

## Telford and Wrekin Borough Council

### Personal Details:

**Name:** Harvey Unwin

**E-mail:** 

**Postcode:** 

**Organisation Name:** Telford Conservative Association

### Comment text:

Considering the commissions recommendations for the council to remain at 54 councillors, we have reviewed Telford wards on the basis of keeping 30 councillors, and Wrekin 24 councillors. This review is for the Telford Wards only. We have recommended 18 wards for Telford, all based very much around community identity and balancing where possible the elector numbers. The 2027 predicted elector number of 147062 for Telford and Wrekin equates to 2723 electors per councillor for a single councillor ward. We have focused on the community identity and where possible one councillor per community. This is not always possible due to community size and geographical area, but we have no ward with more than 2 councillors. We started in the area with the most change and currently no identity, Lawley, and the warding followed through off this. South Telford has some areas of multiple deprivation, putting them in the top 10% deprived areas in the UK. The workload for councillors in these areas is known to be quite a lot higher than more affluent areas. We have kept these areas very distinct and have not joined with other communities as they do not fit and do not have the same issues. These deprived areas, may in some cases have fewer electors than would be ideal but feel this is necessary for the identity of these areas and the fact that we need the Councillors to have full responsibility and not get side-lined to more affluent areas. These areas are highlighted in yellow in table 1 below. Telford area has the M54 running through it, this is a major boundary restriction, and we have ensured that no wards pass through this major highway as happens now. Wrockwardine Wood and Trench - polling districts, TWR, TWT, TOH, TOW - we have included the open land known as Wrockwardine Wood in this ward. This includes the school and shops that the community uses, and the boundaries are key roads and highways. Ketley and Ketley Bank - polling districts TKY, WOB, TOE - we have removed Snedshill trading estate and aligned that with the Snedshill polling district in the St Georges Ward. The whole ward sits above the M54 and the two communities are connected and use the same local services. Oakengates and Wombridge - this ward consists of polling district TOO. A single polling district with its own unique identity and covers the shopping centre of Oakengates. TOT and WOL have not been included, as they do not fit geographically, nor within the community of this area, and fit better within Hadley, in The Wrekin. St Georges - Very much as is now. However, the estates to the North of what was the Priorslee ward have now been included in this proposal as these are regarded as part of St Georges by the community and are also geographically closer to St Georges. Priorslee. - much smaller geographically than currently as the development predicted for this area is very high. Predominantly TPR and TPP being the bulk of the area with the southern regions of TSE and TPG polling districts included. This creates a more coherent geographical area than the present boundaries. The schools, primary and secondary, all sit within this area. Lawley's existing (Lawley Village) community and the new urban extension community is not currently identifiable by name within the current warding arrangements. The present arrangement is served currently by two Parish Councils, seventeen parish councillors, four wards and eight Borough Councillors. The intention of our proposal for wards of Lawley is to aid community cohesion and bring both existing and new development areas into defined and easily identifiable boundaries for better electoral equality and representation. Lawley West - The proposal will create a Lawley West Ward to incorporate a polling district currently in the rural ward of Wrockwardine WLL and a development off Smallhill Rd which currently lies in Dawley Hamlets PC area. Both of these areas identify with Lawley, the children use the Lawley Primary School and the local shop in the original Old Lawley Village which the community is now named after. The residents here closely identify with Lawley and this is a cohesive geographical area. Lawley East & Newdale - This ward would mirror geographically the new Lawley West Ward, would be easily identifiable to residents and lies wholly within the Lawley & Overdale PC area. This area is served by Newdale Primary School. Lawley Square local centre is central to both Lawley West & East & Newdale wards and provides services such as GPs, Dentist & supermarket etc. Overdale & The Rock- The new proposed area sits wholly within the Lawley & Overdale Parish Council area. It is served by a busy local shop & Post Office and Community Centre, it is an existing community that includes the small community of Old Park and this has been part of The Rock for many years. This area is not identified locally as having any deep-rooted connection to Lawley Urban Extension, the

new Lawley East ward. Dawley & Horsehay – We are combining Dawley and Horsehay in one ward as Horsehay relies upon Dawley to provide services such as GPs, Dentistry and Dawley Primary Academy School. Further, Dawley High Street shops are used by the majority of residents in Horsehay as none exist in their area. Lightmoor & Aqueduct – These two hamlets have a unifying relationship as a result of their more rural setting. Lightmoor, a new community, and Aqueduct, an existing one, are connected by two identifiable but conjoined “Local Nature Reserves”. Lightmoor is served by Lightmoor Primary School and Community Centre. Aqueduct community is served by their own Primary School and village shop. . Malinslee and Dawley Bank – This community that identifies as one and uses the same schools and shops. Hollinswood and Randlay – This is a single community, bounded by significant geographical features and mirrored by the parish council of the same name. Hollinswood contains areas of high deprivation so we are proposing an increased representation for the electorate. Hollinswood and Randlay both have a community centre covered by shops and schools Two roads – Arundel Close and Botfield Close – have been removed from Stirchley and added to Randlay as that’s the community within which they sit and with which they identify. Stirchley – We are proposing a ward of Stirchley, Stirchley Village and surrounding areas, and the Hinkshay Road bordering Stirchley pools. The primary and secondary schools, Grange Park Primary and Telford Park School, sit in the ward along with a shopping centre, doctors and dentists. Brookside – The estate of Brookside sits within the Brookside ring-road. It is an original Telford new town estate and has its own issues and requirements for improvement. As a result, a Brookside “Big Local” has been established with £1m to spend over 5 years. This creates extra workload for councillors and as a result we are proposing a single councillor for accountability and increased representation. This estate has a community centre with shops and services. The community identity is strong. Ironbridge Gorge – This ward remains unchanged – very specific identity and is a world heritage site. Woodside – Another original Telford New Town estate. Sits within a ring road and has a unique identity and community. A community centre sits within the geographical area along with schools and doctors services. This area does not fit with surrounding areas and needs to have accountability for the improvements required. We are not proposing any change to this ward. Madeley – We have removed Sutton Hill from this existing ward as it is very different in its identity and community. Madeley is an older town and existing centre that services the 2 distinct areas of Madeley. Schools and services exist and are used by the residents of this area. Sutton Hill – A Telford New Town estate that does not sit with Madeley, its identity is with this estate area, it has a community centre and services that the residents use and with which they identify. Sutton Hill is an area of deprivation and as a result we are proposing an increase of representation per elector and improved accountability

### **Uploaded Documents:**

**[Download \(https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/download\\_document?file=draft%2F1627743014\\_Telford+Conservative+Association+Boundary+Review+.docx\)](https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/download_document?file=draft%2F1627743014_Telford+Conservative+Association+Boundary+Review+.docx)**

**Telford Conservative Association**  
**Boundary Recommendations for Telford and Wrekin Council Wards**

Considering the commissions recommendations for the council to remain at 54 councillors, we have reviewed Telford wards on the basis of keeping 30 councillors, and Wrekin 24 councillors.

This review is for the Telford Wards only.

We have recommended 18 wards for Telford, all based very much around community identity and balancing where possible the elector numbers. The 2027 predicted elector number of 147062 for Telford and Wrekin equates to 2723 electors per councillor for a single councillor ward.

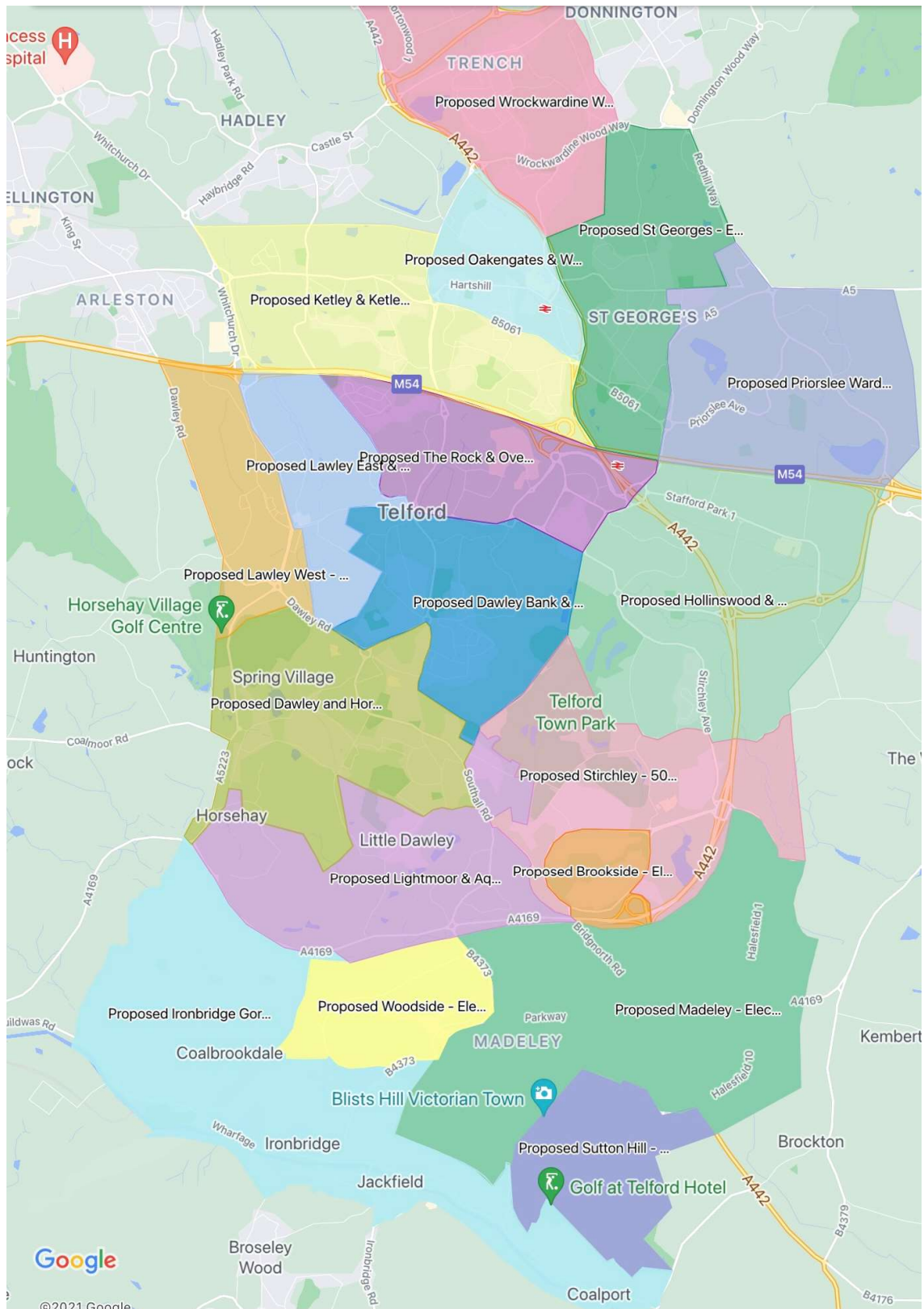
We have focused on the community identity and where possible one councillor per community. This is not always possible due to community size and geographical area, but we have no ward with more than 2 councillors. We started in the area with the most change and currently no identity, Lawley, and the warding followed through off this.

South Telford has some areas of multiple deprivation, putting them in the top 10% deprived areas in the UK. The workload for councillors in these areas is known to be quite a lot higher than more affluent areas. We have kept these areas very distinct and have not joined with other communities as they do not fit and do not have the same issues. These deprived areas, may in some cases have fewer electors than would be ideal but feel this is necessary for the identity of these areas and the fact that we need the Councillors to have full responsibility and not get side-lined to more affluent areas. These areas are highlighted in yellow in table 1 below.

Telford area has the M54 running through it, this is a major boundary restriction, and we have ensured that no wards pass through this major highway as happens now.

Table 1 - Proposed Wards for Telford (map attached for reference also)

<b>Proposed Ward Name</b>	<b>No. of electors predicted for 2027</b>	<b>No Councillors</b>
Wrockwardine Wood and Trench	5799	2
Ketley and Ketley Bank	5991	2
Oakengates and Wombridge	2613	1
St Georges	5889	2
Priorslee	5839	2
Lawley West	2760	1
Lawley East and Newdale	5826	2
Overdale and The Rock	2630	1
Malinslee and Dawley Bank	5394	2
Dawley and Horsehay	5473	2
Lightmoor and Aqueduct	5512	2
Hollinswood and Randlay	4613	2
Stirchley	5006	2
Brookside	2760	1
Ironbridge Gorge	2883	1
Woodside	4732	2
Madeley	5411	2
Sutton Hill	2630	1



Link to map - <https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1hG3MnCUf1GA4W7JmL7H421rQ2muOouT&usp=sharing>

**Wrockwardine Wood and Trench** - polling districts, TWR, TWT, TOH, TOW – we have included the open land known as Wrockwardine Wood in this ward. This includes the school and shops that the community uses, and the boundaries are key roads and highways.

**Ketley and Ketley Bank** – polling districts TKY, WOB, TOE – we have removed Snedshill trading estate and aligned that with the Snedshill polling district in the St Georges Ward. The whole ward sits above the M54 and the two communities are connected and use the same local services.

**Oakengates and Wombridge** – this ward consists of polling district TOO. A single polling district with its own unique identity and covers the shopping centre of Oakengates. TOT and WOL have not been included, as they do not fit geographically, nor within the community of this area, and fit better within Hadley, in The Wrekin.

**St Georges** – Very much as is now. However, the estates to the North of what was the Priorslee ward have now been included in this proposal as these are regarded as part of St Georges by the community and are also geographically closer to St Georges.

**Priorslee.** – much smaller geographically than currently as the development predicted for this area is very high. Predominantly TPR and TPP being the bulk of the area with the southern regions of TSE and TPG polling districts included. This creates a more coherent geographical area than the present boundaries. The schools, primary and secondary, all sit within this area.

**Lawley's existing (Lawley Village) community and the new urban extension community is not currently identifiable by name within the current warding arrangements.**

**The present arrangement is served currently by two Parish Councils, seventeen parish councillors, four wards and eight Borough Councillors. The intention of our proposal for wards of Lawley is to aid community cohesion and bring both existing and new development areas into defined and easily identifiable boundaries for better electoral equality and representation.**

**Lawley West** – The proposal will create a Lawley West Ward to incorporate a polling district currently in the rural ward of Wrockwardine WLL and a development off Smallhill Rd which currently lies in Dawley Hamlets PC area.

Both of these areas identify with Lawley, the children use the Lawley Primary School and the local shop in the original Old Lawley Village which the community is now named after. The residents here closely identify with Lawley and this is a cohesive geographical area

**Lawley East & Newdale** - This ward would mirror geographically the new Lawley West Ward, would be easily identifiable to residents and lies wholly within the Lawley & Overdale PC area.

This area is served by Newdale Primary School. Lawley Square local centre is central to both Lawley West & East & Newdale wards and provides services such as GPs, Dentist & supermarket etc.

**Overdale & The Rock-** The new proposed area sits wholly within the Lawley & Overdale Parish Council area. It is served by a busy local shop & Post Office and Community Centre, it is an existing community that includes the small community of Old Park and this has been part of The Rock for many years. This area is not identified locally as having any deep-rooted connection to Lawley Urban Extension, the new Lawley East ward.

**Dawley & Horsehay** – We are combining Dawley and Horsehay in one ward as Horsehay relies upon Dawley to provide services such as GPs, Dentistry and Dawley Primary Academy School.

Further, Dawley High Street shops are used by the majority of residents in Horsehay as none exist in their area.

**Lightmoor & Aqueduct** - These two hamlets have a unifying relationship as a result of their more rural setting. Lightmoor, a new community, and Aqueduct, an existing one, are connected by two identifiable but conjoined "Local Nature Reserves". Lightmoor is served by Lightmoor Primary School and Community Centre. Aqueduct community is served by their own Primary School and village shop.

.

**Malinslee and Dawley Bank** – This community identifies as one and uses the same schools and shops.

**Hollinswood and Randlay** - This is a single community, bounded by significant geographical features and mirrored by the parish council of the same name. Hollinswood contains areas of high deprivation so we are proposing an increased representation for the electorate.

Hollinswood and Randlay both have a community centre covered by shops and schools

Two roads - Arundel Close and Botfield Close - have been removed from Stirchley and added to Randlay as that's the community within which they sit and with which they identify.

**Stirchley** – We are proposing a ward of Stirchley, Stirchley Village and surrounding areas, and the Hinkshay Road bordering Stirchley pools. The primary and secondary schools, Grange Park Primary and Telford Park School, sit in the ward along with a shopping centre, doctors and dentists.

**Brookside** - The estate of Brookside sits within the Brookside ring-road. It is an original Telford new town estate and has its own issues and requirements for improvement. As a result, a Brookside "Big Local" has been established with £1m to spend over 5 years. This creates extra workload for councillors and as a result we are proposing a single councillor for accountability and increased representation. This estate has a community centre with shops and services. The community identity is strong.

**Ironbridge Gorge** – This ward remains unchanged - very specific identity and is a world heritage site.

**Woodside** - Another original Telford New Town estate. Sits within a ring road and has a unique identity and community. A community centre sits within the geographical area along with schools and doctors services. This area does not fit with surrounding areas and needs to have accountability for the improvements required. We are not proposing any change to this ward.

**Madeley** - We have removed Sutton Hill from this existing ward as it is very different in its identity and community. Madeley is an older town and existing centre that services the 2 distinct areas of Madeley. Schools and services exist and are used by the residents of this area.

**Sutton Hill** - A Telford New Town estate that does not sit with Madeley, its identity is with this estate area, it has a community centre and services that the residents use and with which they identify. Sutton Hill is an area of deprivation and as a result we are proposing an increase of representation per elector and improved accountability