

Derbyshire

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Comment text:

Dear Sir or Madam,

As the Leader of the Labour Group at Derbyshire County Council I am emailing you my Group's submission in response to the LGBCEs boundary review of this Authority.

The County Council will be making its own submission which went to Full Council yesterday (12th July 2023). This is not supported by the Labour group.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Joan Dixon

Attached Documents:

None attached

Amber Valley

The Amber Valley Borough Council area currently has 10 councillors elected to represent 8 single member and 1 two member divisions. Our proposal is that the Borough retain 10 councillors but that they are all elected to represent single member divisions. We also note that the Borough Council's wards were subject to a boundary review by The Commission in 2022 and so we have used this review as an opportunity to better align the county divisions with the new Borough Council ward boundaries.

Alfreton, Ironville & Riddings, Somercotes & Swanwick

These 4 Borough Council wards were grouped together at the last review to create a two-member division. We support the creation of two single member divisions to replace this multimember division. However, the distribution of the electorates between the 4 wards means that it is not possible to achieve both good electoral equality and coterminosity of the county division and Borough Council ward boundaries.

Our starting point is to recreate the two single members division that existed prior to the 2012 review which we are calling the Alfreton & Swanwick Division and a Somercotes, Ironville and Riddings Division. To achieve electoral equality between these two divisions we have divided part of Alfreton polling district AES and included some of its electors in the Alfreton and Swanwick Division and the remainder in the Somercotes, Ironville & Riddings Division. We believe that this solution balances the community interests in that area of the Borough whilst achieving good electoral equality and produces boundaries that are conducive to effective and convenient local government.

1) Alfreton and Swanwick Division Electorate 10,947

The two wards of Alfreton and Swanwick are currently part of the two member Alfreton and Somercotes Division. Prior to the creation of this two-member division these two wards were joined together in an Alfreton Division and our proposal would see the recreation of that electoral area.

There are strong community links between these two wards. Derby Road and the A61 King Street gives them good internal road links with a regular bus service. Whilst residents in Swanwick may travel through Leabrooks and Riddings they also travel through Alfreton, but it is to Alfreton that they primarily look for much of their shopping, leisure, banking and other services. These links give a shared focus for county council highways and public transport services.

However, the combination of these two Borough Council wards would create a division that would be significantly larger than the projected county average by 2029. We therefore proposed that part of Alfreton polling district AES is excluded from the Alfreton & Swanwick Division and included in the Somercotes, Ironville & Riddings Division.

Polling district AES would be divided by excluding most of the Outseats Farm estate that is currently under construction. The majority of this estate is accessed via Mansfield Road which leads onto Aumonier Way. The planning consent for this development prevents access from this road onto the Flowery Leys Lane area so as to prevent access onto the Nottingham Road. Consequently, whilst this new development straddles polling districts AES and AEN that does not prevent the polling district being split. Indeed, splitting the polling district assists with effective and convenient local government in this area of the town. Our proposed boundary would run along the stream on the open land at the back of Allen Way and continue past Clayton Ley Close and Goodacre Close until it reaches Alfreton bridle way BW4. At that point it follows the bridle way until it reaches the original polling district boundary near the A38. The bridle way marks the furthest point vehicles accessing the estate from Mansfield Road can travel and has physical measures to prevent any further vehicular access. Electors to the north of that boundary, those living in the Aumonier Way area, would be in the Alfreton & Swanwick Division whilst electors living to the south of that boundary along with the other residents of polling district AES living in the Flowery Leys Lane area would be in the Somercotes, Ironville & Riddings Division. Electors living in the Alfreton & Swanwick Division would vote at the polling station on Ellesmere Avenue used by electors in polling district AEN whilst those living in Somercotes Division would continue to vote at the polling station on Nottingham Road.

Alfreton Town Council is currently warded into an East and a West ward with polling district AES forming part of the East Ward. East Ward currently elects 6 councillors. The area of polling district AES that becomes part of the Somercotes, Ironville & Riddings Division could become a town council ward in its own right electing 2 town councillors and the rest of polling district AES that remains in the Alfreton & Swanwick Division can remain linked with polling district AEN to become a town council ward electing 4 councillors.

2) Somercotes, Ironville and Riddings Division

Electorate 10,989

The two Borough Council wards of Somercotes and Ironville & Ridding previously formed a single member county council division until being subsumed into the current two member Alfreton and Somercotes Division at the last review.

The division would comprise the two wards of Ironville & Riddings and Somercotes and part of polling district AES of Alfreton Ward.

The Ironville and Riddings Ward and Somercotes Wards have strong community links and it is often difficult to determine where one ward ends and the other begins. The Commission considered this area of the two wards at length in its 2022 warding review when it looked at the area of James Street and Charles Street.

The B6016, B6017 and the B600 give these communities good internal road links with a regular bus service. Whilst Alfreton may be the main local town for services that are not available in their own communities, Somercotes, Ironville and Riddings see themselves as being separate and different from Alfreton. Only Somercotes and Ironville are parished areas, neither parish is warded, which helps to evidence this difference.

The inclusion of part of polling district AES is needed to ensure that the Alfreton & Swanwick Division achieves good electoral equality. AES is separated from Somercotes by the A38 but linked by the B600 which is the main road from Alfreton to Somercotes. It is a distinct estate, mainly built in the 1960s and 1970s, but has a new development next to it which is currently under construction. The area can only be accessed or exited via Flowery Leys Lane or Abbott Road and the A438.

Whilst AES is part of Alfreton Town it shares community interests with the Somercotes area. Both look to Alfreton town centre for some services. Both are heavily influenced by the B600 and share concerns over traffic flows and any changes to bus services. Both are county council functions. As well as using services in Alfreton residents of AES also use the Somercotes retail park on Nottingham Road and work in the Cotes Park industrial estate which is also in the Somercotes Ward.

Somercotes Parish Council is unawarded and its boundaries are coterminous with Somercotes Ward boundaries. Should Somercotes to be divided between two divisions, it would require new parish wards to be created, possibly using boundaries that could seem arbitrary to the local community. Alfreton Town Council is, however, already warded and our division of polling district AES makes the town council re-warding exercise that would follow relatively straight forward. The manner in which we split the new development on AES so that electors near Mansfield Road are linked with that community and those near Nottingham Road are linked with the Flowery Leys Lane area also better reflects the community and road links of that area.

Both of these two divisions would have good electoral equality, strong community links, good road links and strong boundaries that contribute to convenient and efficient local government.

Ripley, Heage and Crich

The town of Ripley is currently split between 3 county divisions which has consequences for the convenient and efficient local government of the town. During the 2022 Borough Council warding review The Commission made changes to the town's Borough ward boundaries including determining that the Waingroves area of Ripley, which forms a ward on Ripley Town Council and had been part of the Codnor & Waingroves Ward, should be included in the new Ripley Ward. That resulted in the town council's boundaries being coterminous with 3 Borough Council wards.

However, the current Ripley Division includes part of Codnor which meant that Codnor Parish was split between two divisions and had to be warded as a consequence. These proposals take account of the changes made by The Commission in that 2022 review and have used the new ward boundaries as an opportunity to draft division boundaries that are more coterminous and which avoid splitting Codnor Parish between two divisions.

The first division is based on the urban core of the Ripley Town Council. The second division is more rural and takes account of The Commission's changes to the boundaries that created the Crich & South Wingfield Ward but, because of the need to secure good electoral equality, continues to include an area of the Ripley & Marehay Ward.

3) Ripley Division Electorate 11,379

The Ripley Division would comprise of the whole of the Ripley Ward plus the 3 southern polling districts of the Ripley & Marehay Ward, RMM, RMS and RMY and part of polling district RMN.

Polling district RMN would be split by drawing a boundary from its current junction with polling district RYN on Derby Road so that it follows the central white line on Elms Avenue to the junction with Maple Avenue and Hawthorne Close. The boundary then briefly follows Maple Avenue before heading in a westward direct along a footpath behind Ripley Junior School where it follows a route so as to exclude all of the properties on Kirk Close. All properties to the south of that property including Kirk Close, Hazel Tree Close, Pear Tree Avenue and Hawthorne Avenue would be in the Ripley Division. All properties to the north of that boundary, including all of Marple Avenue, Highfield Way and Ford Close, would be in the Crich & Heage Division.

The splitting of Ripley & Marehay ward would require a redrafting of the town council wards which we deal with later.

This would create a division based on the urban core of Ripley that includes most of the town centre giving the division a strong community identity and

interest. The division has good internal road links and strong boundaries. It also has good electoral equality without having to include any of Codnor Parish.

4) Crich and Heage Division Electorate 11,352

This division is comprised of Heage Ward, Crich & South Wingfield Ward, polling district RMC of Ripley & Marehay Ward as well as part of polling district RMN.

Polling district RMN is split as previously described so as to create stronger boundaries and achieve better electoral equality. Polling district RMC is coterminous with Ripley Town Council Central Ward. Polling district RMN is part of Ripley Elms Town Council ward and would have to be split into two town council wards as a result of this proposal. However, that would mean that the division boundaries in this area would be based on whole town council wards.

Heage Ward and polling districts RMC and RMN are within the Ripley Town Council area and so share a common identity and interests. There is a bus service between Heage and Ripley.

Prior to the 2022 Borough ward review South Wingfield formed a ward in its own right and was included in the Ripley West Division meaning it already has links with Heage Ward and Ripley & Marehay Ward. However, the 2022 warding review created a new Crich and South Wingfield Ward and this division includes the whole of that ward giving it coterminous boundaries with this division. The Commission linked those two villages because of a shared community interest.

The division is largely rural but continues to include part of the Ripley urban core. It keeps the Ripley Town Council area within two divisions thereby aiding convenient and efficient local government. It has good road links with the B6374 and the B6013 running east west and north south. It brings together within the one division the rural communities in the central northern area of the Borough which have shared interests and concerns. The inclusion of part of Ripley & Marehay Ward keeps the link with Ripley and help achieve good electoral equality.

The splitting of the Ripley & Marehay Ward between two electoral divisions requires a rewording of the town council ward boundaries. This could be done by splitting the existing Town Council Elms Ward using the revised boundaries of polling district RMN to create two single member town council wards with each electing 1 councillor.

These two divisions have good electoral equality and good internal road links. Both are coterminous with Borough ward boundaries except where the Ripley & Marehay

Ward is to be split when they become coterminous with town council boundaries. They keep the Ripley Town Council area within two divisions and avoid having to include part of Codnor Parish. Each has a shared interest and identity and have strong boundaries which are conducive to effective and convenient local government.

Heanor, Loscoe, Codnor, Aldercar and Langley Mill

The town of Heanor and Loscoe is currently represented by 2 electoral divisions which include part of the parish area of Codnor, the parish of Aldercar & Langley Mill and the two rural parishes of Shipley and Mapperley from the Smalley, Shipley and Horsley Woodhouse Ward. The current divisional boundaries, therefore, split 4 Borough Council wards and result in Codnor Parish being split between the current Heanor Central Division and the Ripley Division. These arrangements are not conducive to convenient and efficient local government and can be confusing to local residents.

This review provides an opportunity to draft boundaries that achieve a greater degree of coterminosity. These proposals create a division based on the urban core of Heanor town and keep Codnor Parish within one electoral division. They also avoid the need to split the Smalley, Shipley & Horsley Woodhouse Ward by linking two small rural parishes with Heanor town.

5) Heanor Division Electorate 11,220

The recent Borough Council review provides an opportunity to create a new division based on the central urban area of Heanor & Loscoe Town Council.

The division is comprised of the Heanor East Ward and polling districts HWD, HWK, HWM, HWW and HWS of the Heanor West & Loscoe Ward. It excludes polling districts HWN and HWC which cover the Loscoe area of the town. They would form part of the Codnor and Langley Mill Division,

It comprises the town centre and the residential areas of Heanor giving it a strong identity and sense of community. The division has good road links centred on the A6007 and A608 aiding movement around the division.

The need to split the Heanor West & Loscoe Ward in order to achieve good electoral equality requires a rewording of the town council boundaries and the creation of two new town council wards. That results in the division having boundaries that are coterminous with the town council wards of Heanor Central, Heanor East and Heanor West plus the newly created town council ward created by the new division's boundaries. As such it will have clear, strong boundaries that are conducive with convenient and efficient local government.

6) Codnor, Aldercar, Langley Mill and Loscoe Division Electorate 11,046

This division is comprised of the Codnor, Langley Mill & Aldercar Ward and polling districts HWN and HWC of the Heanor West and Loscoe Ward.

The Codnor, Langley Mill and Aldercar Ward was created by The Commission in the 2022 warding review. Were that ward to continue to be split between divisions as a result of this review, so soon after its creation, the effect would be to diminish the community identity that is being formed following its creation. It would also not be conducive to efficient and convenient local government. Using the whole ward also results in Codnor Parish Council being in one division rather than split between two.

The Commission discussed the merits of splitting Loscoe from Heanor as part of its the Borough Council ward review. However, the local factors that influenced the Commission on that occasion carry less weight when examining division boundaries. Without the inclusion of these two polling districts the division would not have good electoral equality.

Loscoe and Loscoe Grange, although part of the Heanor & Loscoe Town Council area, started out as separate villages until merging with Heanor as they grew in size. They have their own sense of community identity, something that is recognised in the town council name. They have a Primary School, playing fields, parish church and community Facebook page. Because Heanor & Loscoe Town council area is too big to be within one division and has to be split, this boundary line achieves that split in a way that best respects local communities within the town. Splitting one of the town's Borough wards also result in a rewarding of the town council wards and this proposal makes that a relatively straight forward exercise meaning that the divisions boundaries will be coterminous with the parish council boundaries of Codnor Parish, Aldercar & Langley Mill Parish and a town council ward of Heanor & Loscoe Town Council. This gives it clear, strong, boundaries.

The division would have good road links based on the A6007 and A610 dual carriage way and there is a regular bus service between Loscoe and Codnor. Whilst Heanor may be the focal point for many people in Loscoe, they also use the shopping area in Codnor and traffic congestion on the A6007 is a common problem for both Codnor and Loscoe residents.

The proposed division of the current Heanor West and Loscoe Borough Council Ward would require dividing the current Loscoe Town Council Ward to create two new town council wards. This could be done by creating a Loscoe Town Council Ward comprised of polling districts HWN

and HWC electing 5 town councillors and a Heanor North Town Council Ward comprise of polling district HWS electing 2 town councillors.

These two divisions would be coterminous with parish council and Heanor & Loscoe Town Council boundaries and are largely coterminous with Borough ward boundaries only requiring one ward to be split. They avoid the need to split the Smalley, Shipley & Horsely Woodhouse Ward and the inclusion of two small rural parishes with the large urban area of Heanor. They are, therefore, conducive to convenient and efficient local government creating divisions with shared community interests, good internal road links and good electoral equality.

Kilburn, Denby, Holbrook & Horsley and Smalley, Shipley and Horsley Woodhouse

The two wards of Kilburn, Denby, Holbrook & Horsley and Smalley, Shipley & Horsley Woodhouse lie on the south east boundary of the Borough. They include the large villages of Kilburn and Smalley but are otherwise rural in nature. They have traditionally been included in the same electoral division but because between them they are too big to achieve good electoral equality the parishes of Shipley and Mapperley have been split off and linked to the large town of Heanor.

The boundaries of the two wards were left largely unchanged by the recent warding review but changes to the ward boundaries in the Heanor area mean that it is no longer necessary to link Shipley and Mapperley parishes with Heanor. Instead, it becomes possible to link the parish of Holbrook with the town of Belper with which it has good road links and shares community interests.

7) Horsley Division Electorate 11,158

This division would be comprised of the whole of the Smalley, Shipley and Horsley Ward and the whole of the Kilburn, Denby, Holbrook & Horsley Ward except for the parish of Holbrook, polling district KHK.

The division would retain its rural identity with shared community interests based on its rurality and is made up of whole parishes giving it a high degree of coterminosity. Internal road links are mixed with regards to the parishes of Mapperley and Shipley and the rest of the division but those poor links were identified by the Commission in its 2022 review when it adopted the boundaries of the current ward. Mapperley Parish also has no internal road links with the current Greater Heanor Division either but its inclusion within the Horsely Division better represents its rural identity and interests.

The division has good electoral equality and its coterminosity with parish boundaries and only splitting one district ward boundary is conducive to effective and convenient local government.

Belper, Duffield, & Quarndon Alport & South West Parishes

Belper town lies in the south west of the Borough. It is currently split between 3 county divisions with only one of them comprising wards entirely within the Belper Town Council area. This three-way split of the town between divisions along with changes to the Borough council boundaries adds to the lack of coterminosity of boundaries and are not conducive to convenient and efficient local government in the town. Much of the Belper North Ward is in the Alport Division where it is linked with the rural parishes that form the western fringe of the Borough. There is little shared community identity and interests between Belper and many of these rural parishes. In the south of this area is the village of Duffield which is currently linked with Belper to form the Belper South Division. There were some substantial changes to the ward boundaries in 2022 so that Duffield is now linked with Quarndon to form a Borough Council ward. Quarndon is a rural community that was previously part of the former South West Parishes Ward where it had shared community interests. It was linked to Duffield as a result of the 2022 review due to shared community ties and the need to achieve good electoral equality. Both communities look to Derby for services, shopping and leisure.

The parish of Holbrook is a rural community to the south-east of Belper. It has road links with the rural communities in the south of the Belper Town Council area and strong links with the town itself to which it looks for many services. It is separated from the other parishes in the Kilburn, Denby, Holbrook and Horsley Ward by the A38 which also limits east-west road links with those parishes.

The changes to ward boundaries allow new division boundaries to be drawn that have greater coterminosity of boundaries and better reflect the rural-urban split of communities in this part of the Borough. It also allows for the Belper Town Council area to be brought within the boundaries of just two division which is more conducive to convenient and efficient local government.

8) North Belper Division

Electorate 10,168

This division is comprised of Belper North Ward and Belper East Ward polling districts BEA, BEB, BEC, BEL, BES and part of BEW.

Polling district BEW would be split to create a boundary using the line of Coppice Brook until it reaches Gregory's Way at which point it runs southwards to the junction with Whitemoor Lane where it rejoins the current polling district boundary. Walcote Close, Whitemoor Hall and Rookery Close would be excluded from this division. This creates a strong boundary and excludes the large residential estate between Coppice Brook and Over Lane. Coppice Brook acts as the boundary of the division for much of its route into the River Derwent in the valley bottom

The division would be urban in nature, with a rural area to the north west, and covers most of the north of the town including the town centre. It is comprised solely of polling districts within the Belper Town Council area giving it a strong community interest and identity. It keeps most of the town centre within one

division. The division includes all of the main roads entering Belper from the north and has good internal road links.

It has strong boundaries, is conducive to effective and convenient local government in the town and has good electoral equality.

Splitting Belper East Ward will require new warding arrangements for the Town Council. The current town council ward elects 7 town councillors and it would be possible to split the ward to create two new wards.

9) South Belper and Holbrook Division Electorate 10,272

This division would comprise of the whole of the Belper South Ward, Belper East Ward polling districts BEG and BEN plus the Walcote Close, Whitemoor Hall and Rockery Close area of polling district BEW. It also includes the parish of Holbrook (polling district KHK of the Kilburn, Denby, Holbrook & Horsely Ward).

Belper South Ward has an urban core to its north, just south of the town centre, but becomes more rural as it travels along the A6 to Millford and Makeney.

Holbrook Parish is to the east of Belper South and is a rural village. It has good road links to the A6 via Millford and Makeney and to the rest of the division via Belper Road, Sandbend Road and Overlane. A continuous line of housing runs southwards from the most northerly part of Overlane until the road reaches Holbrook and at the parish boundary at Bargate it is not always clear where Belper ends and Holbrook starts.

Holbrook has strong community links to Belper seeing the town as its centre for shopping, leisure and other services. Holbrook also falls within the catchment area of Belper School & Sixth Form Centre. There is a good bus service between Holbrook and Belper that services much of the urban part of this division.

Amending the boundary of polling district BEW and using the Coppice Brook creates a strong boundary. It places the large housing estate known as Whitemore within the division. This community has good road links to the rest of Belper South and to Holbrook.

The division achieves good electoral equality and brings together the south of the town, including the rural areas of Milford and Makeney, with the village of Holbrook. Its strong boundaries are conducive to effective and convenient local government.

10) Alport and Duffield Division

Electorate 11,462

This division is comprised of the Alport & South West Parishes Ward and Duffield & Quarndon Ward. As such it has coterminous boundaries which is conducive to convenient and efficient local government.

The division reflects the view of the Commission in the 2022 review when creating the Alport & South West Parishes Ward where it said that the ward “will effectively represent the interest of similar rural parishes on the western fringes of the district”. Quarndon shares those rural interests and the village has good road links with the rest of the southern part of the division.

The Commission gave consideration to the position of Holloway, Lea and Dethick as part of its considerations in that 2022 review. In proposing this division it is assumed that The Commission will continue to conclude that the community interests of those villages, and their support for being included in the ward, remains unchanged despite this area having poor internal road access links to the rest of the ward/division.

Duffield is currently linked with Belper South ward to create a division but in its 2022 ward review the Commission noted that whilst there was geographical links between Duffield and Milford and Makeney it was “not persuaded enough community evidence had been produced...” to link those communities in the same ward. Duffield is a parish in its own right.

However, The Commission did receive strong evidence of the links between Quarndon and Duffield. The shared community links between Quarndon and Duffield on the one hand and Quarndon and the rural villages in the rest of the south west of the Borough on the other hand help give this division a shared sense of identity and interest based largely on rural issues. The exclusion of the Belper North Ward from this division removes a large urban centre which has different interests and a separate identity to the rural communities.

Many of the rural communities to the west of Duffield look to that village as their nearest large community. They are all located in the catchment area of The Ecclesbourne School.

By its rural nature road links around the division are mixed but sitting on the B5023 the parish of Duffield has good road links with the southern rural parishes of the division.

The division has a shared rural community interest and identity. Being coterminous with ward boundaries it conducive to effective and convenient local government and it has good electoral equality.

Each of these three divisions has good electoral equality and strong boundaries which are largely or completely coterminous with Borough ward boundaries. Where this is not the case the boundaries will be coterminous with town and parish boundaries which is conducive to convenient and efficient local government. Each has good internal road links and a shared community identity based either of their relationship with the town of Belper or on the rural nature of the communities and their relationship with Duffield.

Commentary on the Derbyshire County Council submission

Unlike our proposals the County Council's proposals appear not to have used the new ward boundaries to draft coterminous divisions. We do, however, welcome the proposal to split the current two-member division into two single member divisions.

Alfreton, Somercotes, Swanwick, Ironville & Riddings

The council's two divisions are not unlike the proposals it put forward during the 2012 review. The Commission had difficulties in this area of the Borough in 2012 when balancing the statutory criteria which resulted in it proposing a two-member division. In particular, The Commission was concerned about a proposal to draw an arbitrary boundary that split Somercotes Parish requiring it to be warded. The proposed boundary along Quarry Road risks being seen locally as an arbitrary boundary along a side road in the village with no physical features to delineate the boundary. The area of Somercotes included in the Swanwick & Riddings division is the housing estate north of Riddings Park and south of the B600, known as the Windmill Rise estate. It is separated from Riddings by Riddings Park and The Commission redrew the boundaries in that area in 2022 to better reflect the fact that there were two separate communities. The creation of a boundary at this location will require the parish council to be warded for the first time. This proposal whilst achieving electoral equality fails to take account of local community interests and is not conducive to convenient and efficient local government.

Ripley

This division fails to take account of the Borough's new ward boundaries and splits the Codnor, Langley Mill & Aldercar Ward and the Ripley & Marehay Ward. The Commission gave detailed reasons as to why it created the Codnor, Langley Mill & Aldercar Ward and splitting it between two divisions so soon after it was created would be confusing to the local community and not conducive to convenient and efficient local government. The council's divisions also maintain the need to split Codnor Parish Council between two divisions and requires a further redrawing of those parish council ward boundaries. In its 2022 warding review the Commission transferred polling district RMY (Peasehill) from the Ripley Ward to the Ripley & Marehay Ward. The Councils proposal does not take account of this change and splits this new ward by leaving RMY in the Ripley Ward. Again this will be confusing to the local electors and is not conducive to convenient and efficient local government.

The council's proposed Ripley West & Heage Divisions gives no recognition to the new ward boundaries created by the 2022 warding review and so involves splitting two wards. The Ripley & Marehay Ward is split in the manner described above but so is the new Crich & South Wingfield Ward. The Commission in its 2022 ward review stated that this ward reflected the community identities of the rural communities in that area. Proposing to split the ward between two divisions less than 12 after the warding review gives no recognition to that community identity and is not conducive to convenient and efficient local government.

Heanor

The council's proposal also fail to take account of the 2022 reawarding in this area splitting the newly formed Codnor, Langely Mill and Aldercar Ward. That maintains the split in the Codnor Parish between two divisions. The proposed divisions also split the Heanor East Ward and the Smalley, Shipley & Woodhouse Ward.

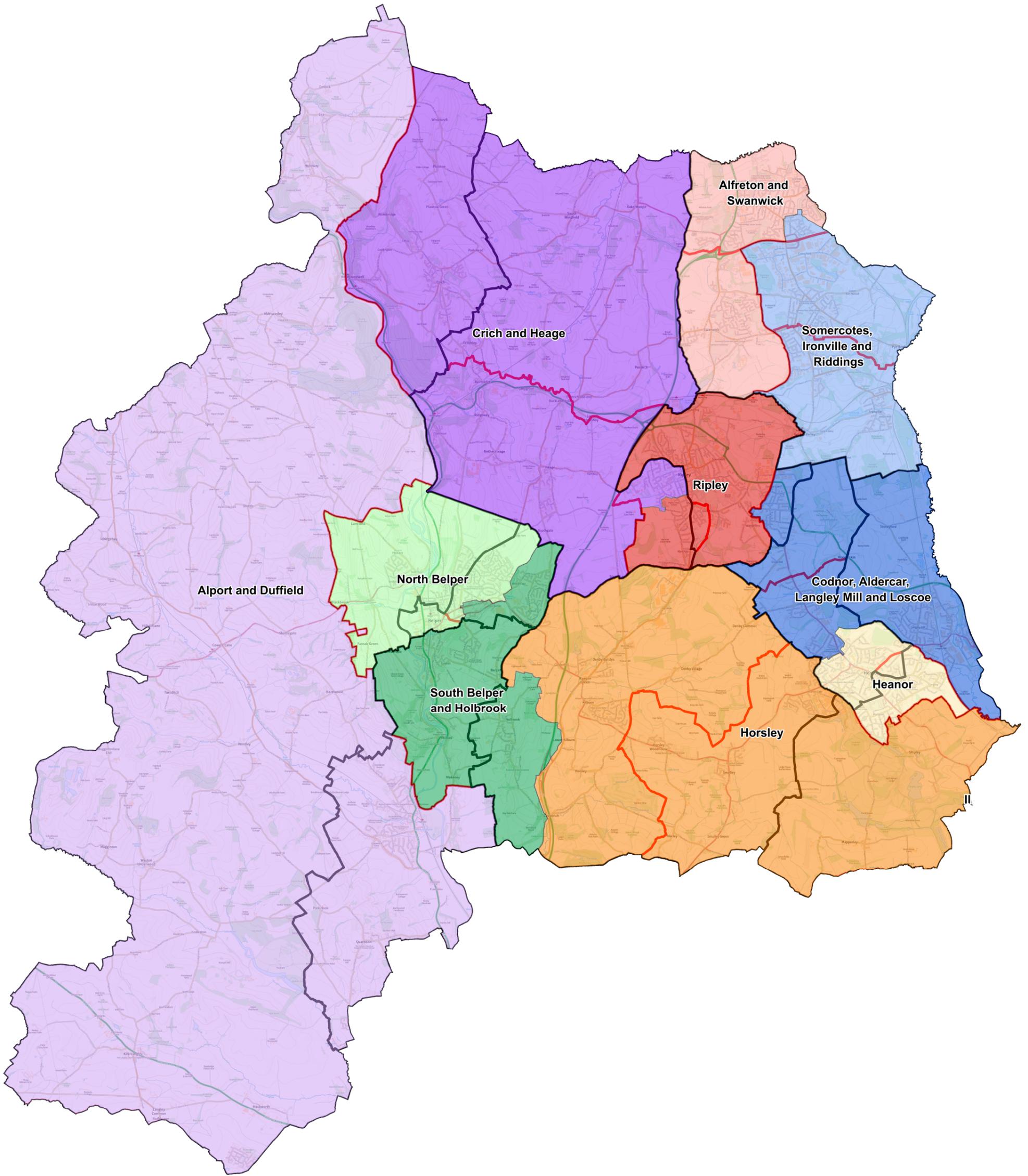
A division based on the urban conurbation of Heanor would have greater community identity and interests and be more conducive the convenient and efficient local government.

Belper, Duffield and the Western Parishes

The council's proposal continues to split the town of Belper between three electoral division. It also splits two of the towns three wards. By reducing the amount of Belper North included in the Alport & Derwent Division the proposal also requires a reawarding of the Belper North Town Council Ward. By excluding Crich Parish from its Alport & Derwent Division it also splits the newly created Crich and South Wingfield Ward. These divisions fail to maximise community identity and interests and the splitting of so many wards is not conducive to convenient and efficient local government.

Summary of the Amber Valley Divisions

Division name	Forecast Population	Variance from County Average by 2029
Alfreton and Swanwick	10,947	3%
Alport and Duffield	11,462	8%
Codnor, Aldercar, Langley Mill and Loscoe	11,046	4%
Crich and Heage	11,352	7%
Heanor	11,220	6%
Horsley	11,158	5%
North Belper	10,168	-4%
Ripley	11,379	7%
Somercotes, Ironville and Riddings	10,989	3%
South Belper & Holbrook	10,272	-8%



Bolsover

The Bolsover District is currently represented by 6 single member division. The district is seeing significant population growth, particularly around Clowne, Whitwell, Cresswell, Bolsover and Shirebrook. However, that development is insufficient for the district to warrant an extra councillor and this submission proposed that Bolsover District retains 6 elected members elected in single member divisions.

The geography of the district follows the western and then the eastern side of the M1 as it travels northwards from junction 28 to junction 30 a fact which, together with the distribution of the population in the district, limits options when drafting boundaries using the statutory criteria. Those factors also mean that there has previously been a need to divide the wards in the central area of the district in order to draft divisions with a good degree of electoral equality. Whilst the preference is to have coterminous boundaries, those same drafting challenges exist with this review. Consequently, these proposals follow the existing and long-established patterns of dividing wards so to as to avoid unnecessary change.

The district is rural in nature but has a rich history based on its mining past and is dominated by former pit villages. Other than mining and its rurality there are limited shared community interests between the north of the district and the south. Its long border with Nottinghamshire means that some communities look eastwards for their services rather than to other communities within the district. The market towns of Clowne, Bolsover, Shirebrook and South Normanton are generally separated by sparsely populated rural areas which often look in different directions for the local services making the drawing of division boundaries with strong community interests challenging.

All 6 divisions have good electoral equality by 2029 and it is proposed to retain the boundaries created by the Commission in its 2012 review. However, there is an option to redraft the boundary between Bolsover North and Bolsover South in the centre of the town depending upon which of the statutory criteria The Commission believes carries most weight in that area.

The district was the subject of a warding review by the Commission in 2017 and these proposals take note of those boundaries so as to achieve the highest level of coterminosity.

1) **Barlborough and Clowne Division **Electorate 10,234****

This division is comprised of the Barlborough Ward, the Clowne East Ward and the Clowne West Ward and so it has strong coterminous boundaries.

It includes the whole of both Barlborough Parish and Clowne Parish. The division also includes a ward of Old Bolsover Town Council which The Commission incorporated into the Clowne West Ward during the 2017 ward boundary review giving the division its coterminous boundaries.

The community links between Barlborough and Clowne, including shared shopping and leisure facilities plus their proximity to the M1, are well established and this proposal retains that shared community identity and maintains the current parish and town council warding arrangements.

The division has good electoral equality and strong boundaries with good internal road links centred on the A619, A616, B6417 and B6418 and all communities in the division have a regular bus service to Clowne.

The proposal is to make no changes to the boundaries of this division.

2) Bolsover North Electorate 11,640

This division is comprised of the Elmtown with Cresswell Ward, Whitwell Ward and polling districts BNS1 and BNS2 of the Bolsover North and Shuttlewood Ward.

As such the division remains unchanged from 2012 so preserving the existing community identity and interests.

The villages of Whitwell, Hodthorpe, Elmtown and Cresswell are located in the north east corner of the district and have a strong, shared, community identity and interests. They are former pit villages separated by a quarry which is a major local employer. Their proximity to the Nottinghamshire boundary means that they often look to nearby Worksop for shopping and any service that is not available in their own communities.

Polling districts BNS1 and BNS2 were linked to Whitwell and Elmtown with Cresswell as part of the 2012 review. Links between the east and western end of the division are limited, a fact recognised by The Commission when it proposed this division based on these boundaries. However, were the division to be abolished or amended and new boundaries drafted similar problems of shared community identity and interest would arise due to the geography and population distribution of the district.

This review gives The Commission the opportunity to review the status of polling district BNS3. BNS3 is a small ward of less than 100 voters and is part of Old Bolsover Town Council. It is within the boundaries of Bolsover & Shuttlewood Ward but is included in the current Bolsover South Electoral Division. Good electoral equality suggests that the polling district should remain in Bolsover South Division and these proposals make that assumption. However, The Commission is invited to consider whether the community identity and interests and the effective and convenient local government of this area of Bolsover town may best be served by BSN3 being included in the Bolsover North Division.

3) Bolsover South Electorate 11,686

This division is comprised of the whole of the Bolsover South and Bolsover East Wards, polling district BNS3 of the Bolsover North & Shuttlewood Ward, polling districts LNG1 (Langwith (Bathurst Ward)), LNG2 (Langwith (Poulter Ward)) and LNG3 Langwith (Bassett Ward)) of the Langwith Ward, and polling districts AHK1 (Scarcliffe South Parish Ward) and AHK2 (Scarcliffe South Parish Ward) of the Ault Hucknall Ward.

Polling districts LNG1, LNG2 and LNG3 of Langwith Ward are all within the boundaries of Langwith Parish Council. Polling district LNG4, however, is part of Shirebrook Town Council and in the Shirebrook and Pleasley Division and these proposals leave that position unchanged. Communities within all of these polling districts tend to look to Shirebrook and Mansfield for services unavailable in their own village.

The Scarcliffe Parish Council area is already split between two wards. Polling district BOS2 is part of the Bolsover South Ward and polling districts AHK1 and AHK2 are included in the Ault Hucknall Ward. Whilst including these two polling districts in the Bolsover South Division splits the Ault Hucknall Ward it continues to unite the whole of the Scarcliffe Parish Council area within one electoral division. The communities in these two wards are within the catchment area of Bolsover Secondary School and will look to Bolsover for services that are not available in their own village.

The division straddles the centre of the district and runs the entire width from east to west. It has good internal road links centred on the A632 and the B6417 and there are bus services linking Bolsover to the villages with the division.

The division was first created in its current form in the 2012 and its is proposed that it remain unchanged.

4) Shirebrook and Pleasley Division Electorate 10,782

This division is comprised of the Shirebrook North and Shirebrook South wards, polling district LNG4 of the Langwith Ward and polling districts AHK3 and AHK4 of the Ault Hucknall Ward.

Polling districts AHK3 and AHK4 form the Pleasley Parish Council area. The inclusion of polling district LNG4 ensures that the whole of the Shirebrook Town Council area is within the division resulting in the divisions boundaries being coterminous with the boundaries of those two parish and town councils.

The Langwith area tends to look towards Shirebrook for services that are not available within the parish whilst Pleasley is as likely to look towards Mansfield as it is to Shirebrook. Shirebrook is, however, a major area of

employment for residents of all of the communities within the division. All of the communities within this division are within the catchment area of The Shirebrook Academy School.

The division has good road links along the A617 and B6407 and by having boundaries which are coterminous with two parish councils the division is conducive to effective and convenient local government. The division retains good electoral equality.

No changes are proposed to the boundaries of this division.

5) Tibshelf Division **Electorate 11,429**

This division is comprised of the whole of the Blackwell and Tibshelf wards, polling districts AHK5 (Glapwell), AHK6 (Bramley Vale & Doe Lea) and AHK7 (Ault Hucknall) of the Ault Hucknall Ward and polling district SNE1 of the South Normanton East Ward.

No changes are proposed to this division. Whilst the boundaries of the district restrict the internal road links within the division it is possible to travel its entire length without leaving the division

The Ault Hucknall Ward polling districts, particularly AHK5 and AHK6, share little community identity with the Tibshelf, Blackwell and South Normanton areas. However, in order to achieve a degree of electoral equality they are required to be part of this division and it is accepted that including these communities is the most appropriate way to divide that ward.

The division retains good electoral equality and with strong boundaries and internal road links it is conducive to effective and convenient local government.

6) South Normanton and Pinxton Division **Electorate 10,969**

This division is comprised of the Pinxton Ward, the South Normanton West Ward and polling district SNE2 of South Normanton East Ward. It includes the whole of Pinxton Parish Council but South Normanton Parish Council is split between this and Tibshelf Division.

The division remains unchanged as a result of this proposal.

Whilst it would have been preferable to have the whole of the South Normanton Parish Council area within the one division the requirement of

achieving electoral equality and the geography of the area prevents that from being possible. The existing boundaries between this division and the Tibshelf Division along Ball Lane, Water Lane, Main Street, Church Street and Fordbridge Lane remain clear and provide for convenient and efficient local government.

The division has good internal road links and regular bus services. The whole of the division is within the catchment area of Frederick Gent School.

It retains good electoral equality and with strong boundaries it is conducive to effective and convenient local government.

Commentary on the County Council proposal

There is a degree of agreement between these proposed boundaries and those of the county council. Both make no changes to the boundaries of either the Tibshelf Division or the South Normanton & Pinxton Division. The council's proposal to change the name of the Tibshelf Division to the Hardwick Division has some logic and, hopefully, would be part on The Commissions consultation on its draft proposals.

The county council proposes to change the boundary between the Shirebrook & Pleasley Division and the Bolsover South Division by transferring approximately 375 electors (by 2029) from polling district LNG3 into the Shirebrook & Pleasley Division. Polling district LNG3 is also a ward within the Langwith Parish Council area electing 4 councillors and so this proposal would involve a re-warding of that ward creating one ward with approximately 375 electors and another of 554 electors. This would be confusing to local residents, may not be conducive to convenient and efficient local government, and is not needed to achieve good electoral equality.

The county council's proposed Barlborough & Clowne Division includes Whitwell Common and the Bakestone Moor area of Whitwell village, in total approximately 932 electors by 2029. Currently, both of those areas are in the Bolsover North Division. Both are also part of the Whitwell Parish Council area and the parish is currently unwarded. The proposal requires what some might see as an arbitrary boundary line to be drawn through Whitwell to create a new parish council ward if it is to be included in another division. Splitting the parish in this way may cause confusion to the local community.

The proposal also fails to recognise the identity and interests of the communities being transferred. They see themselves as living in Whitwell and look to that village for many of their local services.

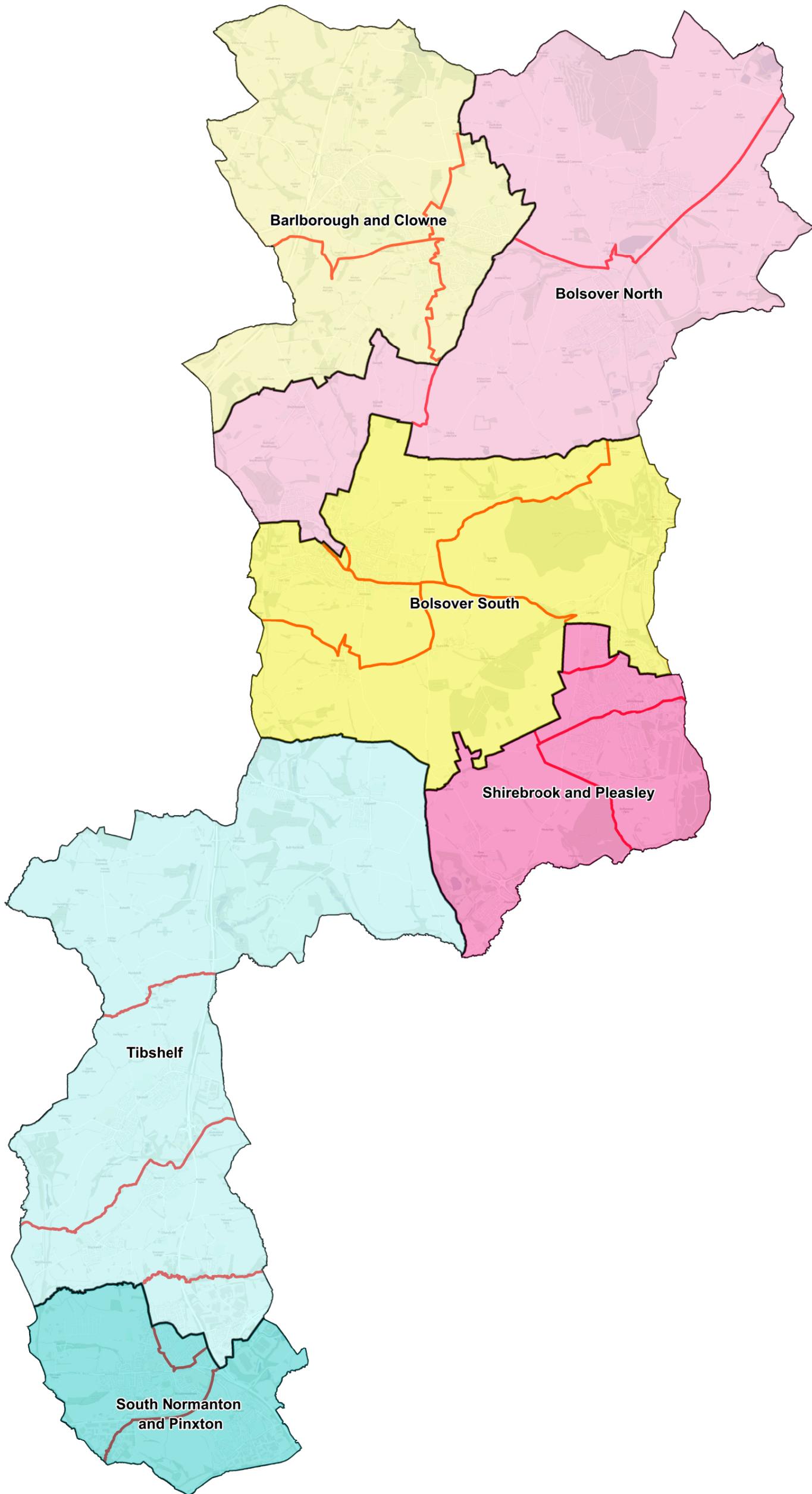
Were this proposal to be adopted vehicular access between Whitwell and nearby Cresswell would only be possible by a circuitous route along Craggs Road rather than the more direct route along Peter More Hill.

The proposal, therefore, is detrimental to effective and convenient local government, takes little account of local community interest and identity, and is not needed to achieve electoral equality.

Summary of the Bolsover Divisions

Division Name	Electorate	Variance from County Average by 2029
Barlborough and Clowne	10,234	-4%
Bolsover North	11,640	10%
Bolsover South	11,686	10%
Shirebrook and Pleasley	10,782	2%
Tibshelf	11,429	8%
South Normanton and Pinxton	10,969	3%

Bolsover Proposed Divisions



Chesterfield

The Chesterfield Borough Council area is currently represented by 9 members. Whilst the Borough has seen some population growth, especially in Staveley, Dunston, Loundsley Green and at the Waterside development, this has not been on the scale of other areas.

The projected electorate for the Borough by 2029 entitles the area to only 8 councillors. All of the current divisions are single member.

That need to remove a division from the Borough Council area will involve substantial changes to some divisional arrangements. In addition, the Borough Council wards were subject to a review in 2022 which resulted in substantial changes being made to some Borough ward boundaries. Many of those ward boundaries are no longer coterminous with county division boundaries. This review provides an opportunity to realign division boundaries so that there is greater coterminosity.

Unlike much of the county, Chesterfield is largely unparished. The two parished areas in the Borough, Staveley and Brimington, are in the east of the Borough and this review is also an opportunity to draft division boundaries that align with those town and parish council boundaries.

1) Staveley Division Electorate 10,411

This division is comprised of the Staveley Central Ward and Staveley South Ward giving it strong coterminous boundaries.

This proposal involves transferring the Hollingwood community from the current Brimington Division into this division. Hollingwood is a ward on Staveley Town Council and the community links of the area were given careful consideration by The Commission in its 2022 review of ward boundaries. Having reviewed the evidence The Commission concluded that Hollingwood's community interests and identity were such that it reversed its draft proposal and included it in the Staveley South Ward. This proposal respects that decision.

Along with the Hollingwood area the division brings together the communities south of the A619 and the A6192 along with Staveley town centre. This gives the division a shared interest linking the largest part of Staveley's population with the main shopping and leisure facilities in the town.

All of the division is within the boundaries of Staveley Town Council and is warded for elections to that authority. It has good road links with the A619 and A6192 giving access to all parts of the division and the area has a regular bus service. Other than the town centre, the area of this division is within the catchment area of Springwell Community College.

The division has good electoral equality, has boundaries that are coterminous with both Borough and town council wards, and is conducive to effective and convenient local government. It has a strong shared community interest and identity.

2) Staveley North and Whittington Division **Electorate 10,902**

This division is comprised of the Staveley North Ward and the Whittington Ward and so has strong coterminous boundaries.

The eastern half of the division contains the remaining wards of Staveley Town Council. It is more rural than the Staveley Division and contains the communities of Barrow Hill, Lowgates, Mastin Moor, Netherthorpe and Woodthorpe and between them these communities form 3 wards on Staveley Town Council. Staveley town centre acts as a central hub for shopping and leisure facilities and there are good road and bus links from the town centre to these communities.

The western ward of Whittington tends not to look towards Staveley for its services and has a limited shared community interest and identity with the Staveley North Ward. However, the boundaries of the Borough mean that these two areas have been included in the same division for several decades.

Whittington has its own local shopping areas but tends to look towards Chesterfield town centre for those services not available locally. The whole of Whittington Ward is within the catchment area of Whittington Green School and the B6052 provides good internal road links. The ward is unparished.

The A61 Dronfield by-pass gives the division a strong western boundary and The Commission redrew the boundary with the Brimington area as part of the 2022 warding review.

The division has an internal road link between New Whittington and Barrow Hill along High Street and Whittington Road.

The division has good electoral equality and whilst the community links between the two wards are limited, the geography of the Borough requires their inclusion within the same division. The coterminosity of the ward and, in the case of Staveley North Ward, town council boundaries are conducive to effective and convenient local government.

3) Brimington Division **Electorate 9,686**

This division is comprised of the Brimington North and Brimington South wards and part of Polling District PA2 of the Whittington Moor Ward.

Polling district PA2 would be split by a boundary running from the current ward boundary on the A61 along Pottery Lane West, then in a northerly direction along Sheffield Road before turning west along Stand Road to the junction of the B6150. Properties to the north of that boundary would be included in the Dunston Division. Properties to the south of the boundary would be included in this Brimington Division.

The two Brimington wards have repeatedly been linked to form the Brimington Division. Brimington is parished and the parish council area is contained within but not coterminous with the boundaries of these two wards. Brimington is a village within the boundaries of the Borough and has a centre based in the Church Street area which has shops, a library, community centre and parish church.

The current Brimington Division includes the Hollingwood area but following the decision of The Commission to include Hollingwood in the Staveley South Ward that community would no longer be included in this division.

The exclusion of Hollingwood results in the Brimington Division not achieving good electoral equality. The boundaries of the two Brimington divisions provide a number of options for achieving electoral equality. The inclusion of polling district OA4 of the Whittington Ward, either in whole or in part, would necessitate splitting the Old Whittington community which has limited community links with Brimington. It would also impact on the electoral equality of both the Staveley North & Whittington Division and the Staveley Division.

The southern boundary of the division is next to polling districts JA2 and JA5 of Spire Division. During its 2022 warding review The Commission gave careful consideration to the evidence presented to it regarding the boundaries of the Spire Ward and was persuaded to move away from its initial proposal and draft boundaries for the ward that included communities that had good links to town centre and so including these two polling districts in the Brimington Division would not respect that community interest. The inclusion of these two polling districts in a Brimington Division may have implications for achieving good electoral equality in the other divisions of the Borough and reduce the possibility of drafting divisions with boundaries coterminous with ward boundaries that also respect community interests and identities.

The proposal, therefore, is that good electoral equality is achieved for the Brimington Division by including the modified version of polling district PA2. This means crossing both the railway line, which is the current boundary, and the A61. Whilst community links between PA2 and Brimington are limited this division does bring within the one division the major roundabout on the A61 at the junction of Lockford Lane and Rother Way. The traffic flows associated with this roundabout, along with those to the two supermarkets in that location

and the football stadium create issues that affect the communities on either side of the A61. This area of polling district PA2 is within the catchment area of Whittington Green School as is DA3 polling district of Brimington South Ward. The A619 gives the division good internal road links and there is a regular bus service between the centre of Brimington and this area of polling district PA2.

The splitting of polling district PA2 along the proposed boundary excludes much of the original high street shopping area along Sheffield Road which would remain linked to the rest of Whittington Moor Ward which it has historically been part of. The area of the boundary along Stand Road is marked for much of its route by Stand Road Recreation Ground helping to give it some clarity, whilst the western boundary for part of its route includes properties on both sides of Peveril Road

The division would have good electoral equality.

4) Dunston Division Electorate 10,073

This division is comprised of Dunston Ward and all of Whittington Moor Ward excluding the amended area of polling district PA2 included in the Brimington Division.

This division is similar to the existing Dunston division but is based on the new ward boundaries adopted by The Commission in its 2022 review. It retains the current interests and identities of the communities in the north west corner of the Borough.

The division includes the Newbold and Dunston area of Chesterfield and keeps the Whittington Moor area, including the old high street shopping area of Sheffield Road to the junction with the Dronfield by-pass, within the one division.

The division is coterminous with two ward boundaries other than for the amended boundary of polling district PA2. It has a strong northern boundary along the A61 and the western boundary is the Borough boundary.

It has good internal road links and achieves good electoral equality.

5) Linacre, Brampton West and Loundsley Green Division Electorate 10,471

This division is comprised of Linacre Ward and Brampton West & Loundsley Green Ward. As such it has strong, coterminous boundaries.

It is comprised of the residential suburbs on the western boundary of the Borough between Newbold Road and Chatsworth Road. Whilst the most eastern and southern areas were developed earlier, much of the housing in this division is set in relatively modern housing estates that were built as the Borough expanded westwards. It continues to be an area for new developments with residents commuting to their place of employment. The B6150 acts as the main north-south road for the western fringe of the Borough's and so gives the division good internal road links.

The northern boundary runs along Newbold Road, the western boundary is also the boundary of the Borough and the southern boundary of Brampton West & Loundsley Green Ward was identified by The Commission as having "clear boundaries" including Somersall Park, the River Hipper to the south and Holme Brook to the east. The communities to the east of the division have a closer link to the town centre.

The division includes the principle access roads into Chesterfield from the west of the Borough.

The division has strong coterminous boundaries and internal road links which are conducive to efficient and convenient local government. It has good electoral equality and a community interest based on its residential nature at the western end of the Borough.

6) Walton, Brampton and Boythorpe Division **Electorate 10,092**

This division is comprised of the Walton Ward, the Brampton East & Boythorpe Ward, polling district IA1 of Rother Ward and an amended polling district IA7 of that ward.

Polling district IA7 would be split so that where its southern boundary meets polling district IA2 it would run northwards along Baden Powell Road and follow the boundary of Chesterfield Fire Station to re-join its original boundary along the River Hipper. The properties on Redvers Buller Road and the Trevorrow Crescent area would be excluded from this area. However, Park Road, Maynard Road and Summerfield Road would be included in this division.

The division has good internal road links with the A632, A619, Whitecotes Lane, Boythorpe Road and Park Road. This road network, along with nearby St. Augustine's Road, also acts as the principle road network into Chesterfield town centre from Matlock. This gives the division a shared interest around the traffic flows using those roads to access Matlock for work and the southern half of the Derbyshire Dales and the Peak District for leisure. For it is the principle routes for vehicles coming in the opposite direction to access the

town centre or to gain access to the A61 and A6175. This area looks to the town centre for most of its services and has a good bus service that both links the division together and to the town centre.

Other than the inclusion of polling districts IA1 and the amended IA7 the division has coterminous boundaries and good electoral equality.

7) Hasland and Rother Division

Electorate 11,398

This division is comprised of the Hasland Ward and the Rother Ward but excludes polling district IA1 and the part of the amended polling district IA7 which are included in the Walton, Brampton and Boythorpe Division.

The division has existed with only minor changes in boundaries for several decades and so existing community interests and identity is preserved. It has good internal road links base on the A61 Derby Road, the A617 Hasland by-pass, B6039 Hasland Road and Storforth Lane.

The division has good electoral equality and with coterminous boundaries and good road links the division's boundaries are conducive to effective and convenient local government.

8) Spire Division

Electorate 10,191

This division is comprised of Brockwell Ward and Spire Ward giving it strong coterminous boundaries.

The division has good internal road links radiating out from the town centre.

Spire Ward was adopted by The Commission as a ward that brought together the communities that had the strongest links to the town centre and Stonegravels was deemed to be the northern limits of those links. The Commission gave careful consideration to the evidence before it when deciding the boundary between Brockwell Ward and Spire Ward because of the uncertainty as to how far into Brockwell that link went. Whilst The Commission adopted a boundary that attempted to resolve that uncertainty, and which was also conducive to electoral equality, the rest of Brockwell Ward still has links to the town centre, albeit of a lesser nature than those communities in Spire Ward, and they have a good road and bus link to the town centre and will use the services available there.

The division has good internal road links with coterminous boundaries which are conducive to effective and convenient local government. It has good electoral equality and a shared interest and identity based on good links to the town centre.

Commentary on the County Council proposal

These proposals and the council's agree that the Chesterfield Borough area should be represented by 8 divisions. The council's proposal, however, fail to give sufficient recognition to the warding arrangement adopted by The Commission in its 2022 warding review resulting in poor coterminosity of boundaries.

Staveley

The council proposals for the Staveley area are not coterminous with the new ward boundaries. In particular, by retaining Hollingwood in the Brimington Division they fail to take account of the assessment made by The Commission that Hollingwood links to Staveley were much stronger. The council's proposals also mean that the Staveley Town Council area is split between 3 divisions rather than 2 which is detrimental to effective and convenient local government.

Because the boundaries in this area are not coterminous the small area of housing around Belmont Drive, Compton Close and Stephenson Road, which are in the Staveley Central Ward, are included in the Staveley North & Whittington Division. This would have rewarding implications for the town council. The council's proposals also require the Woodthorpe Town Council Ward, which is in the Staveley North Ward, to be split from that ward so that it can be included in the Staveley Division.

These consequences of the lack of coterminous boundaries in the council's proposals are not conducive to effective and convenient local government in the Staveley area.

West & Southern Chesterfield

The council's Staveley North & Whittington electoral division only achieves good electoral equality by crossing the A61 Dronfield by-pass to include electors from the west of Chesterfield. The council's proposals splits much of the residential area of Whittington Moor from its main shopping area on Sheffield Road and so does not give sufficient recognition to the local community interest and identity.

This lack of coterminous ward and division boundaries happens across the Borough. The proposed Dunston & Linacre Division includes the School House Way area (polling district EA1) which was transferred into Brockwell division in 2022, but it excludes the Dunston Road area (polling district FA1). The Brockwell & Boythorpe Divisions as well as excluding the School House Way area includes part of the Brampton West & Loundsley Green Ward on Pennine Way and at Welwyn Close.

These proposals and the council's agree that polling district IA7 of Rother Ward is the appropriate point to divide that ward if electoral equality is to be achieved. The two wards of Rother and Hasland are too big to form a single division and so an area of Rother ward has to be split if good electoral equality is to be achieved. However, the Trevorrow Crescent estate has greater community interest with the communities

along the A61 Derby Road that with the Brockwell and Brampton area of the Borough.

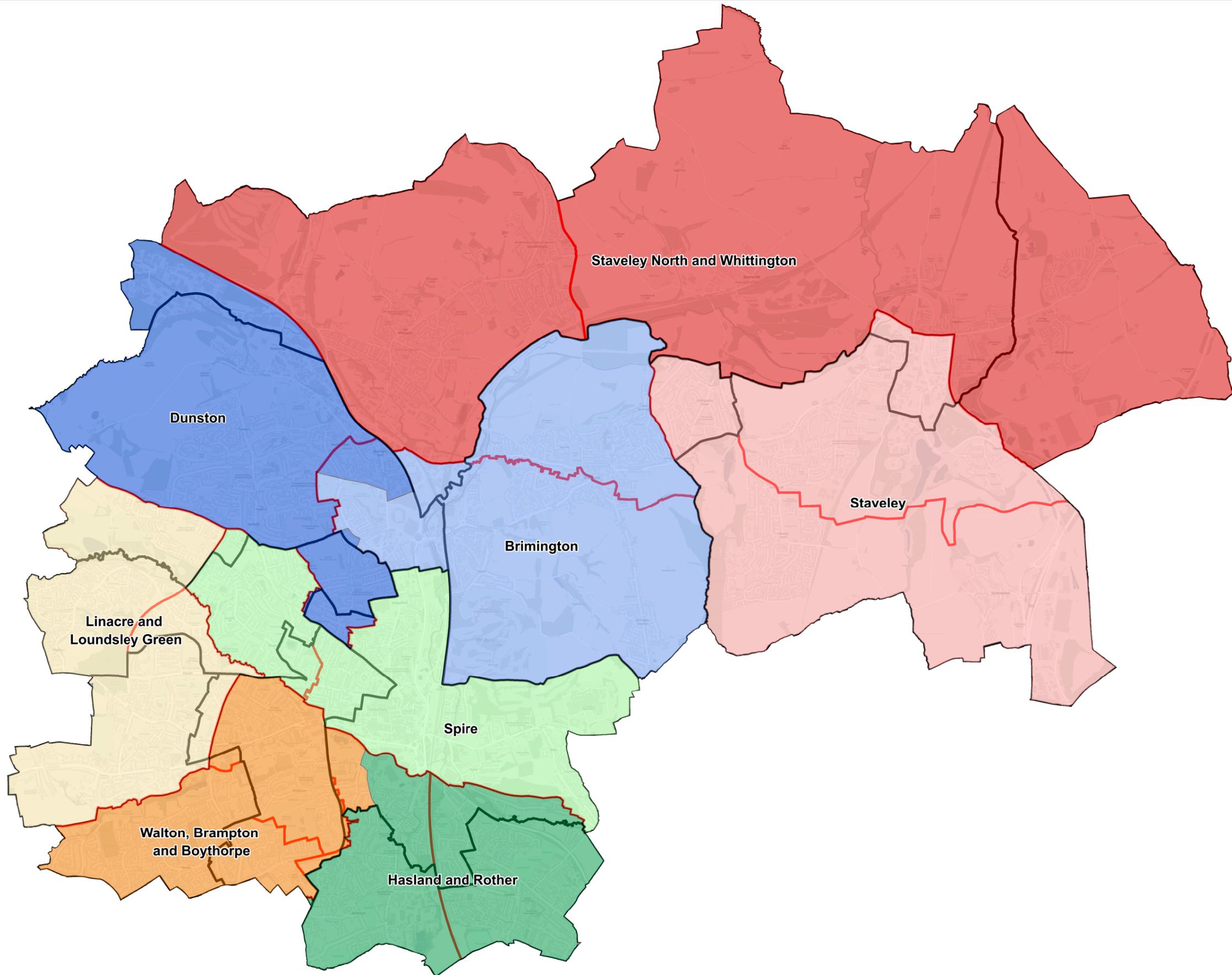
Overall, the council's lack of coterminosity, with relatively small areas of one ward bolted onto to a much larger area of another ward to create divisions of good electoral equality, can be confusing for local residents and is not conducive to convenient and efficient local government.

Town Centre

The Council's Whittington Moor & Spire division links two areas of the town with little community interests. The Commission northern boundary of the Spire Ward identified Stonegravels as the northern boundary for communities with strong links to the town centre.

Summary of the Chesterfield Divisions

Division name	Forecast Population	Variance from County Average by 2029
Brimington	9,686	-9%
Dunston	10,073	-5%
Hasland and Rother	11,398	7%
Linacre and Loundsley Green	10,471	-1%
Spire	10,191	4%
Staveley	10,411	-2%
Staveley North and Whittington	10,902	3%
Walton, Brampton and Boythorpe	10,092	-5%



Derbyshire Dales

The Derbyshire Dales District Council area currently has 6 single member divisions and the projected electorate for 2029 will leave that number unchanged.

The District ward boundaries were reviewed by The Commission in 2022 resulting in a number of boundary changes. Whilst 5 of the 6 current divisions have the electoral equality that the Commission is seeking, none have coterminous boundaries. Whilst this review provides an opportunity to achieve greater conterminosity the rural nature of the District limits this opportunity, particularly along the western fringe of the district which has a large number of small parished areas.

The new Youlgrave Ward along with the Bonsall & Winster Ward present a particular challenge. These wards generally follow an east-west axis as the road network that links communities within the ward navigates the geography of the area. However, if the two wards are included in a division without being split, communities risk being linked with larger urban centres with which they share limited community interest and identity.

These 6 divisions are based on the existing divisions but they do endeavour to have coterminosity with ward boundaries where possible and avoid splitting parish boundaries.

1) Ashbourne South Division Electorate 9,674

This division is comprised of Brailsford Ward, Doveridge & Sudbury Ward, Norbury Ward and Ashbourne South Ward polling district BAH. It excludes polling district BAS.

Ashbourne is by far the largest community in the south of the district but its size and geographical location means that it is not possible for it to be included wholly in one division when using the statutory criteria.

Polling district BAH forms the Hilltop Ward of Ashbourne Town Council and polling district BAS forms that council's St. Oswald Ward. Dividing the ward in this way, therefore, has no consequential implications for the town council boundaries. Indeed, the use of existing town council wards give the division strong boundaries. Polling district BAH is comprised of the housing developments to the south of the town that are accessed via the A52.

Ashbourne is the main shopping and leisure centre for the south of the district. It is surrounded by rural parishes which rely on the town for its facilities. The A52 runs from west to east across the division and the A515 from north to south. Between them they give the division good internal boundaries.

The division has good road links and strong boundaries that are coterminous with existing district and town wards which are conducive to effective and

convenient local government. The division has good electoral equality and a strong, shared, community identity based on the rurality of the division and the link to Ashbourne.

2) Dovedale Division

Electorate 9,848

This division comprises the Ashbourne North Ward, Ashbourne South Ward polling district BAS, Hartington & Taddington Ward, part of Dovedale, Parwich & Brassington Ward, part of Youlgrave Ward and part of Bonsall & Winster Ward

The parishes of the Dovedale, Parwich & Brassington Ward excluded from this division are Brassington Parish (polling district MBS) and Aldwark Parish (polling district MAL).

The parishes of the Bonsall & Winster Ward included in this division are Gratton Parish (polling district WGR) and Elton Parish (polling district WEL)

The parishes of the Youlgreave Ward included in this division are Harthill Parish (polling district YHA), Monyash Parish (polling district YMO), Lathkill & Smerrill Parish (polling district YMS), and Youlgreave Parish (polling district YYO).

Polling district BAS of Ashbourne North Ward includes part of the town centre and the communities to its west along the A515. It unites the town centre with the communities along the length of the A515 and the A517 as they bisect the town in the same division. This gives the divisions a strong, clear southern boundary that has no implications for the town's current warding arrangements.

The rest of the division has good internal road links along the A515 as it travels north to the district boundary with High Peak Borough. The road brings together the parishes along the whole of the district's western boundary north of Ashbourne. The area is rural in nature and, outside of Ashbourne town, most of the division is within the boundary of the Peak District National Park. These factors give the division a shared community identity and interest.

The Dovedale, Parwich & Brassington Ward is split to achieve good electoral equality across the district. The areas of the ward included in the division are within the catchment area of Queen Elizabeth Grammar School giving these parishes an additional link to Ashbourne. Brassington Parish, which is excluded from this division, is in the catchment area of Anthony Gell School in Wirksworth. Aldwark Parish is surrounded by Brassington Parish and so must also be excluded from this division.

The B5056 runs north-south through both the Youlgrave Ward and the Bonsall & Winster Ward. This road is closely aligned to parish boundaries in this area and it has been used to split those wards thereby proving a ground feature to

help give the division a stronger boundary in what is otherwise very much a rural area. The parishes to the west of the B5056, and which have a closer proximity to the A515, are included in this Dovedale Division. The parishes to the east of the B5056 are included in other divisions which include urban areas with which they have a closer proximity and share a greater community interest than they do with Ashbourne. With the exception of Winster Parish which would now be excluded from the Dovedale Division this split of parishes retains the current boundary of the division in this area.

Unlike the current Dovedale Division these boundaries exclude Tideswell Ward (polling district XTI and XWH). As part of the 2022 The Commission adopted new ward boundaries for the Tideswell Ward. These proposals respect that decision and avoid splitting that ward. Instead, Tideswell Ward forms part of the Bakewell Division where it shares a greater community interest and identity with the other communities in the north of the district. As a consequence, the division is substantially smaller in size.

The division has good electoral equality and despite not being coterminous with ward boundaries, it is coterminous with parish boundaries and, where possible, uses ground features to mark the boundary. This helps make the division conducive to effective and convenient local government. It has good road links and endeavours to bring together within its boundaries those communities that have the greatest links to Ashbourne, whether that be for shopping, leisure, education, employment, or other services, or communities which rely on the A515 as a main road link.

3) Wirksworth Division **Electorate 9,993**

This division is comprised of the Wirksworth Ward, Cromford & Matlock Bath Ward, Hulland Ward, polling districts RBO (Bonsall Parish), MIB (Ible Parish) and MIG (Ivanbrook Grange Parish) from Bonsall and Winster Ward and polling districts MBS (Brassington Parish) and MAL (Aldwark Parish) from the Dovedale, Parwich and Brassington Ward.

During its 2022 review of ward boundaries The Commission gave careful consideration to the arrangements for Bonsall Parish which it sought to include in the same ward as Cromford and Matlock Bath. The parishes of Matlock Bath, Cromford and Bonsall have a similar character and these shared characteristics presented The Commission with what it described as a serious challenge. However, the need for electoral equality was so great that The Commission felt they had to be split during that warding review. This splitting of the Bonsall & Winster Ward to link Bonsall with Cromford and Matlock Bath in the Wirksworth Division accommodates those shared community interests that The Commission found so persuasive. These three wards are also in the catchment area of the Anthony Gell School in Wirksworth.

Cromford and Matlock Bath are two of their major tourist areas in the district. Their proximity to each other and their joint link to the A6, and Cromford's link to Wirksworth via the B5036, give these areas a shared identity and interest.

Brassington parish is part of the current Wirksworth Division and would remain so in order to achieve electoral equality. Brassington village itself, like Bonsall village, is outside of the boundary of the Peak District National Park and means that all of the main population centres in the division are outside of the Peak Park boundaries giving them a common interest. It too is in the catchment area of Anthony Gell School.

The former Hulland Ward is part of the current Wirksworth Division. The ward boundaries were changed by The Commission in the 2022 review to include Hognaston Parish in Hulland Ward and so this proposal leaves that relationship unchanged and Hognaston continues to remain in the Wirksworth Division. It gives the division a strong, coterminous boundary to the south whilst the district boundary is to the east.

Wirksworth as a main urban centre for these rural communities to its south and west which look to it for some of their services. This west and southern area is rural in nature but, like the vast majority of the division, is outside of the boundaries of the Peak District National Park giving it a shared community interest.

This division brings together the major tourist areas of Matlock Bath, Cromford, Hopton, Middleton, Wirksworth and Carsington Water within the one division. This industry is a major source of employment for the division and impacts on traffic flows giving the area a shared interest and identity.

The division has good internal road links along the A6, A5012, B5035 and B5036 and being coterminous with ward boundaries or parish boundaries (in the case of the Bonsall area), the division is conducive the effective and efficient local government.

The division has good electoral equality and a shared community interest and identity.

4) Matlock Division **Electorate 10,218**

This division is comprised of Matlock East & Tansley Ward and Matlock West Ward. It is based on the new ward boundaries and the division and ward boundaries are coterminous.

Matlock is the main urban centre in this part of the district acting as a centre for shopping, leisure, and other services. It is also a major area of employment not just for the division but to the wider county. It is the site of County Hall and acts as a gateway to much of the Peak District.

The division has good electoral equality. It includes the whole area of both Matlock Town Council and Tansley Parish Council. Following the warding review of 2022 the division also includes the Snitterton and Oaker area of South Darley Parish. That area was added to the Matlock West Ward by the Commission with local support, including that of South Darley Parish Council, because it included the new housing development at the Cawdor Quarry and Permanite sites which straddled the parish boundary. It was accepted that these developments formed an urban development that looked towards Matlock for their services.

The division has good internal road links with the A6, A615 and A632 which, together with its coterminous boundaries, are conducive to efficient and effective local government. The area has a strong, shared, community interest and identity based on being.

5) Derwent Valley Division Electorate 9,985

This division is comprised of Darley Dale Ward, Chatsworth Ward, Bonsall & Winster Ward polling districts WWI (Winster Parish), WSD (South Darley Parish) and WSW (South Darley Parish), Youlgreave Ward polling districts VBI (Birchover Parish), VSL (Stanton Parish), VSP (Stanton Parish) and VSW (Stanton Parish), Calver & Longstone Ward polling districts FCA (Calver Parish), FCU (Curbar Parish) and FFR (Froggatt Parish) and Hathersage Ward polling district FSM (Stoney Middleton).

The division is largely unchanged from the current division's boundaries except for the inclusion of Winster Parish. As such it maintains the existing interests and identity of the division

Polling districts WSD and WSW of South Darley Parish are already included in the current Derwent Valley ward because of their community links with Darley Dale. Winster Parish is in this division rather than the Dovedale. Winster is east of the B5056 which provides a ground found feature that helps identity the divisions boundary and because its links to Darley Dale are stronger than its community links to Ashbourne. There is a direct road link to Darley Dale along the B5057. Bus service 172 gives it a direct bus service whereas there is no similar service to Ashbourne.

The parishes of Birchover (polling district VBI) and Stanton (polling districts VSL and VSW) from the Youlgreave Ward are currently in the Derwent Valley Division. They have a bus service to Darley Dale and are reliant on the A6 as the major road in the area. They share the same rural interest and identity as the other small villages in the south of the division.

Polling districts FCA (Calver Parish), FCU (Curbar Parish) and FFR (Froggatt Parish) from the Calver and Longstone Ward continue to be included in this division to ensure electoral equality across the district.

Stoney Middleton Parish (polling district FSM) from the Hathersage Ward also remains in this division. This requires dividing that ward and Stoney Middleton has limited shared community identity and interest with the south of the division. The parish has greater shared interests with the neighbouring communities in the north of the district. Whilst electoral equality in this and in the Bakewell division would be reduced if Stoney Middleton were to be included in the Bakewell Division, it would still be within the limits The Commission is normally willing to adopt. This may be an issue The Commission wishes to consult upon during the next stage of the review.

The division has good internal road links based on the A6, B6012 and A623 and good coterminosity of ward or parish boundaries. It achieves good electoral equality by 2029.

6) Bakewell Division

Electorate 11,190

This division is comprised of Bakewell Ward, Bradwell Ward, Tideswell Ward, Hathersage Ward except for the Parish of Stoney Middleton (polling district FSM) and Calver & Longstone Ward except for the parishes of Calver (polling district FCA), Curbar (polling district FCU) and Froggatt (polling district FFR).

The division is similar to the existing Bakewell Division but includes the whole of the new Tideswell Ward which is currently split between this division and Dovedale Division.

It continues to bring together the communities in the north of the district with road links along the A623, A625, A619 and A6 and shares a strong interest and identity based on its rurality and the tourist industry which is a major source of employment and influences the traffic flows in the division. The division is within the boundaries of the Peak District National Park.

This division includes all of the Tideswell Ward which is currently in the Dovedale Division. Sited next to the A623, Tideswell has more in common with the other rural communities in the north of the district and with Bakewell, with which it has good road links, a regular bus service and is within the catchment area of the Bakewell Lady Manners Secondary School, than it does with Ashbourne and the communities that line the A515.

Whilst the proposal divides the Calver and Longstone Ward and the Hathersage Ward, this is necessary to achieve electoral equality. So as not to upset existing community link the split in ward boundaries follows the existing

divisional boundaries and uses whole parishes and so continues to have clear boundaries.

The division achieves good electoral equity and is conducive to effective and convenient local government.

Commentary on the County Council's proposal

The rural nature of the Derbyshire Dales means that it is necessary to split wards if the statutory criteria are to be met. However, the county council's proposals split 9 out of the 21 wards in the district. The proposal takes limited notice of the new ward boundaries that came into force this May. This lack of coterminosity is detrimental to convenient and efficient local government. It also fails to take account of the evidence of community identity and interests gathered by the Commission in its 2022 review and joins communities in ways that the Commission expressly rejected in that review.

Ashbourne

The council's proposal, like this proposal, recognises that the location and size of Ashbourne is such that it is not possible to include the town in one division. The two submissions also agree to split Ashbourne South Ward by including the St. Oswald Town Council Ward in the Dovedale Division.

However, the council proposal to split the Ashbourne North Ward three ways with the parish of Bradley included in the Ashbourne Division, the parish of Atlow included in the Wirksworth Division and the rest of the ward included in the Dovedale Division.

The two submissions agree that it is necessary to split both the Dovedale, Parwich and Brassington Ward and the Bonsall and Winster Ward. However, they do not agree on the precise nature of that split.

Wirksworth and Matlock

The council's submission fails to take account of the strong shared links and identity between Bonsall, Matlock Bath and Cromford that proved so challenging for The Commission in its 2022 warding review.

As well as the issues relating to Matlock Bath, the council's Matlock Division fails to take note of the evidence provided to The Commission regarding the Cawdor Quarry and Permanite development sites. Splitting the Matlock West Ward is not conducive to the effective and convenient local government and ignores the local views expressed to The Commission regarding shared interests and identities.

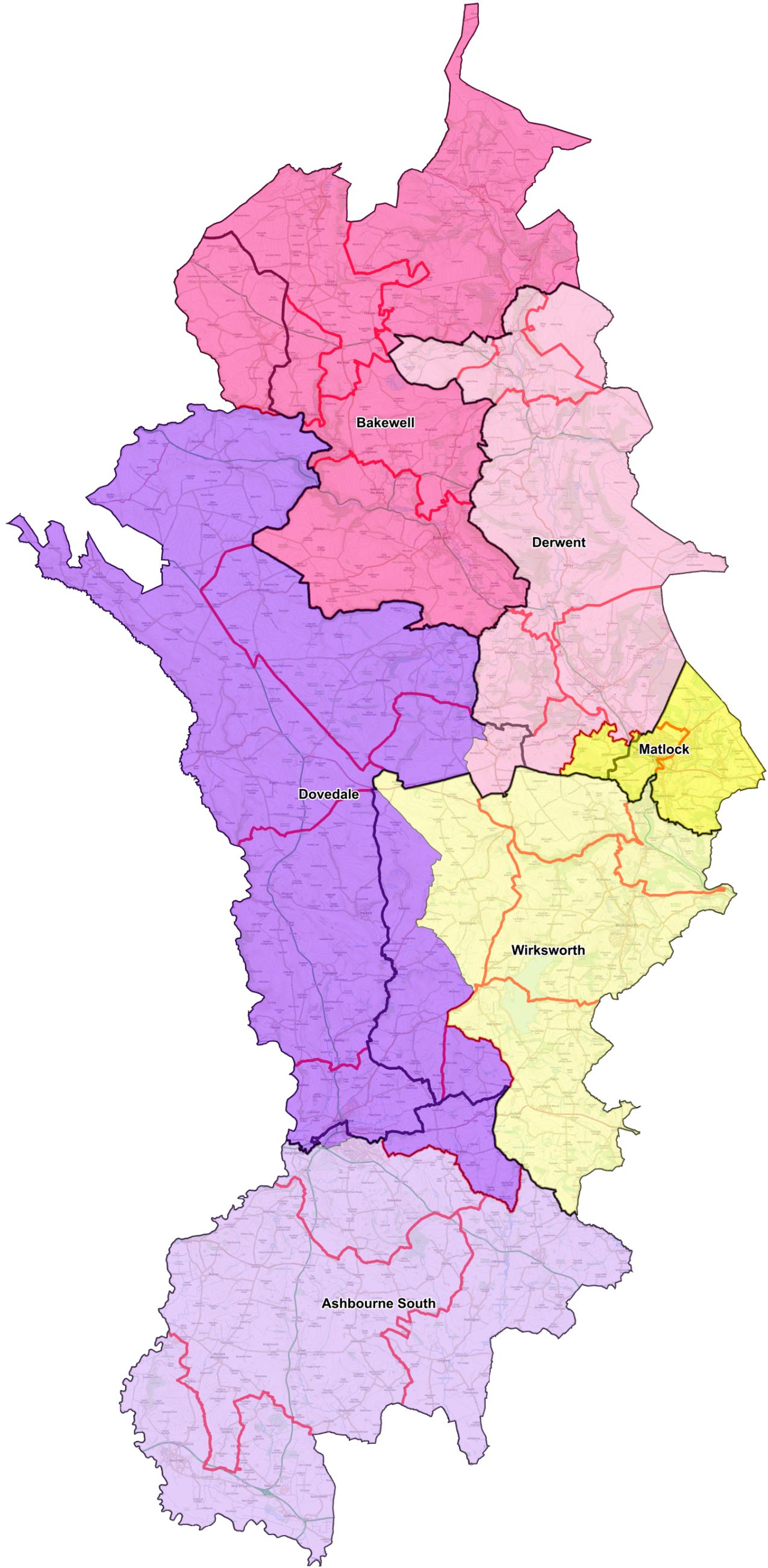
Bakewell and Derwent

The two submissions agree to retain the general outline of these two divisions including the splitting of the Calver & Longstone Ward with the inclusion of Calver, Curbar and Froggatt parishes in the Derwent Division.

The council's proposal to split the new boundaries of the Tideswell Ward is not conducive to convenient and efficient local government. It also pays insufficient attention to the interests and identity of the area and is not needed to achieve good electoral equality.

The council's submission includes Stoney Middleton in the Bakewell Division recognising the local community identity and interest that we referred to earlier.

Division Name	Electorate by 2029	Variance from County Average
Ashbourne South	9,674	-9%
Bakewell	11,190	5%
Derwent	9,985	-6%
Dovedale	9,848	-7%
Matlock	10,218	-4%
Wirksworth	9,993	-6%



Erewash

The Erewash Borough Council area currently has 9 single member divisions and this submission leaves that number unchanged. The projected electorate for 2029 means that each of the current 9 divisions will have electorates within the range that the Commission is seeking. However, the Borough Council was subject to a warding review in 2015 which made changes to a number of ward boundaries. This has resulted in a lack of coterminosity of ward and division boundaries and so this review provides an opportunity to rectify that issue and create boundaries that are more conducive to efficient and convenient local government.

The proposal retains the existing divisional configuration, 3 divisions in Ilkeston, 3 in the Long Eaton area and 3 in the central area between the Nottinghamshire boundary and the western boundary of the Borough.

Ilkeston area

The town of Ilkeston is unparished and the current division boundaries divide the town along a north-south axis to create an east and a west division as well as a south division. However, changes to the ward boundaries introduced in the 2015 warding review mean that none of these 3 divisions have boundaries that are coterminous with ward boundaries. To achieve greater coterminosity the boundaries favour an east west axis to divide the town in a way that creates a north, a central, and a south division. Only the Awsworth Road Ward and the Kirk Hallam and Stanton-by-Dale Ward are split by these proposals.

1) Ilkeston North Division

Electorate 11,169

This division is comprised of Cotmanhay Ward, Shipley View Ward and Awsworth Road Ward excluding polling district AW3 which would be excluded to ensure electoral equality.

Polling district AW3, unlike the rest of Awsworth Road Ward is to the west of the A6007. It is a distinct estate with access from the A6007 via Bowes Well Road and Grey Meadow Road. As such it is separate from the rest of the Awsworth Road Ward with no other vehicular access route other than those off the A6007. Whilst it shares many interests with the neighbouring areas, its clear boundaries make it conducive to being excluded from this division.

The division includes all of the communities in the north of the town and to the west, north, and east it is bounded by the Borough boundary. The A6007 Heanor Road gives the division good internal road links and acts as a shared interest for those living close to one of the principle roads in the town. The division also has an east-west road access to the A6096 allowing vehicles to avoid the town centre to travel eastwards towards Nottingham. All of the communities in the division have a good bus service to the town centre. It is

an urban, residential area, in the north of the town that accesses Ilkeston town centre for many of its services, giving it a shared identity and interests.

The division has clear, strong, and largely coterminous boundaries and has good electoral equality.

2) Ilkeston Central Division

Electorate 10,958

This division is comprised of the Larklands Ward, Little Hallam Ward and the polling district of AW3 of Awworth Road Ward. As such the division is largely coterminous with ward boundaries.

This division includes Ilkeston town centre and with the exception of polling district AW3 is aligned south of the Manners Road - Rutland Street road axis. Its eastern boundary is the county boundary whilst its western boundary is the town boundary. To the south its boundary is coterminous with ward boundaries. The A6007 runs north to south and whilst it acts as a strong boundary in a warding review, the road acts as a good north-south internal road link for division boundaries. The A609 runs east to west giving the division good internal road links. Between them they ensure that the division is conducive to efficient and effective local government.

The division is an urban area that includes the residential communities to the east and west of the town centre and both are connected to the town centre by a regular bus service. Although the A6007 splits the two wards the town centre gives the division a focus and shared interest in the traffic flows and connectivity around the central area of Ilkeston.

The division achieves good electoral equality and has shared interests and identity and has strong coterminous boundaries.

3) Ilkeston South and Kirk Hallam Division

Electorate 9,702

This division is comprised of the Hallam Fields Ward and the Kirk Hallam and Stanton-by- Dale Ward excluding polling district KHS5 (Stanton-by-Dale-Parish).

Stanton-by-Dale Parish was included in the Kirk Hallam and Stanton-by- Dale Ward by the Commission in the last warding review. The parish is currently part of the Sandiacre Division and it is proposed that it remains part of that division. In 2015 The Commission recognised that Kirk Hallam and Stanton-by-Dale were separate communities but felt the need for good electoral equality required that they be linked together in the same ward.

Kirk Hall is a single identifiable community. The ward includes polling districts KHS2 and KHS4 which are part of Dale Abbey Parish despite only being accessed by leaving the rest of the parish area. Kirk Hallam is too small to form a division on its own and so it is proposed to link it with the Hallam Fields Ward. This ward is on the southern boundary of the town and was given a strong northern boundary running along the A609 Nottingham Road, Cavendish Road and the A6096. The southern boundary is the town's boundary.

The A6096 gives good internal road links to Kirk Hallam. It is an urban residential area to the south of the town centre. Although the town centre gives the area a shared interest, Kirk Hallam has its own identity. The traffic flows along the A6096 give the division a shared interest and both wards look to the town centre for many of their services. Access to the town centre is an interest that unites them.

The division has good electoral equality and with its good internal road links and strong boundaries, it is conducive to effective and convenient local government.

Long Eaton area

Long Eaton is a large town located in the south east corner of the Borough. To its east and south are the county boundaries. To the west is the M1 and north the A52 giving the area strong clear boundaries. Although known as Long Eaton the area has identifiable communities including the parished area of Sawley.

The area is comprised of 6 wards and whilst each division is generally comprised of two wards none of the 3 current divisions have coterminous boundaries. This review provides an opportunity to redraw the 3 divisions to create greater coterminosity, produce stronger boundaries and retain divisions with a shared interest and identity.

4) Long Eaton Division

Electorate 9,586

This division is comprised of the Long Eaton Central Ward and the Nottingham Road Ward.

Its northern and eastern boundaries are the county boundaries, to the south the railway line forms the boundary whilst the western boundary is formed by the Erewash Canal. These strong, coterminous, boundaries are conducive to efficient and effective local government.

The division preserves existing community links and includes the town centre. The division is urban in nature and has good internal road links.

Its electorate is on the limit of what The Commission would be willing to adopt and if greater electoral equality was desired polling district WIL5 from the Wilsthorpe Ward could be added to the division. The polling district is shaped like a triangle at the far south west of the division and the B6540 Tamworth Road becomes the boundary.

5) Sawley Division

Electorate 11,409

This division is comprised of the Sawley Ward and Wilsthorpe Wards.

It keeps the whole of Sawley Parish Council within its boundaries. Its southern boundary is the county boundary and to the west it is marked by the M1. The eastern boundary is marked by the Erewash Canal. The northern boundary is formed by the open space of West Park, Wilsthorpe Road and Golden Brook.

These physical features give the division clear boundaries and along with its coterminous boundaries the division is conducive to efficient and convenient local government. It has good internal road links with the B6002 Wilsthorpe Road running the entire length of the division from north to south.

The division has good electoral equality even if polling district WIL5 is included in the Long Eaton Division.

6) Petersham Division

Electorate 9,777

This division is comprised of the Derby Road East Ward and Derby Road West Ward

The M1 continues to be the western boundary and the county boundary and the canal act as the eastern boundary of the division. Its southern boundary is the northern boundary of the Sawley Division. The north eastern boundary is the path and greenspace that separates Sandiacre Parish from Long Eaton.

The north western boundary includes the Springfield Park Ward of Sandiacre Parish Council. This community was added to the Derby Road West Ward by The Commission as part of the last warding review. It is bounded to the west by Bostock's Lane and to the north by a brook and the recreation ground.

The division has clear coterminous boundaries and the B6002 runs the entire length of the division from north to south giving it good internal road links. Both these factors are conducive to efficient and convenient local government. The area of Sandiacre Parish included in the ward gives the division good electoral equality and has no implications for the parish warding arrangements.

Central and western areas

The central area of the Borough runs its entire length from west to east and elects 3 councillors. The population centres of the area are concentrated around the boundary areas leaving a large sparsely populated area in the centre. The submission attempts to make minimal changes to the existing boundaries other than to achieve better electoral equality and coterminosity.

7) Breaston division

Electorate 10,661

This division is comprised of the Breaston Ward, polling districts DR4 of the Draycott & Risley Ward and polling districts OB1 and OB2 of the Ockbrook and Borrowash Ward.

As such the division remains unchanged and maintains good electoral equality. It retains strong boundaries to the east with the M1 and to the south with the Borough boundary. Whilst it involves a number of split wards the geography of the Borough makes this unavoidable. The A6005 runs through the main population centres in the division and provides good internal road links. The traffic flows along that road act as a shared interest for those communities.

8) Breadsall and West Hallam Division

Electorate 10,137

This division is comprised of the Little Eaton & Stanley Ward and the West Hallam & Darley Abbey Ward polling districts WHD1, WHD2, WHD4 and an amended polling district WHD3.

Polling district WHD3 would be amended to draw a boundary around the housing development at Spondon Wood Farm to be marked by the inclusion of wood to the north. The area of the new development would be included in the Sandiacre Division. This would involve a further rewarding of Dale Abbey Division which is not ideal. However, Dale Abbey Parish is already warded and two of those wards form the urban fringe around Kirk Hallam. The Spondon Wood Farm development would be another urban development in the parish but this time on the fringe of Derby City. When completed its electorate would be similar in size to that of the Dale Abbey Kirk Hallam Parish Ward. The Spondon Wood Farm development is different in nature to rest of Dale Abbey Village Parish Ward and taking it out of that parish ward leaves the current rural nature of Dale Abbey Village Parish Ward unchanged.

This exclusion of Spondon Wood Farm would leave this division largely unchanged except around the Kirk Hallam area. It would become a more rural division with the exclusion of Spondon Wood Farm and polling district KHS2, which is in the Kirk Hall & Stanton-by-Dale Ward, giving this division a shared

identity and interests. The division would retain its existing internal road links and have good electoral equality.

Other than the Spondon Wood Farm development the division would have coterminous boundaries and its northern, western and much of its southern boundaries are also the Borough boundaries. The division would continue to be conducive to efficient and effective local government.

9) Sandiacre Division

Electorate 9,649

This division is composed of the Sandiacre Ward, polling district OB3 of the Ockbrook & Borrowash Ward, polling districts KHS5 of the Kirk Hallam & Stanton-by-Dale Ward, polling districts DR1, DR2 and DR3 of the Draycott & Risley Ward and the Spondon Wood Farm area of polling district WHD3 of the West Hallam & Dale Abbey Ward previously described.

The division is substantially the same as the current Sandiacre Division with changes made to achieve greater coterminosity of division and ward boundaries and to ensure electoral equality.

The principle change to the division is the exclusion of polling district DRW1 which was included in the Derby Road West Ward by The Commission in the last warding review. The Spondon Wood Farm area is included to achieve greater electoral equality and, because located on the fringes of Derby City, it has more in common with the Ockbrook area than the rural and more northern villages of the Breadsall and West Hallam Division.

Existing internal road links are maintained as are the current shared identity and interests. The division has good electoral equality.

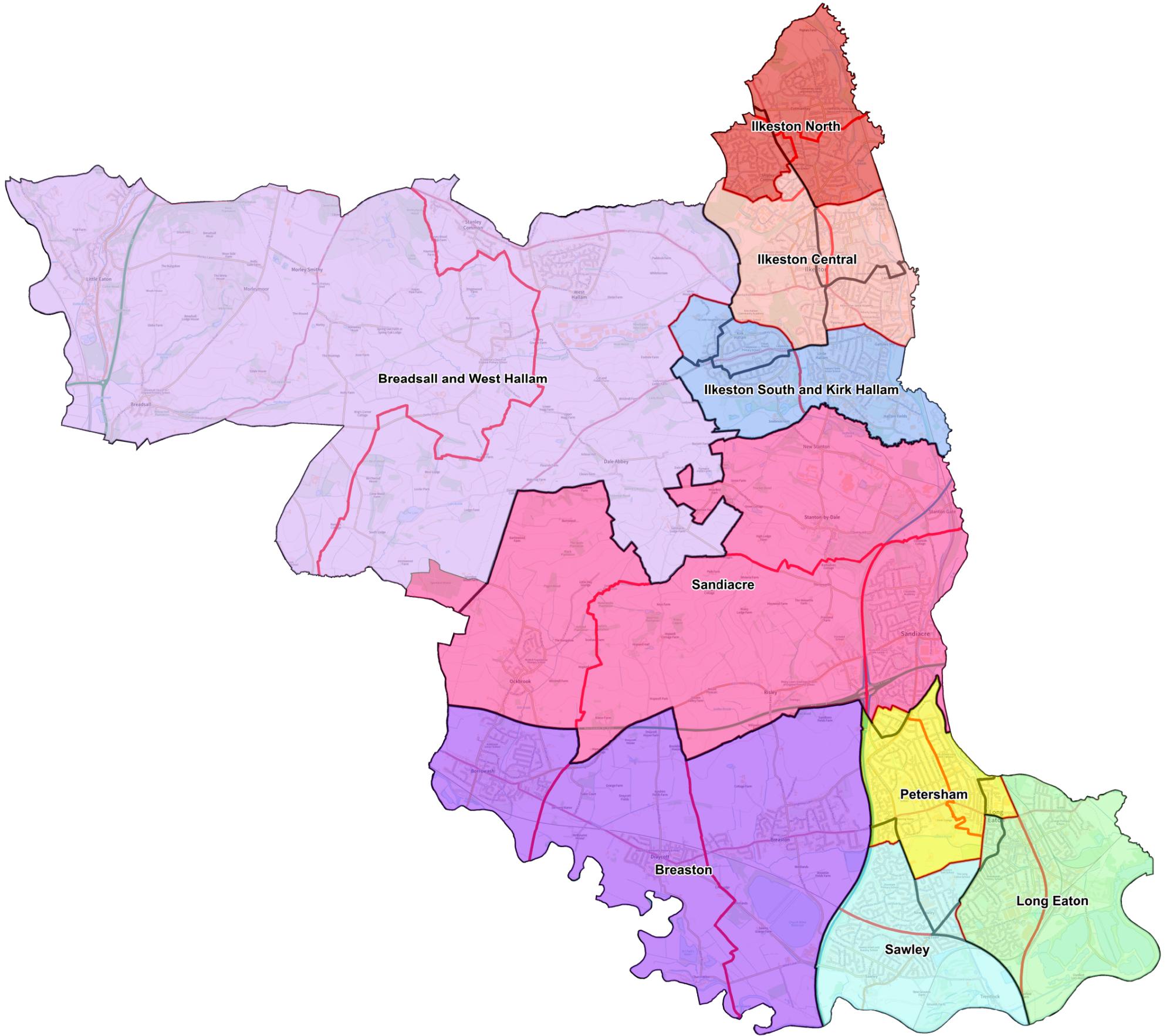
Commentary on the County Council proposals

Overall, the county council's proposals make the minimum of changes to existing divisional boundaries and many of the divisions are not coterminous with ward boundaries as a result. Often this is in relatively small ways meaning that small communities from one ward are bolted onto much large communities in another ward to achieve divisions with electoral equality. As a result, some of the physical features used by The Commission in its warding review to give strong boundaries are ignored and crossed by the county's proposed boundaries.

The Council's proposals split the Kirk Hallam area between two divisions. During its warding review The Commission considered proposals to split that community between wards and expressly rejected the idea because it lacked a clear way to divide the community.

The two submissions do agree on the boundaries of the Breaston Division and the boundaries of the Breadsall and West Hallam Division and the Sandiacre Divisions are very similar. The council's proposal to split the West Hallam & Dale Abbey Ward by transferring the "Hermitage" area of polling district WHD3 to Sandiacre would create a very small parish ward which is not conducive to effective and convenient local government. Both proposals agree on the need to split the Spondon Wood Farm development from polling district WHD3 and include it in the Sandiacre Division.

Division Name	Electorate	Variance from County Average by 2029
Breadsall and West Hallam	10,137	-5%
Breaston	10,661	0%
Ilkeston Central	10,958	3%
Ilkeston North	11,169	5%
Ilkeston South and Kirk Hallam	9,702	-9%
Long Eaton	9,586	-10%
Petersham	9,777	-8%
Sandiacre	9,649	-9%
Sawley	11,409	7%



High Peak

The High Peak Borough Council area is currently represented by 8 councillors elected in 6 single member division and 1 two-member division. It is rural in nature and largely covered by the Peak District National Park. Consequently, much of the Borough's terrain is moorland. The Borough is sparsely populated with the market towns of Glossop and Buxton as the main settlements. Aside from the towns of Glossop and Buxton, the Borough is wholly parished. Whilst on the grounds of electoral equality there may be reasons for reducing the number of divisions to 7, those new boundaries would create divisions with little community identity and which would not be conducive to effective and convenient local government. Consequently, to create divisions that satisfy all three statutory criteria, this submission is based on the Borough area retaining 8 divisions.

The Borough council wards were subject to a review in 2013 which had a consequent impact on the level of coterminosity of boundaries which this submission addresses.

The submission also abolishes the current 2 member Glossop and Charlesworth Division and replaces it with 2 single member divisions.

Buxton

The Buxton area is currently represented by 2 divisions. It is the area of the Borough that is seeing the largest population growth. Whilst both existing divisions are within acceptable levels of electoral variance the degree of coterminosity is poor following changes to some ward boundaries in the 2013 warding review. Simply redrawing the division boundaries to take account of the new boundaries would still leave both divisions with electorates within acceptable limits but such a proposal would involve dividing two wards and has implications for achieving good electoral equality in the remaining divisions across the Borough.

The new ward boundaries do, however, provide an opportunity to retain a North and East division and a West Division which we would rename Buxton South and West. These proposals have greater coterminosity of boundaries and better reflect the urban/rural split of the area.

1) **Buxton North and East Division** **Electorate 9,512**

This division would comprise of the Barms Ward, Stone Bench Ward, Buxton Central Wards, polling district CO3 of Corbar Ward and part of polling district CO1.

Corbar polling district CO1 would be split so as to exclude Otterhole Close and Spring Dale. These streets are accessed off the A53 and would be included in the Buxton South and West Division. This would give the two Buxton divisions better electoral equality and provide a road link between the

A53 and the A5004 so that the Buxton South and West Division would have good internal road links.

The division is a relatively compact urban division that includes all of the central parts of the town including Pavilion Gardens and Spring Gardens. This approach to dividing the town adopts the approach the Commission took in its 2013 review when it split the Buxton into a central and north east area that included the Barms, Stone Bench, and Buxton Central wards and a western and Burbage area comprising the Burbage, Cote Heath, and Temple wards. It gives the division a strong identity and shared interests based around the town centre and the services it houses that are used by the whole community.

The A6 runs from north to south within the division helping to give it good internal road links. The traffic flow issues relating to that busy road are a shared interest for the communities in the division.

Unlike the current configuration of divisions which divide both the Limestone Peak and Burbage wards, including the Hartington Upper Quarter Parish, this proposal divides neither of those wards nor the Hartington Upper Quarter Parish Council area.

It does divide the Corbar Ward although the area is unparished. Polling district CO3 is close to and runs parallel to the A6 and has access onto that road. The A53 gives good road links to the rest of polling district CO3 and to those communities in polling district CO1 which are in this division. It also acts as a strong ground marker of the division's boundary.

The eastern part of the boundary between this division and the Buxton South and West Division would follow the A6 once out of the town which creates a clear, strong boundary.

The division has a high degree of coterminosity and efficient and convenient local government boundaries. Although it has shared identities and interests it would be close to what The Commission considers good electoral equality.

2) Buxton South and West Division **Electorate 9,742**

This division is comprised of Burbage Ward, Cote Heath Ward, Temple Ward, polling district CO2 of Corbar Ward and Otterhole Close and Spring Dale of polling district CO1.

The division includes all of the rural areas to the south and west of Buxton in one division. It unites the housing developments that align the A54, A53 and A515 from the Borough boundary until they enter Buxton town centre.

The division also includes the rural areas of the Borough between Whaley Bridge and Buxton. The A5004 provides the main road link and all the communities immediately either side of that road remain included in the division.

The inclusion of Otterhole Close and Spring Dale in the division means that the A53 and the A5004 are within the division giving it good internal road links. Without that road link there is no internal north-south road other than the single tracked Goyts Lane which runs over the moors. As well as being unsuited to the role of an internal road link for a county division, the lane only allows vehicles to travel north to south.

The inclusion of Cote Heath and Temple wards keep together two wards that have a common interest based on their proximity to the A515. The rapidly growing community of Harpur Hill has a greater community identity with the Temple Ward area than it does with the estates of the Barms and with Stone Bench wards.

The A6 as it leaves the town becomes the eastern boundary between the two Buxton divisions giving it a strong boundary. King Sterndale Parish, which is in the Cote Heath Ward, would be part of this division. The hamlets of King Sterndale and Cowdale cannot be accessed from the Buxton North and East Division and so must be included in this division. The proposal also avoids the need to split Hartington-Upper-Quarter Parish between divisions.

The rural-urban split gives the division a different community interest and identity to the Buxton North and East Division. It is based around the major arterial "A" roads to the south and north-west of Buxton and the communities that align those roads as well as the rural areas in between.

It has strong boundaries and good internal road links that are conducive to effective and convenient local government. The division has good electoral equality.

Whaley Bridge, New Mills and the Hope Valley

Whaley Bridge and New Mills are on the western edge of the borough and have traditionally formed electoral divisions of their own. If the Borough area were to lose a division at least one of these towns would have to be divided and linked with one of the other large towns creating a division with little or no community interest and a long, sparsely populated, road link connecting it.

If the two divisions were to remain unaltered New Mills would have an electorate of 10,401 and Whaley Bridge an electorate of 9,392 giving Whaley Bridge Division an electoral variance from the average in 2029 of minus 12%. Normally, that is a figure that the Commission would not be minded to adopt. However, in the 2012 review of the county division boundaries The

Commission considered the very same issue and reached the conclusion that the current “division pattern provides the best balance between the statutory criteria” and recommended a Whaley Bridge Division with an electoral variance of minus 12% by the end of the review period. That is the same variance that would exist by 2029 if the boundaries were left unchanged. The factors that were so persuasive in 2012 are also present today.

The preference is for the boundaries of Whaley Bridge Division to remain unchanged. However, to assist The Commission an alternative solution is included in this submission that would give good electoral equality but which has implications for the interests and identity of the communities involved.

**3) Whaley Bridge & Blackbrook Division – option A electorate 9,392
- option B electorate 9,721**

Option A is to retain the existing Whaley Bridge division based on the two wards of Whaley Bridge and Blackbrook. The division is well established with an existing community identity and has good internal road links based on the A6, A504 and B5470. However, it is proposed to change the name of the division to Whaley Bridge & Blackbrook to better reflect the local communities.

Outside of Whaley Bridge itself the division is predominantly rural in nature giving it a shared interest and identity. The division is parished and includes a rural ward of Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Council.

Communities in the rural areas look to either Whaley Bridge or Chapel-en-le-Frith depending on their proximity to those communities and the services sought. The communities in the division are, however, within the catchment area of Chapel-en-le-Frith High School giving it an added community interest.

It has boundaries which are coterminous with 2 wards and with good internal road links the division is conducive to effective and convenient local government boundaries. The topography of the division gives the division strong boundaries, particularly in the south.

However, its electorate would remain 2% below the figure The Commission would normally be willing to adopt.

Option B is for a division comprised of the Whaley Bridge Ward and the Blackbrook Ward and part of polling district NW1 of New Mills West Ward.

Polling district NW1 would be split by a boundary along the Peak Forest Canal. Properties to the south of the canal, along the A6 and in the Newtown area, would be included in the Whaley Bridge & Blackbrook Division.

Whilst the A6 gives good internal road links, this community sees itself as part of New Mills. There is a physical gap between the properties in Newtown and

the properties on the A6 in Furness Vale. However, if in this case The Commission on balance believes that the requirement to achieve good electoral equality outweighs the consideration of a shared community identity and interest the transfer of this area will involve less disruption than transferring electors from other wards.

**4) New Mills & Hayfield division – option A electorate 10,401
- option B electorate 10,073**

Option A is to retain the existing New Mills Division comprised of the New Mills East Ward, New Mills West Ward, Hayfield Ward, and Sett Ward. However, to better reflect the communities involved it is proposed to change the name of the division to New Mills & Hayfield.

This would retain the divisions strong coterminous boundaries. The area is parished and both New Mills Town Council and Hayfield Parish Council are within the division.

Much of the population of the division is centred in New Mills and along the A6015 corridor to Hayfield village on the A6. These population centres are surrounded by a sparsely populated rural area.

The division keeps the Kinder area together and includes the Sett Valley Trail. The division is also largely coterminous with the catchment boundaries of New Mills School which provides secondary education for the area. There is continuous housing along the A6015 from Hayfield to New Mills, both communities share the same medical practice and have good bus links. This division also avoids the need to divide either New Mills Town Council or Hayfield Parish Council between two or more divisions.

The A6 and the A6015 give the division good internal road links which, with coterminous boundaries, is conducive to effective and convenient local government. The division has a shared community interest and identity and good electoral equality.

Option B is put forward as an alternative submission if the Commission is unwilling to adopt the Option A proposal for the Whaley Bridge Division on the grounds that the degree of electoral equality does not meet the level it normally expects.

This would be as described previously and would mean splitting polling district NW1 along the Peak Forest Canal boundary.

If the Commission were to adopt option B it would be necessary to divide the Whitle Ward of New Mills Town Council so as to create two new town council wards.

**5) Chapel and Hope Valley Division
Electorate 9,892**

This division is comprised of Chapel East Ward, Chapel West Ward, Limestone Peak Ward and Hope Valley Ward except for Bamford Parish, Hope Woodlands Parish, and Derwent Parish.

Bamford Parish, Hope Woodlands Parish, and Derwent Parish are excluded to give good electoral equality to the Glossop divisions.

Chapel-en-le-Frith is the largest community in this division and the Chapel Parish Ward of Dove Holes and Martinside is included in the Limestone Peak Division. The two largest population centres in the ward are Dove Holes and Wormhill Parish. Wormhill has its own its own identity and interest and is within the boundaries of the Peak Park Authority giving it a shared feature with other rural parishes in the division.

It includes the parishes in the Hope Valley that align to the route of the A6187 and these communities share an identity and interest based on being in the Hope Valley. Chapel is their closest urban centre and provides many of the services that are not available locally in those parishes.

The resulting division would have good internal road links, has shared interests and identities and is of good electoral equality.

Glossopdale

The Glossopdale area is in the far northwest of the County and is surrounded in its entirety by either the Peak District National Park area or the county boundary. This limits the scope for housing development and population growth. It is currently represented by 3 members elected to represent two divisions. In order to create divisions of the requisite size it will be necessary to divide one of the neighbouring wards and allocate electors from it to one of the Glossopdale divisions.

Splitting Sett Ward to the south along the A624 would result in dividing both the Hayfield Parish Council area and the New Mills Town Council area between two divisions. This is detrimental to efficient and convenient local government and would not create a division with a shared sense of community identity. We have in our previous comments detailed the community links that exists between Hayfield and New Mills. A division of Sett Ward would result in the New Mills Division being too small and so cause a

ripple effect all the way across the rest of the Borough as changes have to be made to achieve electoral equality.

This submission is to divide the Hope Valley Ward and link polling districts HV1 (Bamford Parish), HV3 (Derwent Parish) and HP4 (Hope Woodlands Parish) to Glossop. As well as linking whole parishes there is a community interest between the communities along the A57 Snake Pass and the A6013 reflecting the traffic flows between Manchester and Sheffield. In its 2013 Borough Council review the Commission recognised the different interests of the parishes in the Hope Valley Ward and investigated the possibility of dividing the Hope Valley Ward between the majority of the communities in the south of the ward and the remaining areas in the north and eastern area but was unable to do so and achieve electoral equality.

This review also provides an opportunity to produce boundaries that have greater coterminosity with the 2013 ward boundaries. It proposes to replace the two member Glossop and Charlesworth Division with two single member wards.

6) Etherow Division Electorate 9,832

This division would be comprised of Gamesley Ward, Hadfield North Ward, Hadfield South Ward, Tintwistle Ward, polling district PA3 of the Padfield Ward as well as part of polling district PA1.

Polling district PA1 would be divided by continuing the polling district boundary along Station Road, Padfield so that the properties from number 115 to number 141 and all of those north of that line in PA1 would be in the Etherow Division. All of the properties from 136 Station Road to 156 and south of that line would be in the Glossop North Division.

The current boundary between Hadfield North Ward, which is in the current Etherow Division, and Padfield already runs along much of Station Road and along the boundary gardens of the properties on Bosscroft from number 1 Damside to number 79 Bosscroft. Access to the Vale House Drive area, which would now be included in this Etherow Division, is off Bosscroft. It can, therefore, be difficult to tell where one ward ends and the next starts and residents in this part of these two wards share a community interest and use the same recreation ground, public house, and surgery on Bosscroft.

The division has clearer boundaries and is mainly coterminous with ward boundaries except for the area of polling districts PA1 and PA3. Neither PA1 or PA3 are parished areas.

The proposal avoids the need to divide the Dinting Ward which is separated from Gamesley by open fields. It also avoids dividing the Charlesworth Parish

which is to the south of Gamesley and is rural in nature, including moorland, and separated from Gamesley by fields. The Parish has its own sense of identity with its own primary schools and village centres.

The division has good internal road links and an existing shared identity and interest based on being on the far western edge of the town boarding the Greater Manchester area.

The inclusion of the Padfield polling districts gives it good electoral equality.

7) Glossop North Division

9,753 electorate

This division is comprised of the Dinting Ward, Howard Town Ward, Whitfield Ward, Padfield polling district PA2 and part of polling district PA1 and Old Glossop polling district OG1.

Old Glossop polling district OG1 is a distinct community within the town north of the A57. The area is unparished. It adjoins Dinting Ward and shares community facilities with parts of that ward including the parish church and primary school. Its inclusion is necessary to achieve good electoral equality.

The communities in the division share a strong identity and community interest based upon their relationship to the centre of the town and the use of the same facilities in Glossop. The division is predominantly urban.

It has good internal road links based on the A52, A624 and the B6015 and has clear boundaries, being largely coterminous with ward boundaries other than the Padfield polling districts. It is conducive to effective and convenient local government.

The number of split wards is kept to a minimum and it avoids having to split the rural parishes to the south of Glossop.

It has good electoral equality and shared interests and identity based on being solely an urban division based just on Glossop town.

8) Glossop South and Bamford Division

Electorate 9,581

This division is comprised of the Simmondley Ward, St. John's Ward, polling districts OG2, OG3 and OG4 from the Old Glossop Ward and polling districts HV1, HV3 and HV4 from the Hope Valley Ward.

Polling districts OG2, OG3 and OG4 are part of large housing estates mainly to the south of the A57 as the road enters the town. This is a residential area that looks to the town centre for many of its services. The A57, which includes the Snake Pass, is one of the principle east-west routes between Sheffield

and Manchester and traffic flows along that road are a shared interest for all 3 of these polling districts.

Simmondley Ward is to the west of the town and is a large residential area to the south of the A6016. It too looks to the town centre for many of its services. It is separated from Gamesley to the west by open fields and a railway line. The district ward of Simmondley includes a parish ward of Charlesworth Parish. Keeping Simmondley and St. John's Ward in the same division avoids the need to split the Charlesworth Parish Council area between divisions.

The St. John's Ward is rural and surrounds Glossop in its entirety to the south and east. It is parished and contains two parish council areas, Charlesworth Parish and Chisworth Parish. Although the ward has strong ties to Glossop and looks to the town for many services, its rural nature gives it different community interests and its own identity.

Hope Woodlands Parish and Derwent Parish of Hope Valley Ward are on the A57 Snake Pass. Bamford Parish is on the A6013 which joins the A57 by the Ladybower dam. They are rural parishes with their own sense of identity and community interests. However, their relationship to the A57, its traffic flows and importance as a major east-west road in this area of the county, gives them a shared interest with the eastern communities of Glossop where the A57 enters the town.

Although these communities have shared interests with the parishes in the Hope Valley they have different interests, something that The Commission identified in its 2013 warding review.

The division has strong boundaries which are largely coterminous with the ward boundaries in Glossop itself. It is a mix of urban and rural communities with shared interests. It avoids splitting the parished areas in St. John's Ward and it has good internal road links. As such its boundaries are conducive to effective and convenient local government and it retains good electoral equality.

Although a large geographical area, this something that is unavoidable in a Borough like High Peak.

Commentary on the County Council proposal

The county council's submission and ours agree that the High peak area is best represented by 8 single member divisions. They also agree that in order to achieve electoral equality across the 3 Glossop divisions the most appropriate solution involves linking parishes along the Snake Pass to a Glossop division. Whilst there is also agreement on keeping the parish of Hartington Upper Quarter within one division, the council's submission does involve splitting a significant number of wards and raises concerns about the

internal road links of one division. Neither of these two issues are conducive to effective and convenient local government.

The two submissions also agree on a number of name changes for divisions.

Buxton area

The Council's proposals for the Buxton area fail to create strong boundaries or recognise community interests and identities.

Cote Heath Ward is split using the railway line leaving the rural areas of Cowdale and King Sterndale in its Buxton North and King Sterndale Division. It is not clear from the council's proposals what road access there is to King Sterndale or Cowdale from the rest of the Buxton North and East Division without leaving the division.

Polling district CT1 of the Buxton Central Ward is split into multiple new polling districts with the majority included in the Buxton South and Goyt Valley Division. It divides the town centre between the two divisions splitting Spring Gardens and turning it into the division's boundary. The Spring Gardens and Pavilion areas would be better served by being kept together and linked with the rest of Buxton town centre.

The Council's proposed Buxton South and Goyt Valley Division has poor north-south road links. The boundaries of the Buxton North and King Sterndale Division include polling district C01 and C02 of Corbar Ward thereby preventing the A53 from connecting to the A5004 without leaving the division. The council's submission appears to be relying on Goyts Lane and the former Roman Road known as "The Street" to provide good north-south vehicular access around this division. However, this road is single track for much of its length south of Errwood Reservoir and is unsuitable for the task allotted to it by the council, especially during the winter months, and cannot be accessed from south to north.

The council's submission includes a proposal that the Combs area is included in the Buxton South and Goyt Valley Division. Combs is part of the Barren Clough Combs and Whitehough Ward of Chapel-en-le-Frith parish area and including it in the Buxton South and Goyt Valley Division would split Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish between three divisions and appears to require a rewording of the current Barren Clough Combs and Whitehough Parish Ward. The proposal also fails to take account of the topography of the area. Combs is separated from Buxton by Combs Moss which rises to a height in excess of 470m and has no road access to Buxton. As such Combs has limited community links to Buxton and looks to either Chapel-en-le-Frith or Whaley Bridge for shopping and local services.

Whilst the Council's two Buxton divisions achieve good electoral equality they fail to bring together areas that share community interests and, because they lack good road links, and in the case of Combs any vehicular road links, are detrimental to efficient and effective local government.

Central area

The council's proposed Chapel and Hope Valley Division is identical to our proposal for that area except for the exclusion of the Thornhill Parish. The Commission may wish to question whether it is appropriate to split Thornhill Parish from the Aston Parish and the other parishes in the Hope Valley and whether it has sufficient community interest and identity with Glossop.

The council's proposal to split New Mills polling district NW1 so to ensure that the Whaley Bridge Division has good electoral equality is similar to our Option B proposal. However, the council proposes to include more of New Mills in the Whaley Bridge Division including parts of the town centre which would have implications for the shared interests and identity of the New Mills and Hayfield Division.

Glossop

The council's submission for Glossop splits 5 ward boundaries and 1 parish council requiring the parish to become warded. None of this is conducive to convenient and efficient local government.

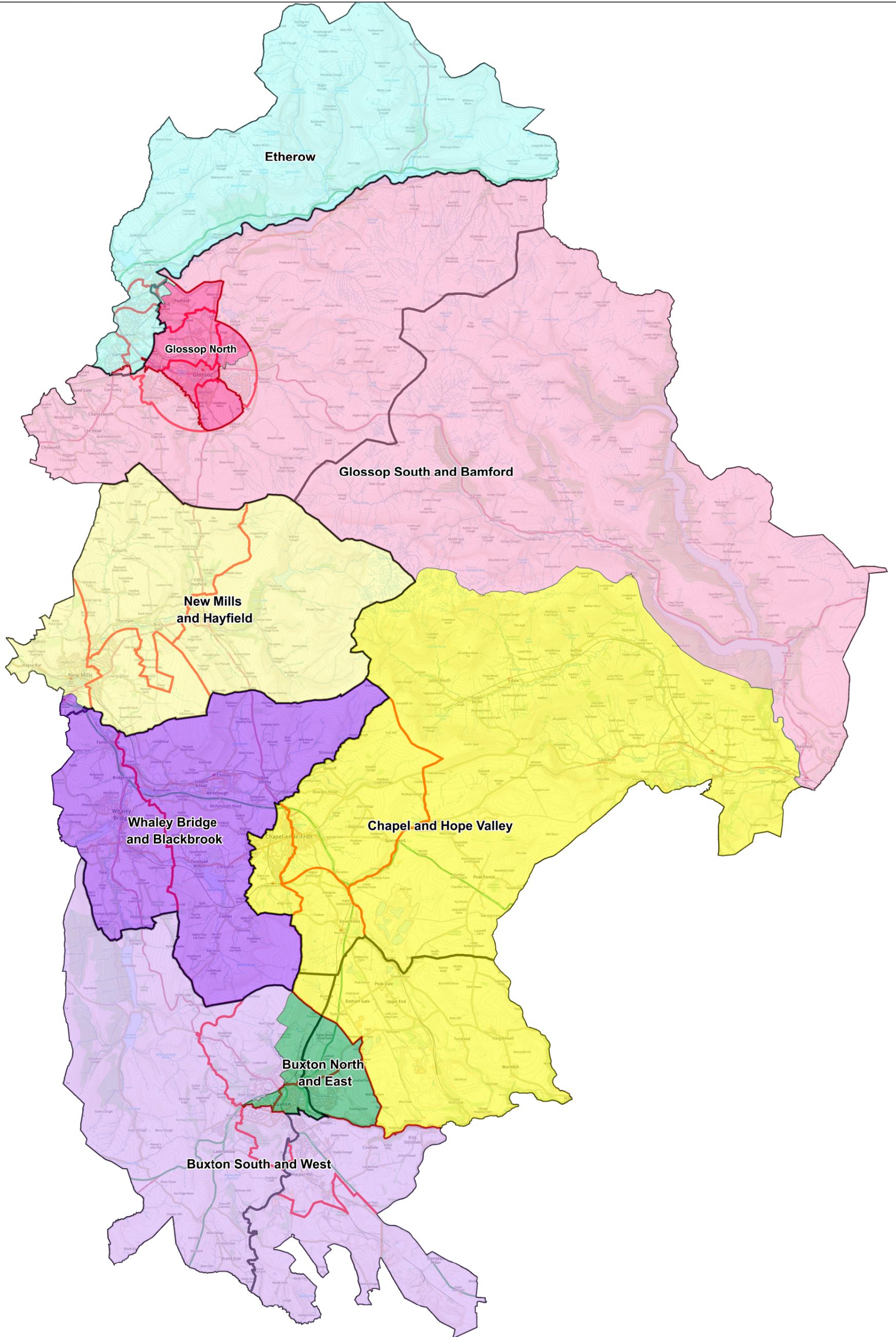
The two submissions agree that because it includes a ward of the Charlesworth Parish Council area Simmondley Ward is better included in the Glossop South and Hope Valley North Division (our Glossop South and Bamford Division). However, the council's submission requires the St. John's Ward to be split and for Charlesworth Parish Council to become warded.

The two submissions also agree that Old Glossop Ward has to be split between two divisions and that polling district OG1 is the appropriate community to split from the rest of the ward due to its separation from the Shirebrook area. However, the splitting of Whitfield ward in the way proposed leaves one small area separated from the rest of the ward.

The council's proposal to split the Tintwistle Ward takes no account of local community interests and is not conducive to effective and convenient local government. Only 24 electors live in the more northerly T12 polling district of Tintwistle Ward with the majority of people living close to the junction of the A628 and New Road. The majority of north-south traffic movements from

Tintwistle village will be via the road network leading to Hadfield rather than along the Woodhead Road and the B6015. Tintwistle residents, therefore, have a greater shared community interest with the Hadfield area immediately south of the River Etherow and their shared interests with the Simmondley and Whitefield areas will be significantly less.

Division Name	Electorate by 2029	Variance from County Average
Buxton North and East	9,512	-10%
Buxton South and West	9,742	-8%
Chapel and Hope Valley	9,892	-7%
Etherow	9,832	-7%
Glossop North	9,753	-8%
Glossop South and Bamford	9,581	-10%
New Mills and Hayfield (option A)	10,401	-2%
Whaley Bridge and Blackbrook (option A)	9,392	-12%
New Mills and Hayfield (option B)	10,073	-5%
Whaley Bridge and Blackbrook (option B)	9,721	-8%



North East Derbyshire District

The district of North East Derbyshire currently has 8 elected members elected in 6 single member divisions and 1 two-member division. Despite the projected population growth by 2029 this submission assumes the district will retain 8 members but proposes that they are elected to represent single member divisions.

The district underwent a warding review in 2017 which reduced the level of coterminosity of boundaries which this review can help address. The district is also experiencing a substantial degree of house building but the extent of the Green Belt in the north of the district means that a disproportionate level of the population growth is in the south of NED causing the centre of gravity for the distribution of divisions to move southwards.

The geography of NED is such that it forms a “C” shape around the Borough of Chesterfield with the western rural area linking the communities of Dronfield in the north to Wingerworth in the south. This western area is sparsely populated and part of it lies within the boundaries of the Peak District National Park. This impacts on the divisional arrangements because only the western rural strip can be used to link the north and south of the district.

In order to achieve electoral equality across the district it is necessary to split the parish of Wingerworth and the current ward, parish and polling district boundaries are not conducive to doing this.

The previous review of divisions in 2012 split the village of Clay Cross and the wards of Grassmoor and North Wingfield so that each is represented by two divisions. In the case of Grassmoor and North Wingfield the Commission was required to ward the parishes as a result. These current boundaries lack clarity on the ground and are confusing for the local community. The splitting of these villages between divisions is not conducive to convenient and efficient local government. This submission proposes to unite Clay Cross Parish and the Grassmoor and North Wingfield wards so that each one is wholly within one division.

1) Killamarsh and Renishaw Division

Electorate 9,550

This division is comprised of the Killamarsh East Ward, Killamarsh West Ward and polling districts KD and KE of the Eckington South and Renishaw Ward.

Polling districts KD and KE form the Renishaw Ward of Eckington Parish Council. The western boundary is the railway line. The rest of the division's boundary is also the district boundary. This gives the division strong, clear, boundaries that are coterminous with existing district and parish ward boundaries. They proposals do not involve any rewording of Eckington Parish Council.

If a single member division is to be created in this north east corner of the district Renishaw and Spinkhill are the only communities that share a boundary with Killamarsh.

The communities of Killamarsh and Renishaw have little shared community interests although they are both within the catchment area of Eckington School. Killamarsh has its own village centre and leisure facilities whereas Renishaw and Spinkhill look towards Eckington for those services. There are good road links between Killamarsh, Renishaw and Spinkhill along Green Lane and Spinkhill Lane as they leave Killamarsh and then Station Road, The Avenue and Syday Lane to the A6135 which is the main road into Renishaw. There is also a bus service linking Killamarsh to Renishaw.

Since the 2029 projected electorate figures were published the Planning Inspectorate has granted an appeal (Appeal ref:APP/R1038/W/22/3310461) relating to a housing development of 397 dwellings on land between Green Lane and Upperthorpe, Westhorpe in Killamarsh West Ward. Detailed planning permission has still to be applied for and so it is difficult to determine how many properties will be built by 2029. However, it is highly likely that some properties will be completed and occupied by 2029. Consequently, although the division is currently projected to be 10% below the county average by 2029 this additional development means that it will be much closer to the county divisional average electorate than the current figures suggest.

2) Eckington and Coal Aston Division Electorate 10,728

This division would be comprised of the Coal Aston Ward, Ridgeway & Marsh Lane Ward, Eckington North Ward and polling districts KA, KB and KC of the Eckington South & Renishaw Ward.

Polling districts KA, KB and KC from the Eckington South and Renishaw Ward form the Eckington South Ward on Eckington Parish Ward and so this proposal does not involve a rewording of the parish council. The boundary between this division and the Killamarsh and Renishaw Division would be the railway line.

There are limited community links between Eckington and Coal Aston and they were included in the same division for the first time as a result of the 2012 review in order to achieve a division of good electoral equality. The geography of this part of NED means that electoral equality still requires the two communities to be linked whether in a single member division or the current two-member division.

The Eckington South polling districts, Eckington North Ward and Ridgeway & Marsh Lane Ward are all within the Eckington Parish Council area and each one represents a ward in that parish. All these areas look to Eckington Civic

Centre for many of their services, leisure facilities and shopping. This gives the eastern end of the division a focus and shared identity and interests. Many of these services are located in polling districts KA and KC.

Ridgeway & Marsh Lane Ward is a rural area and has many similarities to Unstone Ward, particularly the West Handley area. To include Unstone Ward in this division as a possible alternative to Coal Aston would not be sufficient to achieve good electoral equality. Whilst West Handley has close links with Marsh Lane, the larger community of Unstone has no such community links. Nor would it be conducive to efficient and convenient local government to split Unstone Ward between two divisions. The two larger communities, Unstone and Apperknowle, have clear links and community interests with Dronfield and to split the West Handley area would result in the creation of a small parish council ward.

Coal Aston Ward is part of the Dronfield area and looks to that town for its services. The inclusion of the ward within this division means that the two small town council wards of Dyche (polling district FB - 111 electors in 2029) and Sommerfield (polling district FD - 352 electors by 2029), which were consequential creations of previous reviews, would no longer be necessary. These small wards elect one councillor each in contrast to the much larger wards for most of the rest of the town. Dronfield South Town Council Ward for example (5,117 electors by 2029) elects 5 councillors, so that the town council wards have poor electoral equality. The proliferation of small ward can be confusing for the electorate and is not conducive to convenient and efficient local government.

The division would have a strong northern boundary that is also the county boundary. It is coterminous with ward boundaries except at its eastern end which is coterminous with a parish ward. Whilst community links between Coal Aston and Eckington Parish are limited the division has good internal road links and achieves electoral equality.

3) Dronfield & Unstone Division

Electorate 11,520

This division is comprised of the Dronfield North Ward, Dronfield South Ward, Unstone Ward and amended polling districts LA and LB of the Gosforth Valley Ward.

Polling districts LA and LB would be amended by a boundary line coming off the A61 Dronfield by-pass behind the Gunstone site to the boundary of the recreation field and then run along the boundaries of the properties and the sports field until it meets Gosforth Drive at which point it would cross the road and run along the back boundary of number 1 Draycott Place and boundary of 53 Gosforth Drive and into the field to rejoin the polling district boundary. This

would split the ward between its two constituent areas, Gosforth Valley and Dronfield Woodhouse. The Gosforth Valley area, which includes what is known locally as the Painters estate and the Lake District estate would be in the Dronfield and Unstone Division. The Dronfield Woodhouse area would be part of the Dronfield Woodhouse and Walton Division.

This splitting of the Gosforth Valley Ward would require a rewording of the Dronfield Town Council ward boundaries for that area.

Dronfield is by far the largest town in NED and is currently split between 3 electoral divisions. The Eckington and Coal Aston division means that the rest of the town is too big to be contained in one division but too small, even with the inclusion of Unstone Ward, to form two divisions. That and the need to link part of the town with the western rural area and the village of Wingerworth means that Dronfield has to be split.

The town has its own identity and interests although there are distinct communities within it. All share a number of common interests including shopping, leisure facilities, traffic flows, public transport including the railway station, and access to services and so any boundary splitting the town between divisions has an element of arbitrariness. The proposal includes all of the town to the east of the A61 by-pass. Polling district LA and LB are immediately to the west of the by-pass and can be accessed from Gosforth Lane. The proposal splits the polling district so that only those properties accessed from Gosforth Drive as far as the new boundary would be included in this division. The use of the playing fields helps to create a strong boundary in this area.

Unstone Green sits on the B6057 which provides good road links with Dronfield. Dronfield acts as a centre for shopping, leisure centre and other services for the two largest communities in Unstone ward. The catchment area of The Dronfield Henry Fanshaw School covers Unstone Ward and there is a bus service between Unstone and Dronfield and Apperknowle and Dronfield.

The division would be largely coterminous with ward boundaries except in the area of polling districts LA and LB where a new town council ward would be created. It has good internal road links and contains the main shopping areas of the town in the Civic Centre area and on Sheffield Road. It has good electoral equality.

4) Sutton Division Electorate 10,533

This division is comprised of the Sutton Ward, Grassmoor Ward and Holmewood & Heath Ward. As such it has coterminous boundaries and it recreates the Sutton Division that existed prior to the 2012 review.

Sutton Ward and Heath & Holmewood Ward are included in the current Sutton Division and have been linked for this purpose for several decades.

Grassmoor Ward was split in to two parish wards as part of the 2012 review with only the Grassmoor, Hasland & Winsick Parish Ward being in the Sutton Division. That split runs along the back of gardens of the properties such as those on Durham Avenue and Oak Road, Grassmoor which can be confusing in such a small community. This division obviates the need for that split and so helps improve convenient and efficient local government in the area.

The communities of Sutton Ward generally align to the route of the A632 on the south-eastern edge of the Chesterfield Borough Council area to which they look for their services and leisure facilities. The rest of the ward, south of the A632, is largely rural in nature and has the A617 Hasland by-pass running through it which separates the main communities in the ward from the neighbouring villages. However, the geography of the district means that it must be combined with either Holmewood & Heath Ward or Grassmoor Ward or both.

Unlike many other wards in the south of the district these three wards tend not to look towards Clay Cross as a centre for shopping, recreation, and other services. Indeed, Sutton has no links with Clay Cross, and looks towards Chesterfield, as does Grassmoor to a large degree.

Whilst each ward has its own identity there are shared interests based on being on the north eastern edge of the southern half of the district. The division has good internal road links, coterminous boundaries and achieves electoral equality.

5) Clay Cross and Tupton Division

Electorate 11,630

This division would be comprised of Clay Cross South Ward, Clay Cross North Ward except polling district DF, and polling districts XA and XB from the Tupton Ward.

This means that the division would include just the two parishes of Clay Cross and Tupton.

Polling district DF in Clay Cross North Ward is a ward within the Wingerworth Parish Council area (Woodthorpe Ward), as are polling districts XC (Adlington Ward) and XD (Longedge Ward) of the Tupton Ward. The Woodthorpe Parish Ward is currently a detached ward from the rest of Wingerworth Parish and cannot be reached by car except by leaving the parish.

Boundaries in this area are not without some confusion. Although both polling district XC and XD are in the same ward and parish council area, each forming a parish council ward, they are in different divisions. Polling district XD and ZB form part of the same housing estate accessed from the A61 Derby Road, they form an area that is distinct from the main village of Wingerworth, but they are in separate wards split by a boundary running along a public right of way that runs from the village to the A61. This proposal is for the three Wingerworth Parish Council polling districts of XC, XD and ZB to be in the Shirland and Wingerworth Division.

The inclusion of polling district DF within the Clay Cross & Tupton division would result in the division not having good electoral equality. It is a ward within the Wingerworth parish council area and so would bring the whole of Wingerworth Parish Council area within two divisions.

Clay Cross parish council is currently split between two divisions. Clay Cross South Ward, accounting for about 30% of the current Clay Cross South Division, is linked with half of North Wingfield village and Pilsley & Morton Ward. Clay Cross North Ward, forming about half of the Clay Cross North Division, is linked with Tupton Ward, including polling districts XC and XD of Wingerworth Parish, and half of Grassmoor village.

This splitting of Clay Cross Parish between divisions has impacted on the convenient and efficient local government of that village. The town has a strong sense of history, including its links to George Stephenson, the Clay Cross “rent rebels” of the 1970s, and to the mining industry that contribute to the village’s identity. It has a central shopping area, its own leisure centre, social centre, and library, as well as other services which are used by the whole community irrespective of where they live in the village. It is a receipt of Government Town Deal Funding which cover parts, but not the whole of each of the two district wards. Dividing Clay Cross between divisions fails to give sufficient weight to that community’s identity and undermines convenient and efficient local government in the village, something that has been made apparent as a result of the Town Deal Funding.

Since the 2012 review Clay Cross has grown substantially with in excess of 1,000 new properties either being built or under construction during the review period. This review provides an opportunity to unite the whole parish area within one division.

Tupton Parish area is different from the area of Tupton Ward. The Parish has strong links to Clay Cross which acts as the main shopping centre for Tupton. Tupton residents also look towards Clay Cross for some of their leisure facilities and local services. Both villages are within the catchment area of Tupton Hall School, the A61 Derby Road provides good road links, and there is a regular bus service between the two communities. There are also several

well used public rights of way (Tupton FP 9 & 22) between the two villages that act as short cuts for people making the short walk between the two communities to access services.

Congestion on the A61 as it travels through Clay Cross and Tupton is a major community concern for both villages and is subject to traffic flow studies by the county council, district council and Member of Parliament as part of the Government's Clay Cross Town Deal funding. Yet the road is currently split between two division. This proposal would bring the whole road as it travels through the Clay Cross and Tupton parishes within the one division. Whilst the A61 also travels through Wingerworth, where it also suffers from congestion, the proposed solution, a bridge across the railway line to Grassmoor, would add to the congestion in Clay Cross and Tupton giving these two villages a shared interest that is different to that of the communities in Wingerworth parish.

This division has good electoral equality with strong boundaries, being based on two whole parish council areas, has good internal road links and, by excluding those polling districts that are within Wingerworth Parish, has a greater community identity.

6) North Wingfield, Pilsley & Morton Division

Electorate 11,028

This division would be comprised of the North Wingfield Ward, Pilsley & Morton Ward and polling district VD (Mickley) from the Shirland Ward.

Currently, North Wingfield Ward is divided between two divisions with a boundary created by the Commission in the 2012 review. The boundary runs through the centre of the village and has no physical features to delineate it. It has left Noble Road in one division but accessed via the other, and future development on the old infant school site would have a similar issue for those properties accessed via Black's Lane. This split has caused issues for the Parish Council and local community which are sometimes uncertain over where the boundary is and who their councillor is. The village has a centre with local shops that are used by the whole village and doctors surgeries that cover the whole village.

Lower Pilsley and North Wingfield have close links with Park House Primary School attracting a large number of pupils from the Little Morton area of North Wingfield even though it is not within the catchment area. Parents from Lower Pilsley use the North Wingfield St. Lawrence pre-school and that community also uses North Wingfield's shops and GP provision, a trend that has increased since Pilsley village lost its GP surgery. There is a bus service between North Wingfield and Pilsley.

Pilsley and Morton share community interests. Pilsley Football Club, for example, is working with Morton Parish Council to develop a new football pitch in Morton.

Mickley village (polling district VD) would be included in the division to give it good electoral equality. Mickley is a relatively isolated community. Although it is part of the Shirland and Higham Parish Council, Mickley has good community links with Morton. Mickley has its own infant school but many parents choose to send their child to Morton Primary School.

Currently, it is not possible to travel from Pilsley and Morton parishes to Stretton Parish, which is also within the Pilsley & Morton Ward, without leaving the ward and travelling through Mickley polling district VD. The inclusion of Mickley polling district would resolve that anomaly.

Previously, in the 2017 warding review, The Commission rejected a proposal to link Morton and Mickley on the ground that it was reluctant to split Shirland & Higham Parish Council. However, since that decision the district council has received a Community Governance petition requesting that the current Shirland & Higham Parish Council is split into two so that the Stonebroom community has its own parish council. The grounds of the petition include the assertion that the current parish council is too big and the voice of the smaller communities within the parish went unheard. The Community Governance review is still taking place and at a full council meeting in November 2022 the council resolved to instruct officers to undertake further detailed work to assess whether it was possible to give effect to the petitioners request. Consequently, the Commission's concerns carry less weight on this occasion given this evidence to suggest that creating a new parish council, or the warding of the existing Shirland & Higham Parish, may have community support.

The division brings together the former pit villages that circle the east and south of Clay Cross and which whilst looking towards that community as a centre for shopping, leisure and other services that aren't available in their own community, see themselves as being different to Clay Cross. It has good electoral equality and internal road links.

7) Shirland & South Wingerworth Division **Electorate 11,507**

This division is comprised of Ashover Ward, Shirland Ward excluding polling district VD (Mickley), Clay Cross North Ward polling district DF (Woodthorpe Ward Wingerworth Parish Council), Tupton Ward polling districts XC (Adlington Ward Wingerworth Parish Council) and XD (Longedge Ward Wingerworth Parish Council) and Wingerworth Ward polling district ZB and parts of polling districts ZA and ZC.

Polling districts ZA and ZC would be divided by a boundary that runs along Longedge Lane from the current polling district boundary in the east as far as New Road before heading in a northerly direction to Swathwick Lane. Everything to the south of that boundary would be in this division. At Swathwick Lane the boundary would continue in a north westly direction so that both sides of Swathwick Lane are excluded from this division. The boundary would then head southwards into polling district ZC so that Watson Lane is excluded from this division. The boundary would then run along Pearce Lane which would be included in this division as would Mathouse Lane.

The splitting of polling districts ZA and ZC will require a rewording of parish council ward boundaries. However, Wingerworth parish area is already worded to accommodate changes made by previous reviews.

The area of polling district ZA included in this division is the estate behind Nethermoor Road centred on Allendale Road, Central Drive and Deerlands Road. It is a distinct estate within the community of Wingerworth and much of it was built at a different time from either of the two estates that are on either side of Langer Lane.

The boundary line splitting this area roughly follows the boundary of the two primary school catchment areas in the village. Wingerworth electors with primary school aged children who live in this division, including those in polling districts XC and XD, would be in the catchment area of Hunloke Primary School. Most of those electors living in the village with primary school aged children excluded from this division are within the catchment area of Deer Park Primary School.

Residents in polling districts ZB and XD will see the shops on Allendale Road and the parish church on Longedge Lane as part of their community.

The division brings together the majority of the rural communities to the west and south of Clay Cross. However, unlike the eastern communities in the proposed North Wingfield, Pilsley & Morton Division these villages are less likely to see Clay Cross as a centre for shopping, leisure and other services and are just as likely to look towards Chesterfield in the case of Wingerworth, Matlock in the case of Ashover, Brackenfield and Wessington, or Alfreton in the case of the remaining Shirland Ward communities, for those services.

The division has the more urban communities of Wingerworth in the north and Shirland, Stonebroom and Higham in the south, with a large rural area covering the villages of Wessington, Brackenfield, Ashover and the western area of Wingerworth in its central area. It does, therefore, bring together within one division many of the rural areas in the southwest of the district.

Both Shirland Ward and Wingerworth have the A61 running through them and have a shared interest in some of the traffic issues of that road that is distinct from the traffic issues in Clay Cross.

Wingerworth Parish is currently split between two divisions, Clay Cross North Division and Wingerworth & Shirland Division. Splitting Wingerworth parish between three divisions would not be conducive to convenient and efficient local government.

The division retains its existing internal road links and achieves good electoral equality. It minimises the number of times Wingerworth Parish area is split between divisions and its boundaries are conducive to efficient and effective local government.

8) Dronfield Woodhouse and Walton Division

Electorate 10,831

This division is comprised of Barlow & Holmesfield Ward, Brampton & Walton Ward, Dronfield Woodhouse Ward, Gosforth Valley Ward polling districts LC and amended polling districts LA and LB, and amended Wingerworth Ward polling districts ZA and ZC.

Gosforth Valley polling districts LA and LB would be amended as described in the commentary for the Dronfield and Unstone Division and polling districts ZA and ZC would be amended as described in the commentary in the Shirland and South Wingerworth Division.

The amended parts of polling districts LA and LB to the west of the new boundary along with polling district LC are included in this Dronfield and Woodhouse and Walton Division. They are primarily the areas of the Gosforth Valley Ward that are viewed locally to be part the Dronfield Woodhouse area which is larger than the Dronfield Woodhouse Ward. They share, therefore, a community identity with the Dronfield Woodhouse Ward. The boundary between this division and the Dronfield and Unstone Division in Gosforth Valley is marked on the ground by the Gosforth recreation ground which acts as a strong boundary. This division does not include the Summerwood Top area of polling district LA which is accessed from Stubble Lane on the grounds that it makes for a clearer boundary. However, if The Commission were to think otherwise it could be included in this division and, if it were to do so, it would result in greater electoral equality between these two divisions.

Whilst there are no community links between Dronfield Woodhouse and Gosforth Valley in the north and Wingerworth in the south both communities share common characteristics. They are large dormitory estates that were built around smaller communities in the 1960s and 1970s. They act as residential areas for their neighbouring larger urban areas and have limited community facilities of their own. The two areas are joined by a large rural,

sparsely populated, area much of which is in the Green Belt and part of which is in the Peak District National Park area. Retention of the existing Green Belt is an issue that unites all of the communities within the division.

Gosforth Valley Ward and Dronfield Woodhouse Ward are included in the current Dronfield West and Walton Ward. They have good links with Holmesfield, including a road link and a bus service with a route that also includes Barlow and Cutthorpe.

The areas of Wingerworth included within this division are the Chartwell estate and the Windsor Drive/Davids Drive estate. These are distinct estates within Wingerworth. They fall within the catchment area of Deer Park Primary School, unlike the areas of the village excluded from this division which mainly fall with the catchment area of Hunloke Primary School.

In order to give this part of the division good road access to the rest of the division it is proposed to split polling district ZC so that the whole of Swathwick Lane is included in the division. Polling district ZC is split in such a way that the A632 from Stone Edge is included in this division meaning that the A632, from the junction with the B5057 as far as the Chesterfield Borough Council boundary, is within the division. This unites those electors living close to the A632 in polling district ZC and which look toward Chesterfield with the electors in polling district CD which is accessed via the A632.

Whilst shared community links are limited, there are internal road links and the division achieves good electoral equality.

Commentary of the county council's proposals

This proposal and the county council's agree on splitting the two-member division of Eckington & Killamarsh and replace it with 2 single member divisions. They also agree that the uneven population growth in the district means that Wingerworth Ward has to be split for the first time between a ward representing the rural western areas and Dronfield area of the district and a division representing communities in the south of the district.

However, the council's proposals lack coterminosity with ward boundaries and split a number of parish council areas requiring several small parish wards to be created. Neither of these issues are conducive to convenient and efficient local government and can be confusing to local residents.

The council's Killamarsh division includes Eckington polling district KC. This proposal takes no account of the community links in Eckington and separates much of the town centre from the rest of Eckington. People in this polling district have no community interests or identity with Killamarsh. The division's boundary lacks clarity and the proposal will require a rewording of the

Eckington South Parish Council Ward. A boundary along the railway line that separates the Eckington Renishaw & Spinkhill parish wards from the Eckington South parish ward would be much stronger.

The proposed Eckington Division includes part of the Dronfield North Ward requiring the creation of yet another small town council ward in Dronfield which is not conducive to convenient and efficient local government. Residents in that area of Dronfield North have no community links with Eckington.

The two proposals covering the Dronfield and Unstone area agree that Gosforth Valley Ward is the Dronfield ward the should be split to ensure good electoral equality between the divisions in the north of the district and those in the south. The two proposals do, however, disagree on the precise line of the boundary splitting the ward.

The council's proposal splits the Dronfield Woodhouse Ward between two divisions and continues to require the existence of the small Bowshaw Ward.

The two submissions also make similar proposals for splitting Wingerworth. However, the council's proposal splits Wingerworth Parish Council area between 3 electoral divisions which is not conducive to efficient and convenient local government.

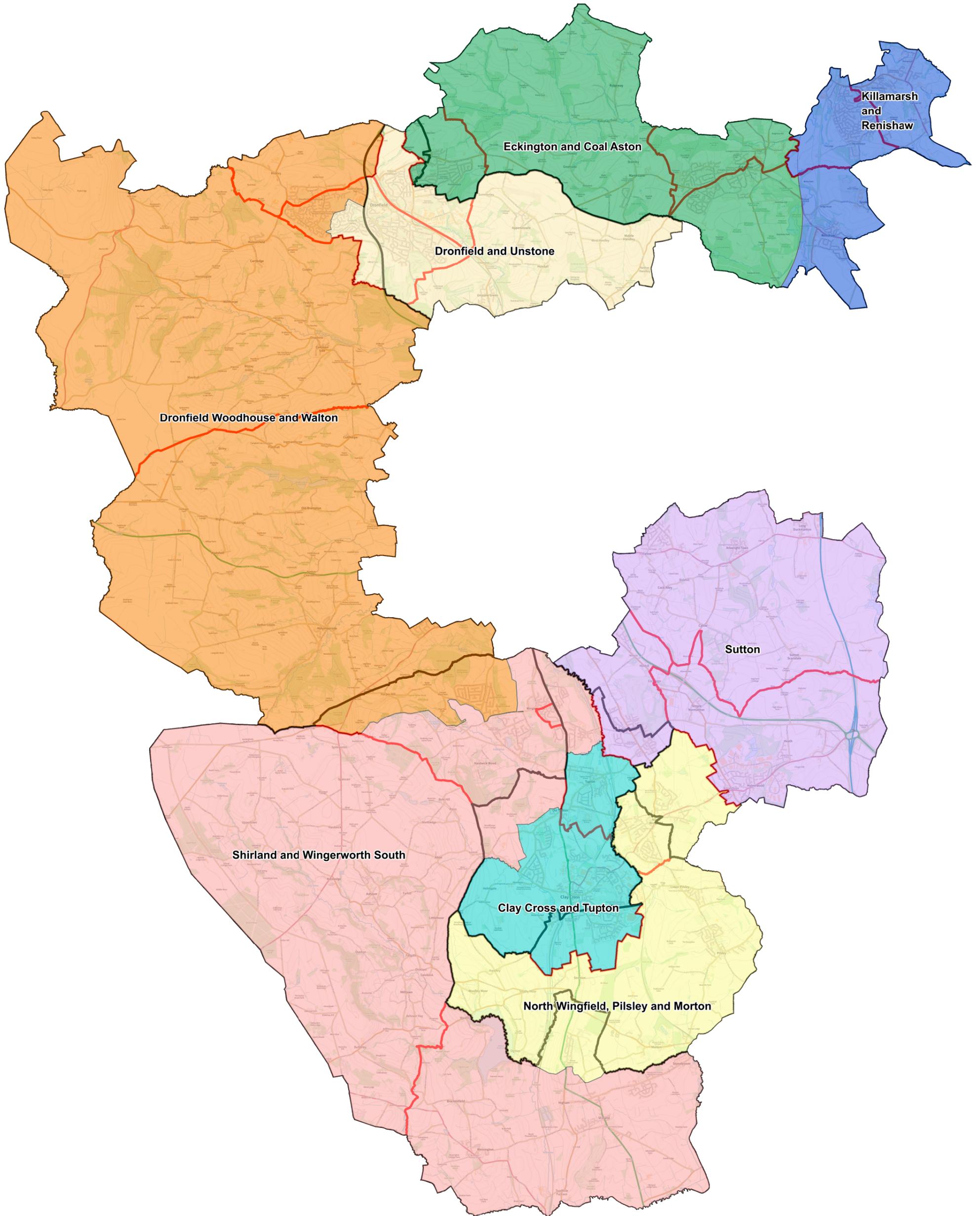
The council's proposal misses the opportunity to unite the Clay Cross parish area within one division and further weakens effective and convenient local government in that village by requiring the creation of a small parish ward so that a part of the Clay Cross North Ward can be included in the Clay Cross South and North Wingfield Division. The boundaries of that new parish ward would cut across an existing housing estate so would lack clarity and be confusing for local residents.

The council's proposals also split the Pilsley & Morton Ward and continue to split the North Wingfield Ward where it will require the rewording of the parish boundaries on Williamthorpe Road as far as the boundary with Holmewood & Heath Ward. Were this Williamthorpe Road area of North Wingfield to be included in the current North Wingfield East Parish Ward it would mean that half of that parish ward would be in Bolsover Parliamentary Constituency and the other half in N. E Derbyshire Parliamentary Constituency. If it becomes a separate parish ward in its own right it would be yet another small parish ward for that village.

The two proposals agree to keep the whole of Grassmoor Ward in the Sutton division on the grounds of convenient and efficient local government and believe that for the same reason the boundaries of the Sutton Division should also be coterminous with the Sutton Ward and Holmewood & Heath Ward.

Division name	Electorate	Variance from County Average in 2029
Clay Cross and Tupton	11,630	10%
Dronfield and Unstone	11,520	9%
Dronfield Woodhouse and Walton	10,831	2%
Eckington and Coal Aston	10,728	1%
Killamarsh and Renishaw	9,550	-10%
North Wingfield, Pilsley & Morton	11,028	4%
Shirland and South Wingerworth	11,507	8%
Sutton	10,533	-1%

North East Derbyshire Proposed Divisions



South Derbyshire

The South Derbyshire District is currently represented by 8 councillors elected in single member divisions. The district has continued to see the largest population growth of any district in Derbyshire and the projected growth in the electorate by 2029 entitles the district to 9 councillors.

This growth in the population has been predominantly in the parishes near the Derby City boundary and in the Swadlincote area rather than evenly across the district. The district is also the only one not have seen a warding boundary review since the last county divisional review in 2012. These facts make achieving a high degree of coterminous boundaries whilst drafting divisions of good electoral equality challenging. The geography of the district is an added complication. South Derbyshire is bisected by the River Trent which has only two bridges across it, limiting the scope for drafting boundaries that cover either side of the Trent.

North

This area has seen significant development and 3 of the current divisions are significantly above the average electorate for a county division. It is this area of the district that will see the greatest change to boundaries due to the addition of the extra division.

Much of this area around Derby City has a close affinity with that community and will look to it for many of its services rather than to the parishes further south in the district.

1) Hilton and Hatton division

Electorate 11,114

This division is comprised of the Hilton Ward and the Hatton Ward and so has coterminous boundaries.

Hatton Ward entirely surrounds Hilton except to the south where it is bounded by the county boundary. These two wards have strong community links and give the division coterminous boundaries with good internal road links. The area is rural in nature with a population centred on villages varying in size.

The division has good internal road links centred on the A50 which runs east-west through the division.

The division is also coterminous with the area of the district that has been included in the Derbyshire Dales Parliamentary Constituency following the recent review of Parliamentary boundaries.

It has good electoral equality and the coterminous boundaries are conducive to effective and convenient local government.

2) Etwall & Repton Division

Electorate 11,414

This division is comprised of Etwall Ward polling districts ETA, ETB, ETE, ETF, ETG, ETH, ETI and ETJ along with Willington Parish (pooling district WFA) and polling district RTG from the Repton division.

The division is based on the current Repton division and maintains many of the existing community links. It is a mix of villages joined together by sparsely populated rural areas. It continues to straddle the River Trent at Willington which help give it a shared community interest in the south of the division linked to the traffic flows over the Willington Bridge. The division maintains its good road links including the A5132 and Eggington Road which help it achieve effective and convenient local government.

This proposal would require Repton Parish Council to be warded. It is split between its two polling districts and so it would be possible to have a ward electing councillors to represent the village and a second ward to represent the more rural polling district.

The division has good electoral equality, strong boundaries and a shared community interests and identity.

3) Stenson & Finden Division

Electorate 11,015

This is comprised of the Burnaston parish area (polling districts ETC and ETD), Finden parish area (polling district WFB1 and WFB2), Twyford & Stenson Parish area (polling district STB2), Stenson Fields Parish area (polling district STB1 and STA) and Barrow upon Trent Parish area (Polling districts ASB1 and ASB2).

The division is comprised of whole parishes helping achieve effective and convenient local government. To the north the division is bounded by the boundary with the city council and a large part of the southern boundary is formed by the River Trent. These two facts give it strong boundaries and are conducive to effective and convenient local government.

The division brings together the communities to the south of the City boundary along the A50 corridor. It is one of the fastest growing areas in the district and many people will look to the city for their local services giving the division a shared community interest and identity based on that fact and on the traffic flows in the division. The division does, therefore, share a good degree of community interest.

The Twyford & Stenson Parish, Stenson Fields Parish and Barrow upon Trent Parish are expecting to see approximately 440 housing developments being completed by 2029 in a line along the A50. These developments straddle

parish boundaries and splitting housing estates between divisions can be confusing and would not be conducive to convenient and efficient local government.

The A50 gives good internal road links within the division and it has good electoral equality.

4) Aston Division

Electorate 11,637

This division is comprised of the Aston Ward polling districts ASA (Aston upon Trent Parish), ASC (Elvaston Parish), ASD (Elvaston Parish), ASE (Shardlow & Great Wilne Parish), ASF (Swarkestone Parish) and ASG (Weston upon Trent Parish), all of which are whole parishes. It also includes the Melbourne Ward polling districts MLA (Melbourne Parish- part) and MLC (Stanton by Bridge Parish).

It runs along the south and eastern boundary with the city and crosses the River Trent to include part of Melbourne Ward. It includes the new housing developments in the Elvaston Parish and the Swarkestone Parish and many of the communities in this area will look north to the city rather than southwards for some of their services.

The division straddles the River Trent at Swarkeston Bridge and so is heavily influenced by the north-south traffic flows in the district. However, that helps give it good internal road links, as do the A50 and A6, and a shared interest.

Whilst MLC is a whole parish the division does involve splitting the Melbourne Parish Council area between two divisions and creating two parish council wards. However, the proposal uses existing polling districts to do this giving the division strong boundaries.

Central and Southern

The rest of the district is comprised of a large central rural area and the urban community of Swadlincote to the south. Swadlincote and the more rural area south of the town continue to see substantial housing development.

The size of the Swadlincote wards, and the lack of a recent ward review, prevents absolute coterminosity of boundaries and in order to achieve effective and convenient boundaries Swadlincote Ward has been split 3 ways so as to be able to keep the remaining wards in the town whole. Wherever possible whole polling districts have also been used to give a degree of clarity. However, boundaries in a built-up town with a mix of residential and industrial areas like Swadlincote are never as clear as they are in areas that do not involve splitting housing estates and even streets. The Commission may wish

to make changes to some of the boundaries in the centre of the town following the public consultation stage of the review.

5) Calke Division

Electorate 11,246

This division is comprised of polling district MLB from Melbourne Ward, polling districts RTA, RTB, RTC, RTD, RTE, RTF, RTH, RTI AND RTJ from Repton Ward, polling district MWE of Midway Ward, the whole of polling districts WVA and WVB of Woodville Ward and parts of polling districts WVC and WVD.

Polling districts WVC and WVD would be split by a boundary running along the A511 which helps to create a strong boundary. The north of that boundary line would be in this Division and the south of that boundary would be in the Swadlincote East Division.

The division continues to keep the whole of Hartshorne Parish within its boundaries but does split Woodville Parish. It is rural in nature, making it geographically large but that rurality gives the communities involved a shared sense of identity. It has good internal road links with the A514 providing a north-south link. It also endeavours to keep all of the housing development scheduled at the junction of polling districts WVA, WVC and MWE within the same division, thereby avoiding an estate being split between boundaries by which appears an arbitrary line on the ground.

Although the division splits Melbourne and Woodville parishes it retains clear boundaries which are conducive to effective and convenient local government.

Melbourne parish would have to be warded in the way discussed in the commentary to the Aston Division. Woodville parish would also have to be warded and that would be into a north and south ward divided by the A511.

6) Swadlincote East Division

Electorate 10,428

This division is comprised of polling districts MWA, MWB, MWC and MWD of Midway Ward, polling district SWE of Swadlincote Ward, Woodville Ward polling district WVE and amended WVC and WVD.

Polling districts WVC and WVD are split by a boundary running along the A51. Those properties south of that line would be in this division and those properties north of the line would be included in the Calke Division.

The division brings together the urban community of the Midway area south of the A511 and avoids including the areas to the north of that road which are in the parish of Hartshorne. It also includes areas of Woodville Parish south of the A511.

Traffic flows along the A511 are a major interest for this division. It also gives it a good internal road link and acts as a strong boundary between the Calke Division to the north.

Both Woodville and Midway are distinct areas of the Swadlincote conurbation with their own identities. However, they share a common interest not only in the A511 but also in looking to Swadlincote town centre for services, shopping, leisure facilities and employment.

Woodville Parish would require warding and using the A511 as a boundary makes that a relatively simple exercise and gives clear parish ward boundaries.

The division keeps the developments in the south of polling districts WVC and WVD in the same division thereby avoiding any confusion if that development straddles polling district boundaries.

The A511 gives the division good internal road links which is conducive to the efficient and convenient local government and it has good electoral equality.

7) Swadlincote North Electorate 11,625

This division is comprised of Newhall & Stanton Ward and polling districts SWA, SWB and SWC of Swadlincote Ward.

The Newhall & Stanton Ward includes a large urban area to the north with a sparsely populated rural area to the west and south. These areas look to the town centre for many of their services, shopping, recreation, and employment.

The Swadlincote Ward polling districts are urban and include the town centre which acts as a focus for the whole of the town.

The A514 acts as the division boundary from the junction with the A444 until the junction with Civic Way, giving it a clear southern boundary at that point. Other major roads also act as boundaries but parts of the boundary of polling district SWC in Swadlincote town centre are less clear.

The division has good internal road links with the B5353 running the entire length of the division which is conducive to efficient and convenient local government. The division also achieves good electoral equality.

8) Swadlincote South Electorate 11,456

This division is comprised of Church Gresley Ward, polling districts SWD and SWF of Swadlincote Ward and Castle Gresley Parish (polling district LTA).

It includes the urban areas from the south of the town centre to the district boundary. The A514 acts as the boundary dividing the division from the Swadlincote North Division for much of its length and from the Swadlincote East Division.

The division has good internal road links including Heathcote Road and Church Street-Common Road.

Above the A444 the division is a compact urban area which looks to the town centre for many of its services and employment opportunities.

South of the A444 is Castle Gresley Parish which has been included in this division to prevent the electoral equality of the neighbouring Linton Division exceeding a level The Commission would deem to be unacceptable. Whilst rural in nature this parish shares community links with this area of Swadlincote and looks to it for many of the services that are not available in the parish. The parish has good road links to via both Castle Road and Cadley Hill Road.

The division has good electoral equality and, except for the town centre when inevitably there are often issues when drafting boundaries, has clear boundaries and good internal road links.

9) Linton Division Electorate 10,236

This division is comprised of Seals Ward and the whole of Linton ward apart from Castle Gresley Parish.

The division's boundaries are similar to the current Linton Division but to take account of the housing development in the area, especially in Drakelow Parish, it excludes Castle Gresley Parish. Were Castle Gresley Parish not to be excluded the division would not achieve good electoral equality.

It is a rural division with villages of various sizes connected by large open spaces. The division is surrounded to the west, south and east by the county boundary and many communities will look outside of the county for some services. To the north is the town of Swadlincote which is the major urban area and provides a focus for the communities of the division.

The division retains strong ward boundaries and existing community and identities are preserved. It has good internal road links and good electoral equality.

Commentary on the County Council's proposals

The county council's Linton division requires Castle Gresley Parish to be warded. The proposed boundary along Cadley Lane would result in a small parish ward with

few voters which is not conducive to effective and convenient local government. If the parish is not warded the Linton division lacks an internal road link between the south of the division and the Stanton area.

The council's proposed boundary between the Repton and Aston divisions splits the housing development that will see 540 properties built in a line along the A50 in Stenson Fields Parish and Barrow upon Trent Parish. This risks leaving housing estates split along arbitrary boundaries which can be confusing to electors and is not convenient to efficient and convenient local government. These new communities will look towards Derby City and have limited shared interests with the Bretby and Newton Solney areas.

Division Name	Electorate	Variance from County Average by 2029
Aston	11,637	10%
Calke	11,246	6%
Etwall and Repton	11,414	8%
Hilton and Hatton	11,114	5%
Linton	10,236	-4%
Stenson and Findern	11,015	4%
Swadlincote East	10,428	-2%
Swadlincote North	11,625	9%
Swadlincote South	11,456	8%

