News Release from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Embargoed until: 00:01 2 November 2021

Have your say on a new political map for South Staffordshire Council

New boundaries are being proposed for council wards in South Staffordshire

The Local Government Boundary Commission wants to hear what residents and local organisations think about the proposals. A 10-week consultation on the proposals will run until 10 January 2022.



Proposed wards for South Staffordshire Credit: contains Ordnance Survey data (c) Crown copyright and database rights 2021 High resolution map available at https://s3-eu-west-

2.amazonaws.com/lgbce/Reviews/West%20Midlands/Staffordshire/South%20Staffs/south% 20staffs.jpg

The Commission is the independent body that draws these boundaries. It is reviewing 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 proposals for changes to South Staffordshire. It is proposing that there should be 42 councillors. This is a decrease of seven from the current number of councillors. Those councillors should represent six three-councillor, 10 two-councillor and four one-councillor wards across the council area. The boundaries of three wards (Essington, Himley & Swindon and Huntington & Hatherton) will stay the same; all others should change.

Proposed changes include:

- Based on the evidence received, the Commission is recommending a council size of 42 and not 41 as it originally proposed.
- Saredon parish is no longer included in a ward with Cheslyn Hay parish although a small part of Great Wyrley parish is.

Launching the consultation Professor Colin Mellors, Chair of the Commission, said:

"We want people in South Staffordshire to help us.

"We have drawn up proposals for new wards in South Staffordshire. We want to make sure these new electoral arrangements reflect communities. We also want them to be easy to understand and convenient for local people.

"Residents and local organisations can help us do that. We would like them to let us know whether they agree with our proposals before we take final decisions.

"It's easy to get involved. Go to our website. Or you can e-mail or write to us.

"Just tell us what you think and give us some details why you think that. It's really simple, so do get involved"

The Commission has a dedicated section on its website where people can see the detail of the proposals and comment on the names of wards and their boundaries https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/27826.

People can also give their views by e-mail at reviews@lgbce.org.uk, and by post:

Review Officer (South Staffordshire) LGBCE PO Box 133 Blyth NE24 9FE

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