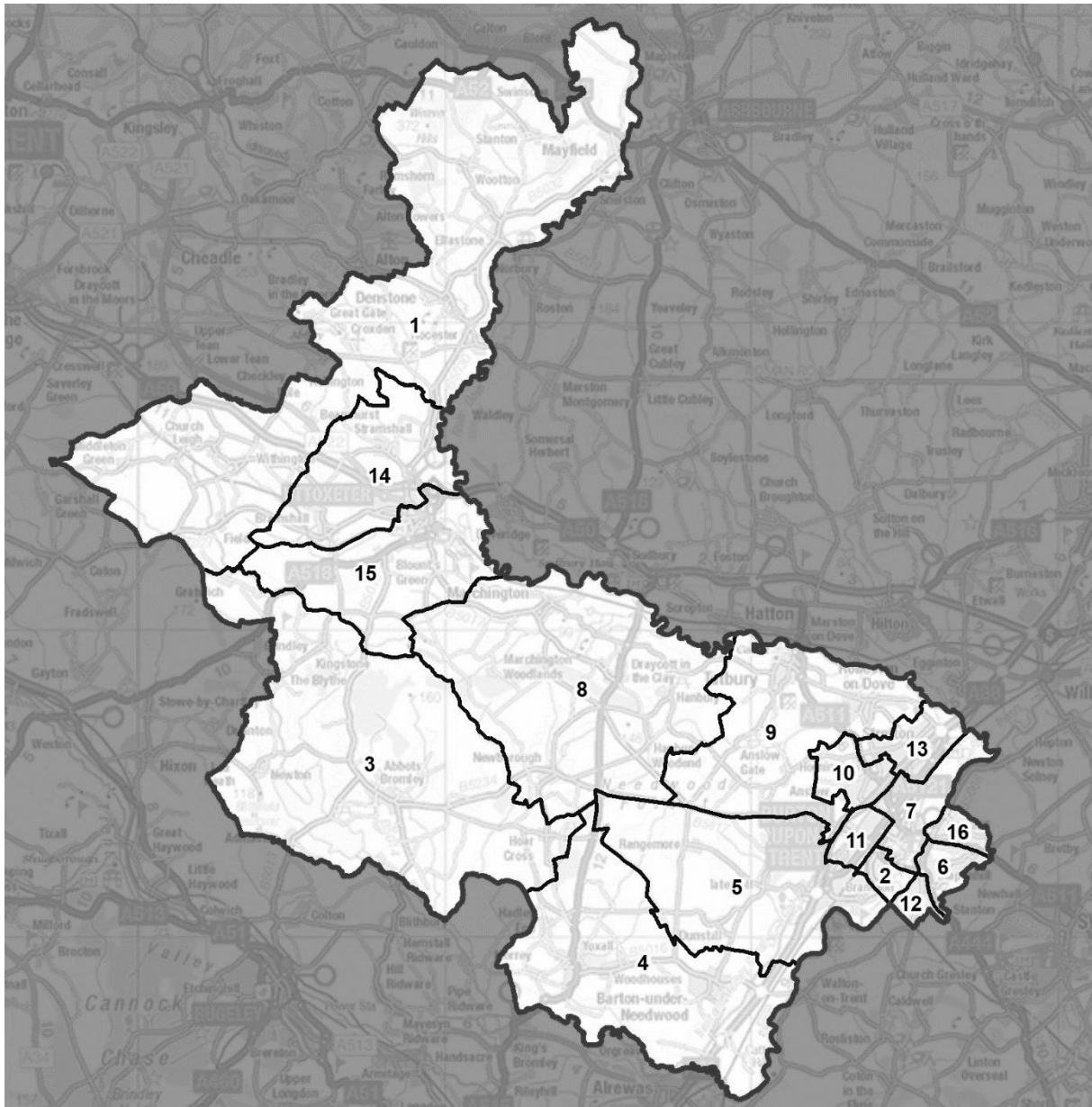
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2019)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2025)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
13 Stretton	3	7,272	2,424	1%	7,340	2,447	-4%
14 Uttoxeter North	3	6,965	2,322	-4%	7,686	2,562	1%
15 Uttoxeter South	2	4,435	2,218	-8%	5,069	2,535	0%
16 Winshill	2	5,534	2,767	15%	5,398	2,699	6%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>86,785</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>91,392</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Averages</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,411</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,539</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by East Staffordshire Borough Council.

Note: The 'variance from average' column shows by how far, in percentage terms, the number of electors per councillor in each electoral ward varies from the average for the borough. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

## Appendix B

### Outline map



Number	Ward name
1	Abbey & Weaver
2	Anglesey
3	Bagots
4	Barton & Yoxall
5	Branston & Needwood
6	Brizlincote
7	Burton & Eton
8	Crown
9	Dove

10	Horninglow & Outwoods
11	Shobnall
12	Stapenhill
13	Stretton
14	Uttoxeter North
15	Uttoxeter South
16	Winshill

A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/west-midlands/staffordshire/east-staffordshire>

## Appendix C

### Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at:

[www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/west-midlands/staffordshire/east-staffordshire](http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/west-midlands/staffordshire/east-staffordshire)

#### *Local Authority*

- East Staffordshire Borough Council
- Staffordshire County Council

#### *Councillors*

- Councillor P. Atkins (Staffordshire County Council)
- Councillor D. Goodfellow (East Staffordshire Borough Council)\*
- Councillor H. Hall (East Staffordshire Borough Council)
- Councillor S. McGarry (East Staffordshire Borough Council)\*
- Councillor C. Wileman (East Staffordshire Borough Council)\*

#### *Members of Parliament*

- Kate Griffiths MP (Burton)\*

#### *Parish and Town Councils*

- Anslow Parish Council
- Croxden Parish Council
- Denstone Parish Council
- Draycott in the Clay Parish Council
- Hanbury Parish Council
- Newborough Parish Council
- Stretton Parish Council
- Tatenhill & Rangemore Parish Council
- Tutbury Parish Council

#### *Local Residents*

- 14 local residents

\* Joint submission of a single scheme

## Appendix D

### Glossary and abbreviations

Council size	The number of councillors elected to serve on a council
Electoral Change Order (or Order)	A legal document which implements changes to the electoral arrangements of a local authority
Division	A specific area of a county, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever division they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the county council
Electoral fairness	When one elector's vote is worth the same as another's
Electoral inequality	Where there is a difference between the number of electors represented by a councillor and the average for the local authority
Electorate	People in the authority who are registered to vote in elections. For the purposes of this report, we refer specifically to the electorate for local government elections
Number of electors per councillor	The total number of electors in a local authority divided by the number of councillors
Over-represented	Where there are fewer electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Parish	A specific and defined area of land within a single local authority enclosed within a parish boundary. There are over 10,000 parishes in England, which provide the first tier of representation to their local residents



Parish council	A body elected by electors in the parish which serves and represents the area defined by the parish boundaries. See also 'Town council'
Parish (or town) council electoral arrangements	The total number of councillors on any one parish or town council; the number, names and boundaries of parish wards; and the number of councillors for each ward
Parish ward	A particular area of a parish, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors vote in whichever parish ward they live for candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the parish council
Town council	A parish council which has been given ceremonial 'town' status. More information on achieving such status can be found at <a href="http://www.nalc.gov.uk">www.nalc.gov.uk</a>
Under-represented	Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Variance (or electoral variance)	How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward or division varies in percentage terms from the average
Ward	A specific area of a district or borough, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever ward they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the district or borough council

The  
Local Government  
Boundary Commission  
for England

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) was set up by Parliament, independent of Government and political parties. It is directly accountable to Parliament through a committee chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons. It is responsible for conducting boundary, electoral and structural reviews of local government.

Local Government Boundary Commission for  
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1st Floor, Windsor House  
50 Victoria Street, London  
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[www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

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