

Coventry

Personal Details:

Name: Sharon Taylor
Email: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Organisation Name: Coventry City Council (District or county officer)

Comment text:

Good afternoon Mark,

Please see the attached submission for the Coventry review and the minute from the Council meeting at which the submission was discussed.

Regards
Sharon

Sharon Taylor
Electoral Services
Coventry City Council

Attached Documents:

- 01 - Local Government Boundary Review - Response to Consultation on Warding Patterns - extracted minute.doc
- 01a - Local Government Boundary Review – Response to Consultation on Warding Patterns.doc
- 01b - Appendix 1 in full.pdf

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Council held at 2.00 pm on Tuesday, 18 July 2023

Present:

Members: Councillor J Birdi (Chair)

Councillor S Agboola	Councillor R Lancaster
Councillor N Akhtar	Councillor M Lapsa
Councillor P Akhtar	Councillor J Lepoidevin
Councillor M Ali	Councillor G Lloyd
Councillor R Bailey	Councillor P Male
Councillor L Bigham	Councillor A Masih
Councillor J Blundell	Councillor J McNicholas
Councillor R Brown	Councillor C Miks
Councillor K Caan	Councillor B Mosterman
Councillor G Duggins	Councillor M Mutton
Councillor J Gardiner	Councillor S Nazir
Councillor B Gittins	Councillor J O'Boyle
Councillor S Gray	Councillor E M Reeves
Councillor L Harvard	Councillor G Ridley
Councillor G Hayre	Councillor K Sandhu
Councillor M Heaven	Councillor T Sawdon
Councillor P Hetherton	Councillor P Seaman
Councillor A Hopkins	Councillor R Simpson
Councillor J Innes	Councillor B Singh
Councillor T Jandu	Councillor R Singh
Councillor A Jobbar	Councillor R Thay
Councillor A Kaur	Councillor CE Thomas
Councillor S Keough	Councillor A Tucker
Councillor T Khan	Councillor D Welsh
Councillor AS Khan	
Councillor R Lakha	

Honorary Aldermen: J Clifford, H Fitzpatrick

Apologies: Councillor F Abbott, K Maton and E Ruane
Honorary Alderman M Hammon

Public Business

37. Local Government Boundary Review - Response to Consultation on Warding Patterns

The City Council considered a report of the Chief Legal Officer which sought Council's views on whether or not to submit a response to the consultation on warding patterns.

The Local Government Boundary Commission had commenced an electoral review of Coventry. The review would look at whether the boundaries of wards

within the local authority needed to be altered to ensure fairer representation at local government elections.

Coventry City Council met the Commission's criteria for electoral inequality with 6 of 18 wards (33%) having a variance over 10%. In addition, the last electoral review of Coventry City Council was completed in 2003, meeting the Commissions duty, set out in law, to review every authority from 'time to time'. The Commission has interpreted this to be about 12 – 14 years.

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) commenced its review of Coventry City Council in October 2022. On 21 March 2023 the Council approved the submission to the LGBCE to recommend that the number of Councillors remained at 54, which they had confirmed they are minded to approve.

Following this, the LGBCE had launched a consultation on the warding patterns for the City based on an average ward size of 13,848 electors per ward and an average of 4,616 per Councillor.

Any proposal submitted to the LGBCE needs to meet their three criteria for submitting warding patterns:

- Proposed wards should leave each Councillor representing roughly the same number of electors.
- Proposed wards should – as far as possible – reflect community interests and identities, and boundaries should be identifiable.
- Proposed wards should promote effective and convenient local government.

Appendix 1 of the report contained an option on warding patterns for the City for submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission's in response to their consultation.

Council was requested to approve one of the following options:

1. That Council does not make a submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, or
2. That Council approves Appendix 1 of the report as the Council's submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England as the City Council's submission on the consultation on warding patterns for Coventry, or
3. That Council considers and approves any other proposed warding pattern submissions as the Council's submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England as the City Council's response to the consultation on warding patterns.

In moving the report, the Leader, Councillor G Duggins proposed that the City Council approve Option 2 above. This was seconded by Councillor A S Khan.

The following amendment was moved by Councillor S Gray, seconded by Councillor E Reeves and lost:

“That, in the event either Recommendations 2 and 3 as detailed in the report are proposed to be adopted, those Recommendations be amended as follows:-

Add the words “together with a full list of Councillors who voted for and against this option and their party affiliation”:-

- a) In Recommendation 2 of the report between “Appendix 1 of the report” and “as the Council’s submission” and;
- b) In Recommendation 3 of the report between “warding pattern submissions” and “as the Council’s submission”

So that the amended Recommendations read as follows:

- 1. That Council does not make a submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, or
- 2. That Council approves Appendix 1 of the report, together with a full list of Councillors who voted for and against this option and their party affiliation, as the Council’s submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England as the City Council’s submission on the consultation on warding patterns for Coventry, or
- 3. That Council considers and approves any other proposed warding pattern submissions, together with a full list of Councillors who voted for and against this option and their party affiliation, as the Council’s submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England as the City Council’s response to the consultation on warding patterns.

Note: In accordance with the Constitution, a recorded vote in relation to the proposed amendment was taken.

The Councillors voting for, against and abstaining in relation to the proposed amendment were as follows:

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Councillors:	Councillors:	Councillors:
E Reeves	S Agboola	R Lancaster
S Gray	N Akhtar	M Lapsa
	P Akhtar	J Lepoidevin
	M Ali	G Lloyd
	R Bailey	P Male
	L Bigham	A Masih
	J Blundell	J McNicholas
	R Brown	C Miks
	K Caan	B Mosterman
	G Duggins	M Mutton
	J Gardiner	S Nazir
	B Gittins	J O’Boyle

L Harvard	G Ridley
G Hayre	K Sandhu
M Heaven	T Sawdon
P Hetherton	P Seaman
A Hopkins	R Simpson
J Innes	B Singh
T Jandu	R Singh
A Jobbar	R Thay
A Kaur	CE Thomas
S Keough	A Tucker
A Khan	D Welsh
T Khan	Lord Mayor
R Lakha	

Total: 2

Total: 49

Total: 0

Result: Lost
For: 2
Against: 49
Abstentions: 0

RESOLVED that the City Council approves Option 2 as set out in the report, and that Appendix 1 of the report be the Council's submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England as the City Council's submission on the consultation for warding patterns for Coventry.

Note: In accordance with the Constitution, a recorded vote in relation to the Recommendation was taken.

The Councillors voting for, against and abstaining in relation to the Recommendation were as follows:

For

Councillors:
S Agboola
N Akhtar
P Akhtar
M Ali
L Bigham
R Brown
K Caan
G Duggins
B Gittins
L Harvard
G Hayre
P Hetherton
A Hopkins
J Innes
A Jobbar
A Kaur

Councillors:
A Khan
T Khan
R Lakha
R Lancaster
G Lloyd
J McNicholas
C Miki
M Mutton
S Nazir
J O'Boyle
K Sandhu
P Seaman
B Singh
R Singh
R Thay
CE Thomas
A Tucker

Against

Councillors:
R Bailey
J Blundell
J Gardiner
S Gray
M Heaven
S Keough
M Lapsa
J Lepoidevin
P Male
A Masih
B Mosterman
E Reeves
G Ridley
T Sawdon
R Simpson
Lord Mayor

Abstain

D Welsh

Total: 34

Total: 16

Total: 0

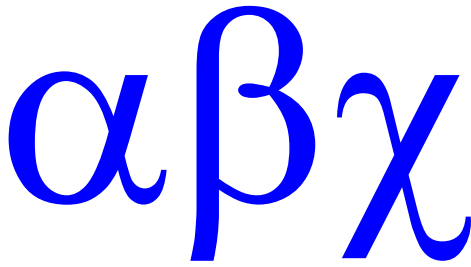
Result: Carried

For: 34

Against: 16

Abstain: 0

(Meeting closed at 5.45 pm)



Public report

Council

18 July 2023

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for Policy and Leadership - Councillor G Duggins

Director approving submission of the report:

Chief Legal Officer

Ward(s) affected:

All

Title:

Local Government Boundary Review – Response to Consultation on Warding Patterns

Is this a key decision?

No. Although, the proposals could have a significant impact on residents or businesses in two or more electoral wards in the City, this report responds to a consultation and the Council will not make the final decision on this matter.

Executive summary:

The Local Government Boundary Commission have commenced an electoral review of Coventry. The review will look at whether the boundaries of wards within the local authority need to be altered to ensure fairer representation at local government elections.

Coventry City Council meets the Commission's criteria for electoral inequality with 6 of 18 wards (33%) having a variance over 10%. In addition, the last electoral review of Coventry City Council was completed in 2003, meeting the Commission's duty, set out in law, to review every authority from 'time to time'. The Commission has interpreted this to be about 12 – 14 years.

This report seeks the Council's views on whether or not to submit a response to the consultation on warding patterns.

Council is requested to approve one of the following options:

1. That Council does not make a submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, or
2. That Council approves Appendix 1 of the report as the Council's submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England as the City Council's submission on the consultation on warding patterns for Coventry, or

3. That Council considers and approves any other proposed warding pattern submissions as the Council's submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England as the City Council's response to the consultation on warding patterns.

List of Appendices included:

The following appendices are attached to the report:

Appendix 1 – Option for a warding patterns submission to the LGBCE

Background papers:

List here:

Local Government Boundary Commission for England – Electoral Review of Coventry City Council – A Guide for Councillors

Other useful documents

List here:

Has it or will it be considered by scrutiny?

No – matter reserved to Council.

Has it or will it be considered by any other council committee, advisory panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

Yes – 18 July, 2023

Report title:

Local Government Boundary Review – Response to Consultation on Warding Patterns

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1. The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) commenced its review of Coventry City Council in October 2022.
- 1.2. On 21 March 2023 the Council approved the submission to the LGBCE to recommend that the number of Councillors remained at 54, which they have confirmed they are minded to approve.
- 1.3. Following this, the LGBCE have launched a consultation on the warding patterns for the City based on an average ward size of 13,848 electors per ward and an average of 4,616 per Councillor.
- 1.4. Any proposal submitted to the LGBCE needs to meet their three criteria for submitting warding patterns:
 - 1.4.1. Proposed wards should leave each Councillor representing roughly the same number of electors.
 - 1.4.2. Proposed wards should – as far as possible – reflect community interests and identities, and boundaries should be identifiable.
 - 1.4.3. Proposed wards should promote effective and convenient local government
- 1.5. Appendix 1 contains an option on warding patterns for the City for submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission's in response to their consultation.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

The options are ;-

1. That Council does not make a submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, or
2. That Council approves Appendix 1 of the report as the Council's submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England as the City Council's submission on the consultation on warding patterns for Coventry, or
3. That Council considers and approves any other proposed warding pattern submissions as the Council's submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England as the City Council's response to the consultation on warding patterns.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1. None required for this report.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1. This report is the preliminary stages of the review. The consultation on warding patterns concludes on 31 July 2023. The next stage will commence on 31 October 2023 when the consultation on the draft recommendations will commence and the final recommendations for the Local Government Boundary Commission will be implemented at the local elections in May 2026.

5. Comments from Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer) and Chief Legal Officer

5.1. Financial Implications

None in relation to this report.

5.2. Legal Implications

The LGBCE is an independent body established by Parliament in April 2010. The LGBCE has a statutory duty to undertake electoral reviews.

6. Other implications

6.1. How will this contribute to the One Council Plan ()?

The LGBCE is conducting an electoral review of Coventry City Council to ensure fairer representation at local government elections.

6.2. How is risk being managed?

There are no risks associated with this report.

6.3. What is the impact on the organisation?

None in relation to this report.

6.4. Equalities / EIA?

No equalities impact assessment has been completed in relation to this report.

6.5. Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment?

None.

6.6. Implications for partner organisations?

None.

Report author(s):

Name Liz Read

Title Head of Electoral Services

Service: Electoral Services

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Email: liz.read2@coventry.gov.uk

Enquiries should be directed to the above person

Contributor/approver name	Title	Service Area	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Suzanne Bennett	Governance Services Co-ordinator	Law and Governance	06/07/23	6/7/23
Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)				
Finance: Paul Jennings/Tina Pinks	Finance Manager	Finance	06/07/23	7/7/23
Legal: Julie Newman	Chief Legal Officer	Law and Governance	06/07/23	7/7/23
		-		
Members: Cllr George Duggins	Cabinet Member for Policy and Leadership	-	06/07/23	7/7/23

This report is published on the council's website: www.coventry.gov.uk/meetings

COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL BOUNDARY CHANGE PROPOSALS

1. Introduction and Proposal Overview

Introduction

- 1.1. The last boundary review for Coventry was implemented in 2004 and the Local Government Boundary Commission have commenced a review in line with the criteria set by them to enable effective governance at a local level.
- 1.2. The Local Government Boundary Commission has decided that the number of councillors in Coventry should be 54, as it is now. The Local Government Boundary Commission wants to hear what residents and organisations think about their local area.
- 1.3. A 10-week consultation inviting proposals will run until 31 July 2023. Coventry City Council have submitted the following response to this consultation in line with the Commissions criteria as set out on their regulations:
 - i. Electoral equality between electoral wards
 - ii. Respect community identity and interests
 - iii. Effective and convenient local government
- 1.4. Each ward must be within a tolerance of +/-10% of 13,848, this is based on population figures for 2029.
- 1.5. Based on this criteria, Coventry will have seven wards that by 2029 will fall outside of the tolerance:

Table 1 – Wards outside +/- 10% tolerance

Wards above tolerance		Wards below tolerance	
Bablake	+31%	Cheylesmore	-12%
Henley	+12%	Wainbody	-20%
Lower Stoke	+14%	Whoberley	-15%
Westwood	+14%		

1.6. The proposals outlined below have followed the criteria set out by the Local Government Boundary Commission and:

- i. Where possible have taken into account historic links i.e. areas have previously been in different wards; and
- ii. Where possible parliamentary boundaries have been respected; and
- iii. In drawing boundaries, consideration was given to natural boundaries- major roads, railway lines, industrial estates etc.

1.7. To ensure the proposals meet the criteria of electoral equality, respecting community identity and interests, and maintain efficient and convenient local government, the following wards will change:

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| • Bablake | • St. Michael's |
| • Cheylesmore | • Wainbody |
| • Earlsdon | • Westwood |
| • Henley | • Whoberley |
| • Lower Stoke | • Woodlands |
| • Radford | • Wyken |
| • Sherbourne | |

1.8. Under the proposals, the following wards will not change:

- Binley and Willenhall
- Foleshill
- Holbrook
- Longford
- Upper Stoke

1.9. The above wards are all within +/- 10% of 13,848, are well established and understood as distinct areas and are generally geographically well-defined with clear boundaries.

Proposal Overview

1.10. It will be recommend that Holbrook be changed to Holbrooks. This reflects that the area is known by residents as Holbrooks and that this name is used by community organisations and facilities such as Holbrooks Park and Holbrooks Health Centre within the ward.

1.11. It will be proposed that the name of Westwood be changed to Tile Hill and Canley to represent the proposed changes and the identity of the ward. Further details will be outlined below. For clarity the name Westwood will be used to describe changes throughout the proposal.

1.12. The proposals seek to make the changes to the wards named in 1.7 to meet the statutory criteria

1.13. The basis of these changes are:

- i. Restoring historic links by reversing previous boundary changes
- ii. Recognising changes to neighbourhoods and natural links which are not acknowledged by the current boundaries

- 1.14. This proposal will move a total of nine polling districts between wards with four of these moves reverting to previously held boundaries.
- 1.15. The following boxes that are being moved to recognise neighbourhood and community links are:
- Box JA into St. Michael's from Lower Stoke
 - Box QG into Wainbody from Westwood
 - Box SC into Westwood from Woodlands
 - Box AH into Woodlands from Bablake
 - Box AD into Sherbourne and Radford from Bablake
- 1.16. The following boxes that are being put back into wards where they previously were are:
- Box FF into Wyken from Henley
 - Box LE into Cheylesmore from St. Michael's
 - Box LI into Earlsdon from St. Michael's
 - Box DH into Whoberley from Earlsdon
- 1.17. In some cases the boxes have had some additional streets removed or added, this will be outlined on a ward by ward basis below.
- 1.18. The proposal respects parliamentary boundaries, however, it has been necessary to move two boxes (DH and SC) between constituency boundaries to respect community identity and interests. Although this is not a consideration for this review, the change is a total of 2051 electors moving between two constituencies; this is relatively minor change in terms of the total number of electors in Coventry.
- 1.19. The proposals will be grouped into the following to set out the reasoning for the change and discussion in line with the statutory criteria set out in 1.3 and 1.4:
- Bablake, Wainbody, Westwood and Woodlands
 - Radford and Sherbourne
 - Earlsdon and Whoberley
 - Cheylesmore, Lower Stoke and St Michael's
 - Henley and Wyken

2. Bablake, Wainbody, Westwood and Woodlands

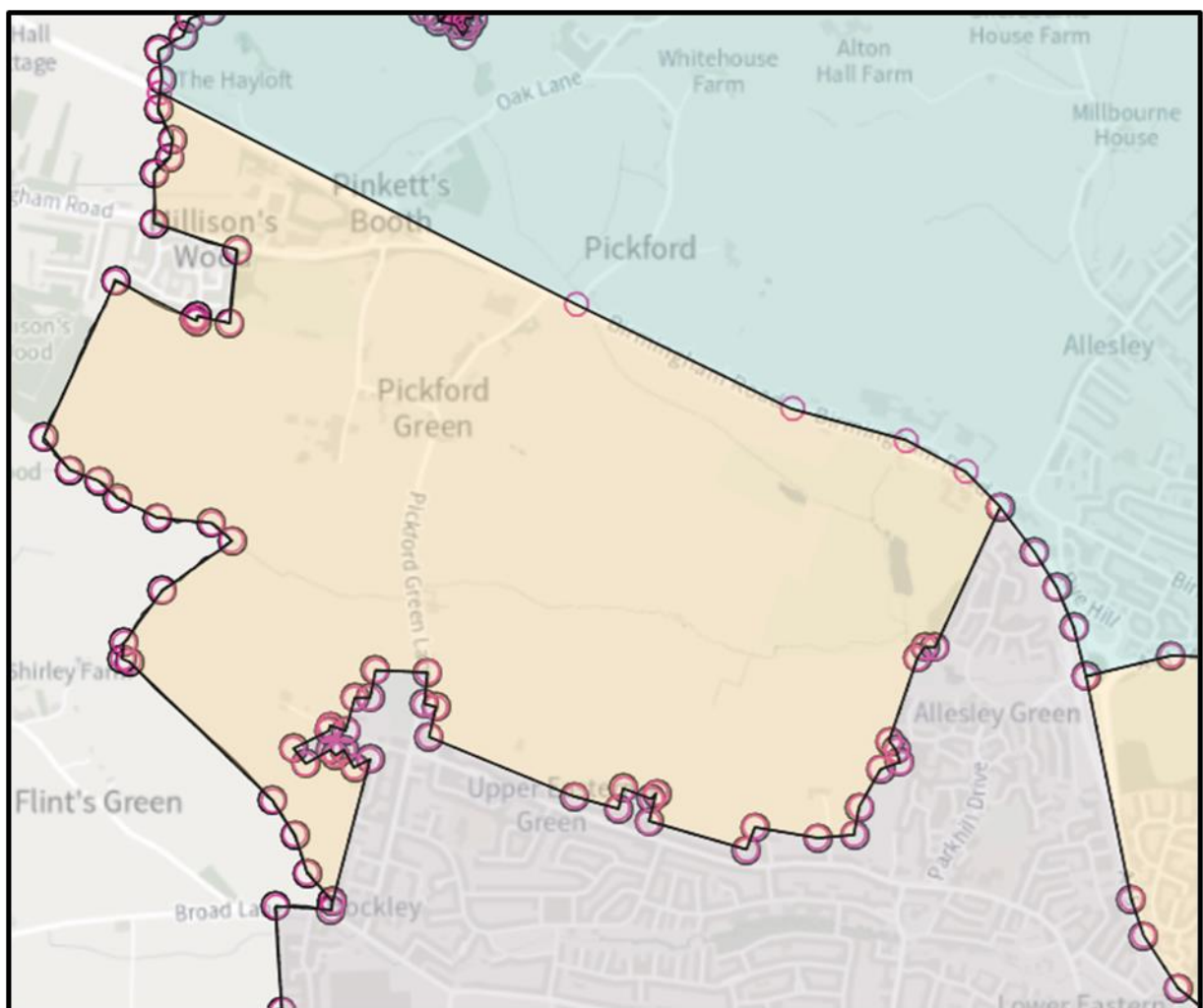
- 2.1. Based on the 2029 projections for Coventry, the biggest changes in the city will be seen to the west of Coventry in Bablake with it being 31% above the average of 13,848, mainly due to the urban extensions in Eastern Green and Keresley, known as the Eastern Green SUE and Keresley SUE respectively.
- 2.2. This growth is present to a lesser extent in Westwood with a projected increase to 14% above the average in 2029, again with development taking place across the ward in Canley, Tile Hill and Westwood Heath.
- 2.3. In contrast, Wainbody has a significant challenge in the other extreme with a marked drop in electors since the introduction of individual voter registration resulting in the ward being projected to be 11,030, 20% short of the 13,848 by 2029.

- 2.4. The following changes are proposed to meet the criteria of electoral equality whilst respecting community identity and interests, and maintaining efficient and convenient local government:

Bablake Ward

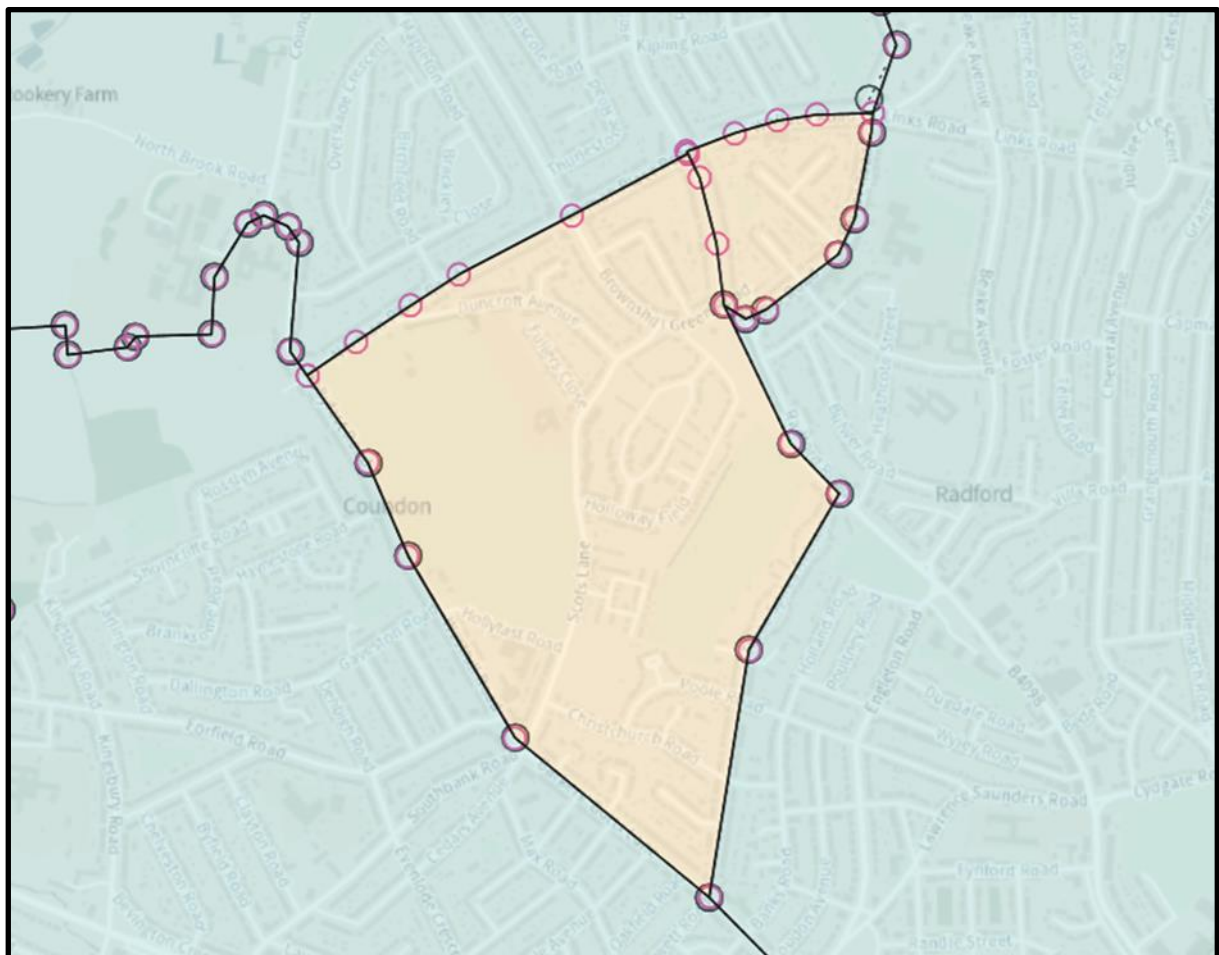
- 2.5. Bablake will require the biggest change in electors with a projected 18,130 in 2029; 31% above the 13,848 average. This will require a reduction of 4282 to reach electoral equality.
- 2.6. Box AH of Bablake is an area of growth with the Eastern Green SUE. By 2029 the population will have grown to 1891 south of the A45. This change in electors represents a shift in communities in the expansion of Eastern Green.
- 2.7. It is proposed that the boundary be drawn along the A45 where Bablake meets the A45 to the west of the city taking box AH south of the A45 into Woodlands Ward (fig 1).
- 2.8. The boundary of Bablake currently meets the A45 at its northern most point, taking in Allesley Green. The A45 provides a strong recognisable boundary between Bablake and Woodlands. As well as providing a strong recognisable boundary between the two wards, it acknowledges the shift taking place in Woodlands Ward as the Eastern Green SUE is built.

Fig 1 – Bablake box AH south of A45 to move into Woodlands



- 2.9. Although it is not a consideration for this review, it is recognised that this change will divide Allesley Parish Council between Bablake and Woodlands, however the A45 already divides the parish, and the new community emerging within the Eastern Green SUE will be a part of the parish in its own right. For this reason, a warded parish council will better represent the changing nature of the area.
- 2.10. It is not proposed to split Allesley Parish Council further as the Parish with these changes are within clearly defined boundaries as drawn within these proposals.
- 2.11. In addition, it is proposed to move box AD out of Bablake, by doing so, this we will achieve electoral equality for Bablake.
- 2.12. It is proposed that box AD be split between Sherbourne and Radford. The box mainly consists of the Coundon neighbourhood, the majority of which is strongly identified with Sherbourne (Fig 2).

Fig 2 – Box AD from Bablake to Sherbourne and Radford

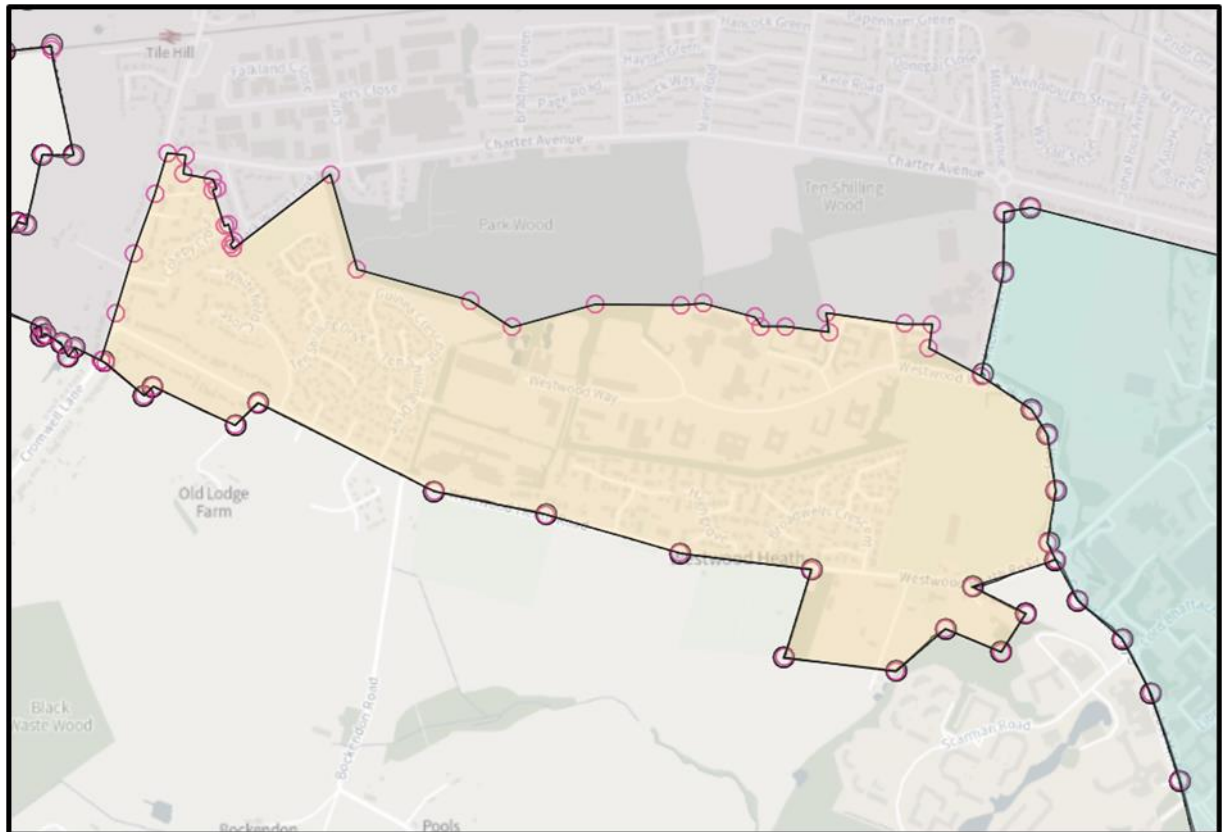


- 2.13. Coundon is distinct from the neighbourhoods of Keresley and Allesley Village which make up the majority of Bablake. Residents in AD are much more likely to identify with residents in other parts of Coundon in Sherbourne as well as share facilities such as schools and places of worship.
- 2.14. Further details on box AD will be included below in the discussion of Radford and Sherbourne.

Wainbody

- 2.15. By 2029 Wainbody will be 20% below the average of 13, 848 required for electoral equality.
- 2.16. Wainbody consists of the neighbourhoods of Finham, Mantilla Drive, Cannon Park and Gibbet Hill. It is mainly centred around the A45 which provides a border to the north of the ward
- 2.17. To address this shortfall, it is proposed a part of box QG from Westwood ward be moved to Wainbody achieving electoral equality (fig 3)

Fig 3 – Box QG from Westwood to Wainbody from Cromwell Lane



- 2.18. The section added will be the housing developments on Westwood Heath Road, made up of newer developments of executive housing that do not fit naturally with the majority of Westwood. The boundary between Wainbody and Westwood will now be along Cromwell Lane.
- 2.19. The section of QG is reminiscent of the Cannon Park neighbourhood of Wainbody which is a short drive from Westwood Heath and adjoins the University of Warwick Campus. Residents in both areas will have similar concerns about local issues such as Houses in Multiple Occupation and parking issues, which would allow for effective and convenient local government.
- 2.20. This is also a more sustainable and less disruptive solution to the low electoral numbers than seeking to take polling districts from neighbouring Earlsdon Ward which is likely to fall under electoral equality if it loses a polling district with no obvious replacement from its neighbouring wards. Similarly there are no coherent or obvious means to take individual streets or collections of streets from Earlsdon without breaking up established neighbourhoods.

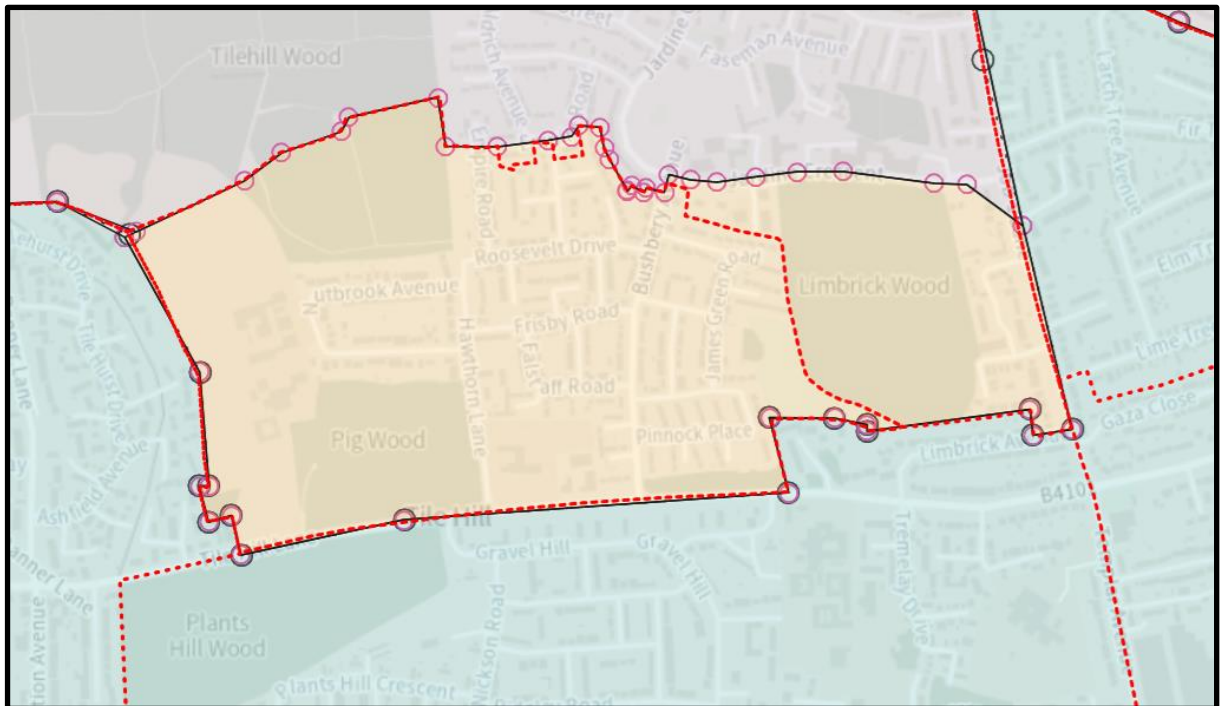
- 2.21. Therefore, most of the boundaries of the current ward will be retained, minimising disruption and recognising strong established links.
- 2.22. The new western boundary, expanding beyond the University of Warwick Campus to Cromwell Lane reflects natural linkages in the area, with housing matching housing in other parts of Wainbody.

Westwood

- 2.23. Westwood is projected to grow to an electorate of 15,818 by 2029, 14% above the average of 13,848 required for electoral equality.
- 2.24. Westwood is made up of three distinct neighbourhoods, Canley and Tile Hill and Westwood Heath, however Tile Hill is currently split between Westwood with a part in Woodlands.
- 2.25. Tile Hill Lane runs the length of the ward from the A45 to Tile Hill Village in the south west of the city with what is known as Tile Hill on both the north and south side of Tile Hill Lane.
- 2.26. Tile Hill Lane currently divides Tile Hill South, which is in Westwood, with Tile Hill North, which is in Woodlands. These estates have traditionally been linked in the minds of residents and under current arrangements both relevant polling boxes share the same polling station, Our Lady of Assumption on Tile Hill Lane.
- 2.27. Tile Hill Village at the west end of Tile Hill Lane has grown around railway station. This is a long established part of the ward, which has long been linked with the rest of Tile Hill via shared community facilities such as schools and Floyd's Field recreation ground.
- 2.28. Canley maintains a distinct character, and although separated by the railway line, Canley and Tile Hill share facilities such as community centres and schools.
- 2.29. Canley is a well-established area within Coventry with a library, community centre and a number of churches. It is in the main made up of pre and post war social housing. It is geographically well defined running along the length of Charter Avenue, bordered by the Fletchamstead Highway to the north east, Cromwell Lane to the west and with the railway line dividing it from Tile Hill.
- 2.30. In recent years Canley has seen expansion with sympathetic new builds. Crucially, much of this new build has been near the railway line that divides Tile Hill from Canley, which has served to narrow the gap between Tile Hill and Canley.
- 2.31. Westwood Heath to the south is a newer estate characterised by larger family homes and executive housing running the length of Westwood Heath Road to the edge of the University of Warwick to the east. To the north the estate is divided from the rest of Westwood by woods and Westwood Business Park. To the west at Cromwell Lane, the houses are mixed, larger in size but characterised more by the growth of Tile Hill Village and are much older than the development on Westwood Heath.
- 2.32. Growth in the west of the city provides an opportunity to redraw ward boundaries to better reflect the communities in the area, recognising the new communities emerging through development and how they relate to settled communities.
- 2.33. It is proposed to reach electoral equality by bringing the parts of Tile Hill together to the north of the ward by moving Tile Hill North in box SC from Woodlands to Westwood. The boundary

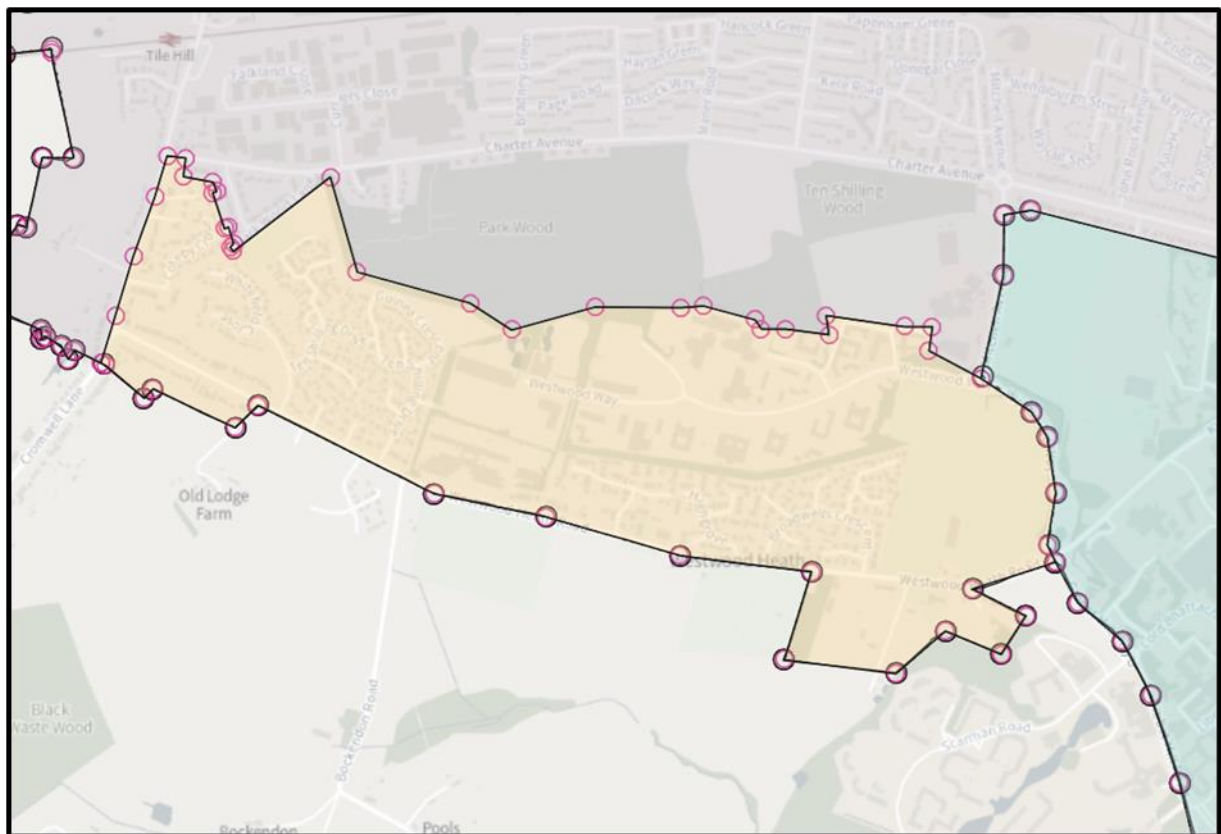
will be redrawn (fig 4) along Jardine Crescent to Broad Lane to reflect the fact that Jardine Crescent is a shared shopping area with shared facilities including the library and community centre.

Fig 4 - Box SC moved from Woodlands to Westwood with a new boundary along Jardine Crescent (highlighted in yellow)



- 2.34. Westwood Heath has a very different identity to both Canley and Tile Hill and is also geographically isolated from these neighbourhoods, sharing more characteristics with the adjoining area around the University of Warwick and Cannon Park in Wainbody.
- 2.35. It is proposed that Westwood Heath in box QG move into Wainbody but that the new boundary to the west be redrawn along Cromwell Lane to recognise the community ties with Tile Hill Village. This will provide electoral equality between Westwood and Wainbody (fig 5).

Fig 5 Box QG moves from Westwood to Wainbody (highlighted in yellow)



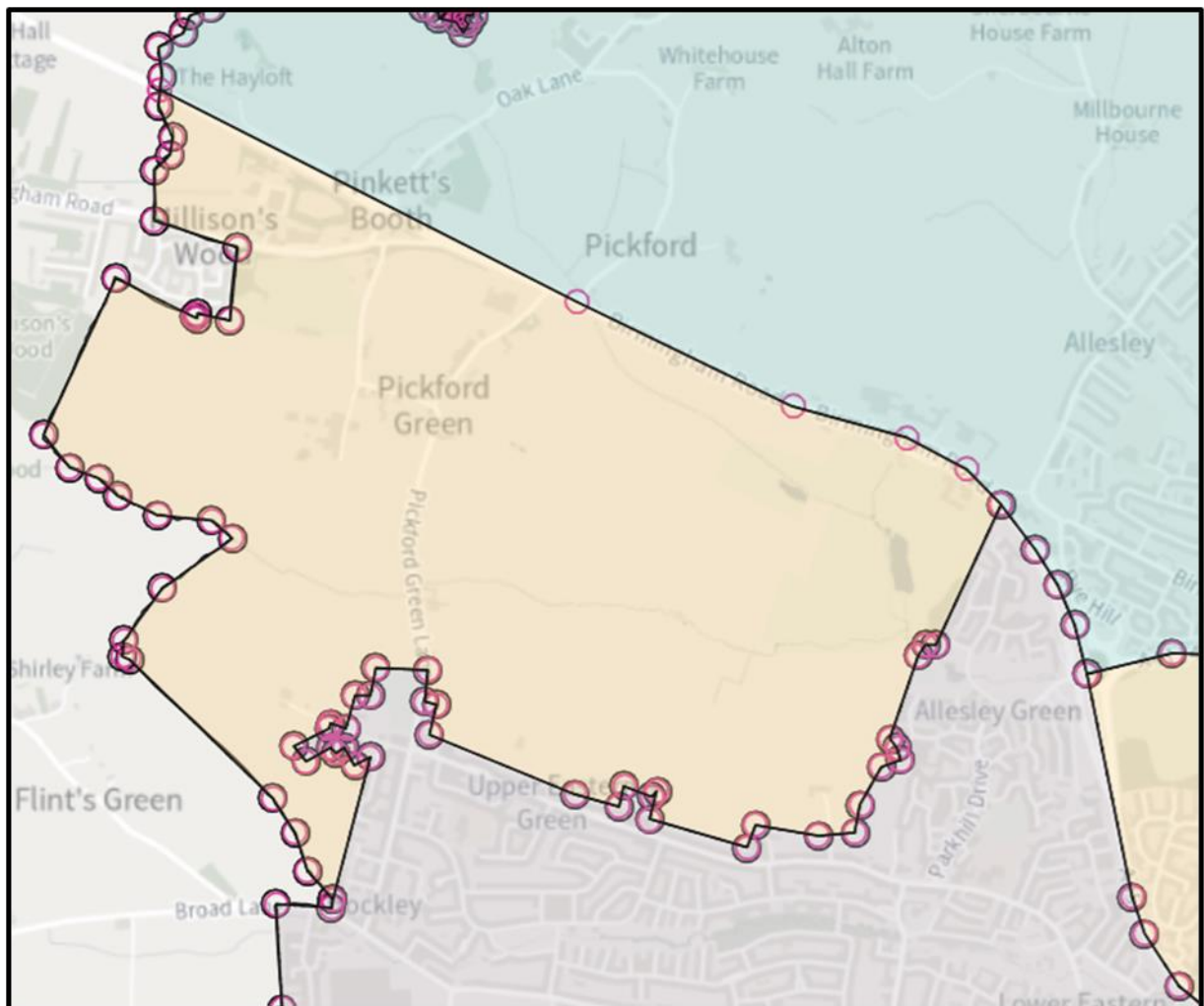
- 2.36. By moving Boxes SC into Westwood and QG to Wainbody, the new boundaries address the electoral imbalance in the west of the city with changes proportionate to the challenge. It provides electoral equality whilst better reflecting communities.
- 2.37. The proposals outlined provide electoral equality within Westwood, better representing the communities within the ward by bringing more of Tile Hill together whilst recognising the shared facilities between the wards with a new boundary to the north along Jardine Crescent. There is an existing strong and identifiable boundary in Broad Lane dividing Tile Hill from Mount Nod and Lower Eastern Green to the north of Broad Lane.
- 2.38. To the west the new boundary of the ward is clear with a separation along Cromwell Lane to respect the changing nature in the built environment and distinct community identity between Tile Hill and Westwood Heath, and as outlined above, the woods and Business Park provide a clear separation and boundary between Canley and Westwood Heath to the south. Finally, to the east the A45 provides a clear and identifiable boundary between Earlsdon and Wainbody.
- 2.39. It is proposed that the name of Westwood be changed to Tile Hill and Canley to reflect the changes within the ward and better represent what communities recognise within the areas in which they live and work.

Woodlands

- 2.40. Woodlands does not require a change in electorate to maintain electoral equality, however, the community links within Woodlands are changing with the urban expansion Eastern Green SUE to the north.

- 2.41. As noted above, it is proposed that Woodlands takes the new development in box AH of Bablake creating a strong and identifiable border of the A45 (fig 6).

Fig 6 – Box AH in part south of A45 to Woodlands (Highlighted in yellow)



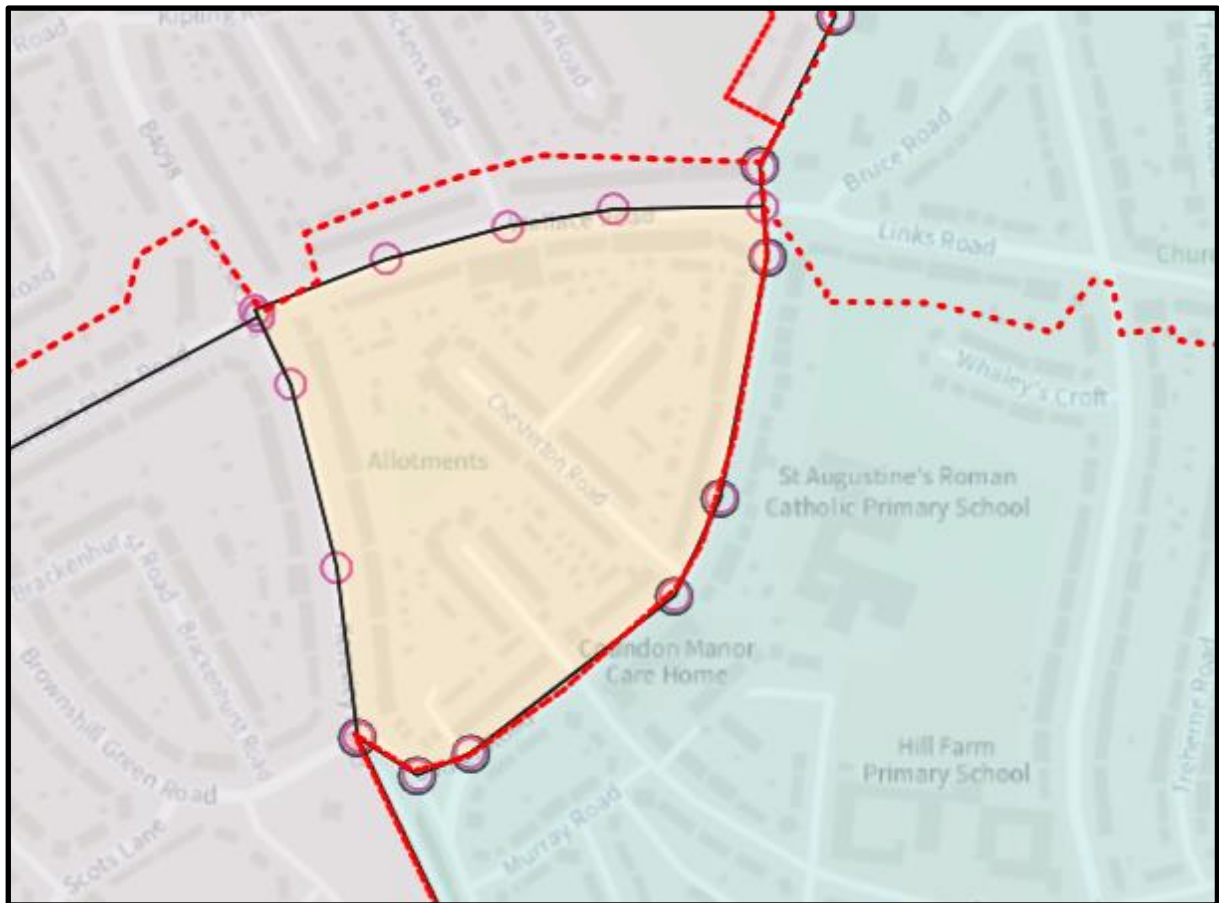
- 2.42. This is a natural extension to the largest neighbourhood in the ward Eastern Green. Due to a number of developments Eastern Green is now the heart of Woodlands.

3.Radford and Sherbourne

Radford

- 3.1. Radford is projected to have an electorate of 13,595 in 2029 which is 2% below the average of 13,848. This is within the tolerance as set out, however, to reach electoral equality and recognise community identity in Bablake, Radford and Sherbourne, some changes to boundaries are required in Radford.
- 3.2. People living in the area recognise this corner of box AD as Radford, with the Wallace Pub considered to be in Radford.
- 3.3. It is proposed to put box AD west of Keresley Rd into Radford from Bablake (Fig 8)

Fig 8 – Box AD from Bablake into Radford west of Keresley Rd with a new boundary along Norman Place Rd



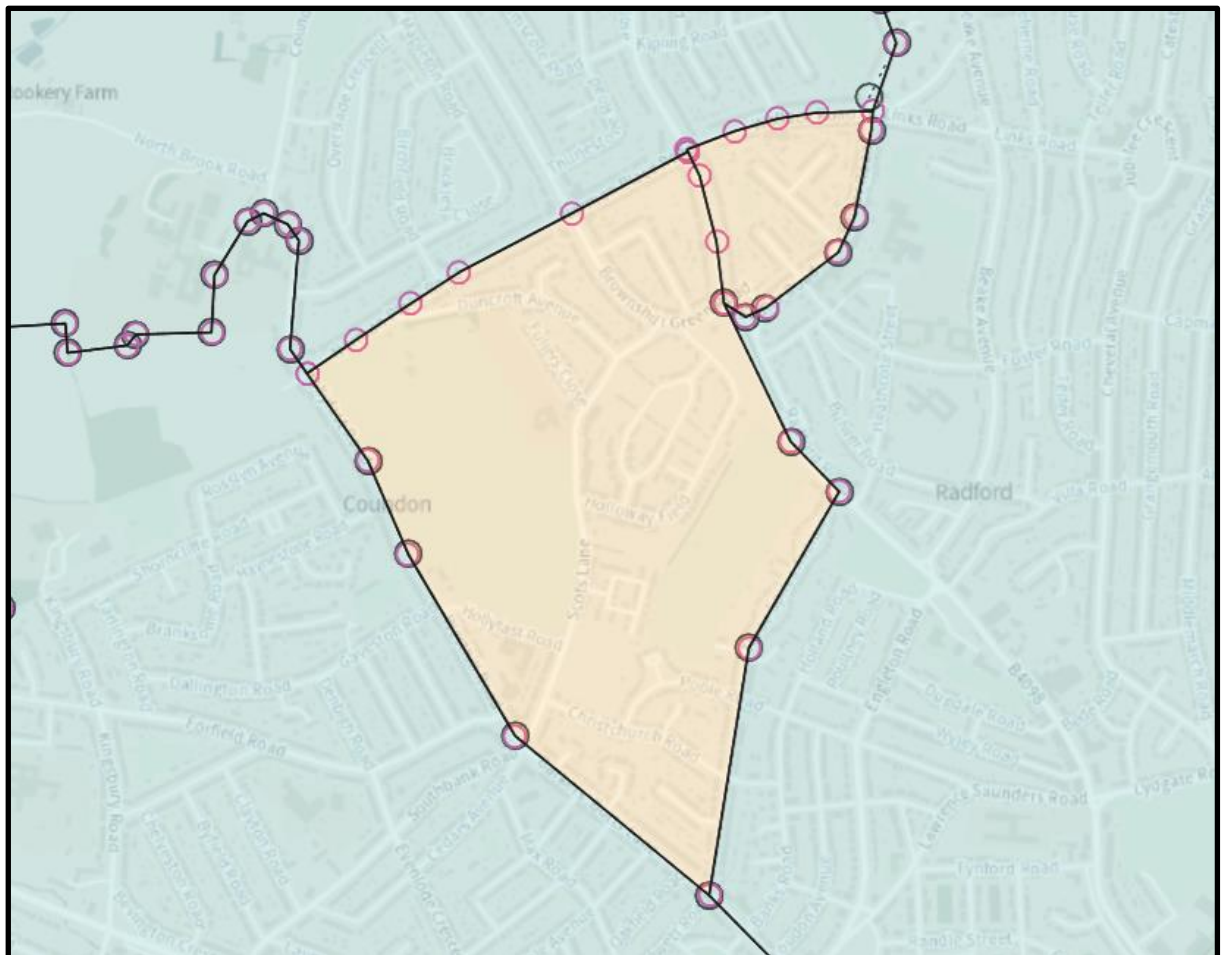
- 3.4. This proposal maintains electoral equality in Radford and Sherbourne and also achieves electoral equality in Bablake. The new boundary of Norman Place Road is both recognisable and acts as a strong boundary between the three wards.

Sherbourne

- 3.5. Sherbourne is projected to have an electorate of 12,531 in 2029 which is 10% below the average of 13,848.
- 3.6. Sherbourne covers the neighbourhoods of Spon End and Coundon. As with Whoberley and Allesley Old Rd, Holyhead Rd runs the length of Sherbourne from the ring road to Pickford Way at the junction of the A45. Sherbourne takes in both sides of Holyhead Rd and is characterised by the open green spaces in Spon End, Lake View Park and Coundon Wedge.
- 3.7. These green spaces are an important features both physically and in the minds of residents within these areas respectively. For this reason, it is not proposed to change the name of Sherbourne.
- 3.8. It is proposed to move box AD west of Keresley Rd into Sherbourne. The proposal respects the character and identity of Sherbourne and Whoberley and does not seek to interfere with established boundaries between the Sherbourne and Whoberley. The increasing electorate in Bablake provides the opportunity in Sherbourne to bring more of Coundon into Sherbourne and create a clearly defined boundary between the two wards along Norman Place Rd (Fig 7).

- 3.9. The boundaries outlined along Normal Place Rd to the north, Allesley Old Rd and Lake View to the south west, the ring road to the east provide clear boundaries between the wards
- 3.10. Sherbourne encompasses both Spon End and Coundon; these areas are connected by the green spaces running through the ward alongside the River Sherbourne as it winds through to boundary of the city in the north west. These areas are connected by the River Sherbourne from the city centre at Spon End through to the edge of the city at Coundon Wedge.
- 3.11. It is not proposed to separate Spon End from Coundon as both areas are linked by the Sherbourne River and green spaces. Spon End and Lower Coundon bordering the city centre also share local facilities such as schools, community centres and support services in the area.
- 3.12. Although the proposal seek to bring together more of what local people consider to be Coundon, it is not proposed to change the name of Sherbourne as the green spaces and river running through the ward are valued greatly by local residents, and are shared by the people living in Coundon and Spon End alike.

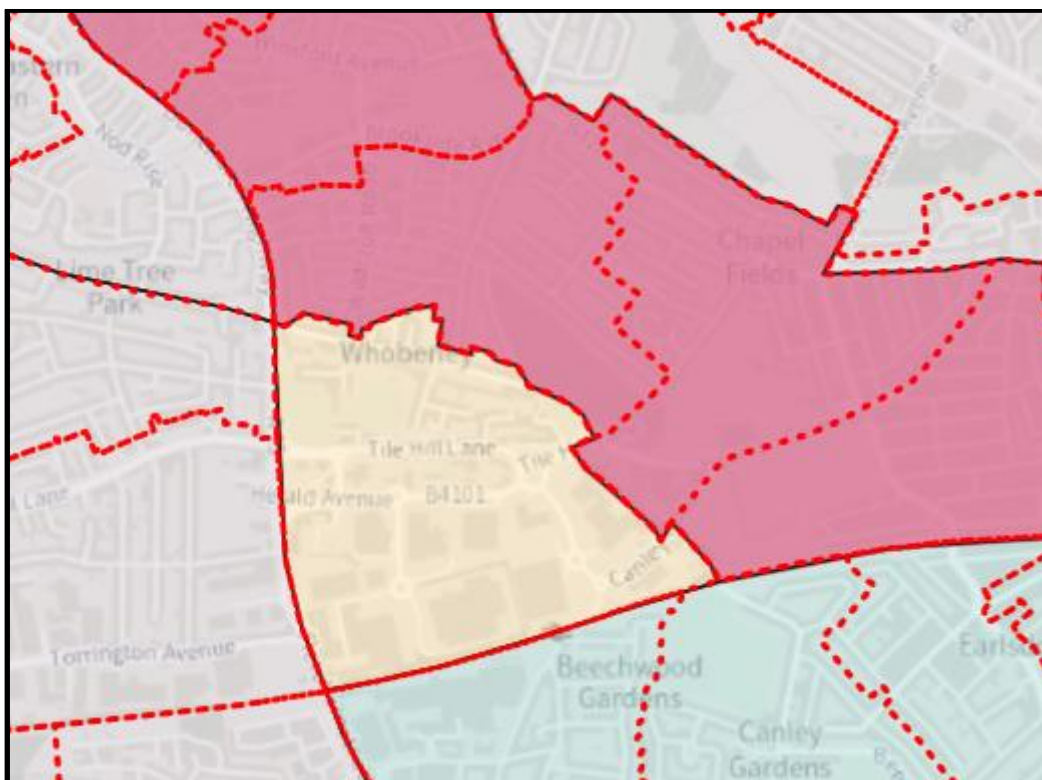
Fig 7 - Box Ad west of Keresley Rd into Sherbourne.



Whoberley

- 4.7. Whoberley is projected to have an electorate of 11,687 by 2029, 15% below the average of 13,848 required for electoral equality.
- 4.8. Whoberley and Earlsdon have a strong links both historically and with community ties whilst also maintaining strong individual identities.
- 4.9. Previous boundary changes have been made between the two wards and so it is proposed that the solution to the challenges here be found between the two wards. Namely by reversing the change made in the 2004 boundary changes.
- 4.10. It is therefore proposed moving polling district DH from Earlsdon to Whoberley (Fig 10).

Fig 10 – Box DH from Earlsdon to Whoberley (Highlighted in yellow)



- 4.11. DH is a residential area grouped around a section of Broad Lane and Tile Hill Lane. It is currently geographically separated from the rest of Earlsdon by an industrial estate and commercial property on the site of the former Standard Triumph works.
- 4.12. Conversely a number of streets that run off from Broad Lane are a short distance from the heart of Whoberley.
- 4.13. Box DH is a natural addition to Whoberley and would ensure that it meets electoral equality.
- 4.14. Although Whoberley with DH would still be -9% of the average ward size, this is still within the tolerance set out in guidance to meet electoral equality and is recognisable by communities living in the area as Whoberley. There are no obvious ways to add electors without transgressing the geographic boundaries of the ward or dividing communities.

- 4.15. An example of this is the roads around the Maudsley Pub on Allesley Old Road. The roads surrounding the pub are identified as Whoberley by residents. It is not proposed that Prince of Wales Rd be moved due to the way these roads are identified by residents.
- 4.16. The proposals allow for effective and convenient local government with the railway line acting as a boundary to the south and east, Allesley Old Rd, Lake View Park and Pickford Way to the north, and Dunchurch Highway (A45) to the west. The A45 and Pickford Way in particular provide strong and definitive boundaries between Whoberley and Bablake, providing a clear separation from Allesley Village.

5. Cheylesmore, Lower Stoke and St Michael's

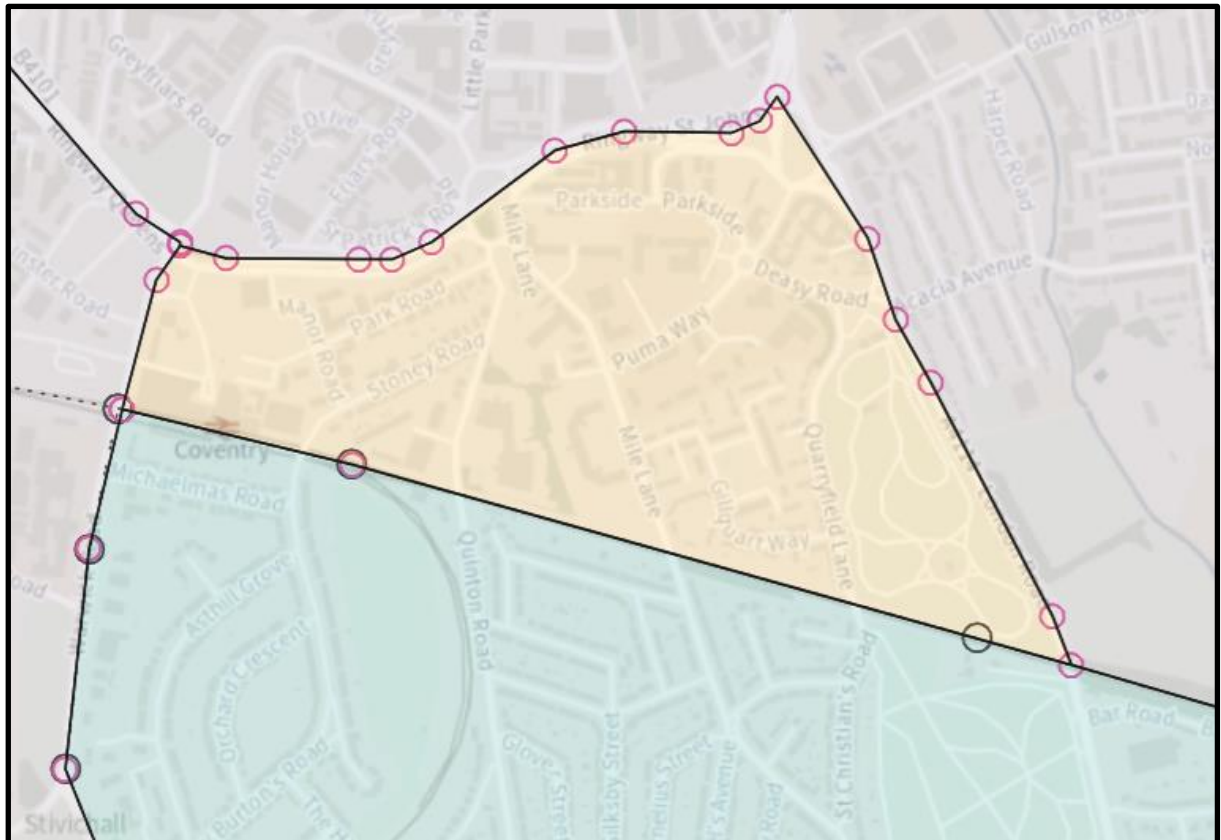
Cheylesmore

- 5.1. Cheylesmore is projected to have an electorate of 12,112 in 2029 which is 12% below the average of 13,848.
- 5.2. The ward encompasses the neighbourhoods of Cheylesmore itself, Whitley and the Stonehouse Estate. These are well defined areas within the ward with London Rd providing a clearly defined boundary between Willenhall to the east and between Charterhouse nearer the city centre.
- 5.3. Cheylesmore is defined both in character of the houses and the amenities enjoyed by residents. The boundary to the south of Cheylesmore borders with Stivichall, a part of Earlsdon. The roads south of Dillotford Avenue characterise a shift in style between Cheylesmore and Stivichall with bigger houses which are distinct to those found in Cheylesmore. The schools residents use also change to Finham Park with residents living in Stivichall.
- 5.4. The proposals do not recommend extending further south from Dillotford Ave because Stivichall has a distinct characteristic and is a clearly defined area covering both sides of Leamington Rd and instead seek to keep Stivichall together albeit in two Earlsdon boxes. A change in these boundaries would also not support reaching electoral equality in Earlsdon or Wainbody.
- 5.5. The solution put forward is to recognise the connections that exist both now and historically. Box LE in St Michael's was previously in Cheylesmore before the 2004 boundary change. Box LE primarily consists of streets next to Coventry Railway station and the Parkside estate.
- 5.6. Parkside as a community considers itself part of Cheylesmore with the name used as part of addresses, and many roads by the station, such as St Christians Rd, Mile Lane Stoney Rd and Quinton Rd continue into Cheylesmore.
- 5.7. Residents in Stoney Rd and Park Rd consider the area to be Cheylesmore and made representations under the last boundary review. Community ties can be seen in residents groups and community activity around issues such as traffic movements through the area and the Friargate development with the Friargate Liaison Group being made up of residents from both box LI in Park Rd and Stoney Rd, and residents from Cheylesmore.
- 5.8. It is proposed that the previous boundary change be put back into Cheylesmore (fig 11) providing electoral equality between the two wards. It recognises the community ties and the

historic connection between the Parkside estate, Park Rd and Stoney Rd areas and Cheylesmore.

- 5.9. These proposals provide effective and convenient local government with strong identifiable boundaries with the ring road to the north, London Road and Allard Way to the east, the city boundary and the distinct area of Stivichall to the south, and Warwick Rd to the west.

Fig 11 LE from St Michael's moves into Cheylesmore



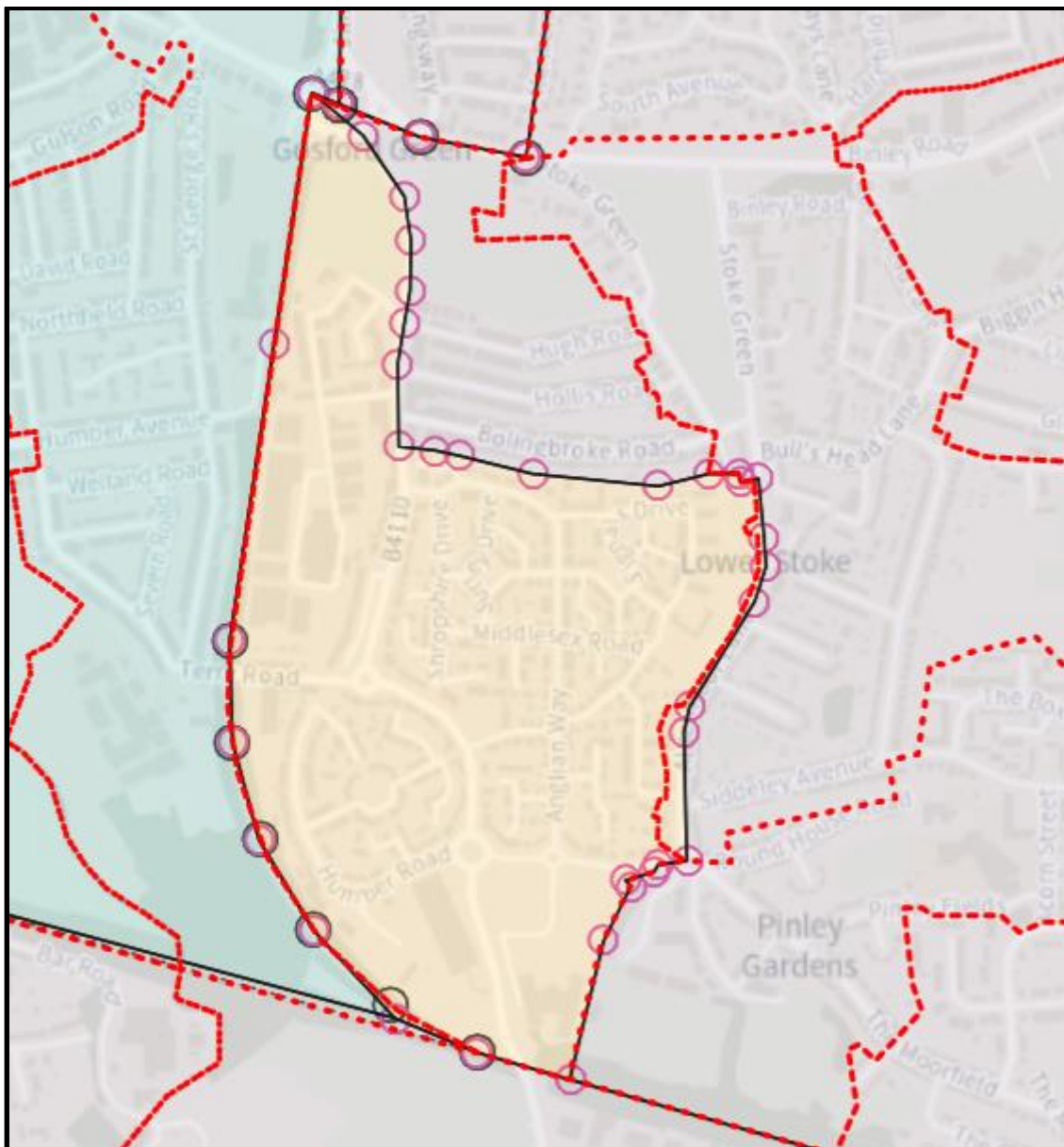
Lower Stoke

- 5.10. Lower Stoke is projected to grow to 15,810 in 2029, 14% above the average of 13,848 and will therefore require changes to reach electoral equality.
- 5.11. Lower Stoke consists of Stoke Aldermoor, parts of Stoke, Poets Corner, Stoke Green, and Copsewood. Lower Stoke has had extensive development, however these areas have to a large extent maintained their identities. The former Stoke plant on Humber Rd was once a car factory providing 1000's job with many living in the surrounding streets in Stoke and Charterhouse and some of these links still exist.
- 5.12. Some of the larger developments have been on former industrial sites, namely the Humber Stoke plant and the former Marconi site. These new communities have been considered as part of these proposals and how they relate to the area surrounding them.
- 5.13. The communities of Charterhouse in St Michael's and in box JA share a number of similar characteristics. Both have a young population, tend to be more transient but also connect with the offer of the city centre and modern living. Residents in this area also have strong links with Gosford Park School in St Michael's and this can be seen by the foot traffic between the two

areas through the entryway on Humber Ave to Gosford Park School. The two areas are also connected with the extension of Terry Road, leading to Blue Coat School.

- 5.14. The proposals recognise the community identity to Stoke Green in Lower Stoke, particularly within the three roads leading to Stoke Green, Bolingbroke, Hollis and Hugh Rd. This is evidenced with the residents' group that live in the surrounding roads to Stoke Green.
- 5.15. It is proposed that box JA moves into St Michael's in part, with Stoke Green, Bolingbroke, Hollis and Hugh Rd remaining in Lower Stoke to recognise the community identity in this area. Humber Road will be used as an identifiable boundary with St Michael's taking in the new Humber estate (Fig 12)

Fig 12 - Box JA in part from Lower Stoke to St Michael's (highlighted in yellow)

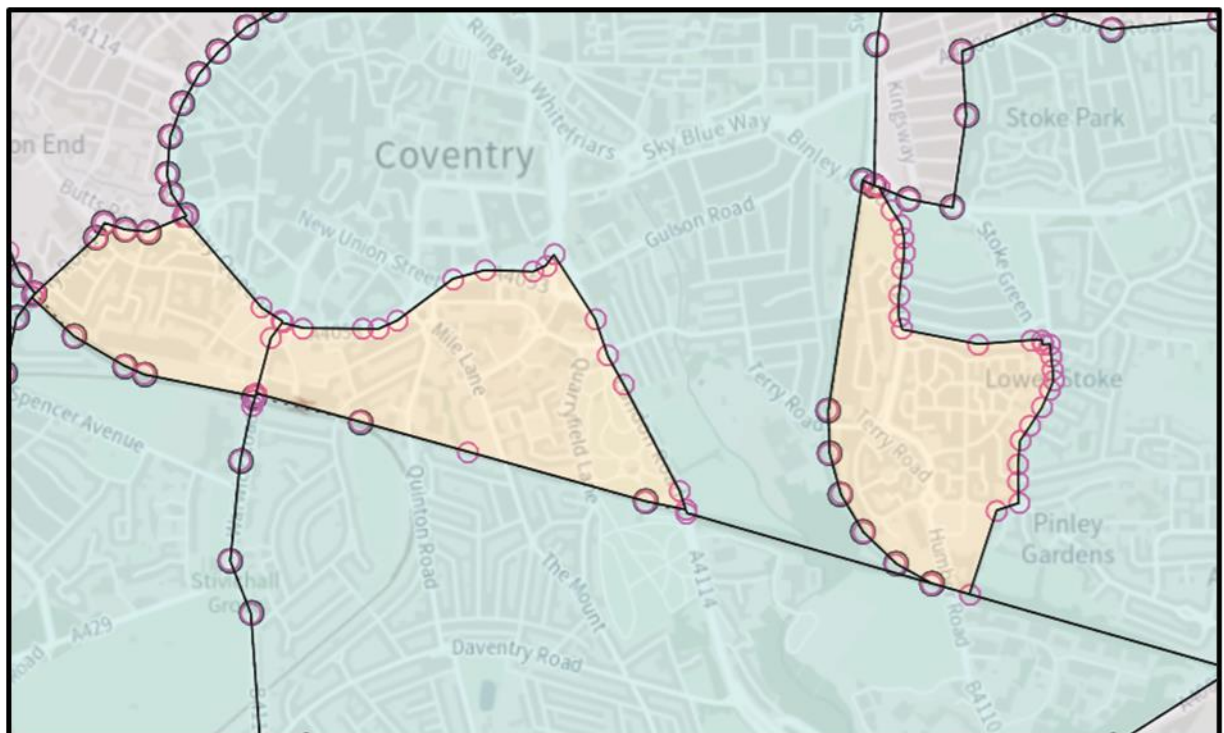


- 5.16. These proposals reach electoral equality between Lower Stoke and St Michael's whist recognising the community identity in the respective areas. The changes also provide effective and convenient local government by using clearly defined boundaries with Ball Hill and Ansty Rd to the north, Hipswell Highway and Allard Way to the east, with the existing boundary of the railway to the south, and finally Alder Moor Lane and Humber Road to the west.

St Michael's

- 5.17. St Michael's is projected to have an electorate of 13,023 in 2029, 6% below the average of 13,848. This is within the tolerance set out in guidance, however the 2004 boundary changes moved parts of Earlsdon and Cheylesmore into St Michael's surrounding the city centre and it is proposed that these areas move back.
- 5.18. Lower Stoke also requires changes to reach electoral equality, and it is proposed that box JA be moved in part from Lower Stoke to St Michael's to reach electoral equality in both wards whist recognising the community identity in the area (Fig 13).
- 5.19. It is proposed that box LE be moved back into Cheylesmore as this was moved from Cheylesmore into St Michael's in 2004. This change represents a realignment in line with how people living in this area identify (Fig 13).
- 5.20. Likewise box LI was previously a part of Earlsdon and was moved in 2004. It is proposed this previous boundary move be reversed, returning box LI to Earlsdon (Fig 13). The area in built form is similar to Earlsdon surrounding Albany Rd. The area is also characterised by a high proportion of students, likewise alike to parts of Earlsdon just over the border.
- 5.21. This change allows communities to be better recognised and respected in the wider changes required to reach electoral equality in the west and south of the city.
- 5.22. The proposal for St Michael's gives electoral equality in Lower Stoke, Cheylesmore and with a further change discussed in Earlsdon Ward.

Fig 13 - Box LI to Earlsdon, box LE to Cheylesmore and box JA to St Michael's

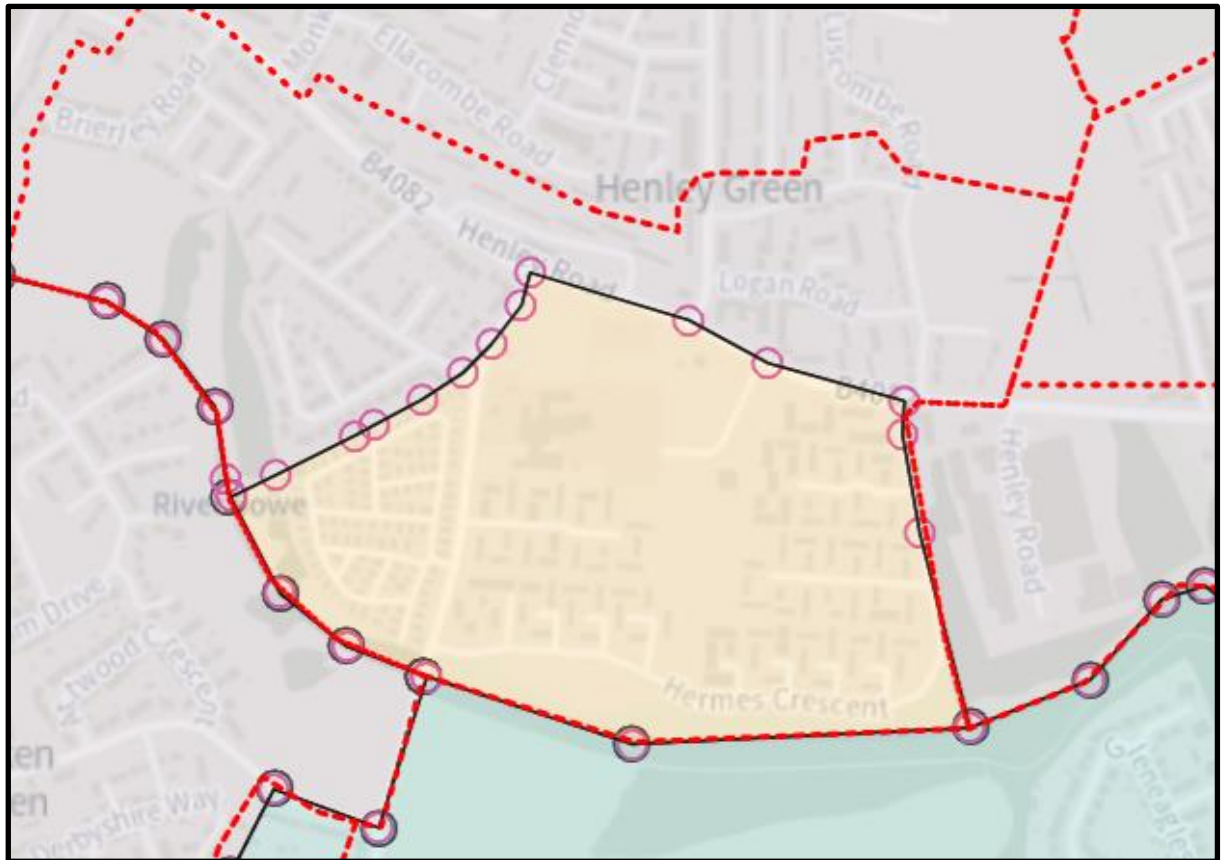


6. Henley and Wyken

Henley

- 6.1. Henley will increase to an electorate of 15,446 by 2029, 14% above the average. Henley is surrounded by wards that are either near average or above with the exception of Wyken whose electorate is projected to be 12,682 in 2029 and 8% below average.
- 6.2. There have been historic boundary changes between Henley and Wyken with box FF moving from Wyken to Henley in 2004. It is proposed this move is reversed moving a part of box FF from Henley back into Wyken. This will bring the north side of Wyken Croft where it meets Henley Rd back into Wyken (fig 14). Henley Rd provides an identifiable boundary to the north.
- 6.3. Although the Manor Farm Estate and New Green Park are on the edge of Henley Rd, people living in this area identify with Wyken more than Henley, maybe due to the historic arrangements but also with Wyken Croft running between these estates, and the Sowe being a feature within Wyken.
- 6.4. This change based on history and community ties results in electoral equality in both wards and also provides effective and convenient local government arrangements in the area.

Fig 14 Part of box FF moves from Henley into Wyken (Highlighted in yellow)

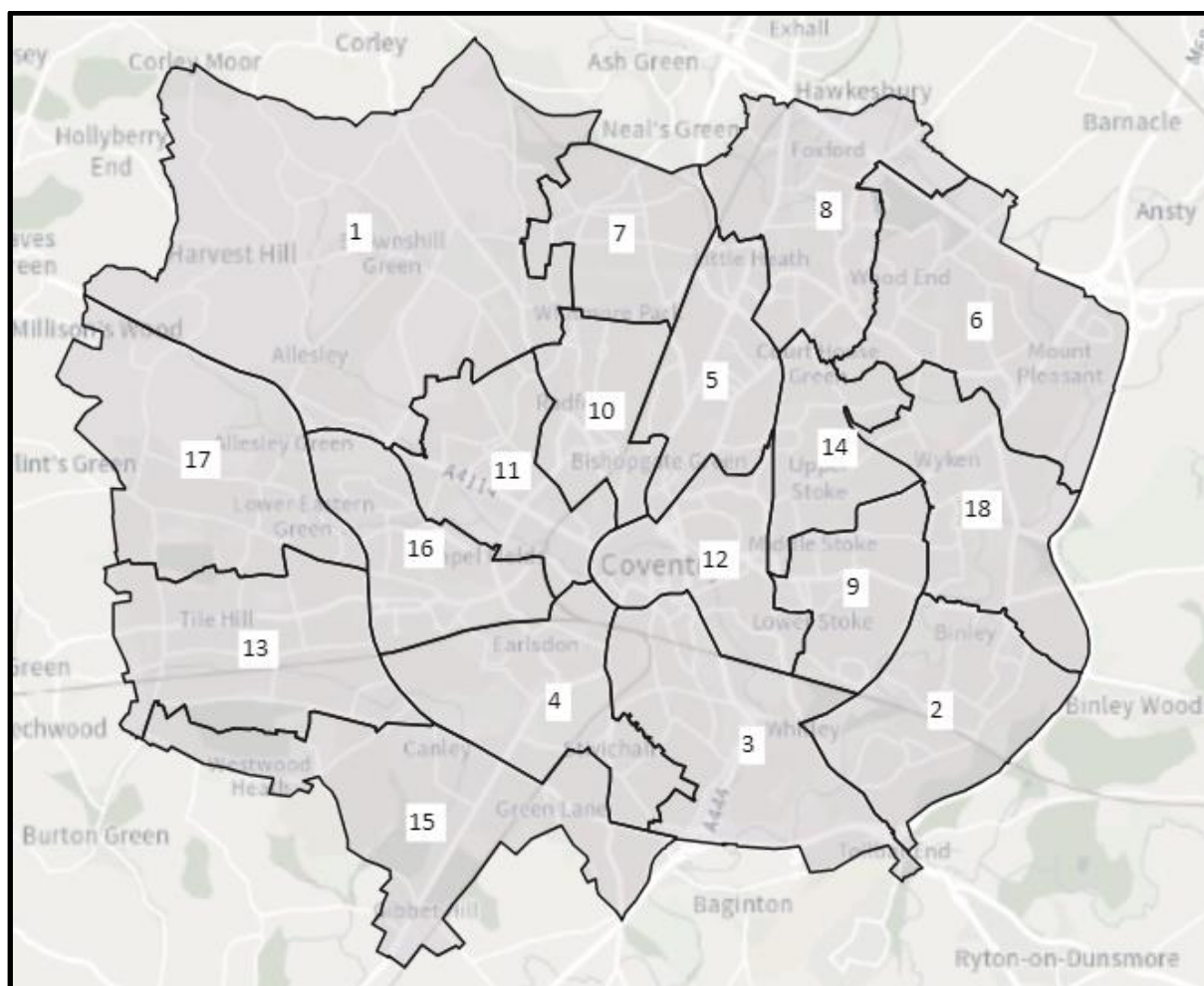


Wyken

- 6.5. Wyken will have a projected electorate of 12,682 in 2029, 8% below the average of 13,848. Although this is within the tolerance set out, historic boundary changes allow community identity to be recognised and provide electoral equality in the north east of the city.
- 6.6. It is proposed that the solution can be found in looking at the previous boundary review. In that review box FF was moved to Henley from Wyken. It is proposed that moving a part of FF back into Wyken can reach electoral equality and better represent the way residents identify to the area in which they live.
- 6.7. Community ties is covered in the Henley section, for clarity the people living in Manor Farm and New Green Park identify more with living in Wyken than Henley, with Wyken Croft and the Sowe being a prominent piece of the fabric of Wyken. The proposal to move FF back into Wyken provides electoral equality in Wyken and Henley (see Fig 14) and in the north east of the city.

7. Conclusion

Fig 15 - Coventry City Council boundary proposals



7.1. The new wards will be named as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Bablake | 10. Radford |
| 2. Binley and Willenhall | 11. Sherbourne |
| 3. Cheylesmore | 12. St Michael's |
| 4. Earlsdon | 13. Tile Hill and Canley |
| 5. Foleshill | 14. Upper Stoke |
| 6. Henley | 15. Wainbody |
| 7. Holbrooks | 16. Whoberley |
| 8. Longford | 17. Woodlands |
| 9. Lower Stoke | 18. Wyken |

- 7.2. This proposal seeks to address the numerical imbalance in the electorate in the least disruptive way possible and craft a solution whereby all 18 wards maintain the +/- 10% of the average of 13,848 electors. The proposals ensure electoral equality as follows:

Table 2 – New ward variances with proposals

Ward	Variance	Ward	Variance
Bablake	-1%	Radford	+2%
Binley and Willenhall	-1%	Sherbourne	+5%
Cheylesmore	-8%	St Michael's	-4%
Earlsdon	-6%	Tile Hill and Canley	-3%
Foleshill	+2%	Upper Stoke	-2%
Henley	+6%	Wainbody	+7%
Holbrooks	+6%	Whoberley	-9%
Longford	+6%	Woodlands	+3%
Lower Stoke	-1%	Wyken	-2%

- 7.3. These proposals have been done on the basis of minimal disruption. This acknowledges that the wards as they currently exist reflects long established connections and links between neighbourhoods and sub neighbourhoods in each ward.
- 7.4. It is therefore proposed solutions based around moving polling districts between wards. In a number of cases this represents a restoration of previous boundaries.
- 7.5. Where it is proposed splitting polling districts, these have been smaller changes which reflect community divisions and the changing nature of some wards whilst respecting electoral equality.
- 7.6. Similarly polling districts which have been moved to entirely new wards seek to reflect community identity which isn't acknowledged by the current boundaries, i.e. uniting the majority of Tile Hill in the new Tile Hill and Canley Ward, and Coundon in Sherbourne Ward. This approach respects community identity and interests.
- 7.7. Wards have been constructed with major roads and geographical features such as industrial estates used as boundaries. This has been considered in line with the criteria set whilst recognising community identity and interests, and finally ensuring convenient and effective local government.

Bablake

Councillors: 3

Property count: 6112

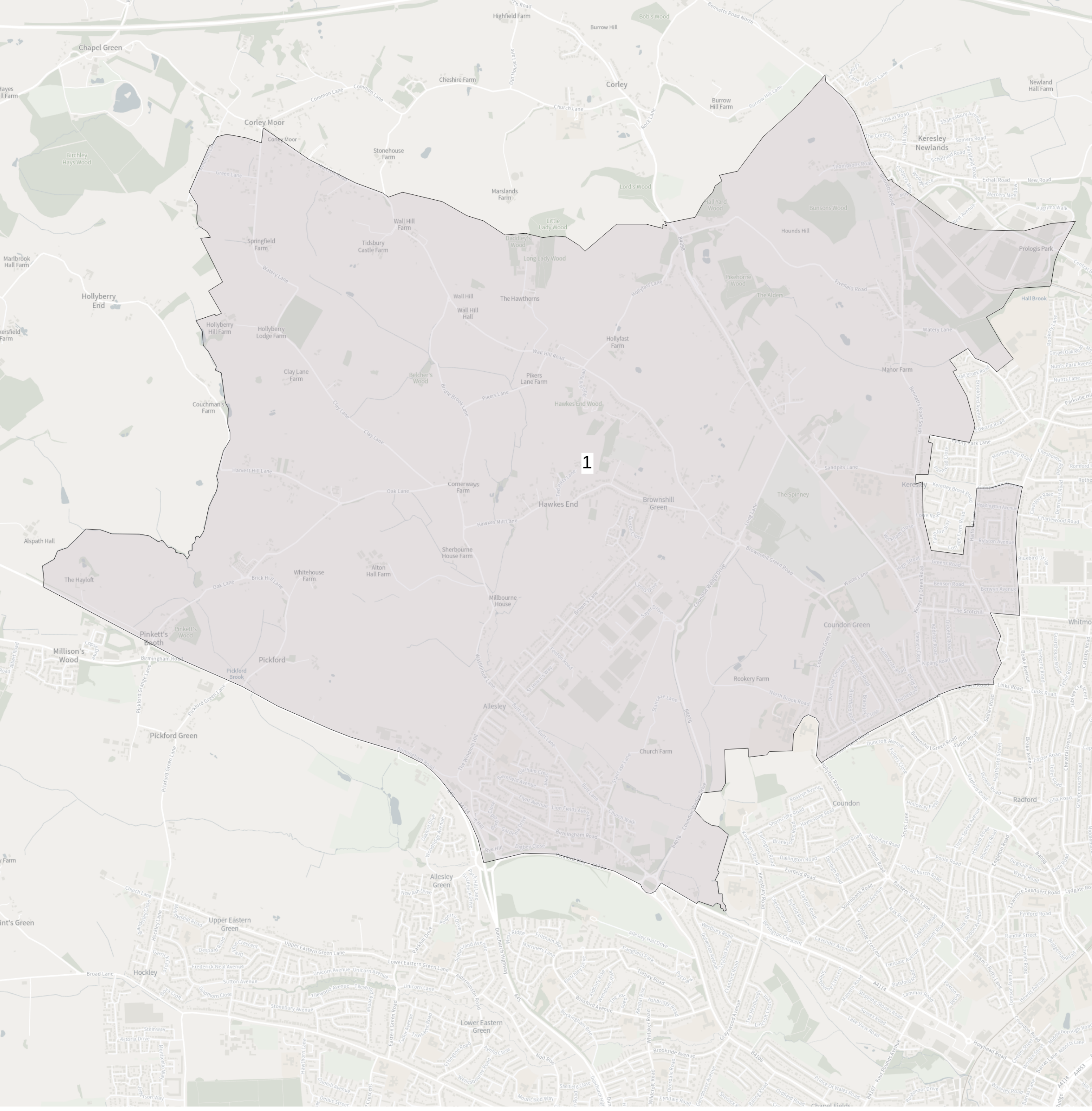
Total Electorate: 13776

CIlr electorate: 4592

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target: **4154 - 5078**

Date/Time Submitted: **26/06/2023 19:56**



Binley and Willenhall

Councillors: **3**

Property count: **8235**

Total Electorate: **13707**

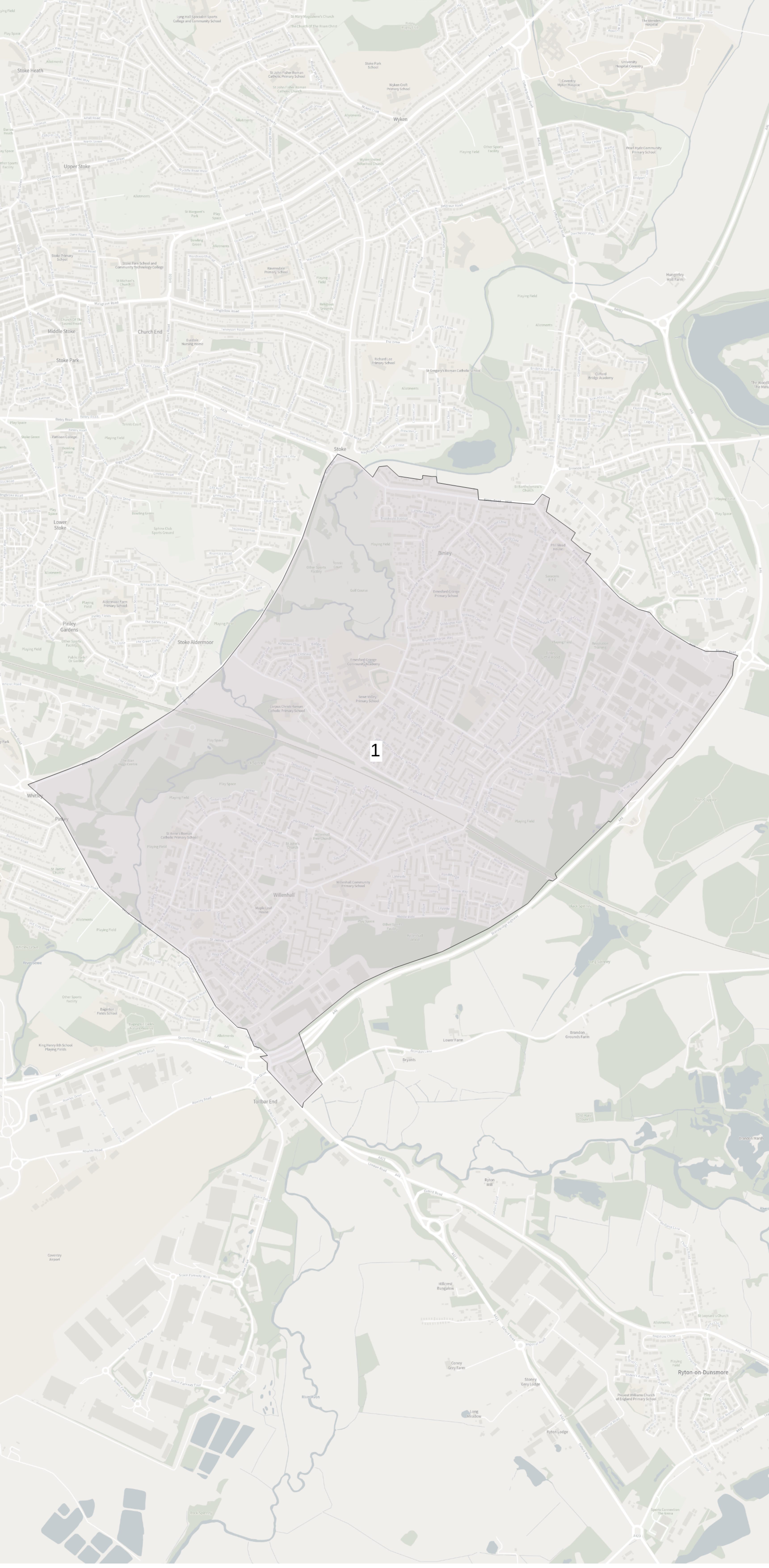
Cllr electorate: **4569**

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target:

Date/Time **4154 - 5078**

Submitted: **26/06/2023 19:56**





Cheylesmore

Councillors: 3

Property count: 9721

Total Electorate: 12789

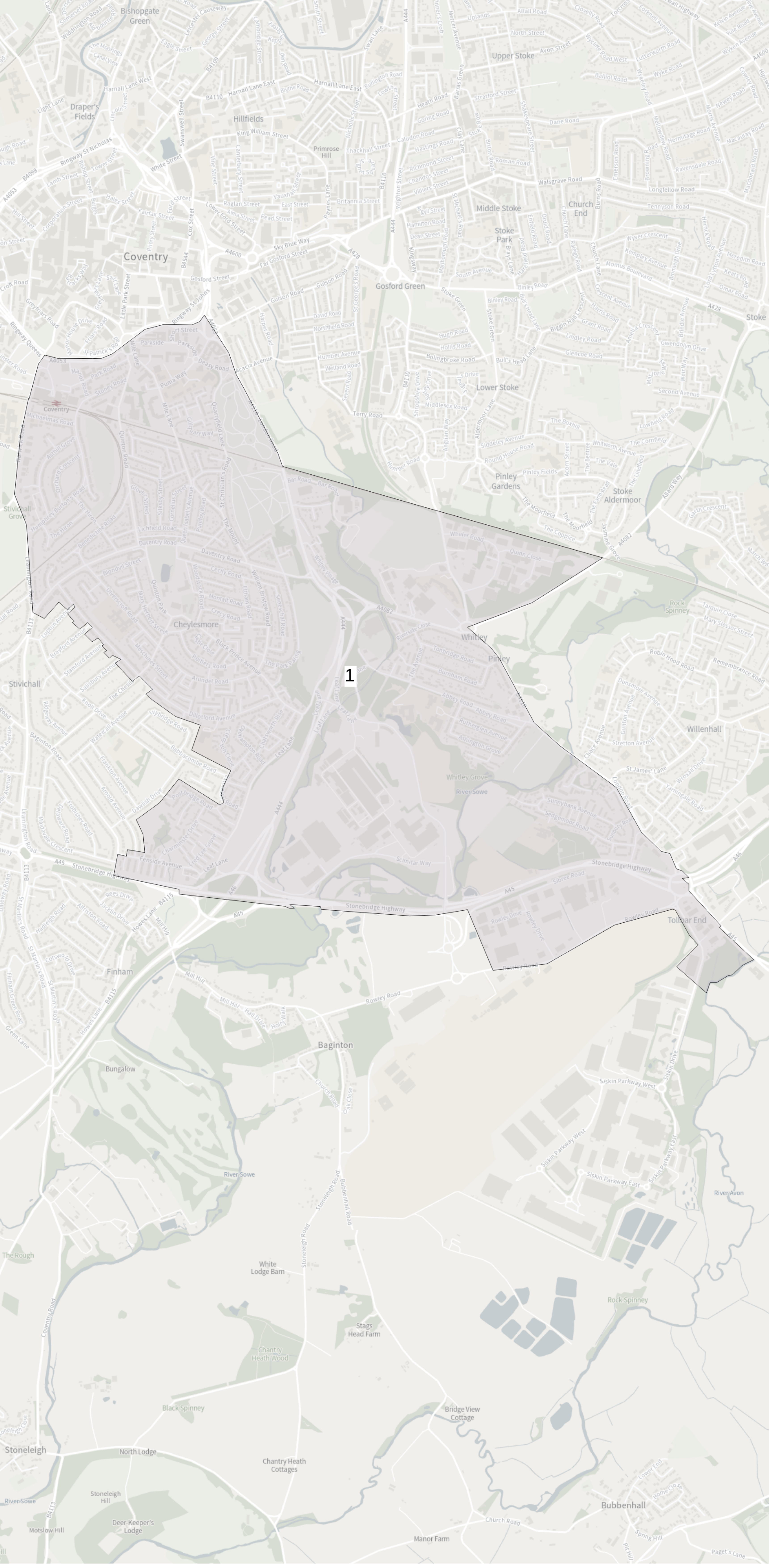
Cllr electorate: 4263

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target:

Date/Time 4154 - 5078

Submitted: 26/06/2023 19:56



Earlsdon

Councillors: **3**

Property count: **8016**

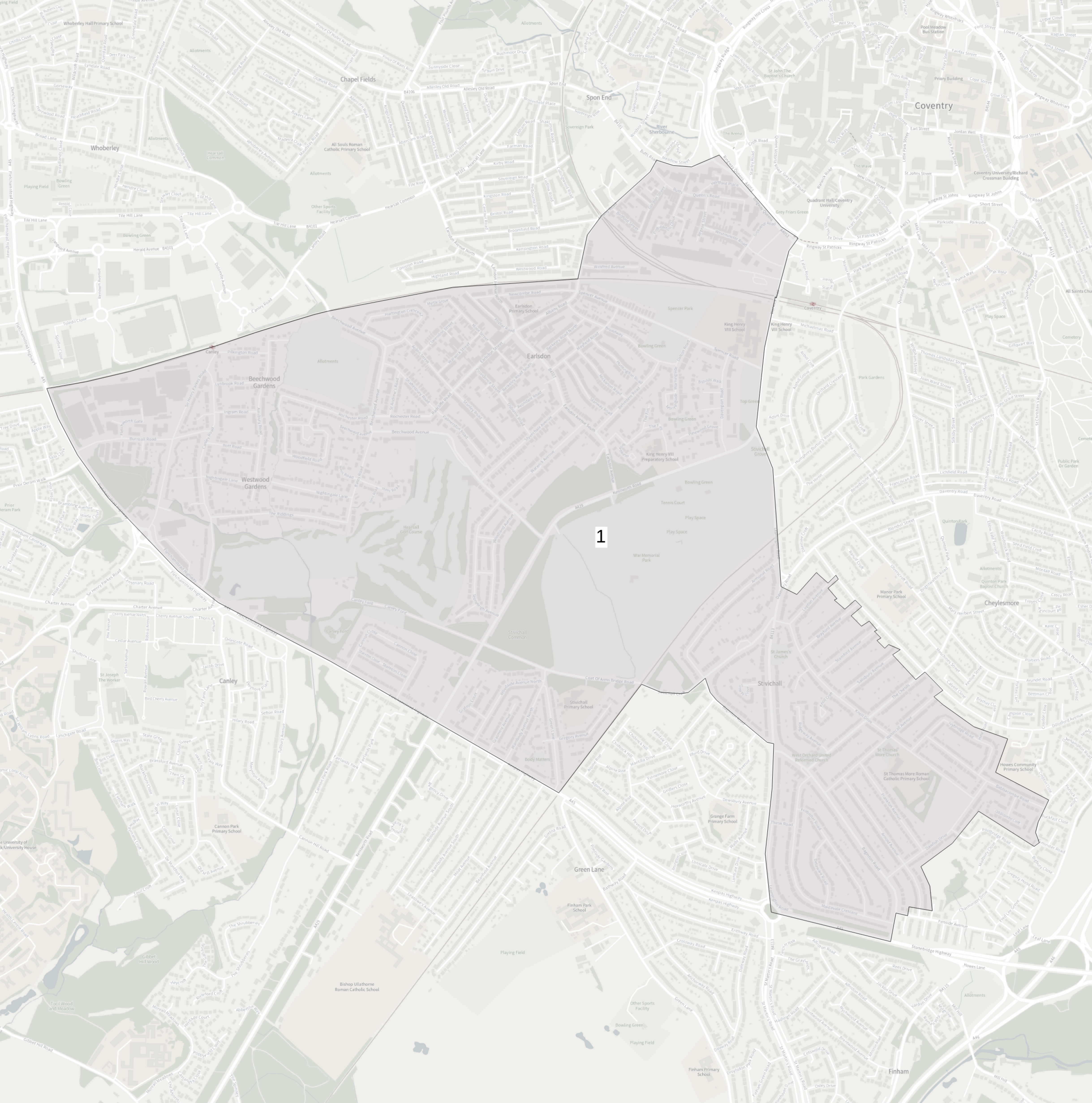
Total Electorate: **13074**

Cllr electorate: **4358**

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target: **4154 - 5078**

Date/Time Submitted: **26/06/2023 19:56**





Foleshill

Councillors: 3

Property count: 8776

Total Electorate: 14076

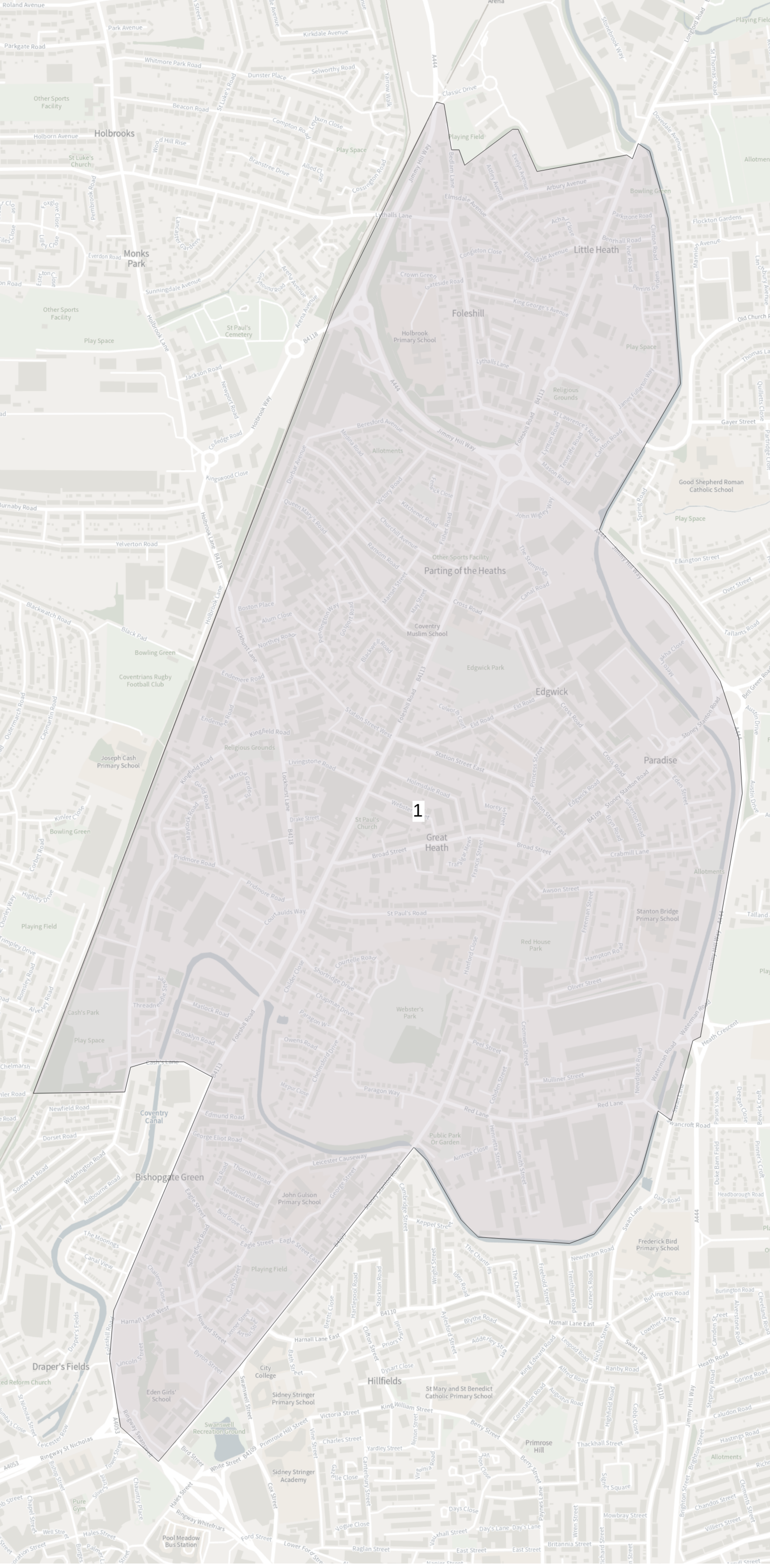
Cllr electorate: 4692

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target:

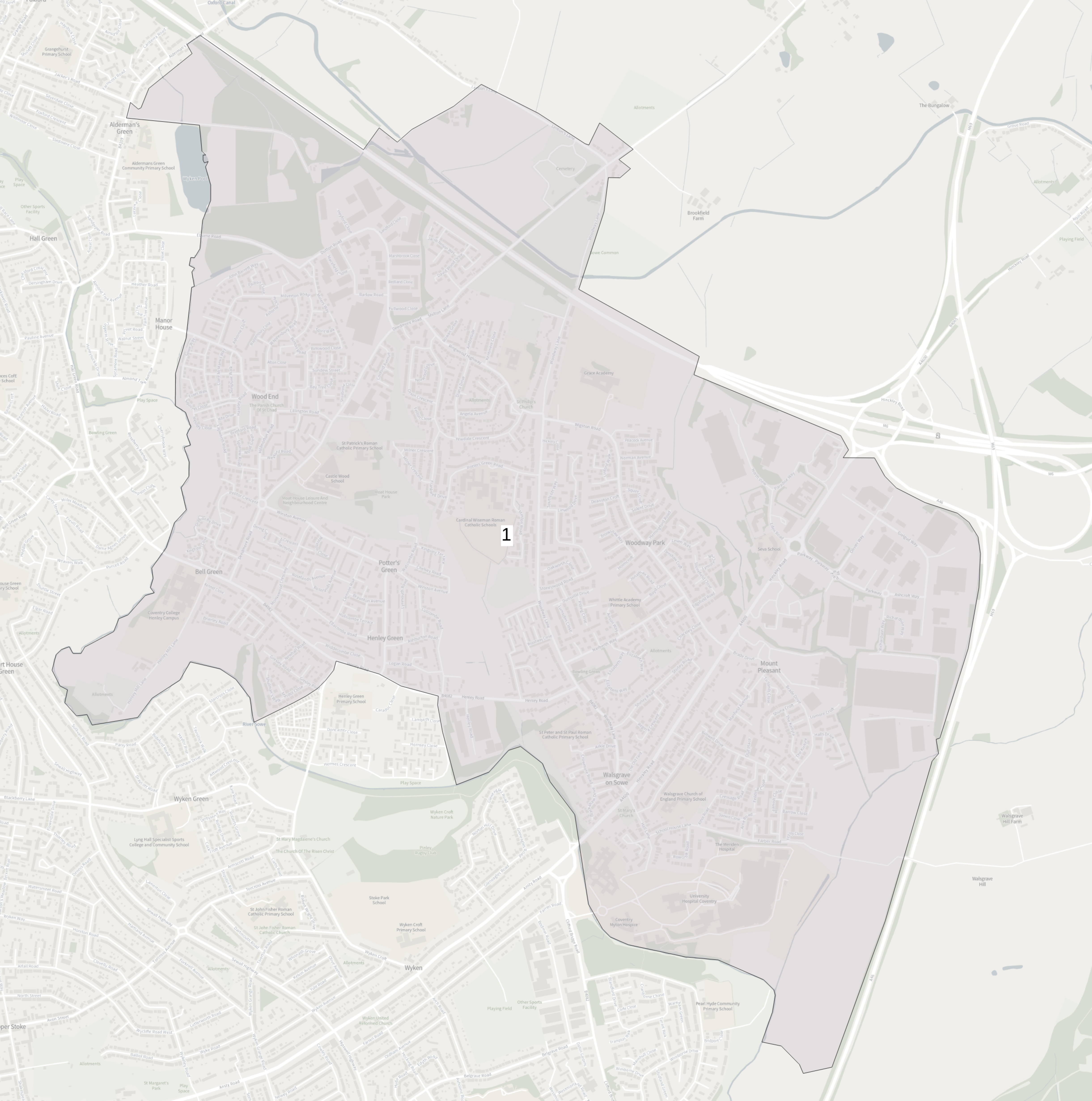
Date/Time 4154 - 5078

Submitted: 26/06/2023 19:56



Henley

Councillors:	3
Property count:	8738
Total Electorate:	14604
CIlr electorate:	4868
Electorate Status:	Balanced
Electorate Target:	4154 - 5078
Date/Time Submitted:	26/06/2023 19:56



Holbrooks

Councillors: **3**

Property count: **7866**

Total Electorate: **14658**

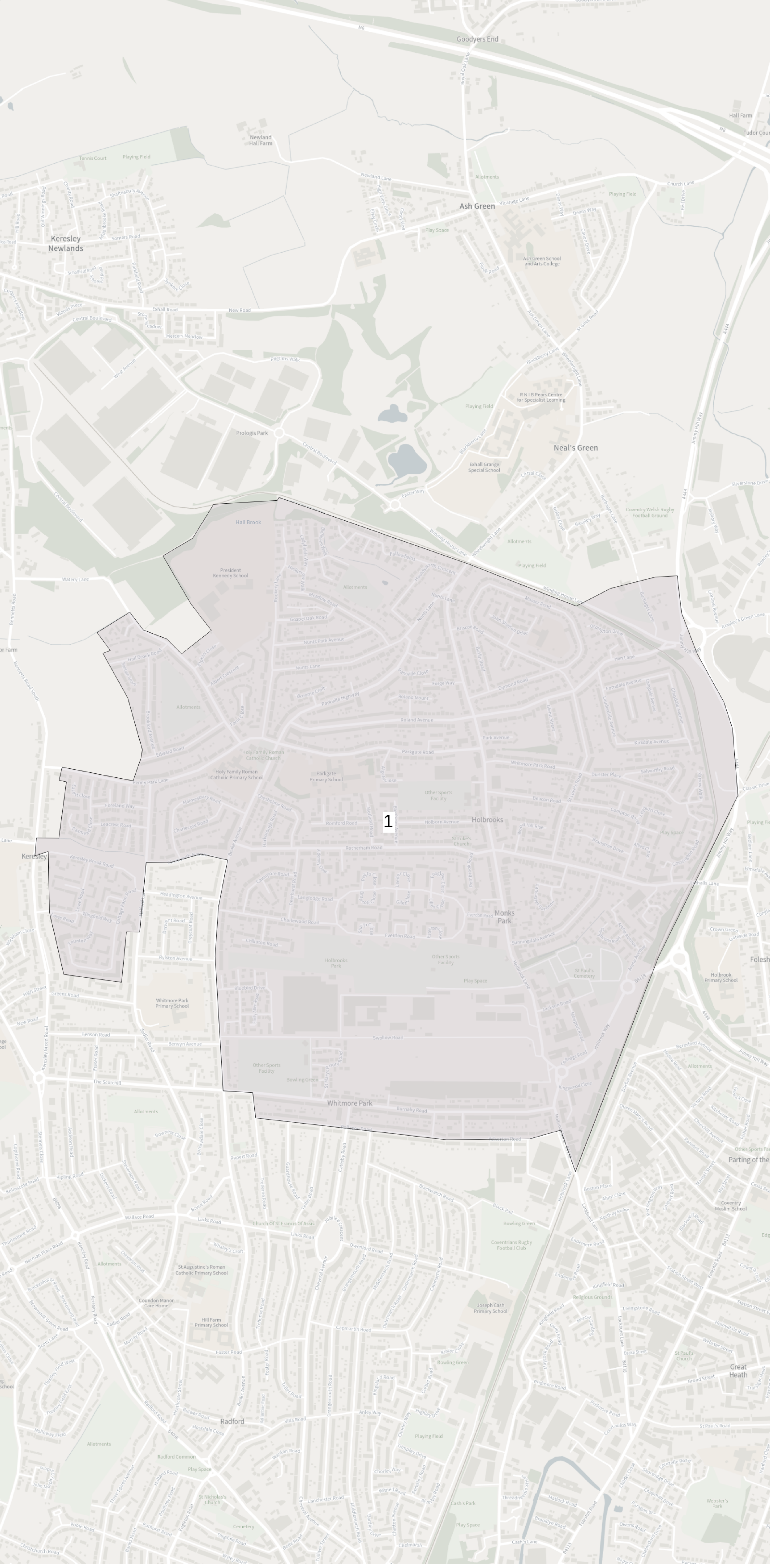
Cllr electorate: **4886**

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target:

Date/Time **4154 - 5078**

Submitted: **26/06/2023 19:56**





Longford

Councillors: **3**

Property count: **8899**

Total Electorate: **14631**

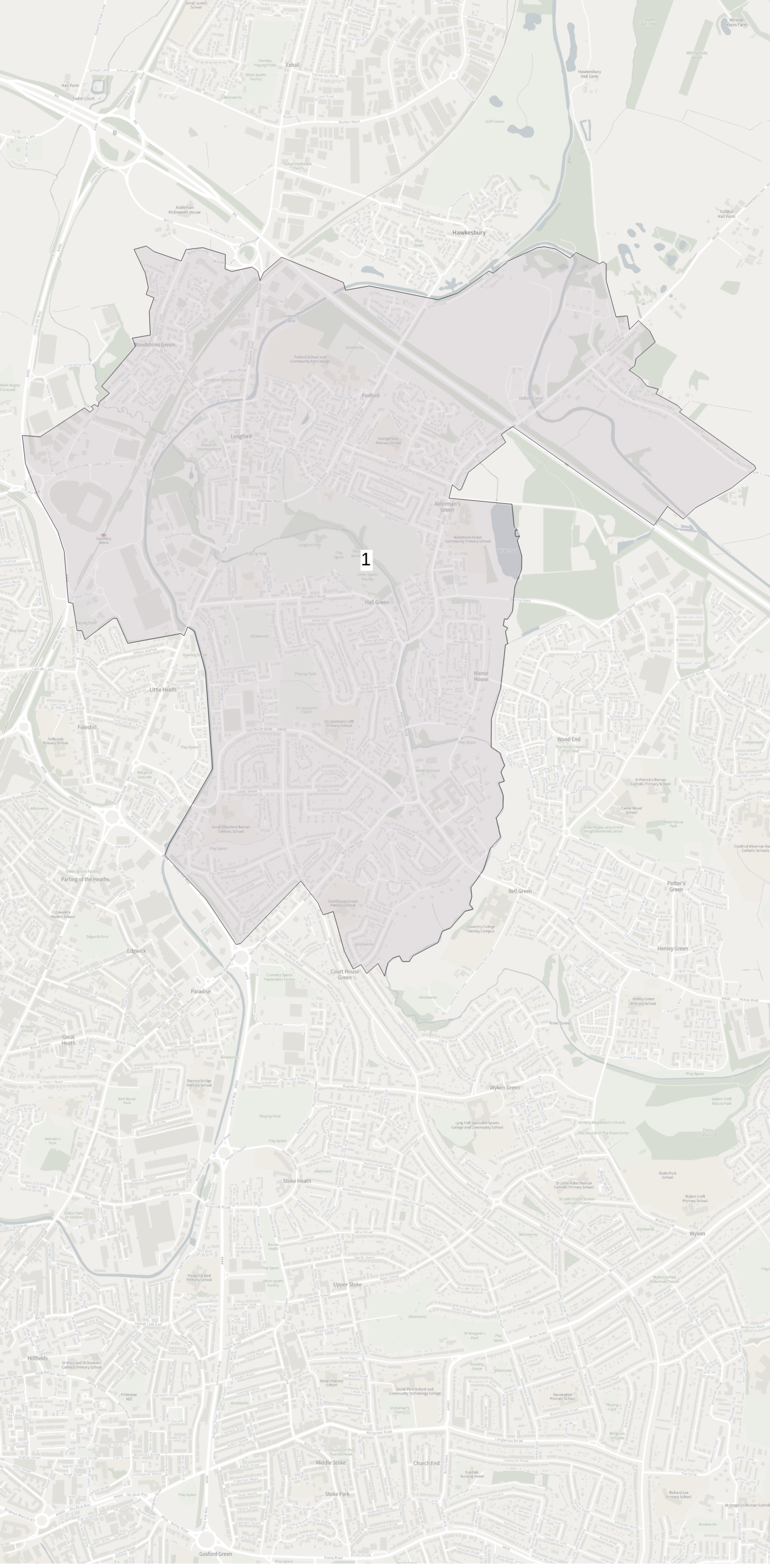
Cllr electorate: **4877**

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target:

Date/Time **4154 - 5078**

Submitted: **26/06/2023 19:56**





Lower Stoke

Councillors: 3

Property count: 8024

Total Electorate: 13758

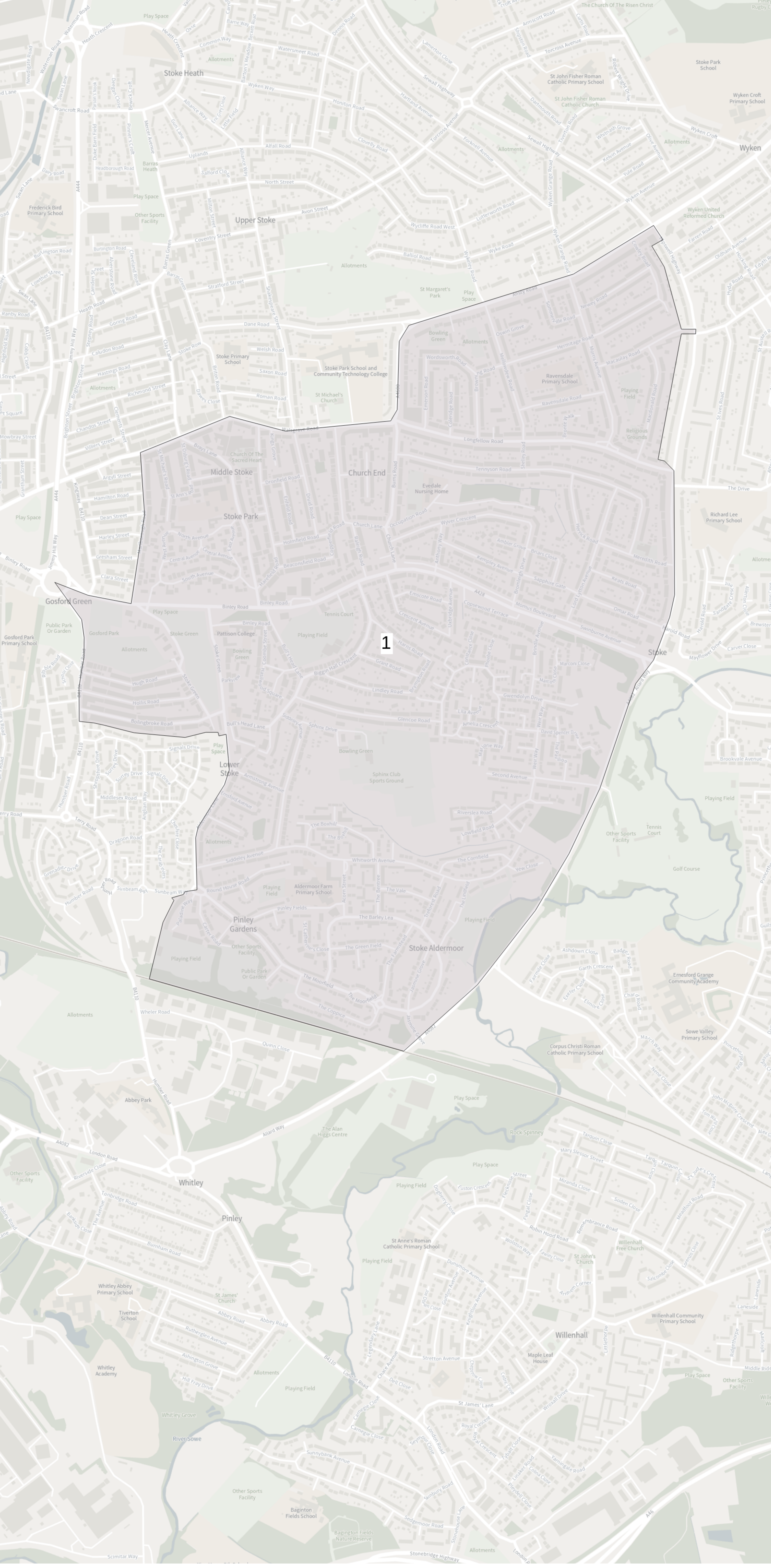
Cllr electorate: 4586

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target:

Date/Time 4154 - 5078

Submitted: 26/06/2023 19:56



Radford

Councillors: **3**

Property count: **8707**

Total Electorate: **14070**

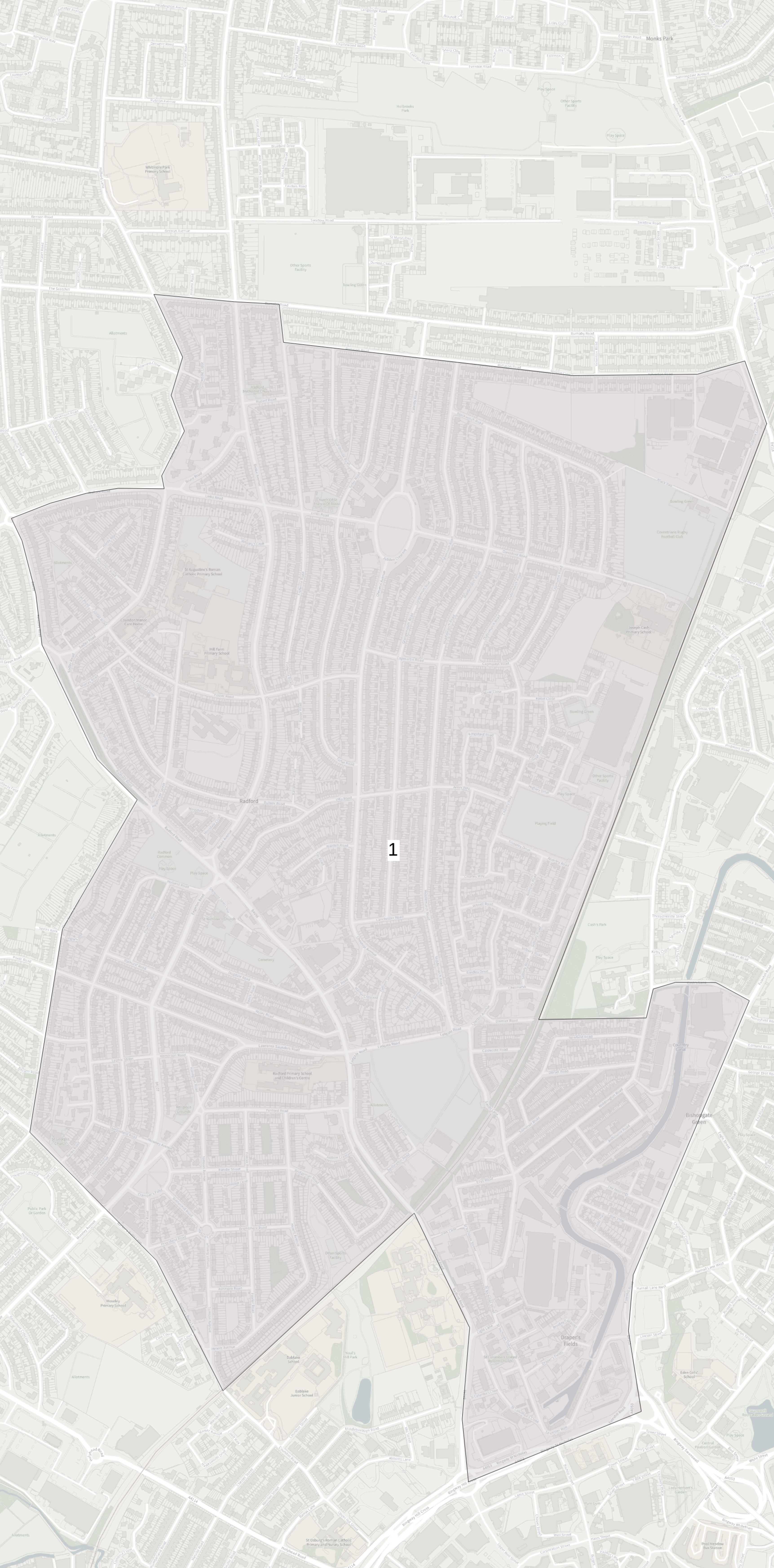
Cllr electorate: **4690**

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target:

Date/Time **4154 - 5078**

Submitted: **26/06/2023 19:56**





Sherbourne

Councillors: 3

Property count: 9405

Total Electorate: 14517

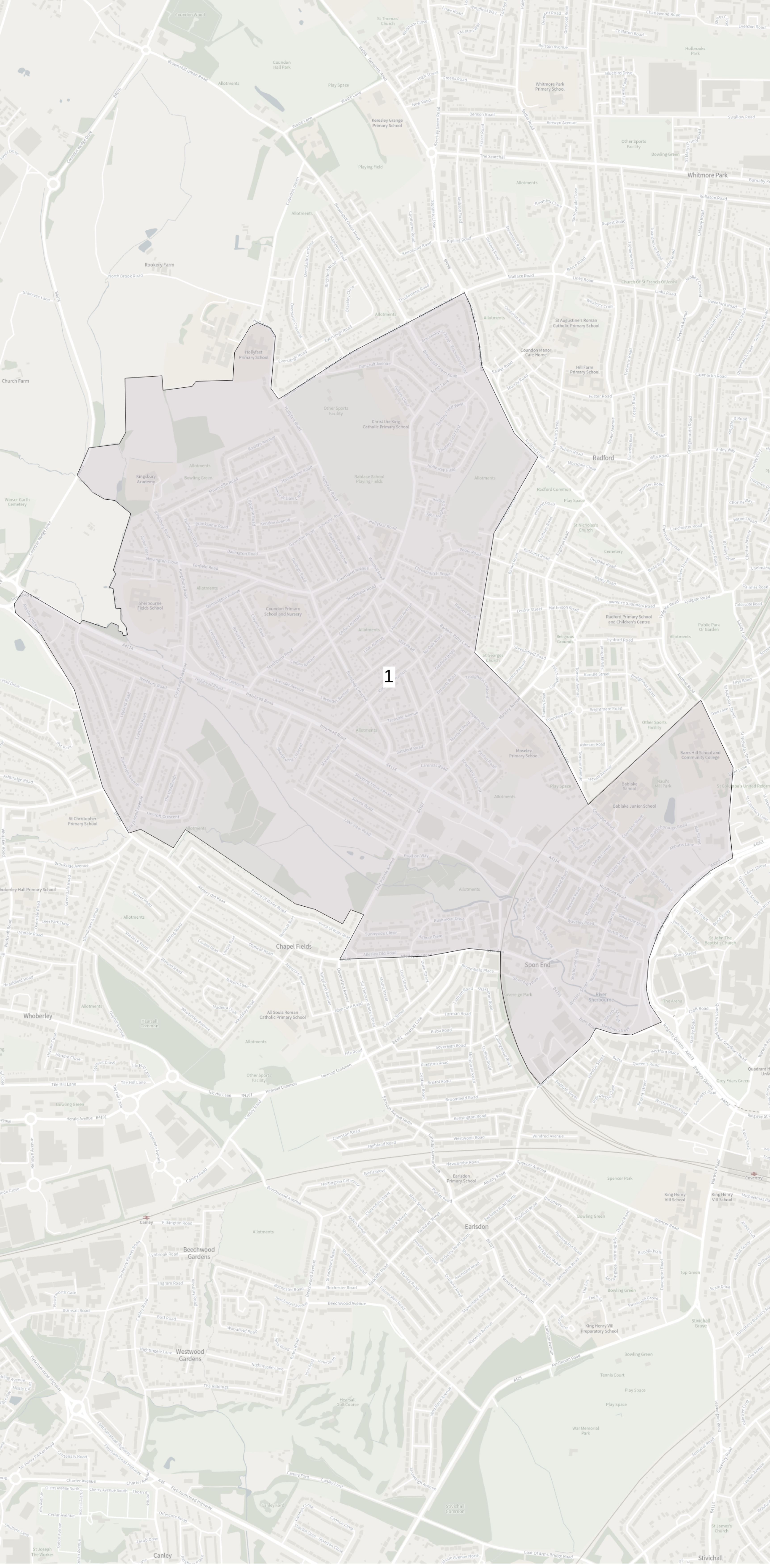
Cllr electorate: 4839

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target:

Date/Time 4154 - 5078

Submitted: 26/06/2023 19:56





St Michael's

Councillors: 3

Property count: 18878

Total Electorate: 13290

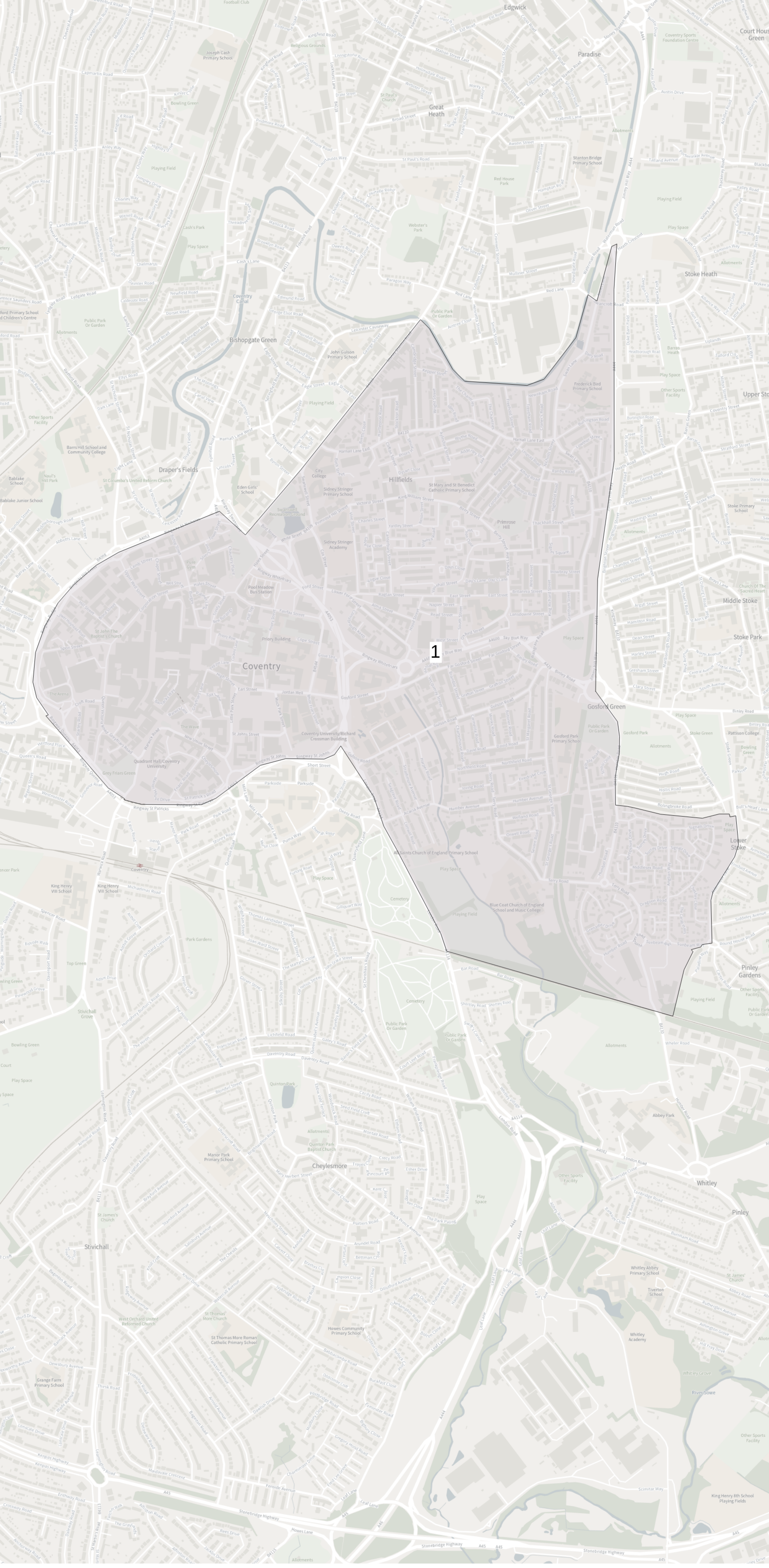
Cllr electorate: 4430

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target:

Date/Time 4154 - 5078

Submitted: 26/06/2023 19:56



Tile Hill and Canley

Councillors: **3**

Property count: **9209**

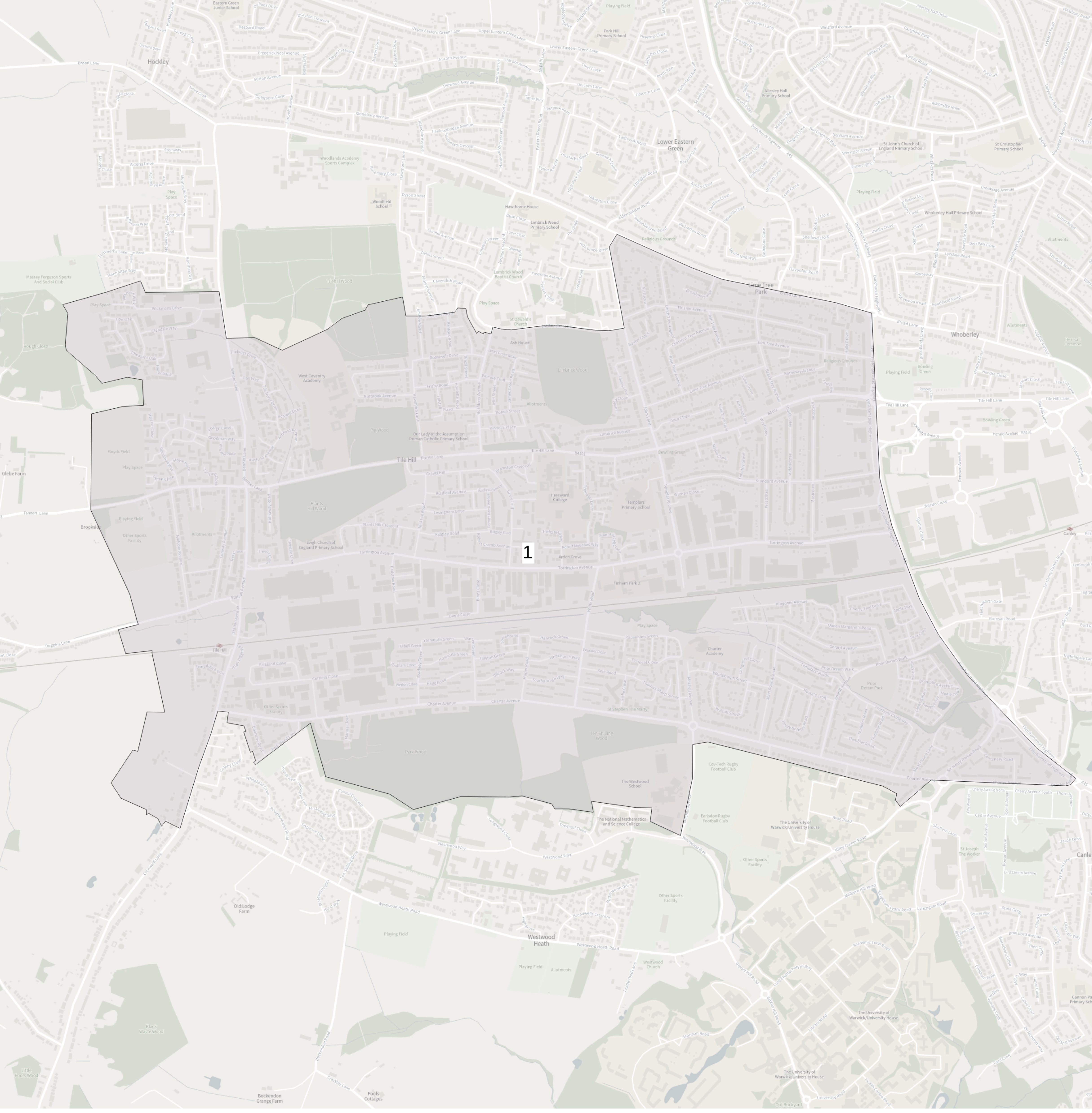
Total Electorate: **13500**

CIr electorate: **4500**

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target: **4154 - 5078**

Date/Time Submitted: **26/06/2023 19:56**





Upper Stoke

Councillors: 3

Property count: 8387

Total Electorate: 13560

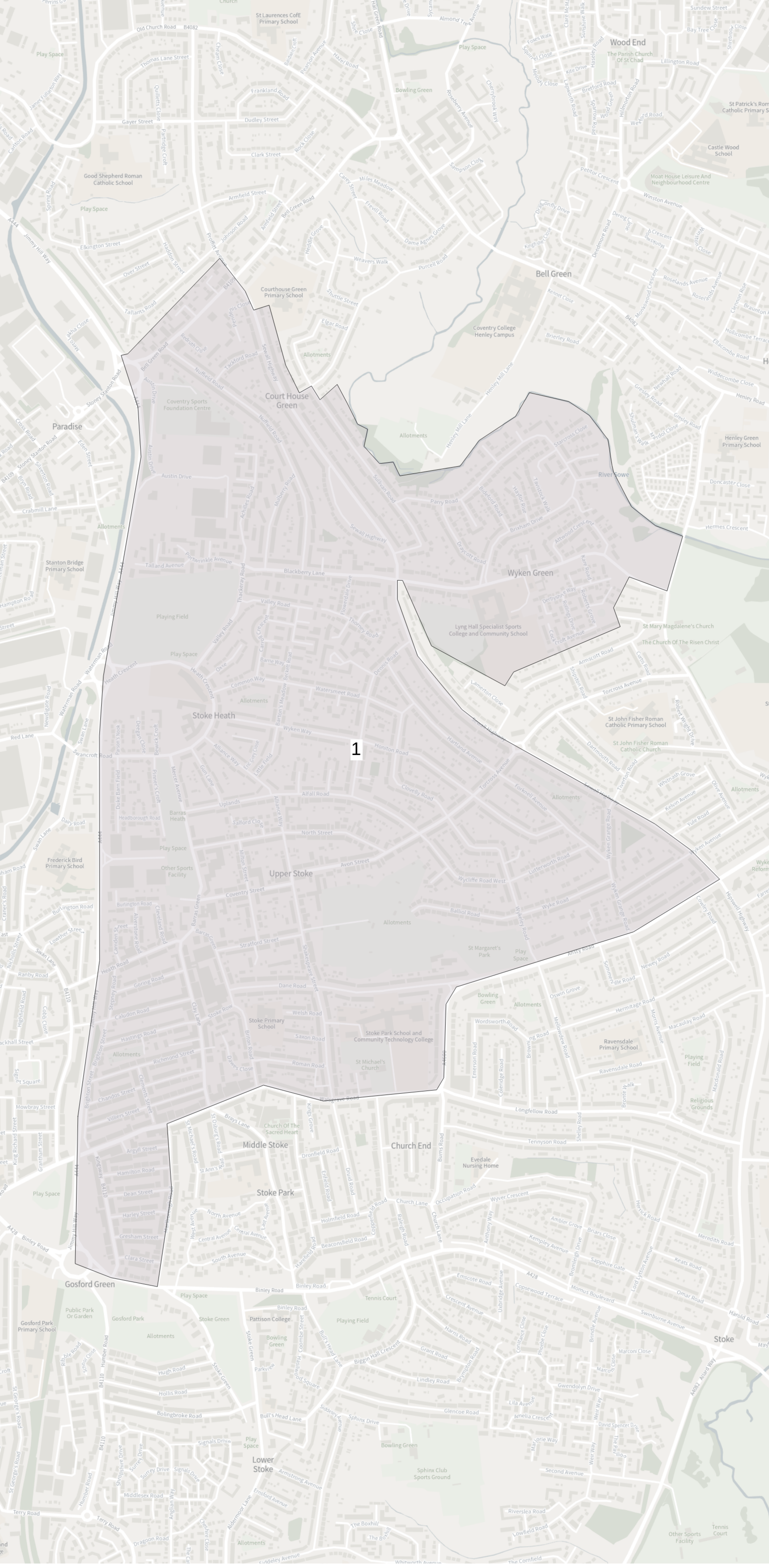
Cllr electorate: 4520

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target:

Date/Time 4154 - 5078

Submitted: 26/06/2023 19:56



Wainbody

Councillors: **3**

Property count: **11055**

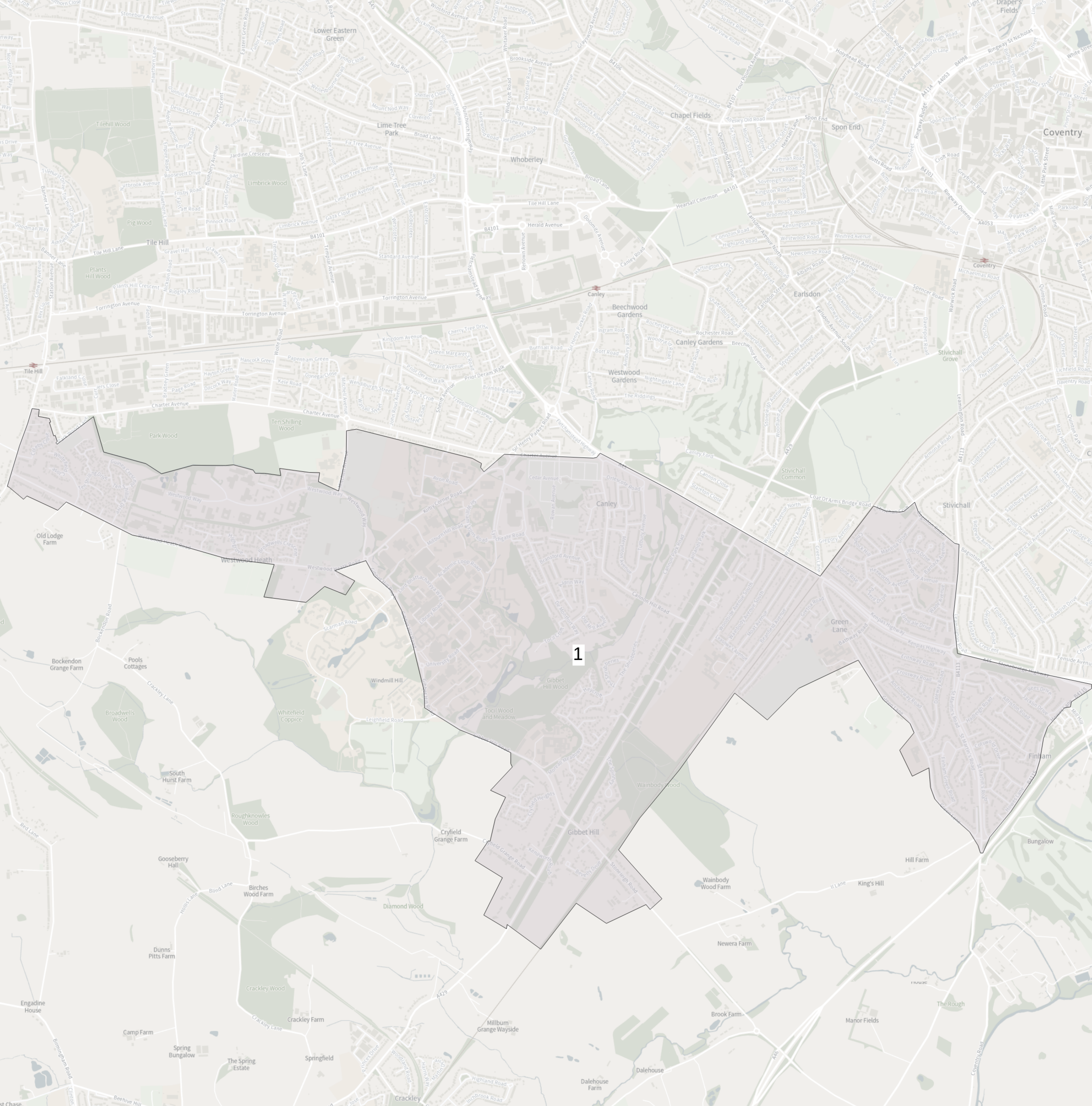
Total Electorate: **14832**

CIlr electorate: **4944**

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target: **4154 - 5078**

Date/Time Submitted: **26/06/2023 19:56**



Whoberley

Councillors: **3**

Property count: **7882**

Total Electorate: **12564**

CIlr electorate: **4188**

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target: **4154 - 5078**

Date/Time Submitted: **26/06/2023 19:56**



Woodlands

Councillors: 3

Property count: 7512

Total Electorate: 14322

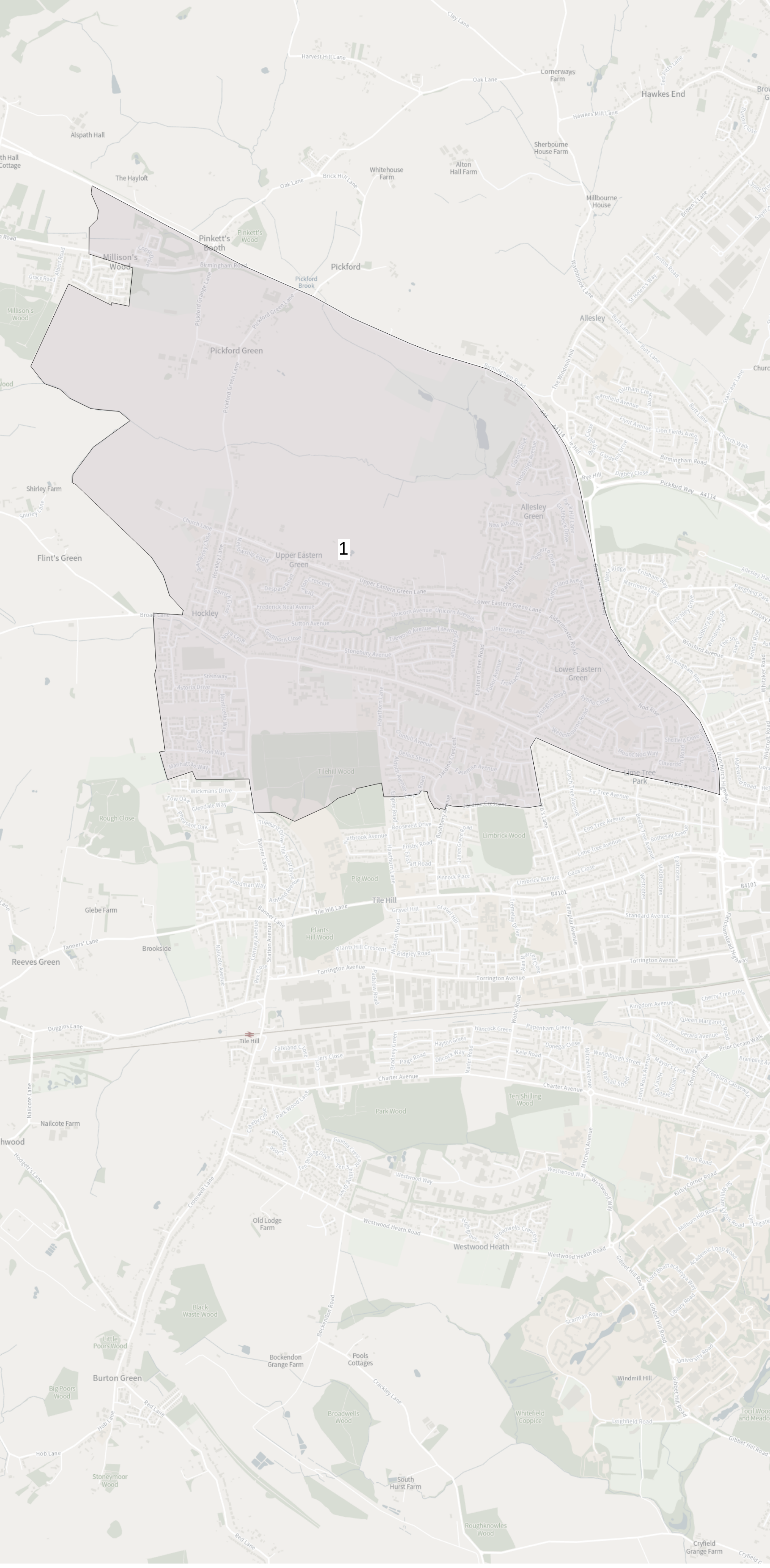
Cllr electorate: 4774

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target:

Date/Time 4154 - 5078

Submitted: 26/06/2023 19:56



Wyken

Councillors: **3**

Property count: **7866**

Total Electorate: **13524**

Cllr electorate: **4508**

Electorate Status: **Balanced**

Electorate Target:

Date/Time **4154 - 5078**

Submitted: **26/06/2023 19:56**

