

# Boundary Review: Durham County Council

## Submission by the Joint Administration running Durham County Council

**Following the local election in May 2021, the running of Durham County Council was taken over by a joint administration of parties and independents including:**

The Conservative and Unionist Party, Derwentside Independents, The Green Party, The Liberal Democrats, The North East Party, and a number of completely independent councillors.

The Joint Administration, represents over half of the councillors elected to Durham County Council with councillors from across the county represented, from Sedgefield in the south east, to Weardale in the north west. With councillors representing all diverse communities from most towns to our most rural areas, from more affluent, to some of the most deprived areas, from the coast to the Durham Dales.

**The Joint Administration has four political groups on the Council:**

Conservatives

Liberal Democrats

The Durham Group

Durham County Council Independent Group

**This proposal is our joint recommendation to the Local Government Boundary Commission**

Where we feel there is more than one viable option this has been outlined in the enclosed report, detailing which parties or groups support which alternative. That said there are only two towns where there are differences in views which change divisions in terms of numbers of councillors.

Individual political parties, councillors and party members may also be submitting views on specific or countywide proposals with suggestions or in support of this proposal and we fully support the need for all views to be considered.

We thank you for your time in considering our proposals and look forward to viewing and commenting on your recommendations after you have taken into account all submissions.

## Warding Proposal themes and layout

Within the report we have provided a map for each proposed electoral division, along with narratives outlining how the proposals meet with the criteria set by LGBCE, and the transfers in and out of divisions where this is appropriate.

Only a small number of electoral divisions are deleted completely.

Additionally we have enclosed two excel files containing the data required in the format requested showing each polling district and where it is proposed to sit in the new warding patterns.

Overall we have sought to make as few changes as possible whilst recognising that there are some anomalies in current boundaries, and addressing the reduction from 126 to 98 councillors.

Should you have any questions or requests for further information please contact Councillor Mark Wilkes:

Email: [mark.wilkes@durham.gov.uk](mailto:mark.wilkes@durham.gov.uk)

Phone: [REDACTED]



## Electoral Division: **Annfield Plain** (2 members)

Electorate: 9134

Per councillor: 4567

Variance: +10%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in:

Stanley (South Moor)

Parish Ward

NDWA

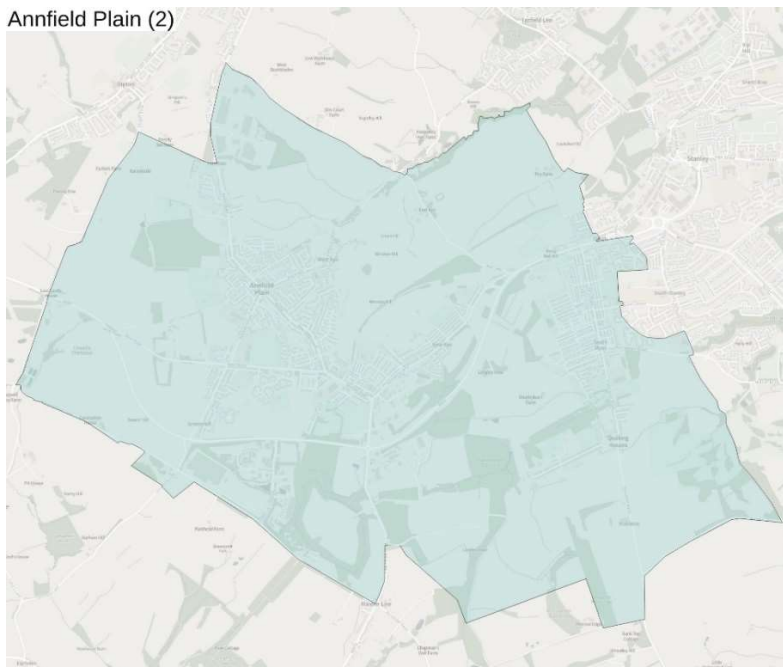
NDWB1

NDWB2

NDWC

NDWD

Annfield Plain (2)



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<p>The electoral variance is at the limit at 10.06%, however there are justifiable reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Stanley Town Council Parish Wards of Annfield Plain, Catchgate and South Moor are able to be kept within one electoral division with these proposals ensuring none are split, and there is no need for other areas outside the Parish to be included. This also ensures that the whole of the town council area is within just three divisions.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The current Annfield Plain division which includes Catchgate has long standing links for many decades, indeed the two communities run into each other with residents using the same community facilities.</li> <li>- South Moor is linked to the current Annfield Plain division through the continuous housing of New Kyo and Oxhill along the A693, and all of these villages are part of the Stanley conurbation and town council area.</li> <li>- Much of the social housing across the area is managed by Karbon Homes.</li> </ul>
Easily Definable boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The communities sit either side of the main A693 Consett to Stanley road and are all within the town council area.</li> </ul>
Transport Links including public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Main A693 road runs through the area and most housing is also off the B6168 and Park Road. It takes just 10 minutes, over 4 miles to drive across the proposed division.</li> <li>- The 16 and X72 bus services traverse the area in just 13 minutes from Harelaw at one end to the top of South Moor at the other end.</li> </ul>

	-
Effective, convenient local government	It is really important that the town council boundaries are not spread across too many electoral divisions. By retaining all of the town council boundaries in 3 electoral divisions this helps with effective governance. Further, this proposal keeps the ward boundaries of three town council wards within one electoral division.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	The main Community Centre in Annfield Plain is accessed by residents from across the Catchgate and Annfield Plain areas. The whole area is part of the same town council.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	All residents have access to the same leisure centre in Stanley, the Louisa Centre and the main college which is also in Stanley. All residents see Stanley as their main shopping area with supermarkets and the high street.
Specific community links	The key areas of New Kyo, Annfield Plain and Catchgate form a continuous built up area, linked by Oxhill/New Kyo to South Moor. All of these villages are former mining villages to the west of Stanley.
Ward Name	The Ward name is left as Annfield Plain, being the main settlement, however the addition of South Moor to the name could be an option.

## Electoral Division: **Aycliffe East** (2 members)

Electorate: 7761

Per councillor: 3881

Variance: -6.5%

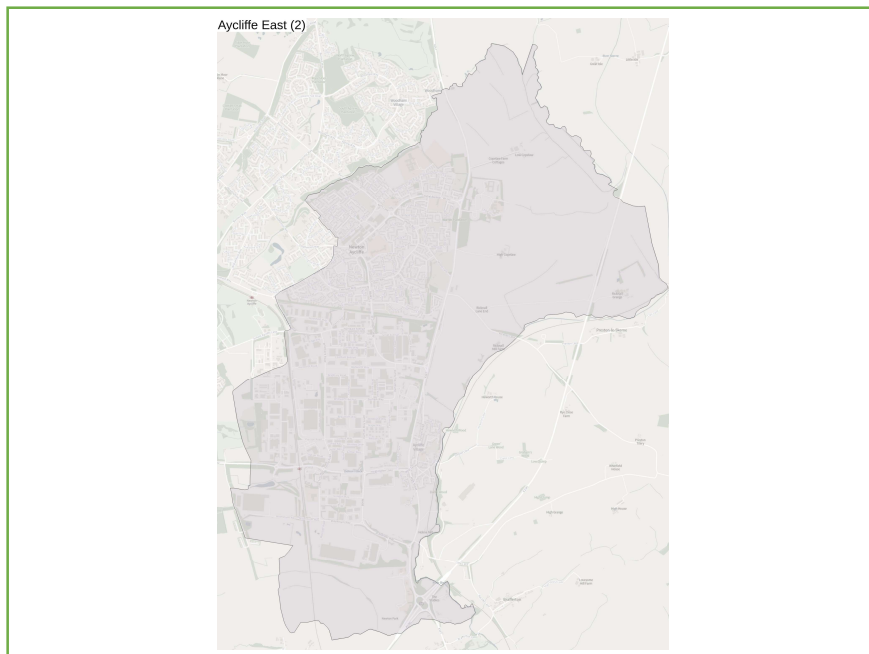
Changes:

Map:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in:

Simpasture Parish Ward  
SHC



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Electoral variance is just 6%.</li> <li>- This proposal ensures no parish wards on Great Aycliffe Town Council are split, and indeed 5 wards are able to be retained within one electoral division.</li> <li>- The Aycliffe East Division is not large enough to be a two member division on current boundaries, however by moving the Simpasture Great Aycliffe Town Council Ward into Aycliffe East it ensures a two member electoral division is retained.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	Residents of all parts of the area consider themselves to be part of Newton Aycliffe Town.
Easily Definable boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The eastern and southern boundaries of the division are the county boundary. The western boundary in part is along the Woodham burn which separates the divisions. Main roads form the proposed boundaries on all sides, with the A167 a key eastern boundary.</li> <li>- The Town Council Ward of Simpasture is a perfect fit with the Aycliffe East Ward sitting on the east of Newton Aycliffe with the main road of Pease Way acting as a natural boundary through the town.</li> </ul>
Transport Links including public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As a compact urban area, transport links are excellent.</li> <li>- Bus services run through the estates, with the key industrial estate, one of the biggest in the region and an employment site for many local residents, sitting entirely within the division.</li> </ul>
Effective, convenient local government	The proposal ensures that no parish wards are split and the whole area is within the town council boundaries

What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	The whole areas part of Great Aycliffe Town Council. Existing links are retained as the only change is bringing in Simpasture Ward which has the same type of housing as other parts of the division, with most social housing being with Livin.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All residents shop in the town centre at the main Aldi and Tesco supermarkets.</li> <li>- The main leisure centre is easily accessible in the town centre</li> <li>- and the key medical facilities at Peaseway and Berwick Crescent being used by residents across the area.</li> <li>- The main Woodham and Greenfield secondary schools are accessed by residents across the whole of Newton Aycliffe, whilst children from Simpasture and the other Wards in the division attend Sugar Hill Primary school, St Mary's Catholic and Vane Road Primary as well as others in the town.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	
Ward Name	Current ward name remains appropriate

## Electoral Division: Aycliffe North & Middridge (2 members)

Electorate: 8851

Per councillor: 4425

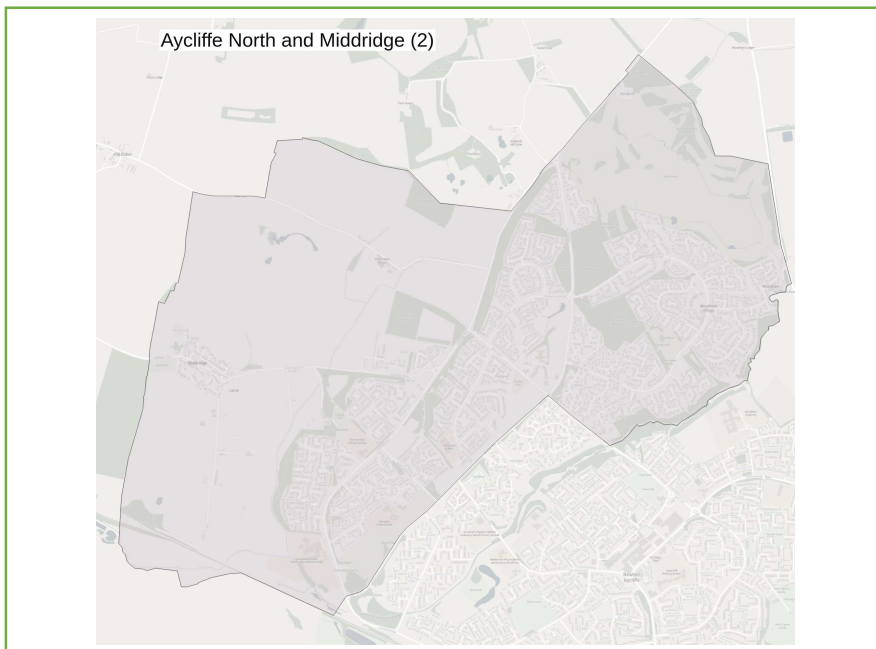
Variance: +6.6%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in: None



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The electoral variance is less than 7%. There are natural boundaries including the Woodham Burn separating communities. This proposal ensures that the two large Great Aycliffe Town Council parish wards of Woodham and Byerley, Horndale and Cobblers Hall are not split and are retained in one electoral division.</li> <li>- It also ensures that the Parish of Middridge is kept together which is particularly important now that substantial housebuilding at the east of the parish has merged with Newton Aycliffe.</li> <li>- As electoral balance can be met within Newton Aycliffe it is not considered appropriate for other areas to be brought into the divisions with the exception of Middridge which has so many links.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	The boundary of Woodham Burn is a key natural boundary, whilst the town council ward boundaries are also key.
Transport Links including public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As a built up area, the main roads running through the area provide easy access with just four main roads covering the whole proposed division. Woodham Way, Burn Lane and Greenfield Way run around and across the division whilst Middridge Road links not only Middridge Village but also the new housing in the parish with Newton Aycliffe.</li> <li>- The key 5 Sapphire bus service links Middridge roughly every 15 minutes to Newton Aycliffe whilst the 7 Sapphire service links Woodham to Newton Aycliffe.</li> </ul>
Effective, convenient local government	The three divisions proposed for Newton Aycliffe ensure that the whole town council area is retained within these divisions, with no town council wards being split. Indeed the only non-town council area included in the whole of the three divisions is that of Middridge parish

What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	There are only a small number of community centres in the area, with most of Woodham residents seeing Woodham Community Centre as their local centre, Middridge village has its own small centre.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Greenfield School and Woodham Academy are the main secondary schools accessed by residents across the area, whilst most children attend the key primary schools within the boundary area, being Byerley Park, St Francis, Horndale and Walworth.
Specific community links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Housing links: The boundary proposed retains the parished village of Middridge within the same division as GATC which is really important because there are new houses within the Middridge Parish which actually sit adjacent to and around housing within the Newton Aycliffe conurbation along the main Greenfield Way road which runs the whole length of the western side of Newton Aycliffe.</li> <li>- This boundary also ensures all houses on either side of this main road are retained within the North Aycliffe and Middridge boundary and keep the schools in this area within their current electoral divisions.</li> </ul>
Ward Name	As the boundaries are not changing the current name is still appropriate.

## Electoral Division: Aycliffe West (1 member)

Electorate: 4032

Per councillor: 4032

Variance: -2.8%

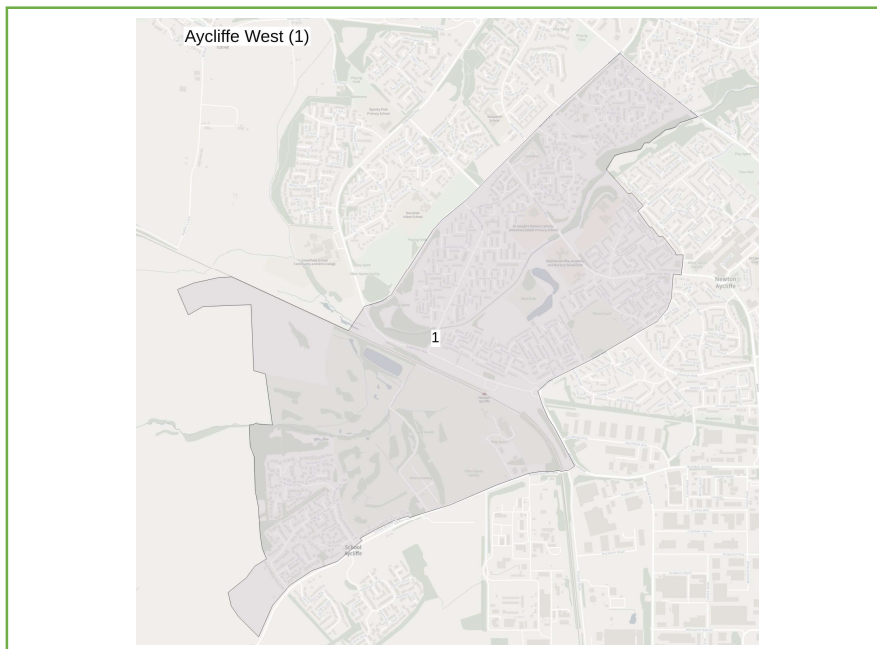
Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:

Simpasture Ward  
SHC

Transfer in: None



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The electoral variance is just 2.8% and ensures that the whole parish ward also called Aycliffe West is retained within a single electoral division with one rather than the current two members.</li> <li>- This includes the part of the village of School Aycliffe which is in the local authority area.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	Most of the housing in the area is similar, with many Living social housing properties.
Easily Definable boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The main road of Burnhill Way is a natural boundary with all houses to the west of it in the West Ward of the town council. Burn Lane acts as a natural northern boundary.</li> <li>- Keeping the whole of Green Park within the division is ensured with the proposed boundary, whilst the Williamfield Way runs through the middle which most houses are accessed from and Pease Way represents a definable boundary to the east.</li> <li>- The village of School Aycliffe which sits separate to the rest of the housing has no other natural division to sit in given its location on the Darlington Borough Council boundary and as it is also in the West Ward of the town council it makes sense for it to be included.</li> </ul>
Transport Links including public transport	The main bus services run into the town centre. The train station also sits at the centre of the ward being in the middle of the west ward.
Effective, convenient local government	Keeping the whole of the West Ward of the town council makes for convenient local government, and only having electors from the town council area within the division also makes things easier to manage.

What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	Great Aycliffe Parish Council covers the whole of this area.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Greenfield School and Woodham Academy are the main secondary schools accessed by residents across the area. St Josephs Primary school will continue to sit at the centre of this division as one of the main schools used by local children.
Specific community links	
Ward Name	Aycliffe West continues to be an appropriate name as only part of the east of the division is proposed to be removed.



## Electoral Division: Barnard Castle East (2 members)

Electorate: 7833

Per councillor: 3917

Variance: -5.6%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:

To Barnard Castle West

BASF - Hope

BASG - Scargill

BAXC - The Oval

Langleydale & Shotton (BAYD)

necessary to give continuity with  
BC West and Woodland parish

Split BAVA2 polling district,  
and the below streets  
moved into

Barnard Castle West:

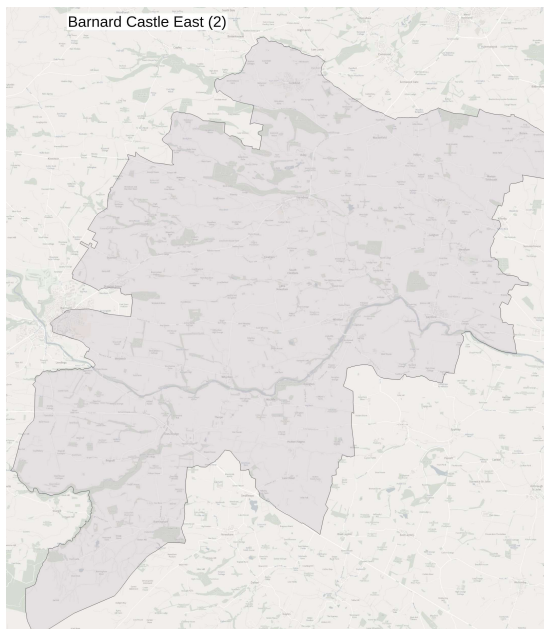
- Dickens Road
- North Fields
- Prospect Place

Split BAVB polling district, and the below streets  
moved into Barnard Castle West:

- Ashtree Drive
- Darlington Road 6 Properties
- High Riggs
- Hollinside
- Middlewood Close
- Sledwick Court
- Teesbank Court

Transfer in:

BAKA – Cockfield



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Electoral Equality is 5% from average</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: The proposal brings the parish and village of Cockfield into the division from Evenwood. The village is of a similar size and type as Staindrop, just three miles apart.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Two small parish areas of Hope and Scargill are moved into Barnard Castle West</li> <li>- Langleydale &amp; Shotton (BAYD) - necessary to give continuity with BC West and Woodland parish.</li> <li>- Split BAVA2 polling district, and the below streets moved into Barnard Castle West: Dickens Road, North Fields, Prospect Place</li> <li>- Split BAVB polling district, and the below streets moved into Barnard Castle West: Ashtree Drive, Darlington Road 6 Properties, High Riggs, Hollinside, Middlewood Close, Sledwick Court, Teesbank Court</li> <li>- Transfer in from Evenwood the parish of Cockfield. This is a similar size and type of village to Staindrop, only 3 miles away, with which it has ties with transport and church activity.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	Many organisations operate in the dale: luncheon clubs, WI, churches, sports clubs. Most tend to centre on BARNARD Castle and serve both East and West divisions.
Easily Definable boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The current boundary within Barnard Castle town is obvious, being the road from Westwick, through Newgate, Market Place, Galgate, Bede Road and then the A688 Staindrop road. It is proposed to move the boundary a few degrees clockwise to become the A67 Darlington road, the busiest road serving the town and a very obvious boundary.</li> <li>- The New BC West division also includes the parish of Woodland, a parish of a rural nature of scattered farms and a small village, connected to the rest of the division by the B6282, a busy road which joins the at Folly Top.</li> </ul>
Transport Links including public transport	The dale divides naturally into Upper and Lower Teesdale, with buses from either end stopping at Barnard Castle where you have to change to make a through journey between the two divisions. This reflects the split between BC East and West.
Effective, convenient local government	The relatively minor changes to the division mean minimal disruption to established relationships between CCLRs and parish councils.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	The whole of Barnard Castle East and West divisions are parished with Parish Councils.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All secondary school age children from the West Division have Teesdale School at Barnard Castle as their school. In BC East some secondary school age children go to Staindrop Academy. There are primary schools at Middleton, Cotherstone (which takes children from Eggleston too), Bowes, Barnard Castle, Staindrop and Gainford.</li> <li>- Doctors from Middleton serve nearly all of BC West whereas BC East is served from Barnard Castle. For both divisions Barnard Castle supplies a range of services: supermarkets, vets, solicitors, surveyors, travel agents, a range of shops etc.</li> </ul>

Specific community links	Teesdale is a Durham Dale that follows the course of the River Tees, getting narrower the further up the dale you go. The dale divides naturally into Upper and Lower Teesdale, with buses from either end stopping at Barnard Castle where you have to change to make a through journey between the two divisions. All secondary school age children from the West Division have Teesdale School at Barnard Castle as their school.
Ward Name	As the changes within the division are minor, no need to change names has been identified.

## Electoral Division: Barnard Castle West (2 members)

Electorate: 7715

Per councillor: 3858

Variance: -7%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:

Transfer in:

BALC – Woodland

BAYD - Langleydale &  
Shotton

Split BAVA2 polling  
district,  
and the below streets  
moved into Barnard Castle  
West:

- Dickens Road
- North Fields
- Prospect Place

Split BAVB polling district,  
and the below streets  
moved into Barnard Castle  
West:

- Ashtree Drive
- Darlington Road 6  
Properties
- High Riggs
- Hollinside
- Middlewood Close
- Sledwick Court
- Teesbank Court



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposal ensures that the two Barnard Castle divisions have similar electoral numbers. As very rural divisions being slightly under the average actually assists given the additional workload with parish councils and size of the area.</li> <li>- By moving streets within the town council area to balance out equality and create discernible boundaries, this ensures that more rural parishes do not need to be split.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bringing Langleydale &amp; Shotton in is necessary to give continuity with BC West and Woodland parish.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	Many organisations operate in the dale: luncheon clubs, WI, churches, sports clubs. Most tend to centre on Barnard Castle and serve both East and West divisions.
Easily Definable boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The current boundary within Barnard Castle town is obvious, being the road from Westwick, through Newgate, Market Place, Galgate, Bede Road and then the A688 Staindrop road. It is proposed to move the boundary a few degrees clockwise to become the A67 Darlington road, the busiest road serving the town and a very obvious boundary.</li> <li>- The New BC West division also includes the parish of Woodland, a parish of a rural nature of scattered farms and a small village, connected to the rest of the division by the B6282, a busy road which joins the at Folly Top.</li> </ul>
Transport Links including public transport	The dale divides naturally into Upper and Lower Teesdale, with buses from either end stopping at Barnard Castle where you have to change to make a through journey between the two divisions. This reflects the split between BC East and West.
Effective, convenient local government	The relatively minor changes to the division mean minimal disruption to established relationships between CCLRs and parish councils.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	The whole of Barnard Castle East and West divisions are parished with Parish Councils.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All secondary school age children from the West Division have Teesdale School at Barnard Castle as their school. In BC East some secondary school age children go to Staindrop Academy. There are primary schools at Middleton, Cotherstone (which takes children from Eggleston too), Bowes, Barnard Castle, Staindrop and Gainford.</li> <li>- Doctors from Middleton serve nearly all of BC West whereas BC East is served from Barnard Castle. For both divisions Barnard Castle supplies a range of services: supermarkets, vets, solicitors, surveyors, travel agents, a range of shops etc.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	Teesdale is a Durham Dale that follows the course of the River Tees, getting narrower the further up the dale you go. The dale divides naturally into Upper and Lower Teesdale, with buses from either end stopping at Barnard Castle where you have to change to make a through journey between the two divisions. All secondary school age children from the West Division have Teesdale School at Barnard Castle as their school.
Ward Name	As the changes within the division are minor, no need to change names has been identified.

## Electoral Division: Belmont (2 members)

Electorate: 8769

Per councillor: 4385

Variance: +5.6%

Changes:

Map:

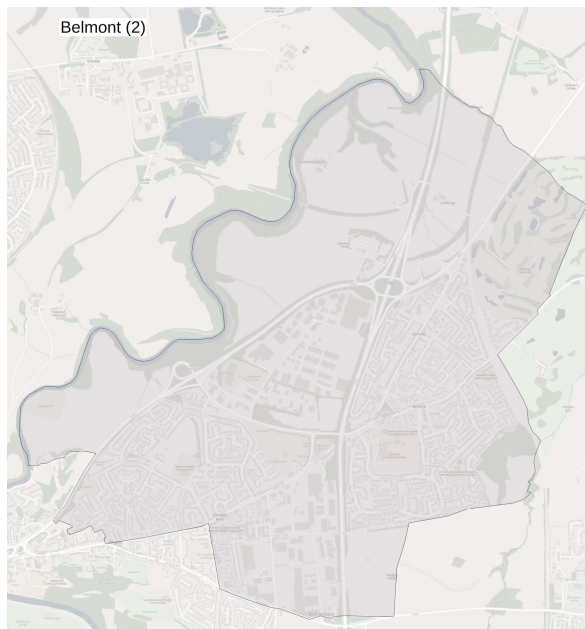
Transfer out:

DDC - Pelaw (West)

DDD - Pelaw (South)

DDE - Pelaw (East)

Transfer in: None



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On current boundaries this division would not meet the criteria for either a two or three member division. By moving the unparished Pelaw polling districts into a revised Elvet, Gilesgate and Shincliffe division, we can create a two member division within the variances,</li> <li>- This division ensures that the Belmont Parish remains intact within one electoral division, whilst keeping some of the Gilesgate area currently in the division within the area, ensuring continuity and protecting numerous community links.</li> <li>- Unlike parishes further out from Durham City, Belmont very much does associate itself with the City and large amounts of casework relate to City leaning issues, including student issues, unlike parishes further out like Sherburn and Pitlington.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Many residents use facilities in Belmont and Gilesgate and viceversa.</li> </ul>
Easily Definable boundaries	The boundary to the west is rigid, being the River Wear, further strengthened by the main A690 into Durham City and the A1(M), with all but a handful of properties being to the east of A690. The boundary to the east is also clear as it is the start of the more rural parts of the east of the county and the end of the built up area, delineated to a great extent by the former Leamside Railway line which is under consideration for reopening.
Transport Links including public transport	Public Transport: The main Sunderland Road runs through the entire length of the division and the 20/20A bus service links the areas with more regional links also traversing the area.
Effective, convenient local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The unparished areas which are proposed to be retained within the division boundary are already part of the current division and as large numbers of students live in these areas, it also helps to balance out student numbers across more than one division around the City.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The area is also covered by an Article 4 direction which covers the whole of this area to protect against any further expansion of student properties.</li> </ul>
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	Belmont Parish Council is an outstanding parish split into 3 wards. Gilesgate Moor, Carrville and Belmont and it is critical that these are not placed in different divisions as the parish council provides some significantly important local recreational services.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The core shopping areas at the northern end of Gilesgate off Dragon Lane are used by all residents across the division. Whilst many also frequent Durham City for shopping and particularly for night-time entertainment.</li> <li>- The Belmont secondary school is the main secondary school for the area and is soon to be rebuilt to provide even better facilities for more local children.</li> <li>- Gilesgate Medical Practice on Sunderland road is accessed by residents in this part of the division with the main doctors surgery for the rest of the area being Belmont Surgery although residents from both areas attend either.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	As the Belmont parish and the unparished parts of Gilesgate are one continuous built up area, there are significant links both geographical, as well as attendance at local churches and community centres.
Ward Name	As a greater percentage of the division is the Belmont parish area under these proposals we see no need to change the name.

## Electoral Division: Benfieldside (2 members)

Electorate: 7617

Per councillor: 3809

Variance: -8.2%

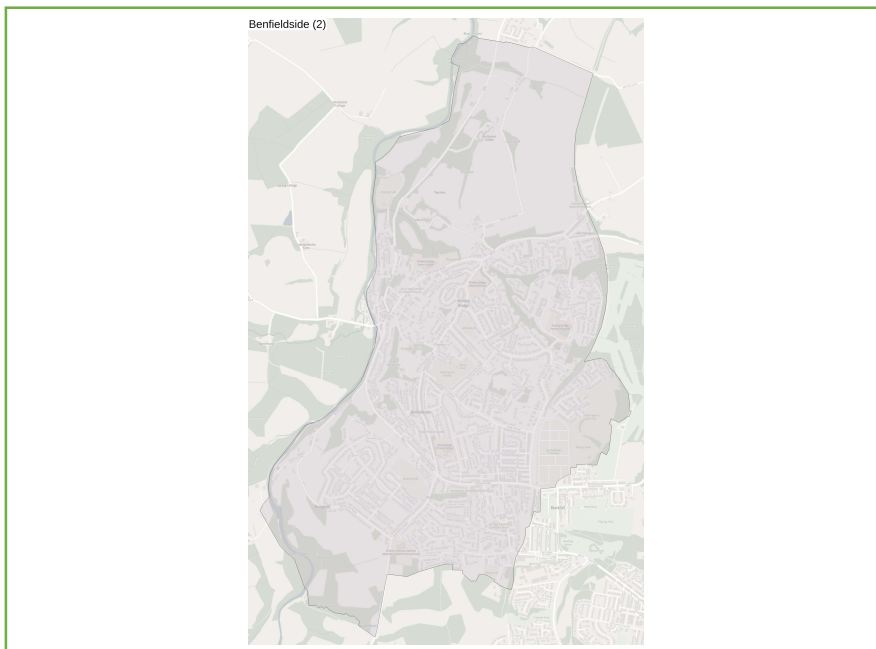
Changes:

Map:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in:

NWDFD - Blackhill South



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	The variance is within that recommended. Note that some councillors or groups may submit suggestions which could bring the electoral equality even closer to the average.
Community Interests & Identities	The boundaries generally keep the well understood borders whilst bringing in some of the parts of Consett which have more community links to this area and were previously in the Consett North area.
Easily Definable boundaries	The western boundary forms the boundary of the county along the Derwent River. The eastern boundary covers a significant stretch of the eastern boundary of the urban Consett conurbation area along the Derwent Walk regionally recognised cycle and walkway.
Transport Links including public transport	As a highly urban area, links are very good across the proposed division with regular buses traversing the division many times an hour.
Effective, convenient local government	The area is not parished. As an urban small electoral division it allows for a much more local relationship between councillors and the electorate which is particularly important in an unparished area like this.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Most residents to their key shopping in Consett, whilst using the same medical facilities and the Consett leisure centre.
Specific community links	
Ward Name	



## Electoral Division: Bishop Auckland Town (3 members)

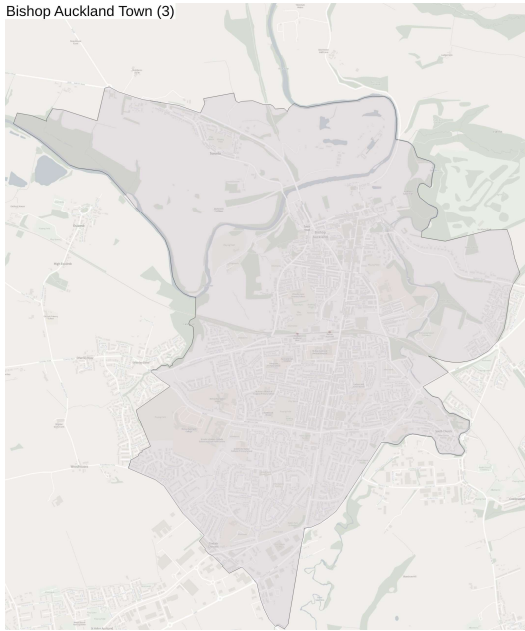
Electorate: 12604

Per councillor: 4201

Variance: +1.25%

Changes:

Map:

<p>Transfer out:</p> <p>Transfer in:</p> <p>From Shildon BADB - South Church</p> <p>All of Woodhouse Close BAEA - St Andrews BAEB - South Church BAEC - Central 6 BAED - Central 7 BAGA - Tindale Crescent BAGB - Woodhouse Close 1 BAGC - Woodhouse Close 2 BAGD - Woodhouse Close 3</p>	
---	---

Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposal brings the whole of the Bishop Auckland Town Council area under one electoral division with a variance of just 3% along with the BADB polling district of South Church which has no links to Shildon and sits within the urban area of Bishop Auckland.</li> <li>- The Woodhouse Close is very much considered to be part of Bishop Auckland and indeed the idea of a specific part of the proposed area being considered Bishop Auckland whilst other parts such as Woodhouse Close not being is not the case.</li> <li>- No town council wards need to be split with the proposal and the many issues residents have with the town centre would be dealt with by councillors who collectively would be responsible for the whole town.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	As an urban area, buses are regular through the whole area.
Effective, convenient local government	Keeping the whole of the town council in one electoral division makes it far more convenient and effective.

What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The small unparished area of South Church which has far more in common with Bishop Auckland than Shildon and includes the local primary school for the rest of this part of the division is brought into the division bringing together the two South Church polling districts.</li> <li>- All residents in this area shop in the town centre or the out of town area at the edge of the division.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	
Ward Name	As the proposed division brings together the whole of the Bishop Auckland Town council area, the name continues to be appropriate.

## Electoral Division: **Brandon (2 members)**

Electorate: 7778

Per councillor: 3889

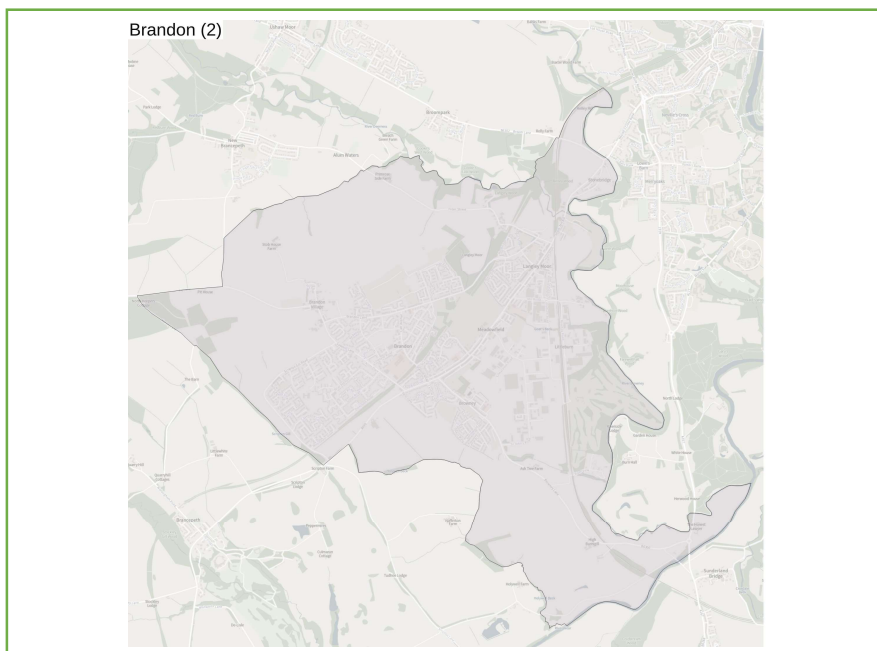
Variance: -6.2%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in: None



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	By retaining the existing boundaries the division is only 6% from the average. The proposal keeps the existing division intact and ensures that the villages of Brandon, Meadowfield, Browney and Langley Moor which are all in Brandon and Byshottles Parish council area stay together.
Community Interests & Identities	The four villages which run into each other are seen as a homogenous area, separated from Durham City but still with strong links to it via the main A690 running towards the City.
Easily Definable boundaries	The area is almost entirely surrounded by farmland, whilst all housing sits off or near the main A690 road. The parish council boundary forms a natural boundary with the River Browney to the east, and splitting the A690 to the north, whilst the River Wear is a firm boundary to the south.
Transport Links including public transport	All these villages sit on or adjacent to the main A690 and residents shop within the area at Langley Moor high street, and also sit on the same bus links including the Durham linked Angel 21 service and the 46/47/49 routes.
Effective, convenient local government	Coupled with the 2 member Deerness Division, the whole of the Brandon and Byshottles Parish Council area becomes self-contained within 2 electoral divisions.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	As a continuous populated area contained within a small geographical area many of the local community groups cross the area and community centres are used by residents from many parts of the community.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Doctors: Most residents use the same doctors facilities which sit within the Division boundaries.</li> <li>- Schools: The villages all sit within the same school planning area.</li> </ul>

Specific community links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parliament: The villages currently all sit in the same parliamentary constituency and this will continue under the new proposed boundaries.</li> </ul>
Ward Name	The name is still appropriate as the whole area is in the Brandon and Byshottles parish area and Brandon is the most populated part of the area.

## Electoral Division: Burnopfield (1 member)

Electorate: 4102

Per councillor: 4102

Variance: -1.1%

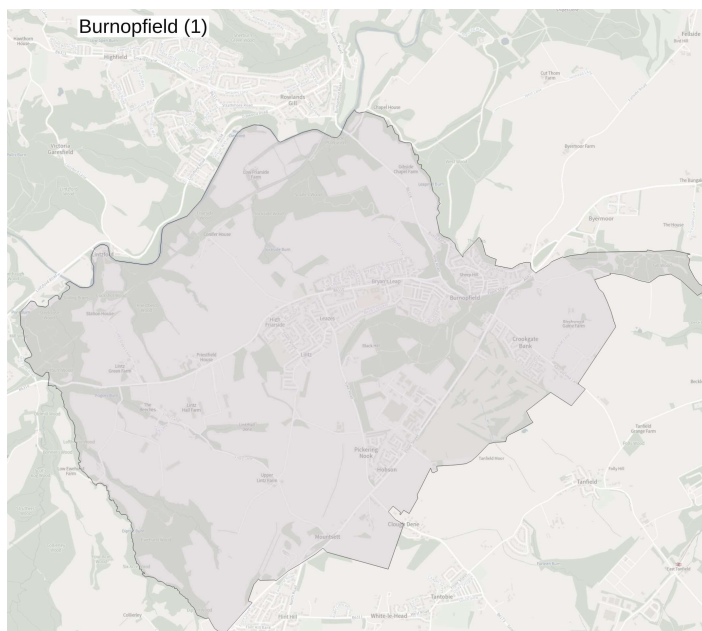
Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:

NWDBB - Dipton  
NWDBC - Flint Hill

Transfer in:



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	The proposal is just 1% from the average and the majority of the electorate live within a triangle of roads bringing the three communities together within a mile of each other.
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	The north of the division is a clearly definable boundary being the county boundary.
Transport Links including public transport	A triangle of three roads link the main communities and the same buses cover the area.
Effective, convenient local government	As an unparished area, it does not impact on the neighbouring parished areas.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	The only primary school in this area is attended by children from across the Burnopfield, Hobson, Crookgate Bank communities
Specific community links	As these three villages are so close together there are significant links between them.
Ward Name	As Dipton is being proposed to be placed in a different division, A simple name of Burnopfield makes sense.

## Electoral Division: Castle Eden & Passfield (1 member)

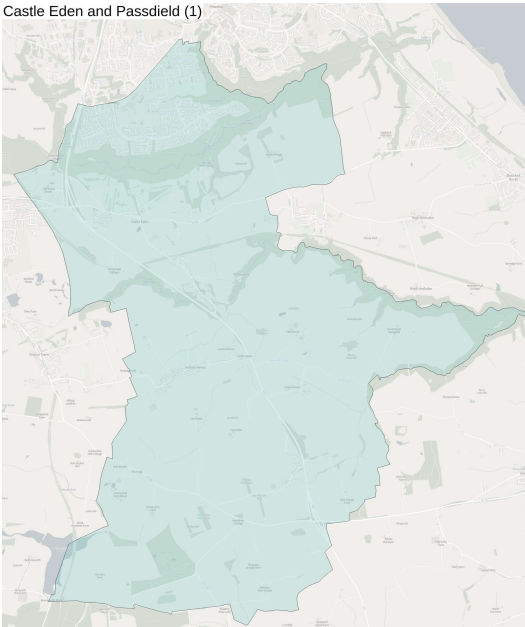
Electorate: 4466

Per councillor: 4466

Variance: +7.6%

Changes:

Map:

<p>Transfer out:</p> <p>Transfer in:</p> <p>EAC - Nesbitt</p> <p>EAB - Sheraton</p> <p>EAD - Hutton Henry</p> <p>EAE - Castle Eden</p>	
--	---

Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- When the Blackhall Division was previously created it has a significant variation from the average, this proposal brings the Blackhall and Passfield divisions within variance.</li> <li>- The Hutton Henry Parish has two distinctly different areas: Station Town which sits on the Wingate road and literally runs on from Wingate village as a continuous built up area, and the A19 leaning Hutton Henry village.</li> <li>- By placing these two villages in the areas that make most sense it also ensures that the two electoral divisions of Castle Eden/Passfield and Trimdon/Wingate are more closely electorally balanced</li> <li>- Note: Moving some of the Passfield town council ward into could bring closer electoral equality, however it is important that the housing either side of the Castle Eden Dene is retained in the same division.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	The A19 cuts through the proposed division with communities either side seeing this as the core access point to the wider region, with many residents having no other real choice.
Easily Definable boundaries	The southern most part of the division is the county boundary. The eastern boundary is the Monk Heselden Parish boundary whilst the western boundary for its entire length is the Wingate Parish boundary.
Transport Links including public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are poor road links to the west of Monk Heselden Parish (in current Blackhall Division).</li> <li>- The villages/parishes of Nesbitt and Sheraton which currently sit in the Blackhall Division have little in common with Monk Heselden and</li> </ul>

	<p>have no road or bus links to them, accessing transport via the A19 instead.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Parishes to the west of Monk Heselden therefore have far more links with Peterlee, being a quick short drive up the A19.</li> <li>- All the parishes included in this proposal naturally face towards the main A19.</li> </ul>
Effective, convenient local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- By keeping these areas to the south of Peterlee, but linked by the A19 together, it makes it easier to manage the area.</li> <li>- This also allows the renamed Monk Hesleden (formerly Blackhall) Division to be self-contained and links Wingate with the Parishes to its west with which it has far more in common.</li> <li>- This proposal also helps to ensure that Peterlee Town Council is retained within just two divisions.</li> </ul>
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Children from across this area attend secondary schools in Peterlee, whilst residents access the shops and supermarkets, and leisure centre in Peterlee via the A19. The only primary school in the centre of the southern part of the proposed division is in Hutton Henry and is accessed by children from the surrounding rural parishes.
Specific community links	The Castle Eden dene, a major nature reserve will finally be within the same electoral division being either side of the Peterlee and Castle Eden parishes.
Ward Name	The addition of Castle Eden to the name, not only recognises the Parish Council but also the nationally recognised Dene.

## Electoral Division: Chilton (1 member)

Electorate: 3823

Per councillor: 3823

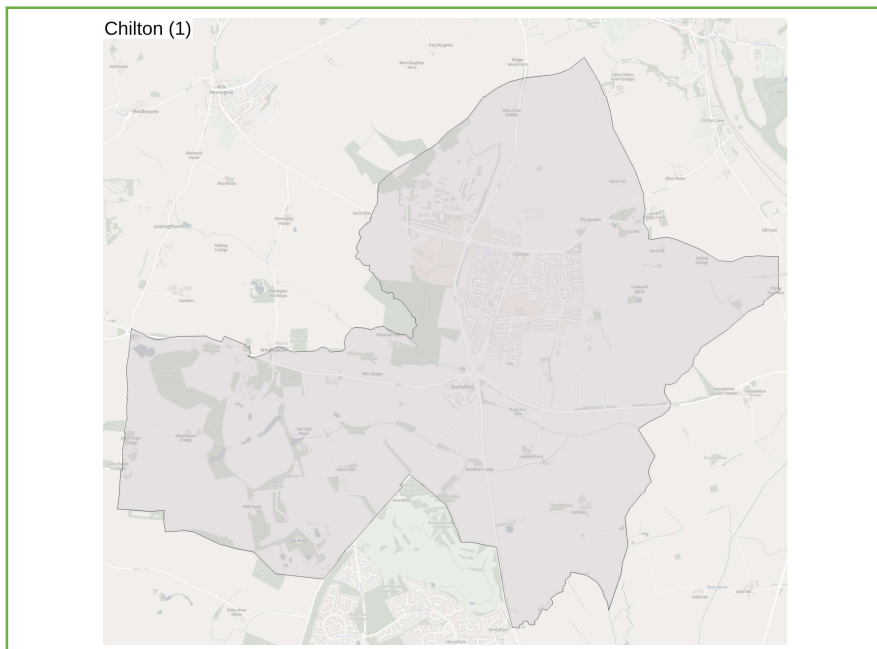
Variance: -7.8%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in: None



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposal retains the current parish boundary recognising the continuing new house building in the village and significant regeneration work which is bringing empty properties back into use and is likely to increase the electorate further. This proposal also ensures that the historic Chilton Parish Council is fully retained within a single electoral division. It will also ensure that Windlestone Parish isn't split and given that the major population area at Rushyford village is just the other side of the A167 from Chilton it makes sense to retain this link.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	As most of the electorate live in Chilton or Rushyford, the links are clear.
Easily Definable boundaries	The Chilton Parish is bordered by some significantly larger town councils and by retaining this single member ward it also ensures that their boundaries are not split across divisions.
Transport Links including public transport	The whole populated area of the division is within a couple of minutes the key regionally important A167 and the same buses area accessed by nearly everyone.
Effective, convenient local government	Having just two parishes together to create a single member ward makes it easy for a councillor to attend the two parishes, and this has been shown to be successful for the last decade.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	The key Chilton parish council carries out a huge amount of local work, running allotments and other community facilities.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Residents of Chilton and Rushyford and the surrounding area access the new medical centre in the middle of this growing village. For large shops residents tend to head to nearby Sedgfield.



Specific community links	
Ward Name	Chilton remains the most sensible name for the division.

## Electoral Division: Consett North (1 member)

Electorate: 4176

Per councillor: 4176

Variance: 0.6%

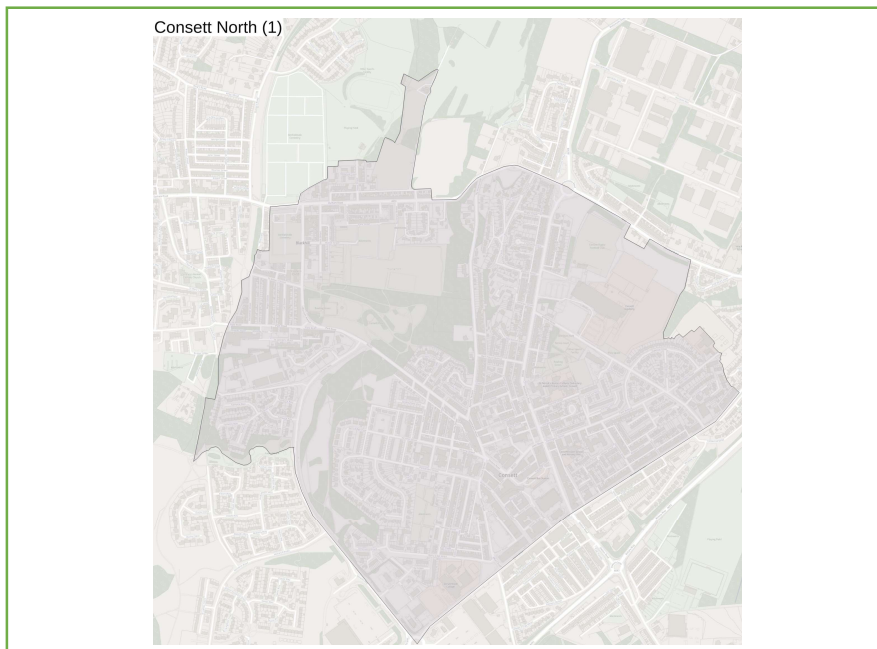
Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:  
NWDGB - Villa Real  
NWDFD - Blackhill South

Part  
NWDGC - Belle Vue

Transfer in: None



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed one member division (currently 2 member) is at just half a percent from the electoral parity.</li> <li>- This is the central part of Consett and by creating a one member division it allows all of the proposals for the surrounding divisions to be proposed.</li> <li>- It has been suggested that as this is the centre of the town, a two member division could still be retained, by bringing in parts of the neighbouring divisions and whilst this is not our recommendation, we recognise it is an option.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	As the core part of Consett town the links between the communities are significant as are the links with the neighbouring divisions.
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	As an urban area in the middle of town, the transport links are excellent.
Effective, convenient local government	A single member core central division allows for effective management of town centre issues.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Residents from across the Consett wider area access facilities across multiple divisions as is the nature of urban areas.
Specific community links	
Ward Name	Consett North is still appropriate but Consett or Consett Central would also be acceptable.

## **Chester-le-Street, Chester-le-Street South and North Lodge Divisions – Two Options**

The Joint Administration has two options for these divisions.

Broadly, Option A (Conservatives) recommends one 2 member and one 3 member division covering the area, whilst Option B (Liberal Democrats and Greens) recommends retaining the single member North Lodge Division and having two 2 member divisions. Both options are detailed below.

There may be different views from independent councillors in the area.

Some proposed minor amendments may be submitted from the Conservative group to recognise additional community links and further improvements to electoral equality.

## Option A – Conservatives:

### Electoral Division: Chester-le-Street & North Lodge (2 members)

Electorate: 7819

Per councillor: 3910

Variance: -5.8%

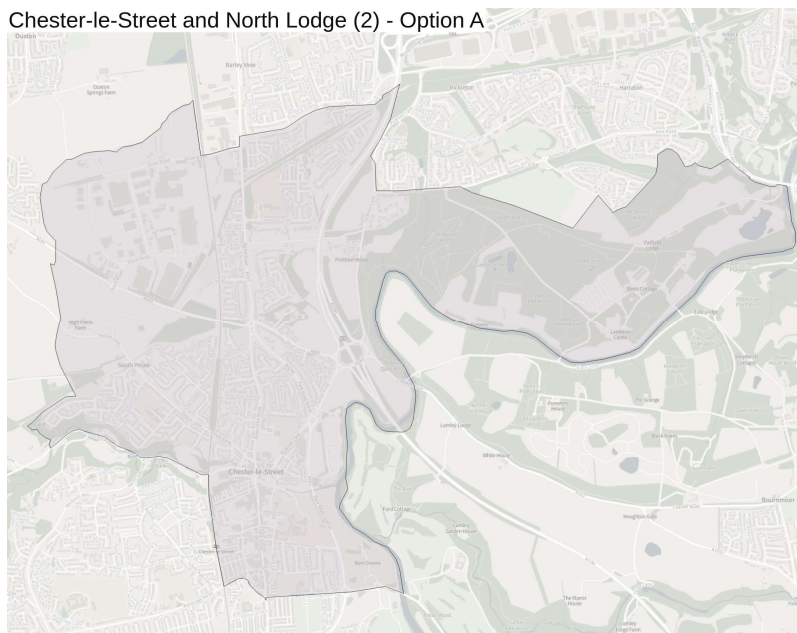
Changes:

Map:

#### Merge divisions.

NDCA - Chester East No 1  
 NDLC1 - Chester North No 3  
 NDLA - Chester North No 1  
 NDLB1 - Chester North No 2a  
 NDLB2 - Chester North No 2b  
 NDKA - Chester Central No 1  
 NDLC2 - Chester North No 4  
 NDMA - North Lodge No 1  
 NDMB - North Lodge No 2

Chester-le-Street and North Lodge (2) - Option A



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- By making amendments to the current boundaries we are able to ensure electoral equality well within the average at 6%.</li> <li>- This proposal ensures the Parish of North Lodge remains in one electoral division as does the centre of Chester-le-Street</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	The division is a closely linked built up area with all residents considering themselves to be part of Chester-le-Street and/or North Lodge.
Easily Definable boundaries	Whilst North Lodge has its own Parish Council, there remains an amorphous link between the two as the existing North Lodge ward includes housing that sits outside of the original North Lodge Parish.
Transport Links including public transport	Public Transport: These areas are well-linked through public buses and school buses that connect Chester-le-Street to South Pelaw and North Lodge. Chester-le-Street's main railway station is well used by residents of all of the proposed Chester-le- Street and North Lodge ward.
Effective, convenient local government	The proposed area brings together single member wards which are not considered necessary in a built-up area.

What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	The proposed boundaries retain significant Church links in the Chester-le-Street area.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The new division is entirely within the same school planning area.</li> <li>- As this is an urban area children attend a variety of schools across the area.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	This version of the ward boundaries links South Pelaw to Chester-le-Street as these two settlements have close community links. South Pelaw and Chester-le-Street have been linked in the past and was in 2008 in the old District Council division.
Ward Name	The name recognises both Chester-le-Street and the North Lodge parish

## Option A – Conservatives

### Electoral Division: Chester-le-Street South (3 members)

Electorate: 13282

Per councillor: 4427

Variance: +6.6%

Changes:

Map:

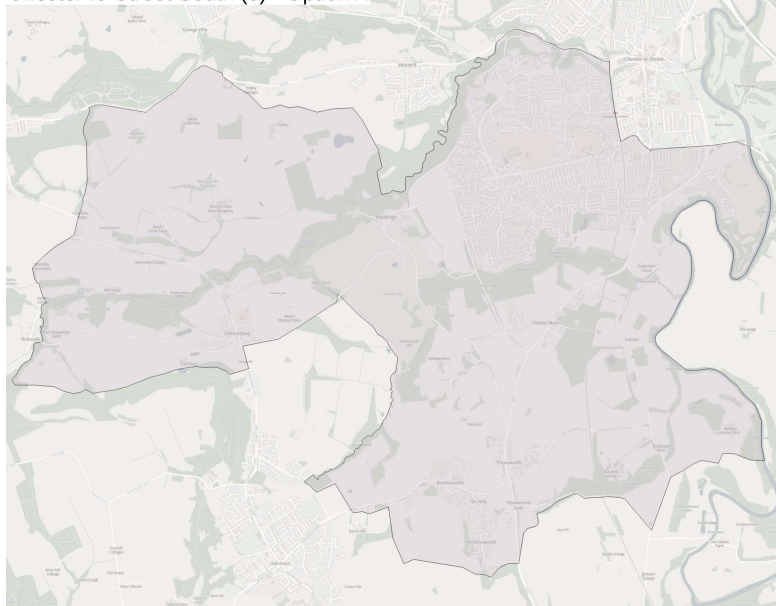
Transfer out:

Transfer in:

NDCB - Chester East No 2  
 NDCC - Chester East No 3  
 NDIA - Chester West No 1  
 NDIB - Chester West No 2  
 NDIC - Chester West No 3  
 NDKB - Chester Central No 2

NDDA - Kimblesworth & Plawsworth  
 No 1  
 NDDC - Kimblesworth & Plawsworth  
 No 3  
 NDFD - Edmondsley & Waldrige  
 No 4

Chester-le-Street South (3) - Option A



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed division is just 7% from the average, well within the electoral equality requirements.</li> <li>- The proposed division ensures that the Whole of Waldrige Parish remains within one electoral division and the housing estates adjacent in the unparished area of Waldrige stay within the division too.</li> <li>- The Parish of Kimblesworth and Plawsworth is split across three wards, however the three key villages of Kimblesworth, Plawsworth and Nettlesworth sit within two wards and look to Chester-le-Street.</li> <li>- The remaining ward of West Kimblesworth has far more affinity with Sacriston, with new and existing housing actually forming part of the village of Sacriston itself. By placing the West Kimblesworth Parish Ward with Sacriston this ensures that all of the housing directly connected to Sacriston sits within the village boundary.</li> <li>- The proposal ensures that the Sacriston parish does not need to be split.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	

Effective, convenient local government	Retaining more of the urban Chester-le-Street area ensures that residents in this division have three rather than the alternative of two local members in a smaller division.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Schools, leisure centre and medical facilities are used across the Chester-le-Street divisions, and most residents visit the town centre shops and supermarkets for most of their shopping.
Specific community links	
Ward Name	

## Option B – Liberal Democrats and Green Party

### Electoral Division: North Lodge (1 member)

Electorate: 4176

Per councillor: 4176

Variance: +3.2%

Changes:

Map:

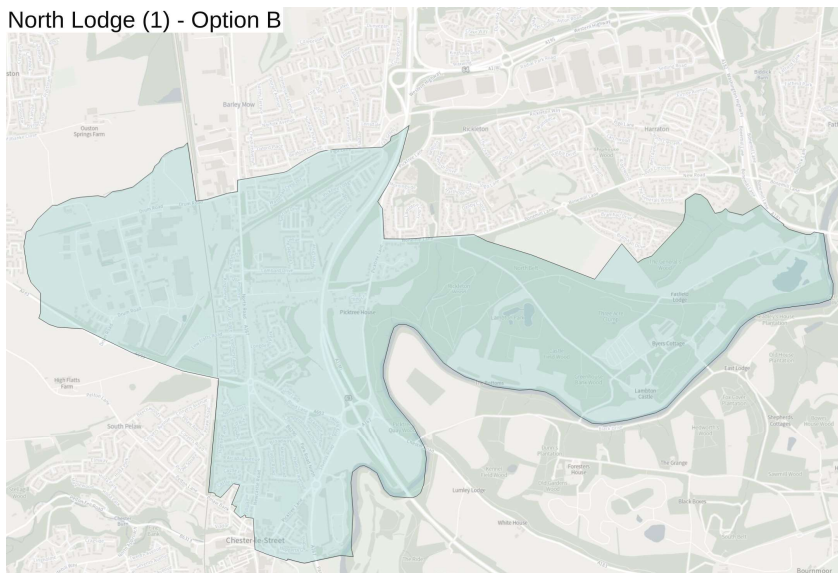
Transfer out: None

Transfer in:

NDLA - Chester North No 1

NDLC1 - Chester North No 3

North Lodge (1) - Option B



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- By making minor amendments to the current boundaries we are able to ensure North Lodge Division will be just 3% from the average, and neighbouring Chester-le-Street divisions will be just 0.7% and 1.8% from the average respectively.</li> <li>- This proposal not only ensures the Parish of North Lodge remains in one electoral division but also ensures that Parish Council concerns about dilution of representation from a much larger division are recognised.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The division is a closely linked area, and the amendments ensure that all properties on the main Newcastle Road will be in the same electoral division.</li> <li>- The proposed area is only slightly amended from that which was previously in place, with the extra areas fully linked by main roads.</li> <li>- To the north is the County boundary and to the south and east is the natural boundary of the River Wear.</li> <li>- Whilst to the east the natural boundary of the main east coast railway line is a natural boundary between housing, whilst still retaining the key industrial estate in the North Lodge parish area in the division.</li> <li>- The small extension to the boundary near the town centre uses the Chester Burn as natural boundary</li> </ul>



Transport Links including public transport	Strong bus links traverse the area linking residents to Chester-le-Street town but also to the larger Newcastle conurbations via the X21 service.
Effective, convenient local government	By ensuring that the North Lodge Parish Council area is kept intact in one division without diluting with a much larger division this respects the issues raised by the parish council. Keeping the whole of the main Drum Industrial estate in the same division also helps ensure only one councillor has to deal with issues at this site.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	North Lodge Parish has very strong community links, and many community groups work closely with the local Park View school and Parish council.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	The whole area is within the school planning area and most children go to Park View secondary school. Leisure centre and medical facilities are used across the Chester-le-Street divisions, and most residents visit the town centre shops and supermarkets for most of their shopping.
Specific community links	The Park View school is considered to be the community centre for residents of North Lodge and the surrounding unparished parts of the proposed division.
Ward Name	As the majority of the area is remaining as before, and in recognition of this important Parish council, no name change is recommended.

## Option B – Liberal Democrats and Green Party

### Electoral Division: Chester-le-Street (2 members)

Electorate: 8454

Per councillor: 4227

Variance: +1.8%

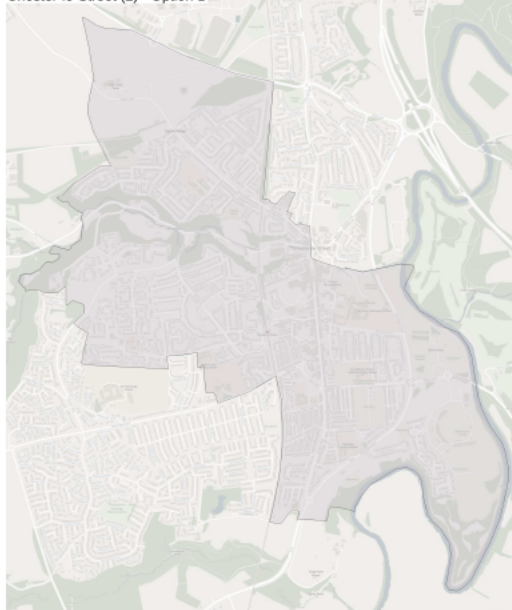
Changes:

Map:

#### Merge Divisions:

NDCA - Chester East No 1  
 NDCB - Chester East No 2  
 NDCC - Chester East No 3  
 NDIA - Chester West No 1  
 NDIB - Chester West No 2  
 NDIC - Chester West No 3  
 NDKA - Chester Central No 1  
 NDKB - Chester Central No 2  
**NDLA2 - Chester North No 1**  
 NDLB1 - Chester North No 2a  
 NDLB2 - Chester North No 2b

Chester-le-Street (2) - Option B



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed division is just 1.8% from the average, and ensuring that the neighbouring Chester-le-Street South and North Lodge divisions are just 1% and 4% from equality.</li> <li>- This brings together parts of Chester-le-Street West Central, North and East divisions, recognising that in an unparished town centre area, it is easier to manage a single ward than three single member wards.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	
Effective, convenient local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The new boundary ensures that the majority of Chester-le-Street town centre will be in one electoral division whilst ensuring there is still representation from the two neighbouring Chester-le-Street divisions.</li> </ul>
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The entire area is unparished, allowing the two neighbouring divisions to retain the whole of the parishes in those areas in the same electoral divisions.</li> </ul>

Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Schools, leisure centre and medical facilities are used across the Chester-le-Street divisions, and most residents visit the town centre shops and supermarkets for most of their shopping.
Specific community links	
Ward Name	Recognises that this is the central part of Chester-le-Street

## Option B – Liberal Democrats and Green Party

### Electoral Division: Chester-le-Street South (2 members)

Electorate: 8362

Per councillor: 4181

Variance: +0.7%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:

Transfer in:

NDDA - Kimblesworth & Plawsworth

No 1

NDDC - Kimblesworth & Plawsworth

No 3

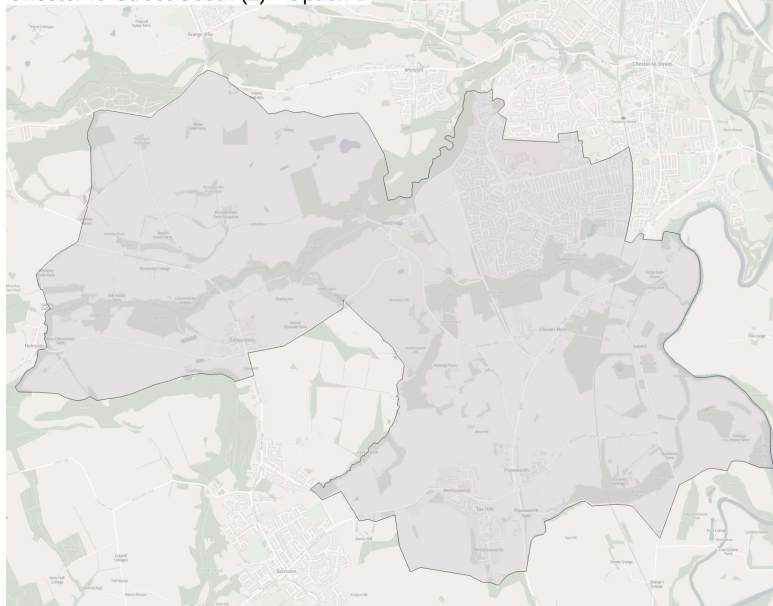
NDFD - Edmondsley & Waldrige No 4

NDIA2- Chester West No 1

NDIB2 - Chester West No 2

NDIC2 - Chester West No 3

Chester-le-Street South (2) - Option B



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed division is just 0.7% from the average.</li> <li>- It brings in part of the Chester West Division and most of Kimbleworth and Plawsworth Parish.</li> <li>- Parish integrity: The proposed division ensures that the Whole of Waldrige Parish remains within one electoral division and the housing estates adjacent in the unparished area of Waldrige stay within the division.</li> <li>- The Parish of Kimblesworth and Plawsworth is split across three wards, however the three key villages of Kimblesworth, Plawsworth and Nettlesworth sit within two wards and look to Chester-le-Street.</li> <li>- The remaining ward of West Kimblesworth has far more affinity with Sacriston, with new and existing housing actually forming part of the village of Sacriston itself. By placing the West Kimblesworth Parish Ward with Sacriston this ensures that all of the housing directly connected to Sacriston sits within the village boundary.</li> <li>- <i>If the commission is minded to not split the parish, then placing the West Kimblesworth Ward within Chester-le-Street South would still allow both Sacriston and Chester-le-Street South to be within the electoral equality limits, however for the reasons explained above, this is not seen to be the most sensible option for the communities.</i></li> <li>- The proposal ensures that the Sacriston parish does not need to be split.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	

Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	
Effective, convenient local government	As this area has small number of parishes, retaining it as a two member division rather than expanding it to a three member division is not considered creation of a convenient and effective management for local government needs.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Schools, leisure centre and medical facilities are used across the Chester-le-Street divisions, and most residents visit the town centre shops and supermarkets for most of their shopping.
Specific community links	
Ward Name	

## Electoral Division: Coxhoe (3 members)

Electorate: 11944

Per councillor: 3981

Variance: -4%

Changes:

Map:

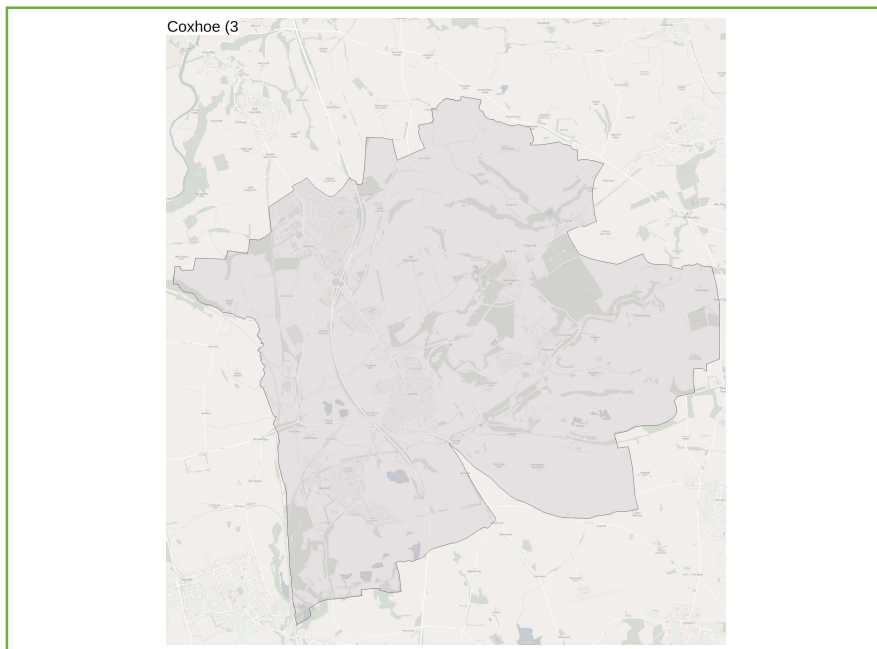
Transfer out:

DIF - Croxdale

DIG – Hett

Transfer in:

SCB - Cornforth



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposals for this division ensure that the division remains a 3 member division just 4% from the average electoral equality.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: Key parishes are not split across different electoral Divisions with this proposal, making sure that both of the large Coxhoe and Cassop-cum-Quarrington Parishes do not need to be split and are retained in a division where they have been for a considerable number of decades.</li> <li>- This proposal brings in all of Cornforth Parish, where the main population sits in the village just a few hundred meters from Coxhoe.</li> <li>- The smaller parish of Hett and Croxdale and its three villages sit off the A167 and have few road or community links to Coxhoe. Their natural link is to Tudhoe less than a mile to the east and the key town of Spennymoor where the nearest main shopping areas and leisure centre are with bus services every ten minutes taking just 10 minutes from Croxdale on the 6 and X21 services. The parish of Hett and Croxdale is therefore proposed to be moved into the Tudhoe division.</li> <li>- <b>Note: Because the Croxdale and Hett parish areas have been linked with the rest of the Coxhoe electoral area for a significant period of time as well as being in the same parliamentary area, it has been suggested by some local members that these parishes should remain in the Coxhoe division. This would result in Coxhoe division being closer to electoral average at 1.2% rather than -4%, whilst Tudhoe Division would as a result be -2.9% rather than 5% over. This change to this division which has been suggested too late for changes to maps and excel data would be acceptable.</b></li> </ul>

Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	
Effective, convenient local government	Keeping the two main parishes in the same division is important because the parishes are overlap between the built up areas.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The vast majority Cornforth residents visit Coxhoe for main services including doctors surgeries and shops.</li> <li>- Employment: The main employment area for Cornforth is the key Bowburn Industrial area which continues to expand closer to Cornforth.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	
Ward Name	

## Electoral Division: Crook (3 members)

Electorate: 11519

Per councillor: 3840

Variance: -7.5%

Changes:

Map:

<p>Transfer out:</p> <p>NWDWC - Helmington Row</p> <p>Transfer in:</p> <p>NWDRA - Witton-Le-Wear  NWDSA - Sunnyside  NWDSB - Stanley  NWDSC - Billy Row  NWDUA - Roddymoor</p>	
--	---

Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed boundary will be within the electoral equality recommendations.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: The whole of the proposed area including the town of Crook itself are currently unparished. The proposed boundary keeps all of this area within the current boundary with the exception of Helmington Row which sits equidistant between the two towns of Crook and Willington.</li> <li>- The proposals recommend Helmington Row being with Willington and Hunwick to help to balance out electoral equality however there are also justifiable reasons for this village to stay with Crook as the proposed changes to the Parliamentary boundaries place Willington and Hunwick in the City of Durham constituency and Helmington Row in the Bishop Auckland constituency as part of the current Crook division.</li> <li>- Whichever option is chosen both divisions would remain within the acceptable electoral variances.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stanley Crook, Billy Row and Roddymoor have far more links with Crook (1-2 miles away) than with the Weardale area sitting on the B6298 just north of the town, whilst Sunnyside is just 1.5 miles from Stanley Crook village. Residents of these villages see Crook as their key town for all local services including shopping, doctors, schools and community links, so moving these villages into the Crook Division makes electoral and community sense.</li> <li>- The unparished area of Witton-le-Wear which currently sits in the Weardale division was added at a previous boundary review but geographically and from the point of view of community links it sits far better with the other unparished parts of the town of Crook and the</li> </ul>



	villages surrounding it. This brings Witton-le-Wear and Howden-le-Wear back together with the close links they have along the short 2 mile long Hargill Road.
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	- Stanley Crook, Billy Row and Roddymoor have an hourly X1 bus service into Crook.
Effective, convenient local government	As an entirely unparished area, this makes management relatively easier with all residents either living in the Crook urban area or a short distance from it. As a previous district council centre, retaining a main council access point, there is easy access for residents.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Links: Crook Community Leisure is in walking distance of Billy Row and Roddymoor.</li> <li>- Shopping: All of the communities new and existing within the proposed boundaries access Crook's two supermarkets and the Tuesday market.</li> <li>-</li> </ul>
Specific community links	
Ward Name	Recognises that this division is predominately the town of Crook so no name change needed.

## Electoral Division: Dalton & Dawdon (2 members)

Electorate: 8307

Per councillor: 4154

Variance: 0%

Changes:

Map:

Renamed from Dawdon

Transfer out:

EQB - Seaham Harbour No. 2

EQC - Seaham Harbour No. 3

EQD - Seaham Harbour No. 4

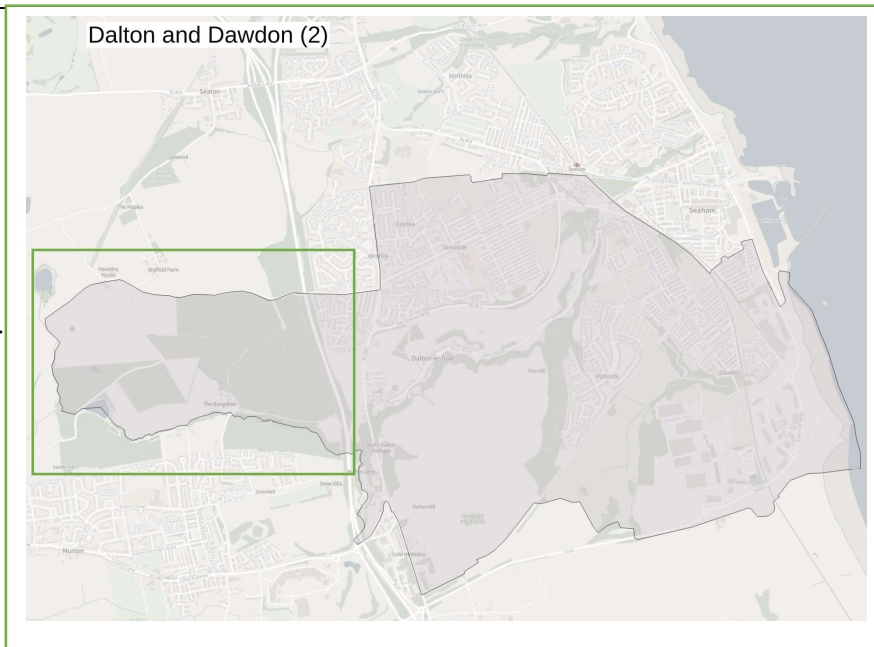
Transfer in:

EPA - Dalton Urban

EPB - Deneside No. 1

EPC - Deneside No. 2

ENA - Dalton Village



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed Divisions of Dalton &amp; Dawdon and Seaham have been designed to ensure that the Seaham Parish area is retained within just two electoral divisions, which the proposals do, within the recommended deviations on population. Dalton and Dawdon is 0% from the average.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	The A19 represents a sensible boundary, the part of the proposed division to the left of the main A19 as marked in the green box has just a handful of electors and is retained as it is part of the parish council area.
Transport Links including public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The B1287 and A182 main roads circle the new division</li> </ul>
Effective, convenient local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Previously the Parish of Dalton-le-Dale was split in half. These proposals bring the Parish back together within one electoral division.</li> <li>This boundary also ensures the whole of Seaham Parish's Dawdon Ward is contained within one electoral division.</li> <li>The boundaries of the two new electoral divisions in the Seaham area also ensure that everyone in the wider Seaham Town Council and surrounding parishes have councillors with some influence over what happens within the town.</li> </ul>

What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Residents in this area tend to do their shopping at Dalton park shopping centre, attend the same medical facilities and use Seaham leisure centre.
Specific community links	
Ward Name	

## Electoral Division: Deerness (2 members)

Electorate: 8401

Per councillor: 4201

Variance: 2%

Changes:

Map:

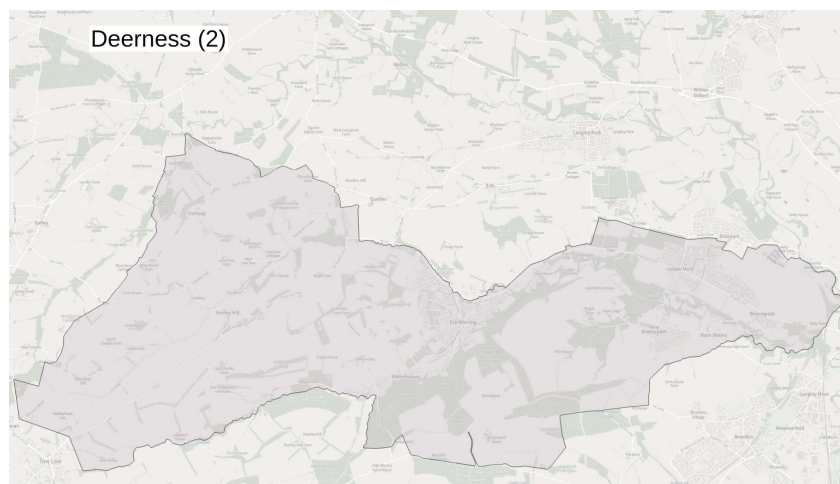
Transfer out:

DMA – Bearpark

Transfer in:

NWDOA - Cornsay

NWDOB - Cornsay Colliery



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed division removes Bearpark to ensure electoral equality for both this division and the proposed Esh and Witton Gilbert division, creating a division just 1% off the average.</li> <li>- Parish integrity: The villages remaining in the division, namely, Esh Winning, New Brancepeth, Broompark, Ushaw Moor and Waterhouses all sit within the Brandon and Byshottles Parish Council area and the Deerness Valley. This proposal alongside retaining the Brandon division boundary ensures that the Brandon and Byshottles Parish area sits entirely within just two electoral divisions.</li> <li>- For electoral balance and because Cornsay and Cornsay Colliery sit closer to and have links with Esh Winning they are included in this division. This brings the Cornsay Parish back into one electoral division</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	The Hamsteels estate (NWDOC) in Esh Winning is very much part of the village, but siting in the Cornsay parish has not been linked for some time. By bringing the whole of the Cornsay Parish together, this ensures that Esh Winning is once again wholly in one electoral division.
Easily Definable boundaries	The villages in this area sit in the Deerness valley.
Transport Links including public transport	The villages are all linked by the 43 and 48 bus services
Effective, convenient local government	As detailed above having just one parish council representing this area makes it easier for county councillors to operate. The proposed area has and will be part of the same parliamentary constituency boundary.

What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Most residents use the same doctors surgeries within the Brandon and Byshottles Parish council area.</li> <li>- The whole area would be in the same school planning area with Durham Community Business College the main secondary school at the centre of the division.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- These villages have been part of the same electoral divisions going back for decades. They have similar mining histories and road links. Residents from New Brancepeth go to Ushaw Moor as the closest shopping high street.</li> <li>- The proposal ensures that for the first time in a long time the village of Esh Winning comes under one electoral division.</li> </ul>
Ward Name	

## Electoral Division: Delves Lane (2 members)

Electorate: 8091

Per councillor: 4046

Variance: 2%

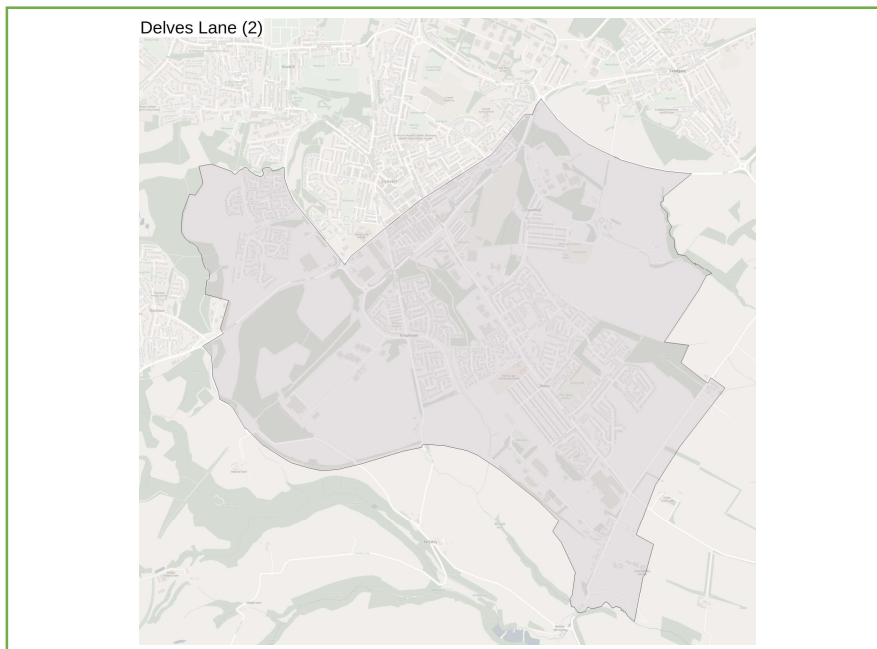
Changes:

Map:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in:

NWDIC - Berry Edge West



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensures this, so that neighbouring divisions can meet the electoral equality numbers. Significant additional housing of several hundred large detached family homes to be built south of Greenways and further housing has been referred to south of Redmire Drive Estate and West of Delves Lane in the County Durham Plan, as well as the Estate west of the Genesis Way continues is currently being developed.</li> <li>- Berry Edge is new housing and has no community links to the Consett South villages of Moorside and The Grove, unlike Castleside.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The ward map as proposed by the Conservative group has clear natural boundaries that do not cut through existing residential streets or estates nor cut through likely sites of future development.</li> </ul>
Transport Links including public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bus routes running through these areas are used by residents across the proposed boundaries. Bus numbers 826 and 827 run directly through all parts of the ward with many other bus services linking via Consett bus station.</li> </ul>
Effective, convenient local government	<p>This whole proposed division sat within the Parliamentary constituency of North West Durham and would move into the new Consett &amp; Blaydon constituency that seems likely to be implemented as part of the ongoing Westminster boundary review.</p>

What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schools: Schools across the area are in the same electoral division, such as Delves Lane Primary School. Children who live on the Genesis Way estate attend the same secondary schools, namely Consett Academy and St Bedes. Indeed school service bus numbers 826 and 827 link all parts of the proposed ward.</li> <li>- Doctors: Consett Medical Centre is the main surgery for the area and is located in the current Delves Lane ward, accessed by residents in the Genesis Way estate.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Delves Lane, Templetown and the Genesis Estate have strong sense of community cohesion and identity. Adding the Genesis Way Estate into the ward fits well as it is better connected with Templetown and are connected around the Genesis project site. They are closely linked communities with many people living within the area and working nearby. Moving Hownsgill Industrial Estate into the ward where many local residents work.</li> </ul>
Ward Name	

## Electoral Division: Dipton & Tanfield (2 members)

Electorate: 8697

Per councillor: 4349

Variance: 5%

Changes:

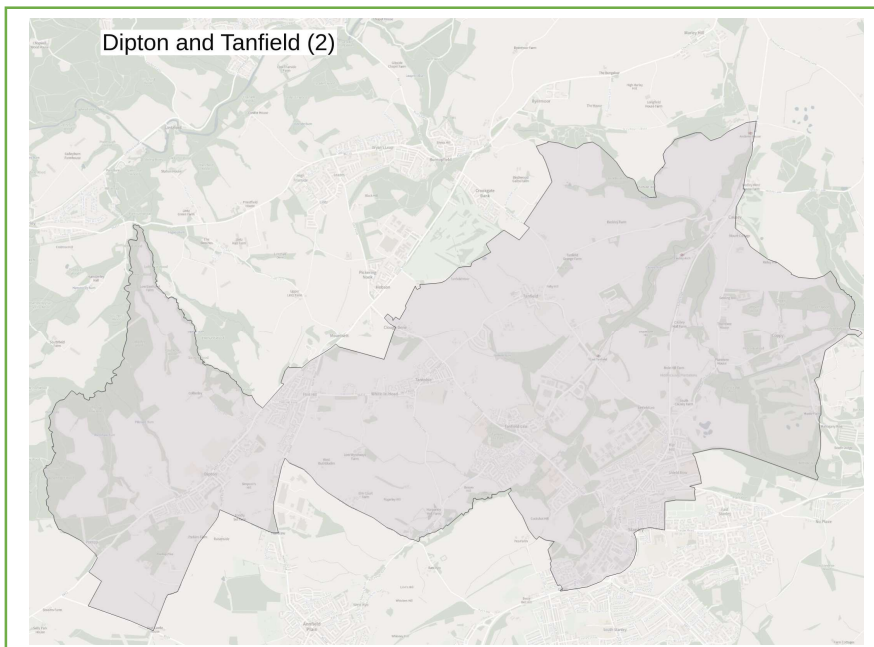
Map:

Transfer out:

Transfer in:

NWDBB - Dipton

NWDBC - Flint Hill



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Just 5% from the average.</li> <li>- Parish boundaries: The proposal ensures that the Savannah and Tanfield Parish Wards of Stanley Town Council are retained within one electoral division. This also ensures that the whole of the town council area is within just three divisions.</li> <li>- The unparished areas of Dipton and Flint Hill are very closely linked to Stanley geographically and in terms of community links.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	Dipton and Flint Hill flow into each other and should not be split.
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Buses: Dipton and Flint Hill are linked by direct bus services to Stanley every 15 and 30 minutes respectively with the 16, X72 and 714 services. The X72 service also links Tanfield and Tantobie with Dipton and Flint Hill, whilst the 713 service provides access to Tanfield Lea from Dipton and Flint Hill.</li> </ul>
Effective, convenient local government	The proposal helps keep Stanley Town Council in just three electoral divisions.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schools: Dipton and Flint Hill children attend schools in Stanley and particularly Tanfield School which is in the current Tanfield Division and the area is in the same school planning area.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shopping: Residents of Flint Hill and Dipton as well as the other communities within the existing Tanfield Division do the vast majority of their shopping in Stanley where the main supermarkets and high street are located.</li> <li>-</li> </ul>
Specific community links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The various communities to the north of Stanley have many similarities and community links.</li> </ul>
Ward Name	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To recognise the addition of Dipton and given its overall populations size, adding it to the name of the division is suggested.</li> </ul>

## Electoral Division: Easington, Haswell and Shotton (2 members)

Electorate: 8258

Per councillor: 4129

Variance: 0%

Changes:

Map:

Name changed from  
Shotton and South Hetton

Transfer out:

EKD - South Hetton

Transfer in:

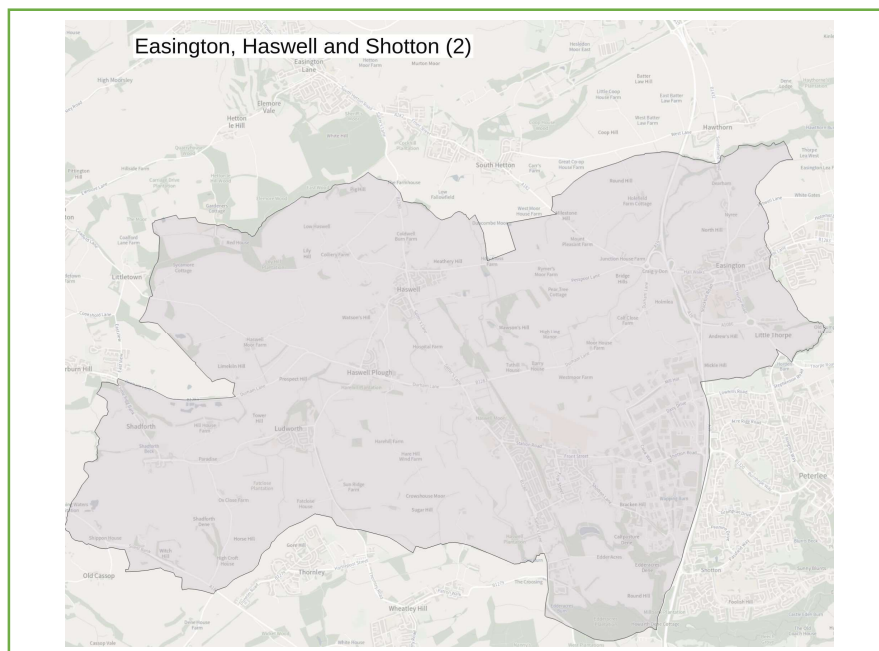
DKB - Shadforth

DKC - Ludworth

EEA - Haswell Plough

EKB - Easington Village  
No.1

EKC - Easington Village  
No.2



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposals provide for a two member division which has 0% variance on the average electoral equality.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: At present the parish of Haswell is split between the Trimdon and Thornley and Shotton and South Hetton Divisions. Given the two villages of Haswell and Haswell Plough are just a few hundred meters apart, this is not considered appropriate, so this proposal brings the whole parish and these two villages back together as they were before the last boundary review.</li> <li>- The villages of Shadforth and Ludworth are part of the same parish but are currently in two different divisions despite being on the same bus route and just a mile apart. This proposal brings these villages together which also have links including the Sapphire 24 bus route to Haswell Parish.</li> <li>- The Parish of Shotton sits just to the south of Haswell Parish with Shotton Colliery less than two miles from Haswell and Haswell Plough. All sit on the 24 Sapphire bus route, so this proposal brings the two parishes and their villages together. This also allows for the Peterlee Parish on the other side of the main A19 to not be impacted.</li> <li>- The proposed division of Horden and Easington Colliery (see narrative), and the desire to keep the Peterlee Town Council area within its own boundaries means that Easington Village Parish</li> </ul>

	Council which borders both Haswell and Shotton Parishes is best located within this division helping to ensure electoral equality.
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The parish boundaries represent recognisable and sensible boundaries.</li> </ul>
Transport Links including public transport	See electoral equality above
Effective, convenient local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The overall distance from the most westerly village of Shadforth to the most easterly village of Easington is just 6 miles.</li> </ul>
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	The proposal brings three similar parishes together.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Employment links: Significant numbers of residents of Shotton, Haswell and Easington Parishes work at the North West Industrial estate which will sit at the centre of this new division between the three parishes.</li> <li>- Schools: Children in Haswell and Haswell Plough attend Ludworth Primary School and Shotton Primary Schools, whilst a significant number attend Easington Academy in Easington Village.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	
Ward Name	The proposed ward name recognises the three main parishes in the new division.

## Electoral Division: Elvet, Gilesgate & Shincliffe (2 members)

Electorate: 9077

Per councillor: 4539

Variance: 9.3%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:

Transfer in:

DDC - Pelaw (West)

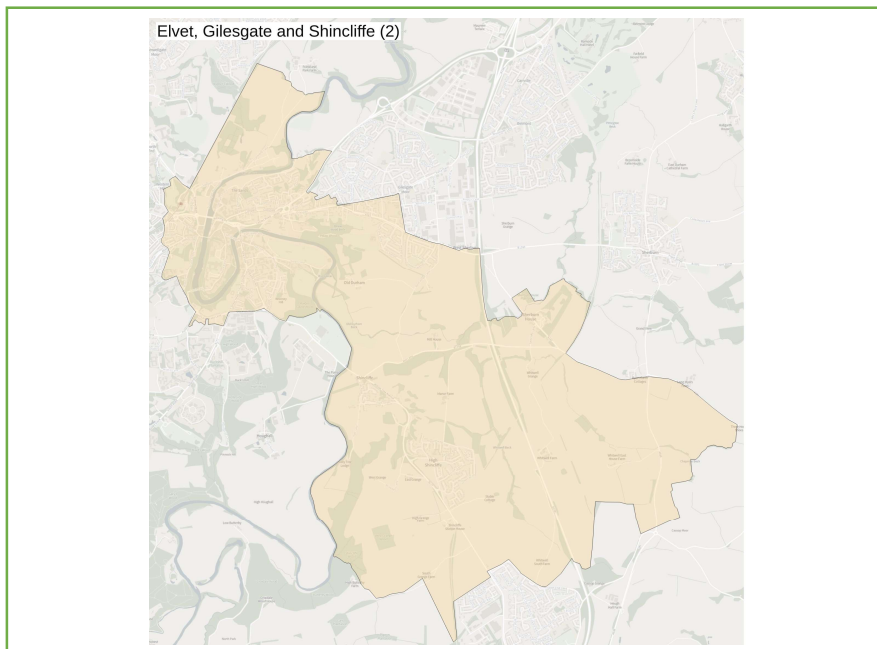
DDD - Pelaw (South)

DDE - Pelaw (East)

DLA - Shincliffe

DLB - High Shincliffe

DLC - Sherburn/Whitwell  
House



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The electoral division of Durham South is one of the main reasons for the boundary review taking place as its current electoral inequality is significant. This is due to the division being overly leaning towards university students.</li> <li>- The proposed boundary keeps the electoral equality within the recommended variance.</li> <li>- The Parish of Shincliffe has always been a commuter/retirement village for Durham City and bringing it into a Division with the City has numerous benefits. Many of the issues raised by residents of Shincliffe are related to the City itself. This proposal ensures none of the Parish needs to be split. Issues which affect people in Shincliffe Parish also affect those in the City of Durham Parish area.</li> <li>- The proposal ensures that the Parish areas currently in the Elvet and Gilesgate Division remain in it, with all of the East of the City retained within one electoral division.</li> <li>- The proposal also ensures that the neighbouring parish council of Belmont can be retained within one electoral division.</li> <li>-</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- River Wear: Issues related to the river in Durham city can be significant and this new boundary ensures that the vast majority of the River Wear in the City will sit within one electoral division for the first time.</li> </ul>

Transport Links including public transport	
Effective, convenient local government	The area will cover part of the City of Durham Parish Council as well as the Shincliffe Parish.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schools: By bringing Shincliffe Parish in with Elvet and Gilesgate it ensures that school links are retained within the City area.</li> <li>- Shopping: Most Shincliffe Parish residents do their shopping in the Durham City area.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	
Ward Name	

## Electoral Division: Esh & Witton Gilbert (2 members)

Electorate: 8240

Per councillor: 4120

Variance: 0%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:

NWDOE – Satley

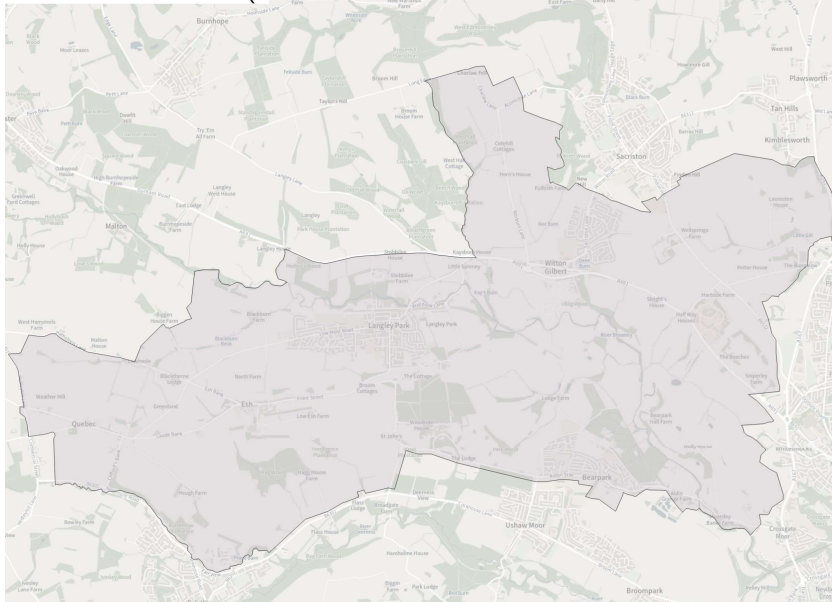
NWDOA - Cornsay

NWDOB - Cornsay Colliery

Transfer in:

DMA - Bearpark

Esh and Witton Gilbert (2



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provides a division less than 1% from the average. The Parishes of Wilton Gilbert and Esh currently sit in the same electoral division. By adding the Parish of Bearpark to this division it creates equality at 0% variance.</li> <li>- Parish integrity: This proposal ensures none of the three parishes of Esh, Witton Gilbert and Bearpark need to be split. The villages have similarities being on the periphery of Durham City.</li> <li>- Note that the whole of the current Esh Witton Gilbert Division is being brought into the City of Durham Parliamentary seat under the proposed new boundaries. For this reason the commission may wish to retain Satley within this division rather than moving it to Weardale. This would not impact on electoral equality to any great extent.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Witton Gilbert and Bearpark were part of the same County Council and District council boundaries for decades and this proposal brings them back into the same division.</li> <li>- By removing Bearpark from the Deerness division it allows the whole of the Brandon and Byshottles parish council area to be retained within the two divisions of Brandon and Deerness within no further changes required.</li> <li>- It also ensures that the Hamsteels estate in Esh Winning village is within the same electoral division as the rest of the village.</li> <li>- The name change ensures that all three parishes are recognised.</li> </ul>

Easily Definable boundaries	The boundaries of the three parishes are well defined. The villages of Bearpark and Langley Park sit along one of the key old railway lines which is now a major east-west cycle link, and all villages sit in the Deerness valley/
Transport Links including public transport	
Effective, convenient local government	Bringing these three Durham City leaning commuter parishes together ensures that the similar casework issues in these villages can be easily worked on, including issues of traffic problems.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Residents in these villages look to Durham for their main shopping areas.
Specific community links	All of these villages will be under the same parliamentary boundary under the recently announced proposed boundaries.
Ward Name	The current name is acceptable, however the commission may wish to add Bearpark to ensure the parish name is recognised.

## Electoral Division: Evenwood (2 members)

Electorate: 7947

Per councillor: 3974

Variance: -4%

Changes:

Map:

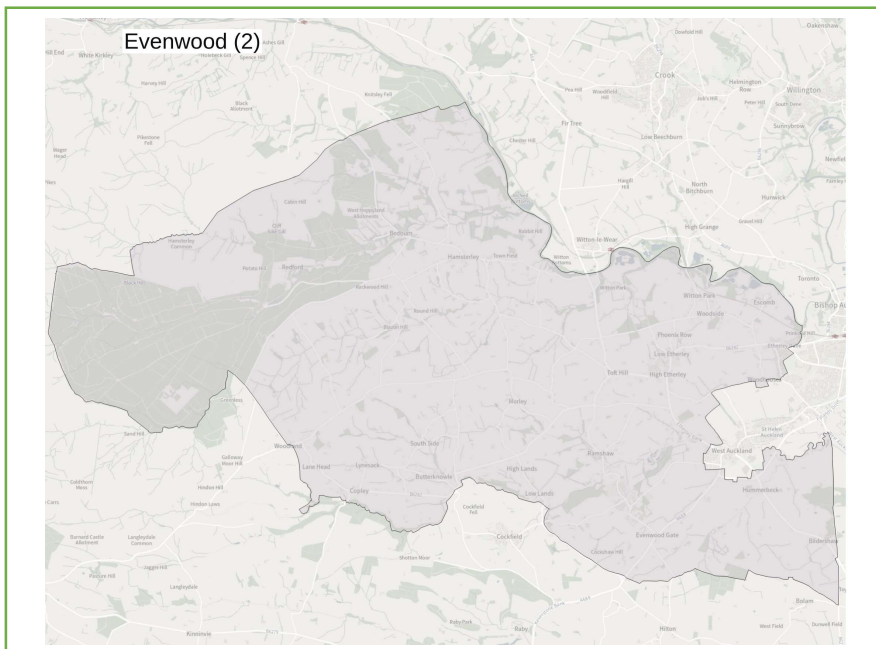
Transfers in:

From West Auckland  
BAFA - Witton Park  
BAFB - Escomb

Transfer out:

To BC East  
BAKA - Cockfield

Transfer out to BC West  
BALC - Woodland



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<p>Overall the effect of these changes is to make Evenwood division more homogeneous, with the new West Auckland division defining the continuous urban area, and the new Evenwood division being comprised of smaller villages and countryside.</p> <p>The Parishes to the North of the proposed division which are currently in the West Auckland division (Escomb, Witton Park) have their own identities being much more rural in nature and are proposed to be part of the Evenwood Division as a consequence. This also ensures electoral equality within the more rural areas to the west. Escomb has its own primary school attended by pupils from the surrounding rural parishes as well as the village itself.</p>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	The boundary with the continuous urban area of West Auckland is easily identifiable. The whole division being parished, the boundaries with BC East and West will also be well understood.
Transport Links including public transport	Bus services in the division tend to all focus on Bishop Auckland
Effective, convenient local government	This will be facilitated by having a division that is similar in character and composition.



What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Some secondary school age children from the Evenwood Division attend Teesdale School at Barnard Castle, some go to Staindrop Academy and some to schools in Bishop Auckland. Residents tend to go towards Bishop Auckland and the new out of town shopping area at St Helen's Auckland for main shopping.
Specific community links	A large part of the Evenwood division is the Gaunless Valley, that flows into the the River Wear, on which sits Bishop Auckland. It is fair to say that people and cultural activities tend to follow the same flow towards Bishop Auckland. In this way the proposed Evenwood division works with established patterns of movement and community links.
Ward Name	The name of Evenwood has been retained for some time and we see no need to change this with these proposals.

## Electoral Division: **Ferryhill (2 members)**

Electorate: 8539

Per councillor: 4270

Variance: 3%

Changes:

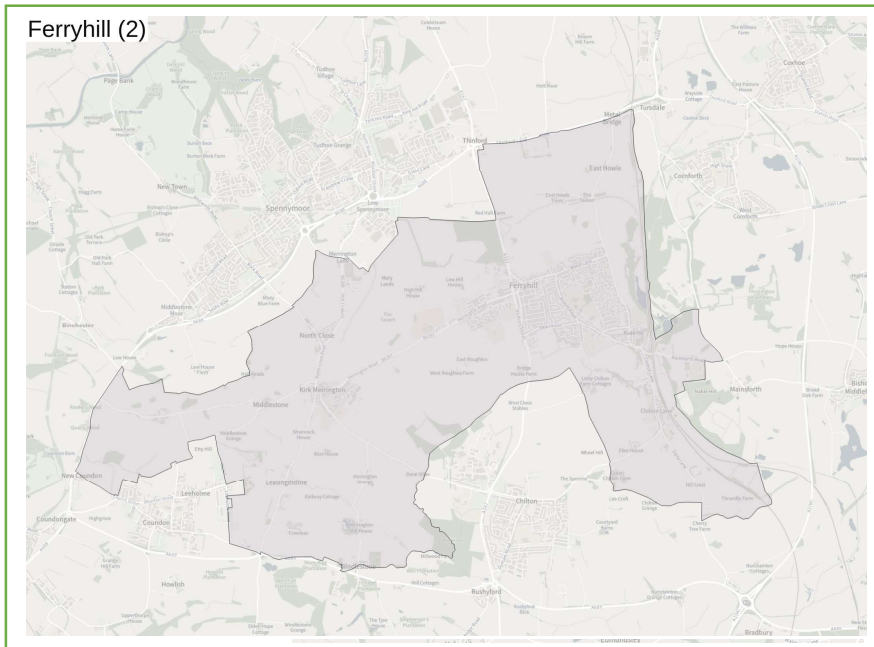
Map:

Transfer out:

Part of  
BAAHB - Merrington

Transfer in:

BACD - Leasingthorne  
Colliery  
BACF - Westerton



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Ferryhill Division is currently a three member division which is significantly under the average. This proposed boundary reduces the number of councillors down to two with electoral equality less than 3% over the average.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: This proposal retains the current boundaries, ensuring that the whole of the Ferryhill Town Council area is within one electoral division.</li> <li>- This also brings the unparished villages of Leasingthorne, and Westerton and Westerton into the parish helping to ensure electoral balance and linking them with the larger Kirk Merrington Village with which they have significant links. However if minded to, placing these villages in the newly reformed Dene Valley and Shildon division would not have any great impact on the overall electoral equality were it felt this was more appropriate. There are arguments both ways.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	The ward boundaries are little changed and the current division has been easily managed due to the close community links.
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	B6287 is a direct short link between Ferryhill and Kirk Merrington Village.
Effective, convenient local government	Keeping the town council in one electoral division with few other changes to the division ensures continuity and it will continue to be a straightforward division to manage.

What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Ferryhill School sits outside of Ferryhill built up area on the road to Kirk Merrington, emphasising the links between these areas as children from across the division attend this school.
Specific community links	
Ward Name	As the division is not changing to any great extent retaining the name is appropriate.

## Electoral Division: Framwellgate & Newton Hall (3 members)

Electorate: 11421

Per councillor: 3807

Variance: -8%

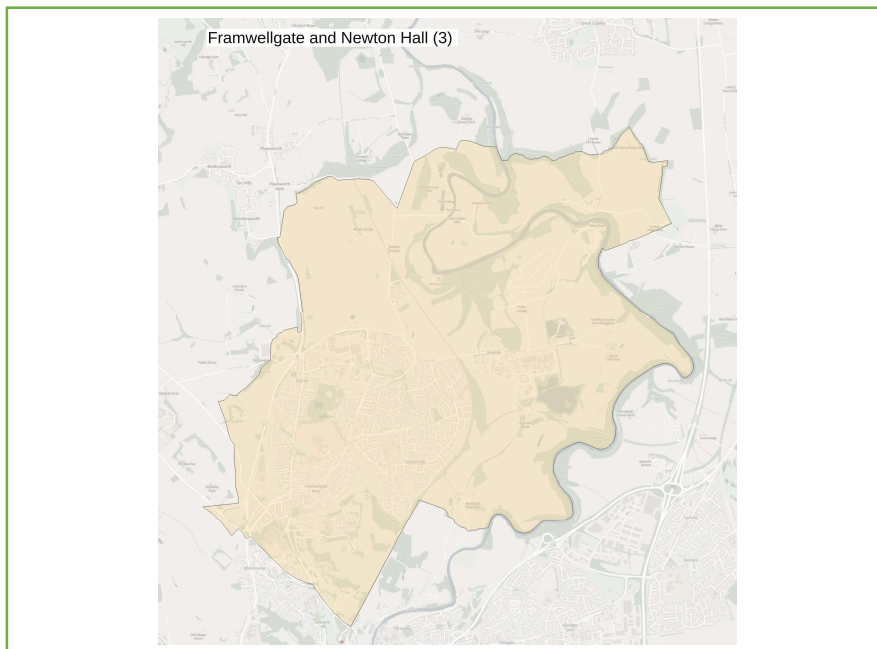
Changes:

Map:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in:

Part  
DCA1 - Framwelgate



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensures this, and neighbouring divisions meet the electoral equality numbers. Significant additional housing of several thousand homes is to be built at the Sniperley Housing site which is in the County Plan and going to committee in the coming months. This will, over time bring the division even closer in line with the average.</li> <li>- Parish integrity: Keeps the Framwellgate Moor Parish Council area which is not warded within same electoral division</li> <li>- The proposal brings in part of the Framwelgate DCA1 polling district. The Framwelgate DCA2 polling district is already in the division. The part being brought in allows all the housing off the Aykley Heads road to be in the same division instead of split across more than one. It also ensures that the whole of the area in and around the main hospital is in the same division.</li> <li>- And adding part of Framwelgate ensures electoral equality is met for the division.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	Newton Hall area is almost entirely surrounded by Framwellgate Moor parish area, and so it would not be appropriate to take this area out of the division.
Easily Definable boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contiguous boundaries: Ensures that the Newton Hall estate which can only be accessed through Framwellgate Moor Parish Council boundaries is retained in the boundary area.</li> <li>- Ensures that the new and existing housing at Aykley Heads, which currently sits across two electoral divisions is brought together fixing historic and geographical anomalies.</li> </ul>
Transport Links including public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public Transport: Bus routes running through these areas are used by residents across the proposed boundaries.</li> </ul>

Effective, convenient local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Links/Parliament: This whole proposed division was formerly part of the Durham City District council area and is part of both the current and the revised parliamentary constituency.</li> <li>- Parishes to the North and West such as Kimblesworth and Sacriston where previously part of Chester-le-Street district, and are in different school catchment areas, look towards that, town and are part of the Chester-le-Street Parliamentary constituency, so it would not be appropriate for them to sit with Framwellgate Moor Parish, nor with the Newton Hall estate and Aykley Heads.</li> </ul>
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schools: Schools across the area are in the same electoral division and school planning area. Residents in Framwellgate Moor parish area send children to Newton Hall schools and vice-versa. Most residents use Abbey Leisure Centre as the main leisure facility.</li> <li>- Doctors: The existing and proposed additional householders are predominately registered at the two Doctors Surgeries in Framwellgate Moor. There are no doctors surgeries in Newton Hall, and nearly all residents from there attend the Framwellgate Moor surgeries as do many of the residents in the proposals additional Aykley Heads area.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Community Links: Residents of Newton Hall, Aykley Heads and Framwellgate Moor Parish do the vast majority of their shopping within these boundaries, including at the Arnison Centre and Framwellgate Moor Front Street, and attend church and community centres in this area.</li> </ul>
Ward Name	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Links/name: The current part of the Framwellgate polling district bring brought into the division already has the same name as the parish council area. No change to the name is therefore necessary.</li> </ul>

## Electoral Division: Horden (2 members)

Electorate: 8589

Per councillor: 4295

Variance: 4%

Changes:

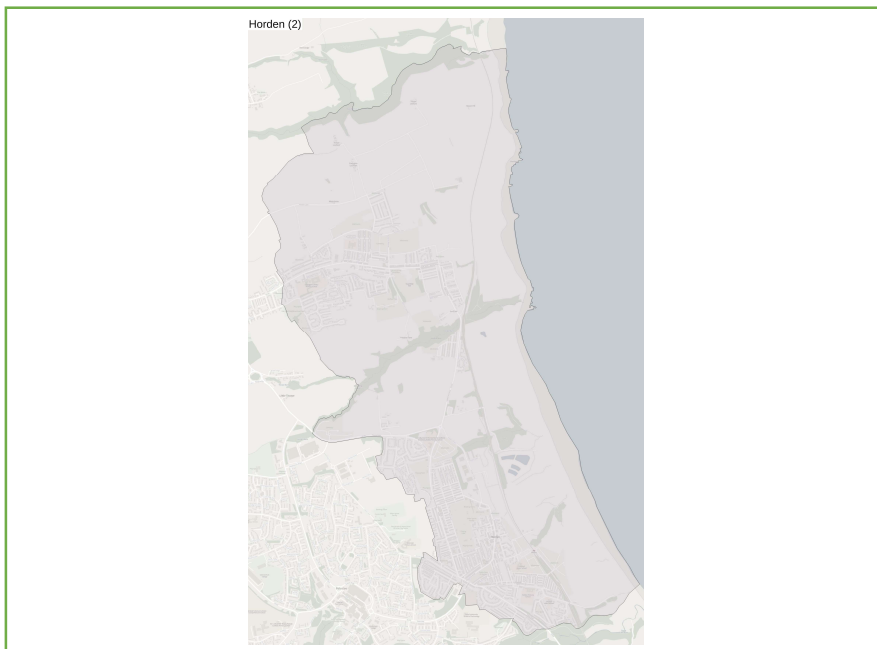
Map:

Transfer out:

Transfer in:

ELA - Easington Colliery  
No.1

ELB - Easington Colliery  
No.2



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This proposal brings two whole parishes together just 3% from the overall electoral average.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: This proposal ensures that both parishes can sit entirely within a single 2 member ward. It also ensures that the neighbouring Parishes of Easington, Peterlee and Monk Heselden are not impacted or split.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Links: The villages of Horden and Easington Colliery and their respective Parish Councils have a huge amount in common, sitting on the North Sea coast, covering a significant stretch of the nationally recognised Durham Heritage Coastline.</li> <li>- Both villages are ex-mining villages with similar problems with empty terraced houses and significant deprived communities.</li> </ul>
Easily Definable boundaries	The coastline represents a significant boundary.
Transport Links including public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Buses: They are linked by the main coast road B1283 with the 208 bus service directly linking their centres in just 10 minutes, with the coastal railway line accessed by Easington Colliery residents to travel to work to the North and South.</li> </ul>
Effective, convenient local government	Easington Colliery has more in common with Horden than Easington in terms of the local issues which generate casework such as flytipping, empty property issues and issues relating to the coastline which would be easier to manage within one electoral division.

What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Residents from across this area see Peterlee as the main shopping location, where the main leisure centre is also based.
Specific community links	Links: The small hamlet of Grant Houses sits in the Horden Parish but is next to Easington Colliery on the other side of the narrow Horden Dene less than 100m away.
Ward Name	Whilst we are suggesting leaving the name the same the commission could choose as an alternative to recognise both Parishes within the name – Easington Colliery & Horden

## **Lanchester, Leadgate & Medomsley and Consett South Divisions – Two Options**

We have two options for these areas.

The Conservative group believes that there should be a two member Lanchester Division including most of the current Consett South Division (Option A), whilst the Derwentside Independents, Liberal Democrats and Greens recommend two one member electoral divisions of Consett South and Lanchester on roughly the same boundaries (Option B).

The only polling area/parish which would not be in both options is Greencroft, which is retained in Option A but placed in Leadgate and Medomsley under Option B.



## Option A - Conservative

**Electoral Division: Lanchester (2 members)**

Electorate: 8732

Per councillor: 4366

Variance: 5%

Changes:

Map:

Consett South is deleted as part of this proposal.

Transfer out:

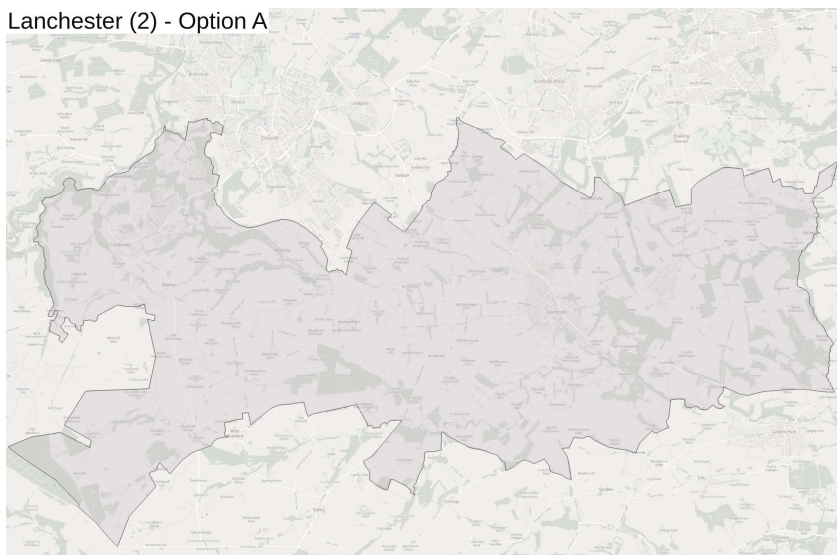
NWDKB – Muggleswick

Transfer in:

NWDIA - Moorside

NWDIB - The Grove

Lanchester (2) - Option A



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed boundary is within 5% of the average</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: The proposal ensures that the parishes of Lanchester and Burnhope are each retained within a single electoral division without any parish boundaries being split.</li> <li>- The proposal retains the existing boundaries but brings into the division the villages of Moorside and The Grove currently within the Consett South Division. The remaining Berry Edge polling area in the current Consett South division is then placed within the Delves Lane division.</li> <li>- The parish of Greencroft, with the village of Maiden Law is retained within the division.</li> <li>- Additional housing scheduled in Burnhope area on Greenwood Avenue in the next few years.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The current village of Castleside sits on the same road as the villages of Moorside and The Grove with similar demographics, housing and issues, indeed to the outsider other than signage they would not notice that these were individual communities as the whole stretch flows from village to village.</li> <li>- Links: The newer housing area at Berry Edge has far fewer links to Moorside and The Grove and is still under construction, it fits better with the more built up Consett town and is therefore recommended to be included with Delves Lane to ensure that division meets electoral equality.</li> </ul>

Easily Definable boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the proposed ward includes clear natural boundaries that do not involve separation of any estates or villages.</li> <li>- Transport Links: Burnhope and Lanchester are well-linked with many people travelling between the two villages for leisure and recreation. Castleside, Moorside and The Grove are linked by the X-15 bus, though rural connectivity is a shared theme of casework across the ward.</li> </ul>
Transport Links including public transport	The X5 links the three villages of Castleside, Moorside and The Grove.
Effective, convenient local government	The proposed ward encompasses the existing parishes of Lanchester, Burnhope, Healeyfield and Greencroft, ensuring that these existing rural parishes are joined together in the new ward, along with the currently unparished area of Moorside and The Grove which is closely aligned with Castleside.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The villages and hamlets in the current ward are closely linked in nature, with it covering a large rural area south of Consett. The bulk of the proposed ward is already in the existing Lanchester ward, with the addition of Moorside and The Grove, which is particularly closely linked to Castleside.</li> <li>- However, Lanchester, with its large number of shops, cafes, pubs and restaurants is a significant hub for residents in the neighbouring areas on the south side of Consett and elsewhere in the proposed ward.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council delivery of services: Whilst the villages and hamlets of the existing ward have their own identity they share a range of rural issues and concerns that are distinct from Consett. Moorside and The Grove are better linked to Castleside than to the existing Genesis Estate. Meanwhile, Greencroft Parish and the coterminous village of Maiden Law very closely aligned to Lanchester, with the two parishes frequently working together on matters like road safety and shared environmental concerns.</li> <li>- The area is linked together on similar boundaries and are aligned in the same Mid-Durham AAP. Many residents in The Grove and Moorside and Castleside use services together and this area is well-linked.</li> </ul>
Ward Name	

## Option A - Conservative

### Electoral Division: Leadgate & Medomsley (2 members)

Electorate: 7913

Per councillor: 3957

Variance: -5%

Changes:

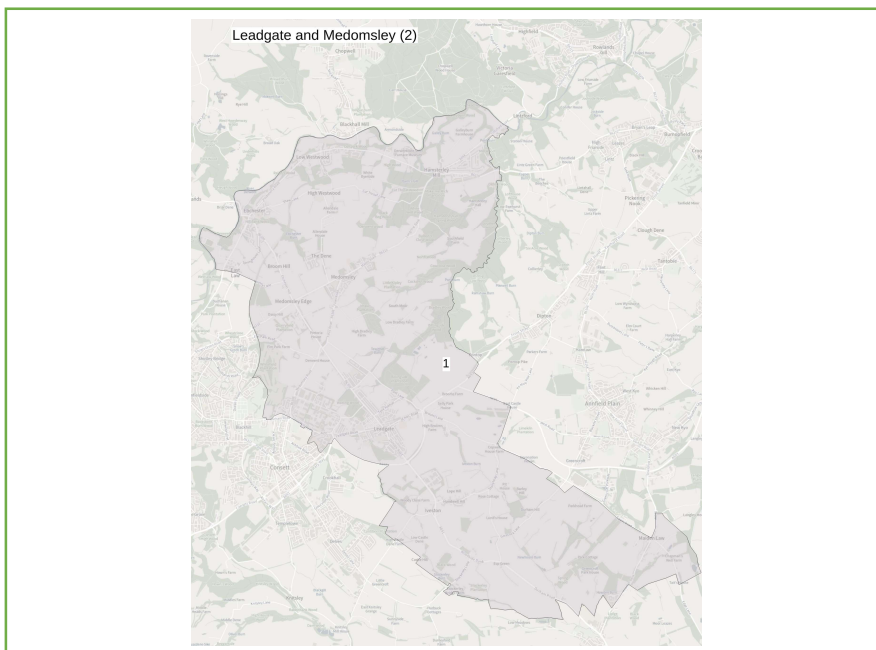
Map:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in:

NWDGC2 - Belle Vue

NWDGB - Villa Real



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposal retains the links which have been created over many years within the Leadgate and Medomsley Division, whilst bringing back into the division some areas which were previously in it, including bringing Leadgate 'village' under one division.</li> <li>- The only difference between this proposal and Option B is regarding Greencroft Parish showing that there is widespread support for retaining this division on similar boundaries to the current ones, whilst bringing in small areas previously in the division.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	The villages to the east of Consett have significant commonalities, being unparished with key roads linking them all to Consett.
Easily Definable boundaries	The northern edge of the division is easily definable as this is the county boundary. The western boundary is with the more urban area of Consett, whilst the southern boundary stretches along the main A691.
Transport Links including public transport	The main A691/A692 roads link residents towards Consett.
Effective, convenient local government	The area has been shown to be effective to manage for many years and has the benefit of not having the large number of parished areas that other areas may have which in those cases can increase workload unacceptably.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	In the absence of parish councils, community centres and residents groups help to fill the gap and the whole area is within the Consett Area Action Partnership.

Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bishop Ian Ramsay Medomsley CofE primary school is the main primary school for the Medomsley village and surrounding area, whilst Ebchester on the northern boundary covers that area and two primary schools sit in the Leadgate village including the Roman Catholic school which has students from across the division attending.</li> <li>- Most secondary school children attend the Consett Academy which sits on the boundary of the proposed division between Leadgate and Consett.</li> <li>- Residents of this area tend to see Consett as their key shopping town although some will naturally travel out of the county to Gateshead area.</li> <li>- Consett Leisure Centre is the go to facility and indeed with facilities in Gateshead under review this is even more likely to be the case.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	
Ward Name	As there are little changes to the division other than bringing in part of what is already accepted geographically as part of Leadgate, the name remains appropriate.

## Option B – Derwentside Independents, Liberal Democrats, Greens

### Electoral Division: Lanchester (1 member)

Electorate: 4589

Per councillor: 4589

Variance: 10%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out: None

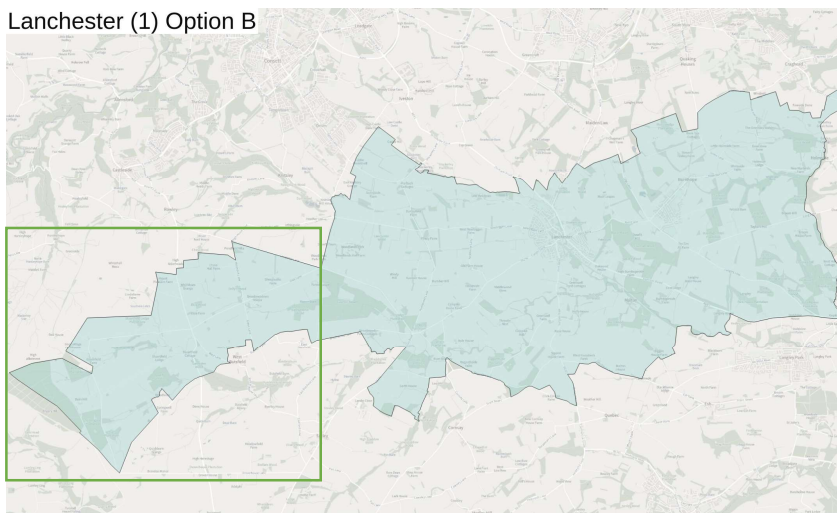
NWDKA – Castleside

NWDLC - Maiden Law

NWDKB – Muggleswick

Transfer in:

Lanchester (1) Option B



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The parish of Greencroft is moved from the division into Leadgate and Medomsley to ensure that the Lanchester division is within the electoral equality rules, also assisting in balancing Leadgate</li> <li>- If the community links are seen as more important than electoral equality then it would be acceptable for Greencroft to remain in a one member Lanchester division.</li> <li>- The area on the map in the green square is part of the Lanchester parish area but has just 40 electors, highlighting that the core population area is in the central Lanchester and Burnhope villages.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are no community links whatsoever between Lanchester/Burnhope and the three villages of Castleside, Moorside and the Grove. These key villages are linked to Consett by the X5 bus service whilst Lanchester and Burnhope have different bus routes and are different communities looking in different directions for services.</li> </ul>
Easily Definable boundaries	The proposal creates a far more manageable area centred around two main villages.
Transport Links including public transport	Transport links are straightforward between Burnhope and Lanchester
Effective, convenient local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The current Lanchester Division stretches across a significant geographical distance and the key population areas of Castleside,</li> </ul>

	<p>Moorside and The Grove have nothing in common with the more rural Lanchester and Burnhope parishes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This proposal provides a more easy to manage division, as the current Lanchester Division boundary requires councillors to attend significant different active parish councils.</li> <li>- Having so many different schools across the area on the current boundaries makes it difficult for local authority councillors to sit as school governors or have the necessary school links. By splitting the Lanchester division, this becomes much easier.</li> </ul>
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	
Specific community links	
Ward Name	

## Option B – Derwentside Independents, Liberal Democrats, Greens

### Electoral Division: Consett South (1 member)

Electorate: 3927

Per councillor: 3927

Variance: -5%

Changes:

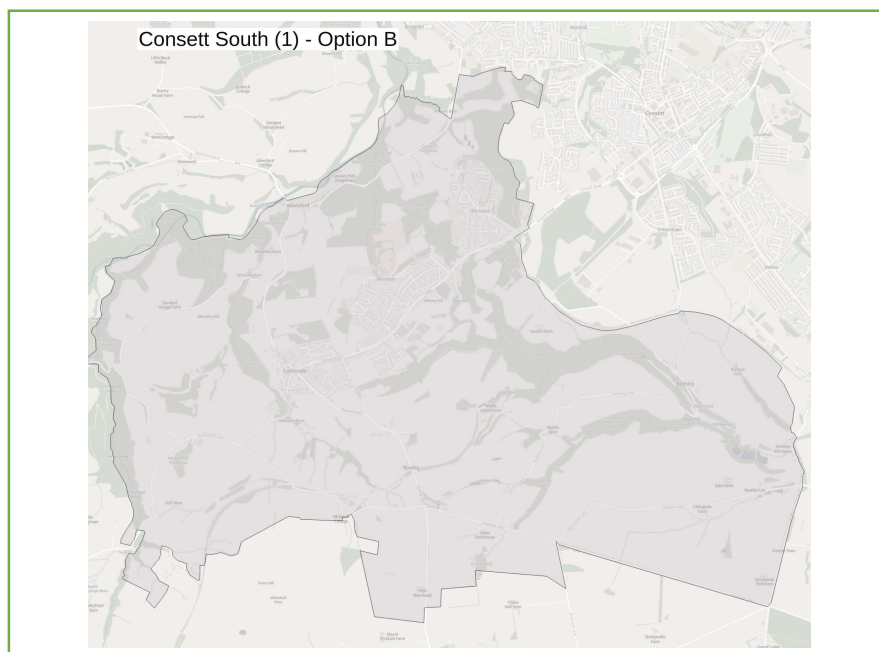
Map:

Transfer out:

NWDIC - Berry Edge West

Transfer in:

NWDKA – Castleside



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed boundary is within the electoral averages.</li> <li>- Parish boundaries: The proposal ensures that the Parish of Healeyfield is not split and remains in one electoral division.</li> <li>- The proposal ensures electoral equality for neighbouring divisions.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The current Berry Edge area has nothing in common with Moorside and The Grove, whilst the Castleside village is part of a built up string of development between these three key villages.</li> </ul>
Easily Definable boundaries	The main Consett Road links the three communities together.
Transport Links including public transport	The X5 links the three villages of Castleside, Moorside and The Grove to Consett. There are no easy bus links from this area to Lanchester and Burnhope.
Effective, convenient local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Over 90% of the electorate in the Healeyfield Parish live in the village of Castleside (over 1100), and others live very close including in Rowley, just down Rowley Bank. Castleside connects to Moorside, which in turn connects to The Grove with barely a gap between each, sitting on the Consett Road. Bringing these three communities together makes complete sense.</li> <li>- The current Lanchester Division stretches across a significant geographical distance and the key population areas of Castleside, Moorside and The Grove have nothing in common with the more rural Lanchester and Burnhope parishes.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This proposal provides a more easy to manage division, as the current Lanchester Division boundary requires councillors to attend significant different active parish councils.</li> <li>- Having so many different schools across the area on the current boundaries makes it difficult for local authority councillors to sit as school governors or have the necessary school links. By splitting the Lanchester division, this becomes much easier.</li> </ul>
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As the villages and Lanchester and Burnhope are very rural in nature and some distance from The Grove. Moorside and Castleside, there are no residents associations or other community groups which cover the whole of the current Lanchester division.</li> <li>- However within the three villages in the proposed division there are many links, no least because they are on the same road, and in effect are one long interlinked community.</li> </ul>
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Castleside, Moorside and The Grove share medical and school facilities, whilst all three look to Consett for shopping and leisure, unlike Burnhope and Lanchester which look towards completely different towns of Stanley, Chester-le-Street and even Durham city for commuting.</li> <li>- Children from all three villages attend schools from the neighbourin villages, but few if any attend schools in Lanchester.</li> <li>- The St Pius X Roman Catholic school in The Grove is particularly attended by children from Castleside and the Grove as the nears RC school, whereas Lanchester children attend the schools specific to that village.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	There are no community links between Lanchester and the three villages in the proposed division.
Ward Name	Consett South is considered appropriate although Consett South and Castleside would also be ok, to recognise the parish.



## Option B – Derwentside Independents, Liberal Democrats, Greens

### Electoral Division: Leadgate & Medomsley (2 members)

Electorate: 8150

Per councillor: 4075

Variance: 1%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:

None

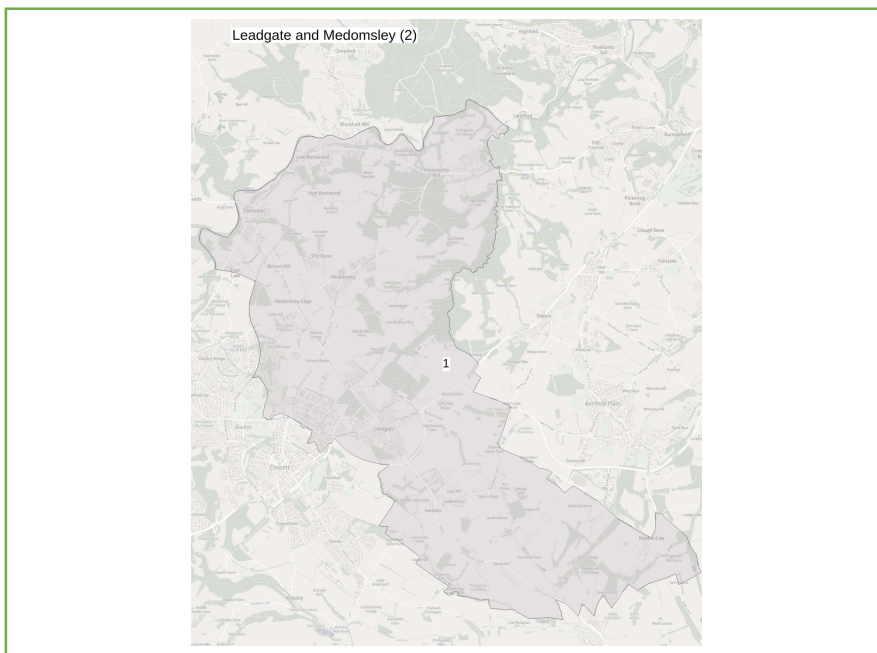
Transfer in:

Part

NWDGC - Belle Vue

NWDGB - Villa Real

NWDLC - Maiden Law



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposal retains the links which have been created over many years within the Leadgate and Medomsley Division, whilst bringing back into the division some areas which were previously in it, including bringing Leadgate 'village' under one division.</li> <li>- The only difference between this proposal and Option A is regarding Greencroft Parish showing that there is widespread support for retaining this division on similar boundaries to the current ones, whilst bringing in small areas previously in the division.</li> <li>- This option brings Greencroft Parish into the division, as it has the main A691 running through it to Leadgate, and it also ensures that there is electoral parity within the variances for a one member Lanchester Division.</li> <li>- The main road known as Brooms Lane links the Maiden Law village directly to Leadgate</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	The villages to the east of Consett have significant commonalities, being unparished with key roads linking them all to Consett.
Easily Definable boundaries	The northern edge of the division is easily definable as this is the county boundary. The western boundary is with the more urban area of Consett, whilst the southern boundary stretches along the main A691.
Transport Links including public transport	The main A691/A692 roads link residents towards Consett.
Effective, convenient local government	The area has been shown to be effective to manage for many years and has the benefit of not having the large number of parished areas that other areas may have which in those cases can increase workload unacceptably.

What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	In the absence of parish councils, community centres and residents groups help to fill the gap and the whole area is within the Consett Area Action Partnership.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bishop Ian Ramsay Medomsley CofE primary school is the main primary school for the Medomsley village and surrounding area, whilst Ebchester on the northern boundary covers that area and two primary schools sit in the Leadgate village including the Roman Catholic school which has students from across the division attending.</li> <li>- Most secondary school children attend the Consett Academy which sits on the boundary of the proposed division between Leadgate and Consett at Belle Vue.</li> <li>- Residents of this area tend to see Consett as their key shopping town although some will naturally travel out of the county to Gateshead area.</li> </ul> <p>Consett Leisure Centre is the go to facility and indeed with facilities in Gateshead under review this is even more likely to be the case.</p>
Specific community links	The villages of Dipton and Flint Hill to the east, are recommended to be with Tanfield as they have significantly closer links to the villages in that area and to Stanley.
Ward Name	As there are little changes to the division other than bringing in part of what is already accepted as part of Leadgate, the name remains appropriate.

## Electoral Division: Lumley and West Rainton (2 members)

Electorate: 7917

Per councillor: 3959

Variance: -4%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in:  
DJC - West Rainton



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed division is 4% from the electoral average and ensures that the four parish councils which border the neighbouring local authority area sit together in the same division with no parts of these parishes having to be split.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: Bournmoor, Little and Great Lumley have been part of the same area for many years and have key community links.</li> <li>- The neighbouring proposed division of Pitlington and Sherburn keeps those two parishes together avoiding any splits albeit with a small deviation from the recommended +/-10% at 12.7% - the only division in the entire proposal outside of the advised electoral balance by more than 0.2%.</li> <li>- <b>Note: If this is not considered favourable then, whilst not recommended, the Pitlington parish could be split to meet with electoral balance by creating a new polling district around the boundaries of the village of Low Pitlington and putting that village into Lumley and West Rainton Division which would then bring the proposed Pitlington and Sherburn division within the electoral balance around +8.7%, and take this division to -2.6%.</b></li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Links: The boundary to the west of the proposed division is predominantly split by the River Wear, and it is not considered appropriate to interfere with the community links within the Chester-le-Street town built up area.</li> <li>- The eastern boundary is the county boundary.</li> </ul>

Transport Links including public transport	- The neighbouring parish of West Rainton and Leamside is connected via the straight road link of Pithouse Lane.
Effective, convenient local government	Bringing these parishes together ensures that a compact easily linked division is created.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	
Specific community links	
Ward Name	Adding West Rainton to the Lumley division name recognises this parish council/village.

## Electoral Division: Monk Heselden (1 member)

Electorate: 4573

Per councillor: 4573

Variance: 10%

Changes:

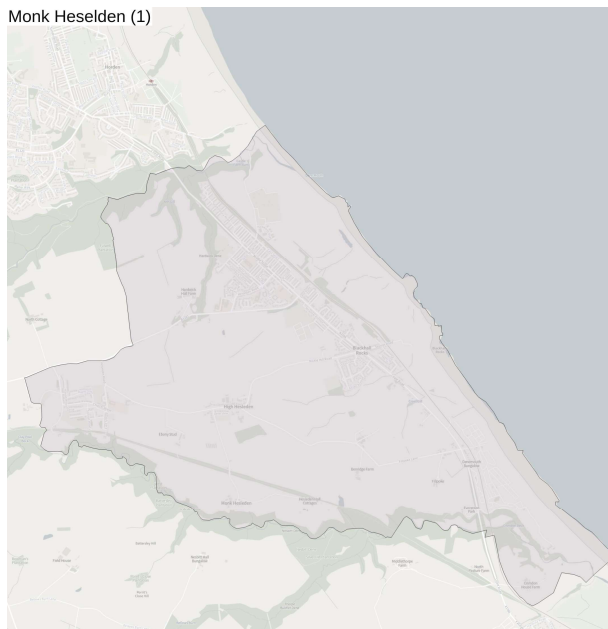
Map:

Transfer out:

EAB - Sheraton  
EAC - Nesbitt  
EAD - Hutton Henry  
EAE - Castle Eden  
SMA - Station Town

Transfer in: None

Monk Heselden (1)



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposal sits at the limit of the electoral +/-10% electoral equality at 10% however there are numerous justifications for this including ensuring equality in neighbouring areas and avoiding splitting parish boundaries.</li> <li>- Reducing the 10% variance would require splitting the Parish council creating an unsustainable boundary.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: The proposed Monk Heselden Division is formed from part of what was the Division of Blackhall at southern boundary of County Durham. It ensures that the whole of the Monk Heselden Parish Council boundary is in the same electoral division and indeed is the only parish council in the proposed division.</li> <li>- There are poor road links to the west of the parish and the villages/parishes of Nesbitt and Sheraton which currently sit in the Blackhall Division have little in common with Monk Heselden and have no road or bus links to them, accessing transport via the A19.</li> <li>- The Parishes to the west of Monk Heselden therefore have far more links with Peterlee, being a quick short drive up the A19.</li> <li>- To the north of Monk Heselden Parish the Peterlee Town Council boundary makes it impossible to link Monk Heselden to other parishes without splitting them. Increasing Monk Heselden to a 2 member ward would require breaking up Peterlee Town Council area or bringing in more westerly parishes with nothing in common, no bus links and few road links and impact on the electoral equality of other areas.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	

Transport Links including public transport	
Effective, convenient local government	The current division is not sensible for effective government with poor public transport and road links, whilst these changes make it far more manageable with a single parish council covering the division.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	
Specific community links	
Ward Name	Propose changing from Blackhall. The proposed name recognises Monk Heselden Parish Council.

## Electoral Division: Murton (2 members)

Electorate: 8412

Per councillor: 4206

Variance: 2%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:

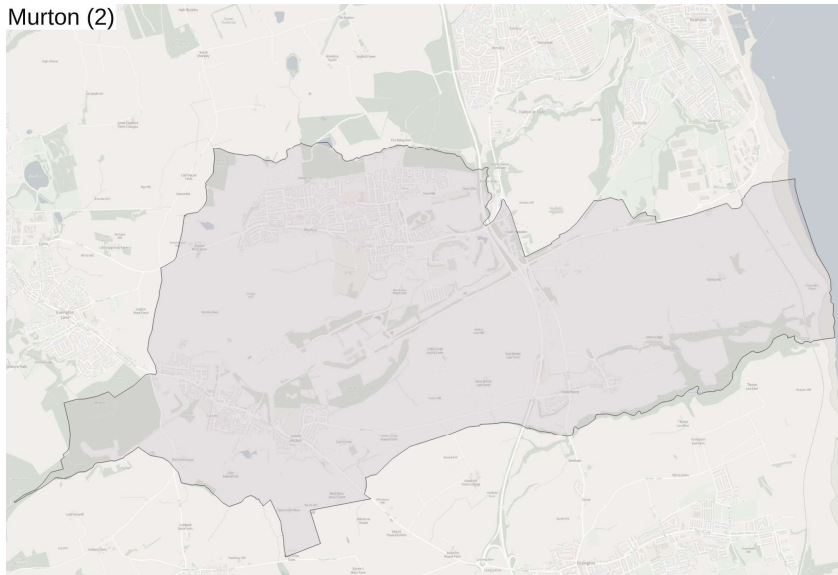
ENA - Dalton Village

Transfer in:

EKA - Hawthorn

EKD - South Hetton

Murton (2)



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed division of Murton, Hawthorn and South Hetton provides electoral equality within just 2% of the average.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: It also ensures that the three separate parish councils from which the name is created will each be fully contained within an electoral division, meaning none of these parishes will be internally split.</li> <li>- And it ensures that Dalton-le-Dale parish is once again in a single electoral division.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Murton and South Hetton parishes make up part of the northern boundary of the County.</li> </ul>
Transport Links including public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Murton and South Hetton are just a few hundred metres apart connected by the most important cycleway in the County, as well as by the A182 and by the 61 and ED2 buses</li> <li>- Hawthorn village and Murton village are less than 2.5miles apart, connected via the B1432 with the Sapphire 22/23 bus service taking just 6 minutes between the villages. The majority of the population of Hawthorn parish live in the village of Hawthorn.</li> <li>- Hawthorn and South Hetton Villages are also just 2.5 miles apart and are linked by a single direct road (West Lane)</li> </ul>
Effective, convenient local government	Retaining these three parishes within the same electoral division makes it far easier to manage casework both for county councillors and for parish councils.

What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	- Residents from all three villages, in the main do all their out of village shopping at Dalton Park Shopping Centre which is just a few minutes drive from each of the villages.
Specific community links	
Ward Name	We are proposing the name remains the same, although recognising South Hetton and Hawthorn parishes by adding them to the name would be an option.



## Electoral Division: Nevilles Cross (2 members)

Electorate: 7911

Per councillor: 3956

Variance: -4%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:

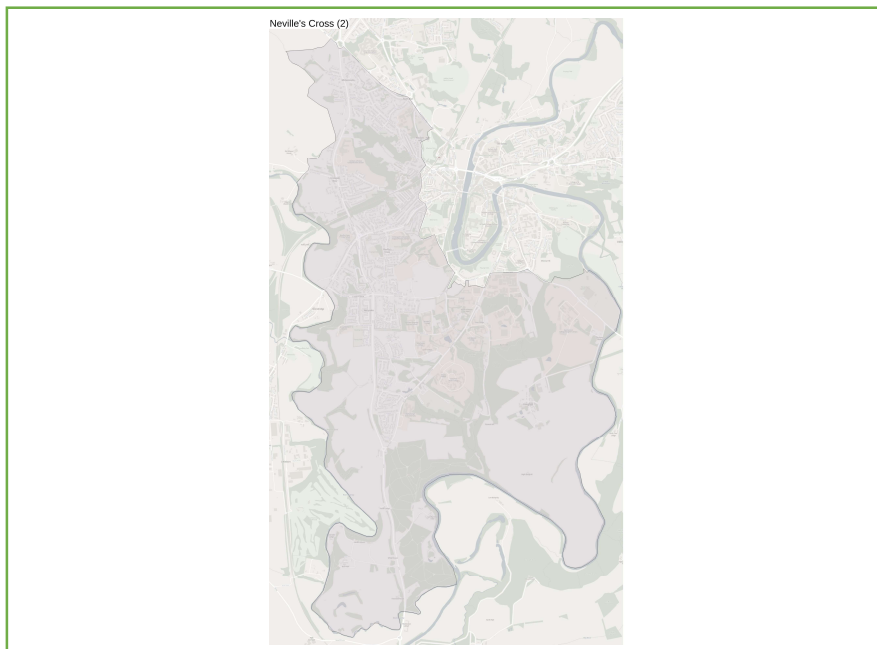
Part

DCA1 - Framwelgate

Transfer in:

DGA3 - The Howlands

DGB - Elvet (South)



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Nevilles Cross division is a long standing division and the proposed boundaries take into account the significant increase in housing whilst retaining the electoral numbers within 4% of the county average, making some minor changes.</li> <li>- The City of Durham parish ward of Durham South boundary which currently sits in Durham South Division which will be eliminated as part of the new proposals sits far better within the Nevilles Cross Division geographically, but more importantly by placing this ward within the Nevilles Cross Division it eliminates problem which has caused the boundary review in the first place by diluting the student numbers across more than one electoral division.</li> <li>- Part of the Nevilles Cross Ward sits very close to the Framwellgate Moor Parish area with new housing at Aykley Heads having far more links to Framwellgate Moor than the rest of the Nevilles Cross Division. Current boundaries mean you have to drive past housing in the Framwellgate and Newton Hall division to get to the new housing at Aykley Heads. This proposal corrects this.</li> <li>- By placing part of the Framwellgate Aykley Heads housing into the Framwellgate and Newton Hall Division it ensures that Framwellgate Moor Parish Council area does not need to be split between divisions.</li> <li>- An alternative proposal which puts the whole of the Framwelgate DCA1 polling district into the Framwellgate &amp; Newton Hall Division, and the Shincliffe Parish area into Nevilles Cross has also been considered should this proposal not be considered appropriate by the commission.</li> </ul>

Community Interests & Identities	Almost the entire community sits either side of the main A167.
Easily Definable boundaries	The boundaries of the proposed division include the natural river boundaries of the River Browney and River Wear around most of the edge of division.
Transport Links including public transport	The main A167 runs the entire length of the division with housing accessed either side of it.
Effective, convenient local government	This proposal retains most of the existing Nevilles Cross boundaries whilst using specific recognisable and sensible boundaries for the Framwelgate Polling area.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	A number of residents associations sit within this area, and their boundaries remain within the proposed division.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hospital: The main Durham Hospital currently sits right on the boundary of the Framwellgate and Newton Hall Division. By bringing the hospital and the housing around it into the Framwellgate and Newton Hall Division it ensures that issues related to this area can be addressed within one electoral division.</li> <li>- Schools: Trinity School currently sits between old and newly build developments, by adjusting the boundary this fixes this issue. And also ensures that the Aykley Heads housing, business park and Aykley Heads Road which is a dead end road, will all be in Framwellgate and Newton Hall division, removing confusion and creating new more sensible boundaries.</li> <li>- Doctors: Residents in the area proposed to be removed from Nevilles Cross predominantly attend the two doctors surgeries in Framwellgate Moor</li> <li>- Shopping: Most residents in the area being proposed to be removed from Nevilles Cross do their shopping within the Framwellgate Moor Front Street and Arnison Centre shopping areas which are both in the Framwellgate and Newton Hall Division.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	
Ward Name	No need seen to change the boundary name.

## Electoral Division: Pelton (3 members)

Electorate: 12056

Per councillor: 4019

Variance: -3%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in:

NDHA - Pelton Fell No. 1

NDHB - Pelton Fell No. 2



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed new division is just 3% from the average, and making the small changes to this area ensures that the neighbouring Chester-le-Street Divisions and Stanley Town Council area are within the electoral equality numbers. It also helps to ensure that the Stanley Town Council wards are retained within a small number of divisions.</li> <li>- Parish integrity: It ensures that the current parishes of Ouston, Pelton and Urpeth stay as before within this division collectively and brings in the area known as Pelton Fell to ensure numbers are equal.</li> <li>- Boundaries: The village known as Pelton Fell is geographically linked to the rest of the Pelton division, and sits better in the Pelton Division than its current location in Chester-le-Street which is the other side of the Waldrige Dene/Cong Burn which is a natural boundary feature.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The 28/29 bus service provides links through the division including the proposed additional Pelton Fell village.</li> <li>- The majority of the division is connected by the main A693 road.</li> </ul>
Effective, convenient local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This proposal ensures that none of the key parishes across this area need to be split.</li> <li>- The elongated nature of some of the parishes within this division would make it difficult to split them and cause issues with managing work between County Councillors and Parish Councils.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The new division is fully within the current and proposed North Durham parliamentary boundaries.</li> </ul>
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schools: All of the division would sit within the same school planning area.</li> <li>- Most residents use the same doctors surgeries within these areas.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	These boundaries will ensure that all the villages between the towns of Chester-le-Street and Stanley sit within the same electoral division, and ensures that Stanley Parish doesn't need to be split across more divisions.
Ward Name	As the only area being added is Pelton Fell, the name seems to still be appropriate.

## Electoral Division: Peterlee (3 members)

Electorate: 11614

Per councillor: 3871

Variance: -6%

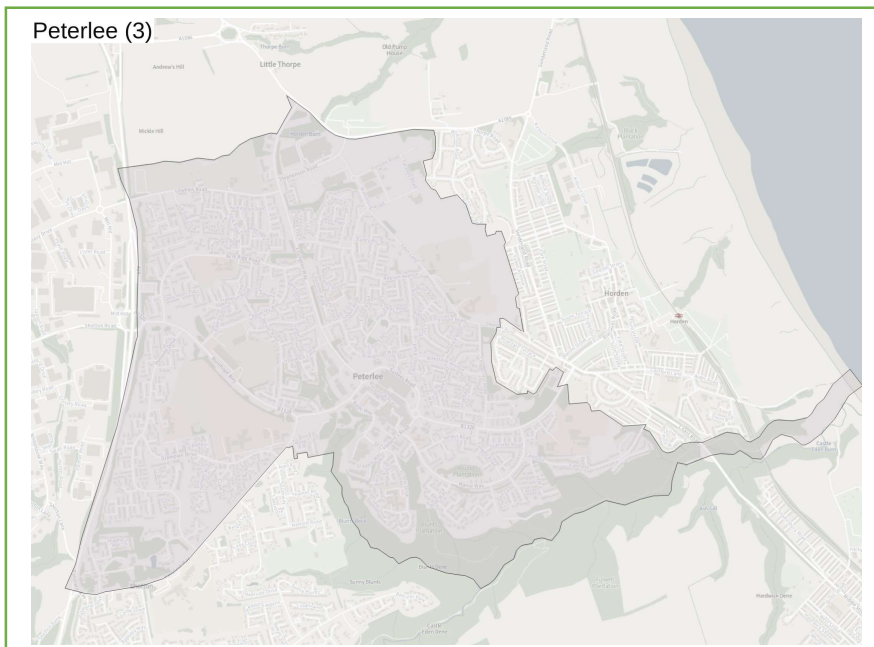
Changes:

Map:

Brings Peterlee East and West under one division

Transfer out: None

Transfer in: None



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Equality is retained within 6% of the variance, and the Town Council is retained within just two electoral divisions.</li> <li>- If the commission was minded to, part of the Passfield Ward of the Town Council could be split and brought into the division in order to balance out the Peterlee and Castle Eden/Passfield divisions to improve electoral equality.</li> <li>- It has been suggested that a three member ward may be too large. If the commission does decide to bring in part of the proposed Passfield Ward, we would ask that the current east/west split is retained where possible to create a one member west division and a two member east division. This has not been formally mapped due to concerns that the commission would not want to split parish wards but it could provide for an easier management of local issues.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	The parish boundary is well defined as is the A19 boundary to the east of the division which is also the boundary for the neighbouring parish.
Transport Links including public transport	
Effective, convenient local government	By keeping the town council within two electoral divisions and not splitting the centre of the town, it makes it easier for county councillors, the council and town council to operate.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	

Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	As a completely urban area, residents use facilities from across the town including schools, the town centre shops and the main leisure centre.
Specific community links	
Ward Name	The name recognises that all the proposed area is within Peterlee

## Electoral Division: Pittington & Sherburn (1 member)

Electorate: 4677

Per councillor: 4677

Variance: **+12.7%**

Changes:

Map:

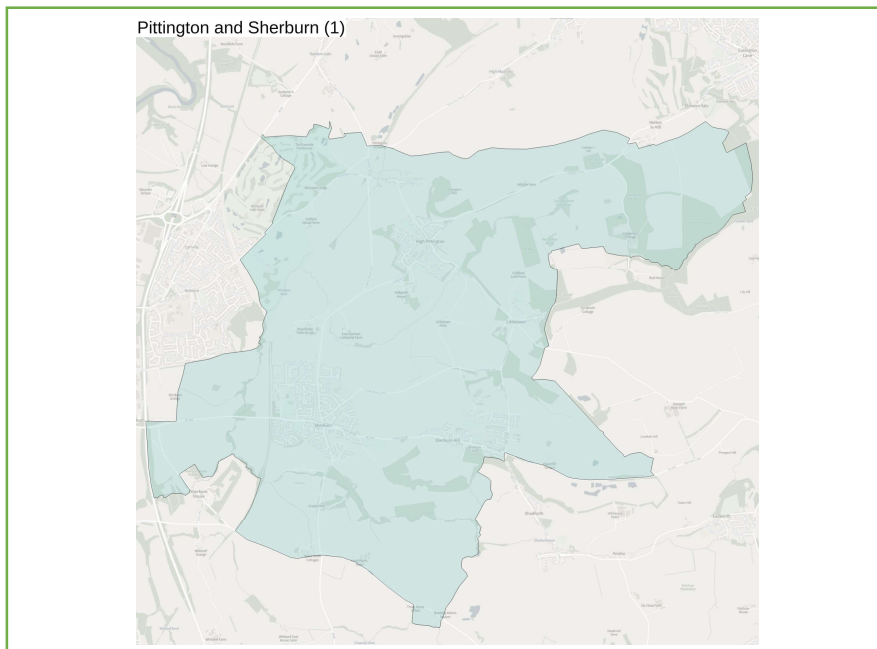
Name changed from  
Sherburn

Transfer out:

DKB - Shadforth

DJC - West Rainton

Transfer in: None



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed division is the only one proposed in the County which sits outside the +/-10% average albeit by only 2.7% at 12.7% over. The justification for this is detailed below and by having this division as a 1 member division it ensures electoral equality across a number of surrounding divisions.</li> <li>- Parish Integrity: The Parish councils of Sherburn and Pittington sit to the East of Durham covering a small number of villages which are interlinked by main and rural roads. This proposal ensures that both of these parishes are able to remain within one electoral division protecting all the links between the main villages of High Pittington and Sherburn which sit less than a mile apart.</li> <li>- <b>Note: The Pittington Parish could be split to meet with electoral balance by creating a new polling district around the boundaries of the village of Low Pittington which would bring that division within the electoral balance around +8.7%, by placing Low Pittington into the Lumley and West Rainton division which would change the electoral equality of that division from -4% to -2.6%.</b></li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The neighbouring parish of Shadforth has been split between different electoral divisions for many years and indeed is currently split. It is made up of three main villages (Sherburn Hill, Shadforth and Ludworth).</li> <li>- The village of Sherburn Hill within the Shadforth parish sits on the same main road as Sherburn Village which is just half a mile away and there are significant links between these two villages, including schools, doctors surgeries and shopping, and so this proposal</li> </ul>

	<p>recognises these links and places Sherburn Hill within the new Pittington and Sherburn division.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The village of Ludworth (In Shadforth Parish) is currently in the Trimdon and Thornley Division, which stretches as far as 26 minutes to the south by car with no decent bus links (2 hours by bus). The nearest villages to Ludworth are Haswell Plough and Shadforth with these three villages spread across three different electoral divisions at present.</li> <li>- It is proposed that these three villages go into an Easington, Haswell and Shotton Division bringing them together. They also all sit on the 24 Sapphire bus route, the only bus in this area.</li> <li>- Note:</li> </ul>
Easily Definable boundaries	<p>The two main villages sit to the west of Durham City and their parish boundaries are easily definable.</p> <p>The north of the division includes the county boundary with Sunderland, whilst the western boundary between the parishes and Belmont is clear with the Leamside railway line, which was previously a rail route and is currently under review for possible reopening.</p>
Transport Links including public transport	<p>A short main road links the two villages of Pittington and Sherburn which are just a mile apart, whilst Sherburn Hill and Sherburn are even closer along the B1283. You could drive in a rough circle through each of the five villages in the proposed division in less than 10 minutes.</p>
Effective, convenient local government	<p>The fact that the villages are so close together means that this area is very easily managed, with just three parishes overall in the area.</p>
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	<p>Many residents in Sherburn Hill attend community groups and facilities in Sherburn.</p>
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<p>Residents from all five villages use Sherburn as the central point for local shops and most children attend the only two primary schools in Pittington or Sherburn.</p>
Specific community links	
Ward Name	<p>Changing the name recognises both Parish areas and key villages in the division.</p>



## Electoral Division: Sacriston (1 member)

Electorate: 4438

Per councillor: 4438

Variance: +7%

Changes:

Map:

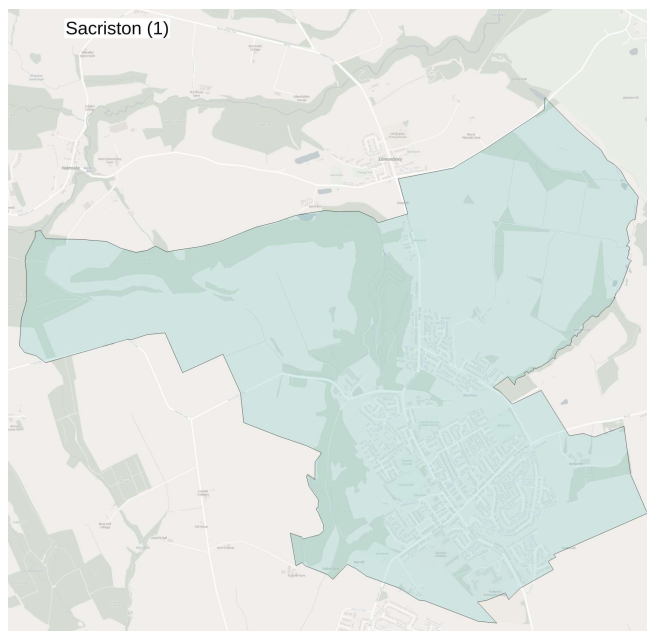
Transfer out:

NDDA - Kimblesworth & Plawsworth No 1

NDDC - Kimblesworth & Plawsworth No 3

NDFD - Edmondsley & Waldrige No 4

Transfer in: None



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This proposal ensures a variance of just 7% from the average and in doing so protects the integrity of the Sacriston Parish.</li> <li>- The ward of West Kimblesworth in the Kimblesworth &amp; Plawsworth has far more affinity with Sacriston, with new and existing housing actually forming part of the village of Sacriston itself. By placing the West Kimblesworth Parish Ward with Sacriston this ensures that all of the housing directly connected to Sacriston sits within the village boundary.</li> <li>- If the commission is minded to not split the parish, then placing the West Kimblesworth Ward within Chester-le-Street South would still allow both Sacriston and Chester-le-Street South to be within the electoral equality limits under the Option B proposals for Chester-le-Street, however for the reasons explained above, this is not seen to be the most sensible option for the communities.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	The division is enclosed within one definable community of Sacriston.
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	Key transport links run along the two main roads connecting the village with Durham, Stanley and Chester-le-Street.
Effective, convenient local government	This ensures the division is only covering two parish council areas, but key is that the issues in the West Kimblesworth Ward in the Sacriston village built up area are dealt with by the same councillors.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	

Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	
Specific community links	
Ward Name	The majority of this area is the Sacriston Parish area and that which isn't is within the village area so keeping the name is sensible.

## Electoral Division: Seaham (2 members)

Electorate: 9027

Per councillor: 4514

Variance: +8.7%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:

None

Transfer in:

EQB - Seaham Harbour

No. 2

EQC - Seaham Harbour

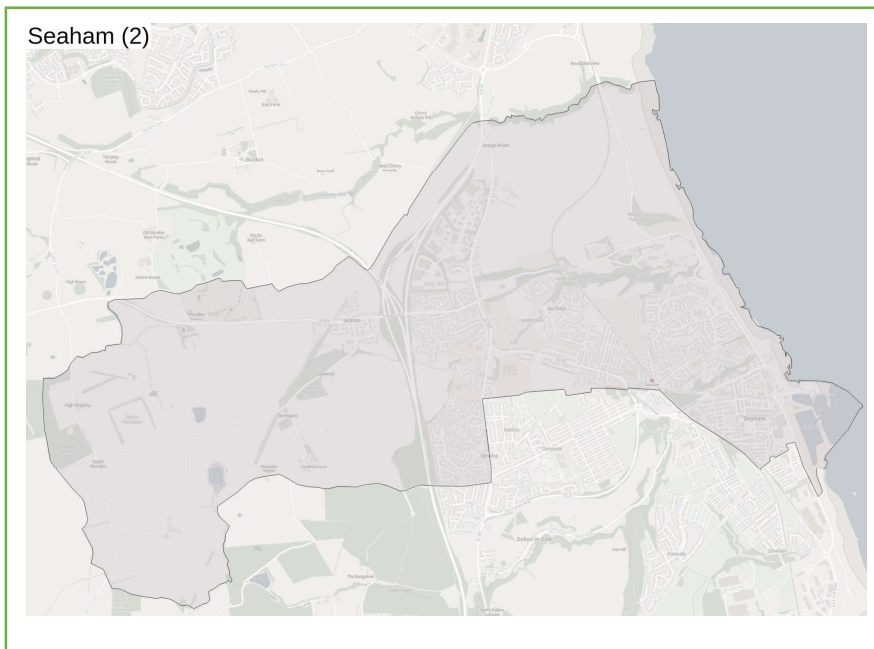
No. 3

EQD - Seaham Harbour

No. 4

ERB2 - Seaham North No  
1b

ERD - Seaham North No. 3



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed Divisions of Seaham and Dalton &amp; Dawdon have been designed to ensure that the Seaham Parish area is retained within just two electoral divisions, which the proposals do, within the recommended deviations on population. Whilst Seaham is 8% from the average, Dalton and Dawdon is 0% and the reasoning is explained within each division narrative and is of key importance for governance.</li> <li>- This proposal ensures that the Seaton and Slingley Parish Council area is contained within one electoral division. It also ensures that the none of the parish wards in the Seaham Town Council area are split across more than one electoral division. Westlea, Seaham Harbour, Seaham North and Seaham Central Wards all sit fully within the proposed Seaham electoral division.</li> <li>- Links: Ensuring that Seaton and Slingley Parish Council area is with the same electoral division as the Seaham North Ward also makes sure that all major road links are properly contained within the same division and means there is only one division bordering the Sunderland City Council area across this top part of the County.</li> <li>- The western part of the Seaton Parish has only 40 electors in 20 houses with most of the population being in the built up Seaham area.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	

Easily Definable boundaries	The northern boundary for its entire length is the Sunderland council boundary whilst to the east it is the coastline. As significant part of the southern boundary is with the division which has the other half of the Seaham Town Council area proposed to be within it.
Transport Links including public transport	
Effective, convenient local government	By keeping the town council area within two electoral divisions it is far more convenient. These boundaries also ensure that both Seaton and Dalton-le-Dale parishes are not split up.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	As a mainly urban town area, residents from across the division use the facilities in Seaham.
Specific community links	
Ward Name	Most residents see themselves as part of the Seaham area, so keeping this name is sensible.

## Electoral Division: Sedgefield (2 members)

Electorate: 7873

Per councillor: 3937

Variance: -5%

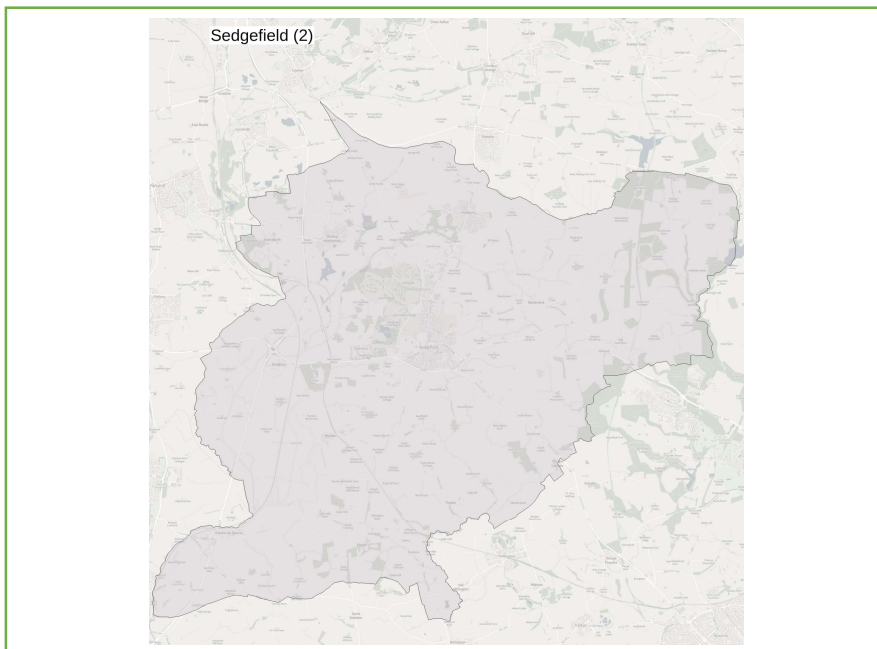
Changes:

Map:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in:

SCA - Bishop Middleham



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The current electoral division of Sedgefield includes the Parishes of Sedgefield and Fishburn as well as the villages of Bradbury and Mordon. Bringing in the parish of Bishop Middleham into the electoral division creates a division just 5% from the average equality.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: This proposal ensures that all of these three main parishes as well as the parish meeting areas of Bradbury and Mordon are self contained within a single electoral division.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The village of Cornforth which is currently in the same electoral division as Bishop Middleham sits on the other side of the main A1(M) motorway. Cornforth parish and the village are just a couple of hundred meters from the large village of Coxhoe and moving Cornforth Parish into the Coxhoe Division and Bishop Middleham into Sedgefield division ensures electoral equality and places both villages in the most sensible divisions geographically and in terms of employment, road, school and community links.</li> </ul>
Easily Definable boundaries	The southern boundary is with the neighbouring local authority.
Transport Links including public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- These villages are directly linked and indeed Fishburn drive to Sedgefield to access the main A689 and A1(M) roads whilst Fishburn and Bishop Middleham are directly linked along Stonybeck Lane, just one mile either side of the main A177.</li> </ul>
Effective, convenient local government	This proposal makes only one change, by bringing in Bishop Middleham.

What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schools: Children from Bishop Middleham and Fishburn attend the main school at Sedgefield</li> <li>- Employment: The key employment site of Net Park sits to the north of the Sedgefield Parish adjacent to the neighbouring parishes and the key regional park which residents of all three Parishes access is also to the north of Sedgefield between the three parishes.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	
Ward Name	

## Electoral Division: Shildon & Dene Valley (3 members)

Electorate: 12434

Per councillor: 4145

Variance: 0%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:  
BADB - South Church

Transfer in:  
BACA - Leeholme  
BACB - Coundon Gate  
BACC - Coundon



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shildon is a Town of particular historical note as the home of the railways. The town is too large to be a two member division and too small for a three member division on its own. This proposal protects the Town Council boundaries within one electoral division, whilst bringing together neighbouring small villages with similar issues.</li> <li>- Parish integrity: Furthermore the proposal ensures the neighbouring Parish of Dene Valley is also under a single electoral division.</li> <li>- This proposal makes relatively minor changes to ensure electoral equality with no variance from the average.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Links: The unparished villages to the north of the Dene Valley, including Coundon and Leeholme have significant commonalities and indeed in the past have formed part of the same electoral division. Many of these villages have suffered over many years from the loss of mining and jobs in the area and issues of empty properties and deprivation are yet to be addressed. Having villages with such similar issues as those in the Dene Valley in the same electoral division will assist in addressing those issues collectively.</li> </ul>
Easily Definable boundaries	The southern extent of the division is the county boundary. The westernmost boundary is the historic Dene Street Roman Road and the River Gaunless. The eastern boundary is the boundary with Middridge Parish which as detailed in the North Aycliffe and Middridge proposal has key links to Newton Aycliffe with the new housing being built in that parish.
Transport Links including public transport	Bus services via Bishop Auckland and Shildon.

Effective, convenient local government	- This ensures that the Dene Valley and Shildon Parishes are retained within the same electoral divisions.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	
Specific community links	
Ward Name	



## Electoral Division: **Spennymoor (2 members)**

Electorate: 8638

Per councillor: 4319

Variance: +4%

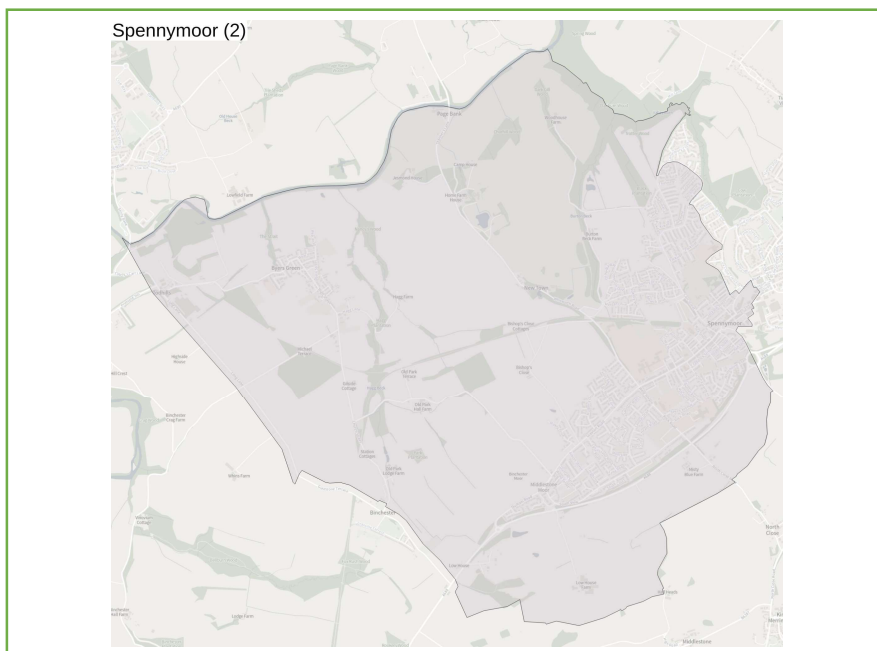
Changes:

Map:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in:

Part  
BAAHB - Merrington



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposals for Spennymoor provide electoral equality within 3% of the average, with only minor changes to this and the neighbouring division of Tudhoe, both of which make up most of the Spennymoor Town Council area.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: The Spennymoor Division will only be made up of areas from within the Town Council area.</li> <li>- Recent housebuilding has created an anomaly which means that some houses which sit in the Parish Ward of Merrington are actually within the built up area of Spennymoor rather than near the villages of North Close and Kirk Merrington and so it is suggested that this ward is split to address this issue.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	
Effective, convenient local government	
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	
Specific community links	

Ward Name	
-----------	--

## Electoral Division: Stanley (2 members)

Electorate: 9090

Per councillor: 4545

Variance: 9.5%

Changes:

Map:

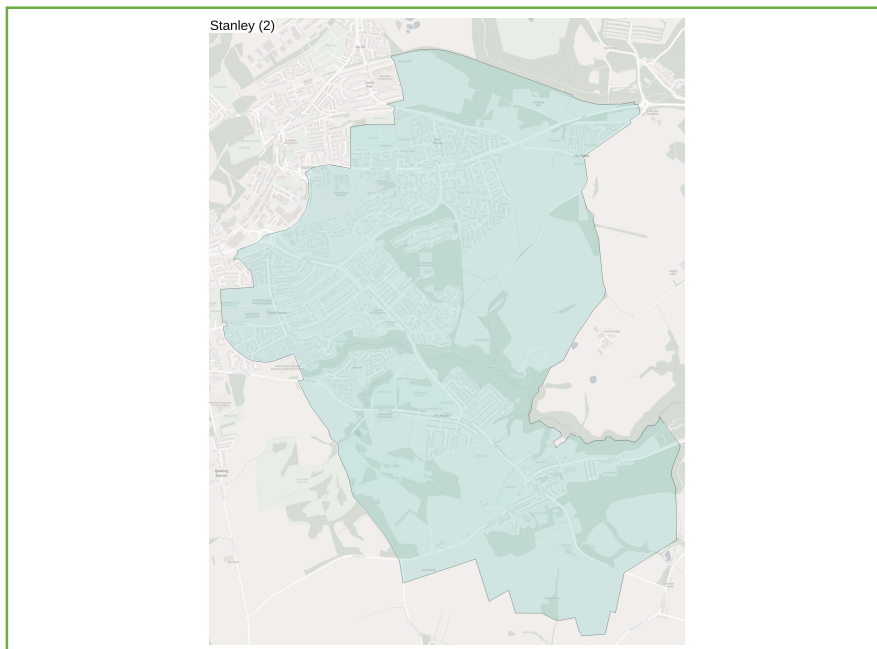
Transfer out:

Transfer in:

NDQA - The Middles

NDQB - Craghead

NDQC - Burnside



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposals are within the 10% variance recommended, however as a predominantly urban area with similar communities this is considered less of an issue from a workload point of view, and indeed as the whole area is part of the town council, this means there is only one parish to deal with.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: The proposal ensures that the Craghead and South Stanley, and Stanley Hall Parish Wards are self-contained within one electoral division with no need for any non-parished or split wards. This also ensures that the whole of the town council area is within just three divisions.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	The Stanley Town Council area is a recognised community.
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	The B6532 and Tyne Road are key roads connecting the whole area.
Effective, convenient local government	Keeping the town council area together makes it far easier to deal with issues across the area.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	Children in the area attend the same schools and they key Stanley College.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	All residents in the area do their main shopping in Stanley town centre area at Asda, Aldi and the main high street.
Specific community links	
Ward Name	

## Electoral Division: Thornley and Wheatley Hill (2 members)

Electorate: 4394

Per councillor: 4394

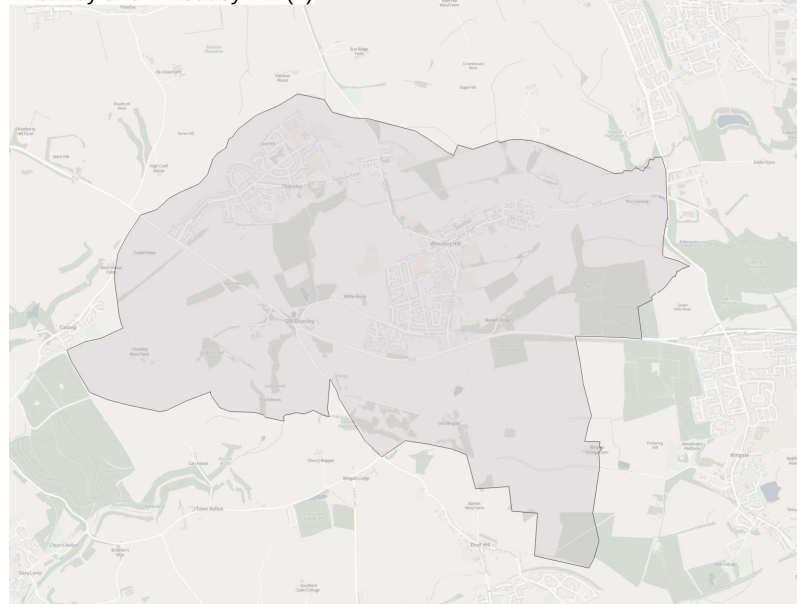
Variance: 6%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:  
Transfer in:

Thornley and Wheatley Hill (1)



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bringing these two parishes into one single member division creates electoral equality just 5% from the average.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: These two parishes, made up almost entirely of two villages just a couple of fields apart have been linked electorally for decades. This proposals keeps these two parishes together and recognises their links by creating a single manageable division.</li> <li>- Links: At present they are in a division which stretches over a significant geographical area with few links or reasons for links between the other villages, with members having to attend unnecessarily, multiple parish meetings.</li> <li>- This one member division also ensures that the important reasons for the other villages currently in the Trimdon and Thornley Divisions being realigned can take place.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	The villages are exceptionally close together and the parishes easily defined.
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Buses: The 22/22A bus service between the two villages is every half an hour taking just 2-3 minutes, whilst it's a 10 minute walk between the two villages.</li> </ul>
Effective, convenient local government	This proposal ensures parish boundaries are not split and no electoral divisions in this part of County Durham are unmanageable.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	

Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	- Schools: Children from the two villages attend schools in each village with the Roman Catholic School being in Wheatley Hill and the Local Authority Primary School being in Thornley, whilst most secondary age pupils from both villages attend schools in Shotton/Peterlee.
Specific community links	
Ward Name	

## Electoral Division: Trimdon & Wingate (2 members)

Electorate: 8824

Per councillor: 4412

Variance: 7%

Changes:

Map:

Name change from Trimdon and Thornley, merged with Wingate

Transfer out:

SNA - Wheatley Hill No. 1

SNB - Wheatley Hill No. 2

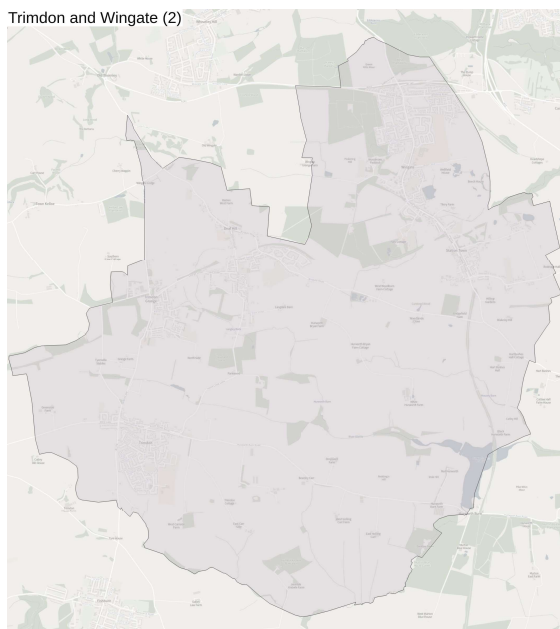
SNC - Thornley

Transfer in:

SMA - Station Town

SMD - Wingate No.1

SME - Wingate No.2



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposal creates a division just 7% from the average and this division also helps to ensure that there is electoral equality within neighbouring divisions.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: The proposal ensures that the parishes of Wingate, Trimdon and Trimdon Foundry do not need to be split over other electoral divisions and nor do any parish wards need to be split.</li> <li>- Station Town, which is in the Hutton Henry Parish area is naturally seen as part of Wingate Village, extending along the B1280 main road with no discernible break. Station Town has nothing in common with the current Blackhall division.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Station Town has nothing in common with the current Blackhall division and needs to be in the same division as Wingate.</li> </ul>
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed division brings four parishes together which are closely linked with less than 6 miles between all the key villages. The villages of Hutton Henry and Station Town sit to the West of the key A19 dual carriageway and have nothing in common with Blackhall where they currently sit in the Blackhall division.</li> <li>- By comparison Station Town is an extension of Wingate and vice-versa with no visible gap between the two villages along the B1280. Similar links exist between the Trimdons and Deaf Hill, whilst Deaf Hill is just 2 miles from Station Town along Wingate Road.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Buses: Almost all the villages are directly linked via the regular X21 and X22 bus service which run through Trimdon, Trimdon Station, Trimdon Colliery, Station Town and Wingate.</li> </ul>
Effective, convenient local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The current Trimdon and Thornley Division has significant issues with a large number of different parishes and poor to non-existent bus links and it takes over 20 minutes to get from one end of the division to the other. There are similar poor links between Hutton Henry and the rest of the Blackhall division where it currently sits.</li> </ul>
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	
Specific community links	
Ward Name	

## Electoral Division: Tudhoe (2 members)

Electorate: 8742

Per councillor: 4371

Variance: 6%

Changes:

Map:

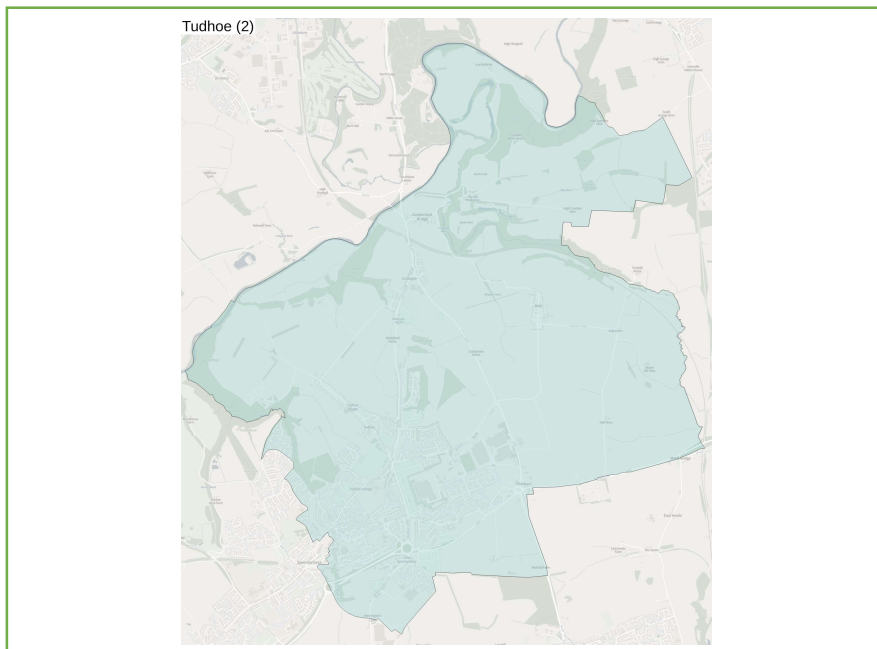
Transfer out:

Transfer in:

DIF - Croxdale

DIG – Hett

BAAFC - Spennymoor 3



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	The proposed division is well within the suggested variances. The proposal ensures that the Spennymoor town council area is retained within the same divisions as before.
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	The main B6288 links the whole area.
Effective, convenient local government	This proposal ensures that the existing boundaries of Spennymoor town council are retained within just three electoral divisions and the Croxdale parish is not split.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Residents across this area use the same facilities, including the shopping centres and supermarkets in Spennymoor, and Spennymoor Leisure Centre and its swimming pool. Core doctors surgeries across the two divisions of Spennymoor and Tudhoe are used by all residents.
Specific community links	
Ward Name	No need is seen to change the division name.



## Electoral Division: Weardale (2 members)

Electorate: 8137

Per councillor: 4068

Variance: -3%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:  
NWDRA - Witton-Le-Wear

Transfer in:  
NWDKB – Muggleswick

NWDOE – Satley

NWDSD - Tow Law Rural 1

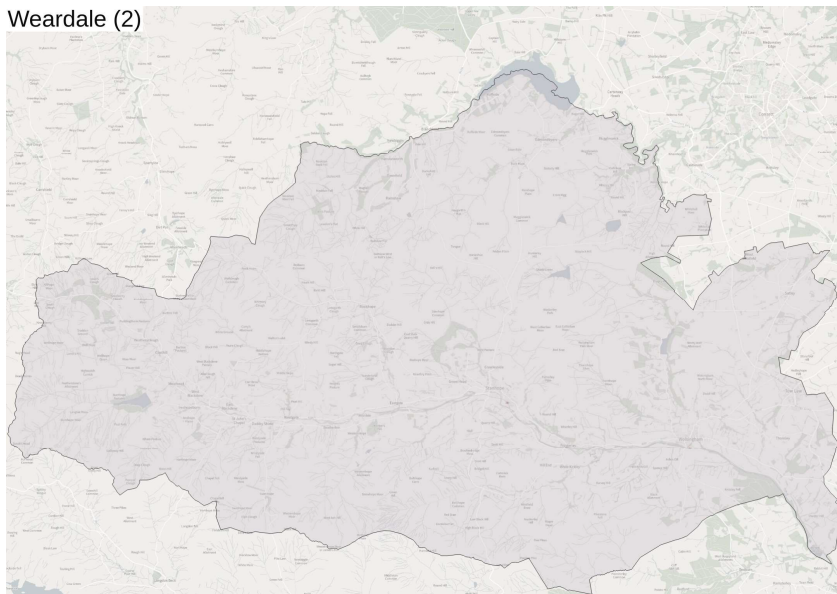
NWDSE - Tow Law Rural 2

NWDSF - Tow Law Rural 3

NWDSG1 - Tow Law 1

NWDSG2 - Tow Law 2

Weardale (2)



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The current Weardale boundaries have worked well for many decades with minor changes over the years ensuring continuity and electoral equality, however some anomalies have built up which can be rectified by this proposal. It is proposed to bring in the Parish of Tow Law to achieve electoral equality just 2% from the average. This requires deletion of the current Tow Law division.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: The proposed division ensures that the Parish of Stanhope which makes up half the division electorally remains intact, which is essential as the only main road link through Weardale is the A689 which the main population centres sit off or near to.</li> <li>- The proposal also ensures that the whole of the Wolsingham and Tow Law Parishes are kept within the same division respectively avoiding any parish councils being split across more than one division. At present Wolsingham Parish is split between the current Weardale and Tow Law divisions which has long been seen as an unnecessary break up of the parish area creating increased workload and confusion electorally.</li> <li>- Unparished areas: The remaining unparished villages of the current Tow Law division under these proposals, namely Stanley Crook, Billy Row and Roddymoor have far more links with Crook than with the Weardale area sitting on the B6298 just north of the town, whilst Sunnyside is just 1.5 miles from Stanley Crook village.</li> <li>- Residents of these villages see Crook as their key town for all local services including shopping, doctors, schools and community links.</li> <li>- The unparished area of Witton-le-Wear which currently sits in the Weardale division was added at a previous boundary review but</li> </ul>

	<p>geographically and from the point of view of community links it sits far better with the other unparished parts of the town of Crook and the villages surrounding it. This brings Witton-le-Wear and Howden-le-Wear back together with the close links they have along the short 2 mile long Hargill Road.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Were the boundary commission to consider this new division not to be acceptable an alternative of two single member wards of Stanhope Parish (With the small parishes of Edmundbyers and Hunstanworth) and Wolsingham with Tow Law would be the only other viable option electorally without splitting parishes however this would break very long standing and important links between the villages within Weardale to the detriment of the communities in this area which have a very strong view as to being part of Weardale.</li> <li>- Note: The Parish of Satley is proposed to sit within Weardale given the rural links, however it could equally be retained in the Esh Witton Gilbert Division for continuity and to reduce the workload in the Weardale Division. Both divisions would remain well within electoral equality.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As all of these communities are very rural, they have significant similar issues around things like public transport and access to public services.</li> </ul>
Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tow Law Parish with most of it's population centred in the village sits just 3 miles or six minutes by car from the small town of Wolsingham on the B6296 where most residents have major shopping, school, health and other links. The small parish of Satley is proposed to be included in this division as a very rural area with the primary village of Satley being closer to Tow Law than neighbouring villages as well as being on the same B6296 route to Wolsingham.</li> <li>- Buses: whilst most residents use cars in this rural area as bus routes are not ideal, some of the same buses are used by residents in the Weardale Division and Tow Law with the X1 service linking Tow Law via Wolsingham with Stanhope twice a day and the 764 linking Tow Law and Wolsingham three times a day. A morning and evening service is also provided by the X46 between the three parishes.</li> </ul>
Effective, convenient local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The majority of this division sits on the mail road running up through Weardale providing relatively easy access to communities by car.</li> </ul>
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Stanhope, Tow Law and Wolsingham parishes collectively cover a huge part of the total electorate of the area making Weardale more manageable than perhaps other rural areas with far more parishes.</li> </ul>
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schools: The main secondary school for this rural area is in Wolsingham with children from Weardale and the Tow law area attending and the area is within the. Same school planning area.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	The area is very much seen as part of the upper river wear catchment with significant farming links. Housing issues are also similar in these areas with a lack of affordable housing for younger families and individuals.
Ward Name	As the River Wear is at the heart of this area, and it is recognised as Weardale by most people we see no need to change the name.

## Electoral Division: West Auckland (1 member)

Electorate: 4411

Per councillor: 4411

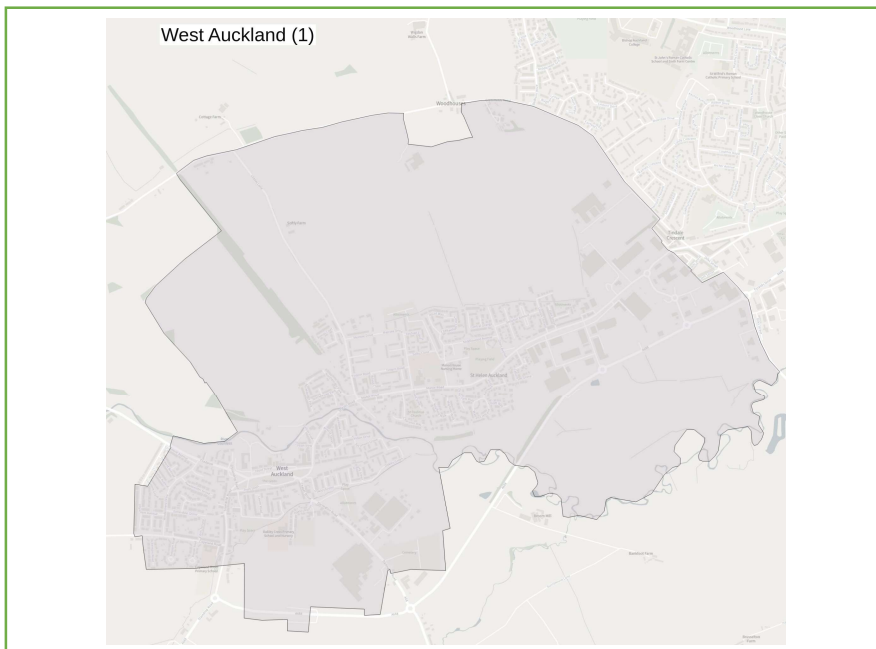
Variance: 7%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out:  
BAFA - Witton Park  
BAFB – Escomb

Transfer in: None



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposal is within the electoral equality recommended variance being just 6% over.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: The proposal creates a division which keeps the West Auckland parish council area in one electoral division. It also ensures that the unparished St Helen Auckland village with its longstanding links is retained within the proposed boundary. These villages over time have grown into each other.</li> <li>- The Parishes to the North of the proposed division which are currently in the West Auckland division have their own identities being much more rural in nature and are proposed to be part of the Evenwood Division as a consequence. This also ensures electoral equality within the more rural areas to the west. Escomb has its own primary school attended by pupils from the surrounding rural parishes as well as the village itself.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	
Easily Definable boundaries	The urban area of West Auckland and St Helen Auckland are clearly definable on the map.
Transport Links including public transport	The 6 Sapphire bus connects the area at very regular intervals.
Effective, convenient local government	Having an urban division without the additional work of dealing with more rural parishes makes sense and makes for more effective and convenient council work.

What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shopping: The Parish and the unparished areas proposed are interlinked in all respects with the new out of town developments at St Helen Auckland the key shopping and leisure go to places for residents.</li> <li>- Links: St Helen Auckland and West Auckland residents attend the same health care and schools.</li> </ul>
Specific community links	The whole area is one continuous built up area and residents use facilities across the proposed division.
Ward Name	No need to change the name as it would be an even better representation of the area than the current boundary.

## Electoral Division: Willington & Hunwick (2 members)

Electorate: 7842

Per councillor: 3921

Variance: -2.88%

Changes:

Map:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in:

BACE - Binchester

BACG – Newfield

NWDWC - Helmington

Row



Criteria and explanation	How does the proposal meet the criteria
Electoral Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposals create a two member division with less than 3% variance from the average based around the current electoral division boundaries, with minor amendments to the status quo.</li> <li>- Parish Boundaries: This proposal ensures that the whole of the Greater Willington Town council boundary is retained within one electoral division.</li> <li>- It also ensures that the current links created over the last decade between the Parish of Brancepeth and the unparished village of Hunwick which sits just to the south of the town are retained.</li> <li>- The small unparished villages of Binchester and Newfield are proposed to sit within this new division. Newfield is just a mile from Willington and the closest town for all amenities including doctors, shops and schools.</li> <li>- Binchester sits to the west of the A688 linked by road to Newfield and with the deletion of the Coundon Division has a number of possible options being equidistant to all three of the nearby towns. It's inclusion with Willington and Hunwick assists with electoral equality, however it could equally sit within the Bishop Auckland or Spennymoor Divisions and all three divisions would still be within the electoral variances.</li> <li>- Were Binchester village to be in the Spennymoor Division it would be recommended that only the village move into the Spennymoor Division whilst the remaining polling district area be added to Bishop Auckland or Willington and Hunwick divisions given the access to the Binchester Roman Fort is via Bishop Auckland or Newfield.</li> </ul>
Community Interests & Identities	

Easily Definable boundaries	
Transport Links including public transport	
Effective, convenient local government	Having the majority of the division covering one parish council area, makes for easier governance.
What type of community groups are there in the area? Parish Councils, residents associations or other community groups?	The proposal ensures that the Greater Willington Parish Council area is retained within one electoral division.
Schools, leisure facilities, shopping, medical facilities	Residents across this area attend Willington for local shopping but also go to Bishop Auckland, Spennymoor and Crook.
Specific community links	
Ward Name	The name continues to be appropriate.

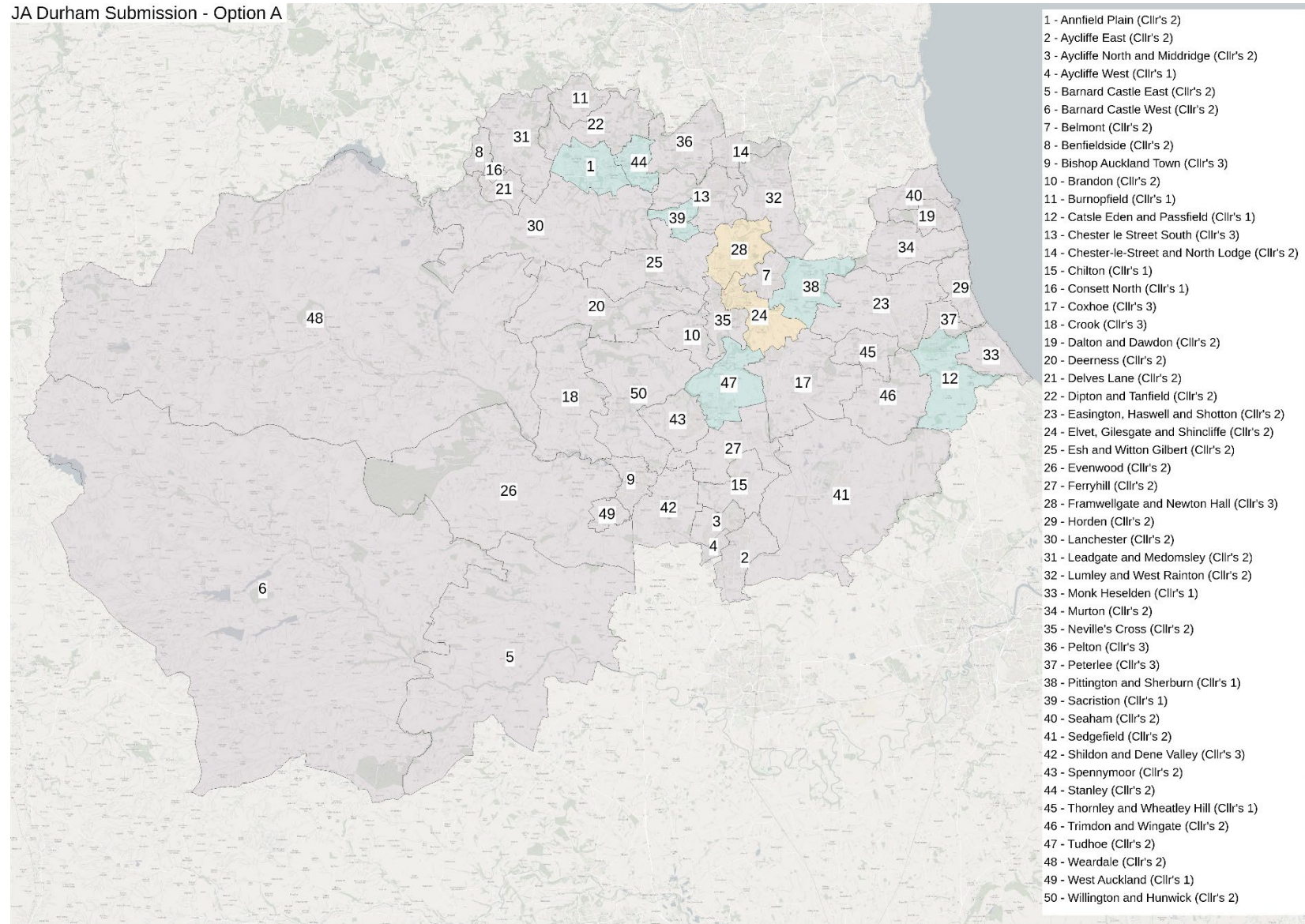
# Overview Option Descriptions

Overview Name	Areas
JA Durham Submission Option A	<p>Lanchester as a two-member ward including Greencroft.</p> <p>Chester-le-Street two wards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chester-le-Street and North Lodge as a two-member ward</li><li>• Chester-le-Street South as a three-member ward.</li></ul>
JA Durham Submission Option B	<p>Lanchester one-member ward.</p> <p>Consett South one-member ward</p> <p>Leadgate and Medomsley ward will include Greencroft.</p> <p>Chester-le-Street three wards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• North Lodge as a one-member ward.</li><li>• Chester-le-Street as a two-member ward.</li><li>• Chester-le-Street South as a two-member ward.</li></ul>



# JA Durham Submission Option A

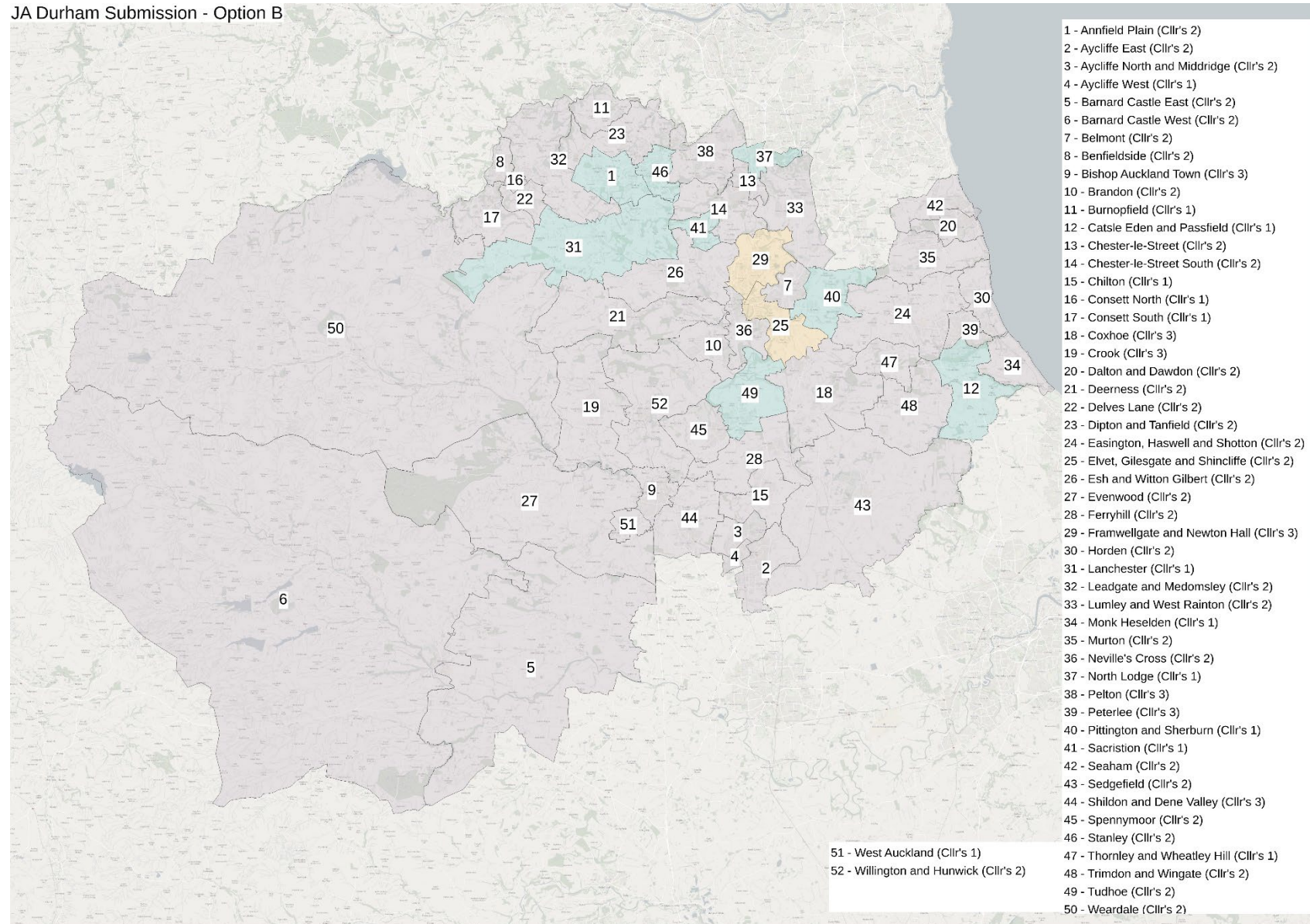
JA Durham Submission - Option A





# JA Durham Submission Option B

JA Durham Submission - Option B

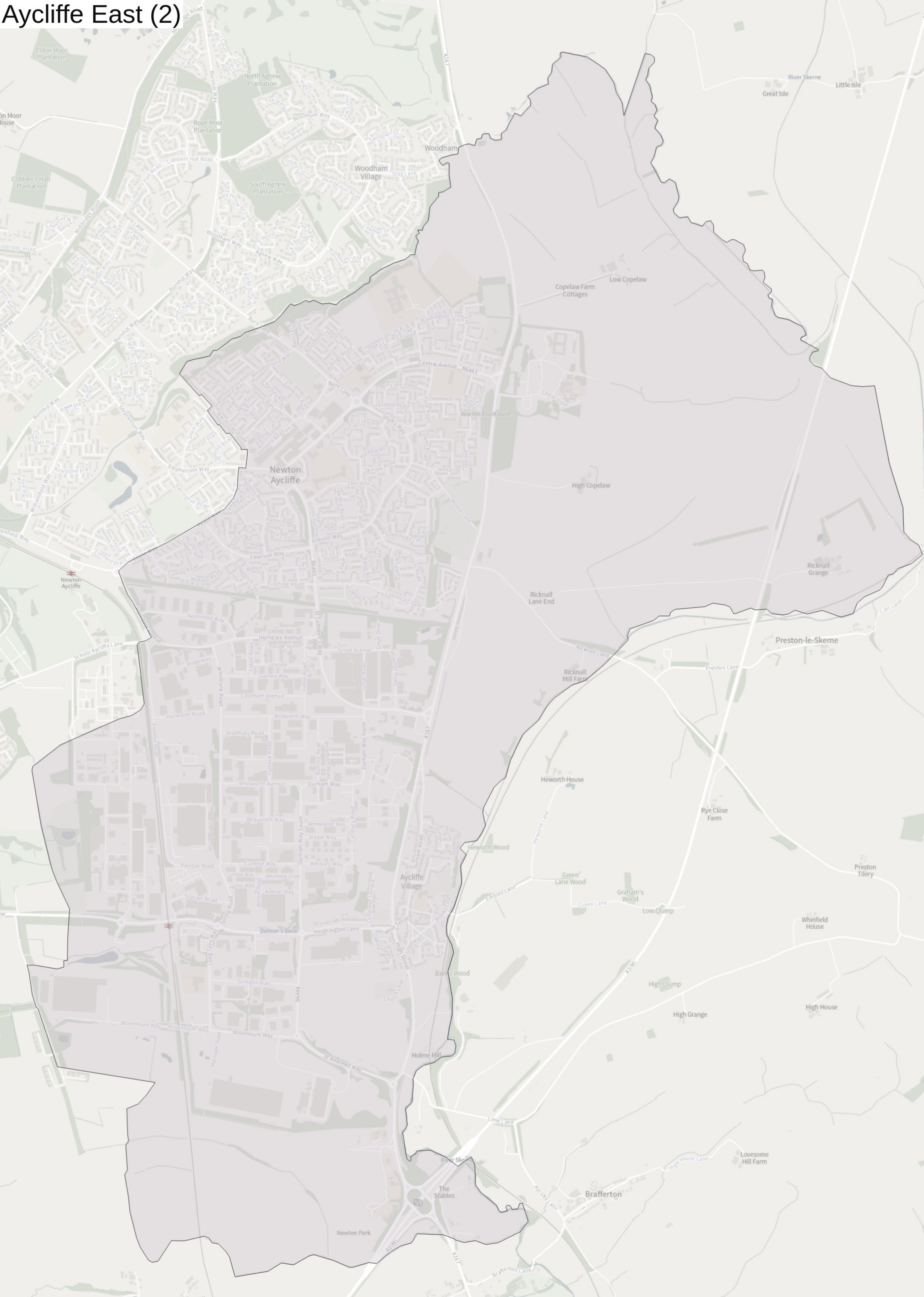




## Annfield Plain (2)

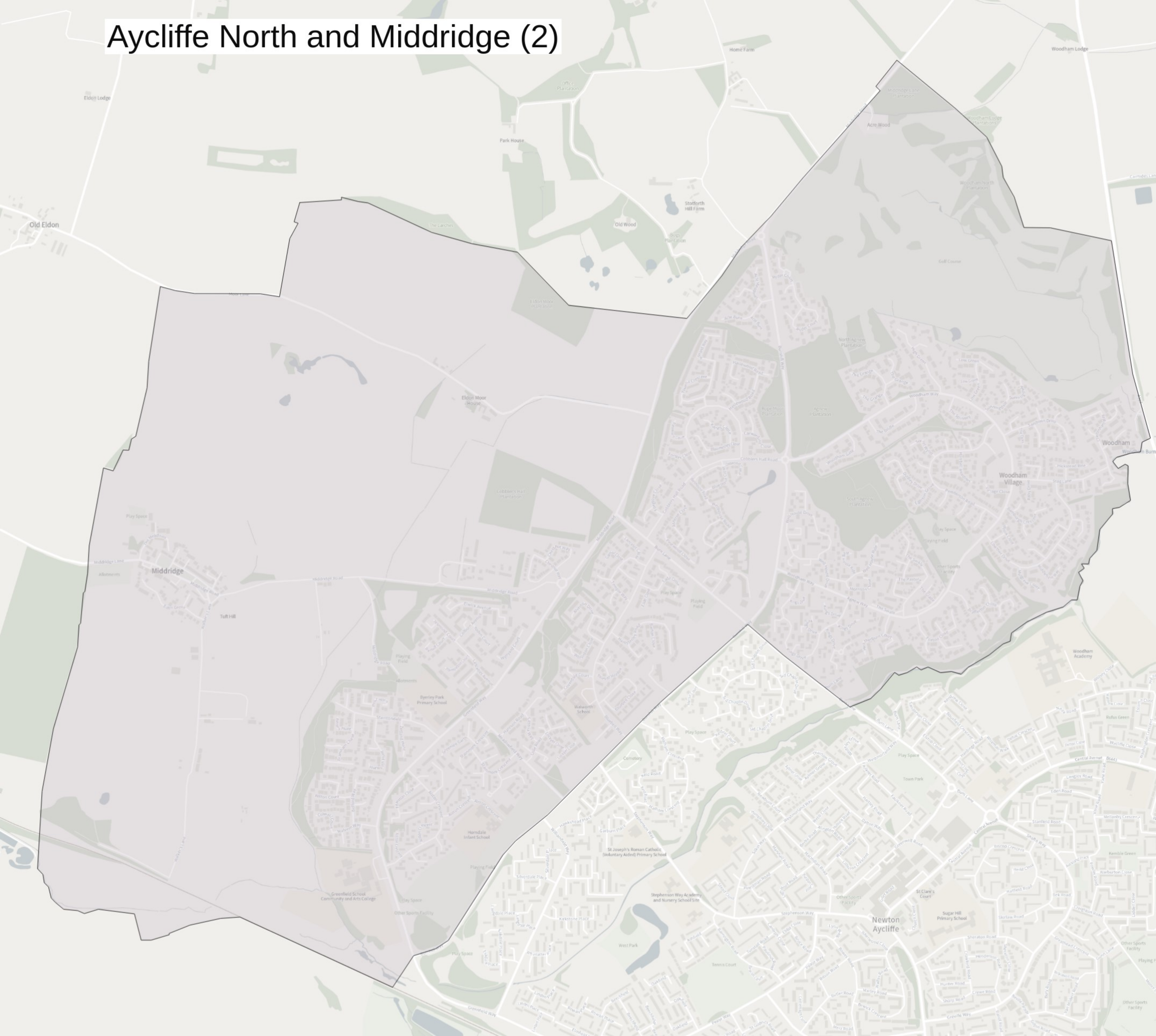


# Aycliffe East (2)



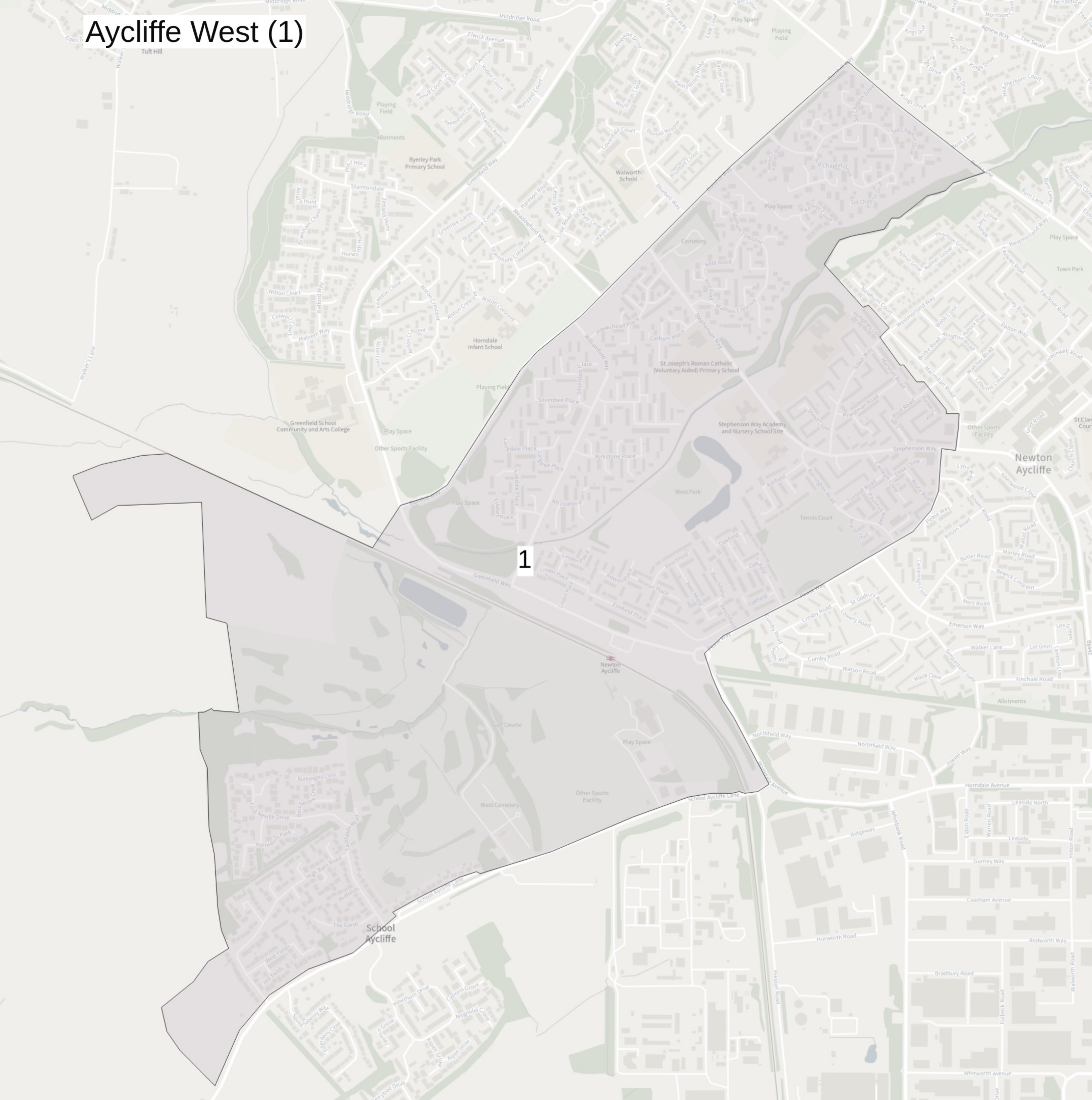


# Aycliffe North and Middridge (2)



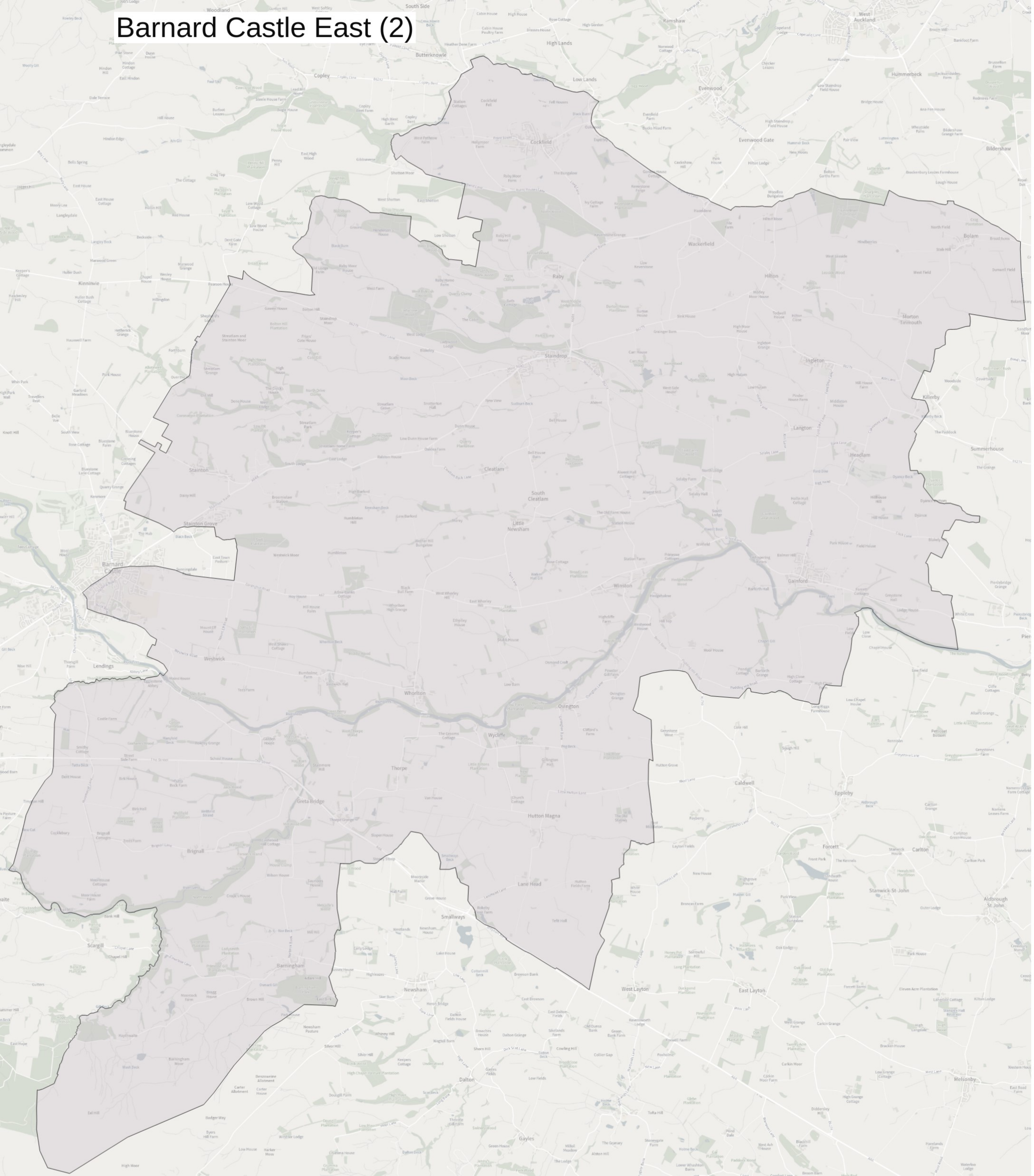


# Aycliffe West (1)



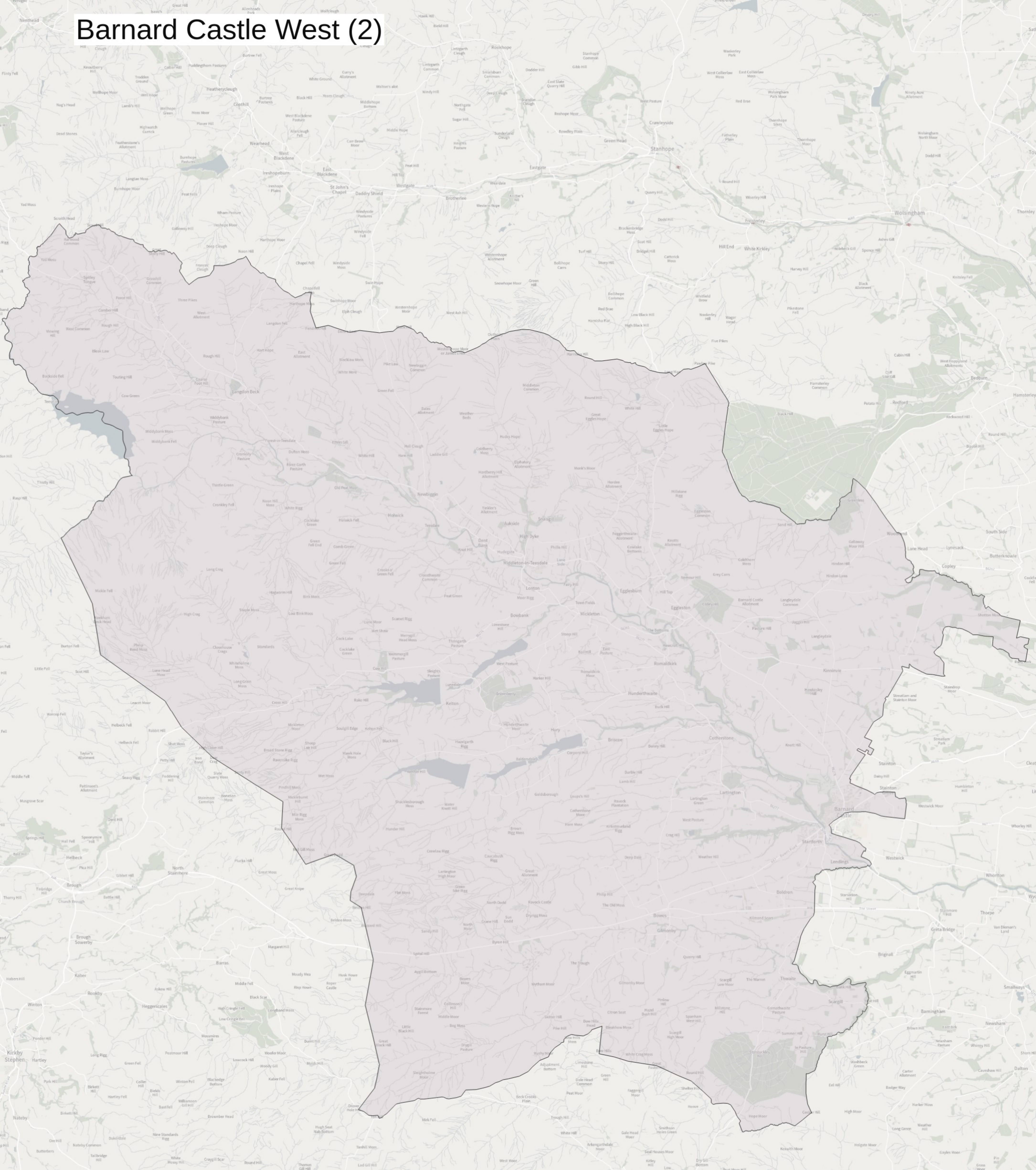


# Barnard Castle East (2)



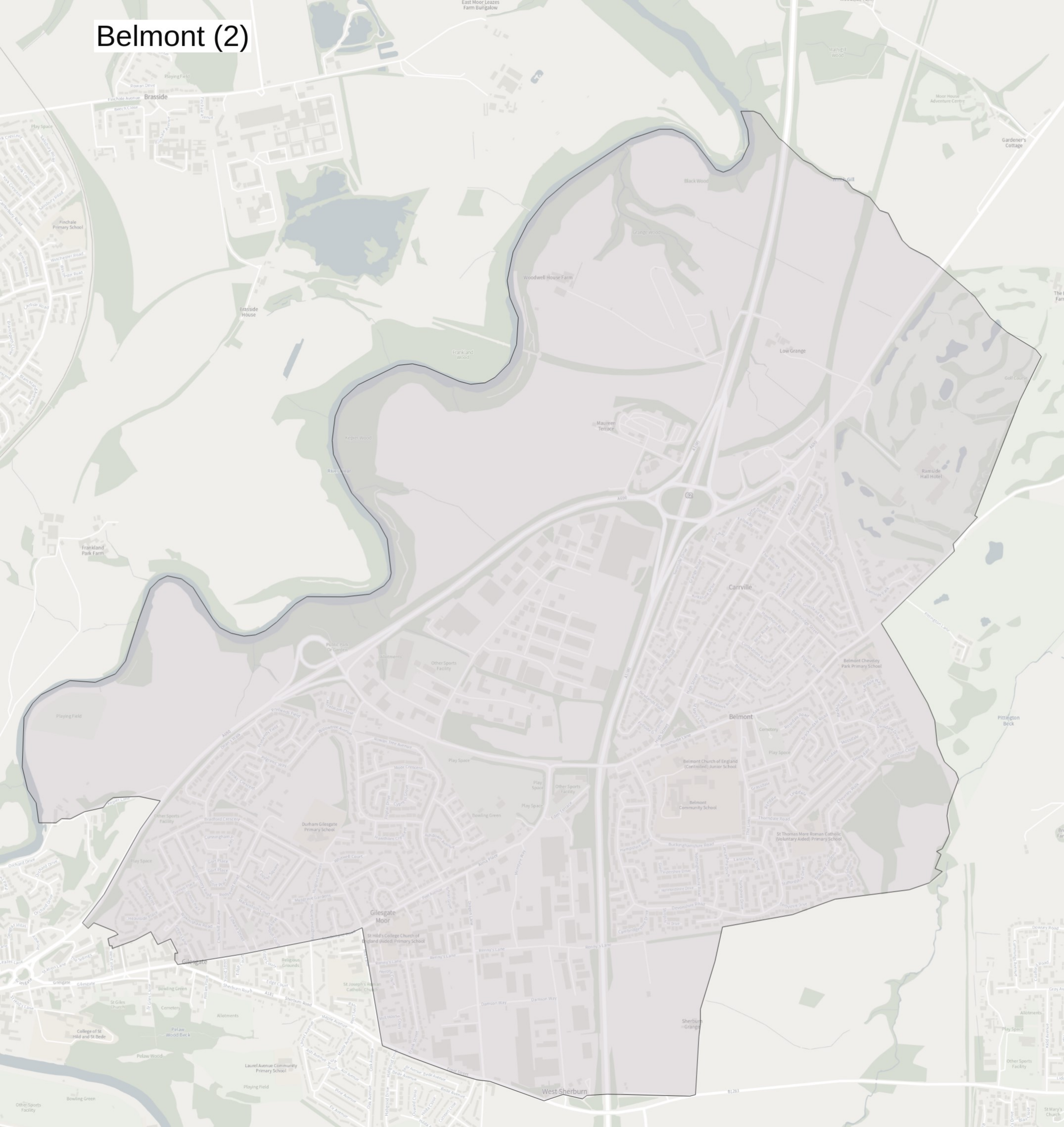


# Barnard Castle West (2)



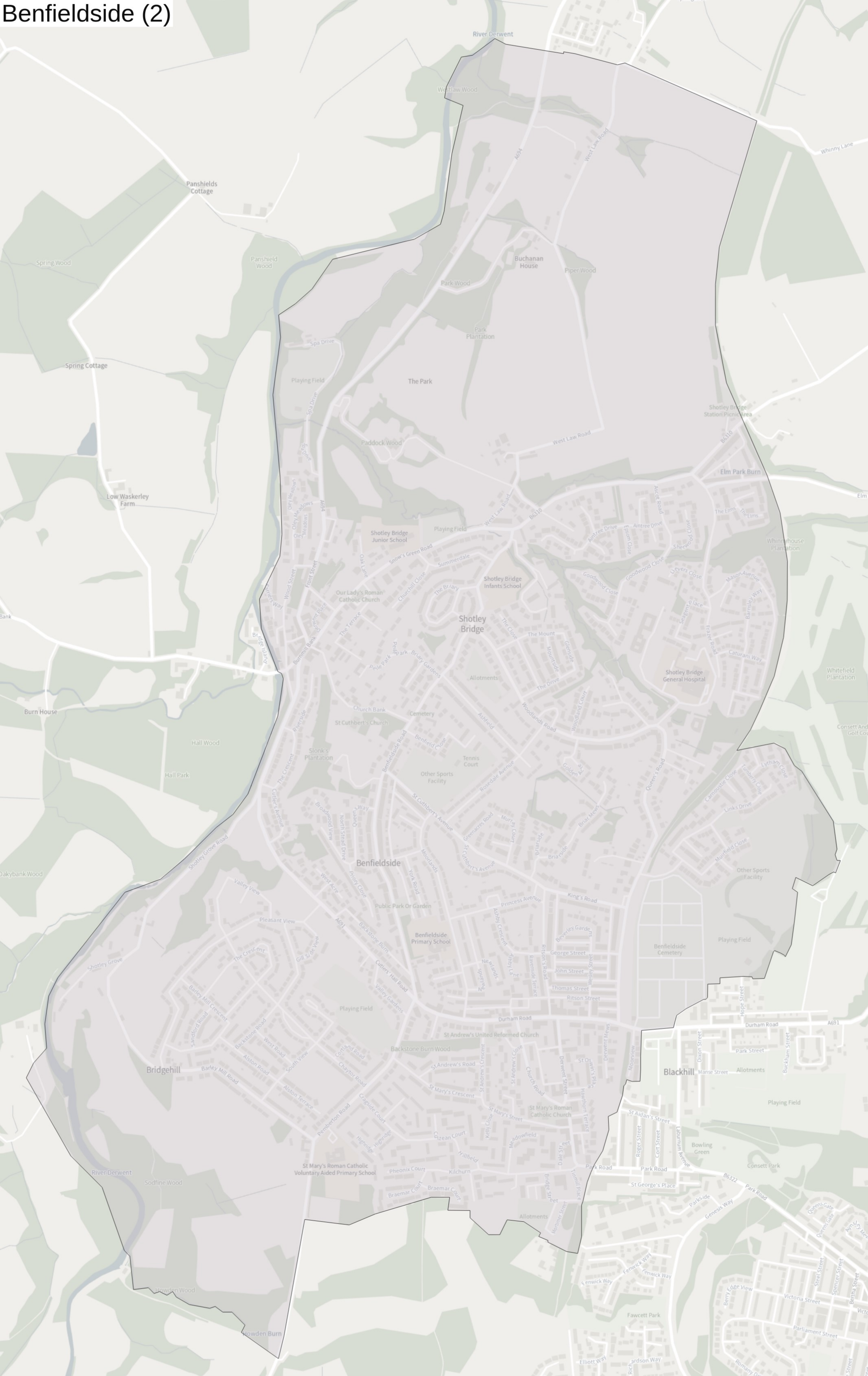


# Belmont (2)



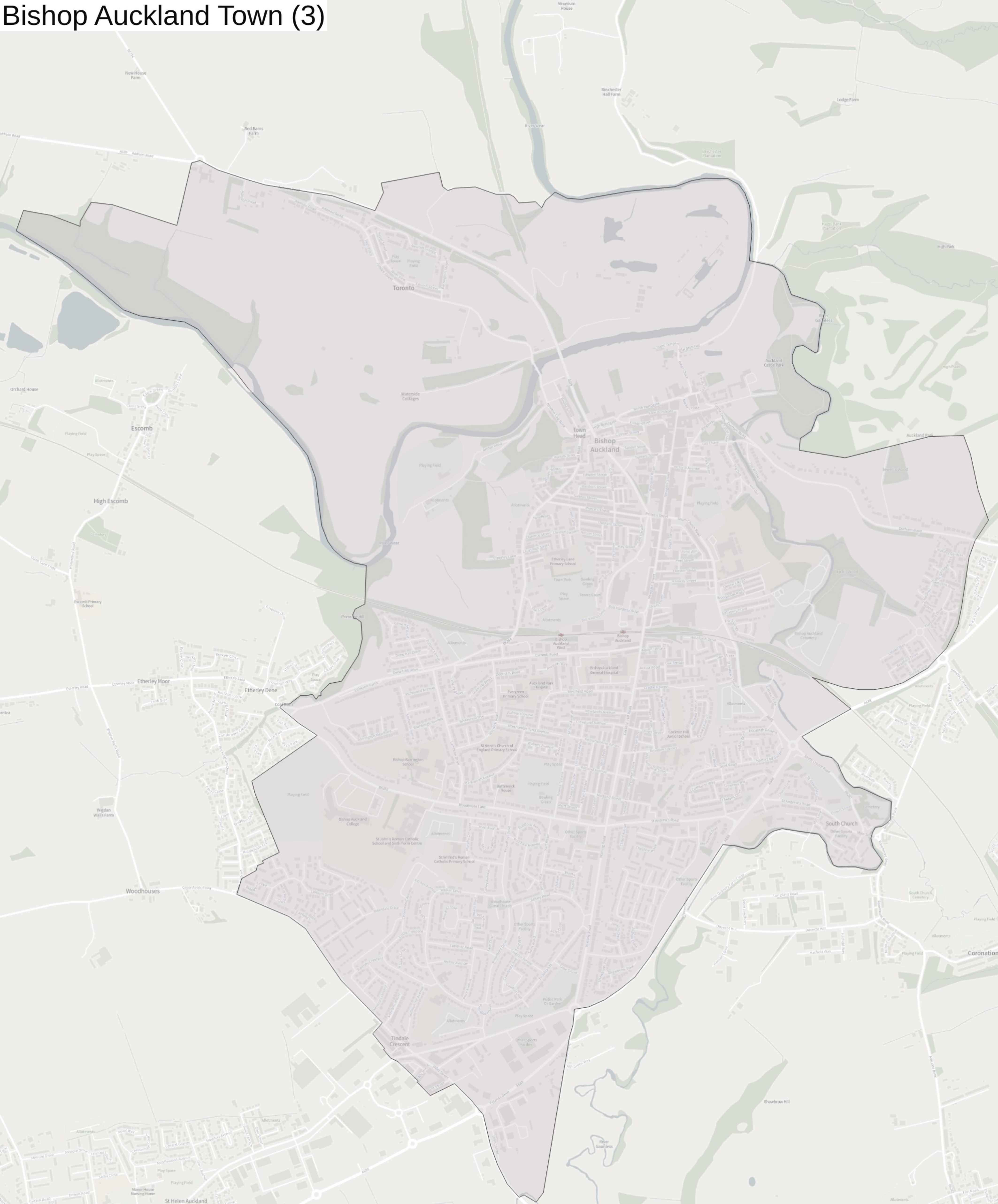


# Benfieldside (2)



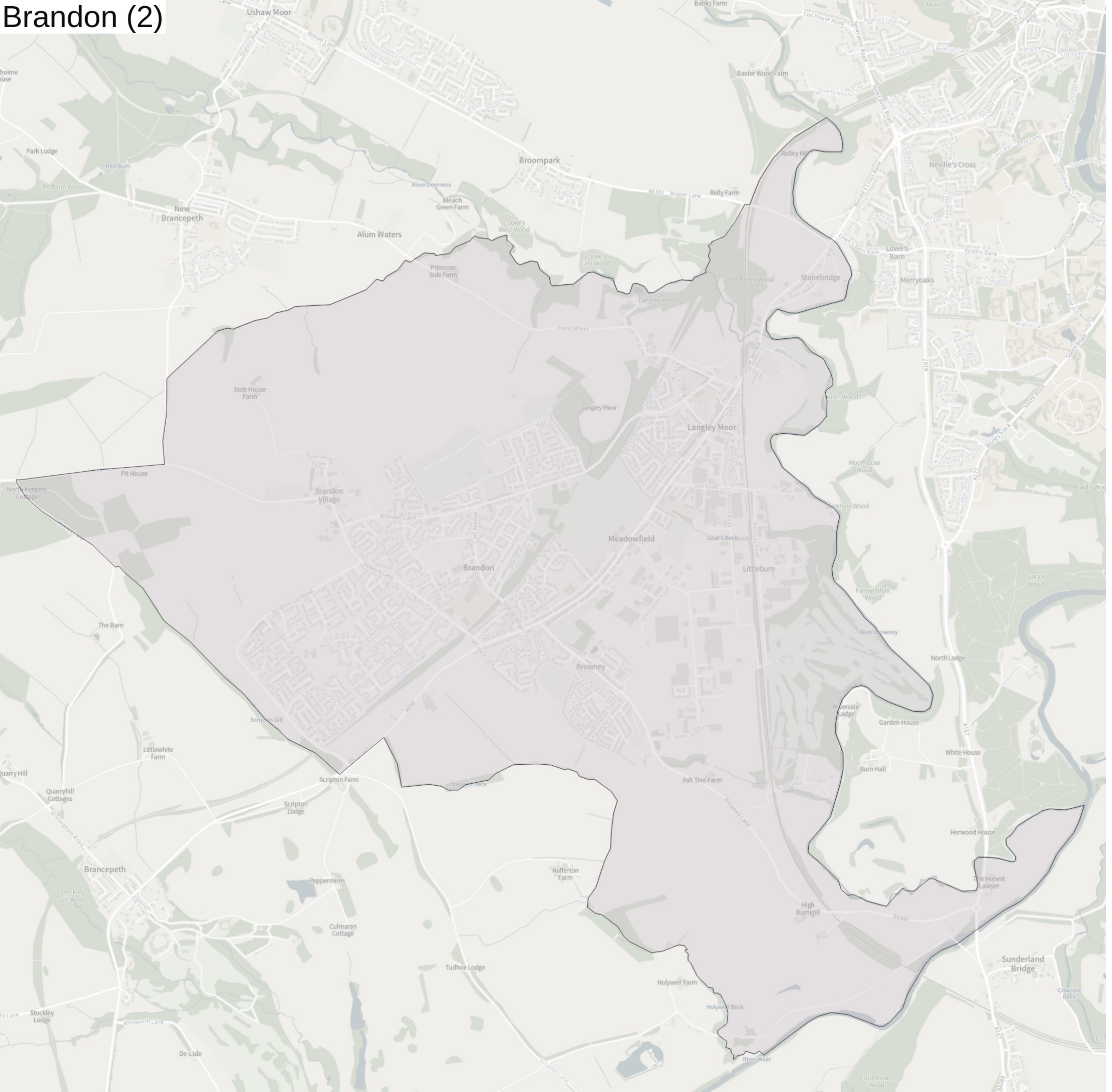


# Bishop Auckland Town (3)



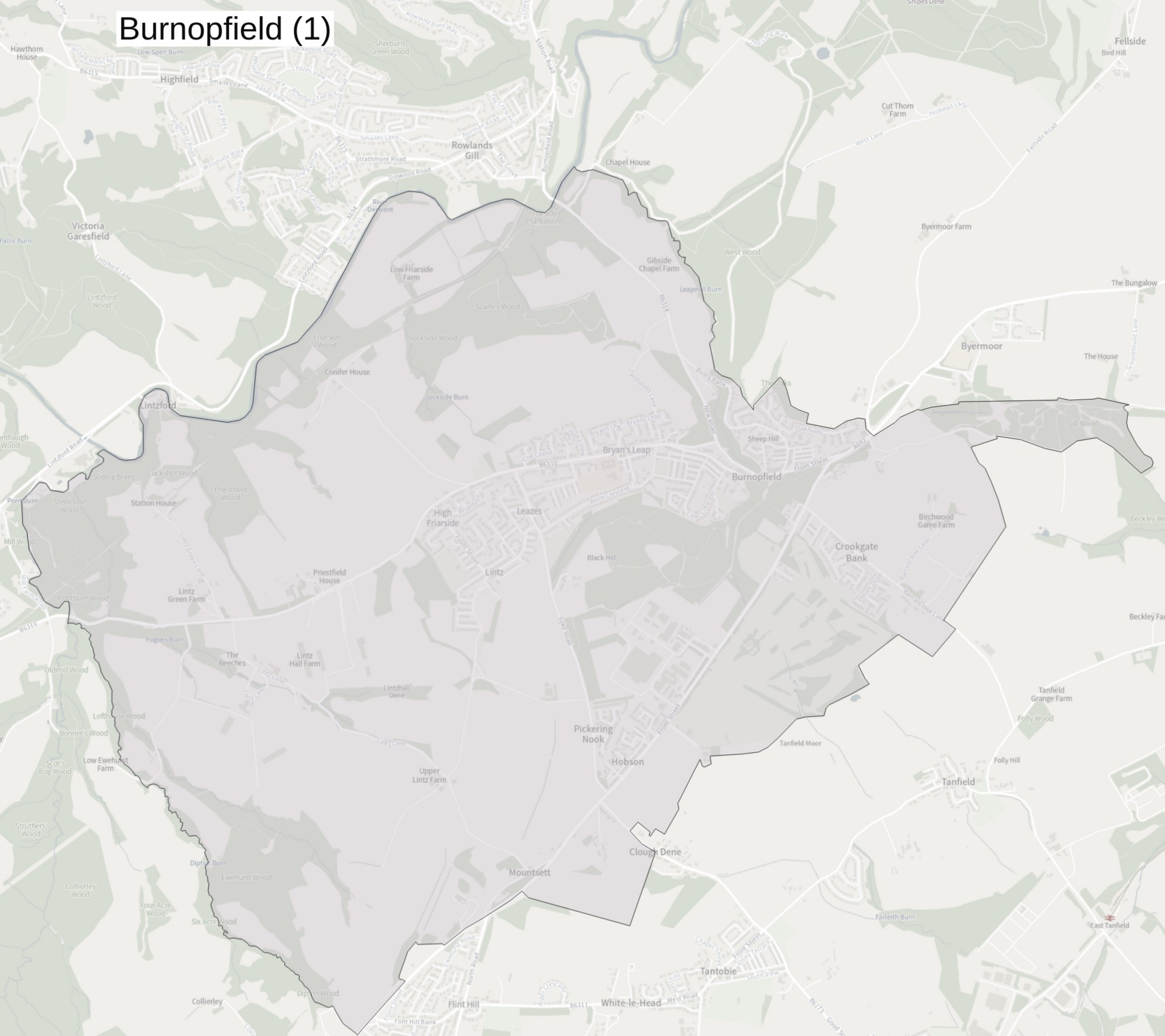


# Brandon (2)



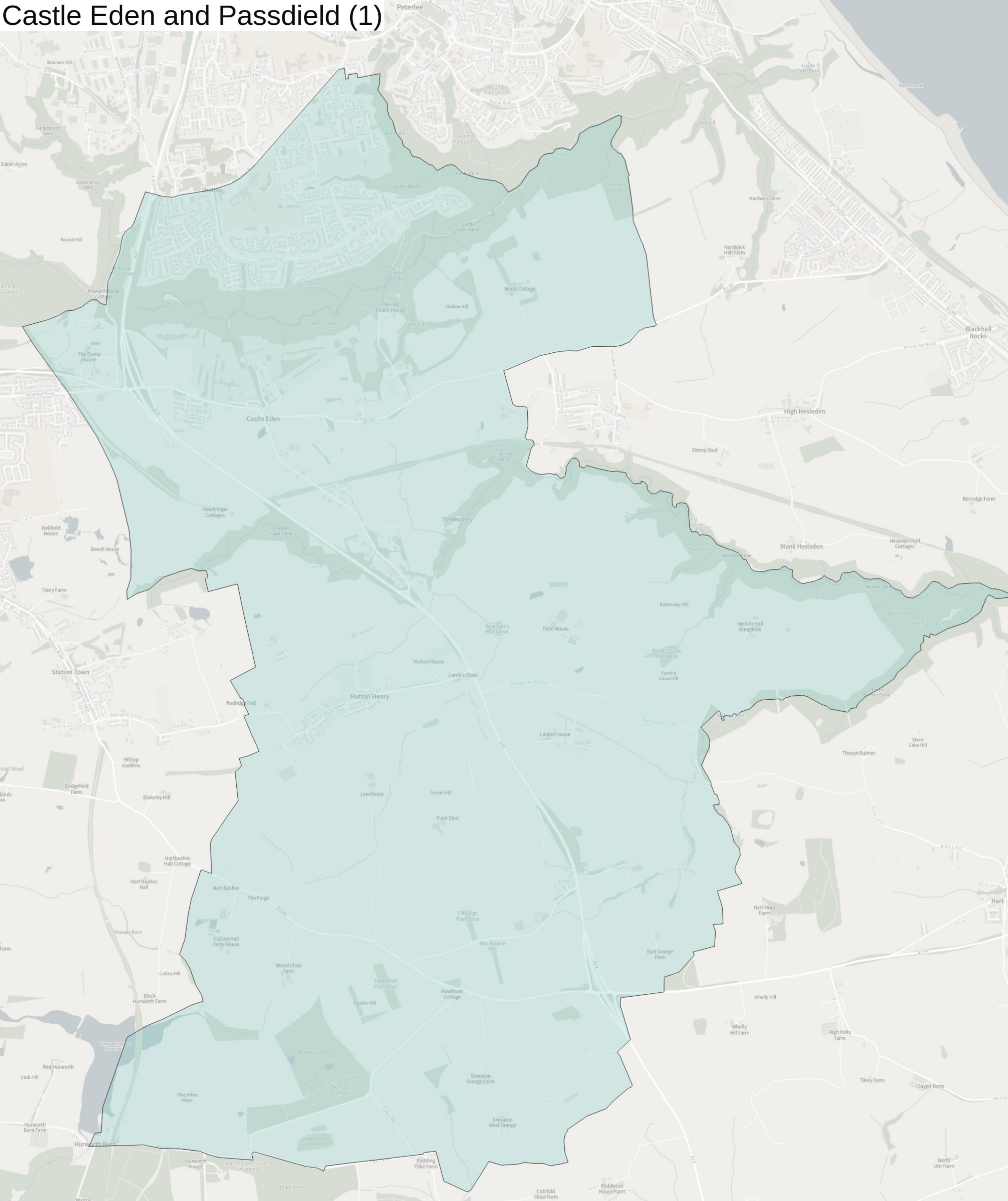


# Burnopfield (1)



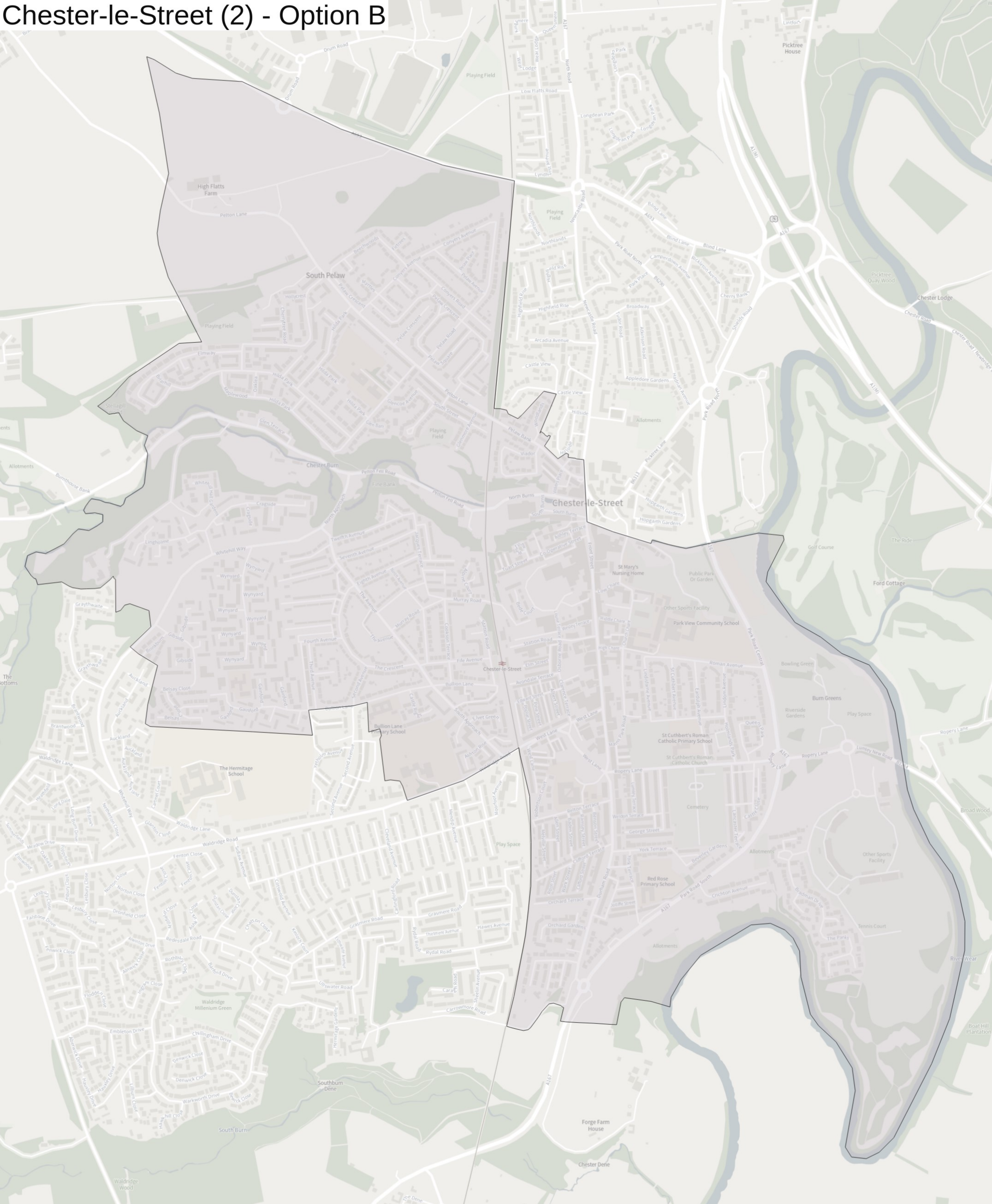


# Castle Eden and Passdfield (1)



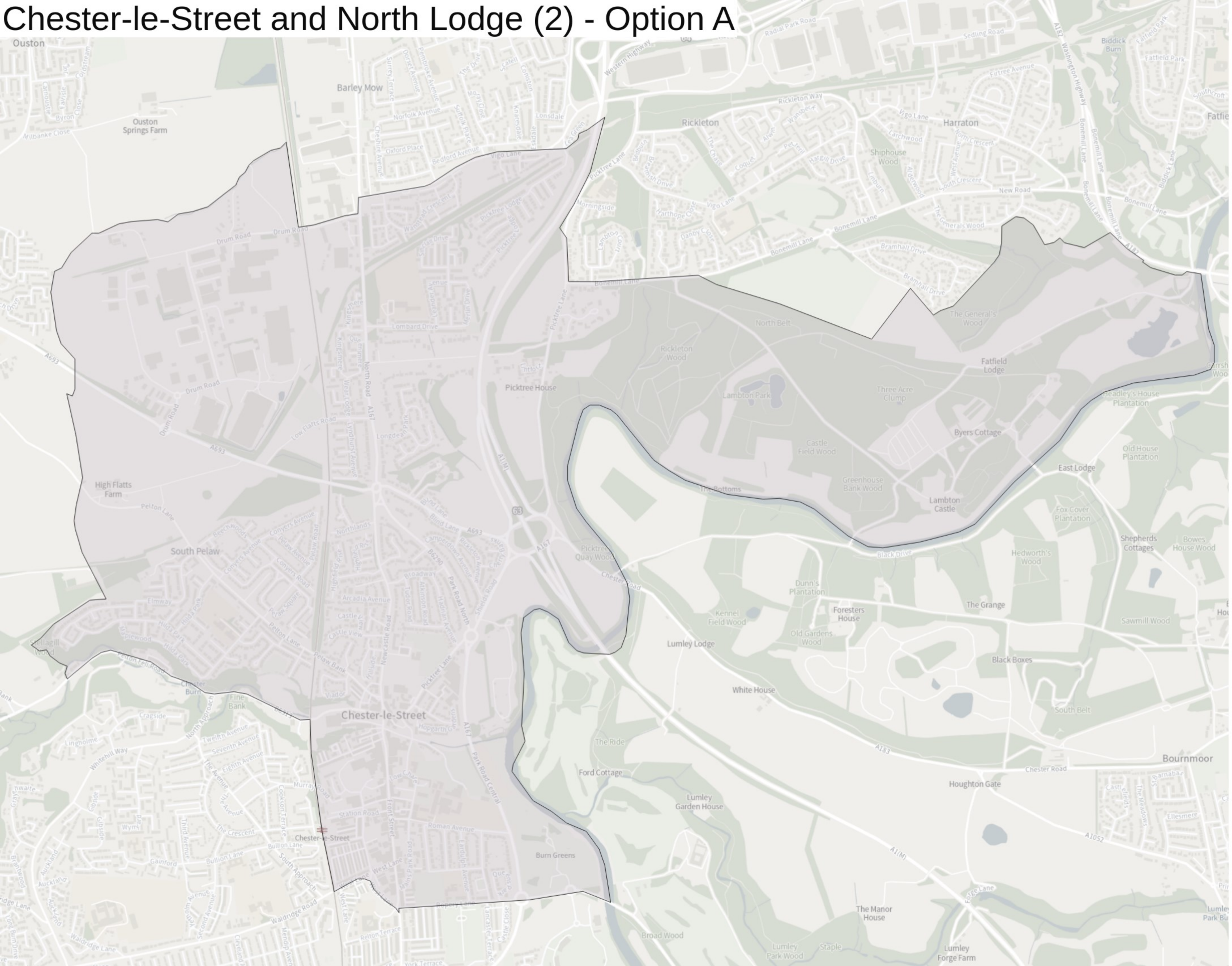


# Chester-le-Street (2) - Option B



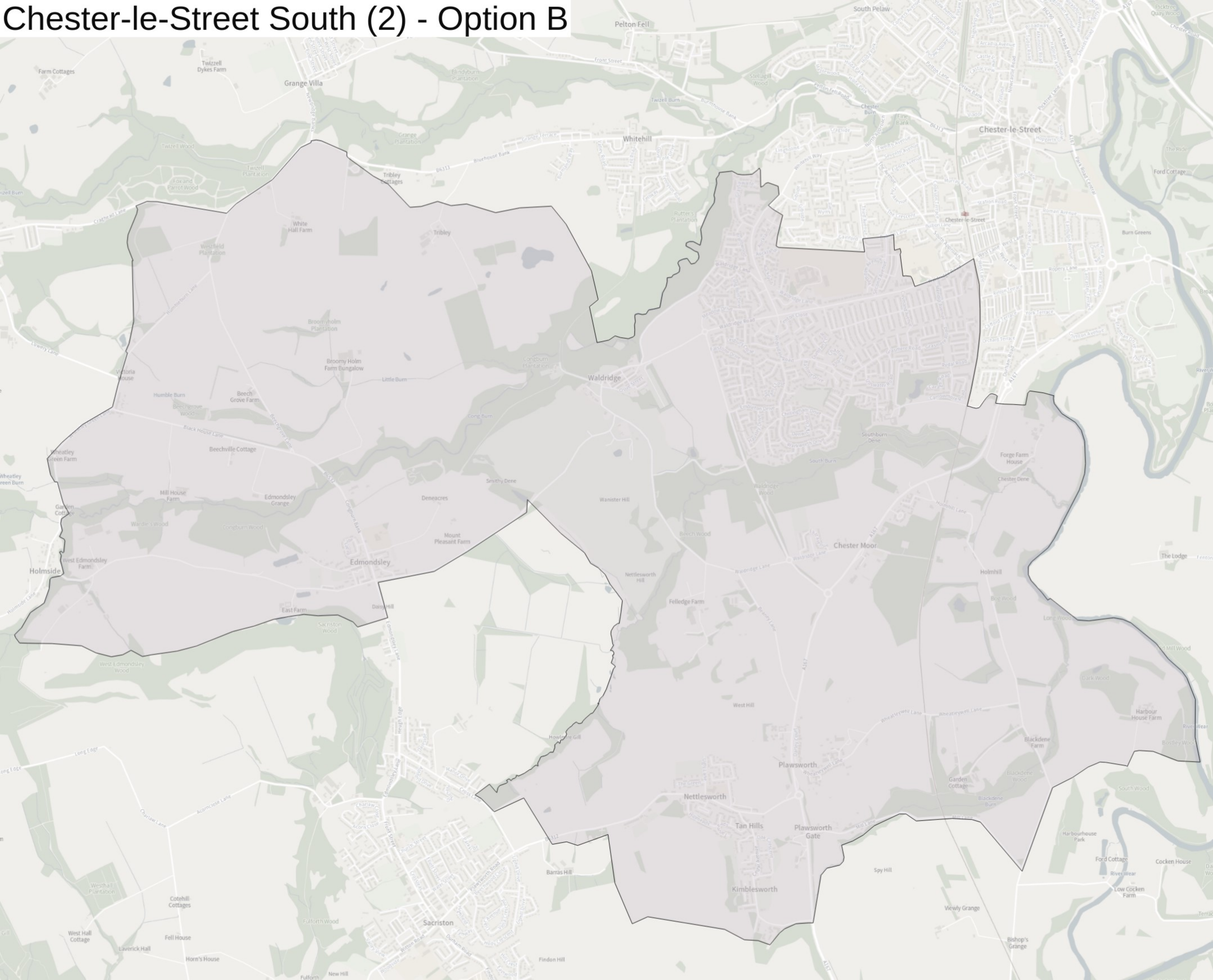


# Chester-le-Street and North Lodge (2) - Option A



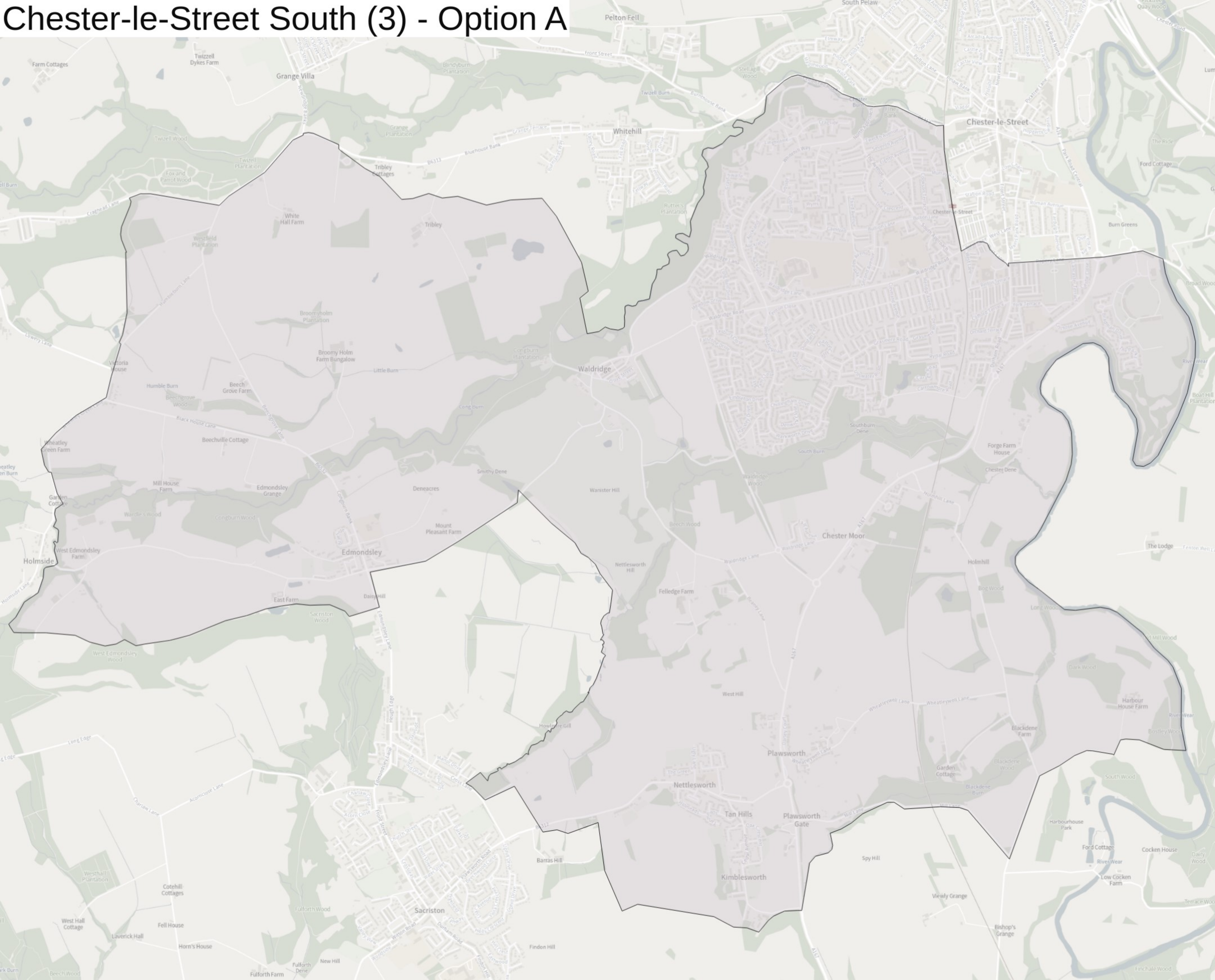


# Chester-le-Street South (2) - Option B



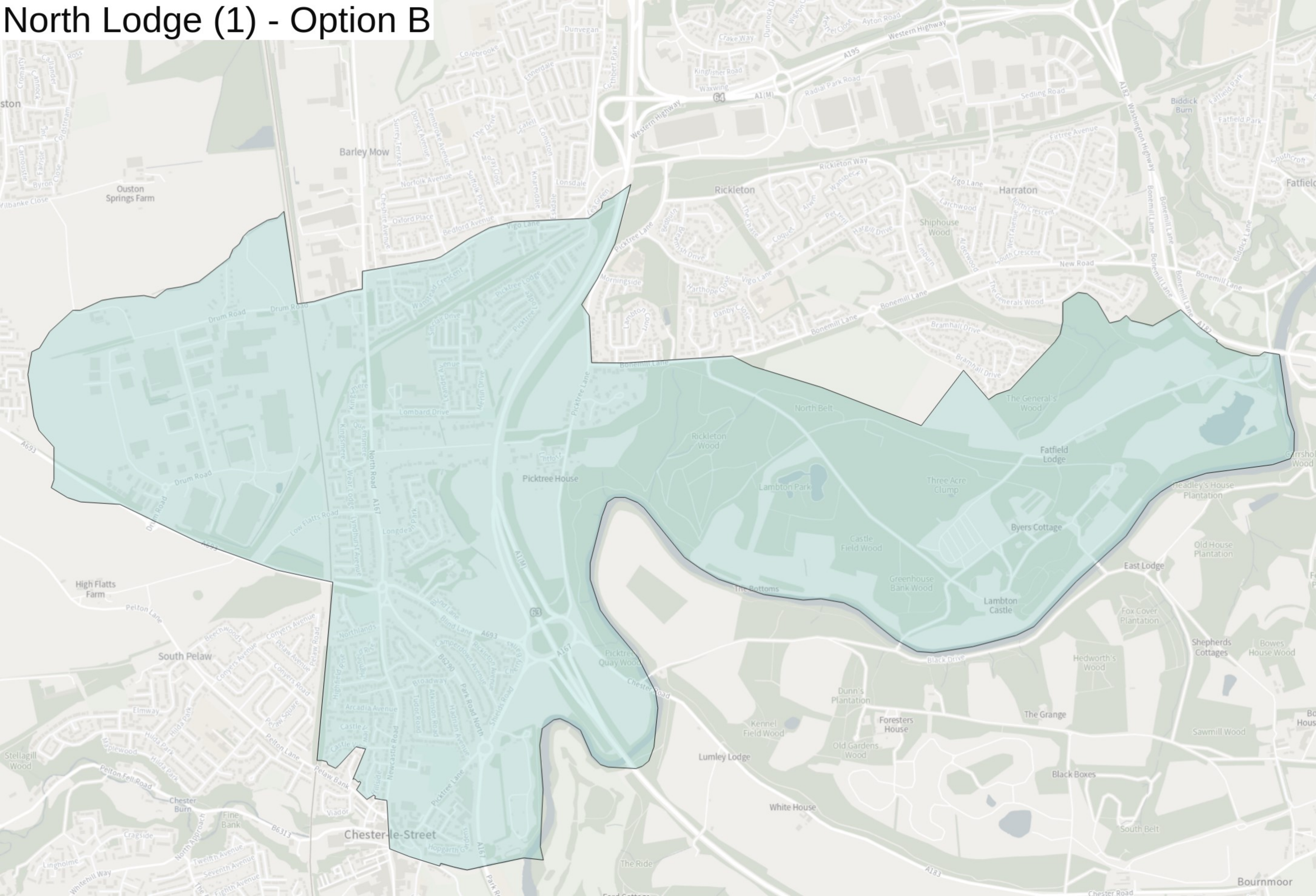


# Chester-le-Street South (3) - Option A





# North Lodge (1) - Option B





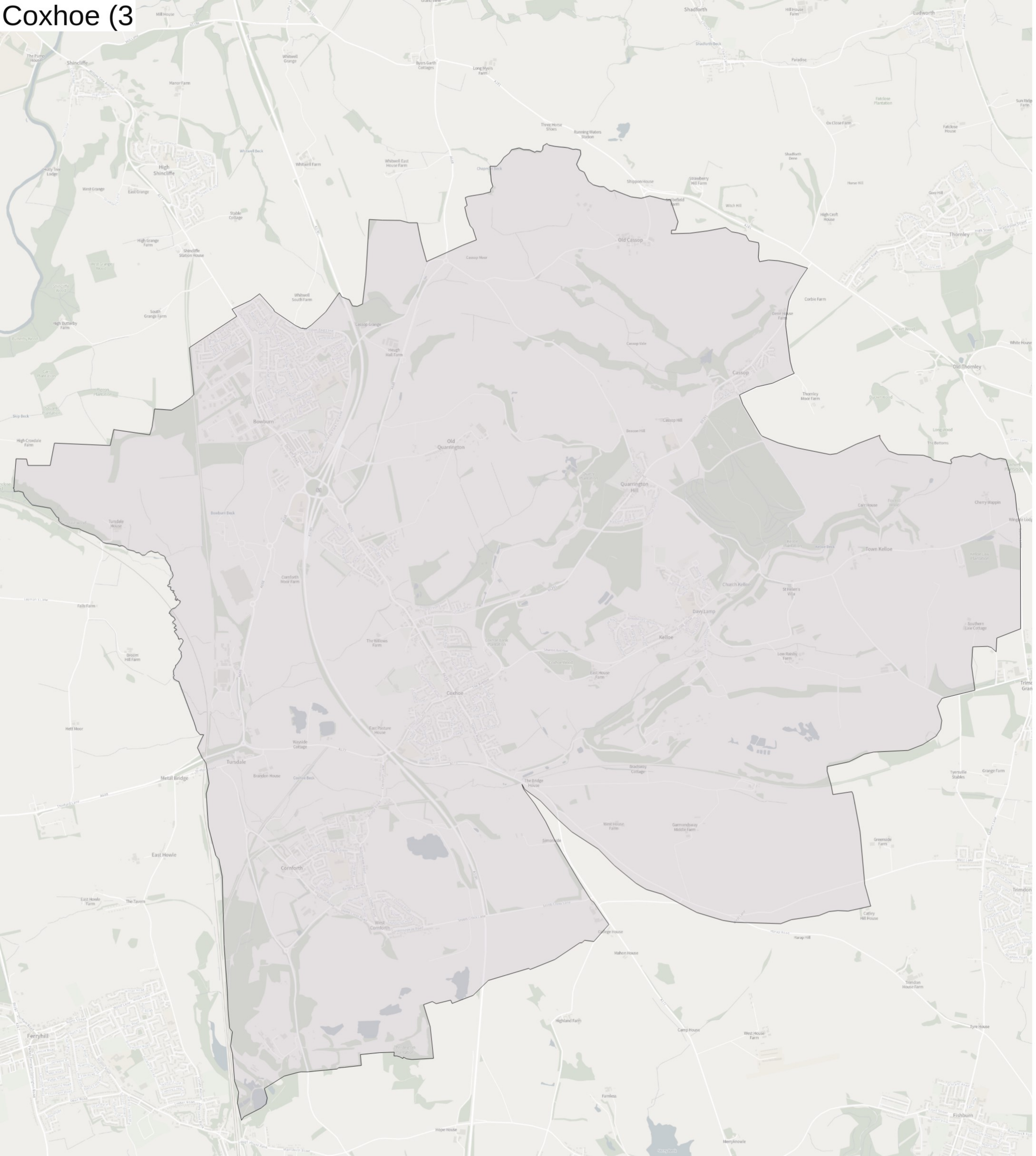
## Chilton (1)



## Consett North (1)



# Coxhoe (3)

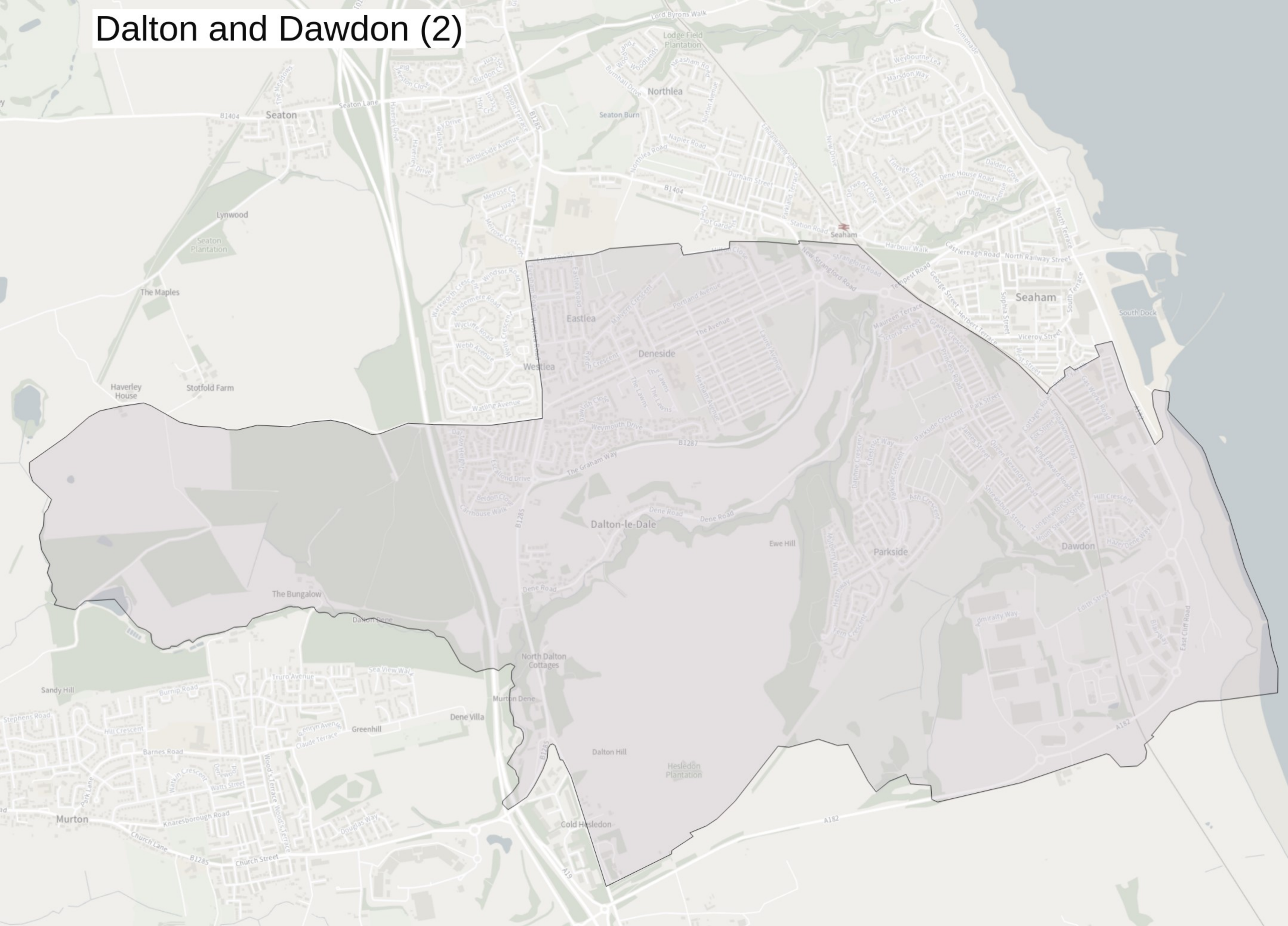




## Crook (3)

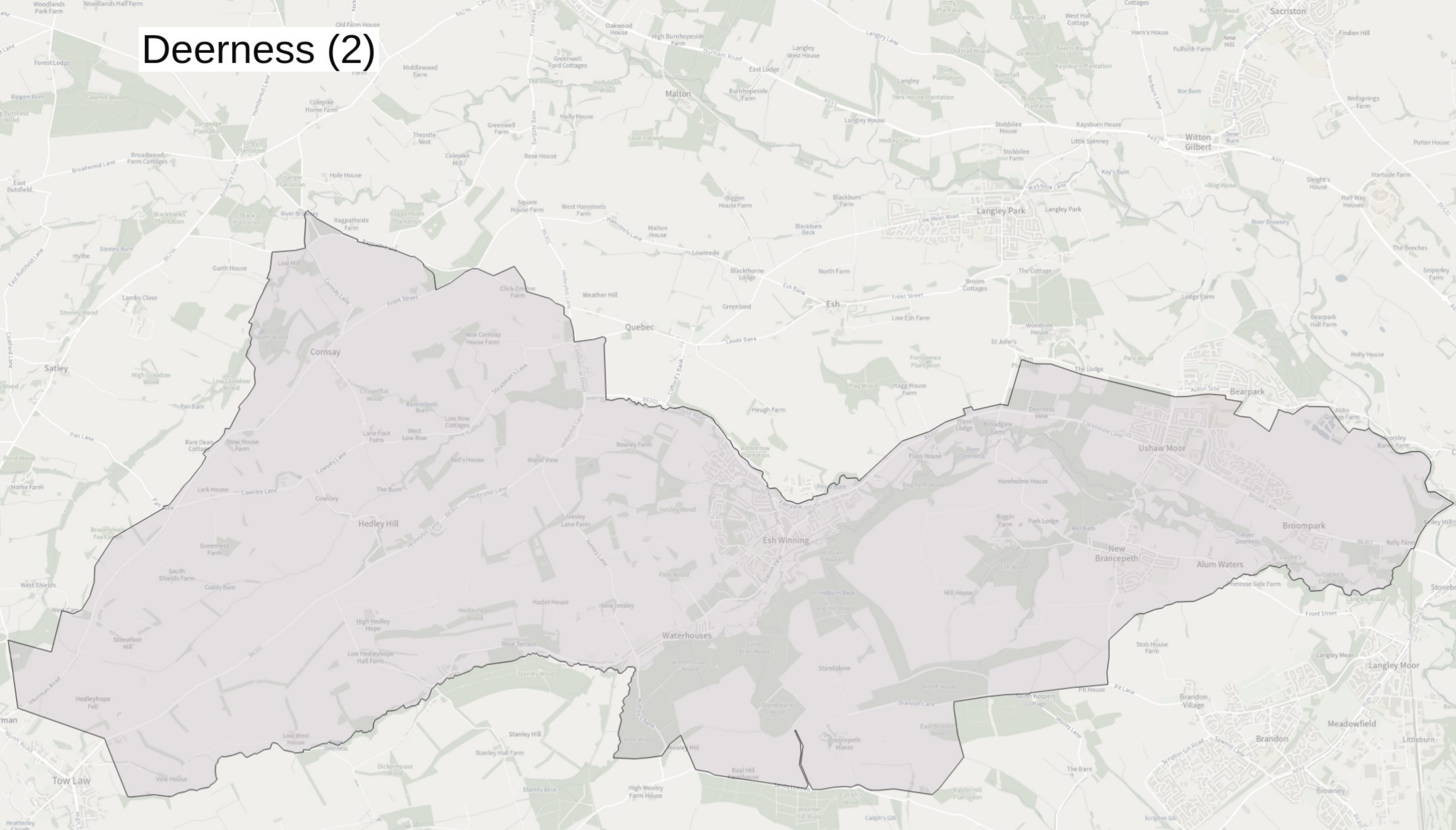


# Dalton and Dawdon (2)



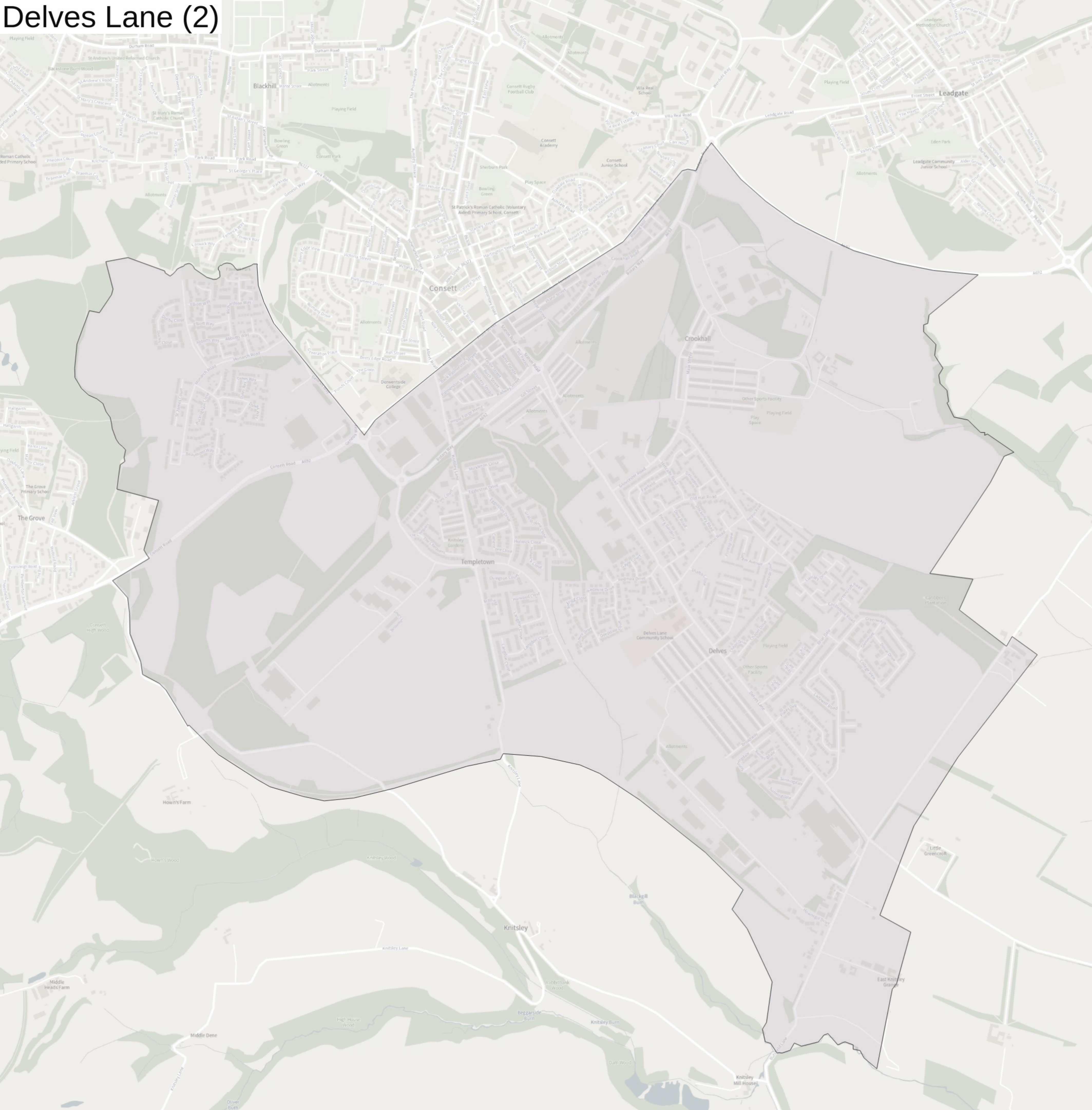


# Deerness (2)



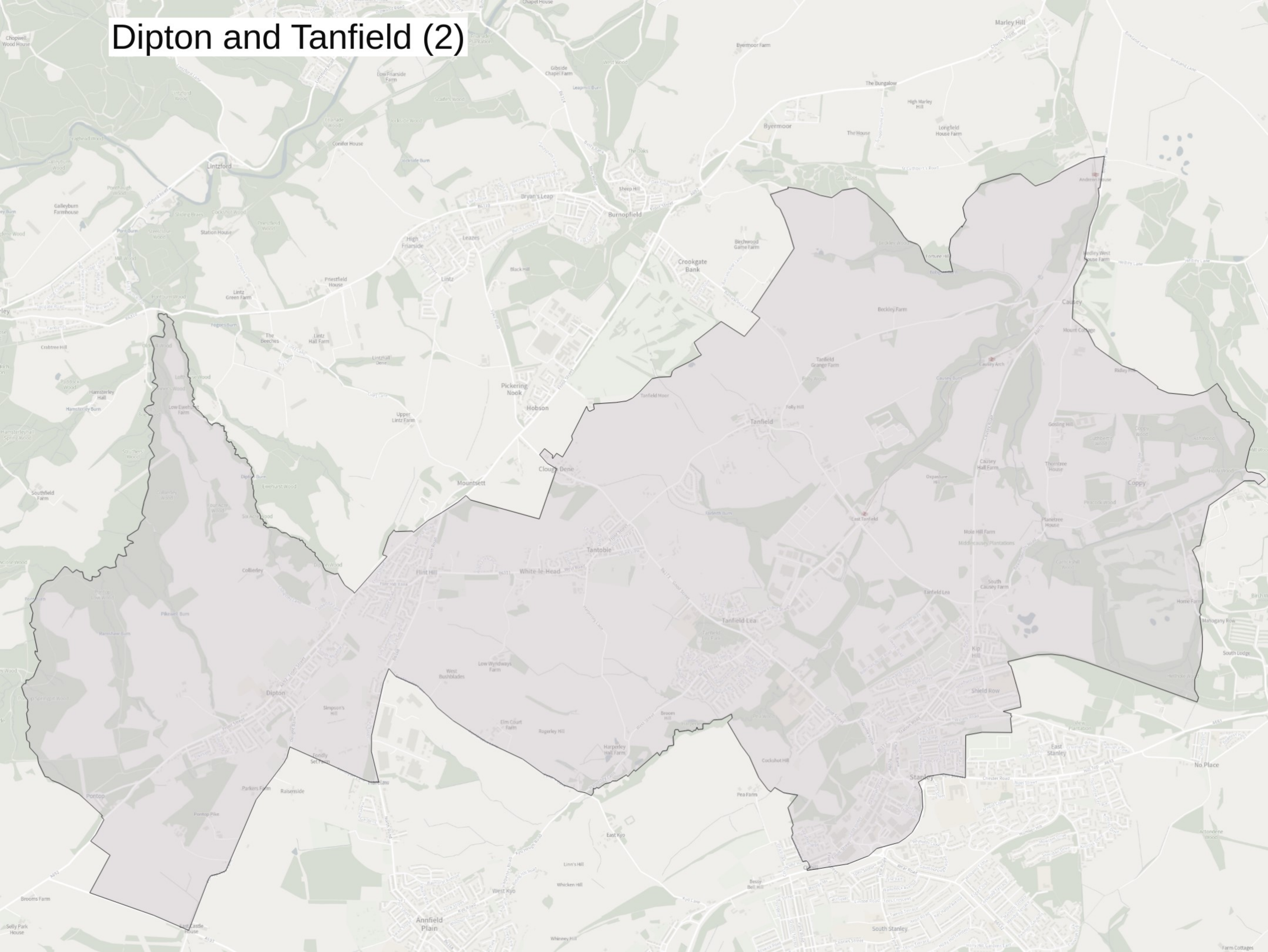


# Delves Lane (2)



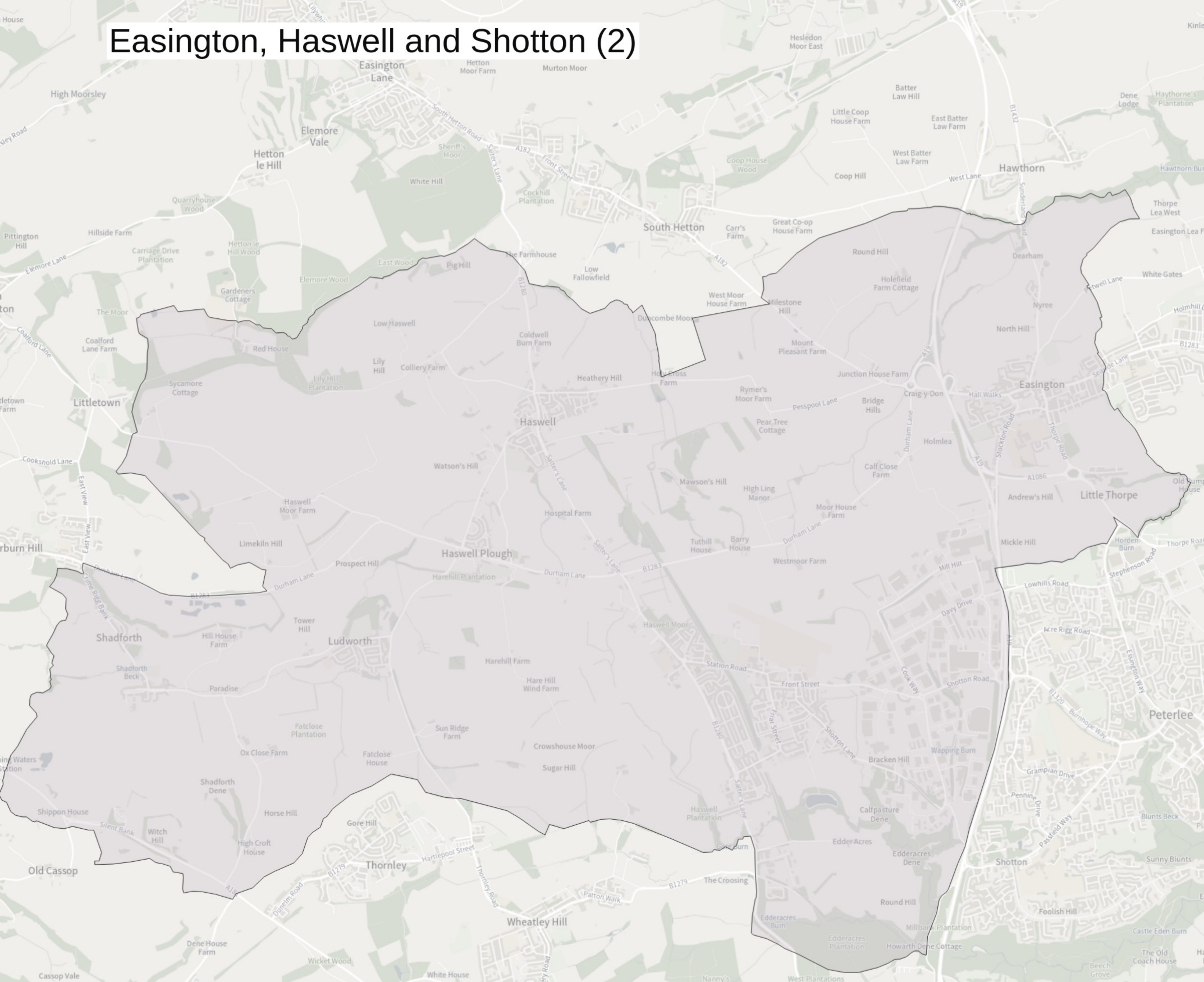


# Dipton and Tanfield (2)



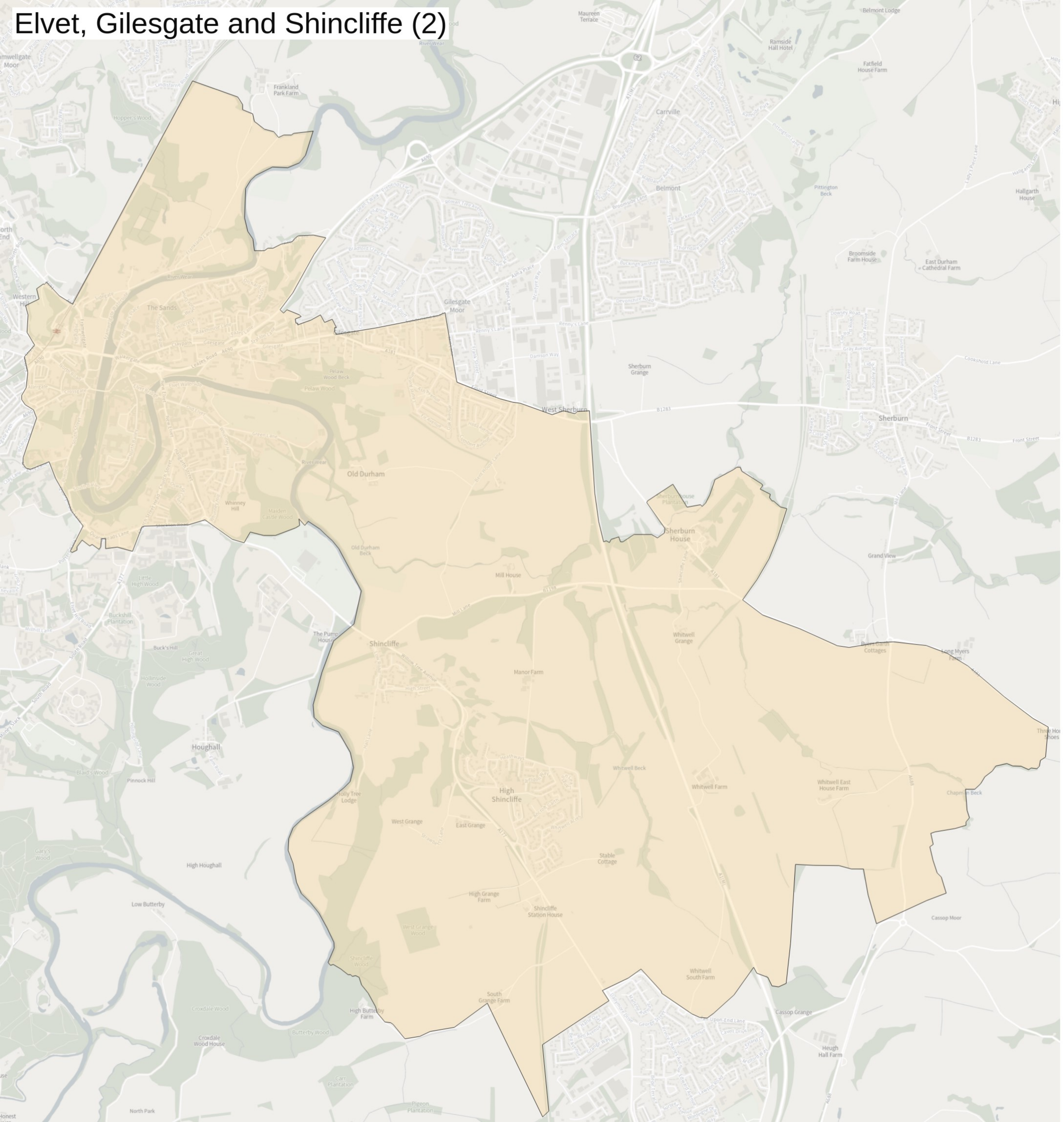


# Easington, Haswell and Shotton (2)



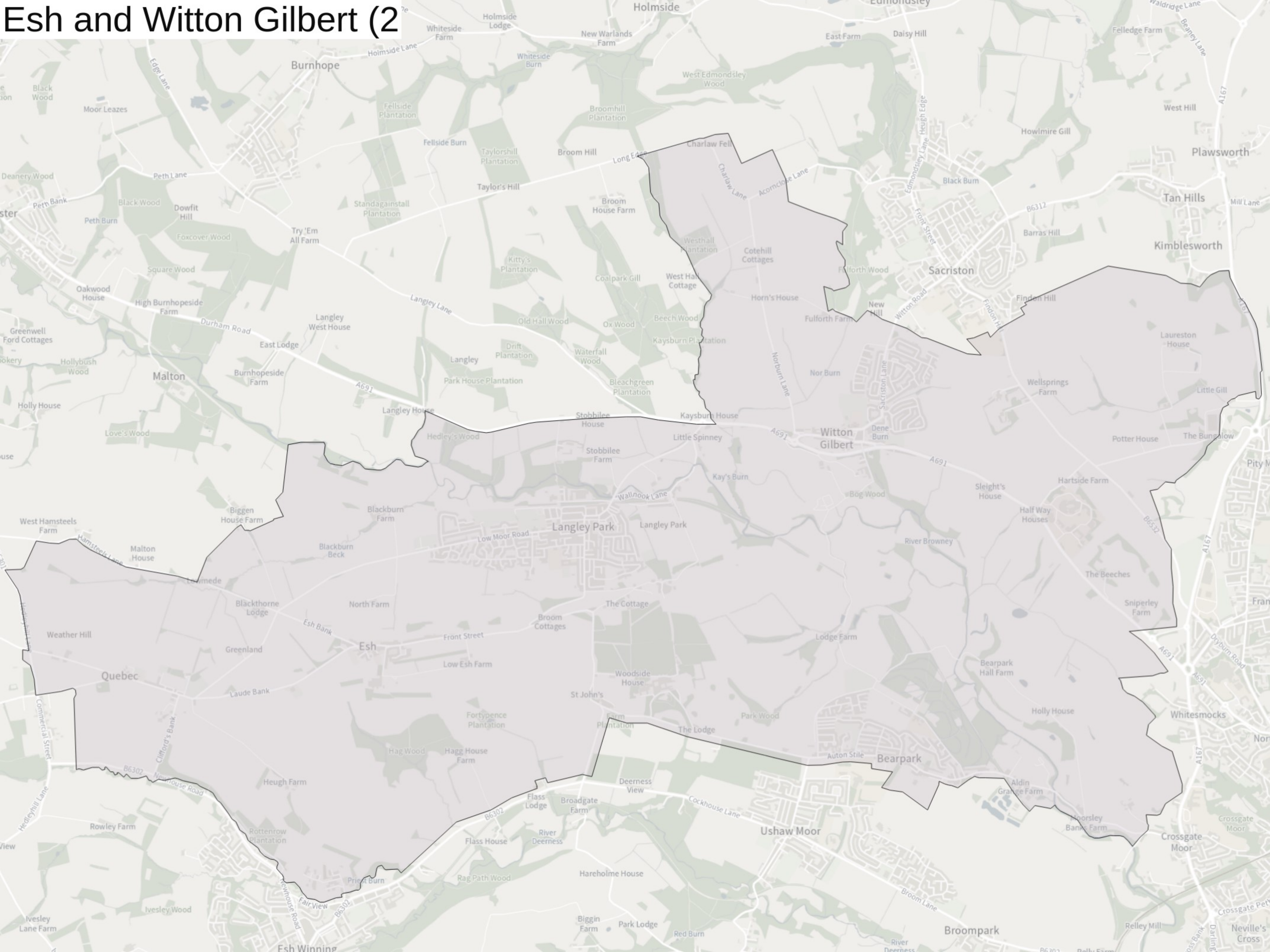


# Elvet, Gilesgate and Shincliffe (2)



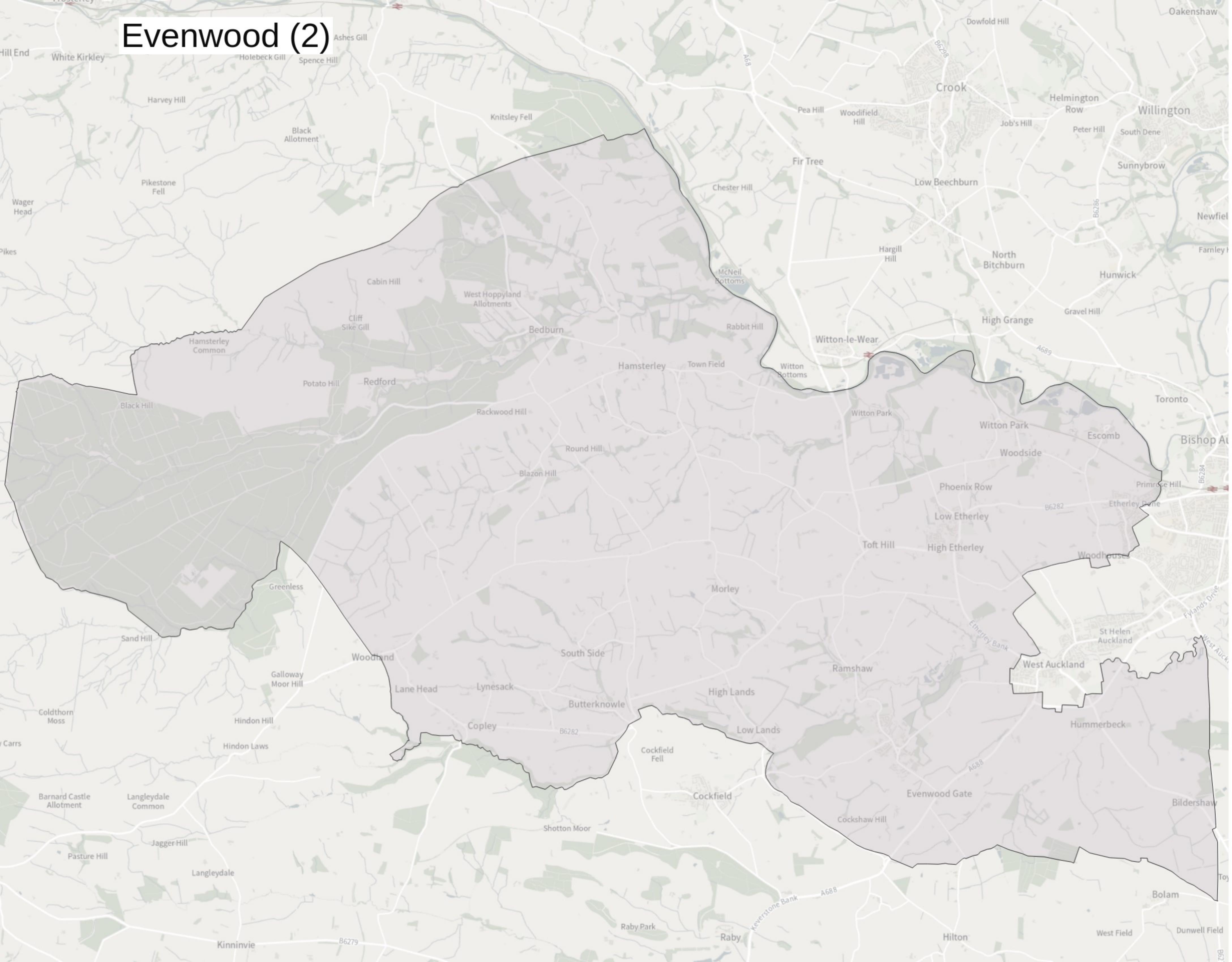


# Esh and Witton Gilbert (2)



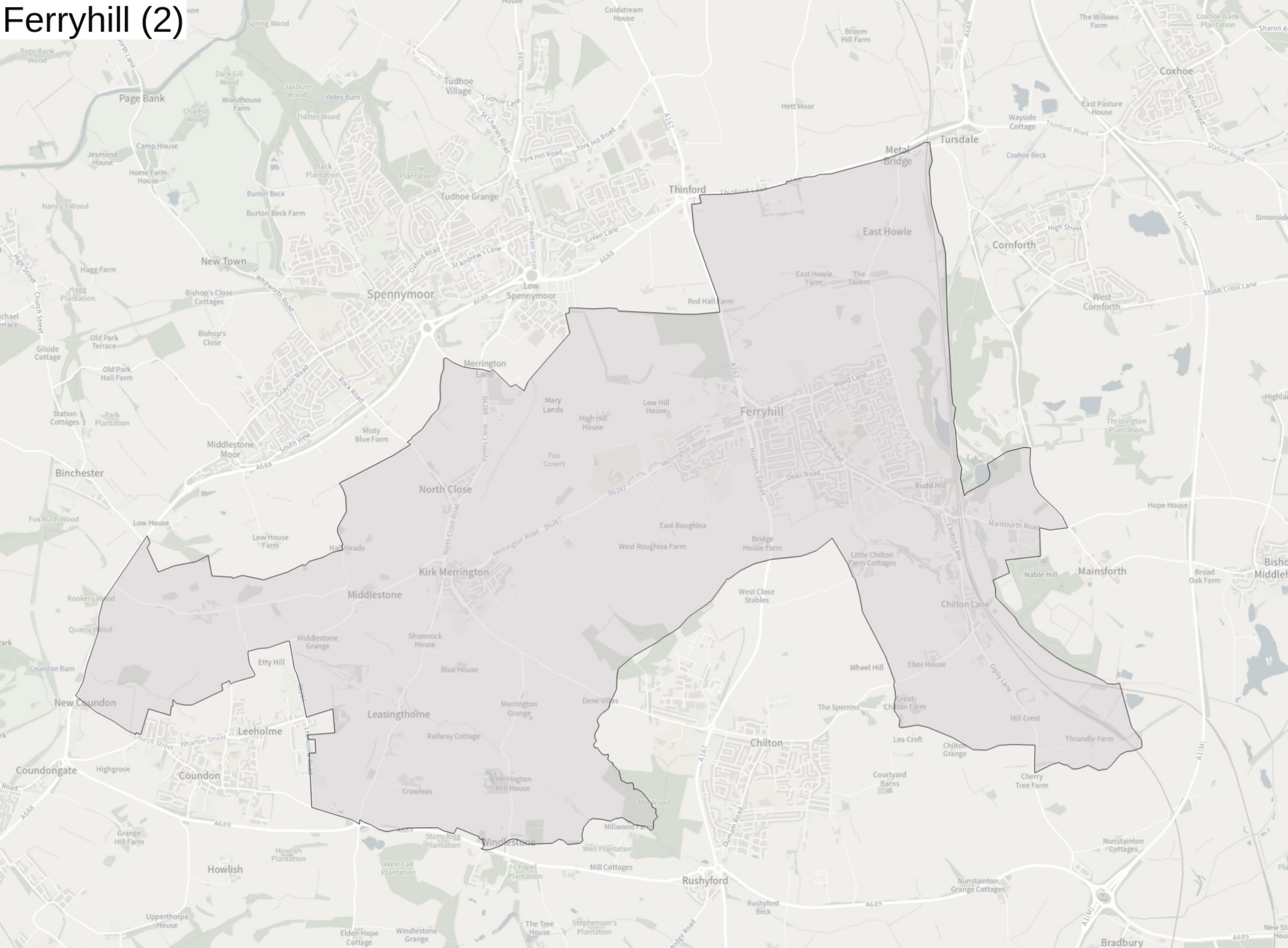


# Evenwood (2)



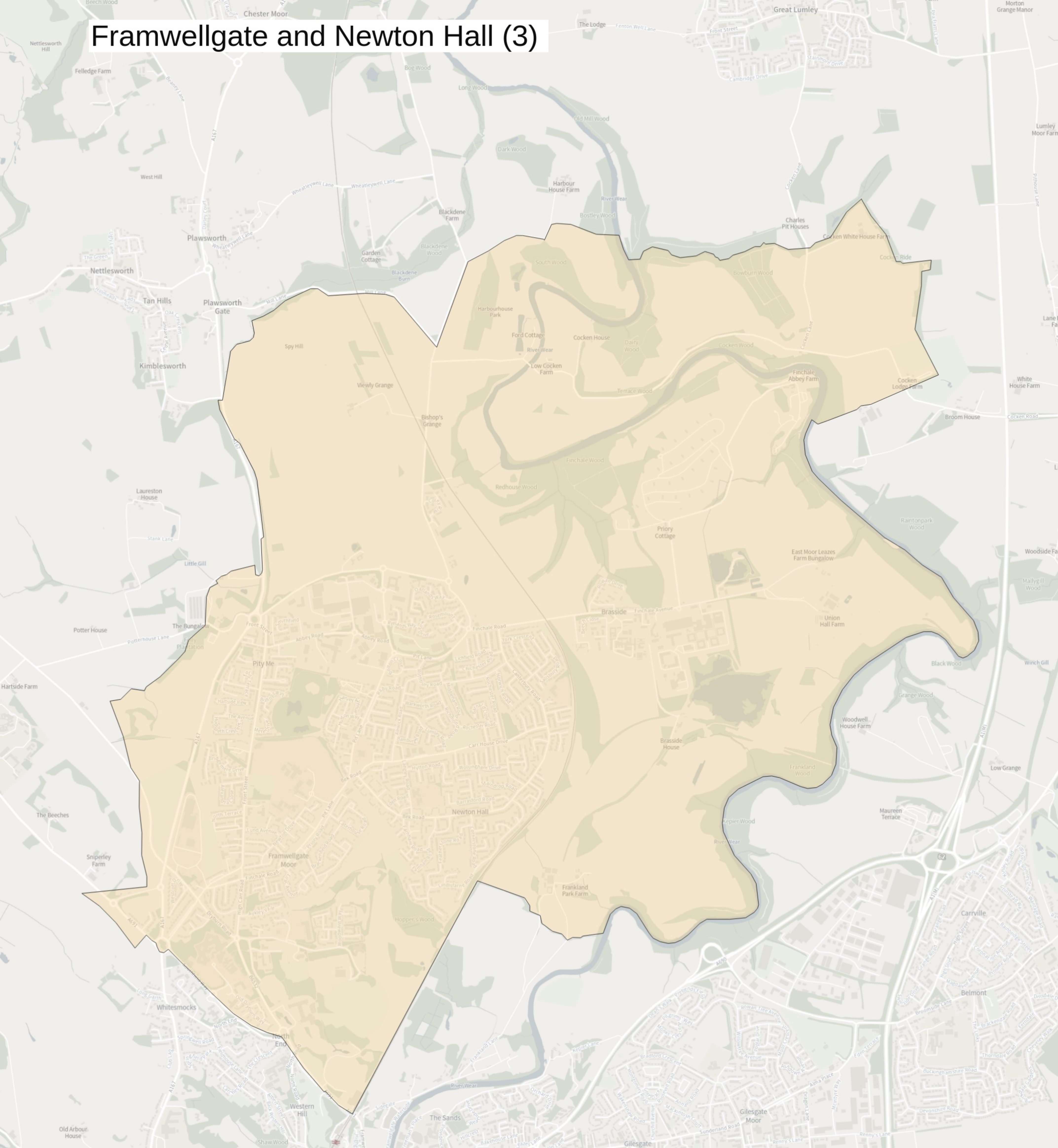


# Ferryhill (2)



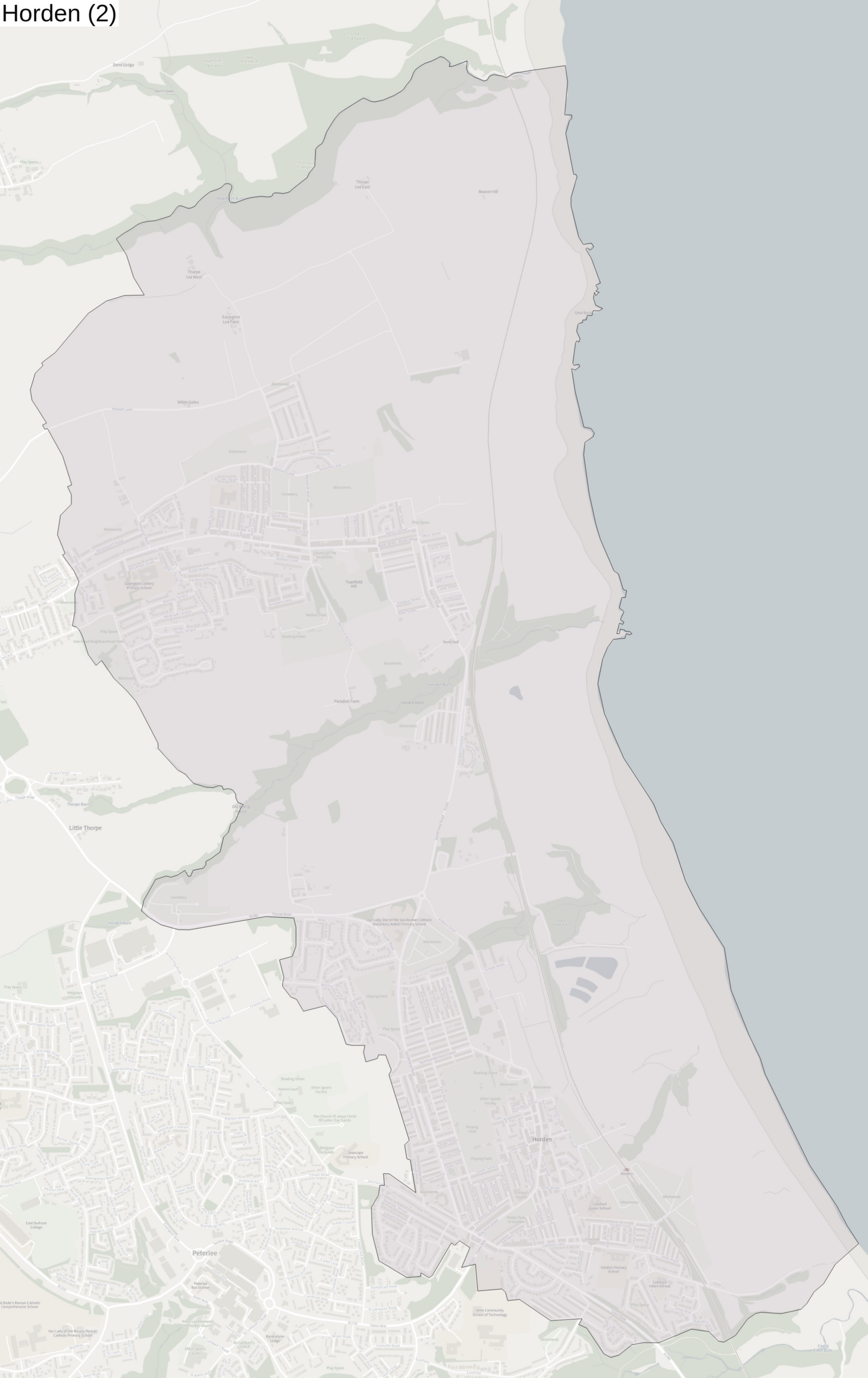


# Framwellgate and Newton Hall (3)





# Horden (2)

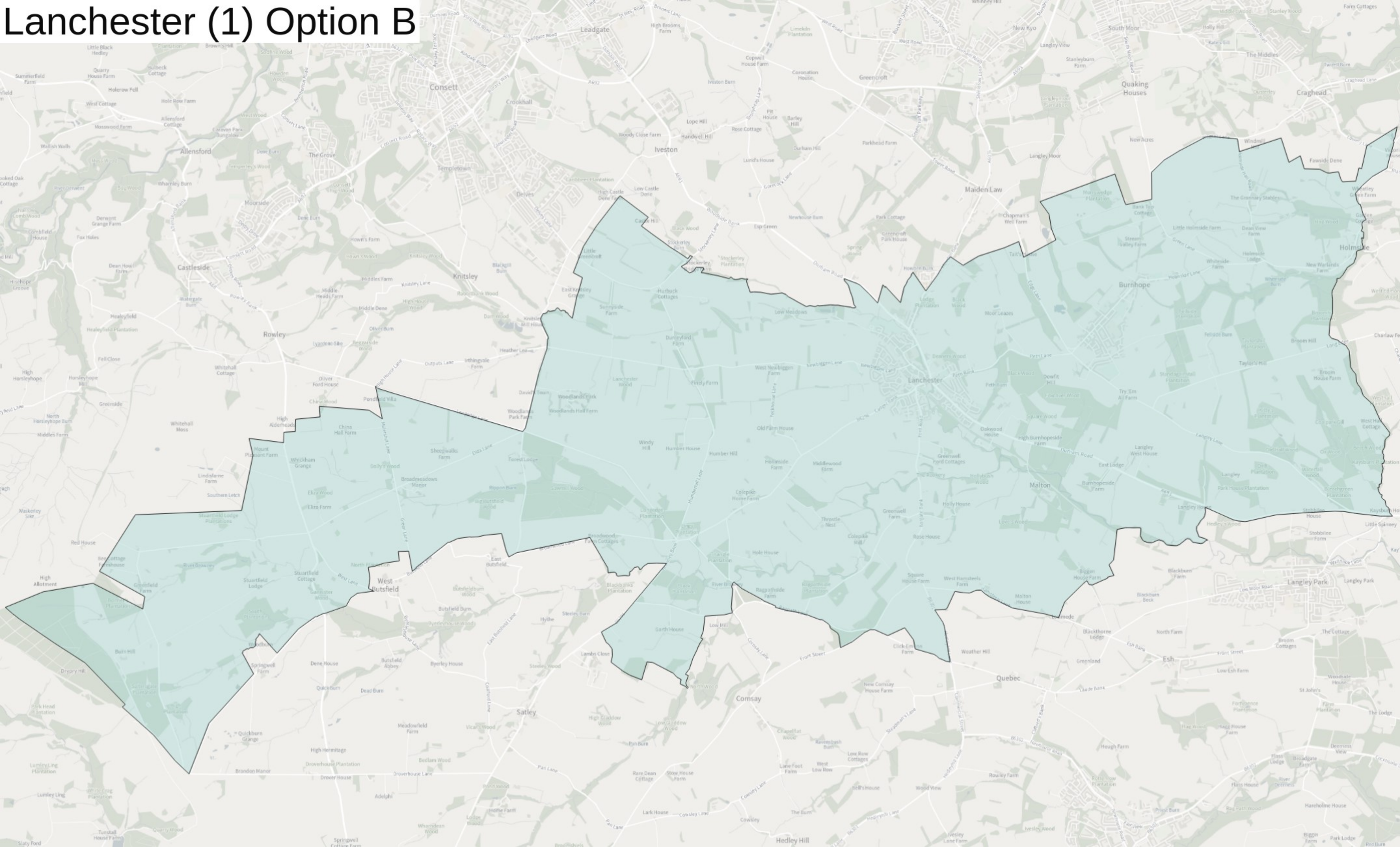




# Consett South (1) - Option B

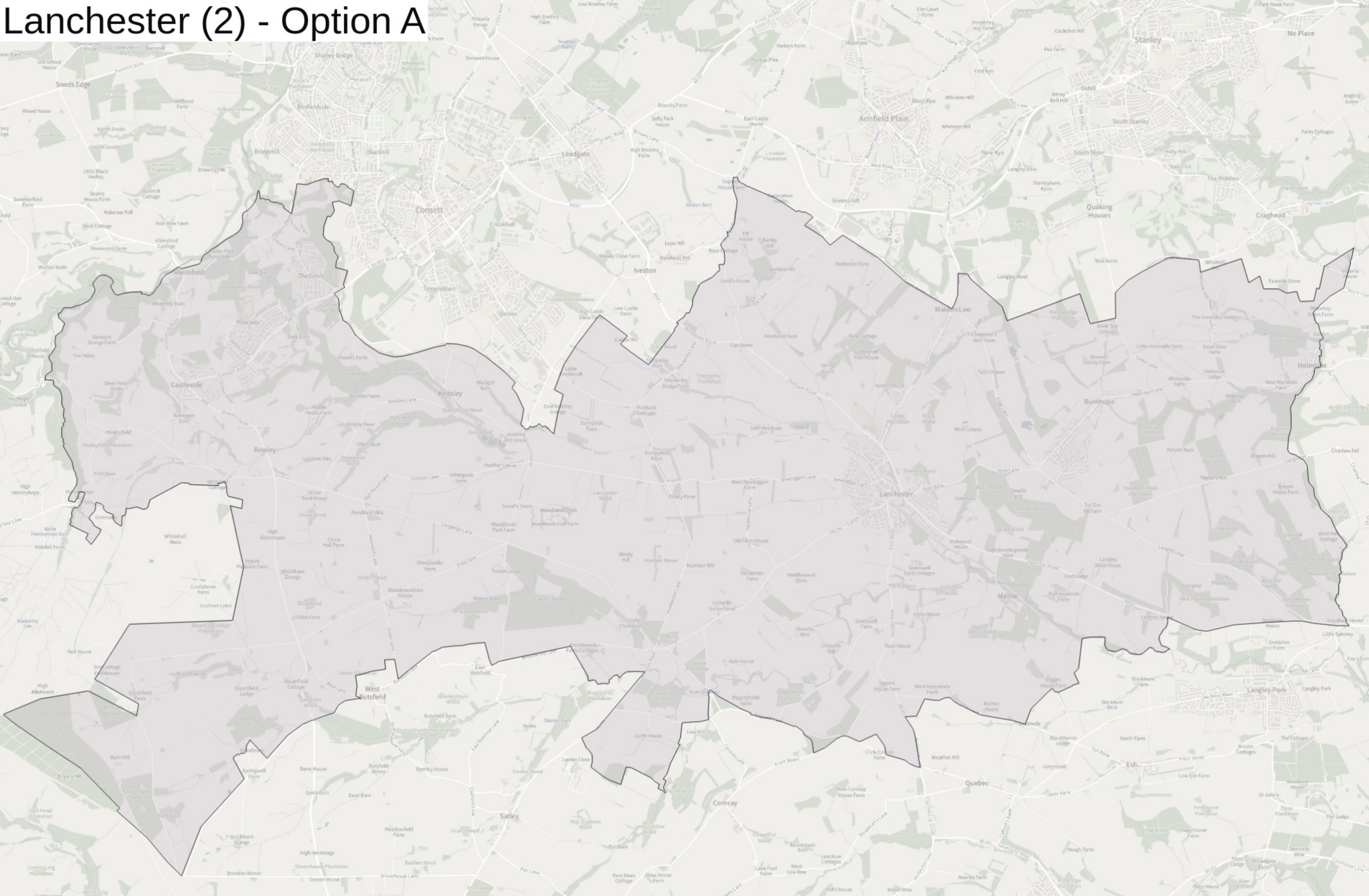


# Lanchester (1) Option B



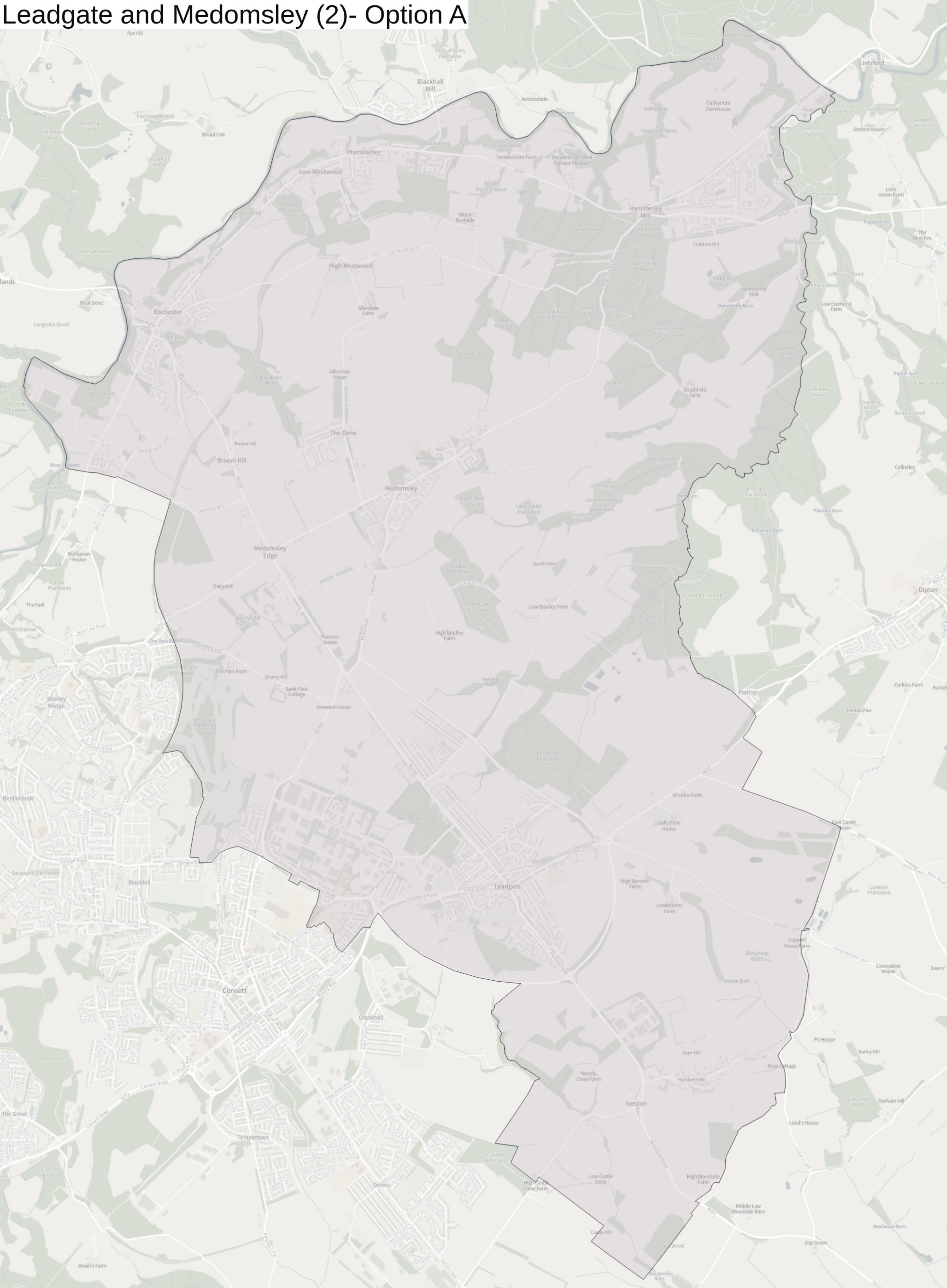


# Lanchester (2) - Option A



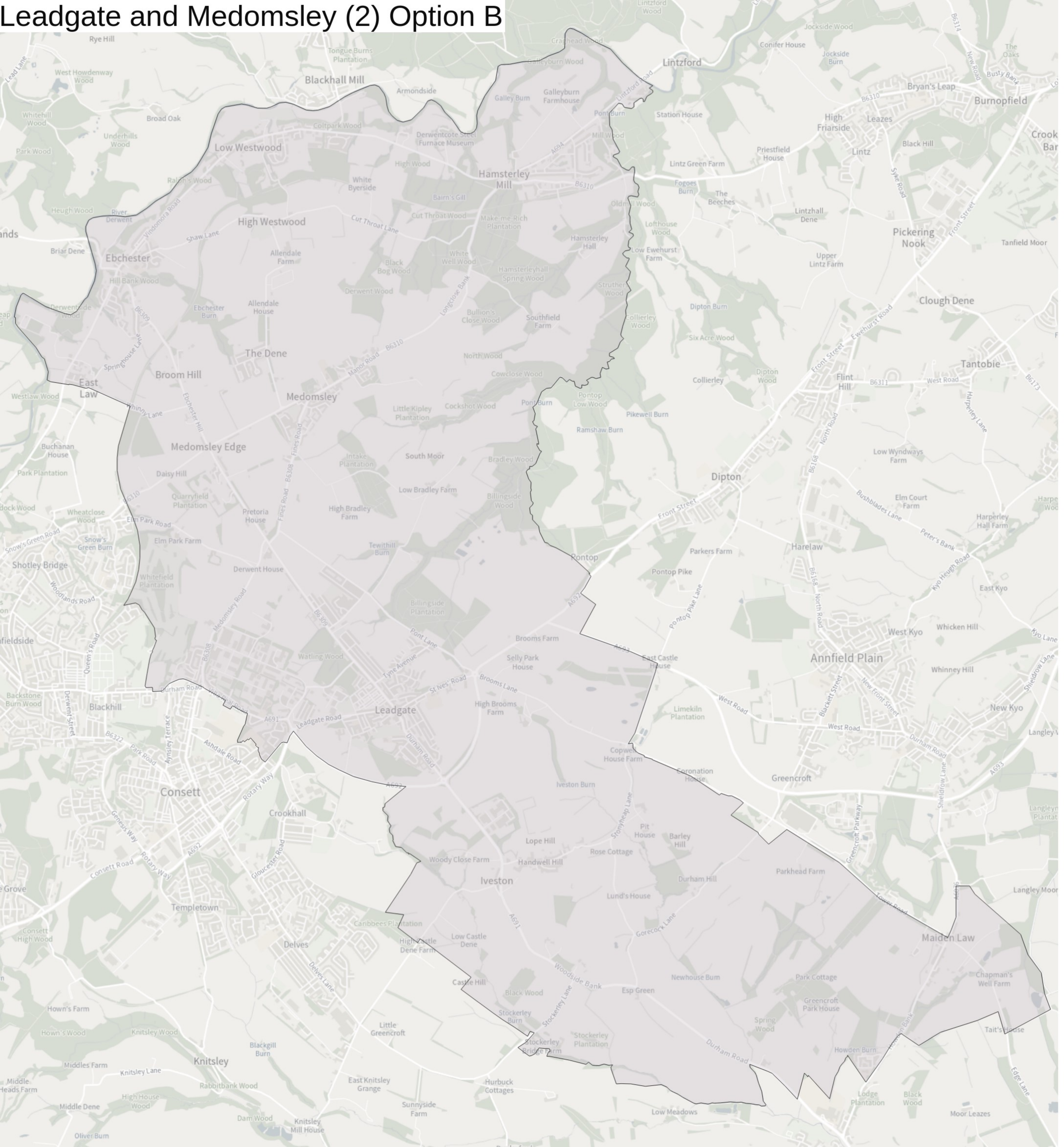


# Leadgate and Medomsley (2)- Option A



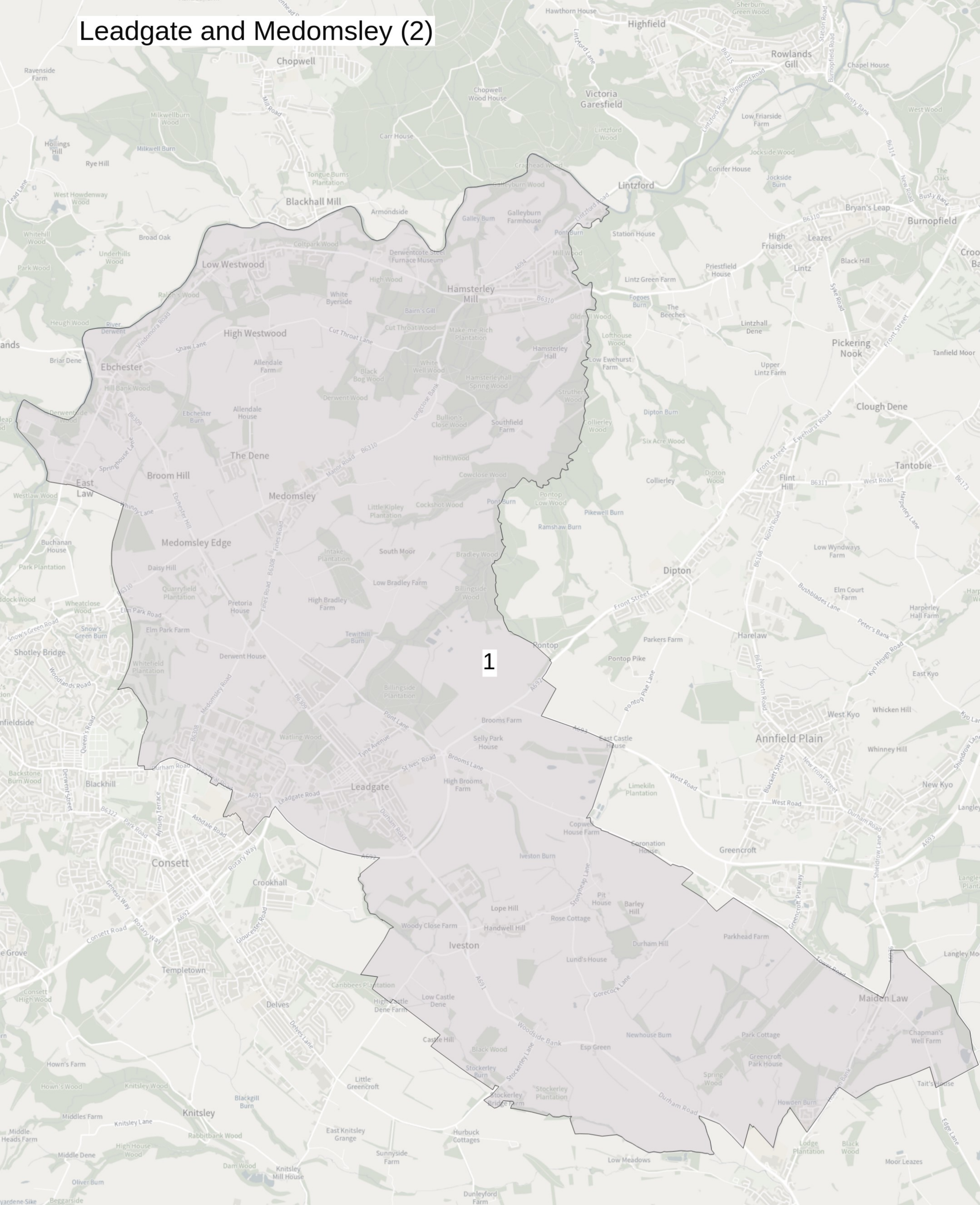


# Leadgate and Medomsley (2) Option B



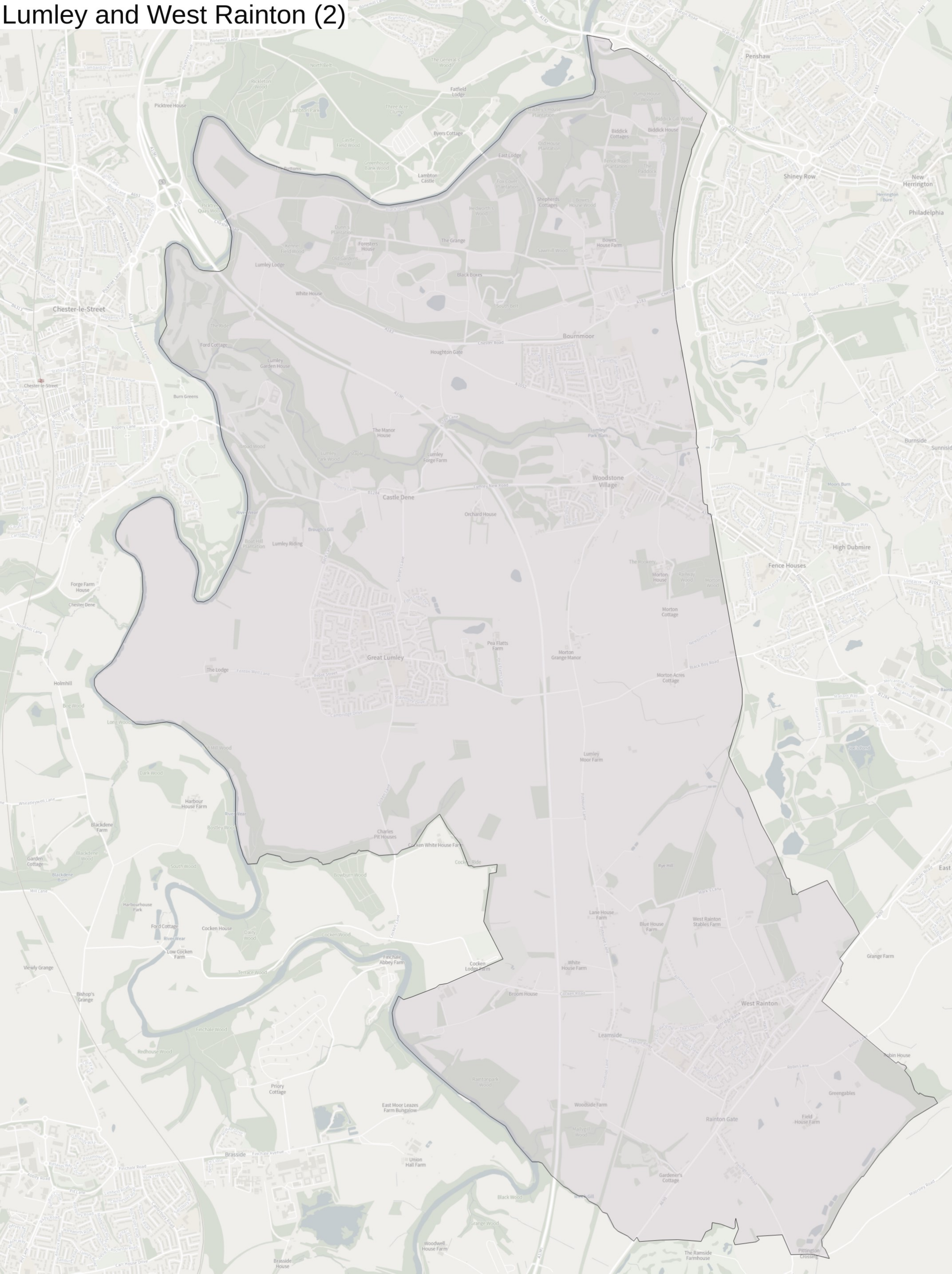


# Leadgate and Medomsley (2)





# Lumley and West Rainton (2)



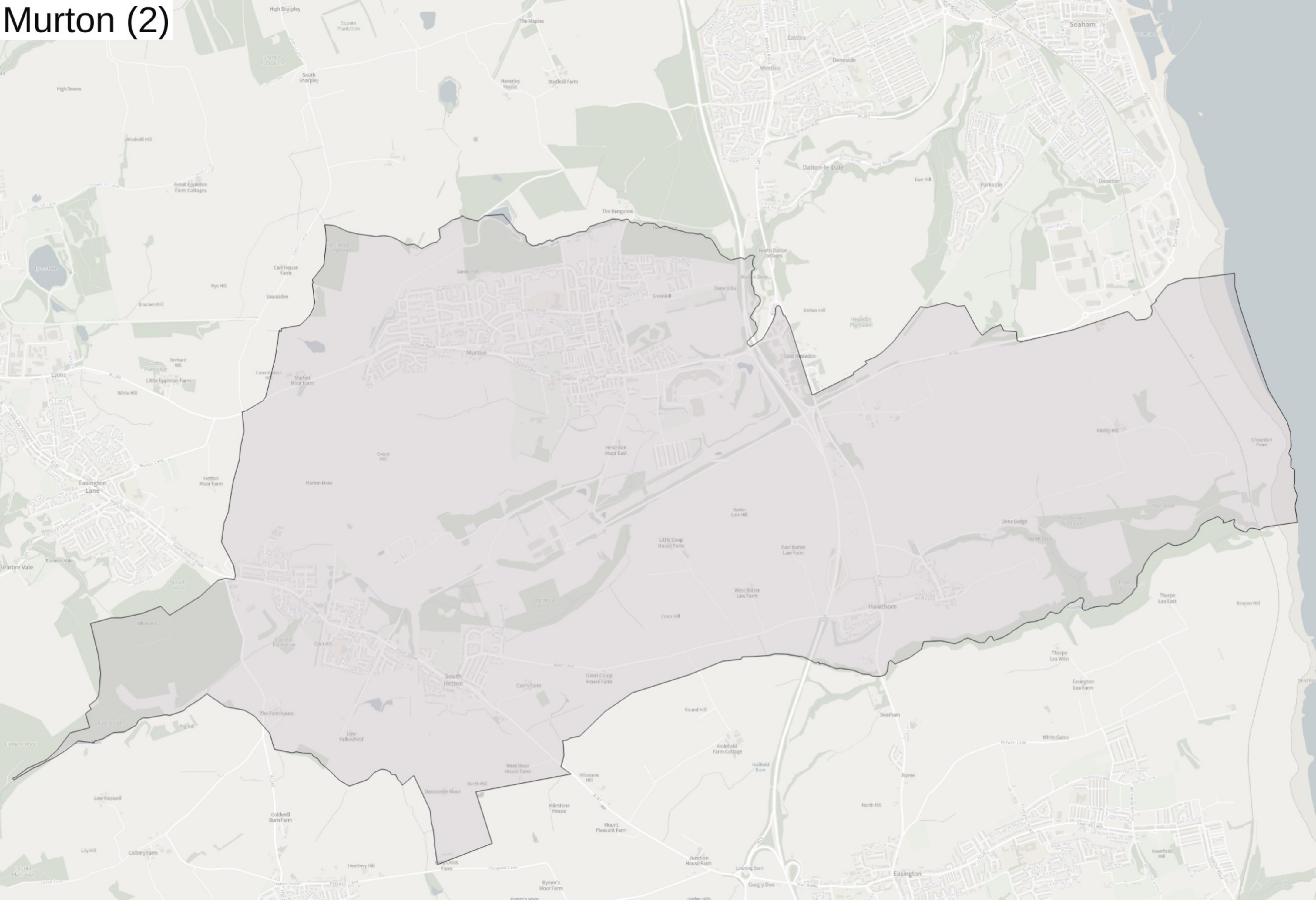


# Monk Heselden (1)





# Murton (2)





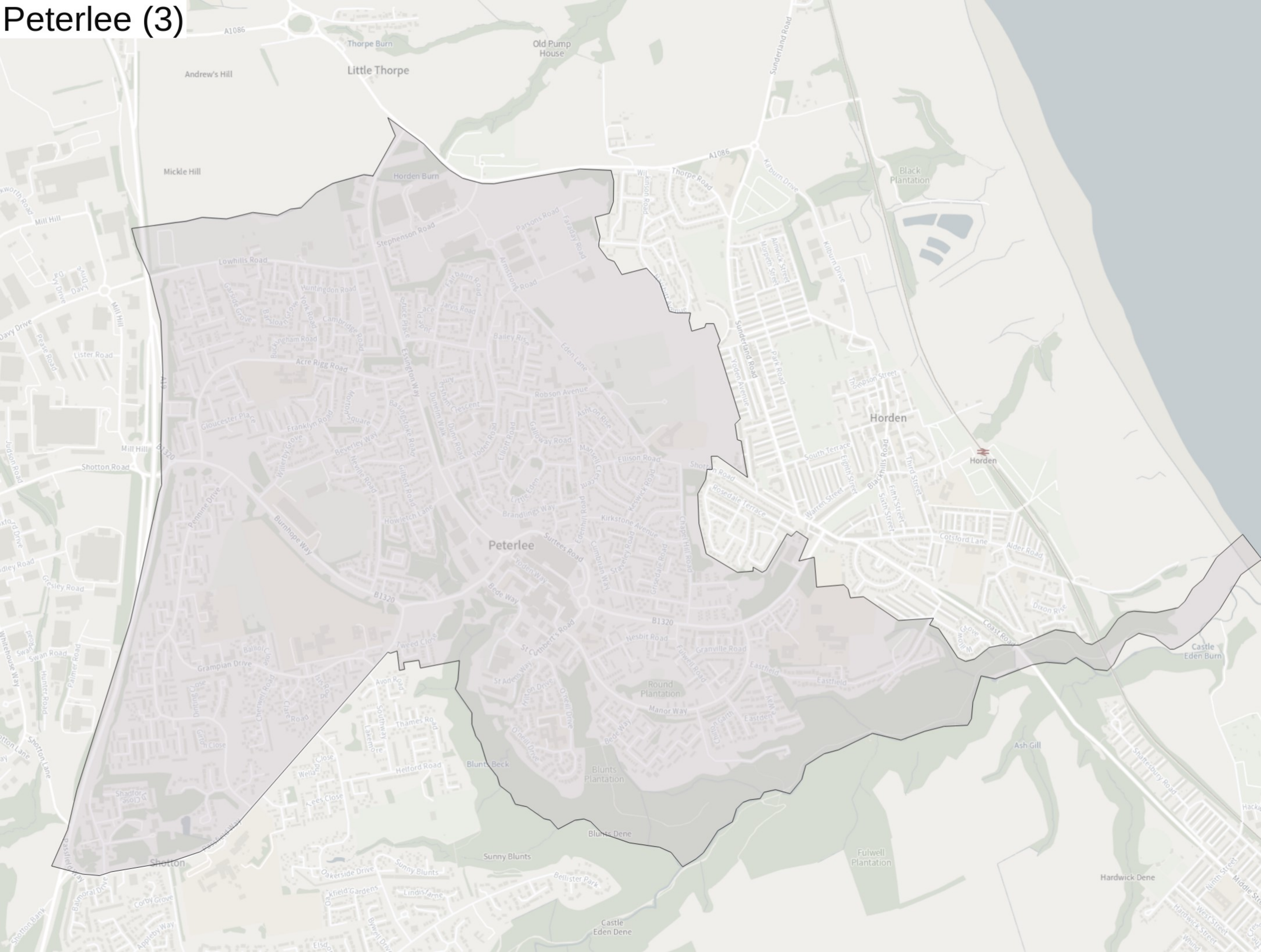
## Neville's Cross (2)



## Pelton (3)

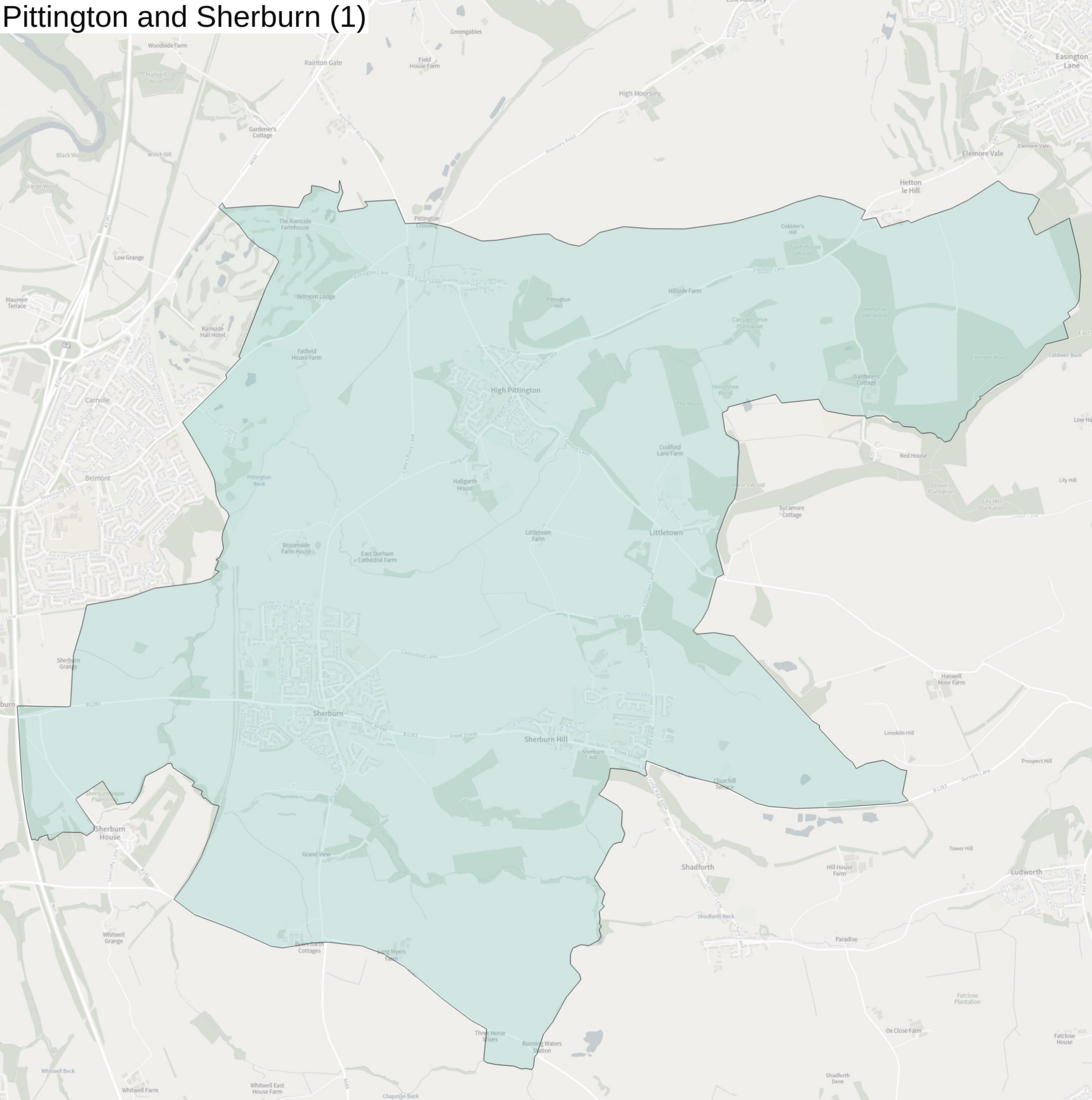


# Peterlee (3)



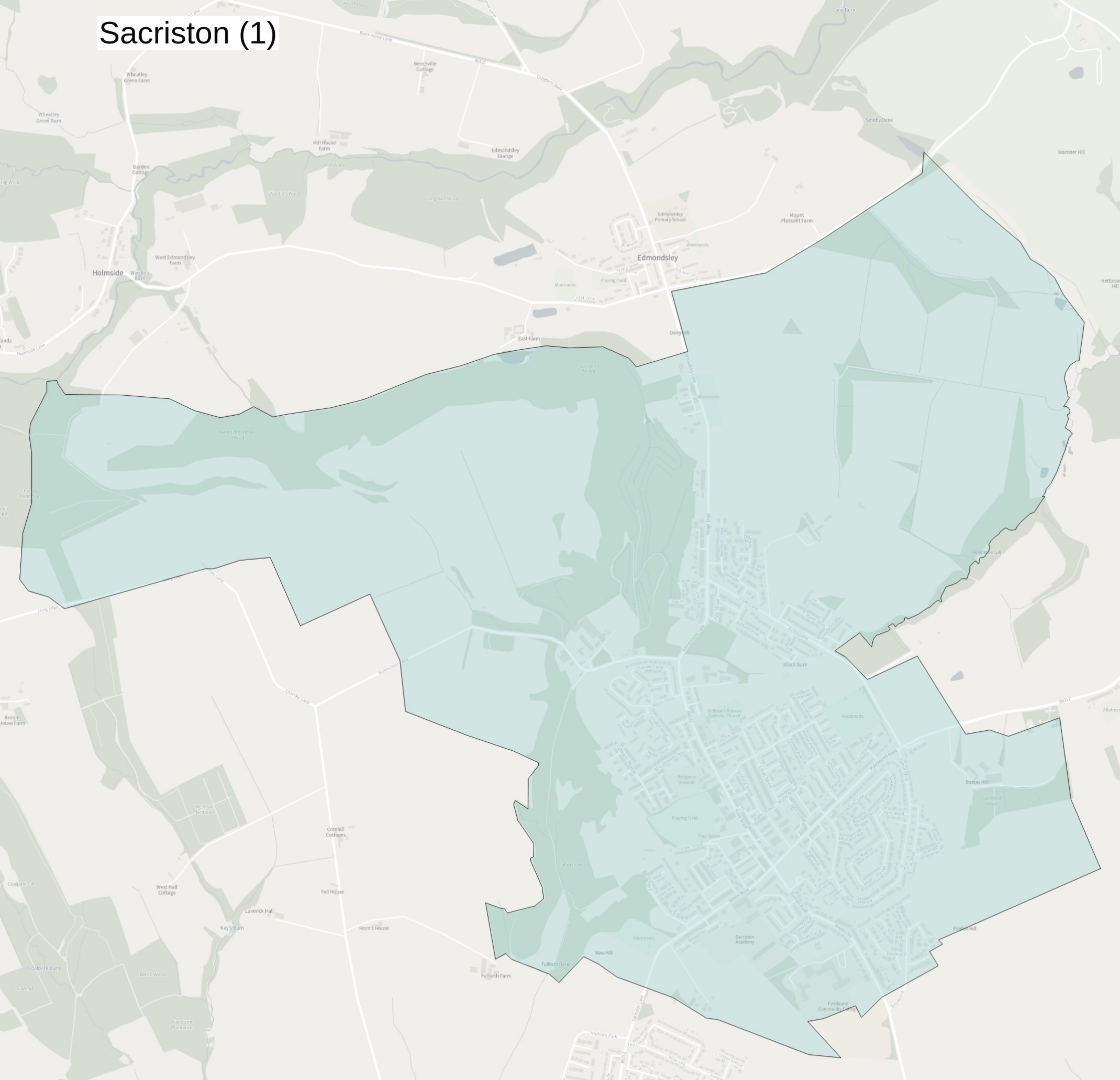


# Pittington and Sherburn (1)





# Sacriston (1)

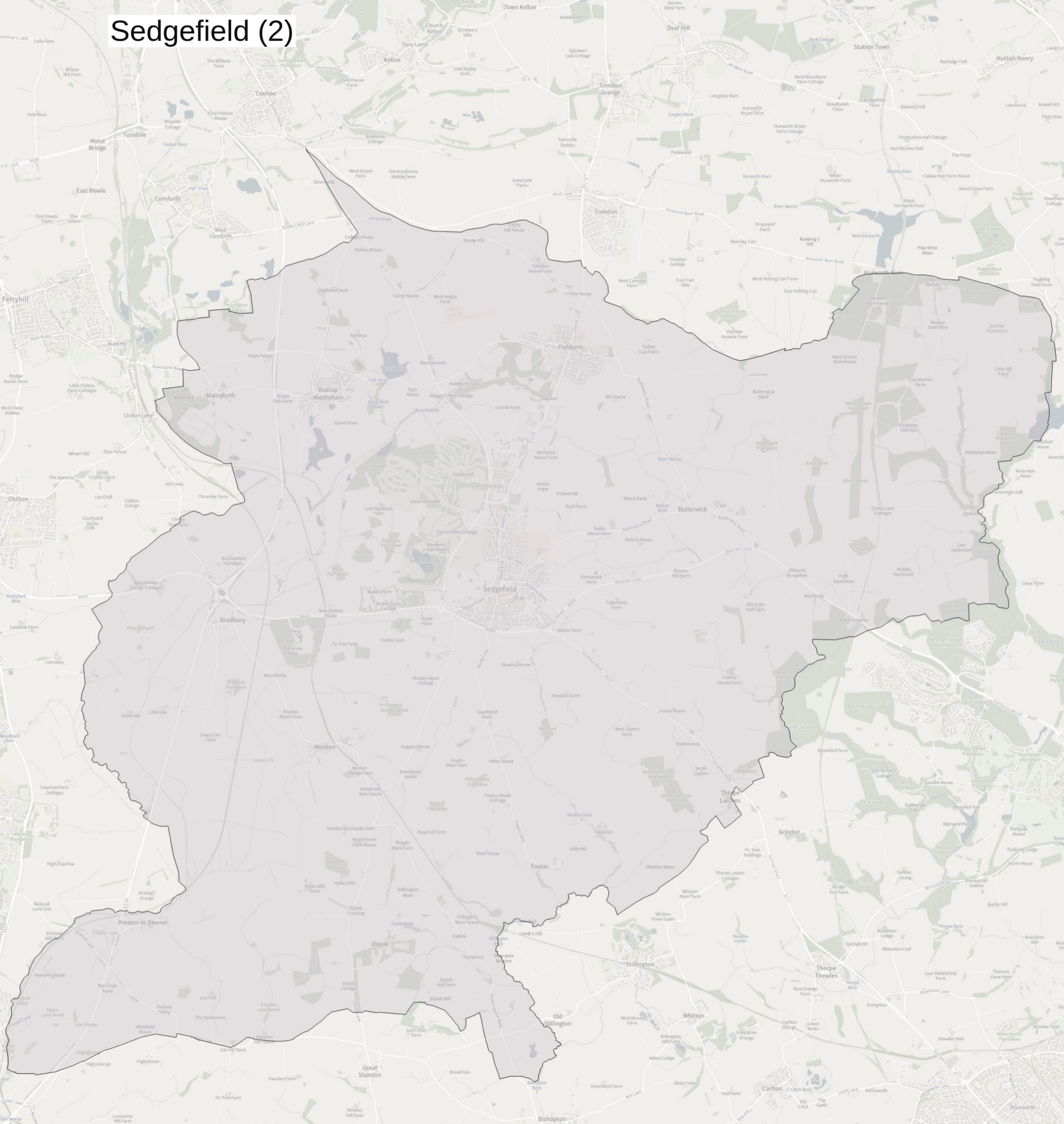




## Seaham (2)

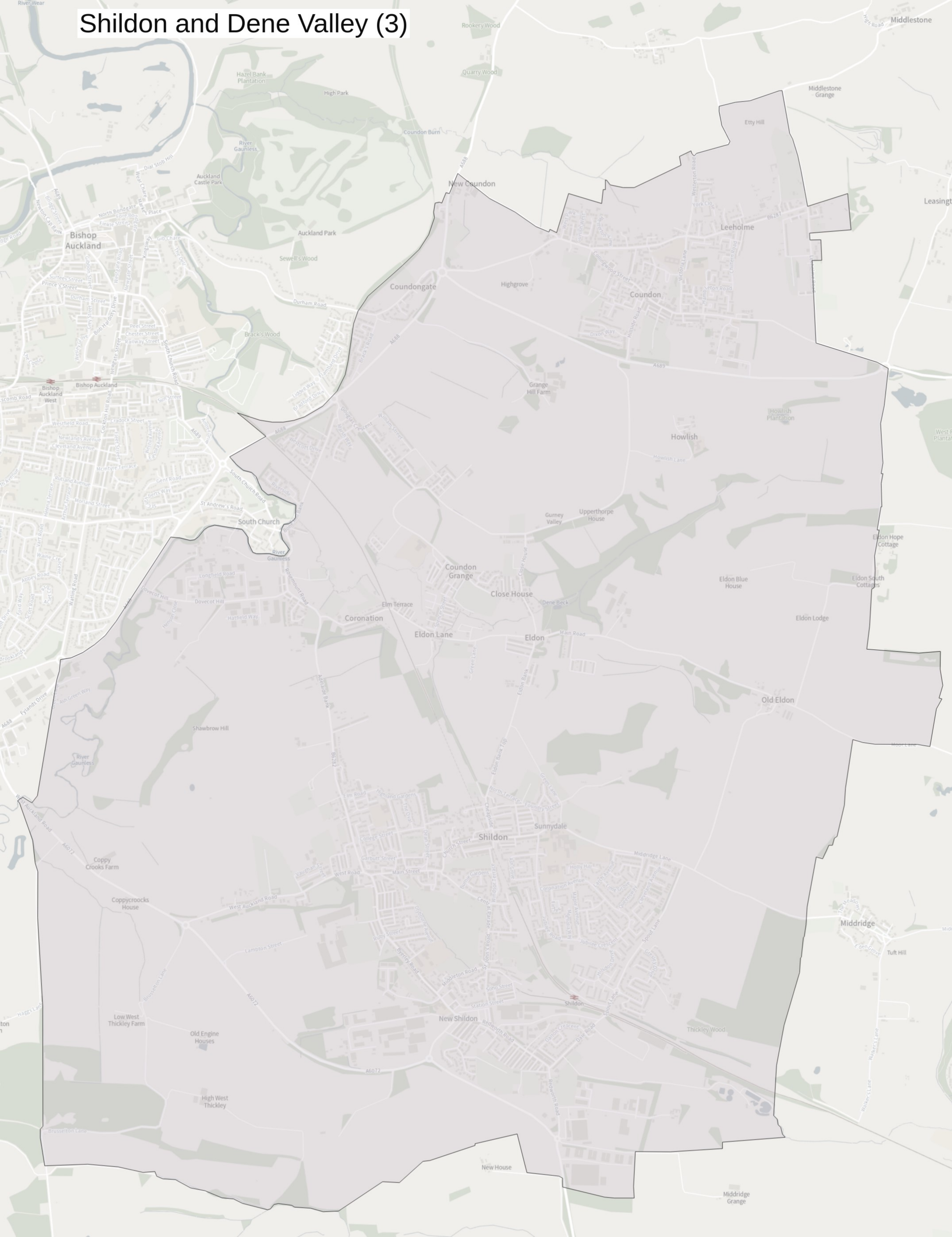


# Sedgefield (2)





# Shildon and Dene Valley (3)

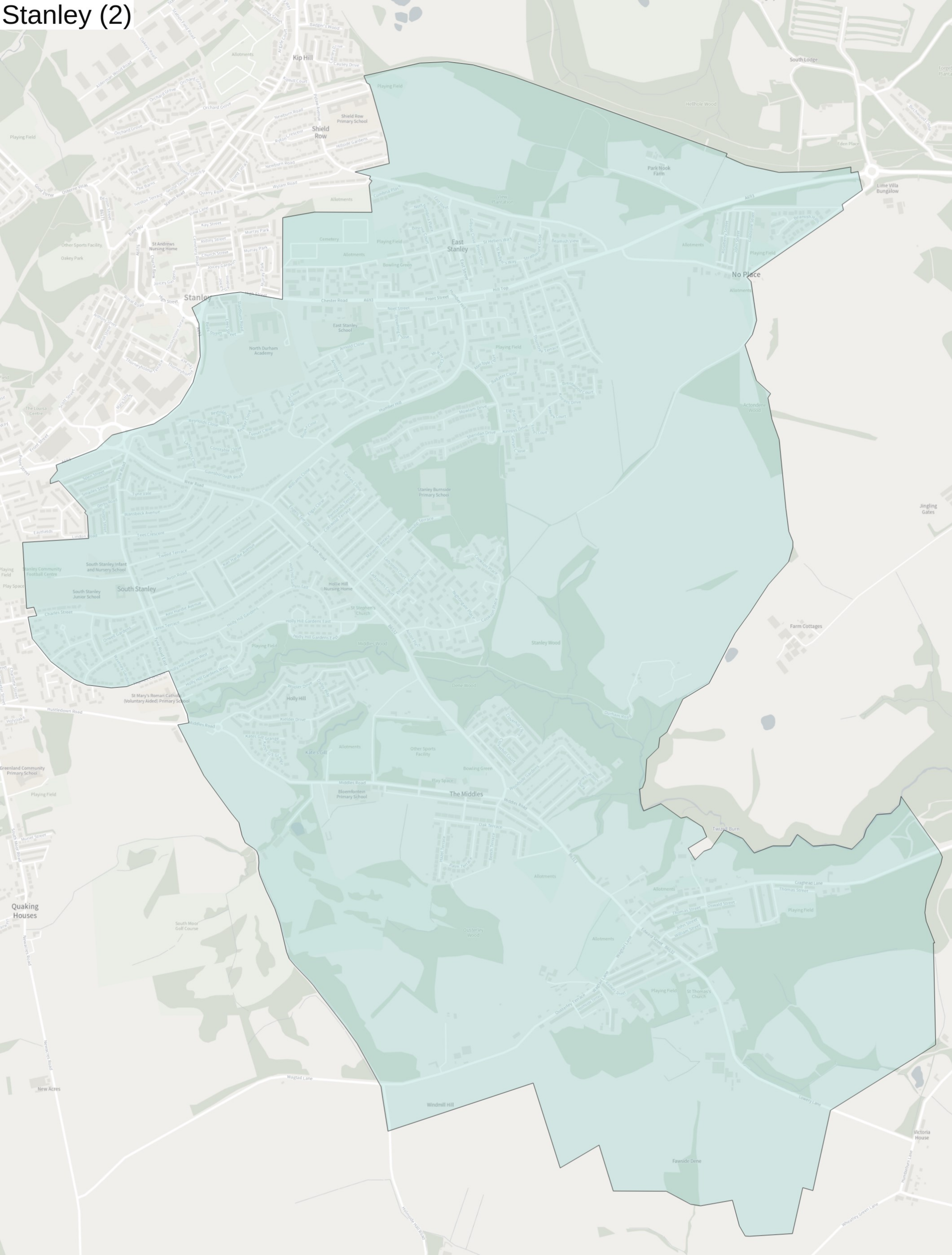




## Spennymoor (2)

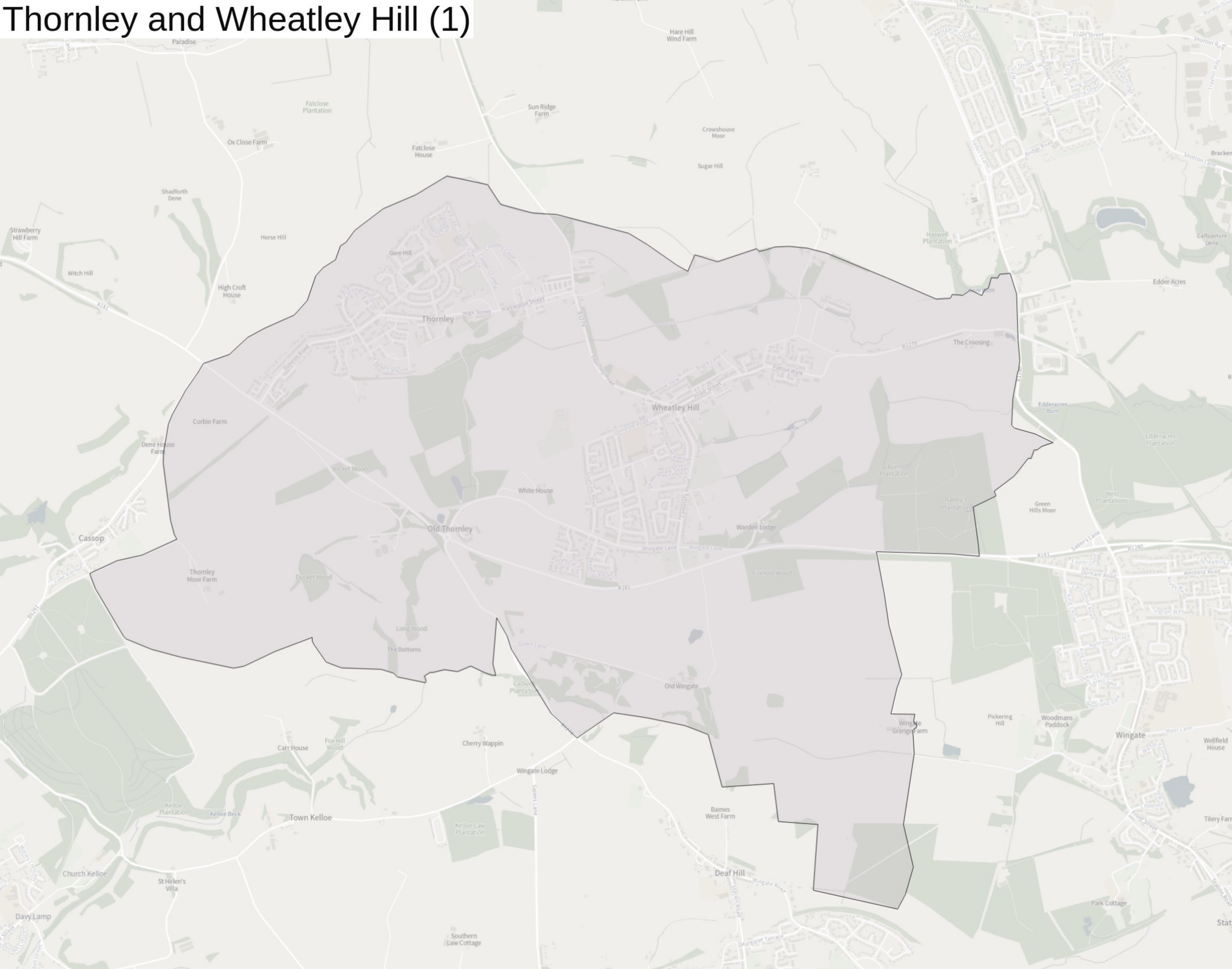


# Stanley (2)



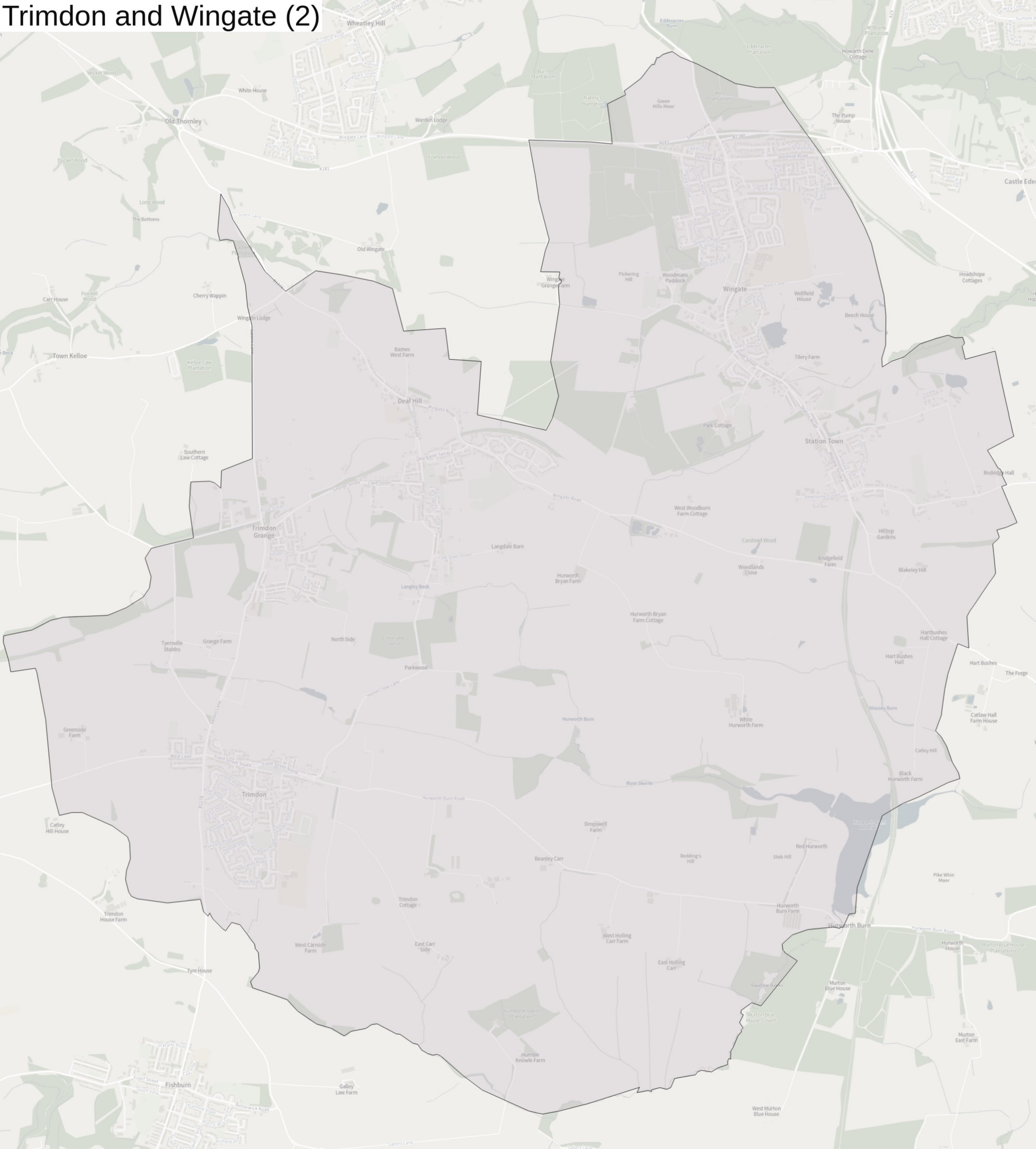


# Thornley and Wheatley Hill (1)



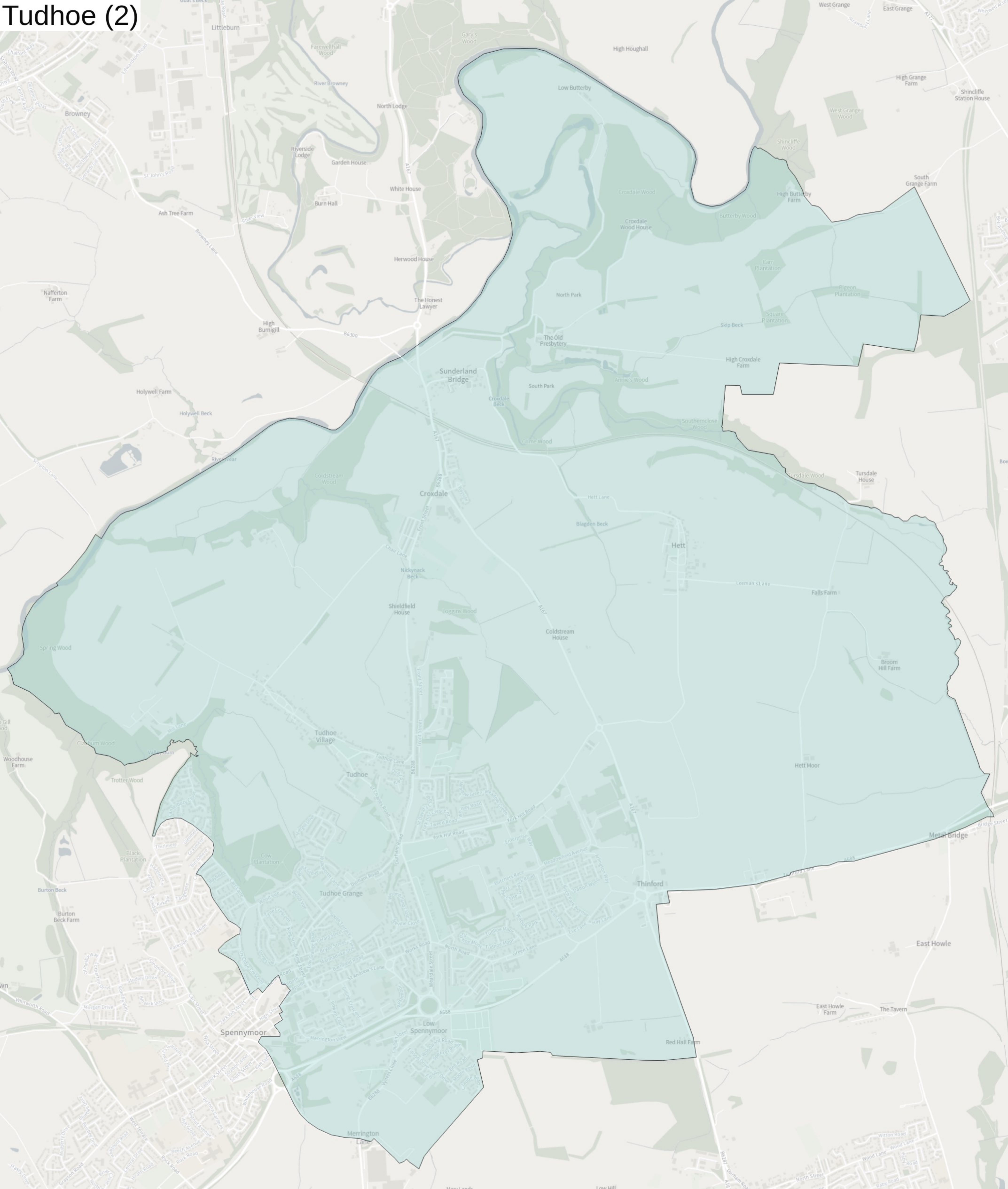


# Trimdon and Wingate (2)



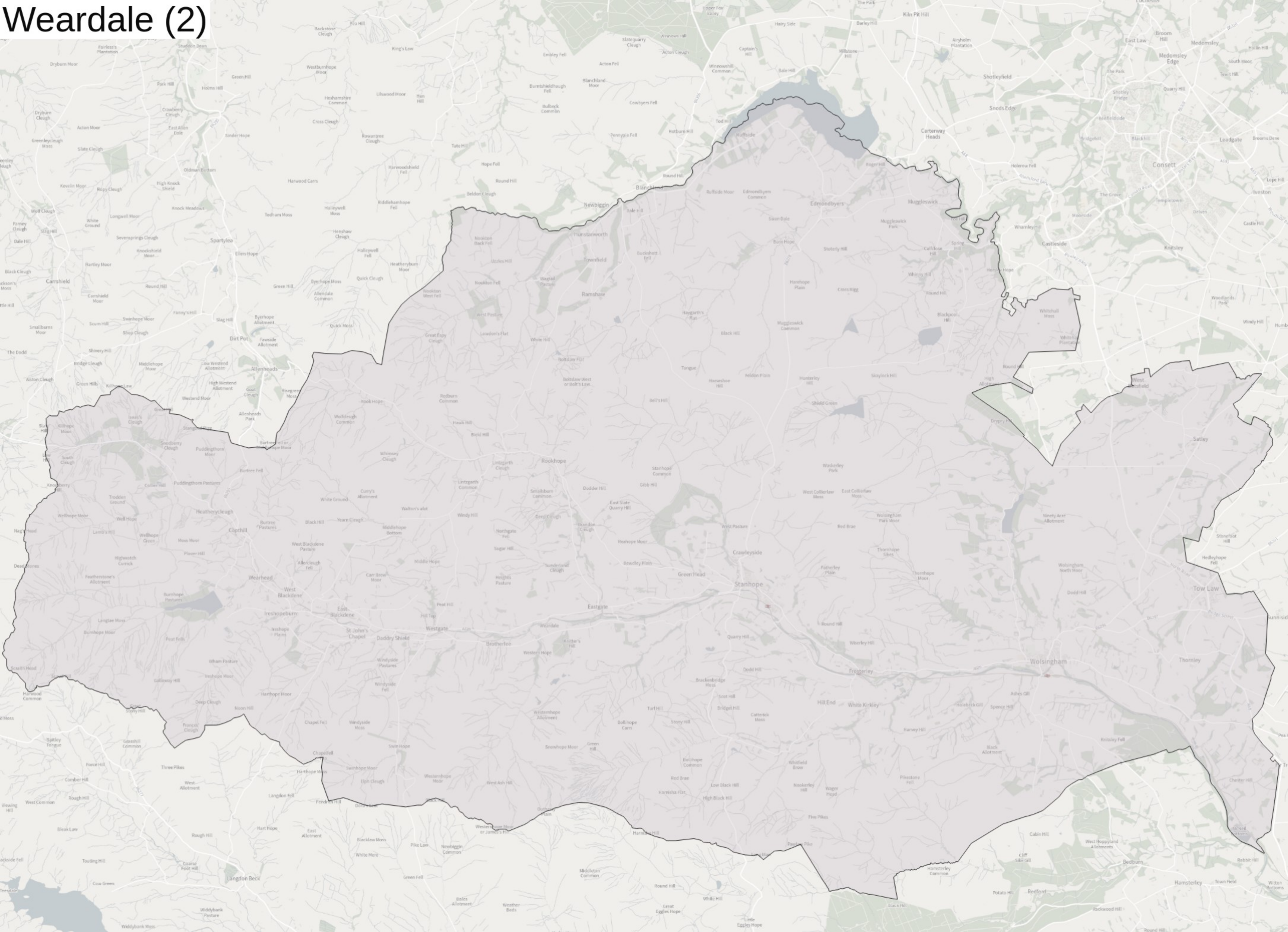


# Tudhoe (2)



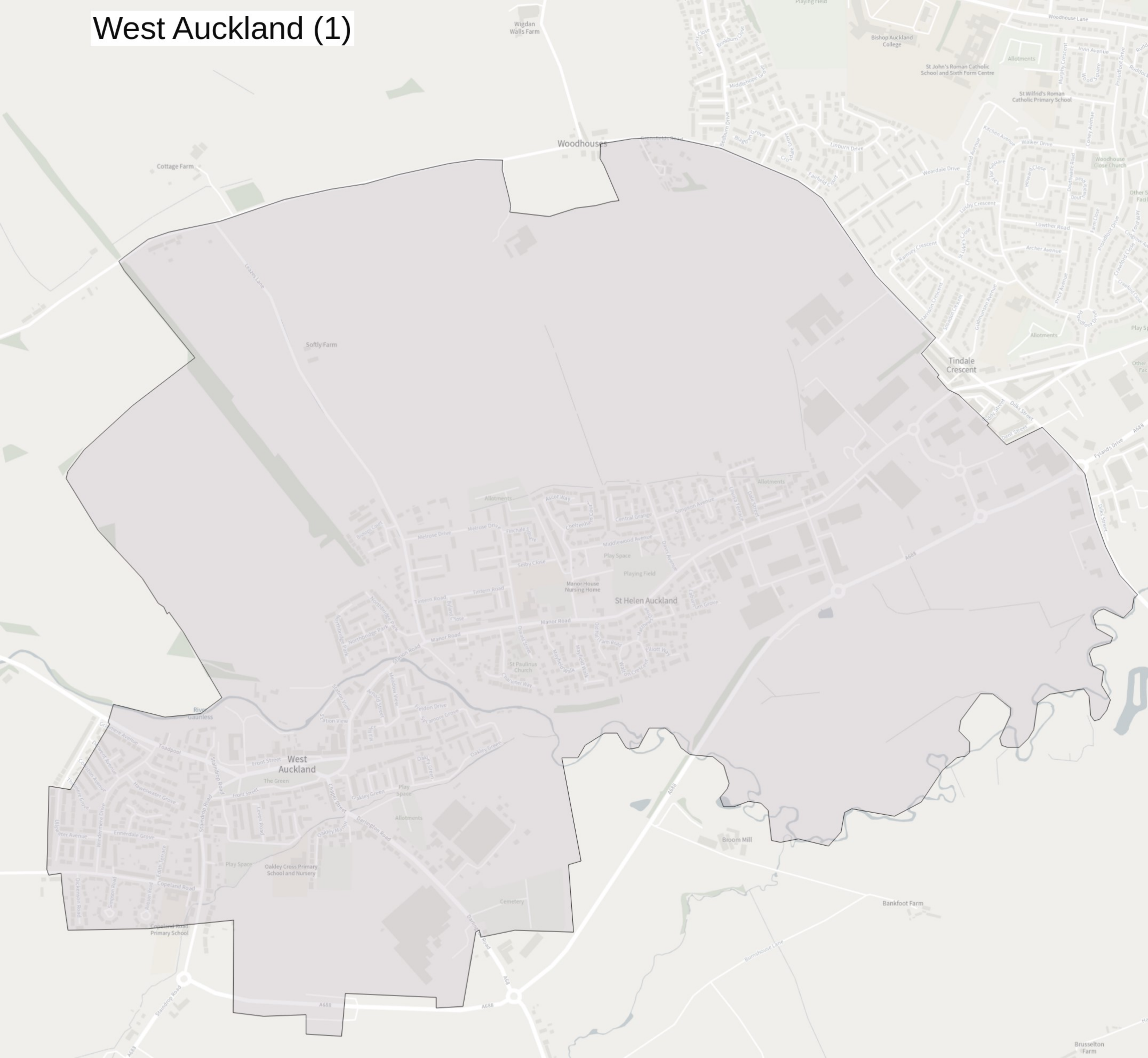


# Weardale (2)





# West Auckland (1)





## Willington and Hunwick (2)



Example Ward Pattern Variances

Current County Division	Number of Seats	Electorate 2028	Per Cllr	Variance
Annfield Plain	2	6017	3009	-6.79%
Aycliffe East	2	6491	3246	0.56%
Aycliffe North and Middridge	3	8851	2950	-8.59%
Aycliffe West	2	5302	2651	-17.86%
Barnard Castle East	2	7410	3705	14.79%
Barnard Castle West	2	6721	3361	4.12%
Belmont	3	10584	3528	9.31%
Benfieldside	2	6584	3292	2.00%
Bishop Auckland Town	2	6376	3188	-1.22%
Bishop Middleham and Cornforth	1	2888	2888	-10.52%
Blackhalls	2	6410	3205	-0.70%
Brandon	2	7778	3889	20.50%
Burnopfield and Dipton	2	6368	3184	-1.35%
Chester-le-Street East	1	2908	2908	-9.90%
Chester-le-Street North	1	3030	3030	-6.12%
Chester-le-Street South	2	5908	2954	-8.47%
Chester-le-Street West Central	2	6105	3053	-5.42%
Chilton	1	3823	3823	18.45%
Consett North	2	6015	3008	-6.82%
Consett South	1	4265	4265	32.15%
Coundon	1	3181	3181	-1.44%
Coxhoe	3	10772	3591	11.25%
Craghead and South Moor	2	5883	2942	-8.86%
Crook	3	9515	3172	-1.73%
Dawdon	2	6256	3128	-3.08%
Deerness	3	10071	3357	4.01%
Delves Lane	2	6702	3351	3.83%
Deneside	2	5360	2680	-16.96%
Durham South	1	2003	2003	-37.94%
Easington	2	6547	3274	1.43%
Elvet and Gilesgate	2	5946	2973	-7.89%
Esh and Witton Gilbert	2	6824	3412	5.72%
Evenwood	2	6593	3297	2.14%
Ferryhill	3	8551	2850	-11.69%
Framwellgate and Newton Hall	3	10745	3582	10.97%
Horden	2	5289	2645	-18.06%
Lanchester	2	6215	3108	-3.72%
Leadgate and Medomsley	2	6850	3425	6.12%
Lumley	2	6001	3001	-7.03%
Murton	2	5799	2900	-10.16%
Nevilles Cross	2	7900	3950	22.39%
North Lodge	1	3288	3288	1.87%
Passfield	1	3473	3473	7.61%
Pelton	3	10455	3485	7.98%
Peterlee East	2	5620	2810	-12.94%
Peterlee West	2	5994	2997	-7.14%
Sacrison	2	5901	2951	-8.58%
Seaham	2	5378	2689	-16.68%
Sedgefield	2	6844	3422	6.03%
Sherburn	2	6936	3468	7.45%
Shildon and Dene Valley	3	10150	3383	4.83%
Shotton and South Hetton	2	6817	3409	5.61%
Spennymoor	3	9249	3083	-4.48%
Stanley	2	6324	3162	-2.03%
Tanfield	2	6431	3216	-0.37%
Tow Law	1	3494	3494	8.26%
Trimdon and Thornley	3	9802	3267	1.23%
Tudhoe	2	7265	3633	12.55%
Weardale	2	6655	3328	3.10%
West Auckland	2	7182	3591	11.26%
Willington and Hunwick	2	7238	3619	12.13%
Wingate	1	3376	3376	4.60%
Woodhouse Close	2	5956	2978	-7.73%
Total	126	406665		63

JA Submission Option A	Number of Seats	Electorate 2028	Per Cllr	Variance
Annfield Plain	2	9134	4567	10.06%
Aycliffe East	2	7761	3881	-6.49%
Aycliffe North and Middridge	2	8851	4426	6.65%
Aycliffe West	1	4032	4032	-2.84%
Barnard Castle East	2	7833	3917	-5.62%
Barnard Castle West	2	7715	3858	-7.04%
Belmont	2	8769	4385	5.66%
Benfieldside	2	7617	3809	-8.22%
Bishop Auckland Town	3	12604	4201	1.25%
Brandon	2	7778	3889	-6.28%
Burnopfield	1	4102	4102	-1.15%
Castle Eden and Passfield	1	4466	4466	7.62%
Chester-le- Street and North Lodge	2	7819	3910	-5.79%
Chester-le-Street South	3	13282	4427	6.69%
Chilton	1	3823	3823	-7.87%
Consett North	1	4176	4176	0.64%
Coxhoe	3	11944	3981	-4.06%
Crook	3	11519	3840	-7.47%
Dalton and Dawdon	2	8307	4154	0.09%
Deerness	2	8401	4201	1.23%
Delves Lane	2	8091	4046	-2.51%
Dipton & Tanfield	2	8697	4349	4.79%
Easington, Haswell and Shotton	2	8258	4129	-0.50%
Elvet, Gilesgate and Shincliffe	2	9077	4539	9.37%
Esh and Witton Gilbert	2	8240	4120	-0.71%
Evenwood	2	7947	3974	-4.24%
Ferryhill	2	8539	4270	2.89%
Framwellgate and Newton Hall	3	11421	3807	-8.26%
Horden	2	8589	4295	3.49%
Lanchester	2	8732	4366	5.21%
Leadgate and Medomsley	2	7913	3957	-4.65%
Lumley and West Rainton	2	7917	3959	-4.61%
Monk Heseldon	1	4573	4573	10.20%
Murton	2	8412	4206	1.36%
Nevilles Cross	2	7911	3956	-4.68%
Pelton	3	12056	4019	-3.16%
Peterlee	3	11614	3871	-6.71%
Pittington and Sherburn	1	4677	4677	12.71%
Sacrison	1	4438	4438	6.95%
Seaham	2	9027	4514	8.77%
Sedgefield	2	7873	3937	-5.14%
Shildon and Dene Valley	3	12434	4145	-0.12%
Spennymoor	2	8638	4319	4.08%
Stanley	2	9090	4545	9.53%
Thornley and Wheatley Hill	1	4394	4394	5.89%
Trimdon and Wingate	2	8824	4412	6.32%
Tudhoe	2	8742	4371	5.33%
Weardale	2	8137	4069	-1.96%
West Auckland	1	4411	4411	6.30%
Willington and Hunwick	2	8060	4030	-2.88%
Total	98	406665		50

Council Size Calculator	
No. Cllr (enter figure to adjust)	98
Electorate	406,665
Average Electorate Per Councillor	4150

Range	
-10	+10
3735	4565

Variance stats = Current Based on 2028 figures	
Between 0% and 10%	22
Between -10% and 0%	23
Less Than -10%	9
Greater than 10%	10

Variance stats = Submission Based on 2028 figures	
Between 0% and 10%	22
Between -10% and 0%	25
Less Than -10%	0
Greater than 10%	3

Average Eletrorate Per Candidate for (98) 2028	4150
Average Eletrorate Per Candidate for (126) 2028	3228

Exanple Ward Pattern Ward Split	Totals
One Member	10
Two Member	32
Three Member	8

Example Ward Pattern Variances

Current County Division	Number of Seats	Electorate 2028	Per Cllr	Variance
Annfield Plain	2	6017	3009	-6.79%
Aycliffe East	2	6491	3246	0.56%
Aycliffe North and Middridge	3	8851	2950	-8.59%
Aycliffe West	2	5302	2651	-17.86%
Barnard Castle East	2	7410	3705	14.79%
Barnard Castle West	2	6721	3361	4.12%
Belmont	3	10584	3528	9.31%
Benfieldside	2	6584	3292	2.00%
Bishop Auckland Town	2	6376	3188	-1.22%
Bishop Middleham and Cornforth	1	2888	2888	-10.52%
Blackhalls	2	6410	3205	-0.70%
Brandon	2	7778	3889	20.50%
Burnopfield and Dipton	2	6368	3184	-1.35%
Chester-le-Street East	1	2908	2908	-9.90%
Chester-le-Street North	1	3030	3030	-6.12%
Chester-le-Street South	2	5908	2954	-8.47%
Chester-le-Street West Central	2	6105	3053	-5.42%
Chilton	1	3823	3823	18.45%
Consett North	2	6015	3008	-6.82%
Consett South	1	4265	4265	32.15%
Coundon	1	3181	3181	-1.44%
Coxhoe	3	10772	3591	11.25%
Craghead and South Moor	2	5883	2942	-8.86%
Crook	3	9515	3172	-1.73%
Dawdon	2	6256	3128	-3.08%
Deerness	3	10071	3357	4.01%
Delves Lane	2	6702	3351	3.83%
Deneside	2	5360	2680	-16.96%
Durham South	1	2003	2003	-37.94%
Easington	2	6547	3274	1.43%
Elvet and Gilesgate	2	5946	2973	-7.89%
Esh and Witton Gilbert	2	6824	3412	5.72%
Evenwood	2	6593	3297	2.14%
Ferryhill	3	8551	2850	-11.69%
Framwellgate and Newton Hall	3	10745	3582	10.97%
Horden	2	5289	2645	-18.06%
Lanchester	2	6215	3108	-3.72%
Leadgate and Medomsley	2	6850	3425	6.12%
Lumley	2	6001	3001	-7.03%
Murton	2	5799	2900	-10.16%
Nevilles Cross	2	7900	3950	22.39%
North Lodge	1	3288	3288	1.87%
Passfield	1	3473	3473	7.61%
Pelton	3	10455	3485	7.98%
Peterlee East	2	5620	2810	-12.94%
Peterlee West	2	5994	2997	-7.14%
Sacrison	2	5901	2951	-8.58%
Seaham	2	5378	2689	-16.68%
Sedgefield	2	6844	3422	6.03%
Sherburn	2	6936	3468	7.45%
Shildon and Dene Valley	3	10150	3383	4.83%
Shotton and South Hetton	2	6817	3409	5.61%
Spennymoor	3	9249	3083	-4.48%
Stanley	2	6324	3162	-2.03%
Tanfield	2	6431	3216	-0.37%
Tow Law	1	3494	3494	8.26%
Trimdon and Thornley	3	9802	3267	1.23%
Tudhoe	2	7265	3633	12.55%
Weardale	2	6655	3328	3.10%
West Auckland	2	7182	3591	11.26%
Willington and Hunwick	2	7238	3619	12.13%
Wingate	1	3376	3376	4.60%
Woodhouse Close	2	5956	2978	-7.73%
Total	126	406665		63

JA Durham Submission Option B	Number of Seats	Electorate 2028	Per Cllr	Variance
Annfield Plain	2	9134	4567	10.06%
Aycliffe East	2	7761	3881	-6.49%
Aycliffe North and Middridge	2	8851	4426	6.65%
Aycliffe West	1	4032	4032	-2.84%
Barnard Castle East	2	7833	3917	-5.62%
Barnard Castle West	2	7715	3858	-7.04%
Belmont	2	8769	4385	5.66%
Benfieldside	2	7617	3809	-8.22%
Bishop Auckland Town	3	12604	4201	1.25%
Brandon	2	7778	3889	-6.28%
Burnopfield	1	4102	4102	-1.15%
Castle Eden and Passfield	1	4466	4466	7.62%
Chester-le-Street	2	8454	4227	1.86%
Chester-le-Street South	2	8362	4181	0.76%
Chilton	1	3823	3823	-7.87%
Consett North	1	4176	4176	0.64%
Consett South	1	3927	3927	-5.37%
Coxhoe	3	11944	3981	-4.06%
Crook	3	11519	3840	-7.47%
Dalton and Dawdon	2	8307	4154	0.09%
Deerness	2	8401	4201	1.23%
Delves Lane	2	8091	4046	-2.51%
Dipton & Tanfield	2	8697	4349	4.79%
Easington, Haswell and Shotton	2	8258	4129	-0.50%
Elvet, Gilesgate and Shincliffe	2	9077	4539	9.37%
Esh and Witton Gilbert	2	8240	4120	-0.71%
Evenwood	2	7947	3974	-4.24%
Ferryhill	2	8539	4270	2.89%
Framwellgate and Newton Hall	3	11421	3807	-8.26%
Horden	2	8589	4295	3.49%
Lanchester	1	4568	4568	10.08%
Leadgate and Medomsley	2	8150	4075	-1.80%
Lumley and West Rainton	2	7917	3959	-4.61%
Monk Heseldon	1	4573	4573	10.20%
Murton	2	8412	4206	1.36%
Nevilles Cross	2	7911	3956	-4.68%
North Lodge	1	4285	4285	3.26%
Pelton	3	12056	4019	-3.16%
Peterlee	3	11614	3871	-6.71%
Pittington and Sherburn	1	4677	4677	12.71%
Sacrison	1	4438	4438	6.95%
Seaham	2	9027	4514	8.77%
Sedgefield	2	7873	3937	-5.14%
Shildon and Dene Valley	3	12434	4145	-0.12%
Spennymoor	2	8638	4319	4.08%
Stanley	2	9090	4545	9.53%
Thornley and Wheatley Hill	1	4394	4394	5.89%
Trimdon and Wingate	2	8824	4412	6.32%
Tudhoe	2	8742	4371	5.33%
Weardale	2	8137	4069	-1.96%
West Auckland	1	4411	4411	6.30%
Willington and Hunwick	2	8060	4030	-2.88%
Total	98	406665		52

Council Size Calculator			
No. Cllr (enter figure to adjust)		98	
Electorate	406,665	Range	
		-10	+10
Average Electorate Per Councillor	4150	3735	4565

Variance stats = Current Based on 2028 figures	
Between 0% and 10%	22
Between -10% and 0%	23
Less Than -10%	9
Greater than 10%	10

Variance stats = Submission Based on 2028 figures	
Between 0% and 10%	23
Between -10% and 0%	25
Less Than -10%	0
Greater than 10%	4

Average Eletorate Per Candidate for (98) 2028	4150
Average Eletorate Per Candidate for (126) 2028	3228

Exanple Ward Pattern Ward Split	Totols	
One Member	13	
Two Member	32	
Three Member	7	