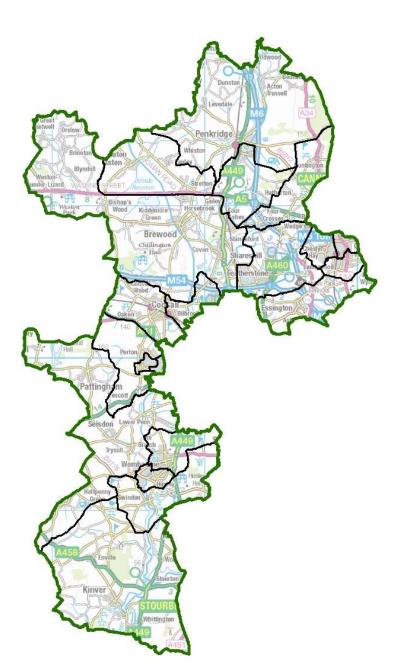
## News Release from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Embargoed until: 00:01 29 March 2022

## New political map for South Staffordshire District Council

South Staffordshire is set to have new boundaries for its council wards.



New wards for South Staffordshire Credit: contains Ordnance Survey data (c) Crown copyright and database rights 2022 High resolution map available at <u>https://s3-eu-west-</u> <u>2.amazonaws.com/lgbce/Reviews/West%20Midlands/Staffordshire/South%20Staffs/Final/Fi</u> <u>nal%20Recs%20without%20labels.jpg</u> The Local Government Boundary Commission is the independent body that draws these boundaries. It has reviewed South Staffordshire to make sure councillors will represent about the same number of electors, and that ward arrangements will help the council work effectively.

The Commission has published final recommendations for changes in South Staffordshire. It says residents should be represented by 42 councillors. This is seven fewer than the current arrangements.

There will be 20 wards, five fewer than there are now. Councillors will represent six three-councillor wards, 10 two-councillor wards and four one-councillor wards. Only three wards will stay the same: Essington, Himley & Swindon and Huntington & Hatherton.

Publishing the recommendations Professor Colin Mellors, Chair of the Commission, said:

"We are very grateful to people in South Staffordshire. We looked at all the views they gave us. They helped us improve our earlier proposals.

"We believe the new arrangements will guarantee electoral fairness while maintaining local ties."

81 people and organisations made comments to help decide the new wards. Changes in response to what local people said include changing the name of the proposed Blymhill & Brewood ward to Brewood, Coven & Blymhill.

The Commission has made further changes to its earlier proposals. Details can be found on its website at <u>https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/west-</u>midlands/staffordshire/south-staffordshire.

Parliament now needs to agree the changes. The new arrangements will then apply for the 2023 council elections.

## Ends/

## Notes to editors:

This consultation relates to the arrangements for <u>local government</u> elections. It is separate from consultations that are currently taking place across England on arrangements for <u>parliamentary</u> elections.

For further information contact the Commission's press office on 0330 500 1525 / 1250 or email press@lgbce.org.uk

An interactive map is available at https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/27826.

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body accountable to Parliament. It recommends fair electoral and boundary arrangements for local authorities in England. In doing so, it aims to:

- Make sure that, within an authority, each councillor represents a similar number of electors
- Create boundaries that are appropriate, and reflect community ties and identities
- Deliver reviews informed by local needs, views and circumstances