

New electoral arrangements for South Staffordshire District Council Final Recommendations

March 2022

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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.¹ 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.

¹ 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

Why South Staffordshire?

7 We are conducting a review of South Staffordshire District Council ('the Council') as its last review was completed in 2000, and we are required to review the electoral arrangements of every council in England 'from time to time'.² In conducting this review, we note that some councillors currently represent many more or fewer electors than others. We describe this as 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where the number of electors per councillor is as even as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal.

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

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

Our proposals for South Staffordshire

9 South Staffordshire should be represented by 42 councillors, seven fewer than there are now.

10 South Staffordshire should have 20 wards, five fewer than there are now.

11 The boundaries of 22 wards should change; three (Essington, Himley & Swindon and Huntington & Hatherton) will stay the same.

12 We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for South Staffordshire.

How will the recommendations affect you?

13 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.

14 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the district or result in changes to postcodes. They do not take into account parliamentary

² Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 paragraph 56(1).

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 take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

Review timetable

15 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for South Staffordshire. We then held two periods of consultation with the public on warding patterns for the district. The submissions received during consultation have informed our final recommendations.

16 The review was conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
18 May 2021	Number of councillors decided
25 May 2021	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
2 August 2021	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
2 November 2021	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
10 January 2022	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
29 March 2022	Publication of final recommendations

Analysis and final recommendations

17 Legislation³ states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors⁴ 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.

18 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.

19 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.

	2021	2027
Electorate of South Staffordshire	84,378	87,472
Number of councillors	42	42
Average number of electors per councillor	2,009	2,083

20 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 South Staffordshire are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2027.

Submissions received

21 See Appendix C for details of the submissions received. All submissions may be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Electorate figures

22 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2027, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2022. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 4% by 2027.

23 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 final recommendations.

³ Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

⁴ Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

Number of councillors

24 South Staffordshire Council currently has 49 councillors. We looked at evidence provided by the Council and concluded that decreasing by eight would ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

25 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 41 councillors – for example, 41 one-councillor wards or a mix of one-, two- and three-councillor wards.

26 We received two submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on warding patterns. One resident argued against the reduction in councillor numbers and instead suggested an increase from the current 49 to 50 but did not provide any details of why the proposed council size of 50 was the right one with respect to the functions of the Council. Another resident stated that 41 councillors was too many but did not propose an alternative council size.

27 While we were persuaded to reduce the council size, in order to adopt a locally developed scheme with strong boundaries, based on the evidence we received, our draft recommendations were for a council size of 42 and not 41 as originally proposed.

28 We received one submission about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on our draft recommendations. The submission proposed 28 councillors for South Staffordshire and allocated them to the existing wards. However, they did not provide any evidence to support their proposal. We have therefore maintained 42 councillors for our final recommendations.

Ward boundaries consultation

29 We received 63 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included a district-wide proposal from the Council which used parishes and localities as the basis of its warding pattern. The five localities which the district is divided into facilitate the Council's communication and connection with its communities. It provided for a mixed pattern of one-, two- and three-councillor wards for South Staffordshire.

30 We also received comments from South Staffordshire Labour Party which advocated for a uniform pattern of wards with the same number of councillors in each ward on the grounds of fairness. As South Staffordshire District Council conducts whole-council elections, we are able to return a mixed pattern of one-, two- and three-member wards in order to reflect our statutory criteria, in particular community interests and identities, and we were not persuaded to adopt a uniform pattern of wards with the same number of councillors in each.

31 The remainder of the submissions were from political groups, councillors, local organisations and residents and provided localised comments for ward arrangements in particular areas of the district.

32 We carefully considered the proposals received and were of the view that the Council's proposed patterns of wards resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the authority and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries as well as providing a good reflection of community identity.

33 Accordingly our draft recommendations were based on the Council's proposals but also took 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.

34 Given the social distancing requirements (at the time) arising from the Covid-19 outbreak, there was a detailed virtual tour of South Staffordshire. This helped clarify issues raised in submissions and assisted in the construction of the proposed boundary recommendations.

35 Our draft recommendations were for six three-councillor wards, 10 two-councillor wards and four one-councillor wards. We considered that our draft recommendations would provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

Draft recommendations consultation

36 We received 18 submissions during the consultation on our draft recommendations. These included submissions from a councillor, parish councils, local organisations and residents. The submissions focused on specific areas, in particular our proposals in Pattingham, Penkridge and Perton. We also received proposals to rename some wards, notably our draft recommendations' Blymhill & Brewood ward.

Final recommendations

37 Our final recommendations are for six three-councillor wards, 10 two-councillor wards and four one-councillor wards. Our final recommendations are based on the draft recommendations with no further changes proposed. However, we have renamed our draft recommendations' Blymhill & Brewood ward as Brewood, Coven & Blymhill in response to the evidence we received.

38 We consider that our final recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

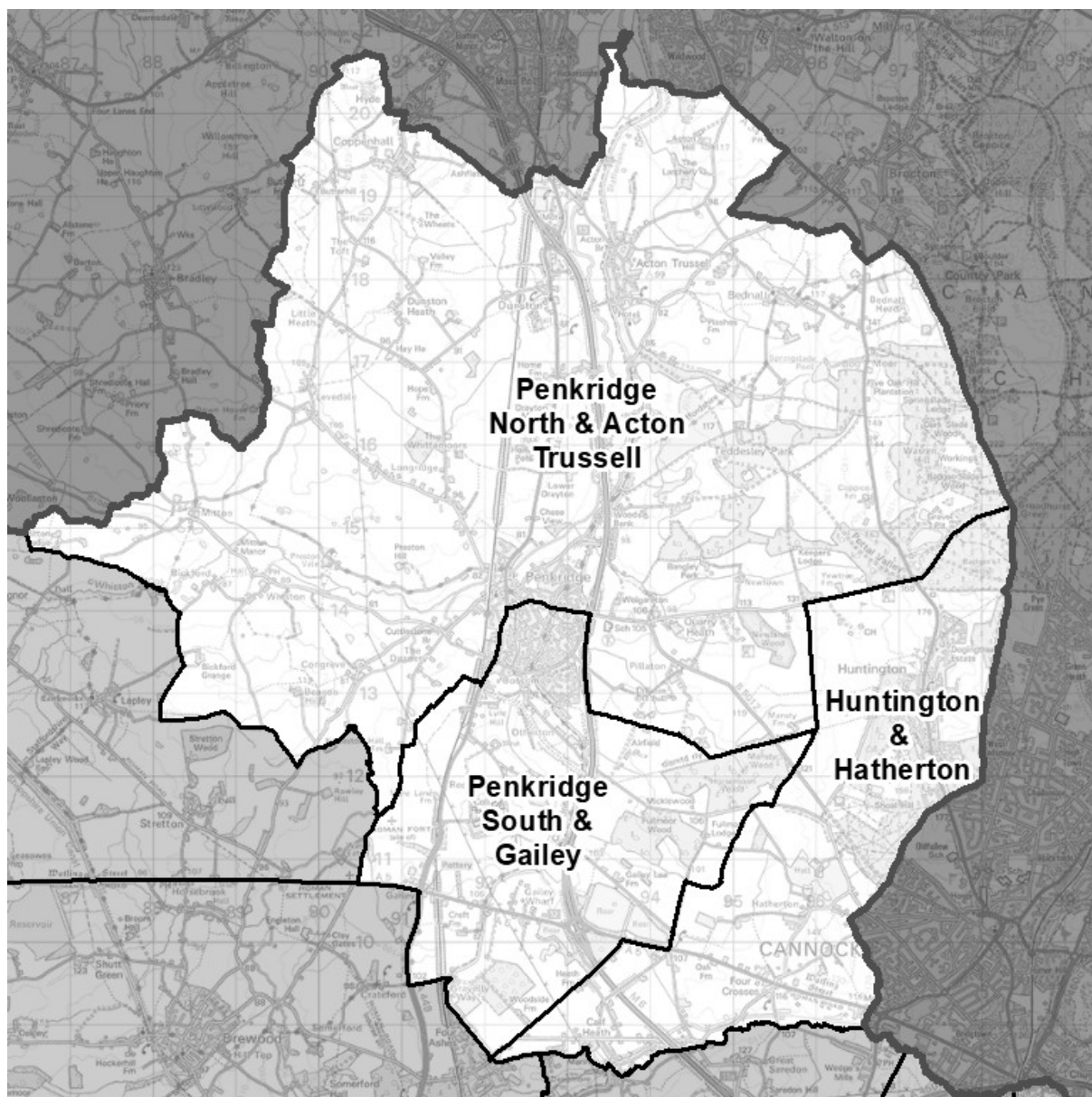
39 The tables and maps on pages 9–19 detail our final recommendations for each area of South Staffordshire District Council. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory⁵ criteria of:

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

40 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 29 and on the large map accompanying this report.

⁵ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

North-east



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Huntington & Hatherton	2	-4%
Penkrige North & Acton Trussell	2	8%
Penkrige South & Gailey	2	5%

Penkrige North & Acton Trussell and Penkrige South & Gailey

41 In response to our draft recommendations, we received one submission from a resident about this area of the district.

42 A resident proposed that the boundary between these two wards run from Cannock Road to Pottal Pool Road and then to the junction with the A34. They acknowledged that this would split some residents around Quarry Heath across two

separate wards but argued that the proposal would create a more identifiable boundary.

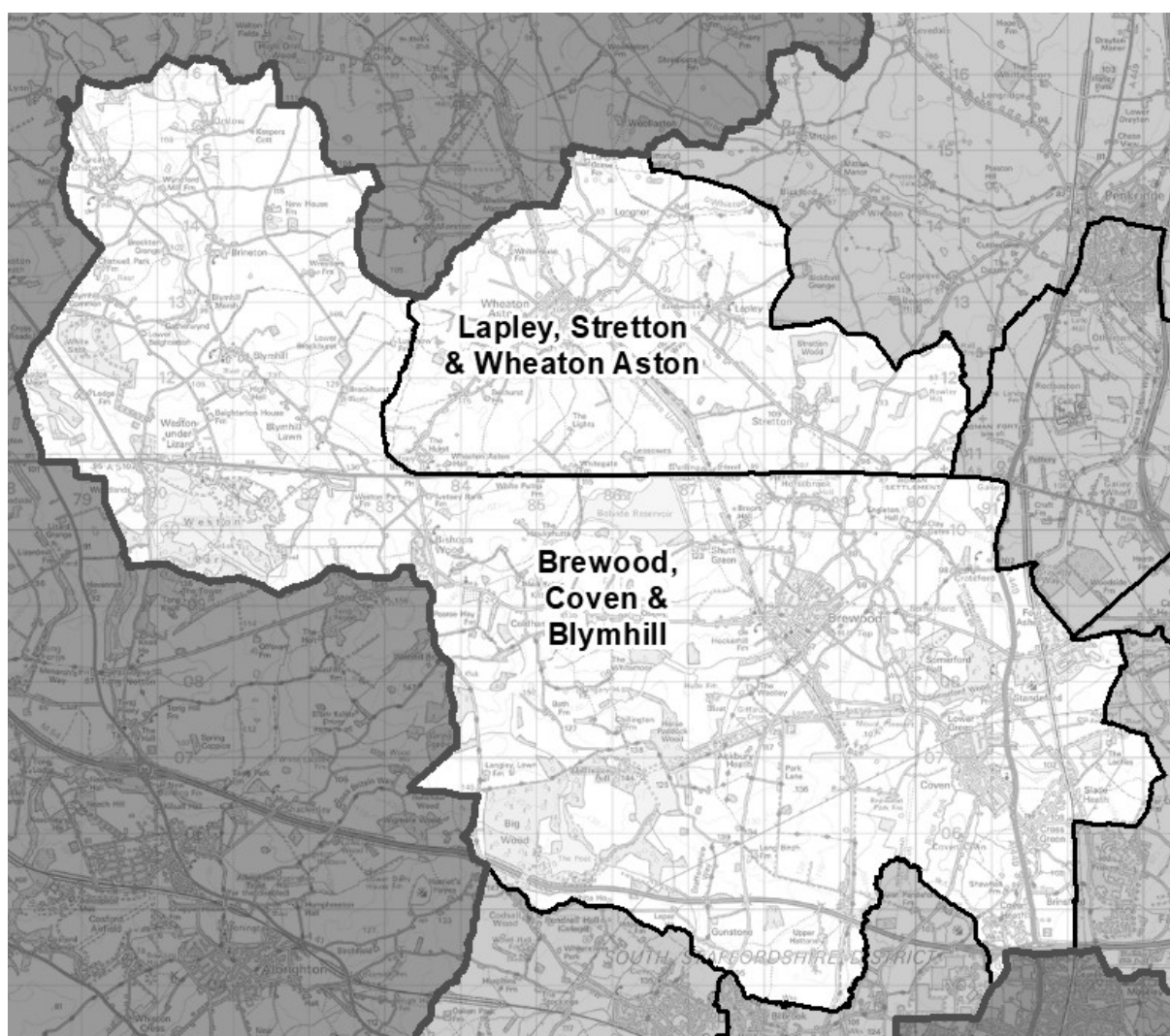
43 We considered this proposal carefully. We acknowledge the suitability of the proposed boundary. However, on balance and in view of the limited community evidence we received, we considered that including the few residents around Quarry Heath in a single ward is preferable to splitting them across wards because it is likely that they share community interests and identity. Accordingly, we have not adopted this proposal.

44 We therefore confirm our draft recommendations for Penkridge North & Acton Trussell and Penkridge South & Gailey as final.

Huntington & Hatherton

45 We did not receive any comments about our proposals for this area. We therefore confirm our draft recommendations for Huntington & Hatherton as final.

North-west



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Brewood, Coven & Blymhill	3	9%
Lapley, Stretton & Wheaton Aston	1	5%

Brewood, Coven & Blymhill and Lapley, Stretton & Wheaton Aston

46 We received seven submissions about our draft recommendations' Blymhill & Brewood and Lapley, Stretton & Wheaton Aston wards. These were from Councillor Sibley, Brewood & Coven Parish Council, Coven Heath Community Association and four residents.

47 Six of the submissions – from Councillor Sibley, Brewood & Coven Parish Council, Coven Heath Community Association and three residents – accepted the rationale for the Blymhill & Brewood ward outlined in our draft recommendations. This placed the parish of Blymhill & Weston-under-Lizard in a single district ward with Brewood & Coven parish. However, they objected to the omission of Coven

from the name of the ward. They argued that Coven was a village of a similar size and significance to Brewood and that its name ought to be included in the name of the ward. They proposed the name Brewood, Coven & Blymhill.

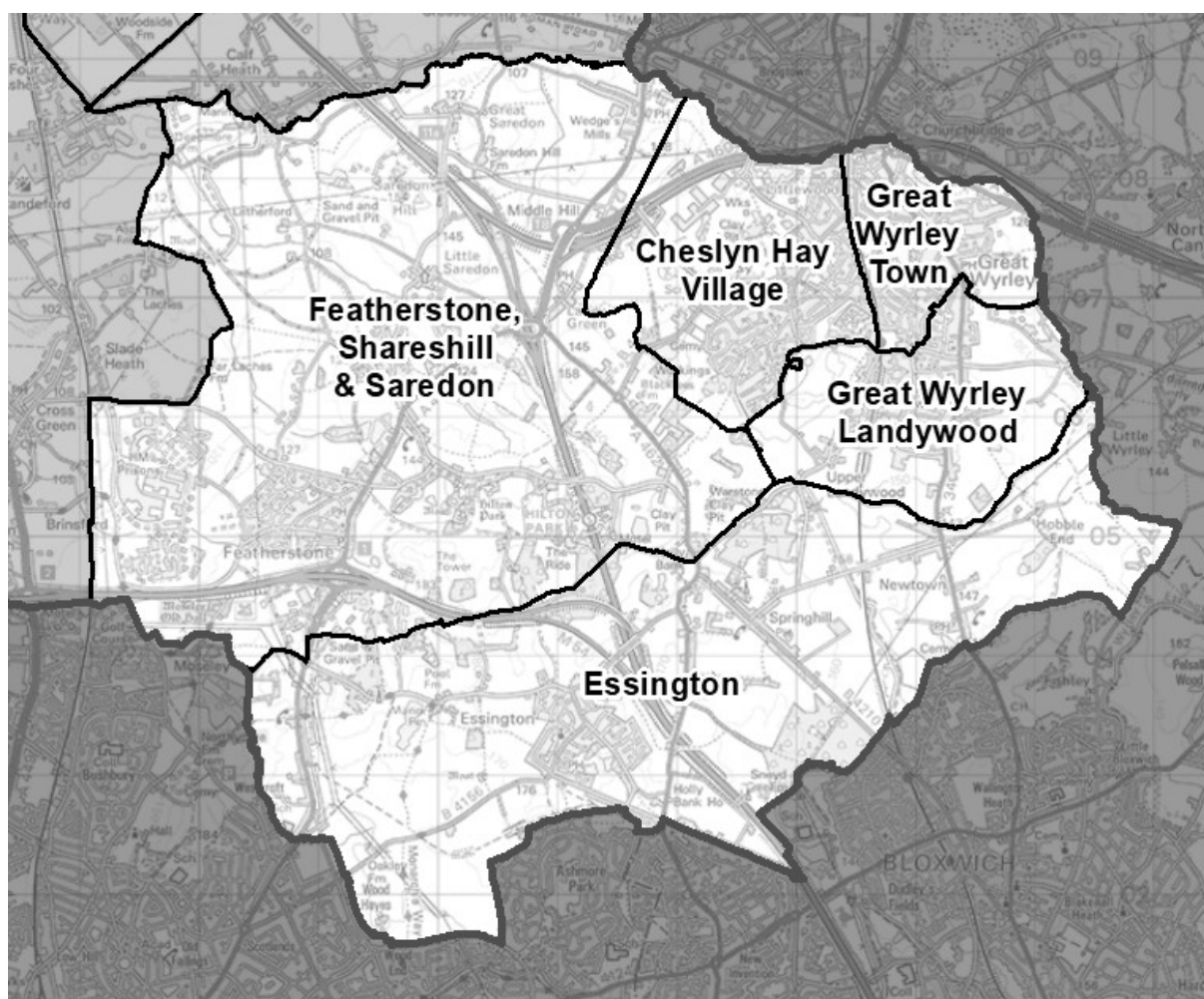
48 One resident expressed surprise that Blymhill was included in a ward with Brewood. They proposed using the A5 as a boundary to the south thereby including the northern part of Blymhill & Weston-under-Lizard parish in a ward with Lapley, Stretton & Wheaton Aston parish.

49 We have carefully considered all the submissions we received. We note that the A5 is identifiable. However, using it as a boundary would split Blymhill & Weston-under-Lizard parish based on limited community evidence. Furthermore, it produces a ward to the north with very poor electoral equality. A single-councillor Lapley, Stretton & Wheaton Aston ward, which includes the area of Blymhill & Weston-under-Lizard parish north of the A5, is forecast to have 30% more electors than the average for the district. Making it a two-councillor ward produces a ward with 35% fewer electors than the district average, with the resulting two-councillor Blymhill & Brewood ward forecast to have 51% more electors than the district average.

50 We are not minded to create wards with such poor electoral equality and have not adopted this proposal.

51 In light of this and the support we received for our draft recommendations, we are not making any changes to the boundaries of our proposals for this area. However, we have been persuaded to rename our proposed Blymhill & Brewood ward as Brewood, Coven & Blymhill. Subject to the name change, we confirm our draft recommendations as final.

East



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Cheslyn Hay Village	3	-1%
Essington	2	-3%
Featherstone, Shareshill & Saredon	2	7%
Great Wyrley Landywood	2	-5%
Great Wyrley Town	2	5%

Cheslyn Hay Village, Great Wyrley Landywood and Great Wyrley Town

52 We received one submission in response to our draft recommendations for Cheslyn Hay and Great Wyrley. This was from a resident who generally expressed broad support for our draft recommendations but who was also of the view that Broadmeadow Lane was not considered 'part of Landywood'.

53 The resident also queried the names of Cheslyn Hay Village and Great Wyrley Town, arguing that Cheslyn Hay is not a village and that Great Wyrley is not a town. They proposed that the three wards in this area be named Cheslyn Hay, Great Wyrley North and Great Wyrley South.

54 We considered this representation very carefully. With regards to Broadmeadow Lane, the resident did not provide us with any further community evidence to support their view. While we note that Broadmeadow Lane is part of the existing Great Wyrley Town ward so is Shaw's Lane and the northern part of Walsall Road. Despite also being included in Great Wyrley Landywood as part of our draft recommendations, there has been no suggestion that we should include these other roads in Great Wyrley Town ward. It is unclear without further community evidence as to how and why Broadmeadow Lane is part of the Great Wyrley Town community and not Great Wyrley Landywood. We have therefore not been persuaded to modify the boundaries of our draft recommendation wards.

55 Therefore, we are confirming our draft recommendations for Cheslyn Hay Village, Great Wyrley Landywood and Great Wyrley Town wards as final.

56 With regards to ward names, we note that the Council in their warding pattern submission referred to Cheslyn Hay as a village. The Cheslyn Hay Parish Council website also alludes to Cheslyn Hay being a village. We also note that in Great Wyrley our draft recommendations retained the names of the existing wards. While the resident's proposal for a north and south ward has merit, we do not consider that we have enough evidence of a community consensus to change the names at this stage of the review.

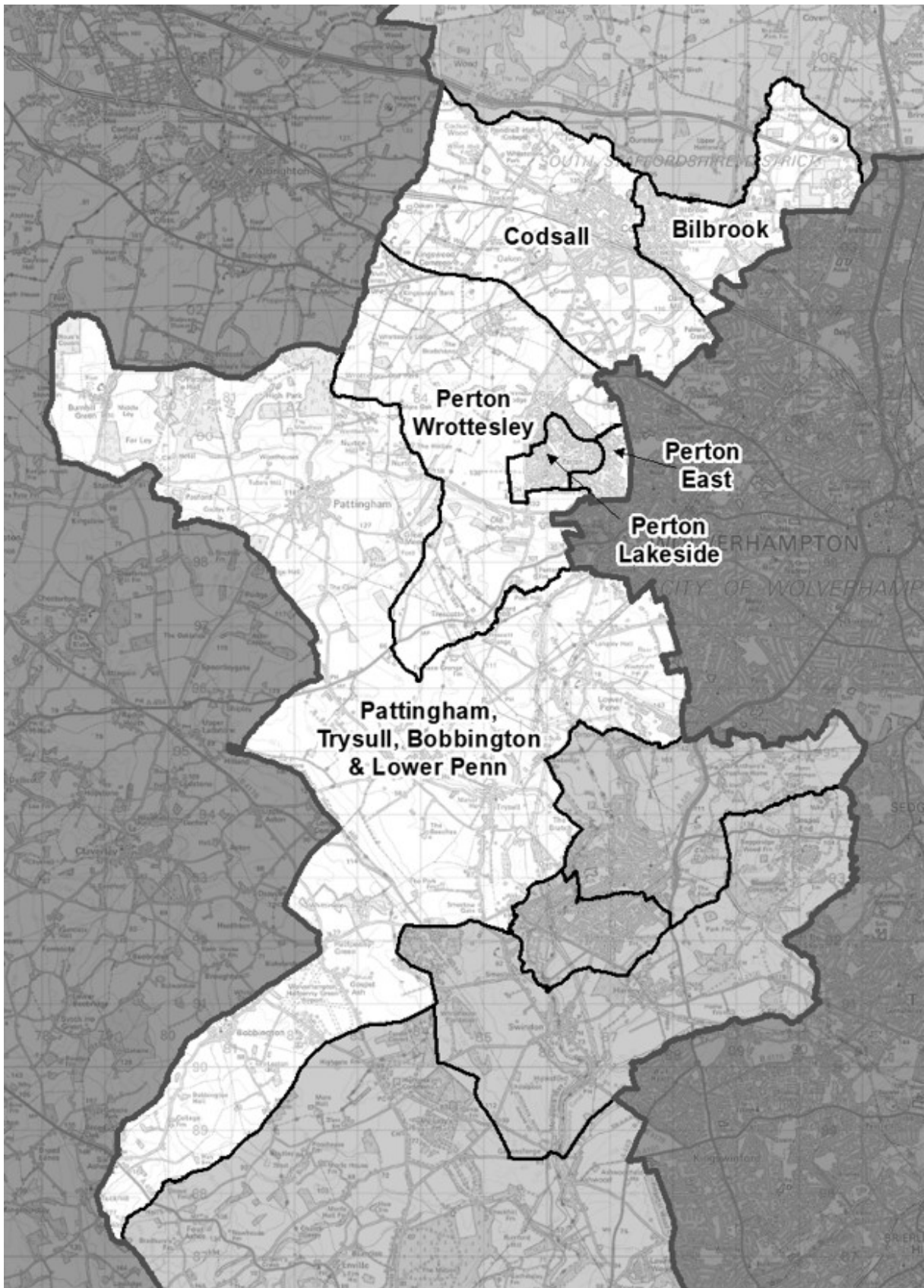
57 However, in the five years following a review, a local authority may seek the Commission's agreement to change the name of a ward if this reflects community identity and sentiment. After five years, a local authority may make a change without seeking the agreement of the Commission.

Essington and Featherstone, Shareshill & Saredon

58 We did not receive any comments about our proposals for these wards. We therefore confirm our draft recommendations for Essington and Featherstone, Shareshill & Saredon as final.

59 Both wards are forecast to have good electoral equality in 2027.

Central and South-west



Ward	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Bilbrook	2	-5%
Codsall	3	1%
Pattingham, Trysull, Bobbington & Lower Penn	2	-4%
Perton East	1	-1%
Perton Lakeside	2	-4%
Perton Wrottesley	1	9%

Perton East, Perton Lakeside and Perton Wrottesley

60 We received three submissions about Perton, in response to our draft recommendations. These were from Perton Parish Council and two residents.

61 The Parish Council supported the draft recommendations and provided details of the links Perton has with the hamlets of Kingswood and Trescott which are also in the parish. A resident of St Andrew's Drive stated that they did not want to be in a ward 'that includes none of Perton Village residents'. They proposed that Perton Village (the built-up area of the parish) be evenly divided into three.

62 Another resident in the Kingswood area proposed that residents in that area be included in a ward with Codsall as in their view there was no natural affinity with Perton. They also suggested that if that was not possible, they could be included with Pattingham parish.

63 With regards to splitting the semi-urban Perton Village into three wards we note that due to the number of electors, this would produce wards forecast to have at least 19% more electors than the district average. Furthermore, including St Andrew's Drive in Perton Lakeside ward produced a Perton Wrottesley ward with 35% fewer electors than the district average. We are not minded to create wards with such poor electoral equality.

64 We also note that the existing Perton Dippons ward includes a section of Perton Village (east of The Parkway around Mercia Drive and Stephenson Drive) in a ward with Kingswood and Trescott communities. Our draft recommendations' Perton Wrottesley ward expands this ward by including St Andrew's Drive residents in this ward.

65 We also considered the proposal to move electors in the Kingswood area into either Codsall or Pattingham wards. However, we were not persuaded to change our draft recommendations, in the face of the limited evidence we received.

66 We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations for Perton, as final.

Bilbrook and Codsall

67 We did not receive any comments on our draft recommendations for Bilbrook and Codsall, other than the comments about Kingswood in paragraph 62. We therefore confirm our draft recommendations for these wards as final.

Pattingham, Trysull, Bobbington & Lower Penn

68 We received two submissions, from Pattingham & Patshull Parish Council and a resident, in response to our draft recommendations for this area.

69 The Parish Council was of the view that the other villages in this ward have their own 'intrinsic personality' and do not have any connection with Pattingham. It also believed that Pattingham ought to be in its own single-councillor ward (as is the case now), because it is the same size as the other villages put together.

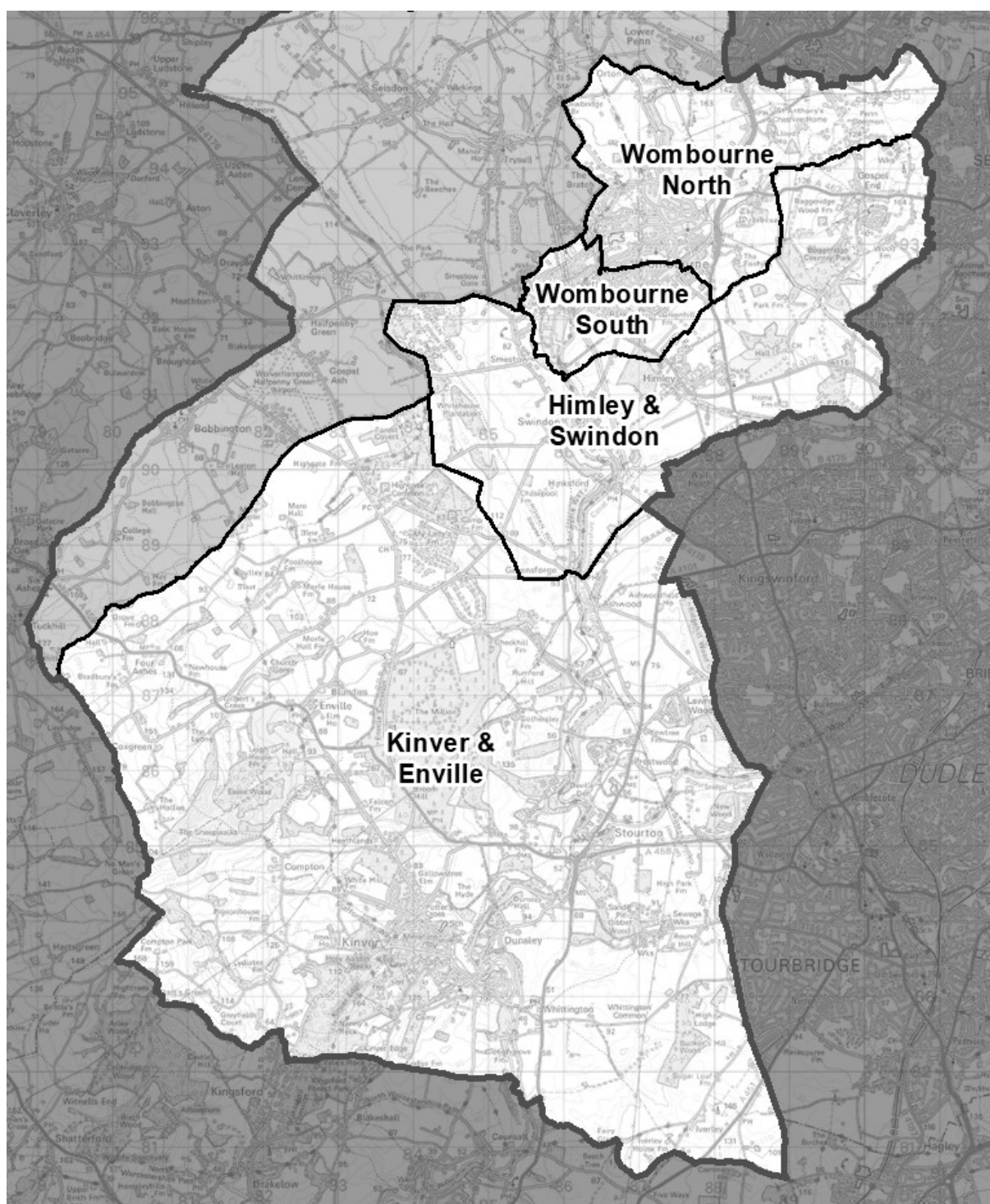
70 The resident argued against the inclusion of Lower Penn in a district ward with any part of Wombourne as is the current arrangement. The resident was of the view that the parish should be included with 'comparable villages on the edge of Wolverhampton'. Our draft recommendations' ward does not include Lower Penn with any part of Wombourne but places it with other rural villages in the area.

71 With regards to the Parish Council's comments, we note that in response to our first consultation, most respondents told us that Pattingham & Patshull parish had different characteristics from semi-urban Perton. Some respondents were of the view that to improve electoral equality, the parish could be included with other rural communities. Suggestions included Bobbington, Trescott, Trysull and 'over towards Seisdon & Trysull'. At the time, one resident expressed the view that Trysull, Seisdon and Bobbington, which bordered Pattingham, were all rural villages sharing similarities and common issues including concerns over new development, transport, highways and preservation of facilities and traditions.

72 We have considered all the evidence we received and while we note the Parish Council's comments, we have not been presented with strong enough community evidence to retain the boundaries of the existing Pattingham & Patshull ward in light of it being forecast to have 13% fewer electors than the district average.

73 Therefore, we confirm our draft recommendations for Pattingham, Trysull, Bobbington & Lower Penn ward as final.

South and South-east



Ward	Number of councillors	Variance 2027
Himley & Swindon	1	-2%
Kinver & Enville	3	2%
Wombourne North	3	-7%
Wombourne South	3	-8%

Himley & Swindon and Kinver & Enville

74 We did not receive any submissions about these two wards. We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations as final.

75 Himley & Swindon and Kinver & Enville are both forecast to have good electoral equality by 2027.

Wombourne North and Wombourne South

76 We received one submission about Wombourne in response to our draft recommendations.

77 This was from Wombourne Parish Council who stated that it had no objections to our draft recommendations. We are therefore confirming our draft recommendations for this area as final.

Conclusions

78 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality in South Staffordshire, referencing the 2021 and 2027 electorate figures against the proposed number of councillors and wards. 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

	Final recommendations	
	2021	2027
Number of councillors	42	42
Number of electoral wards	20	20
Average number of electors per councillor	2,009	2,083
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	2	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

Final recommendations

South Staffordshire District Council should be made up of 42 councillors serving 20 wards representing four single-councillor wards, 10 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 the South Staffordshire. You can also view our final recommendations for South Staffordshire District Council on our interactive maps at www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk

Parish electoral arrangements

79 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.

80 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, South Staffordshire District 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.

81 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 Great Wyrley, Penkridge, Perton and Wombourne.

82 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Great Wyrley parish.

Final recommendations

Great Wyrley Parish Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing four wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Landywood	7
North	2
Town	5
West	1

83 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Penkridge parish.

Final recommendations

Penkridge Parish Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing four wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Gailey	1
Levedale	1
North East	5
South East	8

84 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Perton parish.

Final recommendations

Perton Parish Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing four wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
East	4
Kingswood & Trescott	1

Lakeside	7
Wrottesley	3

85 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Wombourne parish.

Final recommendations

Wombourne Parish Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Wombourne North	8
Wombourne South	7

What happens next?

86 We have now completed our review of South Staffordshire District Council. The recommendations must now be approved by Parliament. A draft Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in Parliament. Subject to parliamentary scrutiny, the new electoral arrangements will come into force at the local elections in 2023.

Equalities

87 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

Final recommendations for South Staffordshire District Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2027)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Billbrook	2	3,677	1,839	-8%	3,943	1,972	-5%
2	Brewood, Coven & Blymhill	3	6,574	2,191	9%	6,795	2,265	9%
3	Cheslyn Hay Village	3	6,101	2,034	1%	6,192	2,064	-1%
4	Codsall	3	6,105	2,035	1%	6,314	2,105	1%
5	Essington	2	3,748	1,874	-7%	4,055	2,028	-3%
6	Featherstone, Sharehill & Saredon	2	4,343	2,172	8%	4,454	2,227	7%
7	Great Wyrley Landywood	2	3,923	1,962	-2%	3,974	1,987	-5%
8	Great Wyrley Town	2	4,156	2,078	3%	4,358	2,179	5%
9	Himley & Swindon	1	1,965	1,965	-2%	2,043	2,043	-2%

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2027)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
10	Huntington & Hatherton	2	3,980	1,990	-1%	3,983	1,992	-4%
11	Kinver & Enville	3	6,251	2,084	4%	6,403	2,134	2%
12	Lapley, Stretton & Wheaton Aston	1	2,096	2,096	4%	2,184	2,184	5%
13	Pattingham, Trysull, Bobbington & Lower Penn	2	3,965	1,983	-1%	3,997	1,999	-4%
14	Penkridge North & Acton Trussell	2	4,196	2,098	4%	4,516	2,258	8%
15	Penkridge South & Gailey	2	4,258	2,129	6%	4,369	2,185	5%
16	Perton East	1	2,057	2,057	2%	2,058	2,058	-1%
17	Perton Lakeside	2	3,634	1,817	-10%	4,011	2,006	-4%
18	Perton Wrottesley	1	2,250	2,250	12%	2,264	2,264	9%
19	Wombourne North	3	5,736	1,912	-5%	5,798	1,933	-7%

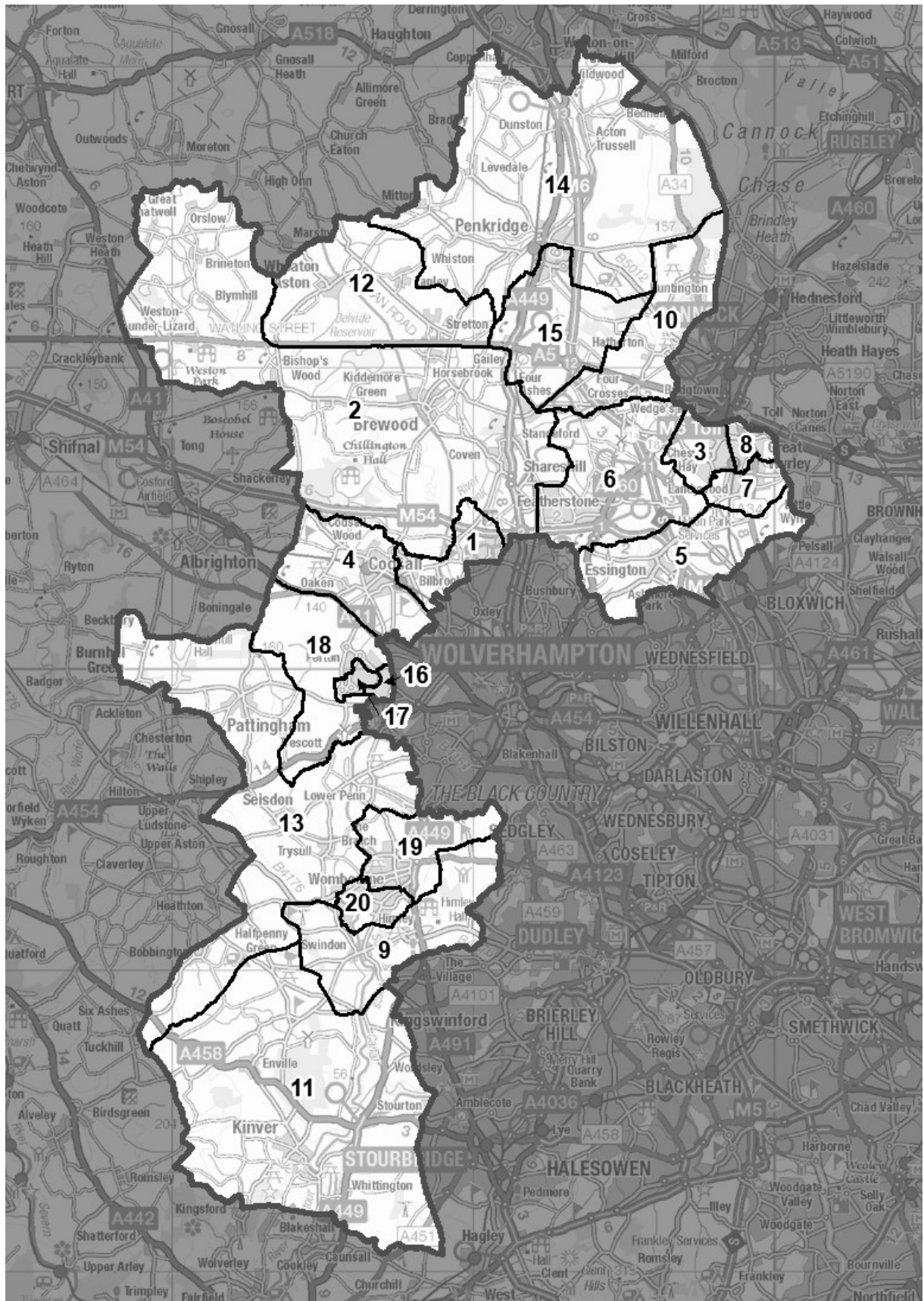
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2027)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
20 Wombourne South	3	5,363	1,788	-11%	5,761	1,920	-8%
Totals	42	84,378	–	–	87,472	–	–
Averages	–	–	2,009	–	–	2,083	–

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by South Staffordshire District 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 district. 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	Bilbrook
2	Brewood, Coven & Blymhill
3	Cheslyn Hay Village
4	Codsall
5	Essington
6	Featherstone, Shareshill & Saredon
7	Great Wyrley Landywood
8	Great Wyrley Town
9	Himley & Swindon
10	Huntington & Hatherton
11	Kinver & Enville
12	Lapley, Stretton & Wheaton Aston
13	Pattingham, Trysull, Bobbington & Lower Penn
14	Penkridge North & Acton Trussell
15	Penkridge South & Gailey
16	Perton East
17	Perton Lakeside
18	Perton Wrottesley
19	Wombourne North
20	Wombourne South

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

Councillors

- Councillor G. Sibley (Brewood & Coven Parish Council)

Local Organisations

- Coven Heath Community Association

Parish and Town Councils

- Brewood & Coven Parish Council
- Pattingham & Patshull Parish Council
- Perton Parish Council
- Wombourne Parish Council

Local Residents

- 11 local residents

Anonymous

- 1 anonymous submission

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 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. We only take account of electors registered specifically for local elections during our reviews.
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 can 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 www.nalc.gov.uk
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 (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.

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