

# **Electoral review of Westmorland & Furness council**

**Proposed warding arrangements:  
response to LGBCE consultation**

# Introduction

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) are currently undertaking a review of electoral arrangements for the authority. This is the first formal review of electoral arrangements for the authority since it was formed, and is necessary due to electoral inequality (where some Councillors represent more electors than others) that is outside of the permitted tolerance.

The LGBCE review is split into two main phases:

- (1) Council Size – how many Councillors there will be to serve the authority. This is supported by an Electorate Forecast – a prediction of how many local government electors will live in the area in 7 years' time. In August 2024, the LGBCE advised that, based on the submission made by the Council and other evidence reviewed, the Council Size shall be 65 Councillors.
- (2) Warding patterns – setting the boundary lines around wards to determine which communities are within each new ward.

The review is coordinated and managed by the LGBCE. Westmorland & Furness Council is a key consultee and partner within the review process, but has no role in consulting further with other stakeholders (such as parish councils) as that is undertaken by the LGBCE. It is important to note that other stakeholders (including individual Councillors, political Groups and local Parties, as well as parish/town Councils and local businesses and residents) may submit proposals for Warding arrangements, and these alternatives will be considered by the LGBCE alongside the Council's submissions. These alternatives can focus on specific geographic areas, or on the entire authority area.

The outcomes of the review will be implemented from the May 2027 local elections.

The submissions to the LGBCE are required to be politically neutral, whilst recognising the political nature of decision making. Therefore, a cross-party Member Working Group (MWG) has been established, and has developed this submission collaboratively.

# Statutory criteria

In developing warding arrangements, the LGBCE have regard to three statutory criteria; as a result the proposals produced by this Council must also take these into account:

- (1) the need to secure equality of representation (taking future growth into account);
- (2) the need to reflect the identities and interests of local communities; and
- (3) the need to secure effective and convenient local government.

There can be considerable overlap between these three criteria, as well as competing priorities. In general, it is not always possible to meet all three criteria perfectly in every ward. There must, therefore, be some level of compromise to develop the best possible warding arrangements for the local communities. Of the three criteria, the 'equality of representation' is the easiest to confirm as it is a numerical assessment (each ward should deliver electoral equality with a variance of less than  $\pm 10\%$  from the authority-wide average). However, all three criteria are important and the contributions from local councillors to explain how communities work together, where their boundaries lay, and how they can be best represented is vital.

Further guidance can be found in the [LGBCE Technical Guidance](#).

# Approach to developing warding arrangements

1. The LGBCE have confirmed the number of Councillors overall shall be 65. This number may flex up or down by one/two in order to facilitate a stronger and more equal warding pattern, but the aim is to achieve electoral equality without deviating if possible.
2. It is important to ensure rural wards are not excessively large, in order to maintain effective and convenient local governance, and for Councillor workloads to not be excessive. Indeed, Full Council noted the preference to avoid wards that are geographically very large, whilst recognising the need to balance the three statutory criteria, and recognising the benefit of multimember wards particularly in urban areas and the potential for 3-Member wards in the most densely populated communities. As such, wards across the authority area will be a mix of 1, 2 and 3 Member wards depending on local circumstances.
3. The historic boundaries of the three districts are no longer relevant to the new Westmorland & Furness Council, and therefore new wards may straddle these historic boundaries if appropriate. There is no expectation, however, that every such boundary will be affected in this way.
4. There is no expectation that any existing wards will remain unchanged, although existing warding arrangements have been used as the basis for new ward boundaries where possible.
5. Officers and Councillors of the Council have worked to produce a warding pattern that the interests and identities of communities, whilst maintaining wards that allow for effective and convenient local government and ensuring electoral equality.
6. In rural areas, parishes have been grouped together to form wards. Wherever possible, existing smaller parishes have not been split
7. The overall process followed is:
  - a. Grouped smaller parishes together to create new or amended wards.
  - b. Agreed that, as far as possible, rural parishes will not be merged with parts of more urban towns simply to balance the electorates, recognising the different identities, interests and concerns between rural and urban populations.
  - c. Identified areas of the District where a new split of parishes will be required to ensure electoral equality (i.e. the four towns which will each need to be served by more than 3 Councillors – Penrith, Kendal, Ulverston, and Barrow). New wards in these areas are based, where possible, on existing wards taking the three statutory criteria into account and other identifiable features and landmarks.

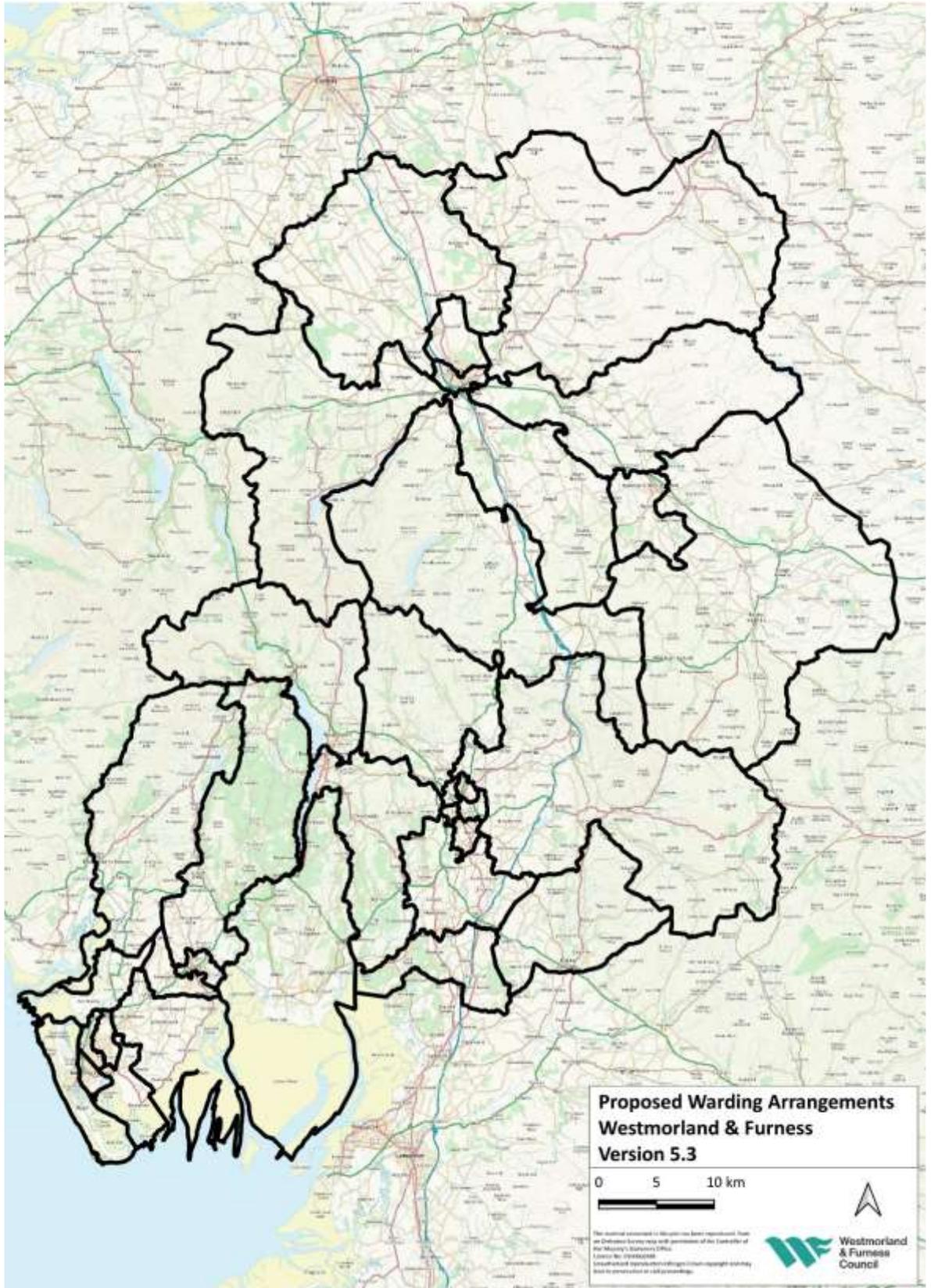
8. Development of warding arrangements is an iterative process, given the need to repeatedly review wards as further changes are made. In the drafts of this document, therefore, provisional wards may be set out that change in subsequent versions as local knowledge is taken into account and boundaries adjusted accordingly.
  
9. Local knowledge, from Councillors and Officers, has been included to ensure warding plans reflect local communities. The views of local Members have been vital in developing warding arrangements that, as far as possible, reflect the interests and identities of communities.
  
10. Taking into account the projected electorate in 2031, and with 65 Councillors in total, the number of electors per ward (+/- 10% electoral variance) is set out below for single-member, 2- and 3- member wards.

Number of Councillors in ward	Number of electors ( $\pm$ 10% variance)
1	2845 (2561 – 3129)
2	5690 (5121 – 6259)
3	8536 (7683 – 9389)

## Maps

Maps included in this submission have been reproduced from an Ordnance Survey map with permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (Licence No. 0100066998). Individual ward maps show the proposed ward boundary (thick black line) and current polling district lines (thin red lines); labels in red are the current polling district codes. 'Version' information on maps should be disregarded, as these refer to internal processes – proposed wards for different areas were developed, finalised, agreed and drawn at different times leading to different version numbers; all maps included in this document are the final approved versions. Below each ward map is a list of polling districts for reference; note that names of polling districts are for administrative purposes and do not always reflect the name of a parish or community.

# Proposed warding arrangements



## **Rural communities**

Where possible, rural parishes have been combined to create rural wards. The unique geography of Westmorland & Furness (including rivers, lakes, mountains, coast and estuaries) has a strict limiting factor on how wards can be configured in some cases. Note that the lists and counts of parishes includes parish meetings, which do not require attendance by Councillors at as many meetings nor events due to their size and governance arrangements.

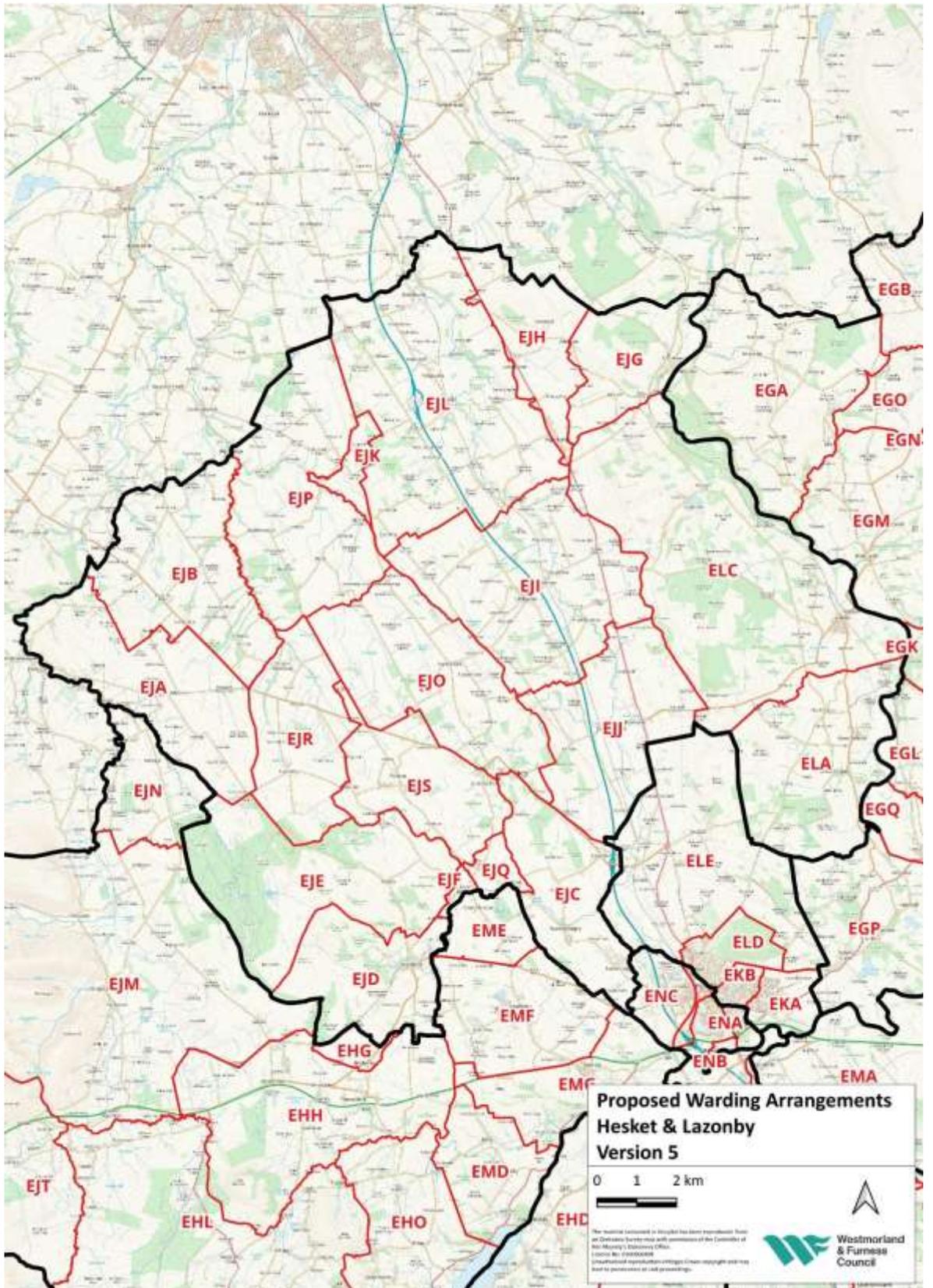
## Hesket & Lazonby

The proposed Hesket & Lazonby ward is based on the current ward of the same name. To achieve electoral equality in this an neighbouring wards, the parish of Greystoke has been added. The ward includes the parishes of Castle Sowerby, Catterlen, Greystoke, Hesket, Lazonby, Skelton, and Great Salkeld.

To the north is the external authority boundary. South is the more densely populated Penrith, which has different local and community issues. East is the river Eden, creating a natural and identifiable boundary (and physically separating from the rural parishes on the east).

An alternative, to split this into two single member wards, has been considered and discussed. However, to make that work the parish of Hesket would need to be split into two parts, which would not be conducive to good community representation. Local Members for this current two member ward already divide representation between themselves between parishes informally, and this approach works well. The disadvantages of single member wards has been discussed, noting that whilst there are locations where they may be effective, the benefits of having two councillors (such as to provide cover for each other and support for local people when one is unavailable) must also be taken into account. On balance, retaining a two member ward here was felt to be advantageous.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Hesket & Lazonby	2	5,552	2%	5,683	0%



Polling districts: EJA – Millhouse; EJB - Sowerby Row; EJC – Catterlen; EJD – Greystoke; EJE - Greystoke (Johnby); EJF - Little Blencowel  
 EJG - Armathwaite; EJH – Hesketh; EJI – Calthwaite; EJJ – Plumpton; EJK – Ivegill; E JL – Southwaite; EJO - Hutton-in-the-Forest; EJP -  
 Ivegill (Skelton); EJQ – Laithes; EJR – Lamonby; EJS – Skelton; ELA - Great Salkeld; ELC – Lazonby.

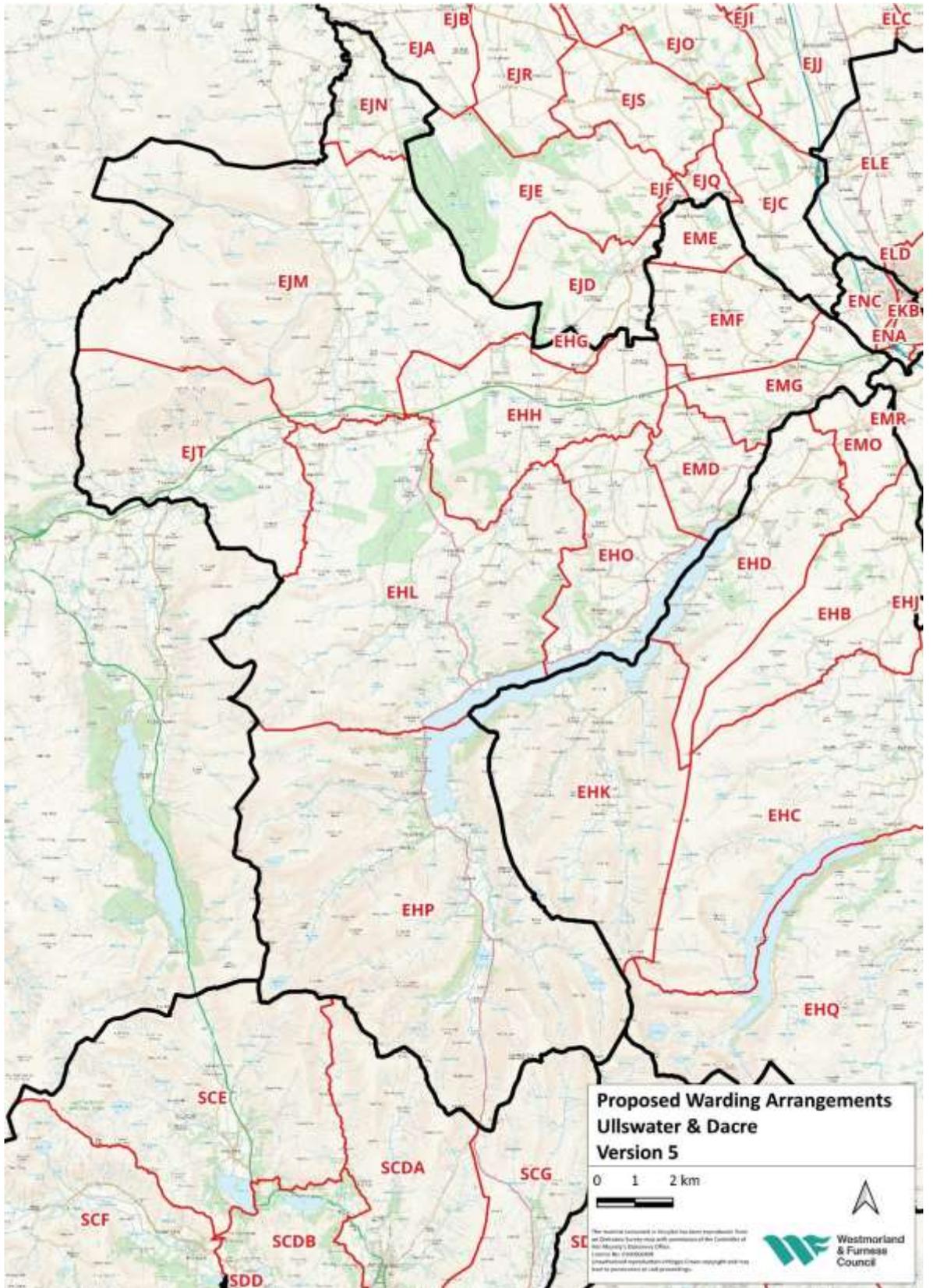
## Ullswater & Dacre

Other than the transfer of Greystoke to Hesket & Lazonby, there are no other changes to this ward (previously known as Greystoke & Ullswater). This ward is separated from neighbours by impassable mountains and lakes. The ward now includes the parishes of Hutton, Matterdale, Patterdale, Mungrisdale, Threlkeld, and Dacre.

There are good community and transport links between the parishes and communities in this ward, and all have previously been in the same ward with the same representation. The Ullswater lake presents a natural boundary for the ward, as there is no direct link from north to south of the lake.

We are aware that there are a small number of residential properties on the B5320 in Dacre parish that look to Pooley Bridge as their community. They are far from the other properties in Dacre, but only just across the bridge from Pooley Bridge. They experience the same issues as other residents of Pooley Bridge and may be better served by being in both the same parish and same ward as other residents of Pooley Bridge. However, it would not be conducive to effective or convenient local governance to include these properties in the same ward as Pooley Bridge at this time, as it would result in a very small parish ward for just these residents. Instead, we propose to include these properties within the Ullswater & Dacre ward with the rest of Dacre parish, and expect to hold a Community Governance Review after completion of the LGBCE-led warding review – if the movement of these properties into Pooley Bridge is supported through the CGR then, with the appropriate consents and approvals, a consequential amendment to the ward boundary to ensure it is co-terminus will be sought.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Ullswater & Dacre	1	2,775	2%	2,916	2%



Polling districts: EHG – Motherby; EHH – Hutton; EHL – Matterdale; EHO – Watermillock; EHP – Patterdale; EJM – Mungrisdale; EJN – Mungrisdale North; EJT – Threlkeld; EMD – Dacre; EME - Great Blencowe; EMF - Newbiggin (Dacre); EMG - Stainton (Dacre)

## Alston Moor & Fellside

The proposed Alston Moor & Fellside is unchanged from the current ward, other than the name. Many of the parishes within the ward are very rural and disparate. The name has been updated to reflect the views of local residents to include the word 'Moor', highlighting that the ward is more extensive than the specific villages it includes.

The ward forms the north-eastern corner of the authority area, and has good community links between parishes. Alternative configurations have been considered, but all involve additions of parishes that are not closely aligned to those within the ward and/or removal of parishes that are integral to the cohesion of the ward. There is no clear way, nor a desire, to split the ward into two single member wards.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Alston Moor & Fellside	2	5,206	-4%	5,260	-8%



### Eden and Lyvennet Vale

The current Eden & Lyvennet Vale ward has 2 Members, 17 parishes, and a projected variance of -20%. Given the size of the ward, and the need to change the configuration in order to deliver electoral equality, it is better to split the ward into two single-member wards. This requires some changes to neighbouring wards, too, to give appropriate balance.

### Long Marton & Kirkby Thore

This includes the parishes/parish meetings of Crackenthorpe Parish Meeting, Dufton, Long Marton, Bolton, Brougham, Kirkby Thore, Milburn, Newbiggin Parish Meeting, and Temple Sowerby. It comprises the eastern and northern parts of current ward.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Long Marton & Kirkby Thore	1	2,568	-6%	2,704	-5%



### **Clifton, Crosby & Yanwath**

This includes the parishes/parish meetings of Crosby Ravensworth, King's Meaburn Parish Meeting, Lowther, Cliburn Parish Meeting, Clifton, Great Strickland, Little Strickland Parish Meeting, Morland, Newby Parish Meeting, Sleagill Parish Meeting, and Yanwath & Eamont Bridge. It takes on areas currently to the west of the current ward, along with additional parishes south of Penrith (namely Yanwath & Eamont Bridge, Clifton and Lowther).

These parishes maintain good transport and community links between them, radiating south from Penrith.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Clifton, Crosby & Yanwath	1	2,853	5%	2,906	2%



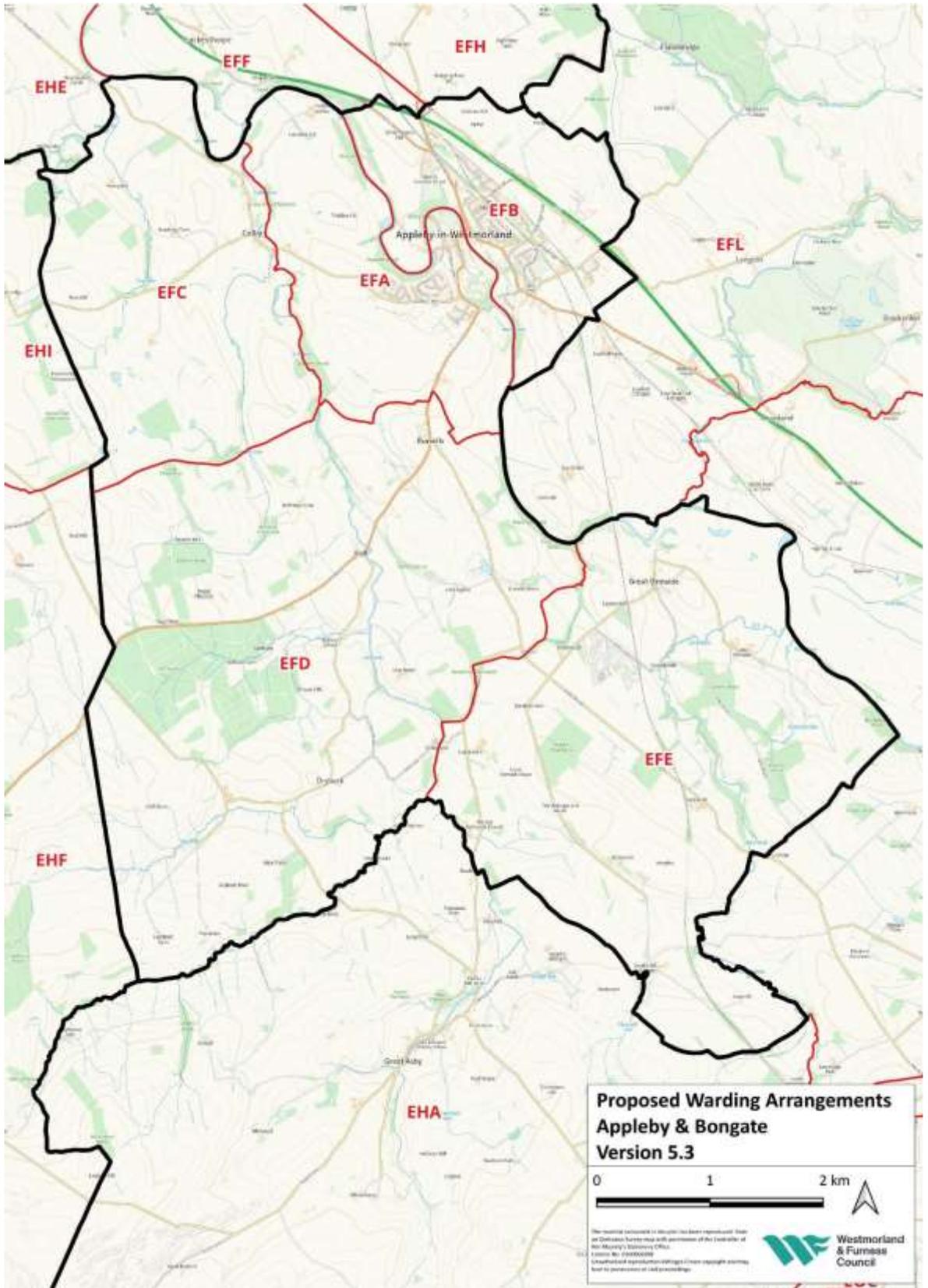
## Appleby & Bongate

Consideration has been given to two alternative options for this area. This configuration, bringing the two parishes of Appleby and Bandleyside together, was felt by local councillors to better reflect the interests and identities of the local communities.

These two neighbouring parishes have good community, identity and transport links.

*See also Kirkby Stephen & Brough for further details.*

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Appleby & Bongate	1	2,907	7%	3,124	10%



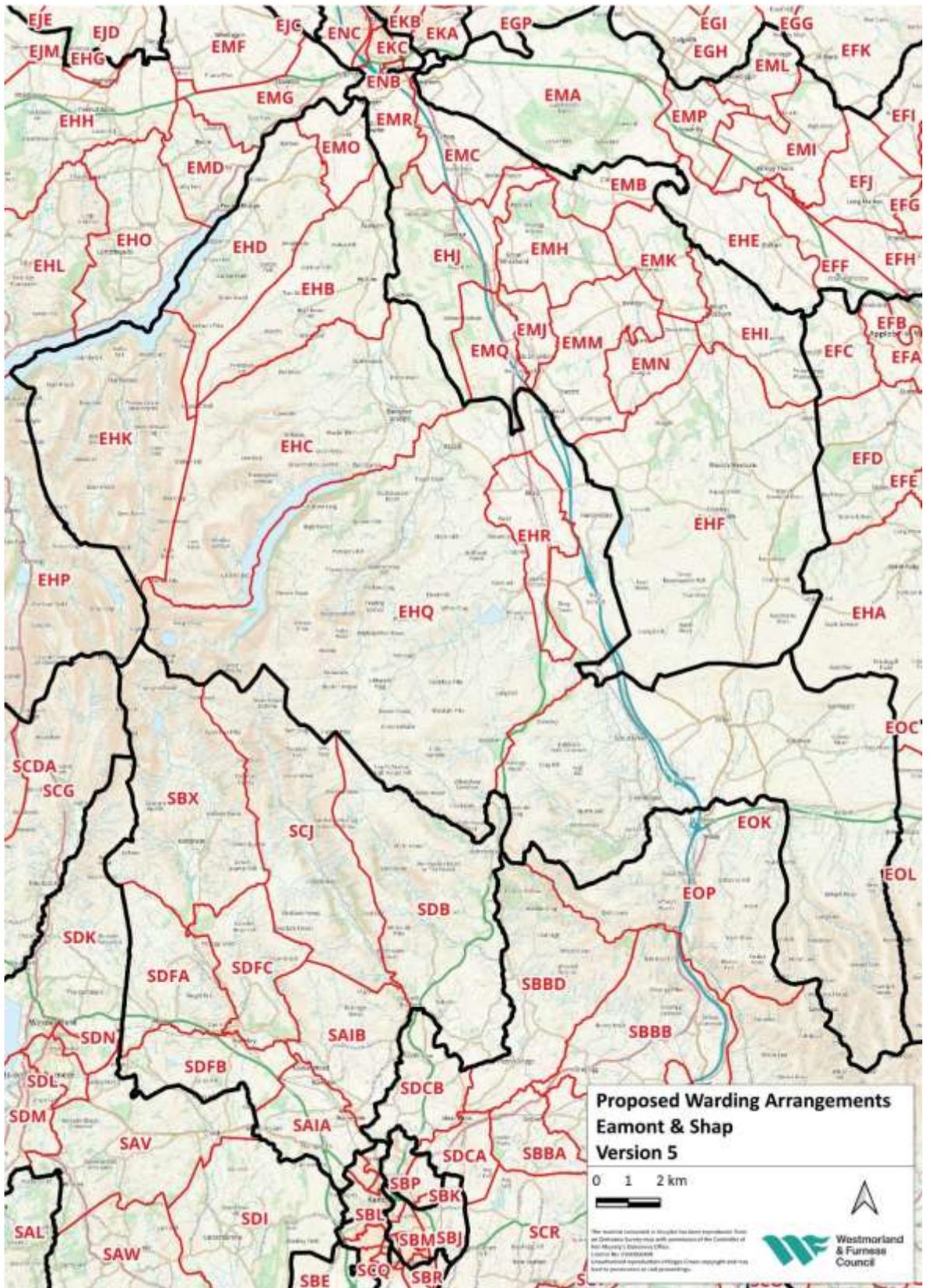
Polling districts: EFA – Appleby; EFB – Bongate; EFC – Colby; EFD – Hoff; EFE - Ormside

## Eamont & Shap

This is a single member ward, which now has the addition of Orton parish. It serves a total of 7 parishes – Askham, Bampton, Barton and Pooley Bridge, Martindale Parish Meeting, Shap, Sockbridge and Tirril, Orton.

The road network within the existing parish extends into Orton. Many of these parishes have small electorates and are sparsely populated rural communities. They are distinct from the more densely populated parishes nearby, and from the urban towns. As a result, they represent both good electoral equality and community representation.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Eamont & Shap	1	2,611	-4%	2,719	-4%



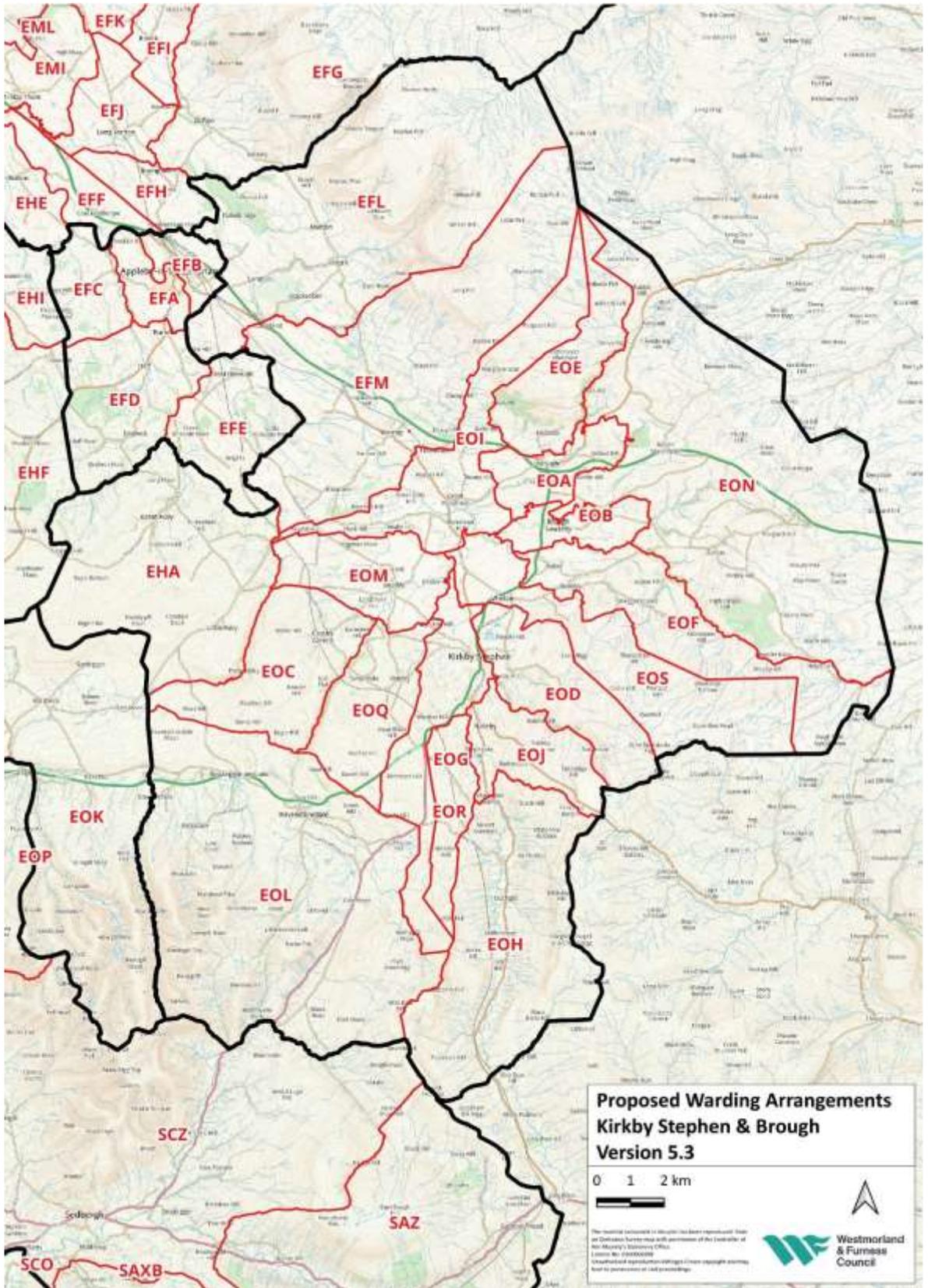
Polling districts: EHB – Askham; EHC – Bampton; EHD – Barton; EHK – Martindale; EHQ - Shap Rural; EHR – Shap; EMO - Sockbridge and Tirril; EOK - Orton

## Kirkby Stephen & Brough

Alternative options for this area have been considered, in which Brough would be part of a ward with Appleby. However, local Members advised that the communities in Brough are more closely aligned with those in Kirkby Stephen than Appleby with greater ties and links. As a result, this two Member ward comprises Kirkby Stephen and Brough, along with a number of smaller parishes and parish meetings. Electoral variance projected to be just 10% (down from -27% in the current ward). The parishes included are Murton, Warcop, Asby, Brough, Brough Sowerby Parish Meeting, Crosby Garrett Parish Meeting, Hartley Parish Meeting, Helbeck Parish Meeting, Kaber Parish Meeting, Kirkby Stephen, Mallerstang Parish Meeting, Musgrave, Nateby Parish Meeting, Ravenstonedale, Soulby, Stainmore, Waitby Parish Meeting, Wharton Parish Meeting, Winton Parish Meeting.

The alternative configuration considered and discussed, with a different alignment between the parishes of the proposed Kirkby Stephen & Brough and Appleby & Bongate included a single Member ward of Kirkby Stephen (comprising the parishes of Crosby Garrett Parish Meeting, Hartley Parish Meeting, Kaber Parish Meeting, Kirkby Stephen, Mallerstang Parish Meeting, Nateby Parish Meeting, Ravenstonedale, Soulby, Waitby Parish Meeting, Wharton Parish Meeting, and Winton Parish Meeting) and a two-Member Appleby & Brough ward. This was discussed but, on balance, the link between Kirkby Stephen & Brough was felt to be more significant and therefore the wards as shown here are proposed. However, this view was not supported universally and some local Members feel that Appleby & Brough may be a better reflection of community identities. Local views are essential to the development of warding patterns that reflect the identities and interests of local communities, and we would support a more in-depth consultation with local residents about these two possible configurations.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Kirkby Stephen & Brough	2	5,055	-7%	5,137	-10%



Polling district: EFL – Murton; EFM – Warcop; EHA – Asby; EOA – Brough; EOB - Brough Sowerby; EOC - Crosby Garrett; EOD – Hartley; EOE – Helbeck; EOF – Kaber; EOG - Kirkby Stephen; EOH – Mallerstang; EOI – Musgrave; EOJ – Nateby; EOL – Ravenstonedale; EOM – Soulby; EON – Stainmore; EOQ – Waitby; EOR – Wharton; EOS – Winton

## Windermere, Ambleside & Grasmere

This ward is unchanged from current ward, served by 3 Members and representing 2 parishes of Lakes, and Windermere & Bowness. This ward does split the Windermere & Bowness parish (on the existing boundary line) and includes very rural communities, spread across a wide area. However, these communities are otherwise not accessible from other neighbouring parishes due to extremes of geography.

An alternative configuration for this area has been developed and reviewed, which would combine Windermere & Bowness. However, in so doing the very rural areas to the south and east are included in the same ward by virtue of seeking electoral equality. That configuration does not make sense, and would lead to a lack of representation in the very rural parts of the ward in comparison to the much more densely populated town. On balance, retaining Windermere & Ambleside as a three member ward was preferred as it reflects the current arrangements and ensures a balance between urban and rural communities.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Windermere, Ambleside & Grasmere	3	7,465	-8%	7,930	-7%

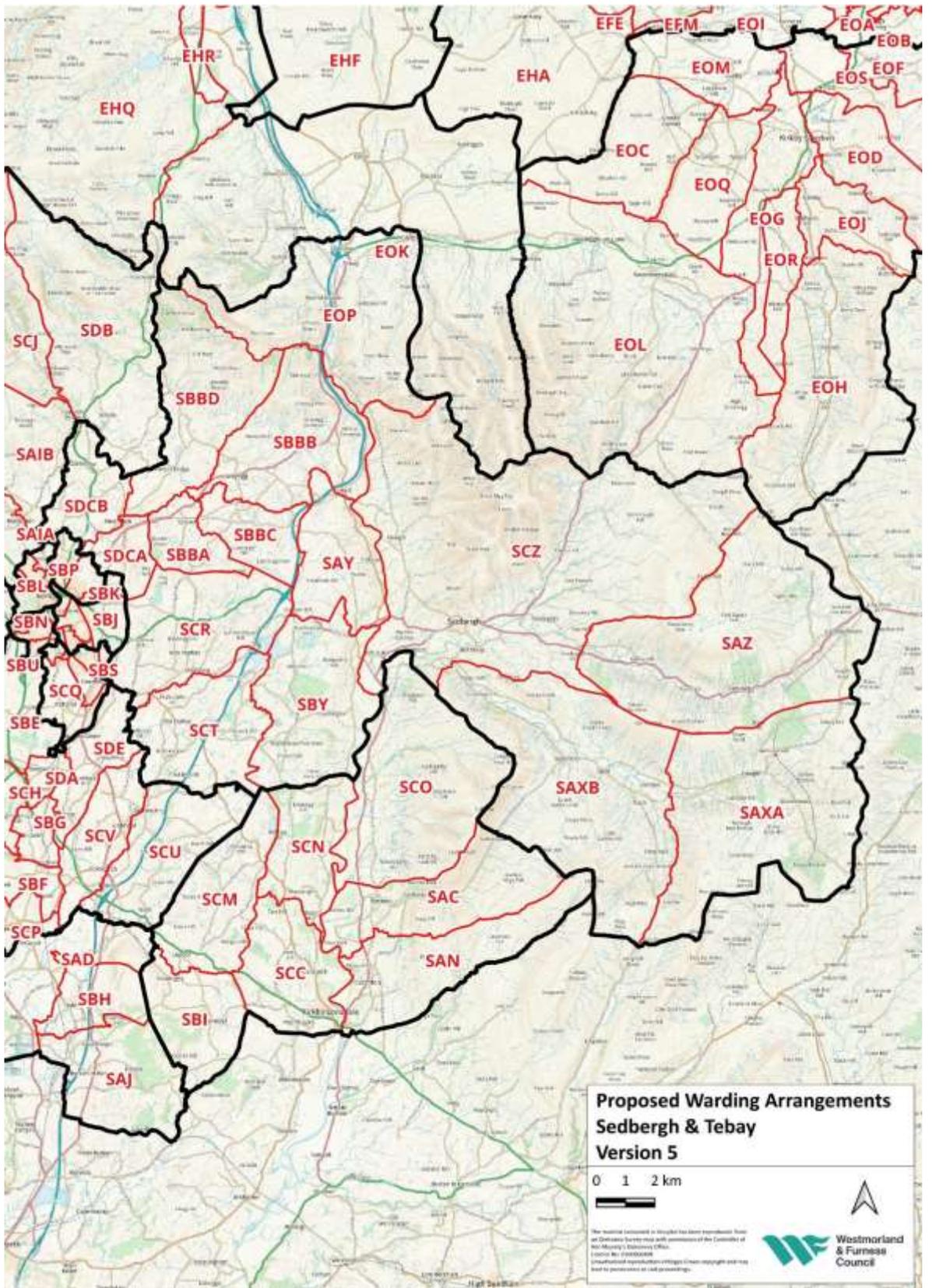


## Sedbergh & Tebay

This is based on current Sedbergh & Kirkby Lonsdale, but with the removal of Kirkby Lonsdale, Casterton, Barbon and Middleton; and addition of Tebay, plus Skelsmergh & Scalthwaiterligg (this must be removed from its current ward due to electoral inequality, but does not fit neatly with Kendal as the latter is much more urban, with distinct issues, priorities and concerns). This is a two member ward, with a large number of parishes (including parish meetings), and covers a wide geographic area. An alternative alignment, including parishes to the west, has been considered, but road transport links east-west in the area are poor due to the geography.

There are a total of 13 parishes in this ward (of which many are parish meetings) – Tebay, Dent, Firbank Parish Meeting, Garsdale, Docker Parish Meeting, Grayrigg Parish Meeting, Lambrigg Parish Meeting, Whinfell Parish Meeting, Killington Parish Meeting, New Hutton, Old Hutton & Holmescales, Sedbergh, Skelsmergh & Scalthwaiterligg.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Sedbergh & Tebay	2	4,894	-10%	5,118	-10%



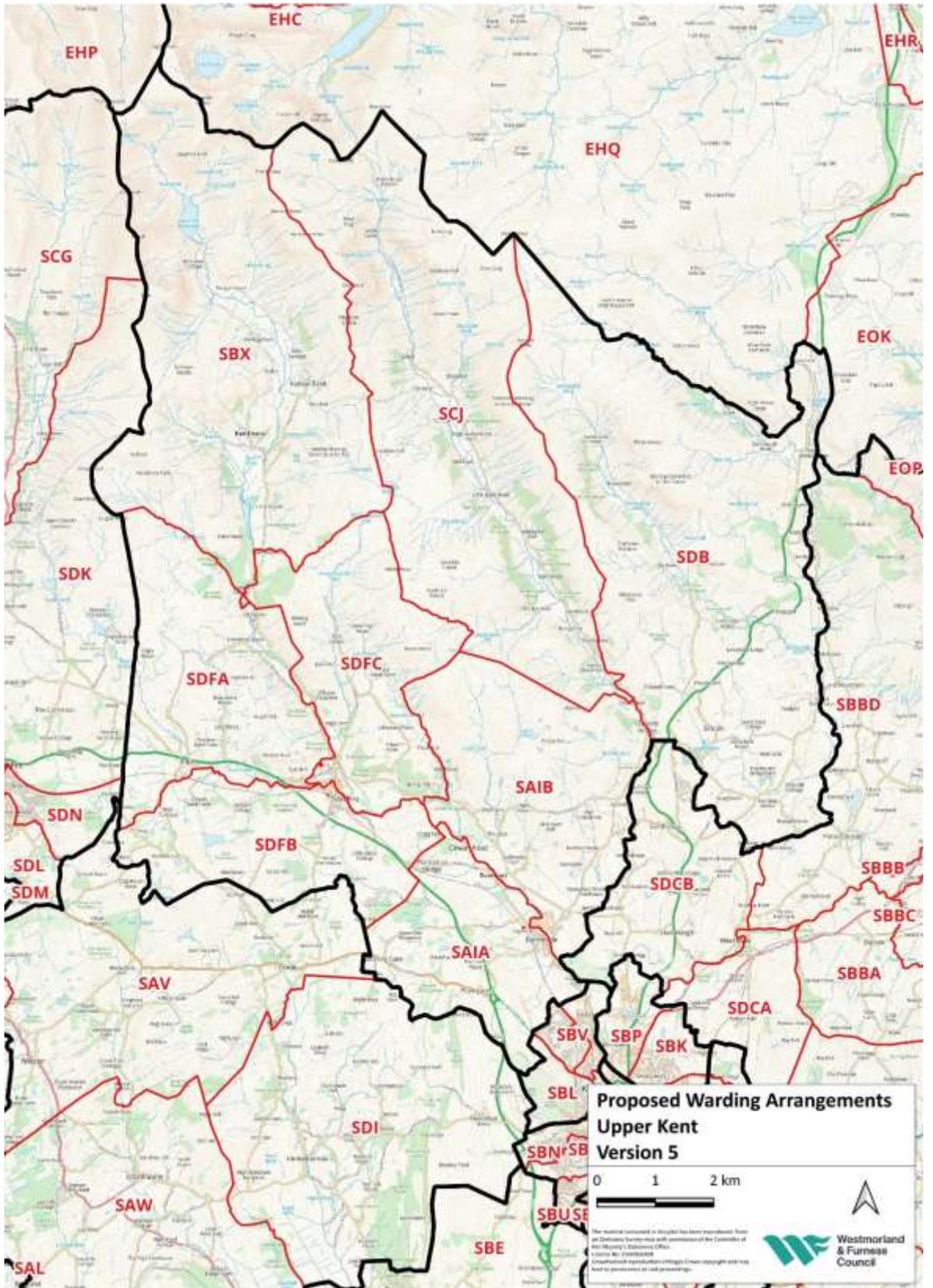
Polling districts: EOP – Tebay; SAXA - Dent (Part A); SAXB - Dent (Part B); SAY – Firbank; SAZ – Garsdale; SBBA - Grayrigg (Part A); SBBB - Grayrigg (Part B); SBBC - Grayrigg (Part C); SBBD - Grayrigg (Part D); SBY – Killington; SCR - New Hutton; SCT - Old Hutton; SCZ – Sedbergh; SDCA - Skelsmergh (Part A); SDCB - Skelsmergh (Part B)

## Upper Kent

This is a single Member ward, based on the current ward but with the removal of Skelsmergh & Scalthwaiterigg parish to deliver electoral equality. It serves 5 parishes – Burneside, Kentmere Parish Meeting, Longsleddale Parish Meeting, Selside and Fawcett Forest Parish Meeting, Staveley-with-Ings.

Upper Kent is north of Kendal, which has vastly different needs and issues due to the nature of the communities and population density.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Upper Kent	1	2,940	8%	3,003	6%



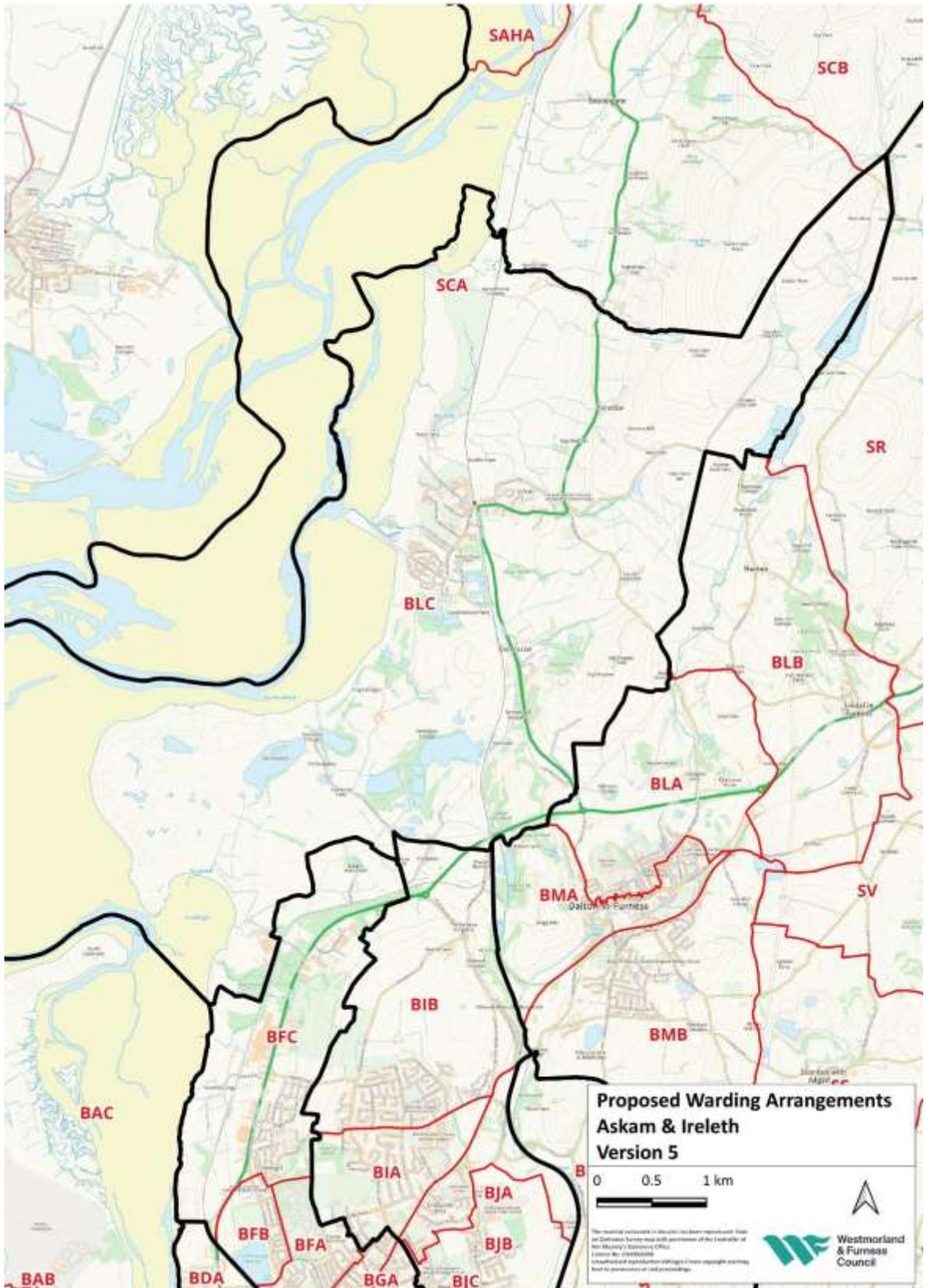
Polling districts: SAIA - Burnside (Part A); SAIB - Burnside (Part B); SBX – Kentmere; SCJ – Longsleddale; SDB - Selside and Fawcett Forest; SDFA - Staveley (Part A); SDFB - Staveley (Part B); SDFC - Staveley (Part C)

## Askam & Ireleth

The parish of Askam & Ireleth will see some significant growth in electorate by 2031, as will other parts of the current Dalton North ward. As a result, Askam & Ireleth can become a single Member ward, aligned with the parish boundary, giving good electoral equality and improved representation of the local community.

On the map image, it appears that SCA (Kirkby Ireleth Lower Quarter) wraps to the west of this new ward. However, that area is unpopulated and uninhabitable sand flats, and the apparent anomaly is due to the location of historic parish boundaries. No part of any parish or community is isolated by virtue of this proposed ward. Introducing co-terminosity between parish and the new ward improves political representation, reduces confusion as to who represents local people, and improves the democratic process for residents.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Askam & Ireleth	1	2,723	0%	2,886	1%



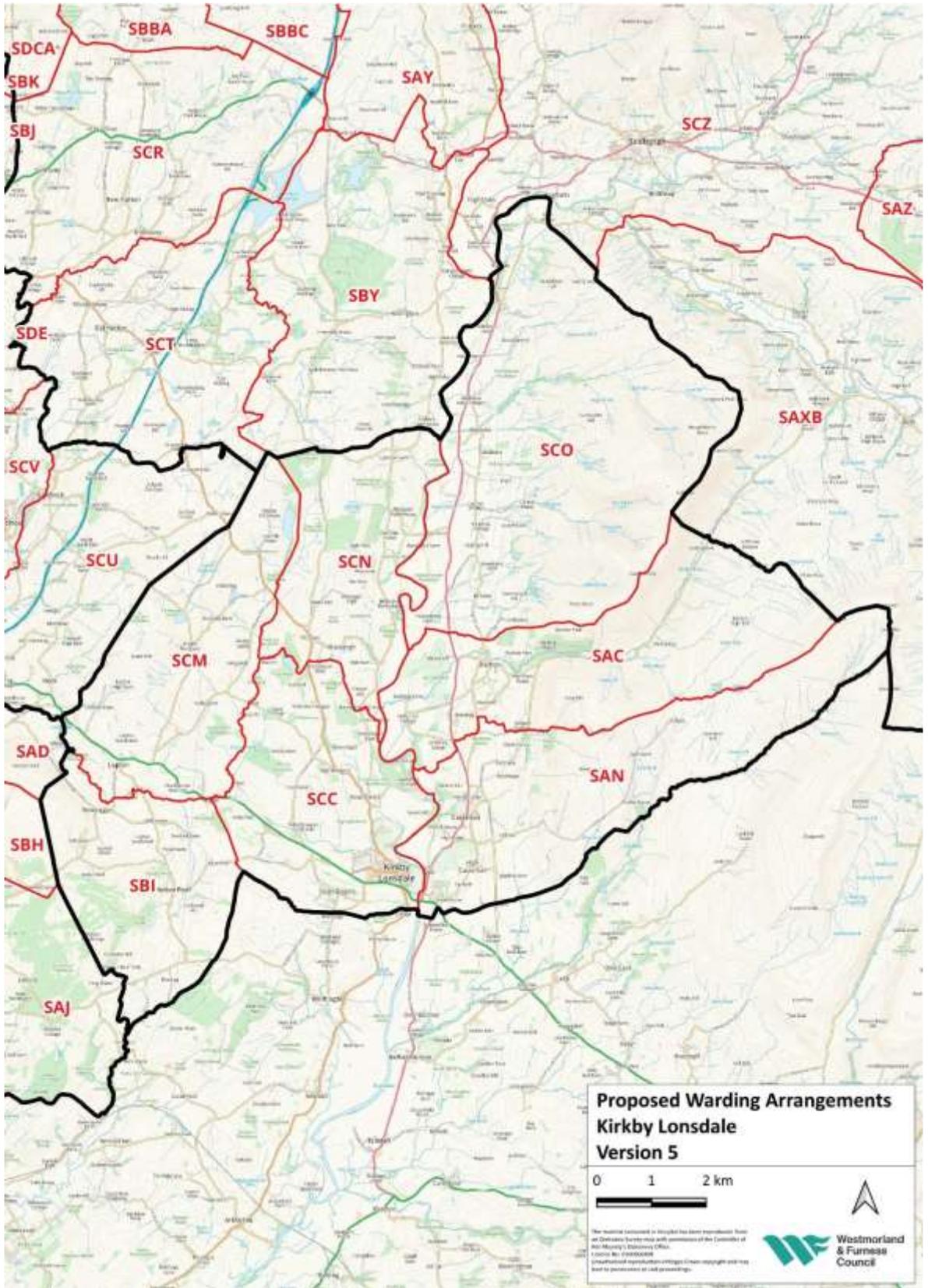
Polling districts: BLC - Dalton North (Askam & Ireleth)

## Kirkby Lonsdale

This new ward includes the parish of Kirkby Lonsdale along with Barbon, Casterton, Hutton Roof, Lupton, Mansergh Parish Meeting, Middleton Parish Meeting.

Whilst Kirkby Lonsdale itself contributes around 60% of the electorate, it is not large enough to be a ward on its own. As a result, this ward includes the rural communities that surround Kirkby Lonsdale. Given the rural communities account for around 40% of the total electorate, the balance between urban and rural communities is felt to be appropriate, with neither becoming an excessively large proportion of the ward; this will ensure the ward Councillor is able to represent the needs of all local residents effectively.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Kirkby Lonsdale	1	2,553	-6%	2,595	-9%



Polling districts: SAC – Barbon; SAN – Casterton; SBI - Hutton Roof; SCC - Kirkby Lonsdale; SCM – Lupton; SCN – Mansergh; SCO - Middleton

## Milnthorpe & Levens

This two Member ward includes the parishes south of Kendal, and includes some previously included with the larger town. A total of 9 parishes are served by this new ward – Helsington, Heversham, Hincaster Parish Meeting, Levens, Milnthorpe, Preston Patrick, Preston Richard, Sedgwick, Stainton.

Bringing the rural parishes out of Kendal wards gives better representation to those communities. The rural parishes align closely together, all seeing Kendal as the major service centre, but each being distinct from the urban town itself and having different community needs, issues and concerns from Kendal.

Whilst the proposed wards are the best option we have been able to develop, taking geography, community and the statutory criteria into account, following discussions with local Members we recognise that these wards do not fully reflect community identity and interests. In broad terms, Milnthorpe is seen as a service centre for the parishes to the south and has less association with Levens for example. However, while the importance of local communities cannot be overstated, it has not been possible to identify an alternative warding configuration that works as effectively to fulfil the three statutory criteria for both these and neighbouring wards.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Milnthorpe & Levens	2	5,570	2%	5,891	4%



## Arnside, Beetham & Burton

The parish of Arnside has to be in the same ward as Beetham due to its geography – it is otherwise entirely isolated from other areas, and has too low an electorate to be a single-member ward itself. This ward serves 4 parishes – Arnside, Beetham, Burton-in-Kendal, and Holme. A range of alternatives have been considered, but given the constraints it is noted there is no realistic alternative. Most of the parishes in this ward currently share the same ward, ensuring continuity of representation and shared community interests.

Whilst the proposed wards are the best option we have been able to develop, taking geography, community and the statutory criteria into account, following discussions with local Members we recognise that these wards do not fully reflect community identity and interests. In broad terms, Milnthorpe is seen as a service centre for the parishes to the south and has less association with Levens for example. However, while the importance of local communities cannot be overstated, it has not been possible to identify an alternative warding configuration that works as effectively to fulfil the three statutory criteria for both these and neighbouring wards.

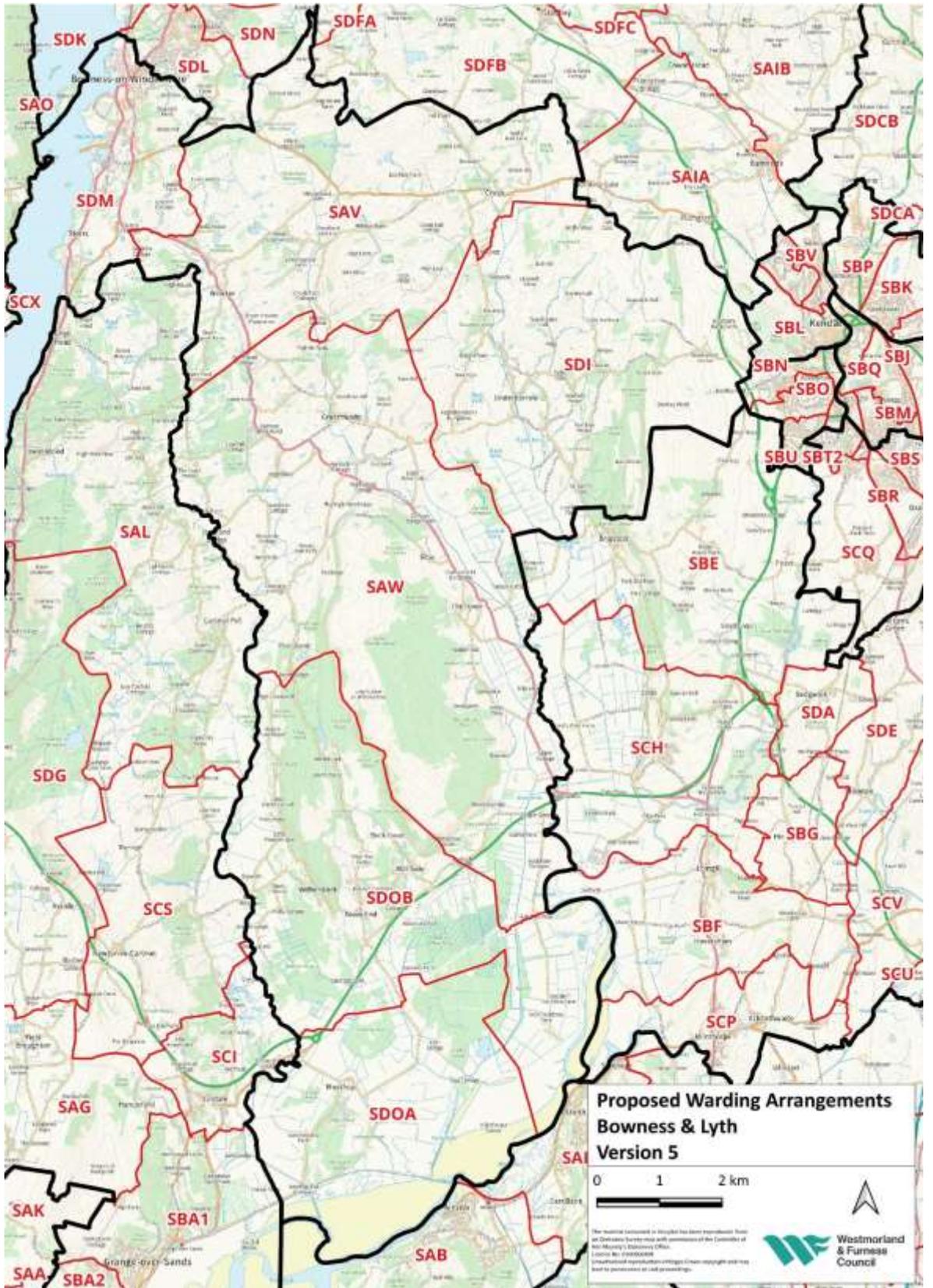
Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Arnside, Beetham & Burton	2	5,810	7%	5,825	2%



## Bowness & Lyth

This single-Member ward, unchanged from the current ward, serves 5 parishes – Crook, Crosthwaite & Lyth, Underbarrow & Bradleyfield, Windermere and Bowness, and Witherslack, Meathop & Ulpha. As noted above, whilst this does split Windermere & Bowness along the existing boundary line, no suitable alternative warding configurations can be developed that include an appropriate mix of communities.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Bowness & Lyth	1	2,854	5%	2,955	4%



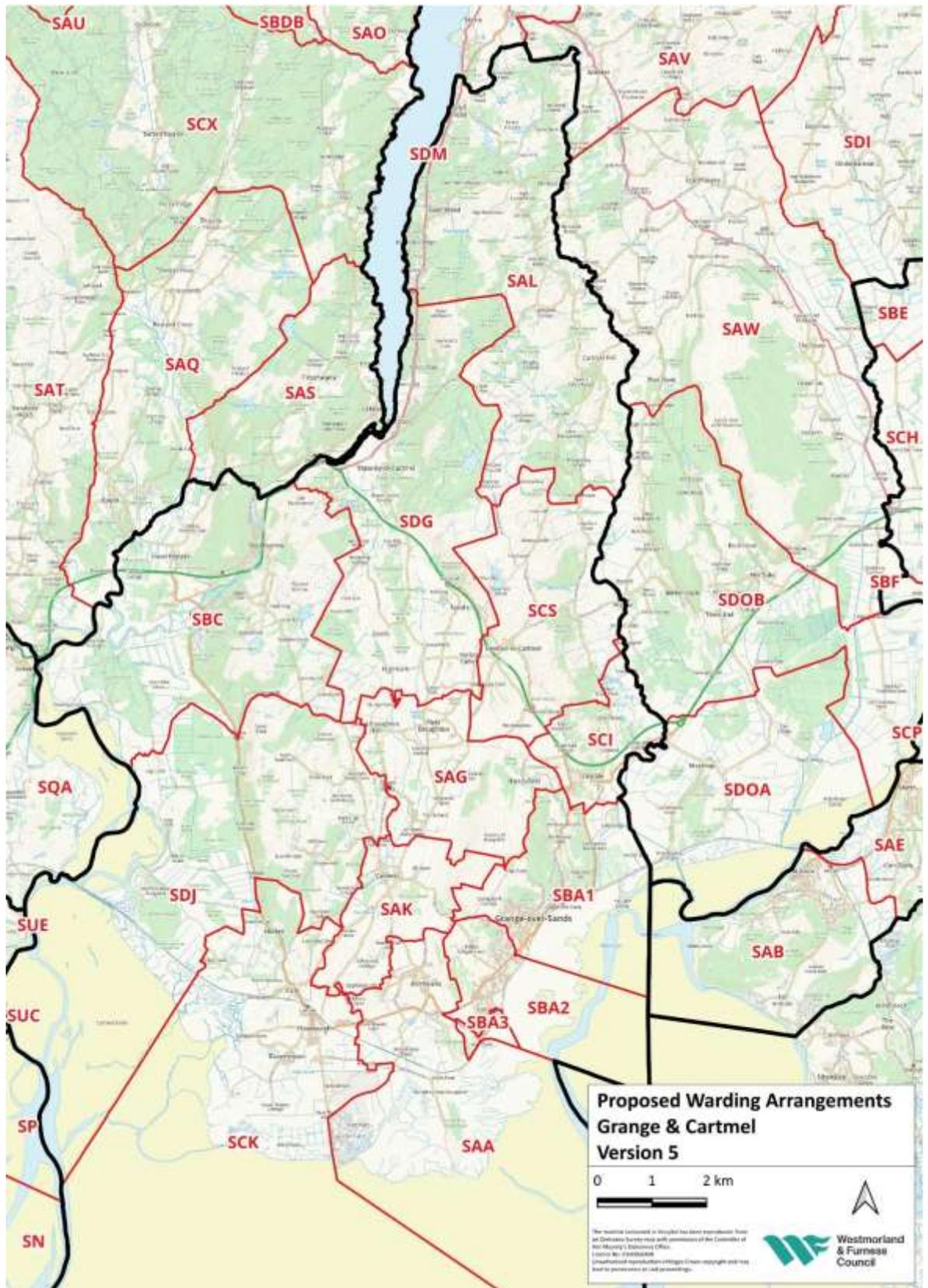
Polling districts: SAV – Crook; SAW – Crosthwaite; SDI – Underbarrow; SDM - Windermere Bowness South; SDOA - Witherslack (Part A); SDOB - Witherslack (Part B)

## Grange & Cartmel

This three-Member ward, unchanged from the current ward, serves 8 parishes - Allithwaite and Cartmel, Broughton East, Cartmel Fell, Grange, Haverthwaite, Lindale and Newton-in-Cartmel, Lower Holker, and Staveley-in-Cartmel.

An alternative, comprising a two member Grange ward and single member Allithwaite & Holker, has also been considered. However, Members felt that residential communities in Allithwaite and in Grange are geographically close and almost contiguous. As a result, it appears to be more representative of local communities to retain a three member ward.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Grange & Cartmel	3	8,658	6%	9,109	7%



SAA – Allithwaite; SAG - Broughton East; SAK – Cartmel; SAL - Cartmell Fell; SBA1 - Grange (Part 1); SBA2 - Grange (Part 2); SBA3 - Grange (Part 3); SBC – Haverthwaite; SCI – Lindale; SCK - Lower Holker; SCS - Newton-in-Cartmel; SDG - Staveley-in-Cartmel; SDJ - Upper Holker

## High Furness and Coniston areas

Considerable discussions within both the Member Working Group and with local Councillors has taken place regarding the High Furness and Coniston areas. A range of options have been developed and discussed and, in each case, no ideal solution has been confirmed. Members agree that there is a clear preference to retain whole parishes within a ward wherever possible, and splitting a parish into smaller pieces in order only to achieve electoral equality is undesirable. Options considered included a north/south split of the area into two single member wards, but the lack of community identity and lack of transport links resulted in a rejection of that option. An alternative, of one two-Member ward to cover the whole area was also considered and rejected as it would become a huge geographical ward making representation significantly more difficult. Noting that the wards in this area cannot remain unchanged due to electorate changes, the Member Working Group agreed unanimously to this proposed configuration of two single Member wards:

## Hawkshead & Greenodd

This ward includes the parishes to the east of Coniston Water, which forms a large and impassable natural barrier that prevents parishes on each side of the lake from being in the same ward. The lack of east-west transport links and this ward (with north-south alignment) has stronger transport links. Pennington is not included in this ward, as that would extend it too far to the south and become larger and more expansive, as a result becoming less representative of communities. This ward includes the parishes of Claife, Colton, Hawkshead, Lowick, Satterthwaite, Skelwith, and Egton-with-Newland.

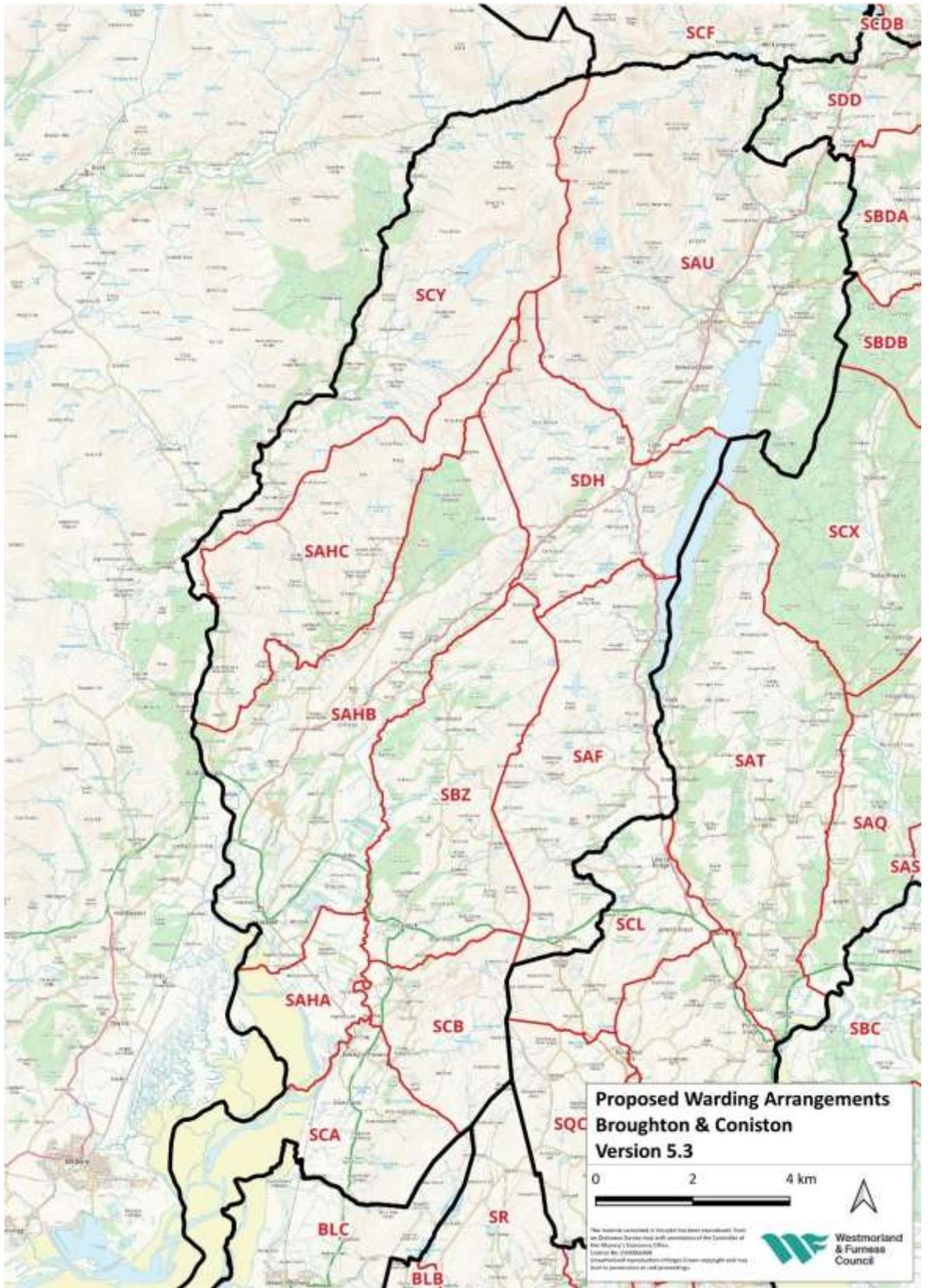
Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Hawkshead & Greenodd	1	2,575	-5%	2,627	-8%



## Broughton & Coniston

This new single-Member ward includes Coniston parish, and parishes to the west of Coniston Water. It serves the parishes - Blawith & Subberthwaite, Duddon, Coniston, Kirkby Ireleth, Seathwaite, and Torver.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Broughton & Coniston	1	2,766	2%	2,860	1%



Polling districts: SAF - Blawith & Subberthwaite; SAHA - Broughton-in-Furness (Part A); SAHB - Broughton-in-Furness (Part B); SAHC - Broughton-in-Furness (Part C); SAU – Coniston; SBZ - Kirkby Ireleth Heathlands; SCA - Kirkby Ireleth Lower Quarter; SCB - Kirkby Ireleth Middle Quarter; SCY – Seathwaite; SDH - Torver

## Dalton & Low Furness

Considerable discussions have taken place within the Member Working Group, in consultation with local Members, about possible configurations for wards in the Dalton and Low Furness areas.

Despite growth in Dalton itself, it is 'too big' for 2 councillors, but 'too small' for 3.

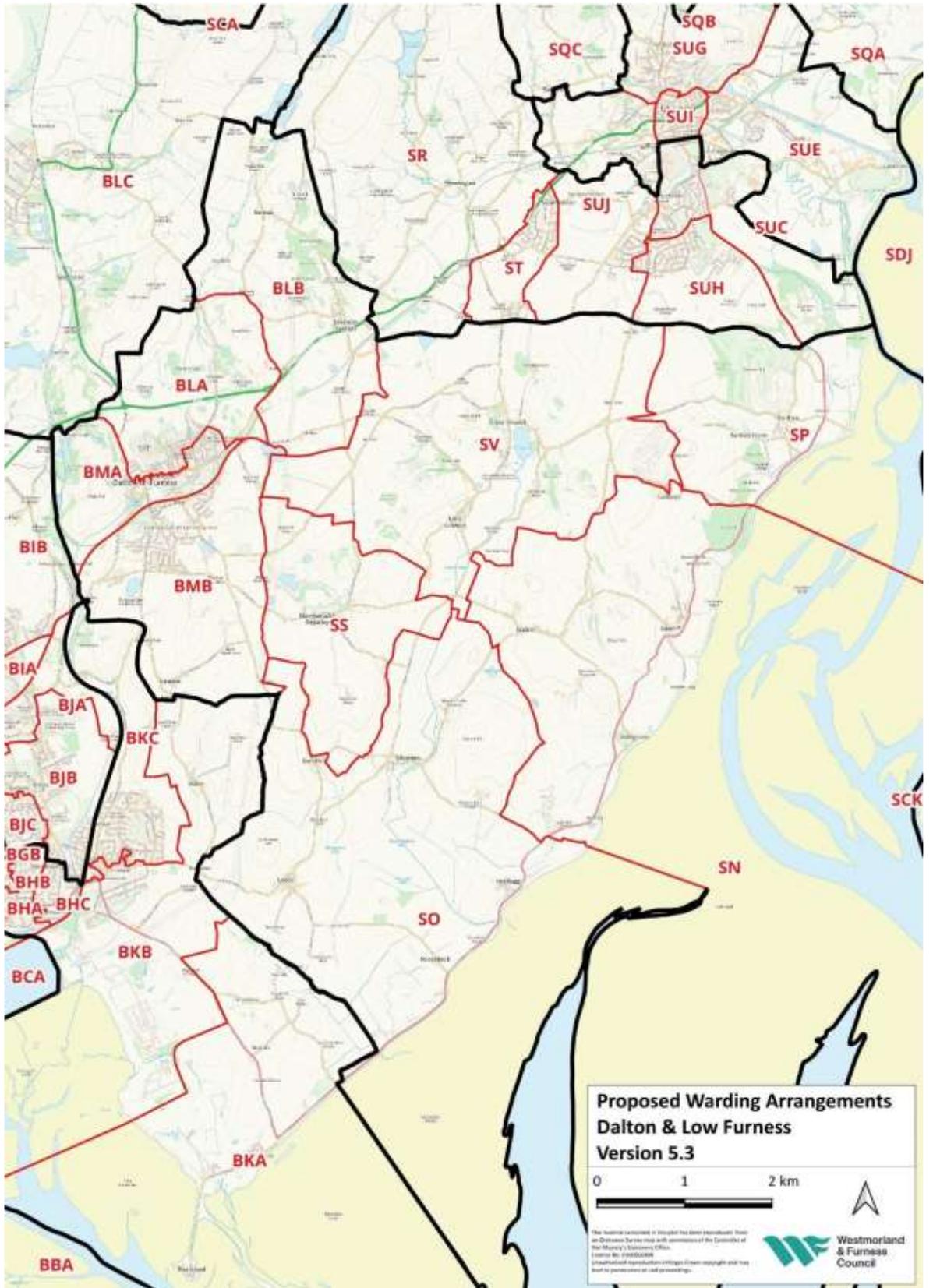
Following discussion, the Member Working Group broadly agreed that the parish of Dalton-with-Newton should not be split. It was agreed that, in line with other decisions across the local authority area, Dalton-with-Newton should remain intact without the removal of Newton.

This results in Dalton-with-Newton being included in a larger ward including the rural parts of Low Furness. This may not be ideal as the interests and issues affecting the urban centre and the rural communities are likely to be different. However, Members felt that keeping Newton with the rest of the Dalton-with-Newton parish was important as local people in Newton see themselves as part of Dalton. The alternative considered was to separate Newton from Dalton; the latter would become an urban 2 Member ward with Newton joining the rural ward of Low Furness. However, in this situation the parish council for Newton (Dalton-with-Newton) would not be able to represent the interests and identities of Newton as effectively, being based largely in a separate ward.

It was noted that around 1/3 of the electorate will be from rural communities, and it was felt this was a good balance to ensure the needs of rural communities are recognised and served.

It is recognised that the east side of East View in Lindal is currently in Pennington Parish, yet the west side of the road is in Lindal & Marton parish. They are far from the other properties in Pennington and are likely a better fit with Lindal & Marton. However, it would not be conducive to effective or convenient local governance to include these properties in the same ward as Lindal & Marton at this time, as it would result in a very small parish ward for just these residents. Instead, we propose to include these properties within the same ward as Pennington parish, and expect to hold a Community Governance Review after completion of the LGBCE-led warding review – if the movement of these properties into Lindal & Marton is supported through the CGR then, with the appropriate consents and approvals, a consequential amendment to the ward boundary to ensure it is co-terminus will be sought.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Dalton & Low Furness	3	8,692	7%	9,185	8%



Polling districts: BLA - Dalton North; BLB - Dalton North; BMA - Dalton South; BMB - Dalton South; SN - Aldingham North; SO - Aldingham South; SP - Bardsea; SS - Stainton (Urswick); SV - Urswick

## Larger towns

The four larger towns, which are each ‘too big’ for 3 Councillors, have been considered separately. These are Barrow, Kendal, Penrith, and Ulverston.

### Barrow

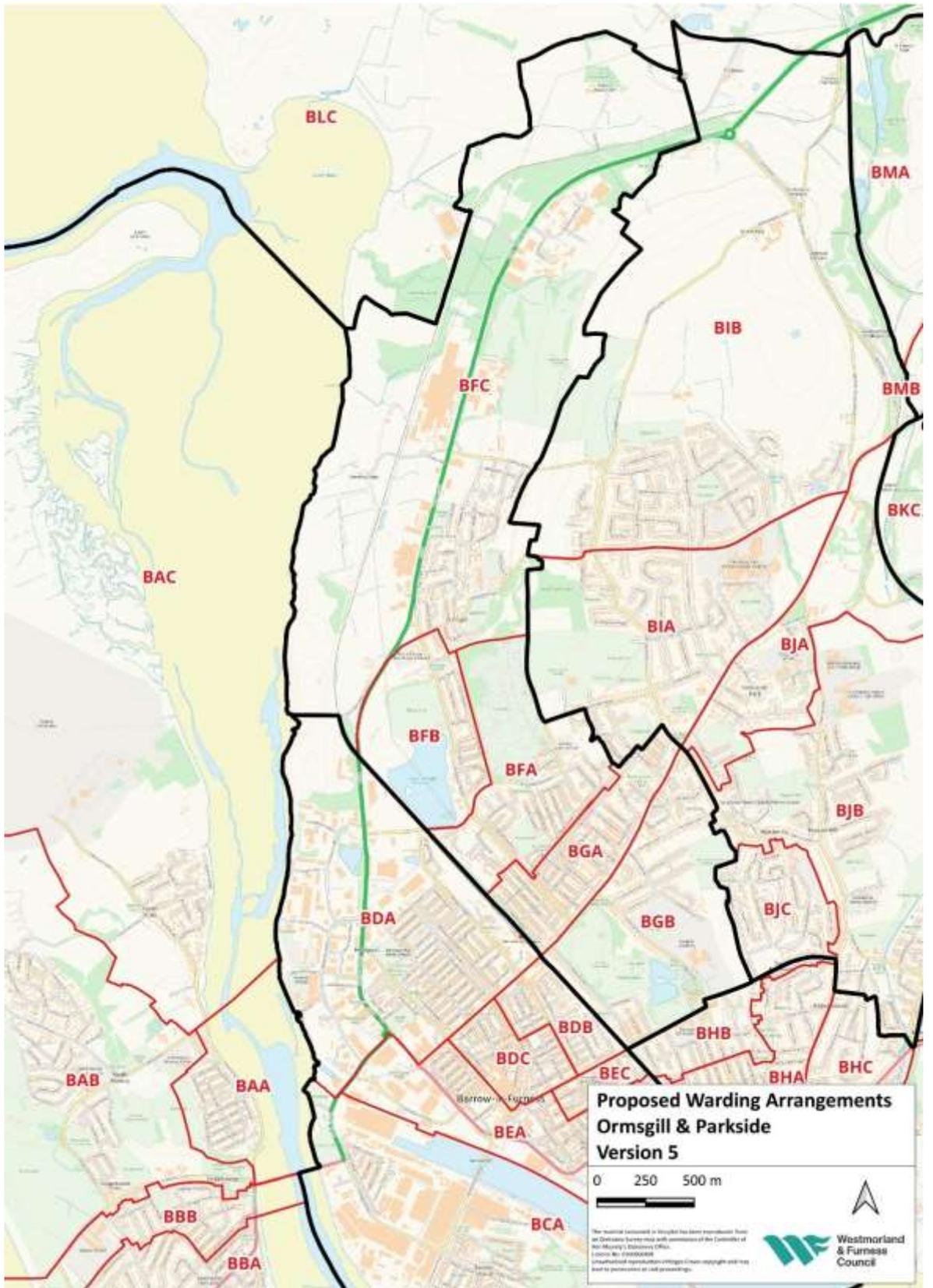
Barrow will be served by a total of 15 Members, giving an overall variance of +1%. The current warding arrangement in Barrow will continue to be within acceptable electoral variance, with no changes in ward boundaries required. Whilst there are large-scale residential developments planned in Barrow, none straddle current ward boundaries. As wards in Barrow were reviewed relatively recently, and continue to reflect the identities and interests of local communities, no changes are proposed.

The current Walney Island ward comprises the entire of Walney Island. As this community is geographically separate from the mainland, with limited access between the two, and has been well-served as a separate ward to date, the proposal is to retain Walney Island as a separate ward. The majority of the population live at one end of the island; however, the benefits of keeping the entire Island as a unified ward (in terms of identity, community interests and governance) outweigh the potential benefits of splitting the Island into smaller separate wards, in which artificial boundaries would need to be drawn.

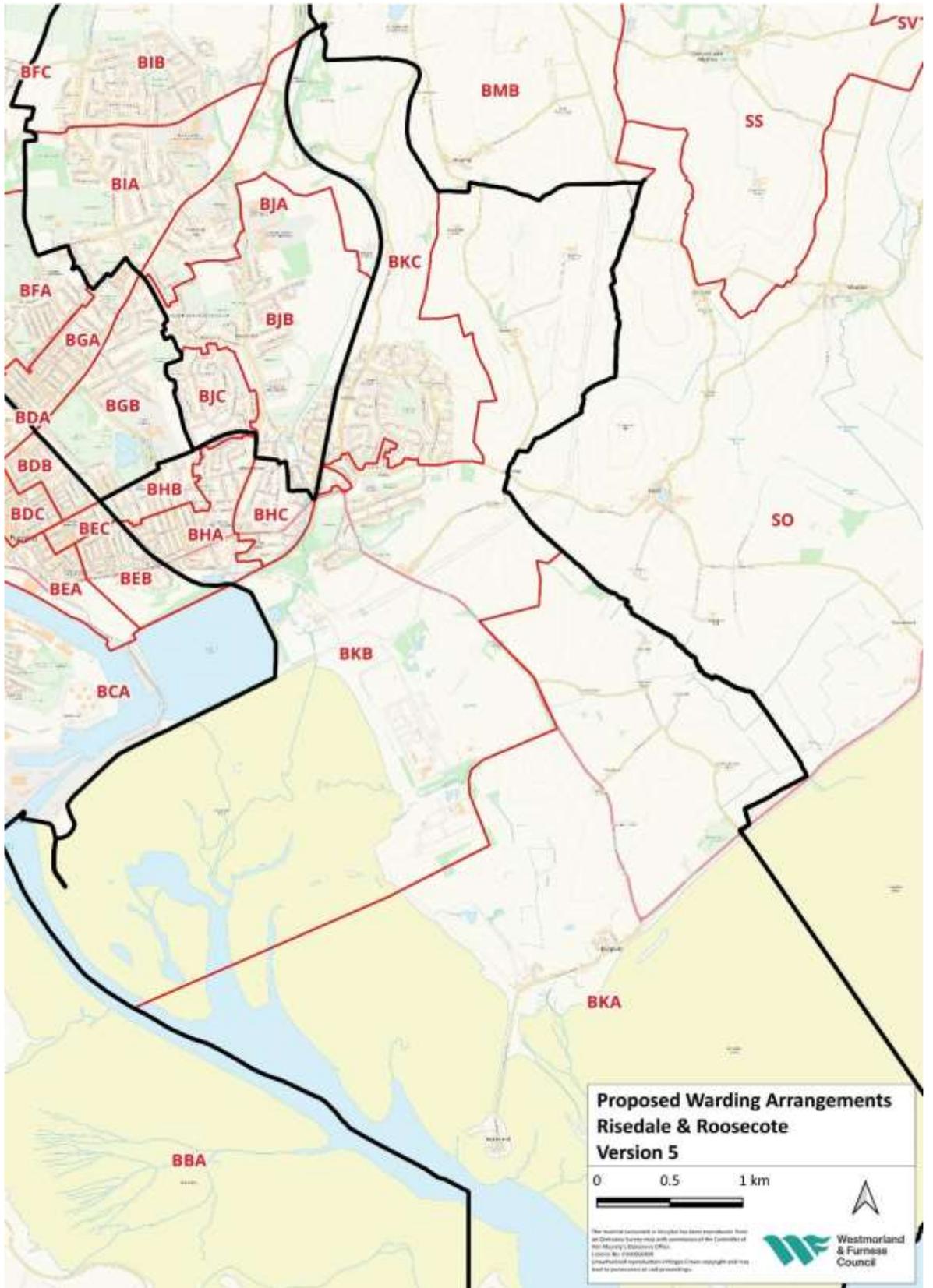
Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Walney Island	3	8,271	1%	8,339	-2%
Old Barrow & Hindpool	3	8,371	3%	9,145	7%
Ormsgill & Parkside	3	8,232	1%	8,363	-2%
Risedale & Roosecote	3	8,226	1%	8,379	-2%
Hawcoat & Newbarns	3	8,747	7%	8,956	5%



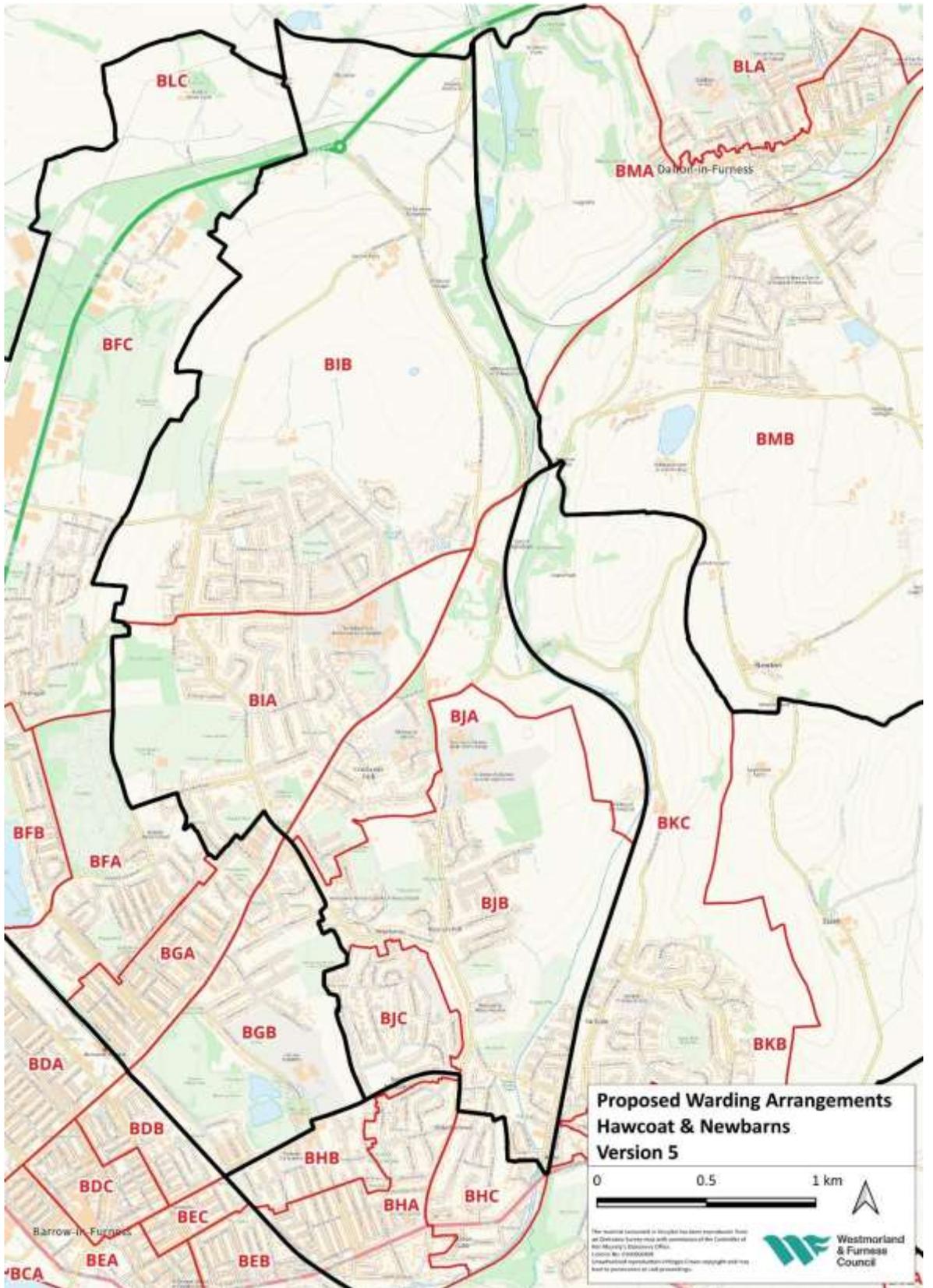




Polling districts: BFA - Ormsgill and Parkside; BFB - Ormsgill and Parkside; BFC - Ormsgill and Parkside; BGA - Ormsgill and Parkside; BGB - Ormsgill and Parkside



Polling districts: BHA - Risedale and Roosecote; BHB - Risedale and Roosecote; BHC - Risedale and Roosecote; BKA - Risedale and Roosecote; BKB - Risedale and Roosecote; BKC - Risedale and Roosecote



Polling districts: BIA - Hawcoat and Newbarns; BIB - Hawcoat and Newbarns; BJA - Hawcoat and Newbarns; BJB - Hawcoat and Newbarns; BJC - Hawcoat and Newbarns

## **Kendal**

Kendal will be served by 9 Members, with an overall variance of -3%. The Kendal group of wards will continue to include Natland parish, but the other parishes outside of the town have been reallocated outside of the Kendal group of wards. This is because they are more similar to the other parishes outside of Kendal than the more densely populated Kendal. Some of the residential growth around Kendal extends into Natland parish, so retaining Natland within the Kendal group of wards ensures appropriate representation.

Overall, only one ward could remain unchanged in Kendal and retain electoral equality. However, with relatively few small changes, electoral balance can be achieved whilst also reflecting local communities more completely.

### **Kendal Strickland & Fell**

This ward is unchanged from the current arrangement, sitting in the north-west of the town. Bordered to the east by the river, and the Greenside road to the south.

### **Kendal Highgate**

This is based on the existing ward, but extended to include everything west/north of the river (so taking in part of the current Kendal South); everything to the east of the river is moved to Kendal Castle.

### **Kendal South**

This is the existing Kendal South ward (less Sedgwick, Stainton and Hincaster parishes, and the area moving to Highgate) with the addition of 155 electors from Kendal Castle (around the Helme Drive area; a previous anomaly in terms of representation), bringing the boundary to follow the centre of the A65 Burton Road, and the SBS polling district (in the south-east of the town).

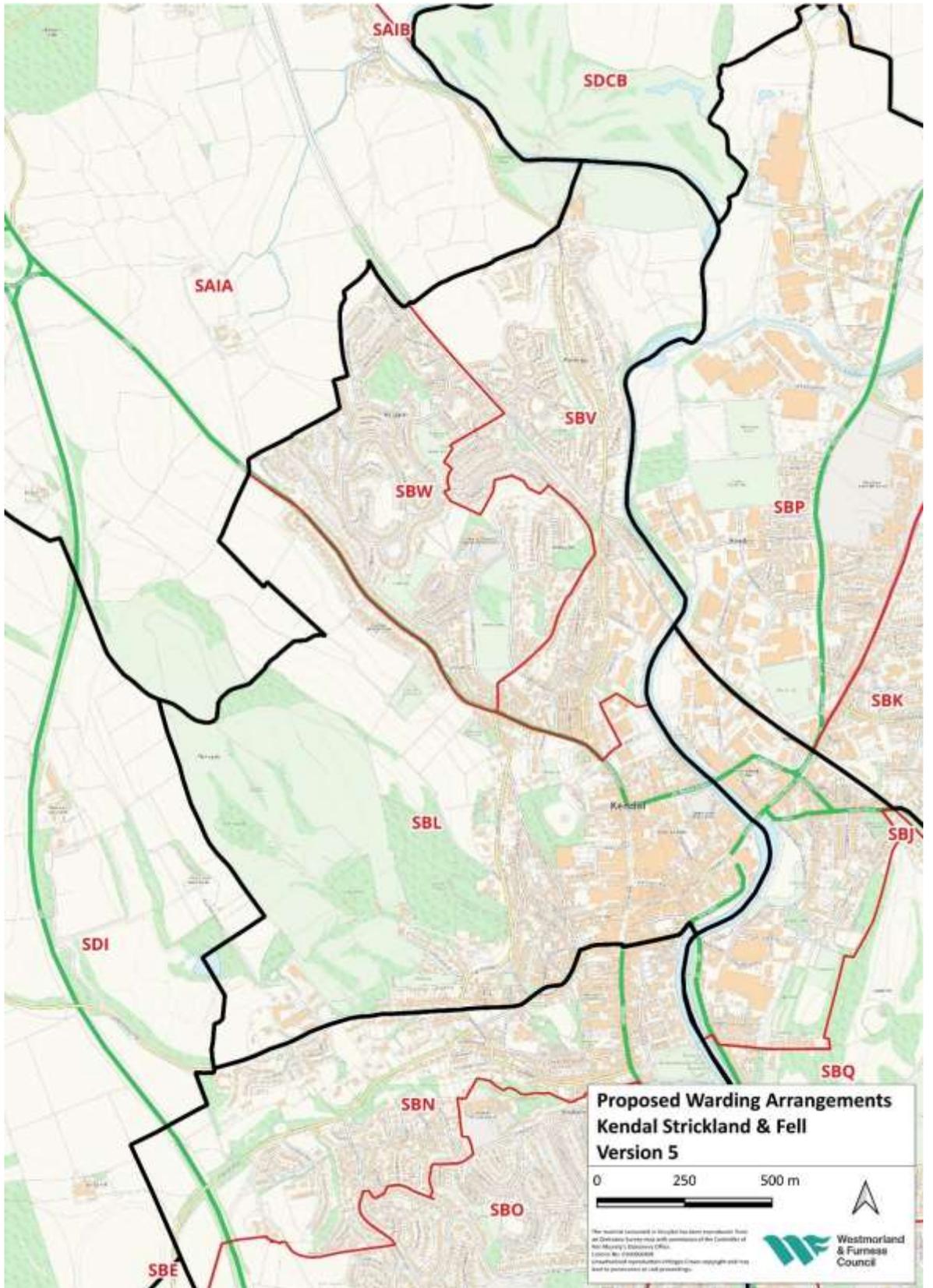
### **Kendal Castle**

Based on the remainder of the existing Castle ward, this also takes on the area between the railway and river from Kendal Nether, and the eastern polling district of SBJ, plus the area to the east of the river currently in Kendal Highgate. Not only does this bring electoral equality, it also ensures properties on all sides of the castle are in the same ward, and uses the clear boundaries of the railway and river as the new ward boundary.

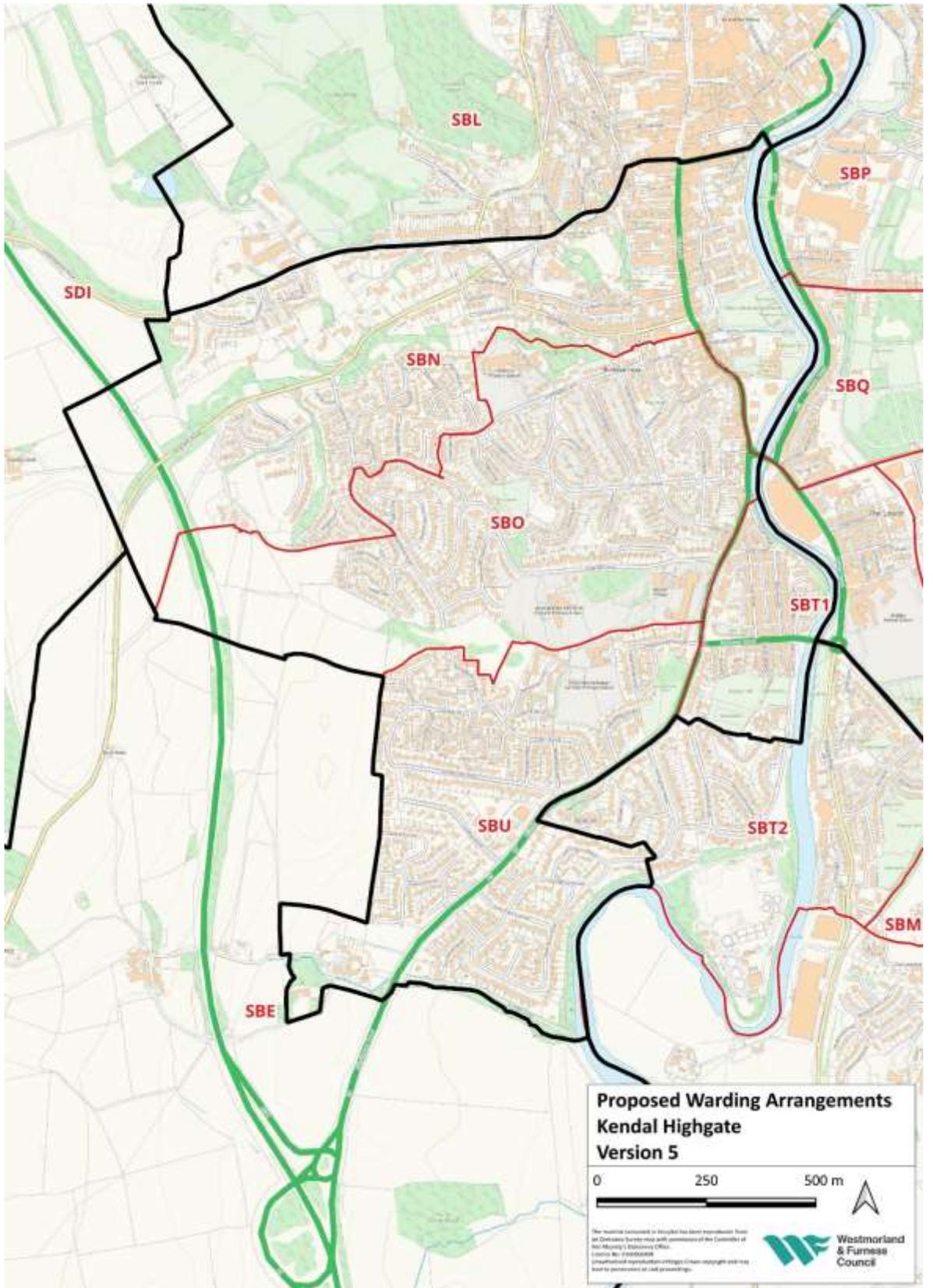
### **Kendal Nether**

This is the existing ward, with the removal of the area moving to Castle.

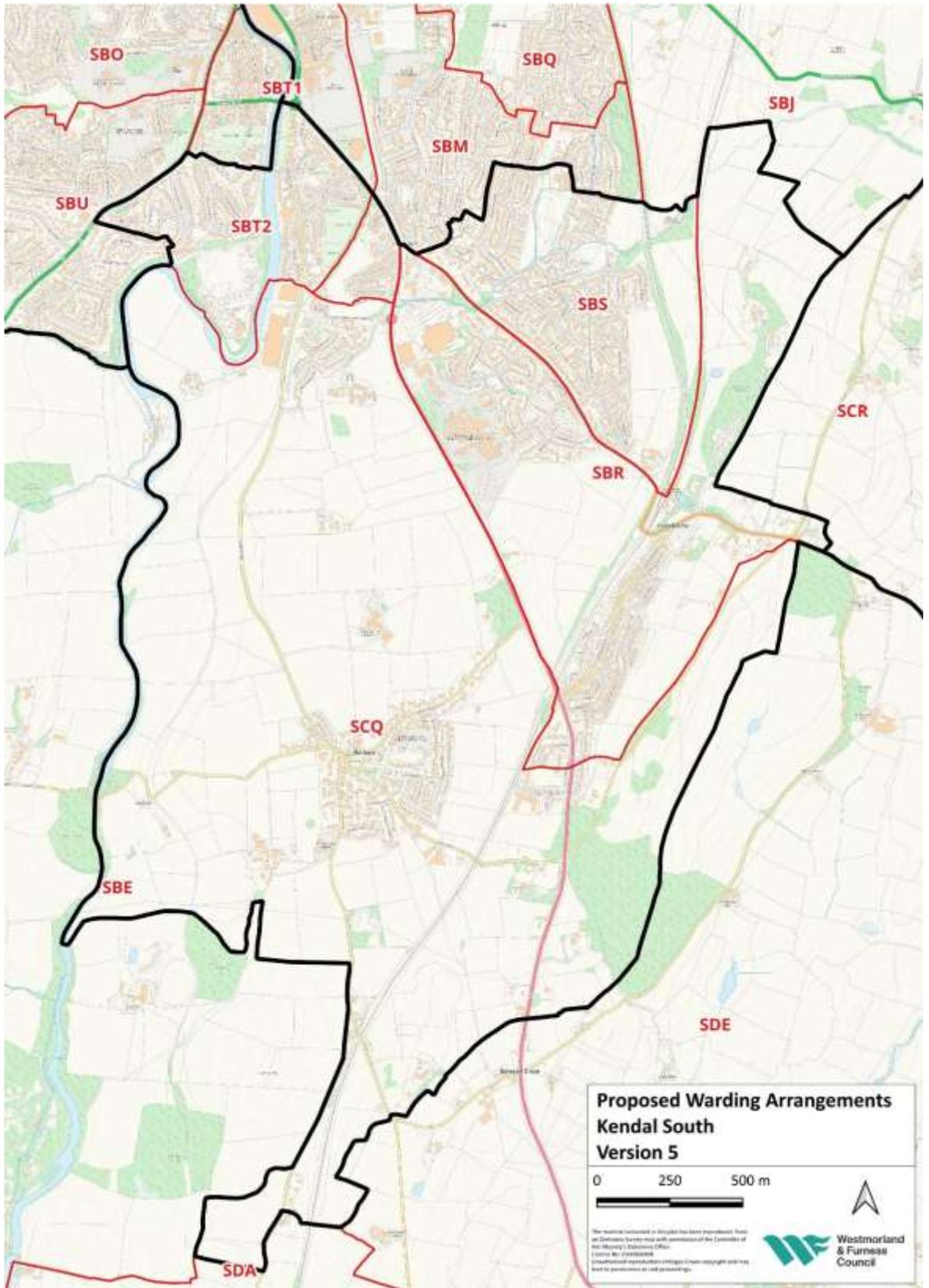
Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Kendal Strickland & Fell	2	5,030	-7%	5,370	-6%
Kendal Highgate	2	5,614	3%	5,948	5%
Kendal South	2	4,782	-12%	5,145	-10%
Kendal Castle	2	5,606	3%	5,691	0%
Kendal Nether	1	2,716	0%	2,763	-3%



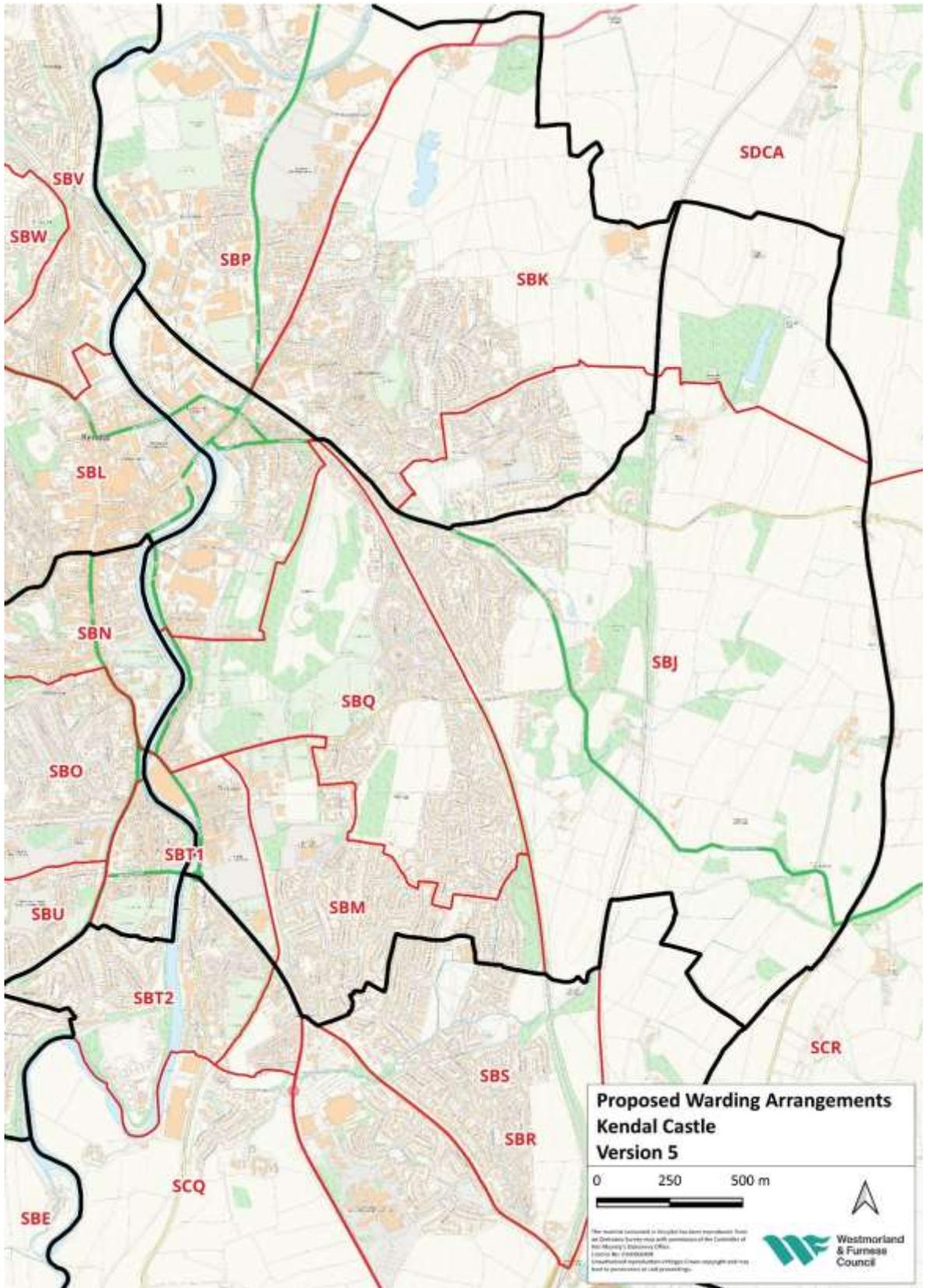
Polling districts: SBL - Kendal Fell; SBV - Kendal Strickland; SBW - Kendal Underley



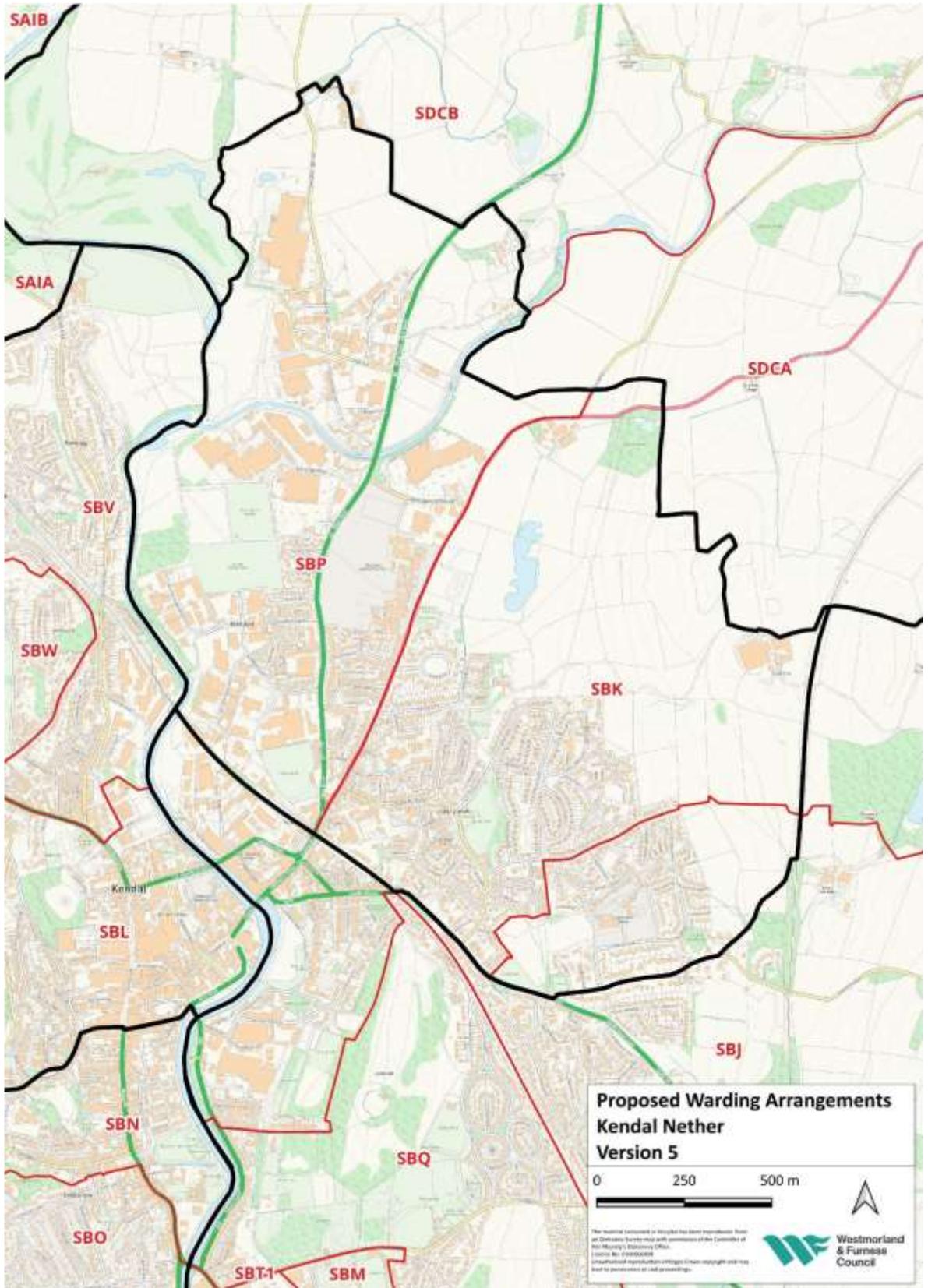
Polling districts: SBN - Kendal Highgate; SBO - Kendal Kirkland; SBT1 - Kendal Romney (Part 1); SBU - Kendal Stonecross



Polling districts: SBR - Kendal Oxenholme; SBS - Kendal Parks; SBT2 - Kendal Romney (Part 2); SCQ - Natland



Polling districts: SBJ - Kendal Nether; SBM - Kendal Heron Hill; SBQ - Kendal Castle



Polling districts: SBK - Kendal Far Cross; SBP - Kendal Mintsfeet

## Penrith

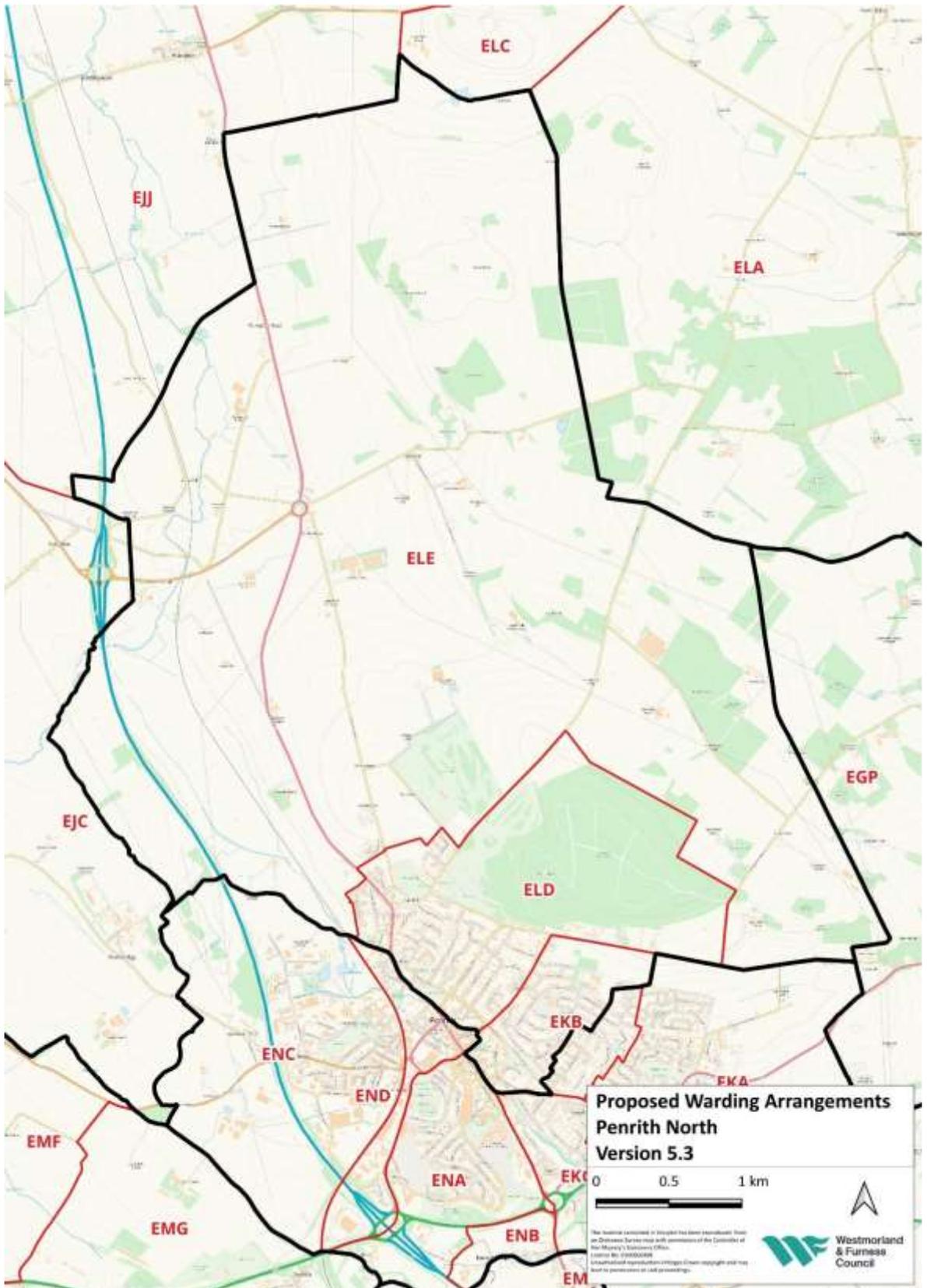
Penrith will be served by 5 Members (up from the current 4), with an overall variance of 1%. Based on the current wards, Penrith South with an additional Councillor would have a variance of -12%; Penrith North would be at +19%. Therefore, some reconfiguration of wards is required in the town.

A number of options have been considered by the Member Working Group in consultation with local Councillors. Through these discussions and feedback from local representatives, it was felt that having a 2 Member North ward would be preferable to a 3 Member North ward. The northern part of Penrith parish is quite rural and sparsely populated compared to the town itself. Having a three Member ward for the north includes a large part of the town, resulting in the rural parts of the parish being a very small proportion of the area and population, potentially reducing their representation. Having a two-Member ward for the north helps remove that issue.

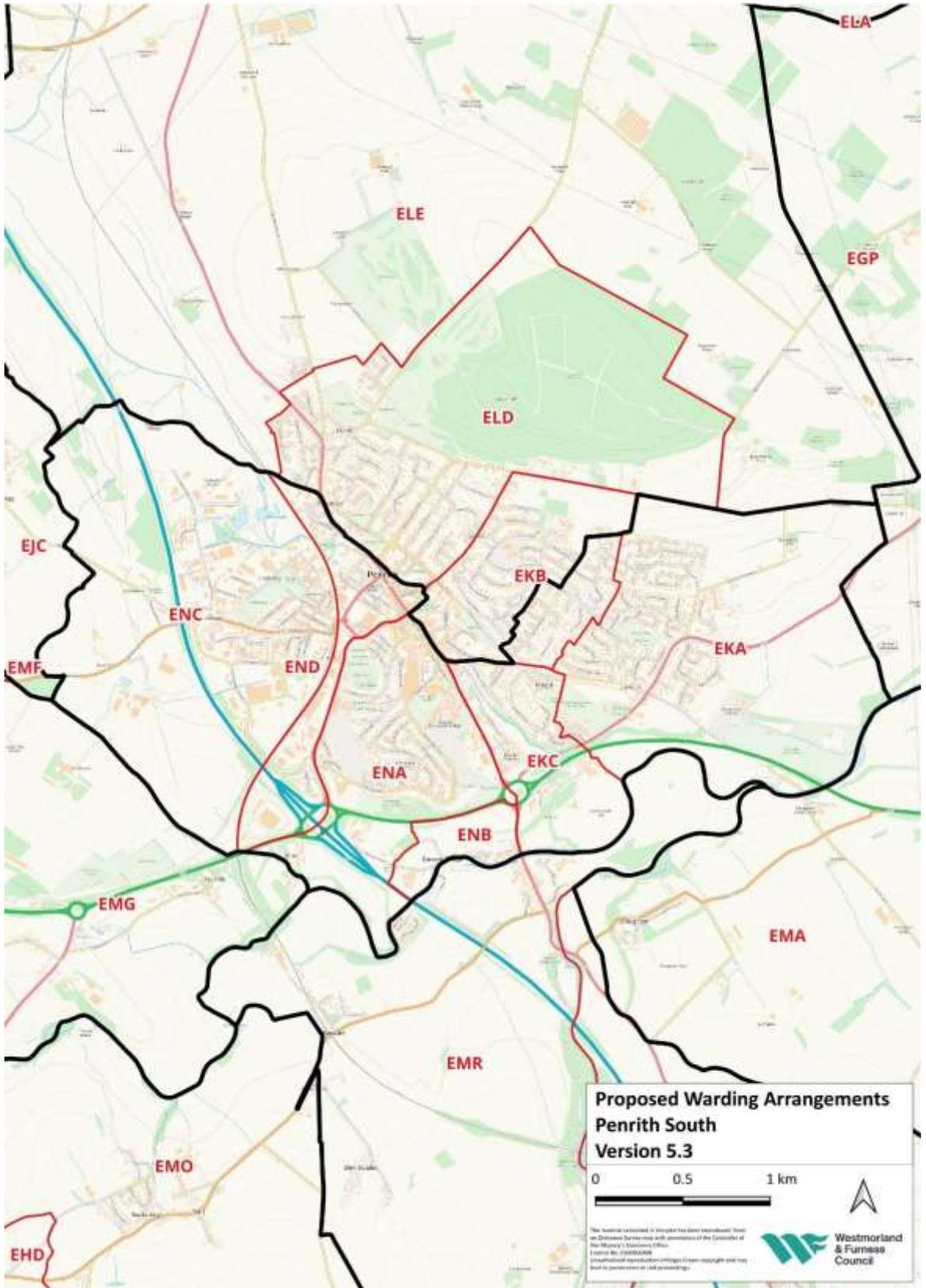
This can be achieved by using the existing 2x2 wards as a baseline and making a relatively small change. The Parklands and surrounds are partially cut-off in the current warding arrangement, as the ends of some roads extend beyond the ward boundary. Moving The Parklands and surrounds, Meadow Croft and Rowan Court, plus Barco Avenue area provides electoral equality

Local Members felt a single Member North ward, with 2x2 other wards would also work well, although alternative configurations have not been identified that continue to represent the local communities adequately in this scenario. The railway and major roads break the town up, but none form good electoral equality.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Penrith North	2	5,195	-4%	6,163	8%
Penrith South	3	7,901	-3%	8,138	-5%



Polling districts: EKB - Penrith East; ELD - Penrith North; ELE - Penrith North (Rural)



Polling districts: EKA - Penrith Carleton; EKB – Penrith East; EKC - Penrith Pategill; ENA - Penrith South; ENB - Penrith South (Rural); ENC - Penrith West Part A; END - Penrith West Part B

## Ulverston

Ulverston is currently served by 3 Members. However, due to electorate growth it is now 'too big' to continue in this way. However, alone it is too small to be served by 4 Members.

There has been considerable discussion about how Ulverston can best be served to represent the local communities. In all cases, Ulverston is 'too big' for 3 Members, but 'too small' for 4. As a result, it is agreed that Swarthmoor ward of Pennington parish should become part of a group of wards serving Ulverston. It is also felt that keeping the whole of Pennington together would be preferable for community coherence and representation. Members felt that two 2 Member wards would be better than a single Member and three Member ward combination. The existing parish wards have been used as building blocks, as these reflect the local communities. One ward needs to be adjusted to ensure electoral equality and better representation for local people.

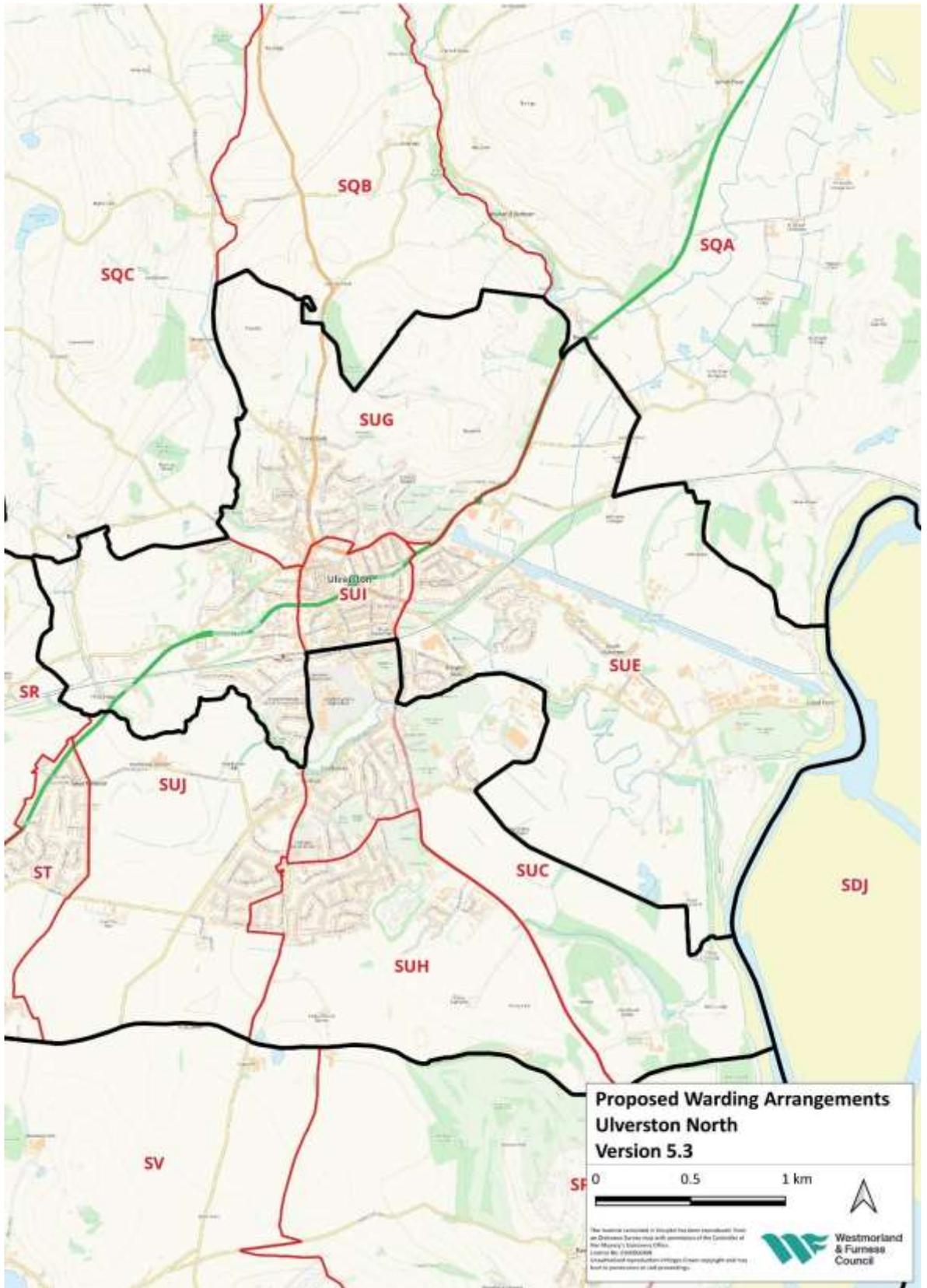
### Ulverston South & Pennington

This includes the parish wards of Ulverston South and Ulverston Central, and the southern part of Ulverston West. The revised boundary here follows the Dragley Beck. The properties to the north of the Beck are more closely aligned with those north of the railway line in the centre of the town, rather than those in the far south of the town or the more rural villages of Pennington and Swarthmoor. The addition of the whole of Pennington is needed to give electoral equality and to prevent the division of the parish of Pennington.

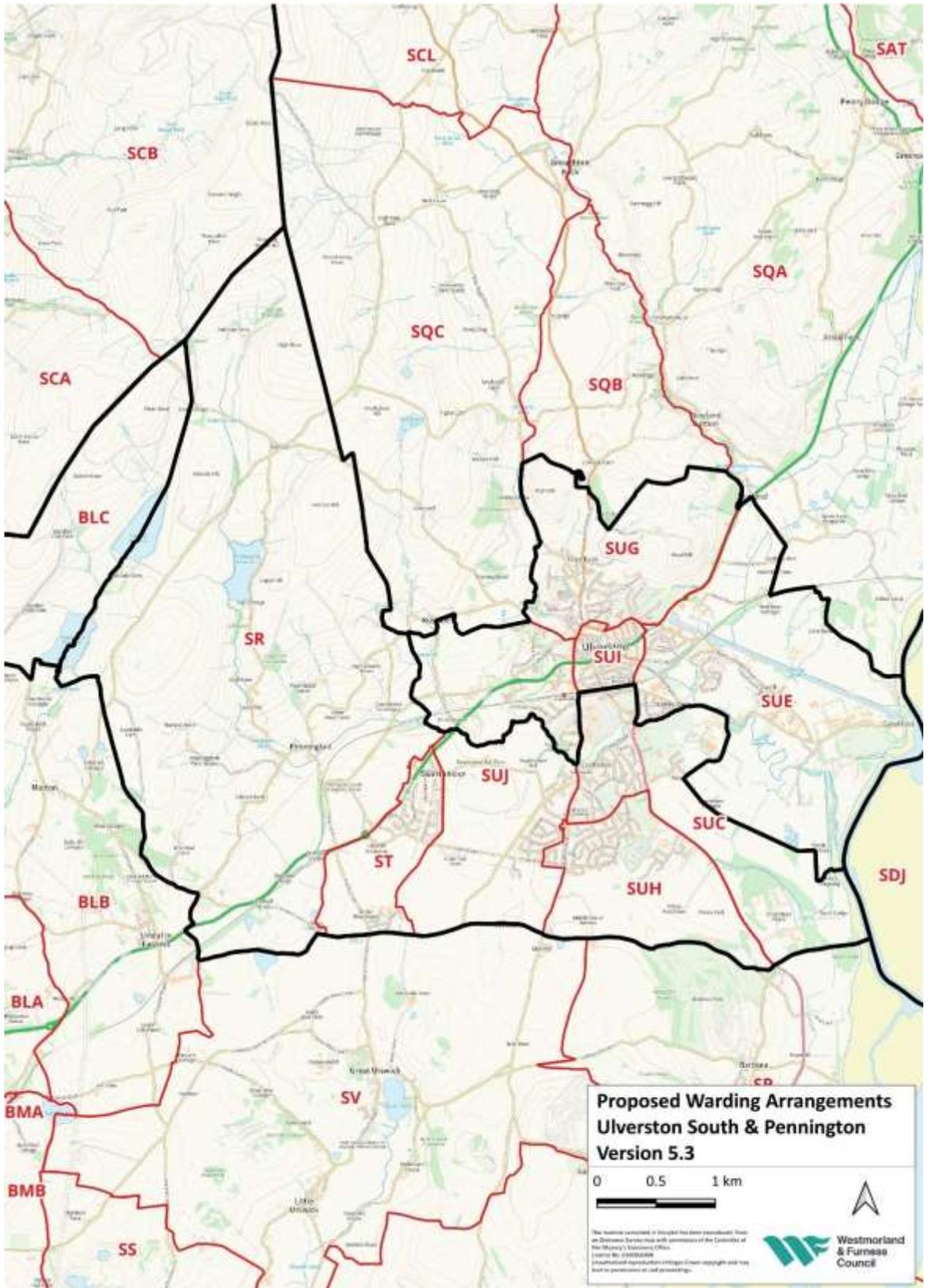
### Ulverston North

This includes the rest of Ulverston (the northern part of West, plus Town, North and East wards). The properties in the southern part of the East parish ward are more readily accessible from the north of the town than the areas to the west due to the road configurations.

Ward	Cllrs	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Ulverston South & Pennington	2	5,345	-2%	6,236	10%
Ulverston North	2	5,630	4%	5,886	3%



Polling districts: SUE - Ulverston East; SUG - Ulverston North; SUI - Ulverston Town



Polling districts: SR – Pennington; ST – Swarthmoor; SUC - Ulverston Central; SUH - Ulverston South; SUJ - Ulverston West

## Overall warding

The proposed warding in this submission comprises a total of 34 wards with a combination of 1, 2 and 3 Member wards, totalling 65 Councillors overall.

Name of ward	Number of Cllrs per ward	2024		2031	
		Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
Hesket & Lazonby	2	5,552	2%	5,683	0%
Ullswater & Dacre	1	2,775	2%	2,916	2%
Alston Moor & Fellside	2	5,206	-4%	5,260	-8%
Long Marton & Kirkby	1	2,568	-6%	2,704	-5%
Clifton, Crosby & Yanwath	1	2,853	5%	2,906	2%
Appleby & Bongate	1	2,907	7%	3,124	10%
Eamont & Shap	1	2,611	-4%	2,719	-4%
Kirkby Stephen & Brough	2	5,055	-7%	5,137	-10%
Windermere, Ambleside & Grasmere	3	7,465	-8%	7,930	-7%
Sedbergh & Tebay	2	4,894	-10%	5,118	-10%
Upper Kent	1	2,940	8%	3,003	6%
Askam & Ireleth	1	2,723	0%	2,886	1%
Kirkby Lonsdale	1	2,553	-6%	2,595	-9%
Milnthorpe & Levens	2	5,570	2%	5,891	4%
Arnsdale, Beetham & Burton	2	5,810	7%	5,825	2%
Bowness and Lyth	1	2,854	5%	2,955	4%
Grange & Cartmel	3	8,658	6%	9,109	7%
Hawkshead & Greenodd	1	2,575	-5%	2,627	-8%
Broughton & Coniston	1	2,766	2%	2,860	1%
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