

Submission on behalf of North West Leicestershire Council

Electoral Review of North West Leicestershire

Warding submission

Version date: 24 April 2024

Introduction

This document contains the warding arrangements developed by North West Leicestershire council in response to the current Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) electoral review. This is the formal submission of the authority, having been approved by Full Council at the meeting of [DATE].

Background

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) are currently undertaking a review of electoral arrangements for the district. This is necessary due to electoral inequality (where some Councillors represent more electors than others) that is outside of the permitted tolerance.

The LGBCE review is split into two phases:

- The first is to determine Council Size – how many Councillors there will be to serve the district. Full Council considered this in January 2024 and, following their decision, a formal submission for 38 Councillors was submitted to the LGBCE. The Commissioners will consider the submission, alongside any other submissions they receive, and decide the future Council Size.
- The second phase is to develop warding patterns. This draws the boundaries for every ward for the district. Officers and the Member Working Group will draw up proposals for consideration by full Council and submission to the LGBCE. This document outlines the process and timing for this stage of the work.

Approach taken

In developing draft ward arrangements, there must be a balance between the three statutory criteria:

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

In developing proposals, we have been mindful of the guidance from the LGBCE (https://www.lgbce.org.uk/sites/default/files/2023-06/technical-guidance-june_2023.pdf).

The Council has requested that the review considers implementing single member wards, and although this does not override the statutory criteria, the presumption is that single member wards will be delivered.

Initial proposals were developed by officers, and then discussed and revised through a cross-party Member Working Group. The revised versions have been discussed at a Member briefing, open to all Councillors, before being finalised ahead of debate at Full Council.

In drafting the proposals in this document, we have:

- Reviewed where existing wards can remain unchanged and remain within the electoral equality criteria, on the basis that if change to boundaries is not necessary then it makes sense to retain them (leading to more effective and convenient local government, and on the basis the previous boundaries would have been drawn to reflect local community interests originally).
- Grouped smaller parishes together to create new or amended wards.
- Agreed that, as far as possible, rural parishes will not be merged with parts of more urban towns simply to balance the electorates, recognising the different identities, interests and concerns between rural and urban populations.
- Identified areas of the District where a new split of parishes will be required to ensure electoral equality (for example, Castle Donington will have three Councillors). New wards are based, where possible, on existing wards in these areas taking the three statutory criteria into account and other identifiable features and landmarks.

There is a balance to be made in each of these steps, and 'fixing' any ward arrangements has a knock-on effect across the District. It is important to recognise that almost every ward will be changed through this process, even where the current ward has good electoral equality.

The LGBCE have expressed that warding arrangements are often the 'least worst' configuration, particularly for areas that are complex. There is, therefore, a degree of compromise and flexibility required in developing warding patterns.

The expectation is that in 2030, every ward will have a variance less than $\pm 10\%$, although the other statutory criteria are also balanced in the overall consideration of warding arrangements.

Existing parishes



Warding arrangements

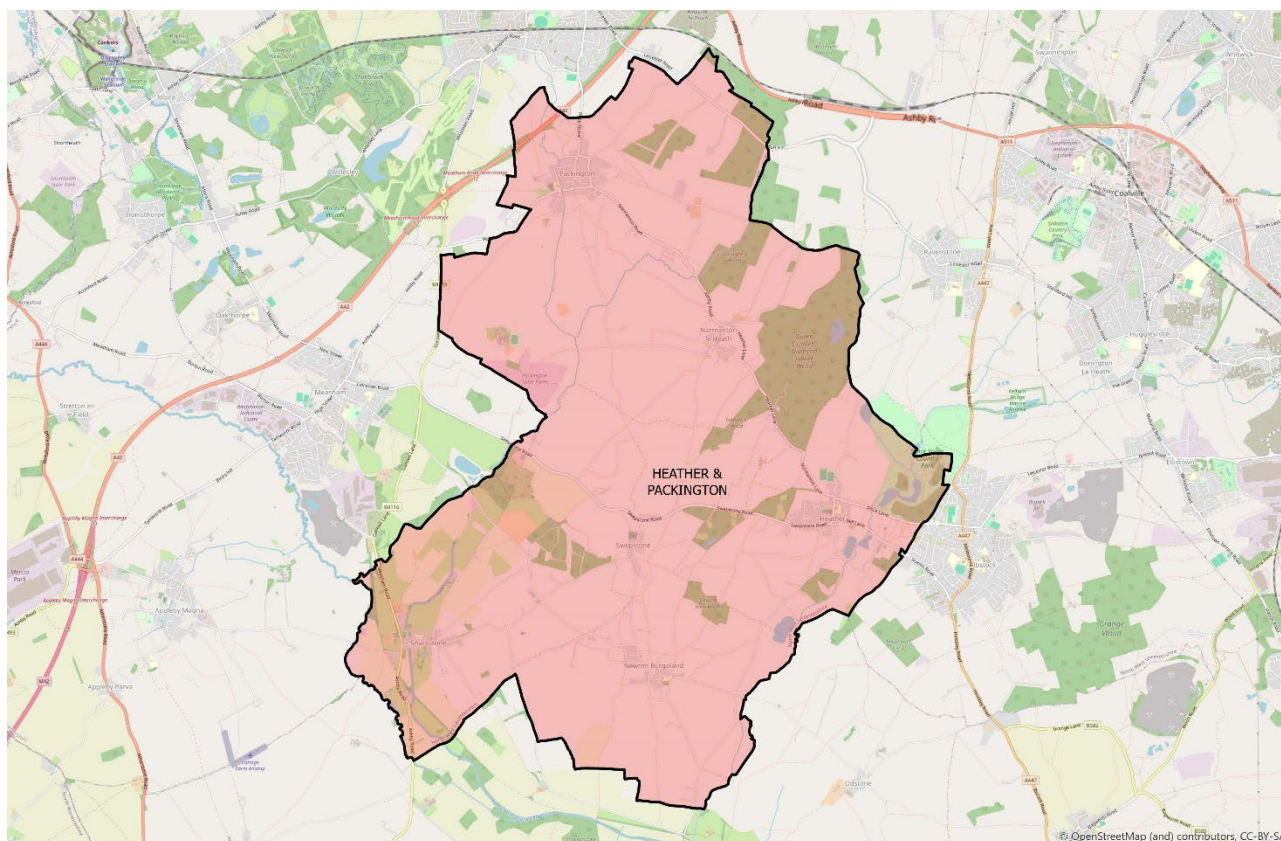
Introduction

The pages that follow show each proposed ward, or group of wards, in turn along with a summary about the ward and justification for the proposed configuration. In each case, the current Councillors that serve the area are included. This is for information only, to enable Councillors and members of the public to easily identify their own local area.

Considerable work has been undertaken to explore how rural parishes can be grouped to create wards with an acceptable electoral variance. There are, however, very few possible configurations that work across the entire District. It is important to recognise that some existing combinations of parishes cannot continue under the new warding arrangements, and some parish wards are placed into different wards, due to the need for electoral equality across the entire district area.

HEATHER & PACKINGTON

Ward	Electorate 2023	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
HEATHER & PACKINGTON	2458	14%	2458	3%



This ward comprises the parishes of Heather, Packington, Snarestone, and Swebstone & Newton Burgoland, and the unparished community of Normanton le Heath. To the west is the urban area of Measham, to the north-west is Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and to the east the communities of Ibstock.

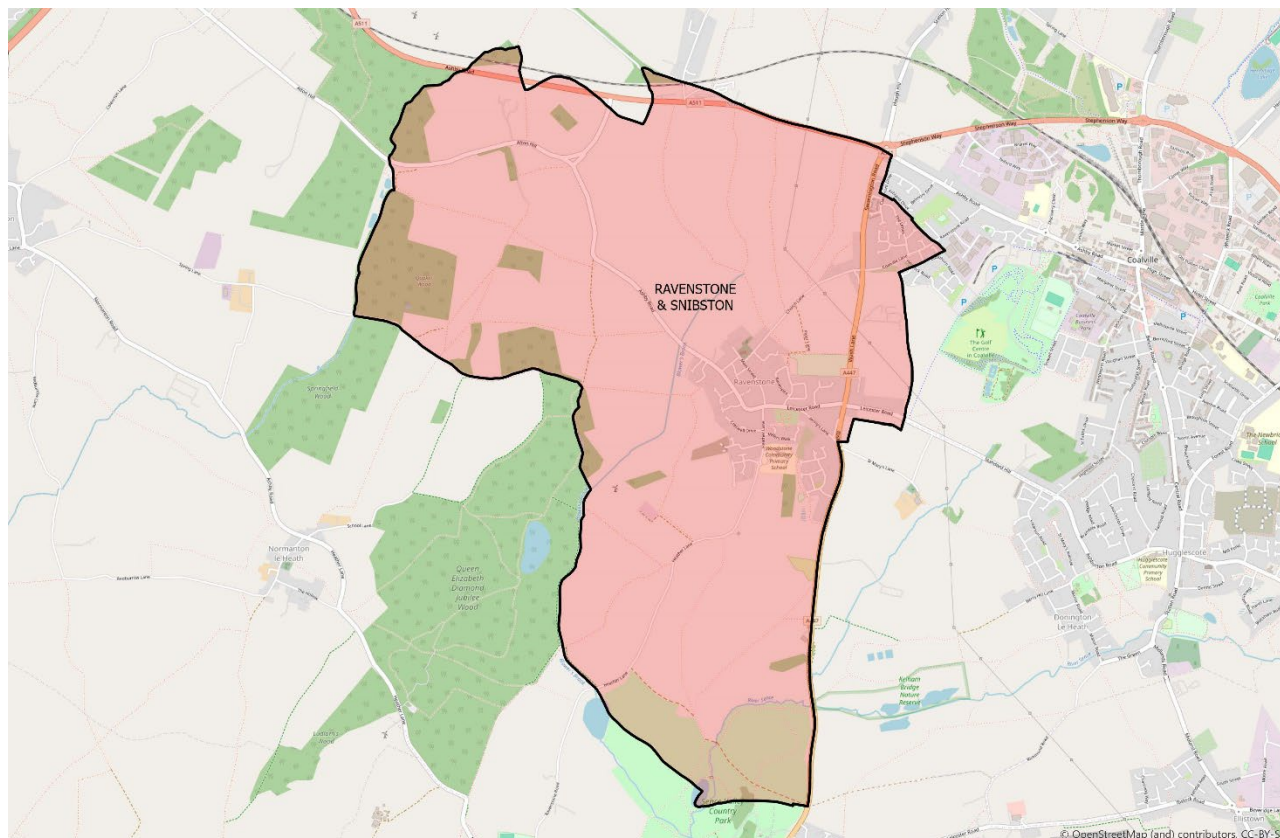
Whilst this ward includes parts of three former wards, it includes only rural parish areas which appear to have closer affiliation with each other than the nearby urban centres, all of which have good rural road links between them. The matters of concern in Heather are more similar to those in Swebstone than in the more urban areas of Ibstock or Measham, for example.

This ward includes parts of the following current wards:

Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
Appleby	Cllr Richard Blunt
Sence Valley	Cllr Guy Rogers
Ravenstone & Packington	Cllr Nigel Smith

RAVENSTONE & SNIBSTON

Ward	Electorate 2023	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
RAVENSTONE & SNIBSTON	2187	1%	2224	-7%



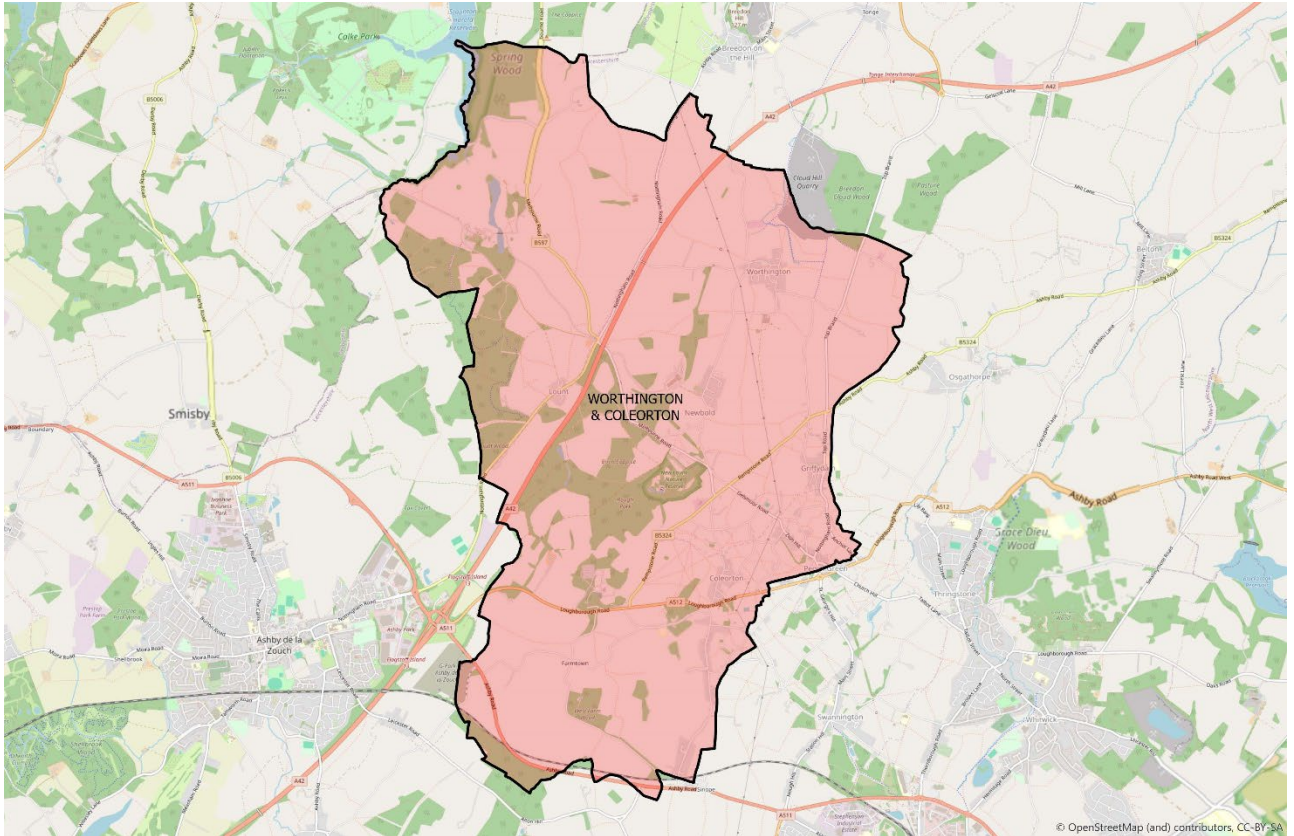
This ward comprises the parish of Ravenstone with Snibston. In the current warding arrangement, this parish is split between two different district wards. This new arrangement brings both parts of the parish back into a single member ward. This better reflects the identities and interests of the communities, and supports effective and convenient local government – it is much easier for electors and elected representatives where entire parishes are within the same ward (where possible).

This ward includes parts of the following current wards:

Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
Ravenstone & Packington	Cllr Nigel Smith
Snibston North	Cllr John Geary

WORTHINGTON & COLEORTON

Ward	Electorate 2023	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
WORTHINGTON & COLEORTON	2355	9%	2355	-1%



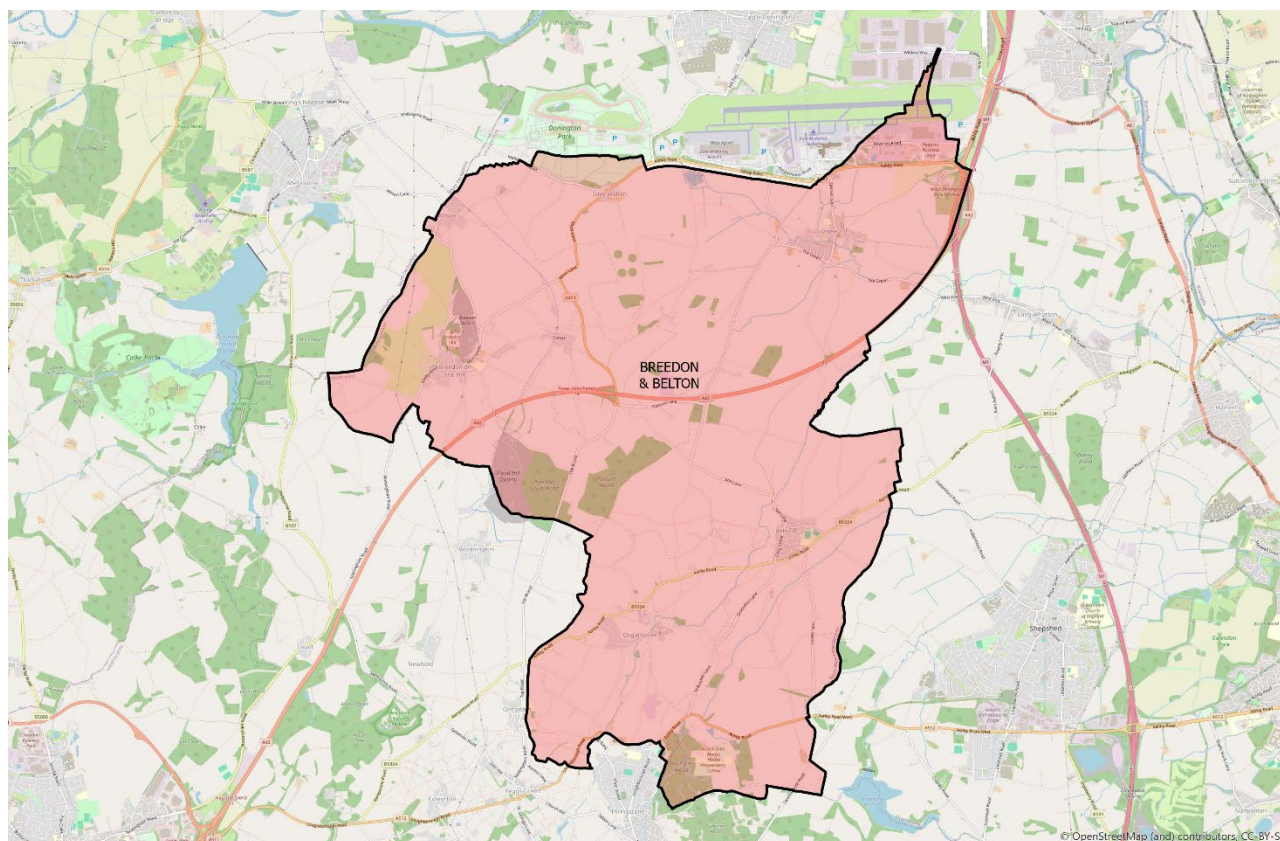
This ward comprises the parishes of Coleorton and Worthington, and the unparished community of Staunton Harold. Coleorton was previously split between two wards. As with other examples in this proposal, bringing the entire parish into one ward benefits both the residents and elected representatives and ensures more effective and convenient local governance.

This ward includes parts of the following current wards:

Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
Valley	Cllr Russell Boam
Worthington & Breedon	Cllr Ray Morris

BREEDON & BELTON

Ward	Electorate 2023	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
BREEDON & BELTON	2545	18%	2580	8%



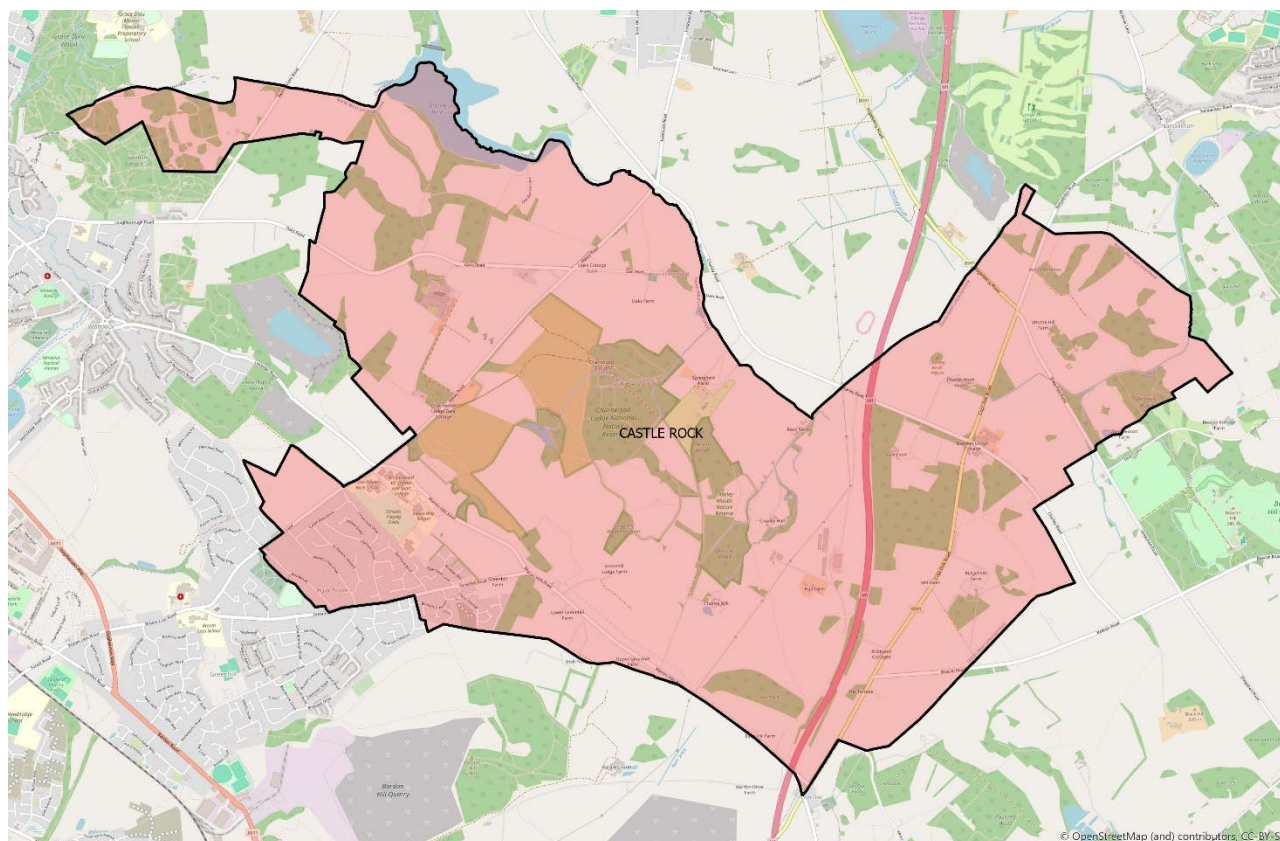
This ward includes the parishes of Belton, Breedon on the Hill, and Osgathorpe, plus the Diseworth ward of Long Whatton & Diseworth parish. Geographically this is a large ward, comprising a number of relatively sparsely populated parishes and communities. These rural areas are more closely aligned with each other than with the urban communities they border.

This ward includes parts of the following current wards:

Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
Worthington & Breedon	Cllr Ray Morris
Long Whatton & Diseworth	Cllr Nicholas Rushton
Valley	Cllr Russell Boam

CASTLE ROCK

Ward	Electorate 2023	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
CASTLE ROCK	2229	3%	2359	-1%



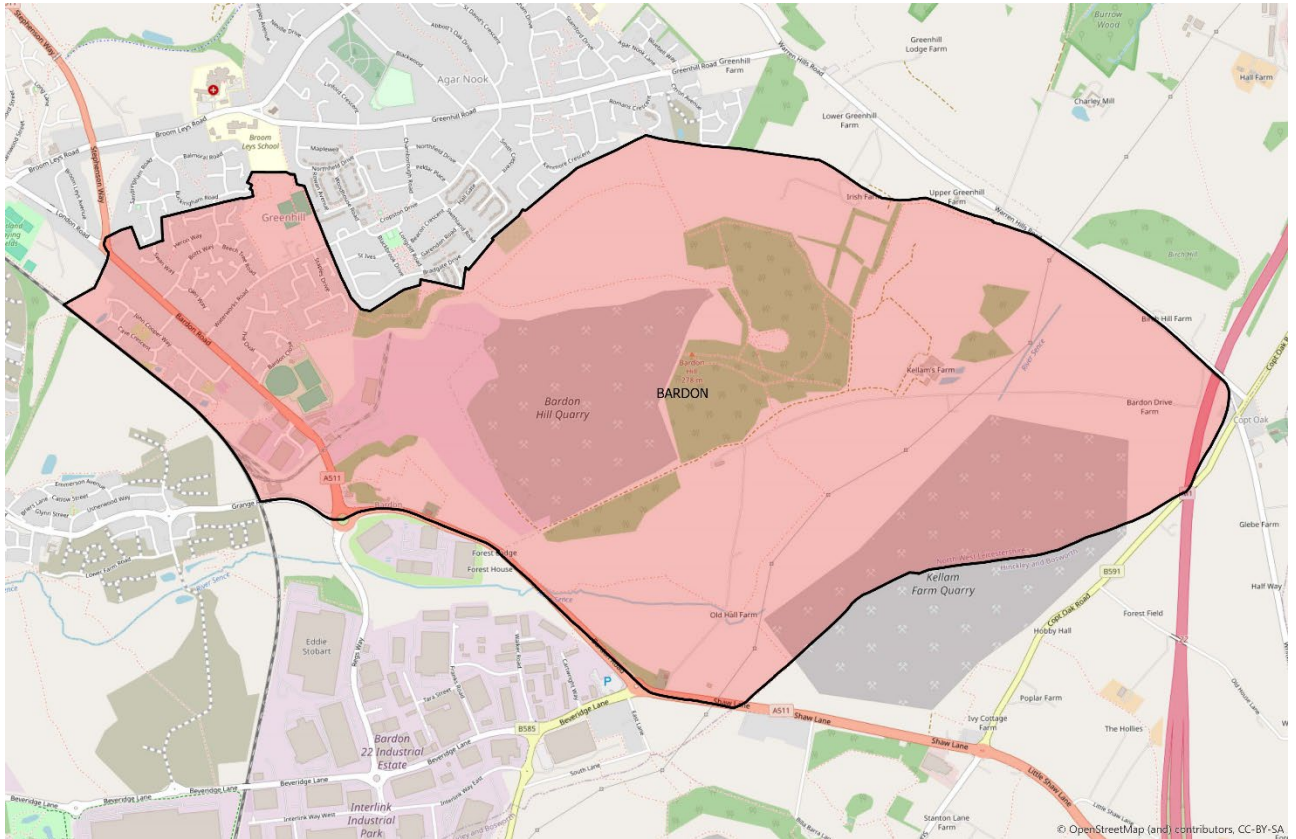
This ward is largely unchanged from the current ward, and includes the parish of Charley and part of Coalville. One small adjustment moves the boundary between Castle Rock and Broom Leys from the centre of the Blackwood road such that properties on both sides of the road are in Castle Rock. This affects 89 electors, but reflects the fact that the residents of Blackwood consider themselves part of the Castle Rock community regardless of which side of the road they live on. Blackwood is not a natural barrier between communities, with the open spaces of the cricket ground and cemetery being clear demarcations between the two communities.

This ward includes parts of the following current wards:

Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
Castle Rock	Cllr Michael Wyatt

BARDON

Ward	Electorate 2023	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
BARDON	2256	4%	2440	2%



This ward is largely unchanged from the current ward, and includes the unparished area of Bardon, and part of Coalville. The one adjustment is that the whole of Cropston Drive is now included in Greenhill ward; it is currently split with a small number of properties (and 21 electors) in Bardon. The revised boundary is more logical and ensures the entire road (including both sides of the road) is within the same ward.

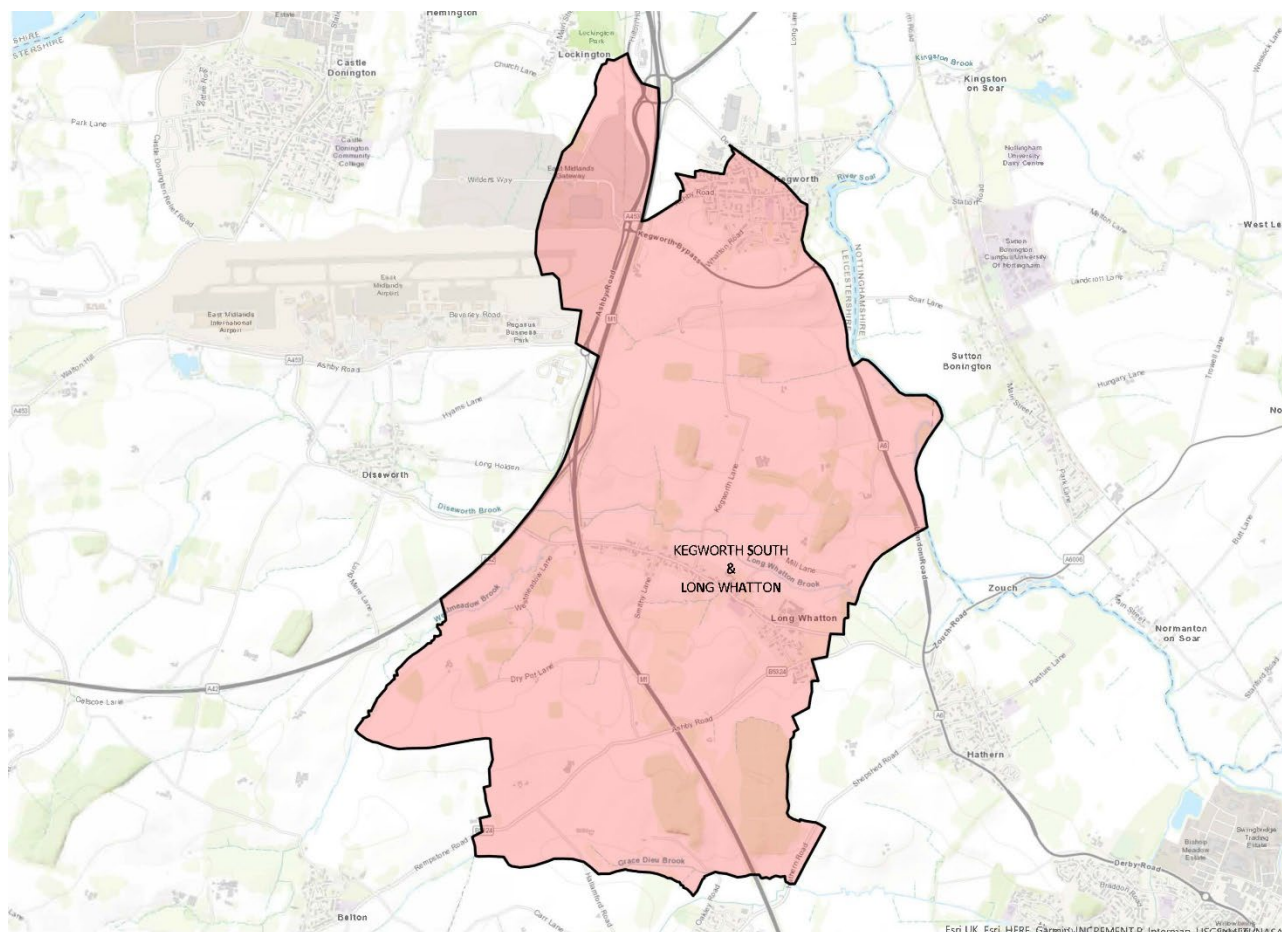
This ward includes parts of the following current wards:

Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
Bardon	Cllr Morgan Burke

KEGWORTH SOUTH AND LONG WHATTON

Ward	Electorate 2023*	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
KEGWORTH SOUTH AND LONG WHATTON	2662	23%	2573	8%

* Based on current ward boundaries, not revised.



This ward includes the current South ward of Kegworth parish, and the Long Whatton ward of Long Whatton & Diseworth parish. However, this gives a variance of +11%, which means there are too many electors in this ward at present. Therefore, the boundary between Kegworth North and Kegworth South will be adjusted to transfer electors from the south to the north, giving greater electoral equality in this area. This electoral imbalance can be resolved by adjusting the boundary slightly:

- Pritchard Drive moves to Daleacre Hill ward instead of Kegworth ward; this is relatively self-contained in that it does not link to other residential roads in Kegworth, and is accessible by vehicle only from Packington Hill close to Derby Road, which is the current boundary between the wards.
- The new developments planned to the west of Pritchard Drive will be accessible only from the north and south access roads, with no direct link to the rest of Kegworth

ward. These, too, therefore move to Daleacre Hill as they become a self-contained group of properties.

- To ensure the boundary between the two wards is clear and reflects the natural boundaries whilst delivering electoral equality, the western boundary then follows the M1 south to the parish boundary.

Whilst this new arrangement splits Kegworth parish, this is already the case in the existing warding arrangements.

Members suggested retaining the area west of the M1 in Kegworth ward, as this includes part of the airport which can cause issues for local residents of Kegworth. Local representation suggested that including the airport within the ward gives a greater opportunity for the views of local residents of Kegworth to be represented in discussions regarding the airport. As a result, the boundary between Kegworth and Daleacre Hill now reverts to the parish boundary. There are no electors in this area. Consideration has been given to tidying-up what is currently the northern part of Long Whatton & Diseworth parish as it extends over the airport; however, the communities in that parish are also affected by the airport and ensuring they have representatives covering the airport area ensures local voices can be heard.

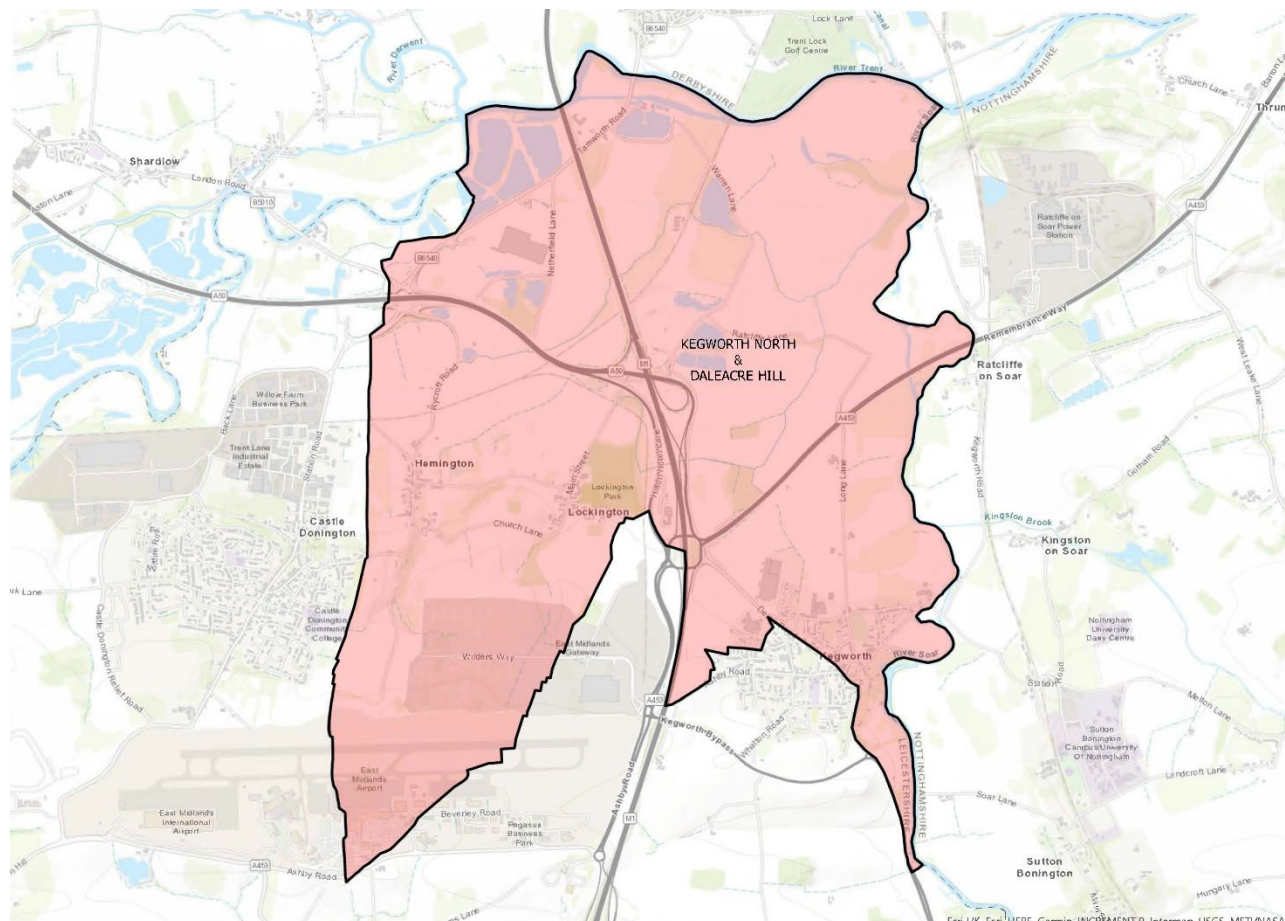
This ward includes parts of the following current wards:

Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
Kegworth	Cllr Ray Sutton
Long Whatton & Diseworth	Cllr Nicholas Rushton

KEGWORTH NORTH & DALEACRE HILL

Ward	Electorate 2023*	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
KEGWORTH NORTH & DALEACRE HILL	1960	-9%	2552	7%

* Based on current ward boundaries, not revised.



This ward is based on the current ward. It includes the parish of Lockington & Hemington and the current North ward of Kegworth parish. However, this gives a variance of -11%, which means there are too few electors in this ward at present. Therefore, the boundary between Kegworth North and Kegworth South will be adjusted as noted above in 'Kegworth'.

This ensures the whole of the existing ward is kept together, with a slight extension due to electoral inequality. The new development now included in the proposed Daleacre Hill has yet to be built, and so the residents of the site will not have the close affiliation with Kegworth that some of the more established communities do. In addition, this site is only accessible from the north or south access routes, and not directly east into Kegworth. As such, being a distinct community, it's link to Daleacre Hill via this warding arrangement leads to electoral equality without compromising on local representation.

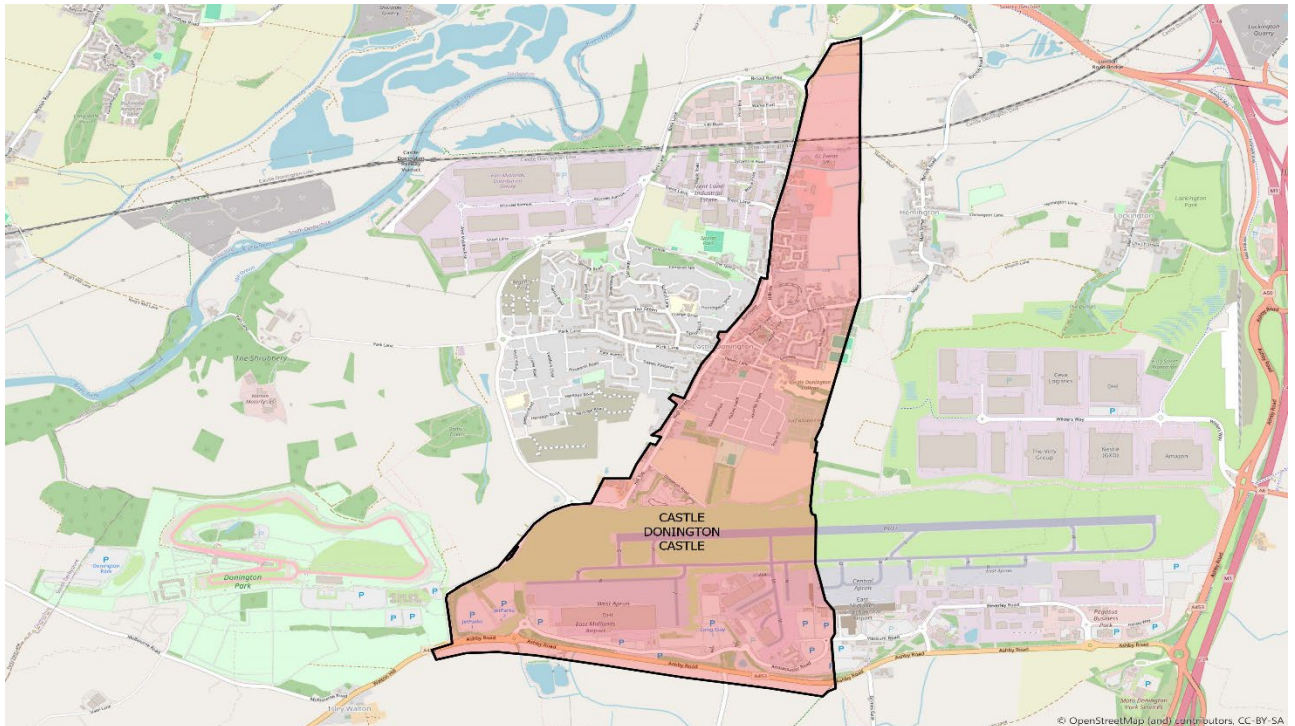
This ward includes parts of the following current wards:

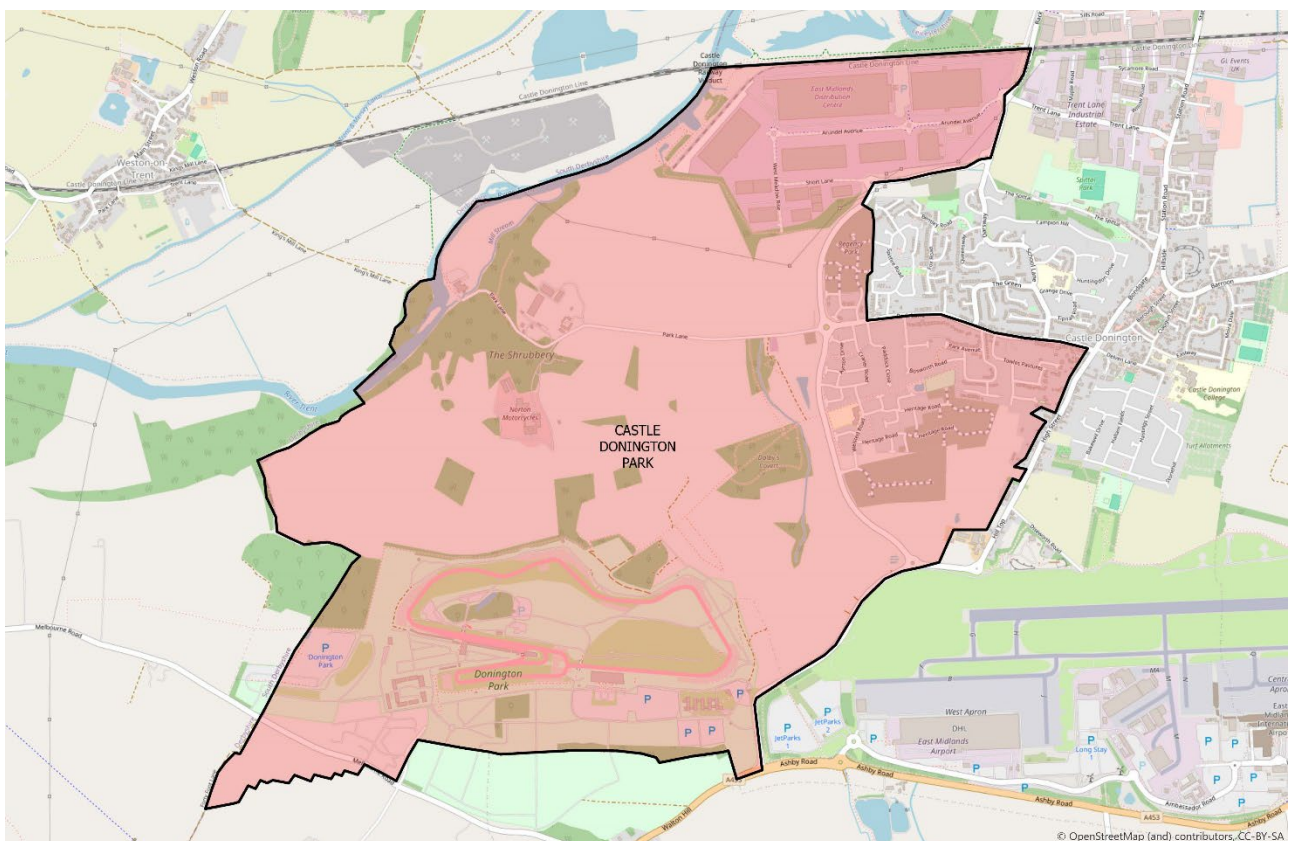
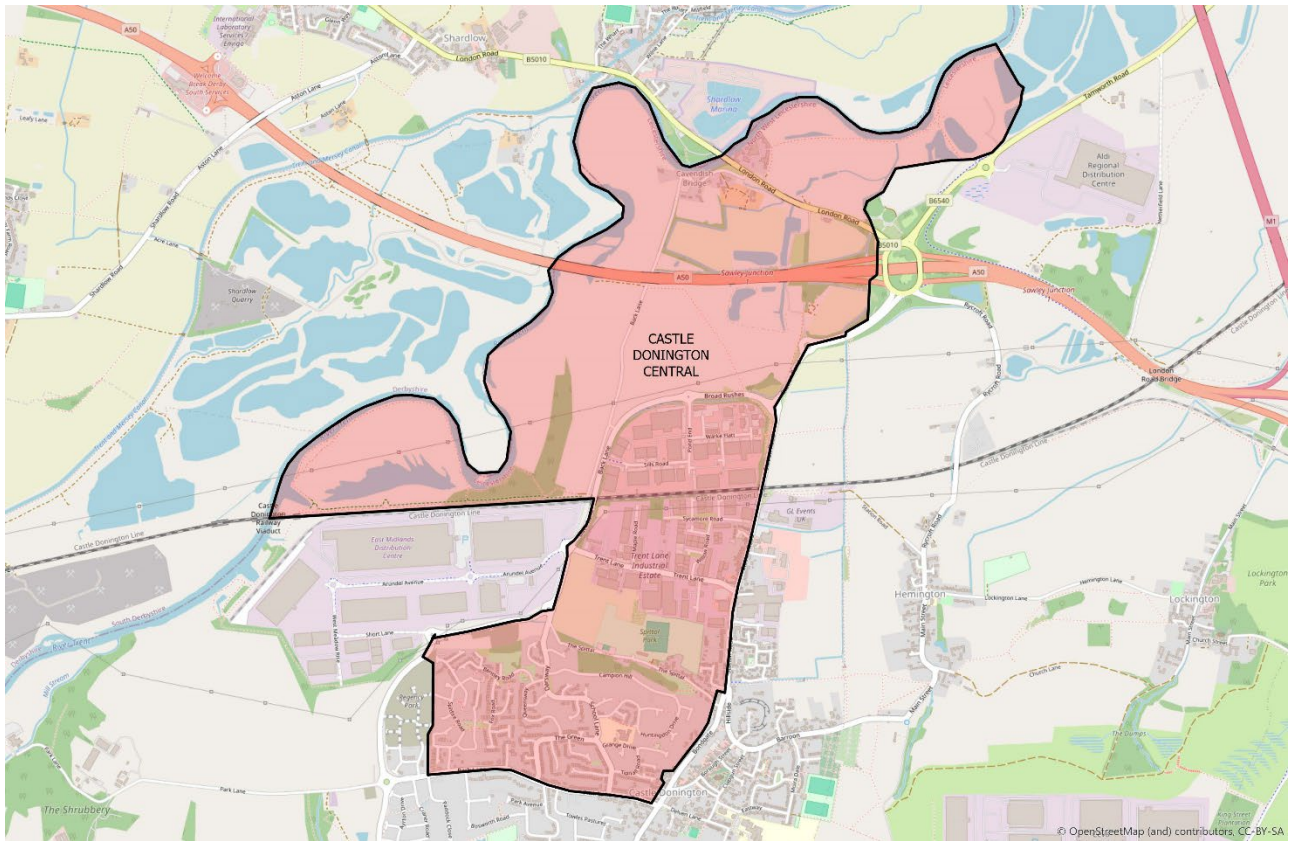
Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
Kegworth	Cllr Ray Sutton
Daleacre Hill	Cllr Carol Sewell

GROUP: CASTLE DONINGTON

Ward	Electorate 2023*	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
CASTLE DONINGTON CASTLE	2040	-6%	2161	-10%
CASTLE DONINGTON CENTRAL	1916	-11%	2298	-4%
CASTLE DONINGTON PARK	2104	-3%	2198	-8%

* Based on current ward boundaries, not revised.





Castle Donington is a discrete town in the north of the district, forming a triangle bordered on one side by the district boundary, on the second by Daleacre Hill, and the third by Breedon & Belton. As a more urban centre, the concerns and priorities of residents in Castle Donington are different to those of the more rural communities in neighbouring parishes. As a result, a

priority has been to adjust the wards within Castle Donington without extending any outside of the parish boundary.

The town has two main possible 'natural boundaries' – the main road, which runs north-south, and the railway running east-west. However, neither divide the town into appropriately-sized communities for new wards. Existing wards have therefore been used as a basis for creating new possible wards.

The revised Central ward include the roads off Spitfire Road. This tidies the boundary which currently cuts off the end of Bentley Road, and brings the whole of this distinct community into the same ward.

To adjust the electorate figures, a small number of properties (the western edge of Bondgate) are moved from Central to Castle. This means the rear of the properties are the new boundary, rather than the middle of the Bondgate road.

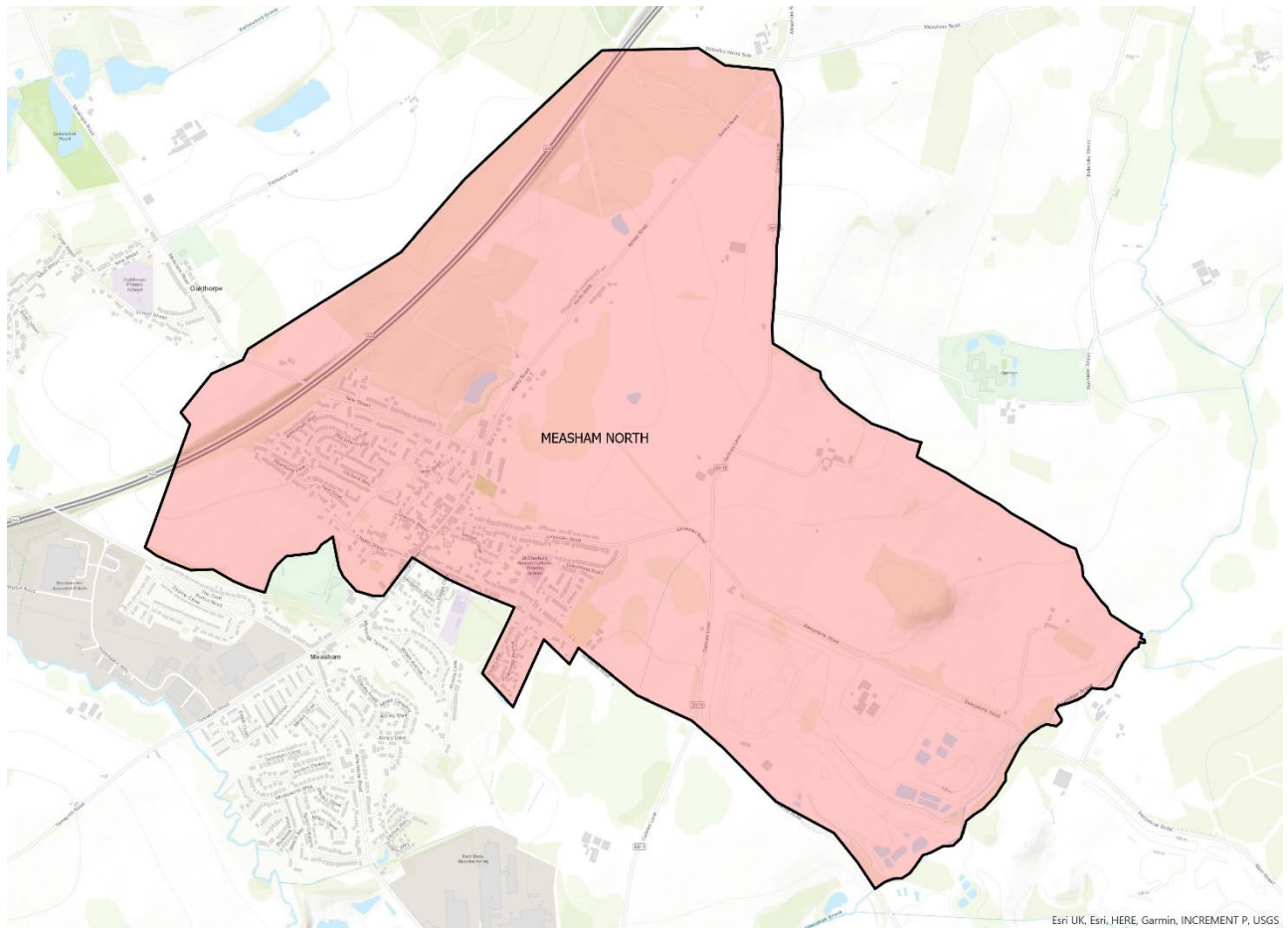
To equalise electorates, the boundary between Park and Castle is also adjusted, to run behind the properties on the western side of High Street and Hill Top, bringing both sides of the road into Castle ward.

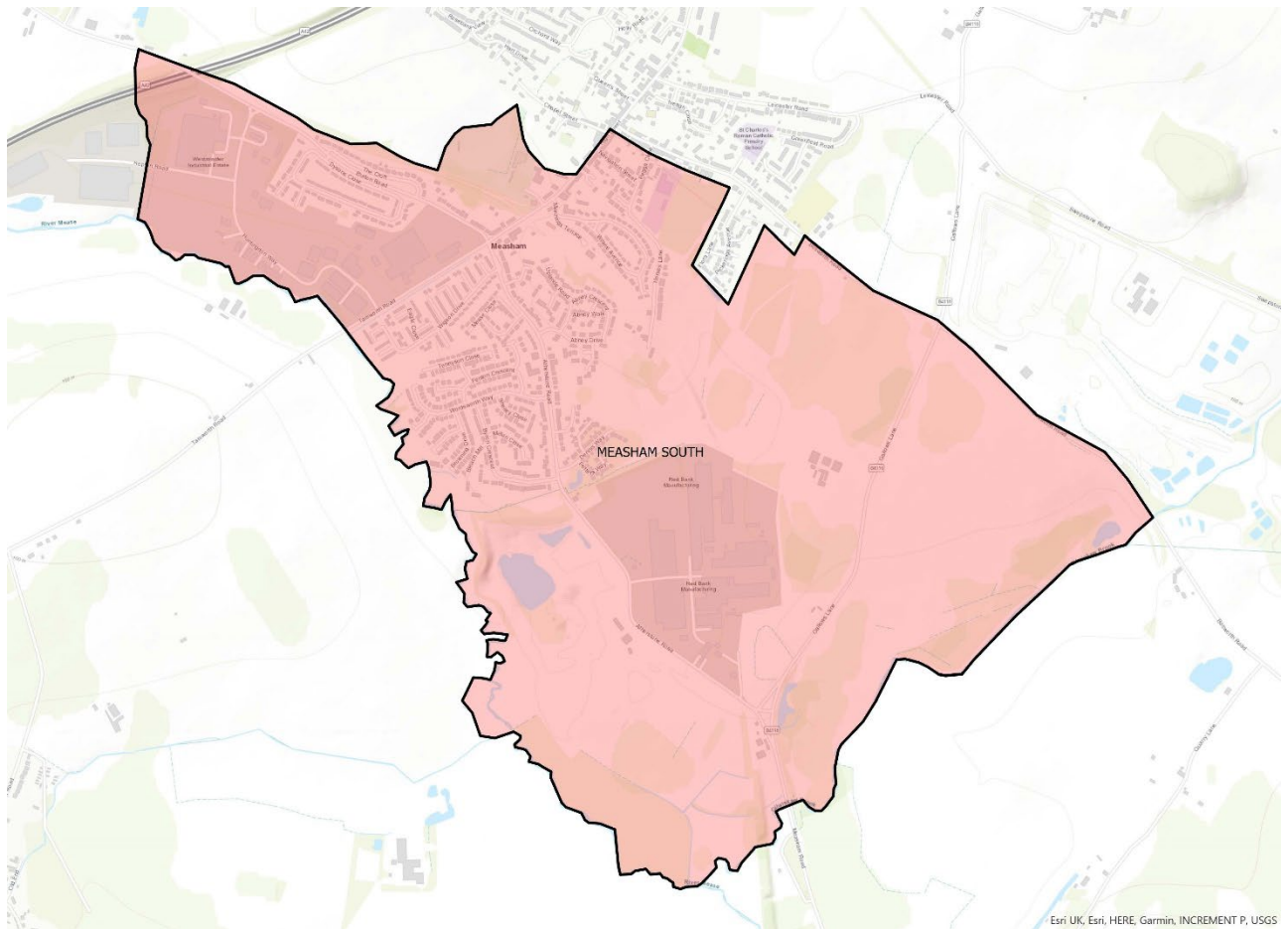
Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
Castle Donington Castle	Cllr Tony Saffell
Castle Donington Central	Cllr Rachel Canny
Castle Donington Park	Cllr Alison Morley

GROUP: MEASHAM

Ward	Electorate 2023*	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
MEASHAM NORTH	2067	-4%	2177	-9%
MEASHAM SOUTH	2031	-6%	2387	0%

* Based on current ward boundaries, not revised.





Measham is a town which will be served by two councillors in two single-member wards. If no changes are made to the boundary between the north and south wards, the electoral variance in 2030 will be +6% and -15% respectively, owing to the large development taking place in the north ward. To balance the electorates between the two wards, a relatively small number of electors need to be moved. Having reviewed the current ward boundaries and borders and communities within Measham, there is one small change that creates electoral equality whilst supporting the cohesiveness of communities in the town.

The small area to be moved is between the current boundary which runs along Navigation Road, to the centre of Bosworth Road, following this to the eastern boundary of the parish. This change also removes the anomaly in which the properties on Horses Lane will be included in the same ward as their neighbours in Wilkes Avenue and Abney Crescent.

Local members felt that placing the new ward boundary along the centre of Bosworth Road may be unhelpful, as both sides of the road are affected by the same local issues (such as speeding). As a result, the revised boundary is proposed to include both sides of Bosworth

Road. This adds an additional 102 electors to Measham South (variance 0%) from Measham North (variance -9%).

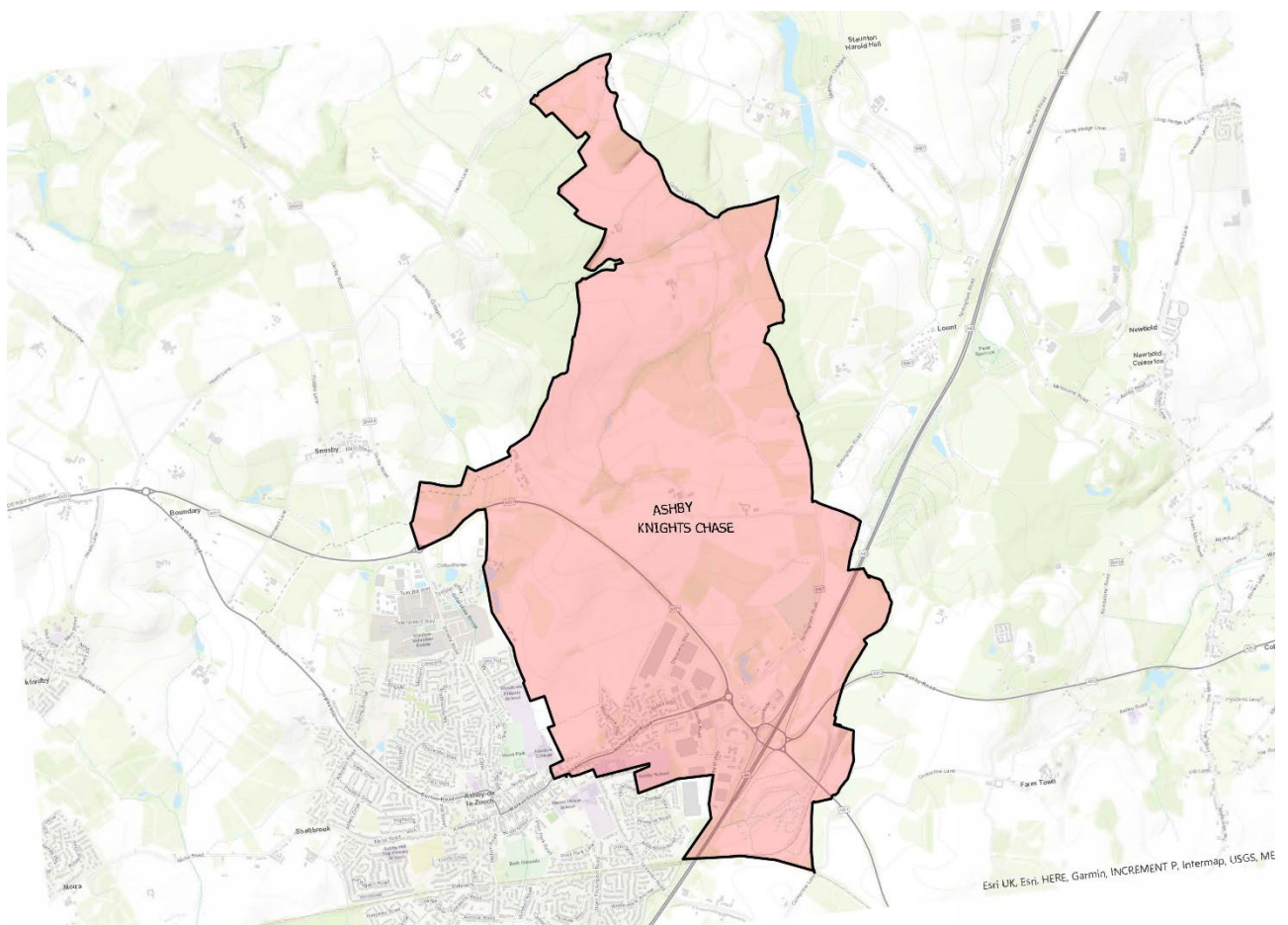
One local Member also felt that Pickerings Avenue and Centenary Place are more closely affiliated with the North than the South of Measham; however these roads run directly from Bosworth Road and the identity is aligned to that street rather. Any alternative split would require parts of the north-west of Measham becoming part of Measham South, which would affect communities across a wider area.

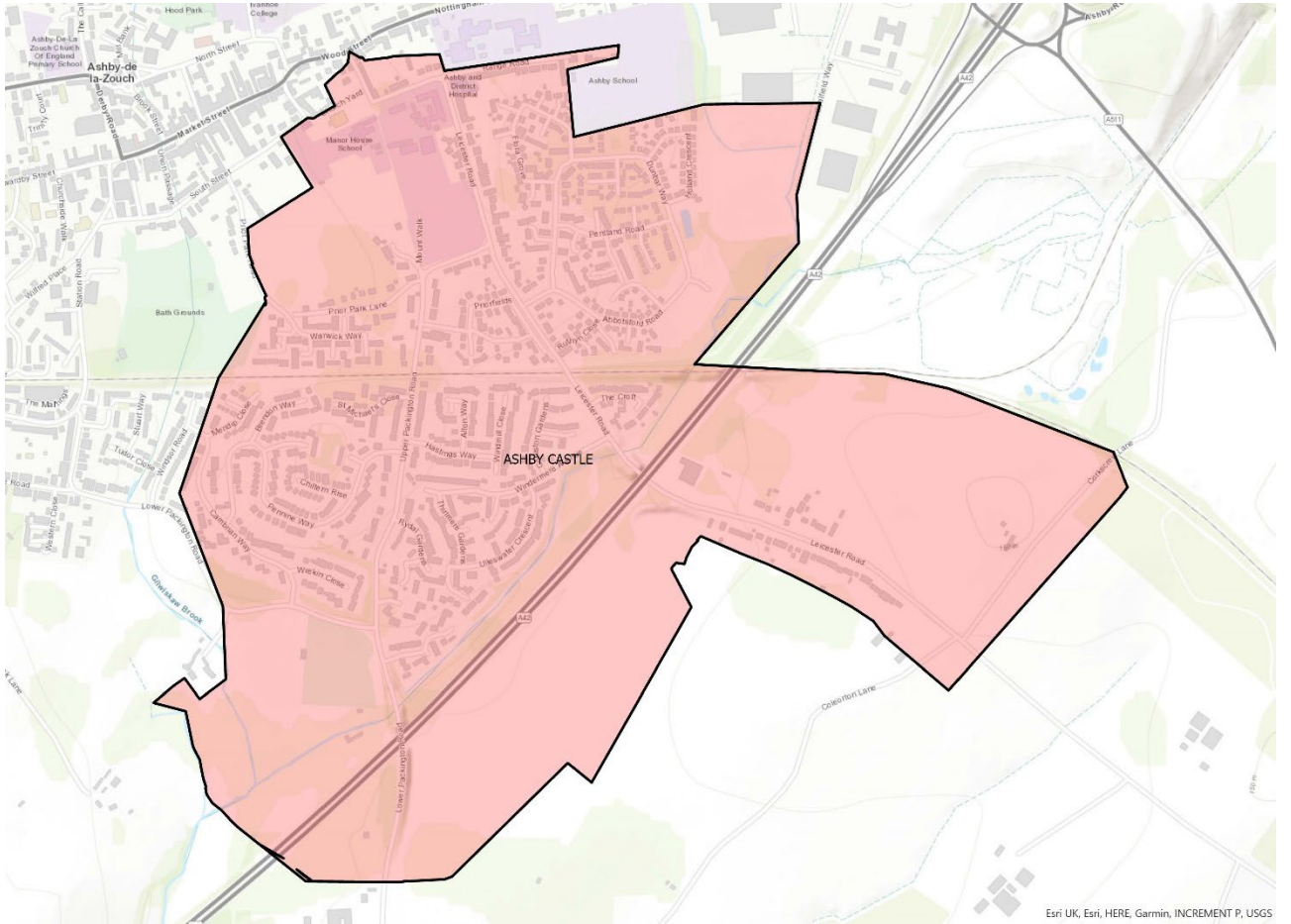
Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
Measham North	Cllr Paul Lees
Measham South	Cllr Sean Sheahan

GROUP: ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH

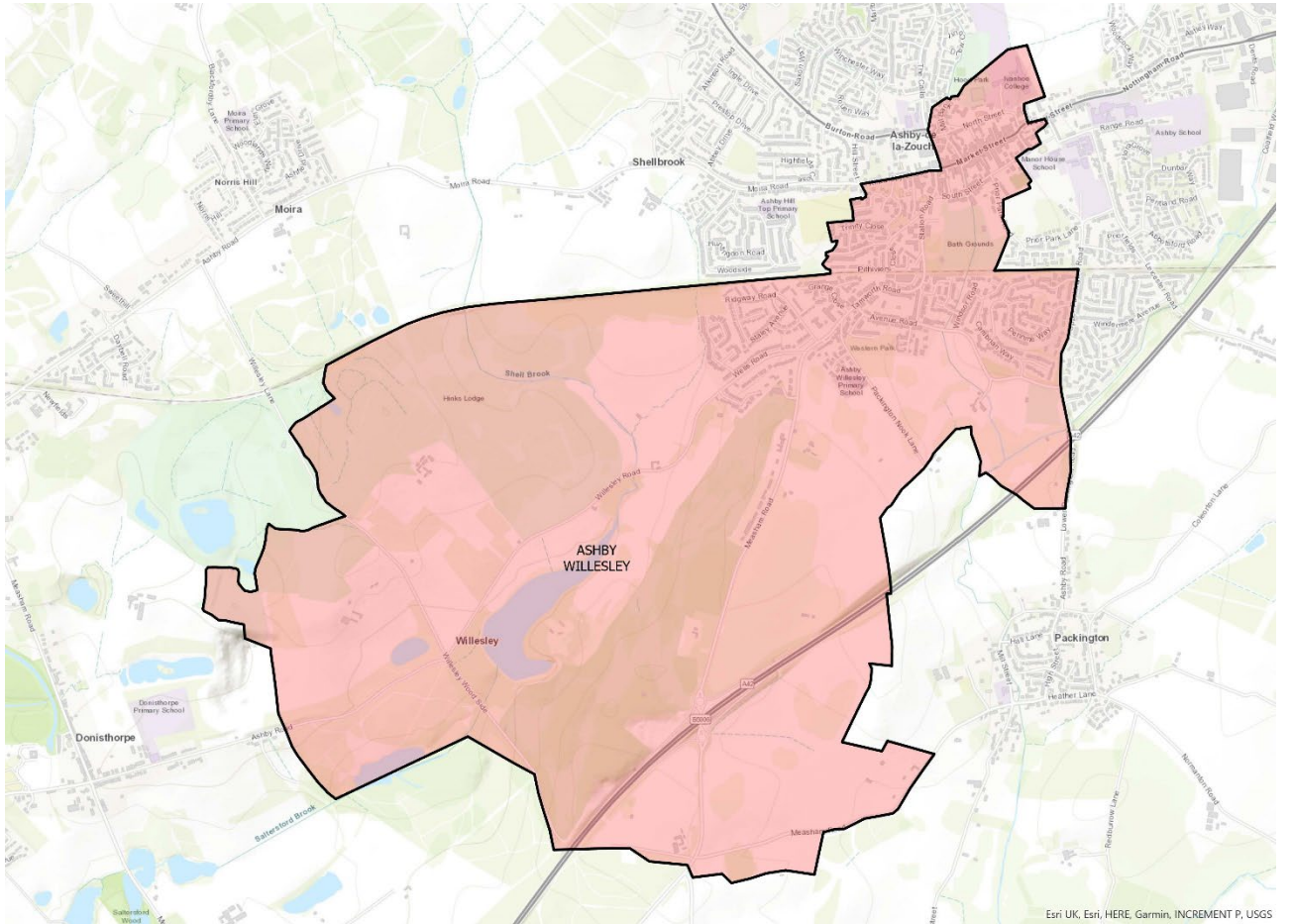
Ward	Electorate 2023*	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
ASHBY KNIGHTS CHASE	2325	8%	2576	8%
ASHBY CASTLE	2387	10%	2387	0%
ASHBY WILLESLEY	2073	-4%	2282	-4%
ASHBY HOLYWELL	2504	16%	2441	2%
ASHBY IVANHOE	2601	20%	2462	3%
ASHBY BLACKFORDBY ANNSWELL	n/a	n/a	2611	9%

* Based on current ward boundaries, not revised.

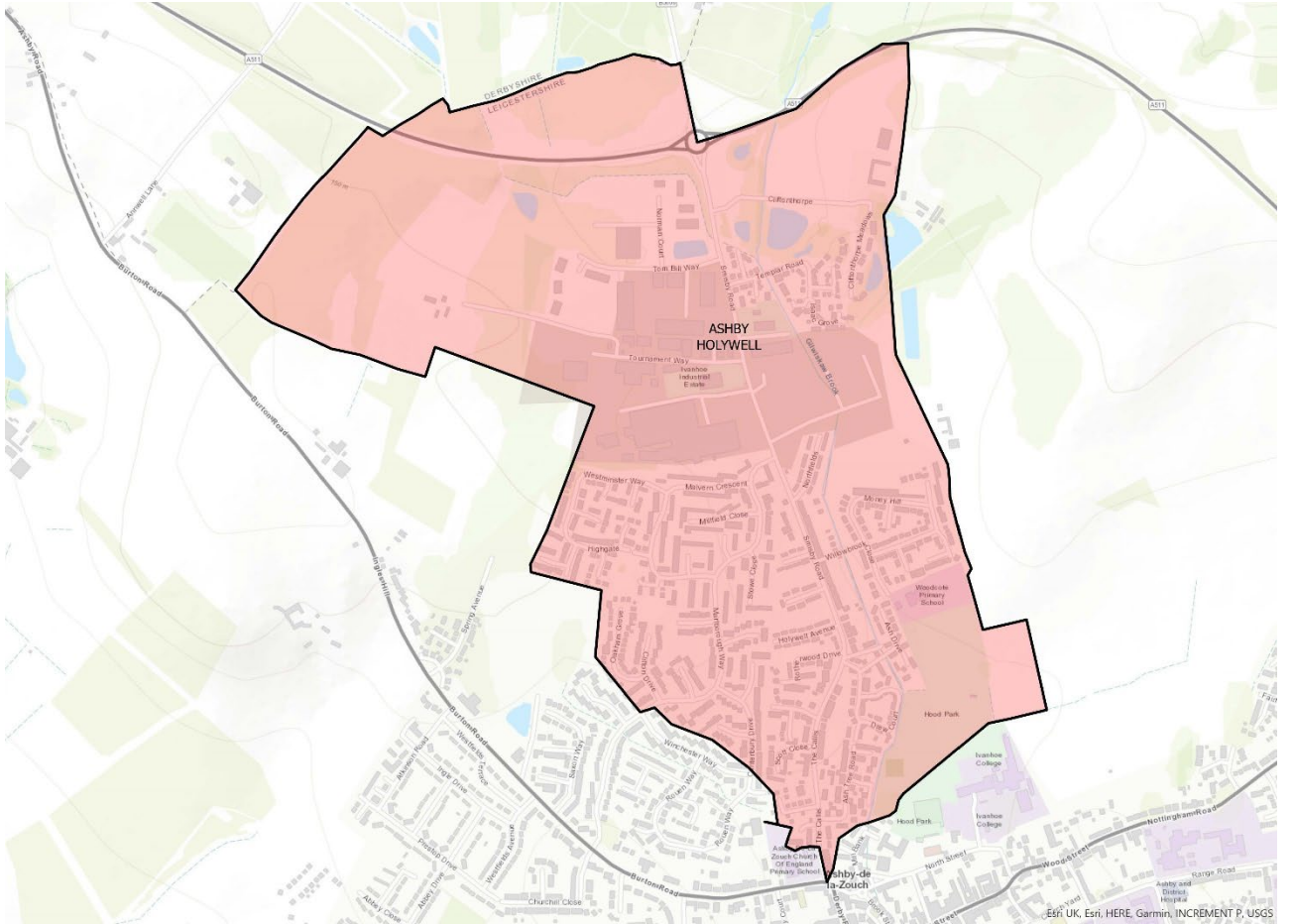


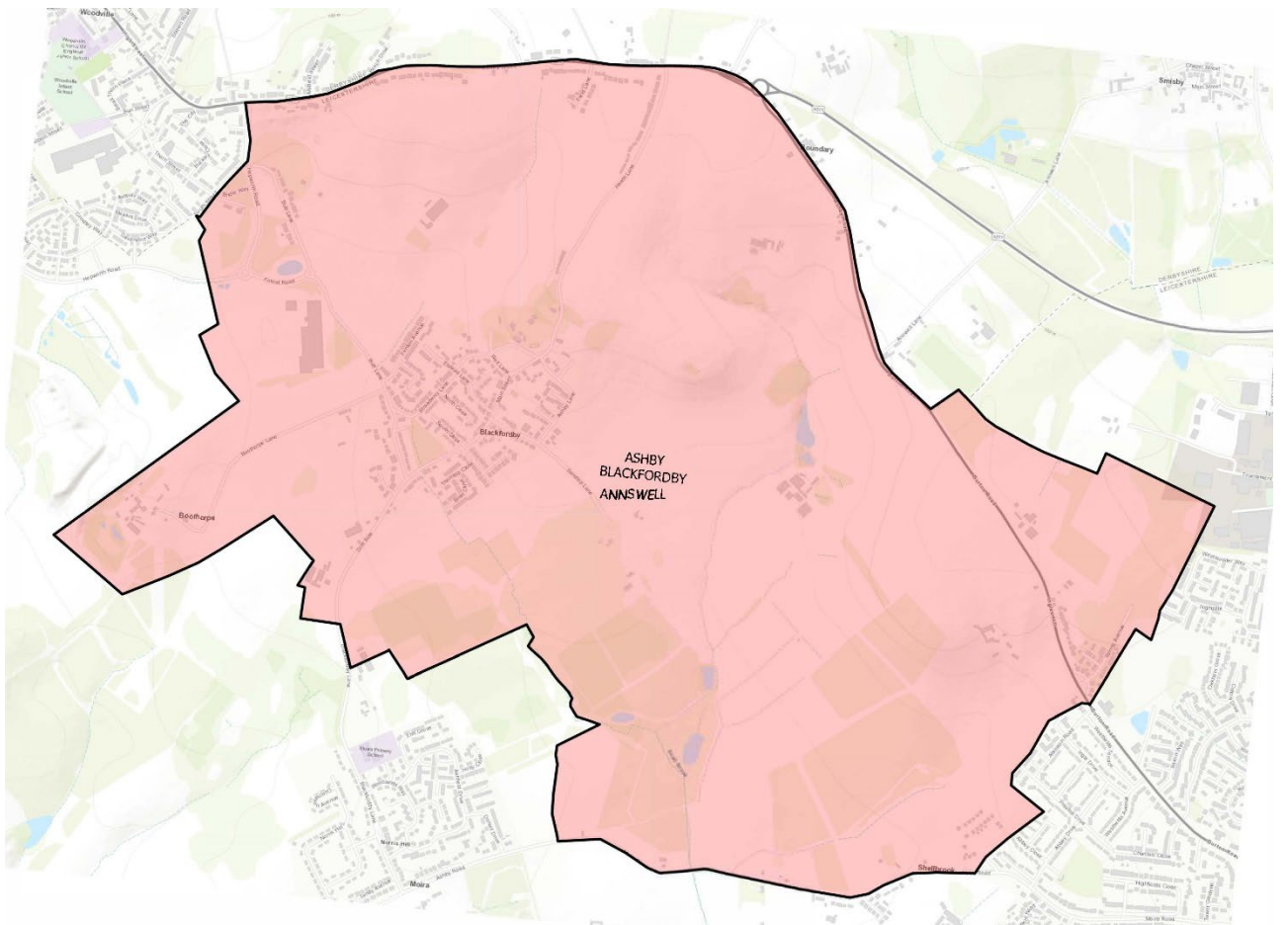
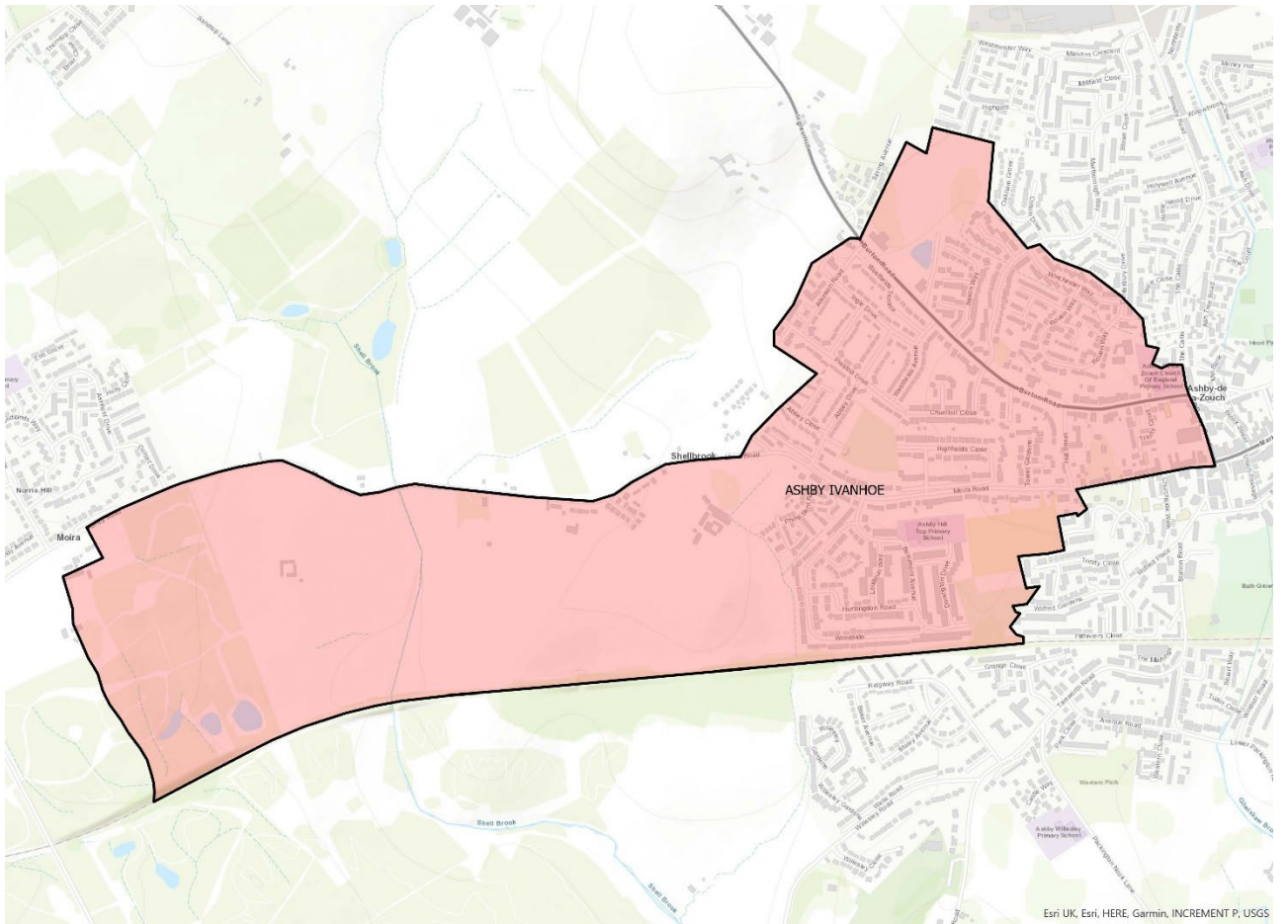


Esi UK, Esi, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, USGS



Esi UK, Esi, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, USGS





Ashby-de-la-Zouch will be served by six single-member wards. The parish council area covers a wide area, and a number of distinct communities, including a mix of new residential developments in the east, older housing in the centre, and rural communities in the south and west. It is a challenge to ensure wards reflect the different communities within them, particularly given the very significant new development site in the current Money Hill ward. These proposals outline how the new wards differ from existing wards, with which Councillors and local residents are familiar.

The very significant development in Money Hill means that, with no changes, it would have a variance of +61% in 2030. To remove that variance, substantial changes are needed to this ward and, consequentially, to other wards in the town. It is prudent to keep the new development in one ward, as they are similar styles of housing, built at the same time, and will form a new community. Therefore, until the properties are built and occupied, this ward will have a relatively small electorate although that will resolve over time. The new ward has an expected variance of 11%, but that depends on every property in the new development being completed, occupied, and electors registered by 2030; this may not be realistic, in which case the variance will remain within the 10% tolerance. The proposals here are:

- The area to the east of the main road (Smisby Road) through to (but excluding) the new development site is moved to Holywell
- The area around Market Street, South Street and the leisure centre is moved to Willesley
- The area south of Wood Street and Nottingham Road (including the properties on both sides of those roads) move to Castle
- To bring the electorate of Castle into alignment, the area west of Upper Packington Road is moved to Willesley
- The area to the west of and including Saxon Way is moved from Holywell to the new Blackfordby. This also ensures the whole of the area off Spring Lane is in the same ward, whereas it is currently split between two wards:
- In order to deliver electoral equality, and to ensure the whole of Ashby-de-la-Zouch boundaries are included in this group of wards, the existing Ivanhoe ward is split with the western side becoming Ashby Blackfordby with the addition of the Blackfordby parish ward. Following discussion with the Member Working Group, the communities of Woodville and Boothorpe, which look to Blackfordby as part of their community, have been included within this new Ashby ward. The split takes place to the west of development off Atkinson Road, and includes the rural households to the west of the town but excludes the properties that form the western edge of the current town

Following the Member briefing, the following alternative warding arrangement is proposed:

- (1) Ashby Castle boundaries remain unchanged from the present boundary.

- (2) Woodville remain outside of the Ashby wards. Members also suggested that Boothorpe remain outside of Ashby; however the very small community here is only accessed from Blackfordby, so is proposed to remain with Blackfordby.
- (3) All other wards in Ashby have been revised in line with proposals from local Councillors, to better reflect the local communities.

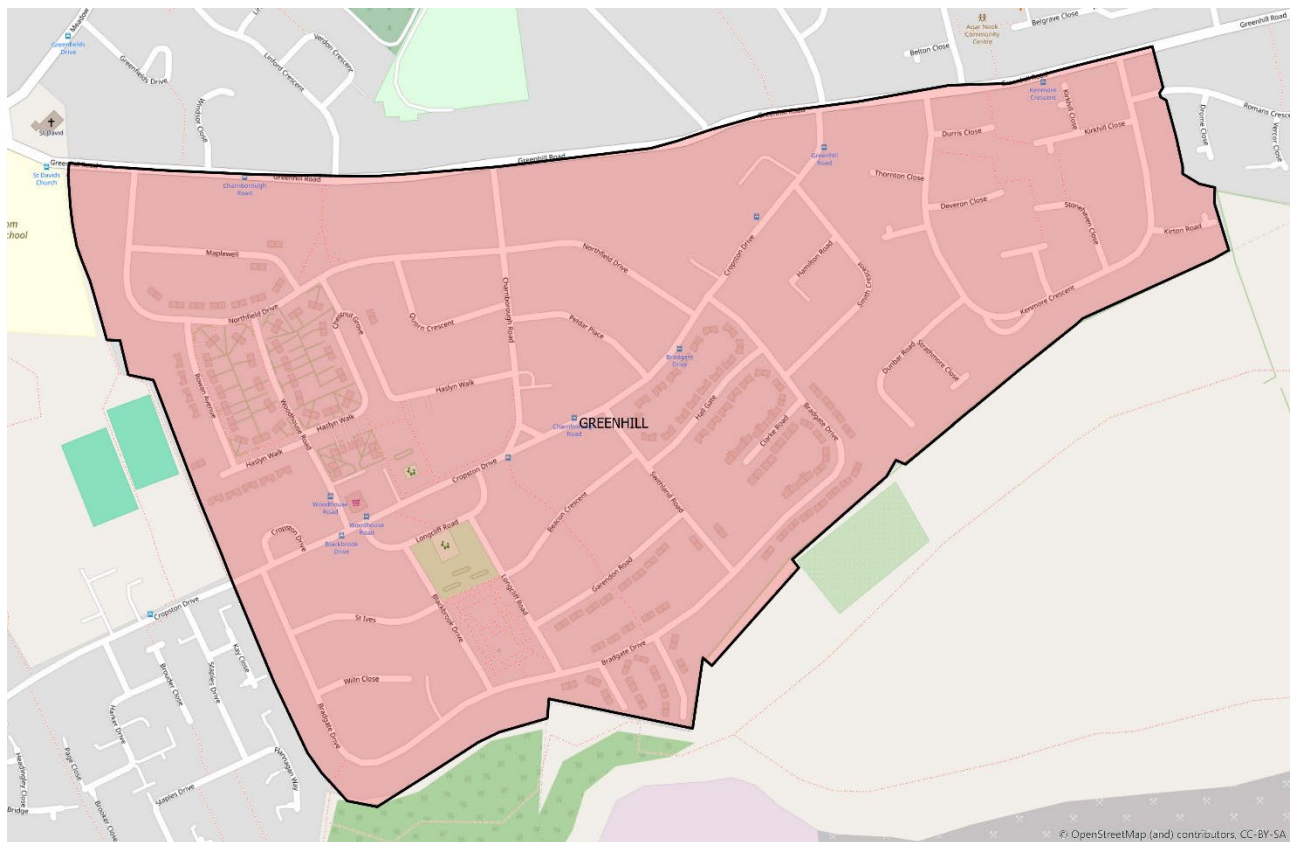
The knock-on impact of this is that an additional 338 electors from Woodville are moved to the Ashby Woulds group of wards.

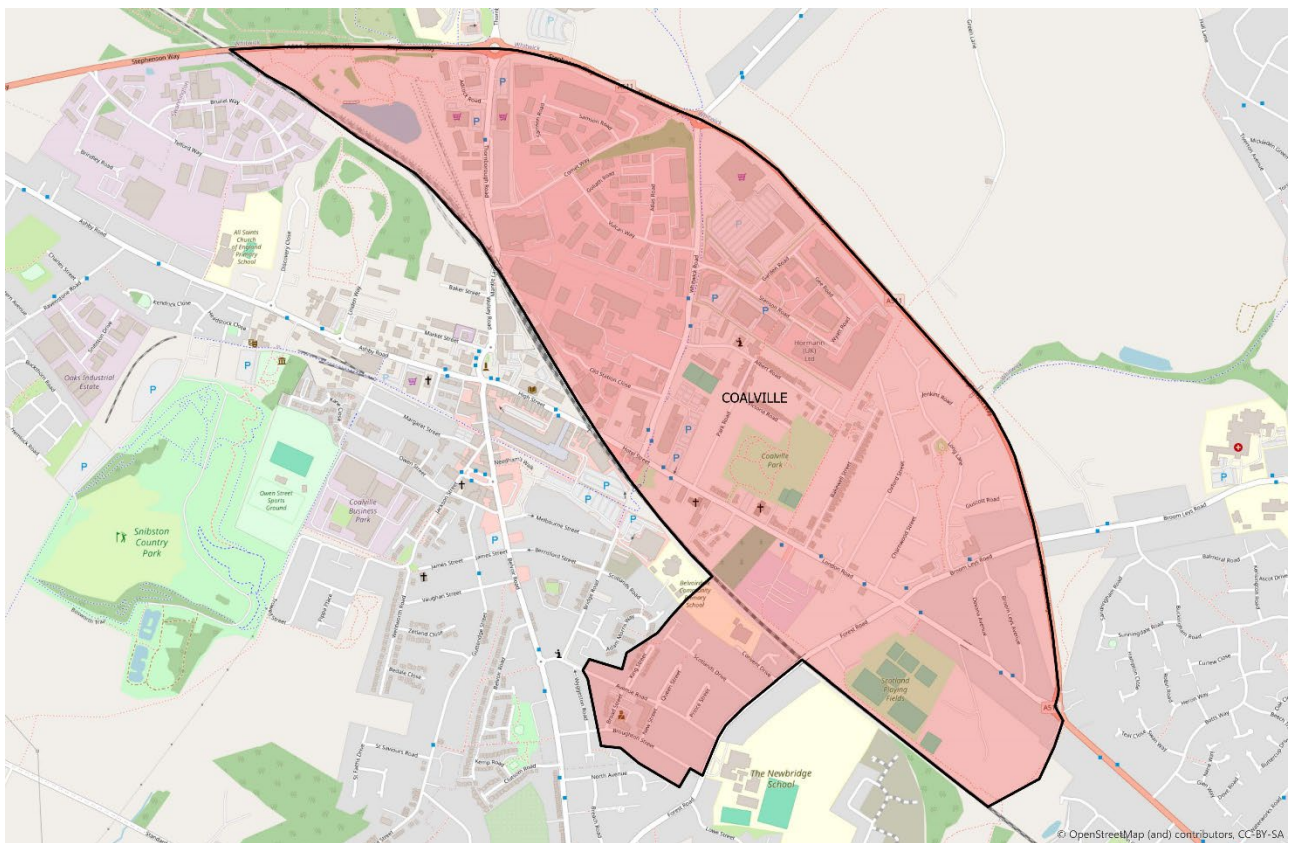
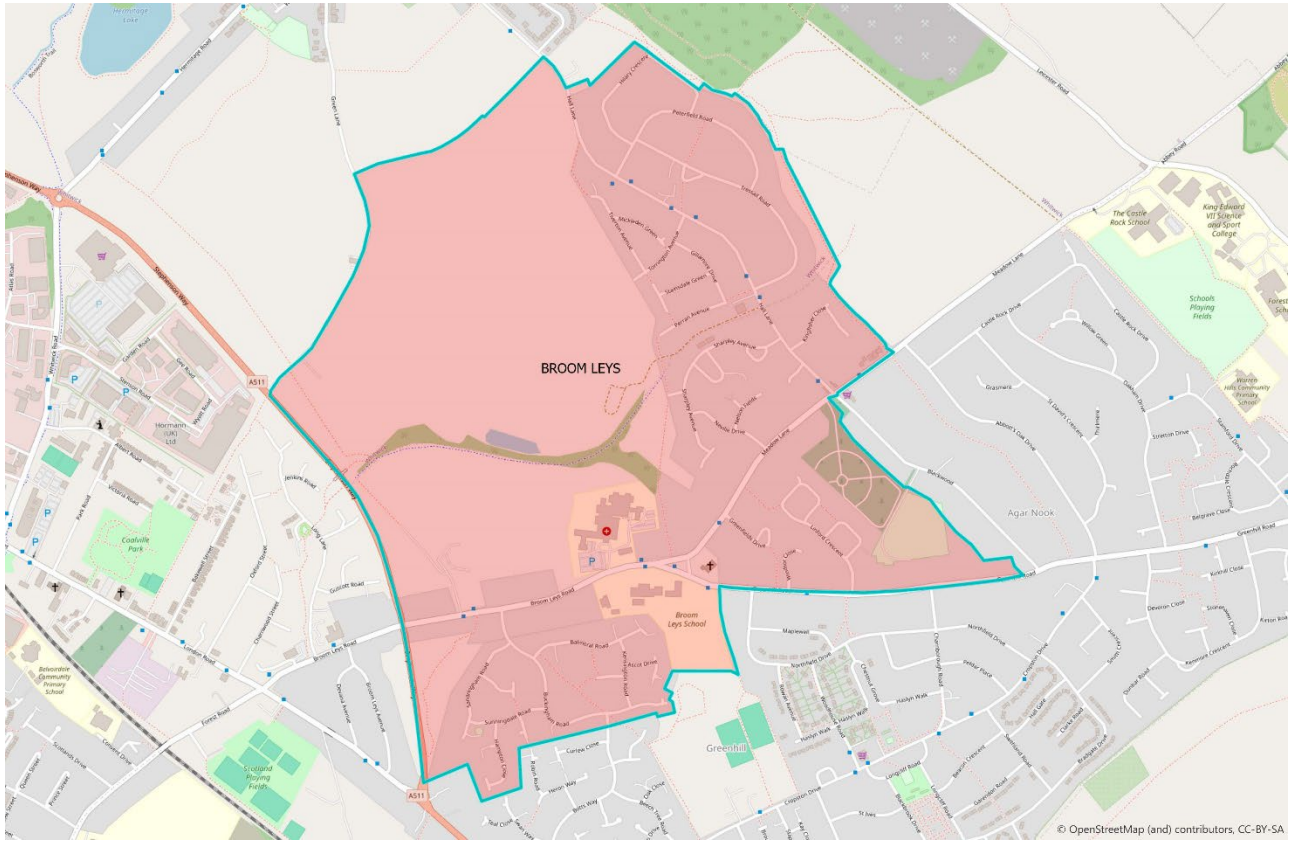
Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
Ashby Castle	Cllr Kenny Horn
Ashby Holywell	Cllr Avril Wilson
Ashby Ivanhoe	Cllr Elizabeth Parle
Ashby Money Hill	Cllr Murrae Blair-Park
Ashby Willesley	Cllr Dave Bigby
Blackfordby	Cllr Andrew Woodman

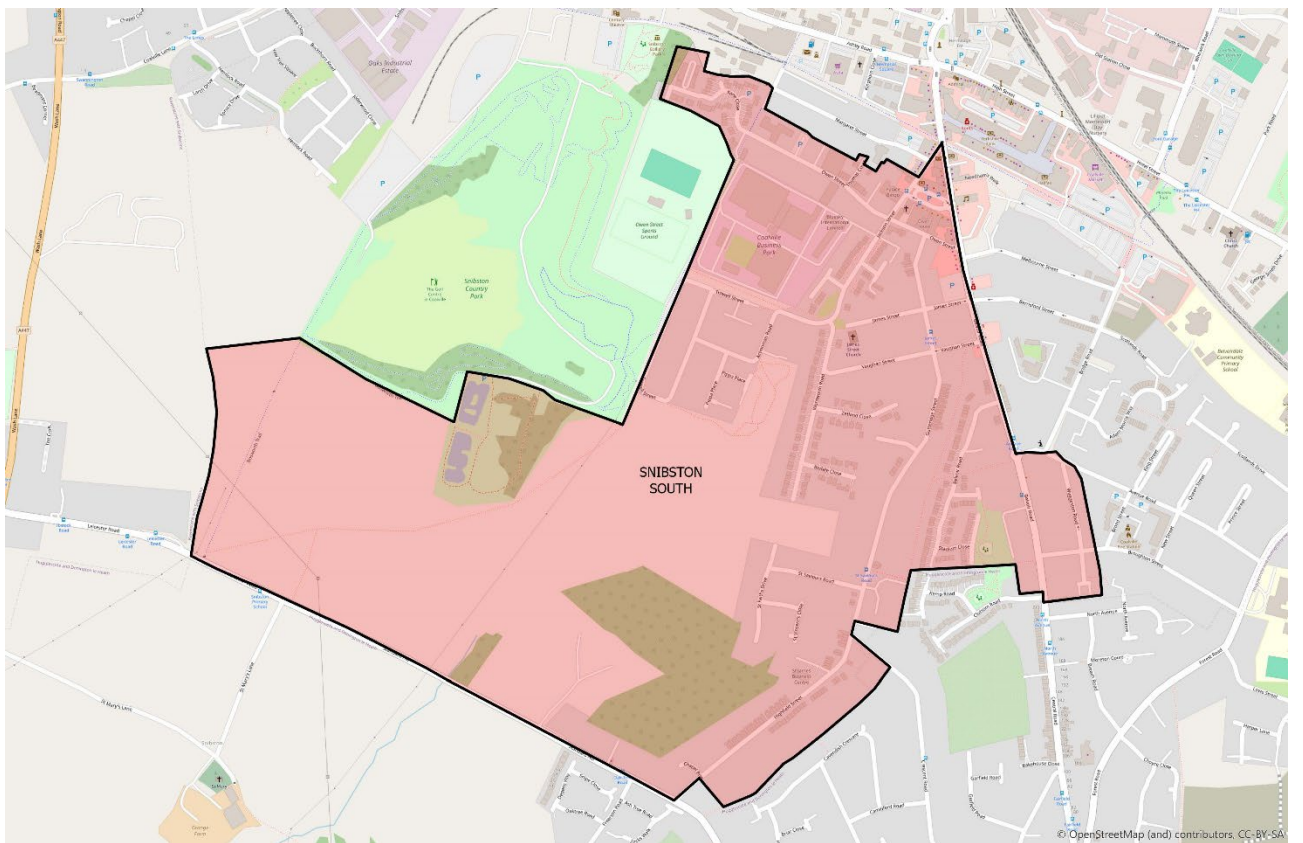
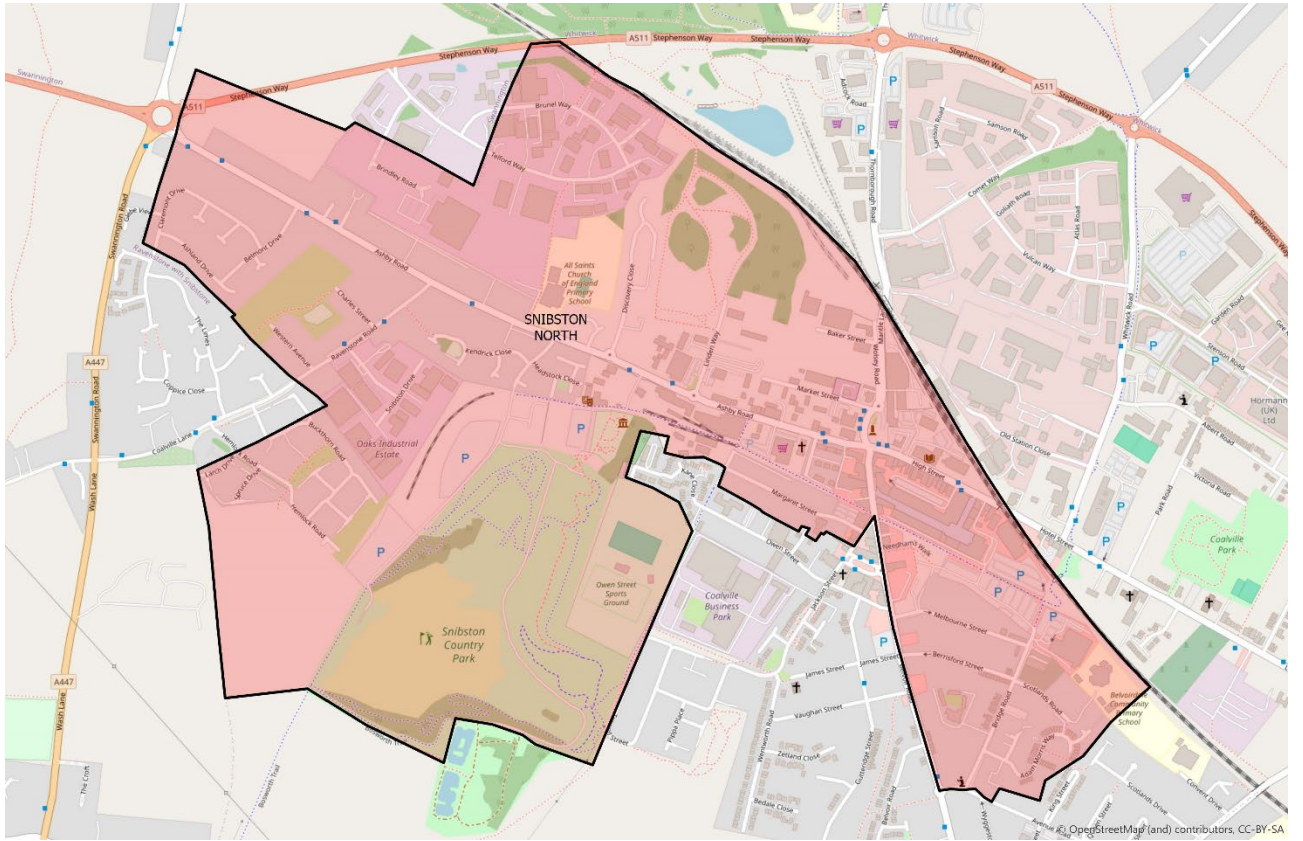
GROUP: COALVILLE

Ward	Electorate 2023*	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
GREENHILL	2099	-3%	2241	-6%
BROOM LEYS	2702	25%	2460	3%
COALVILLE EAST	1997	-8%		
COALVILLE WEST	1849	-14%		
COALVILLE	n/a		2546	7%
SNIBSTON NORTH	2620	21%	2684	12%
SNIBSTON SOUTH	1993	-8%	2607	9%

* Based on current ward boundaries, not revised.







Coalville as a whole will be served by 5 Councillors.

As it currently stands, Greenhill ward will have a variance of -12% in 2030. However, a minor adjustment brings that variance into an acceptable limit. Moving the northern boundary so it

follows the centre of Greenhill Road brings in an additional 121 electors. It also ensures the boundary line continues along the same Greenhill Road, which is also the boundary between Castle Rock and the current Greenhill ward. In addition, the whole of Cropston Drive is moved into Greenhill, which ensures a clearer boundary; it was previously split with some of the road and a small number of electors in Bardon.

Broom Leys is extended to include part of what is currently Coalville East, bringing the electorate variance up to an acceptable level. The new boundary follows the A511, which forms a natural barrier and demarcation line. As noted above, the boundary is adjusted such that the entire Blackwood Road is included in Castle Rock as the road is not a boundary between communities, but residents on both sides of the road consider themselves part of the same community of Castle Rock. In addition, The Pines is moved from the existing Broom Leys to Holly Hayes, noting that the small number of electors in this road are more closely aligned with the latter than the rest of Broom Leys (this adjustment also affects two properties on Hall Lane).

To bring the remaining areas into alignment, whilst reflecting community interests and identities, there are further changes between the current Coalville ward and Snibston wards. The whole of CTB and CWB polling districts, along with the eastern side of CWA (including Avenue Road and surrounds) form the new Coalville ward. The northern edge of Snibston North, north of the railway line, is also moved to Coalville as it is not accessible other than through Coalville, although this affects no electors.

The remainder of CWA forms part of Snibston North, which extends to the centre of Belvoir Road. The south-western corner of Snibston North now includes all properties in the Larch Drive, Bruce Drive area, resolving a long-standing boundary anomaly. One further adjustment moves Des Starbuck Close into Snibston South as it is only accessible from Kane Close (also in Snibston South).

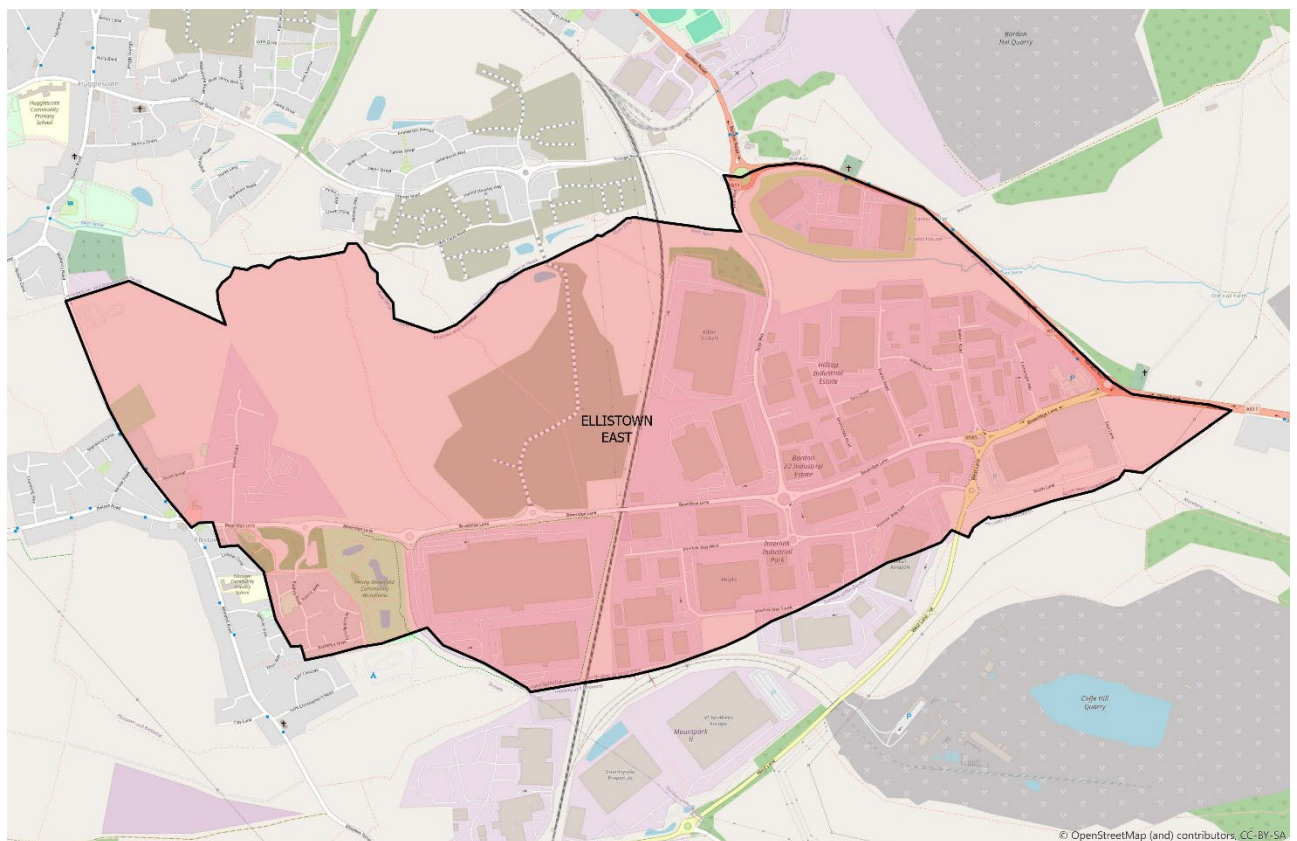
Although Snibston North as proposed has a variance of 12%, this reflects the boundaries and community identities in the area.

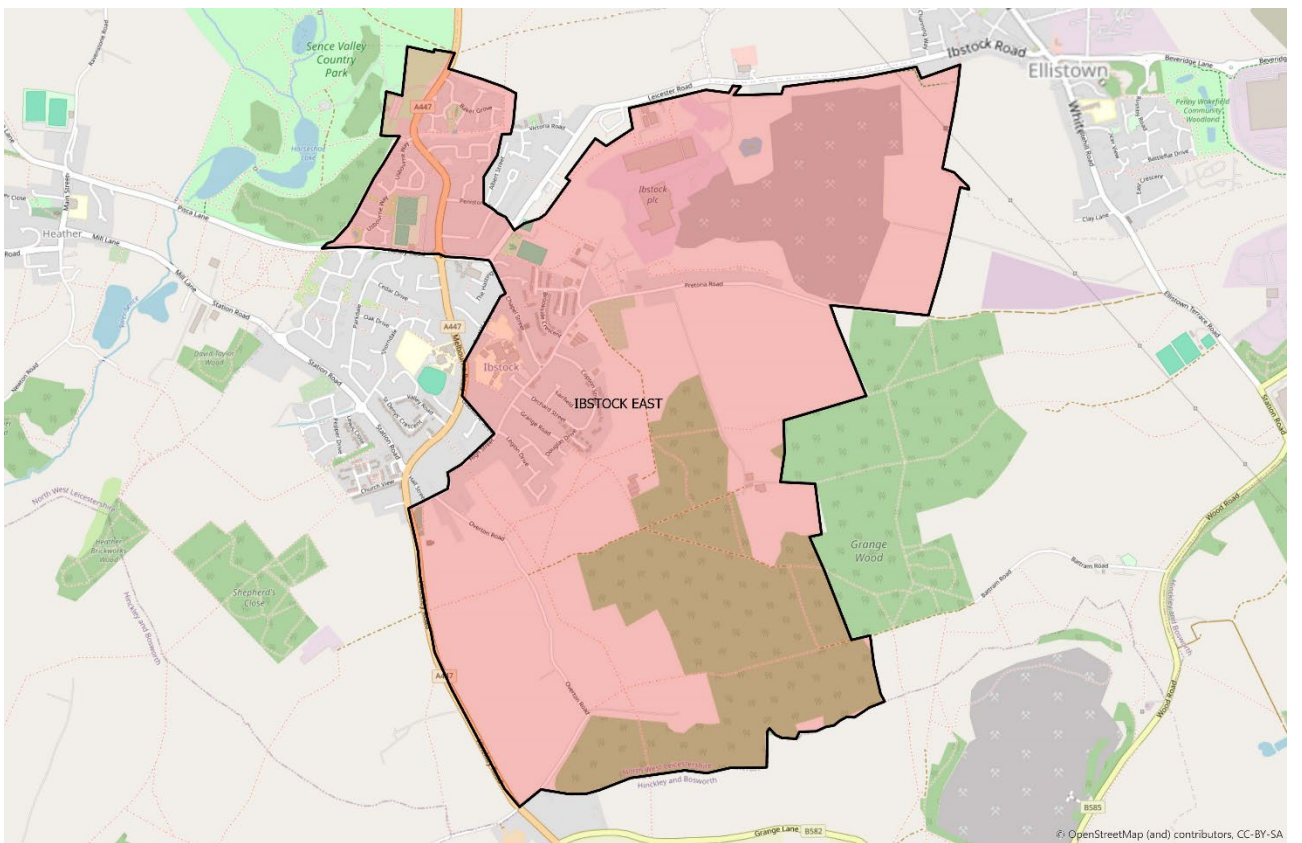
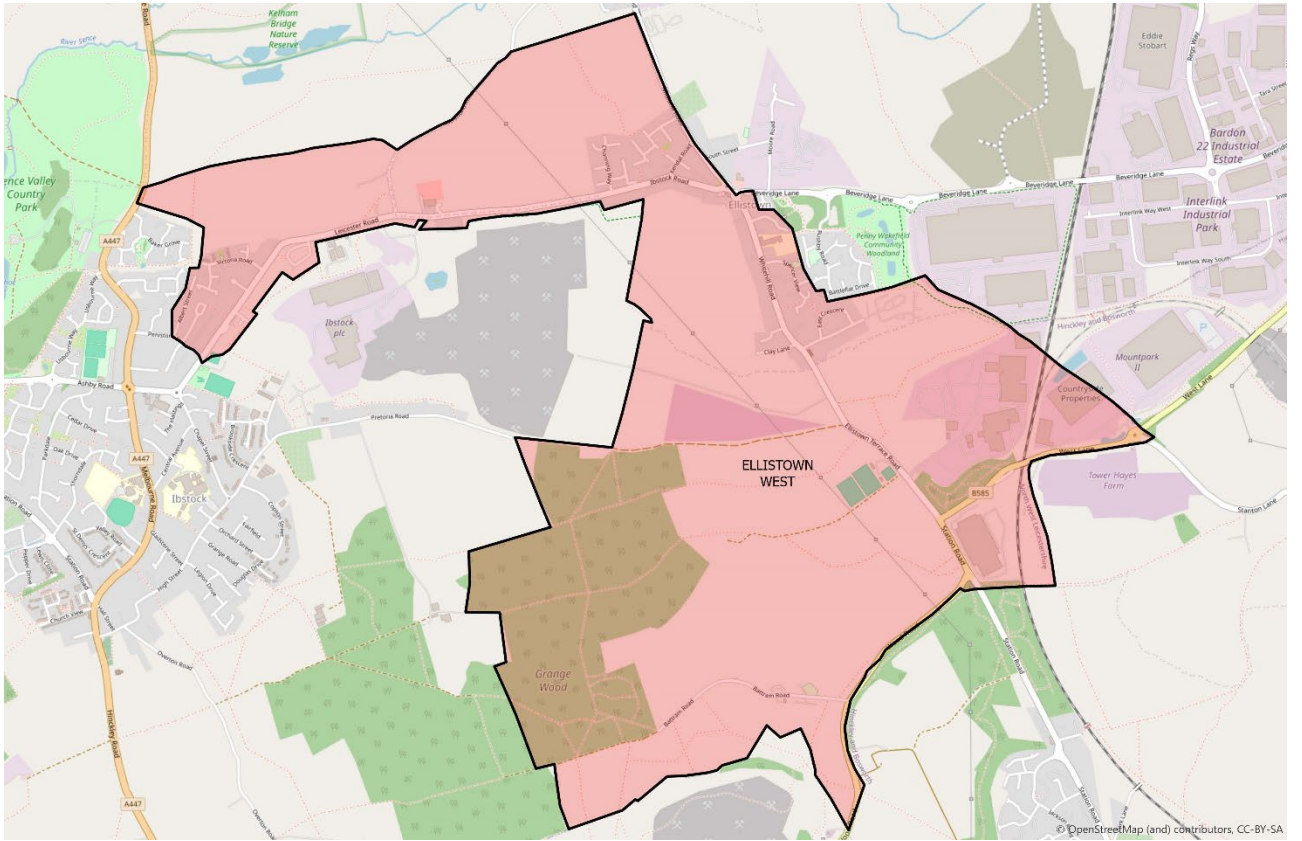
Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
GREENHILL	Cllr Jake Windram
BROOM LEYS	Cllr Lee Windram
COALVILLE EAST	Cllr Marie French
COALVILLE WEST	Cllr John Legrys
SNIBSTON NORTH	Cllr John Geary
SNIBSTON SOUTH	Vacant

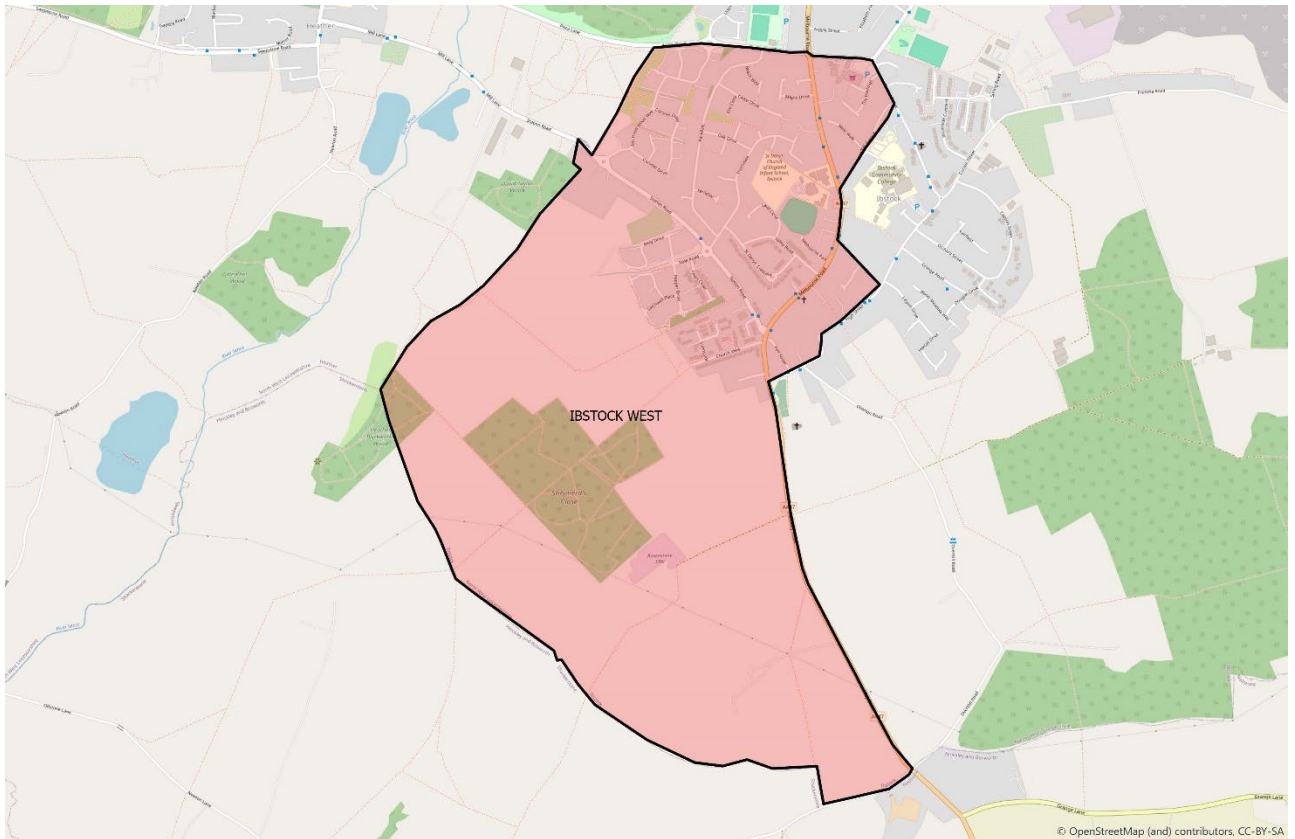
GROUP: IBSTOCK & ELLISTOWN

Ward	Electorate 2023*	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
Ellistown East	n/a		2344	-2%
Ellistown West	n/a		2292	-4%
Ellistown & Battleflat	2,058	-5%		
Ibstock East	3182	47%	2612	9%
Ibstock West	2378	10%	2378	0%

* Based on current ward boundaries, not revised.







The communities of Ibstock and Ellistown will, together, grow from an area served by three Councillors to one served by four. Much of this growth is in the large residential development in the east of Ellistown. However, to accommodate this growth, changes are required across the area to ensure electoral equality. In addition, the significantly smaller wards of Ibstock require some rebalancing.

This proposal places the whole of the new development, and the roads to the east of Midland Road, and south of Beveridge Lane, into the new Ellistown East ward. It is important that this new development is not split, as it is expected to become a community hub in its own right due to the size of the residential growth there.

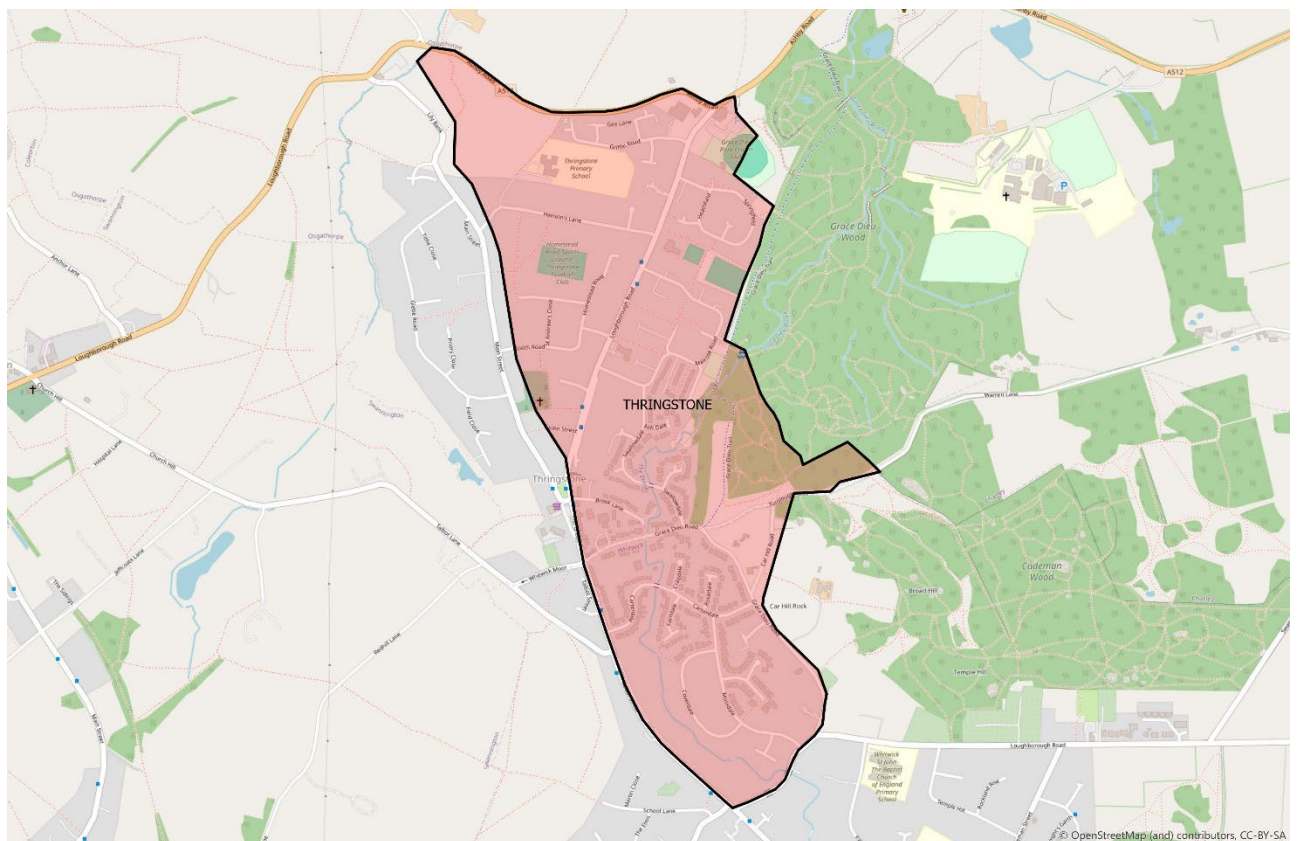
The remainder of Ellistown joins polling district IEB from the old Ibstock East, which is only accessible from Ellistown, along with parts of the northern edge of Ibstock (Leicester Road and a few residential roads to the north of it).

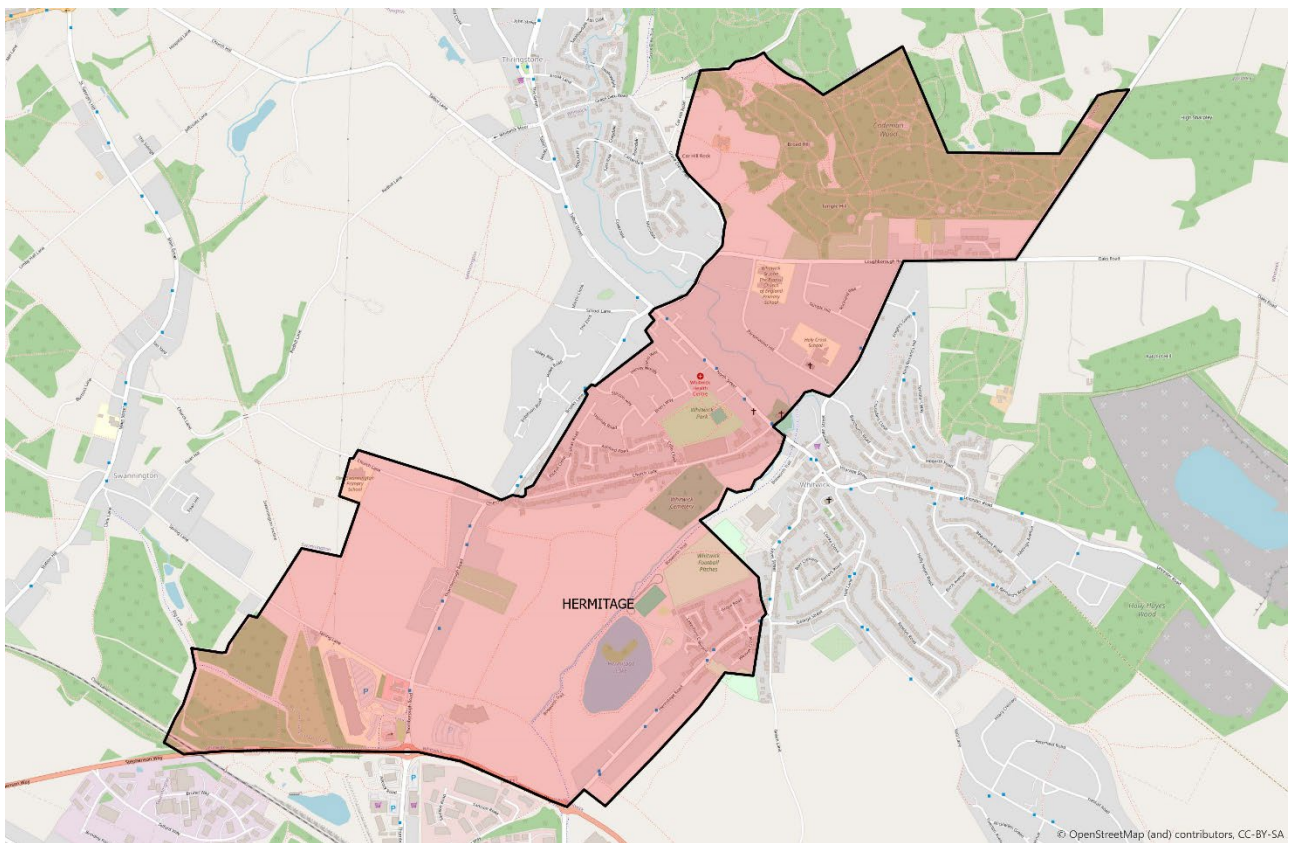
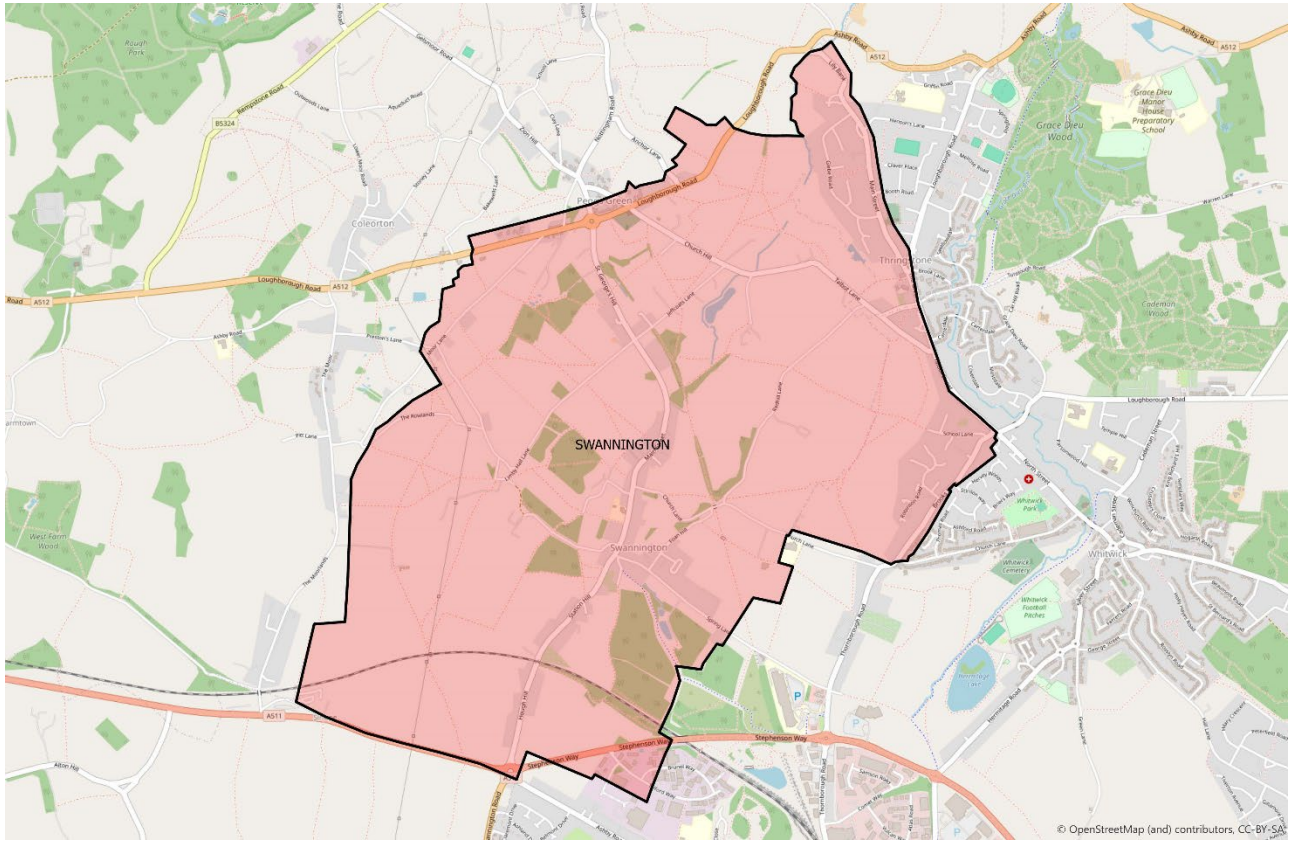
Ibstock West is unchanged.

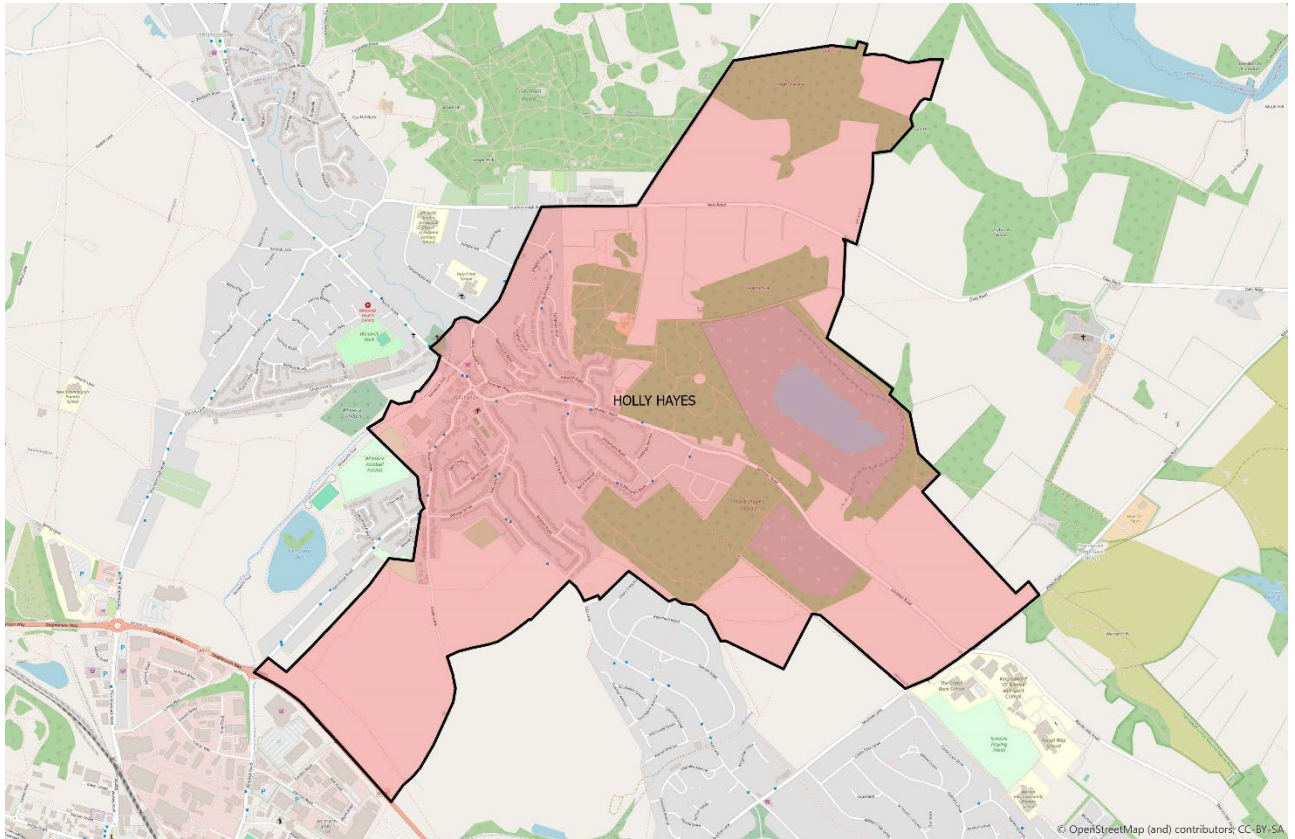
Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
Ibstock East	Cllr Jenny Simmons
Ibstock West	Cllr Simon Lambeth
Ellistown & Battleflat	Cllr Keith Merrie

GROUP: WHITWICK & THRINGSTONE

Ward	Electorate 2023*	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
THORNBOROUGH	2057	-5%		
THRINGSTONE	3244	50%	2151	-10%
VALLEY	2282	6%		
SWANNINGTON			2273	-5%
HERMITAGE	2672	24%	2224	-7%
HOLLY HAYES	1932	-11%	2319	-3%







Due to electoral growth, this area will be served four (up from 3) Councillors.

Swannington alone is too small for a single Councillor, so is joined by the western part of Thringstone (Main Street and roads to the west of it) and the majority of the TBA polling district (excluding the southern part).

The new Hermitage ward takes on part of Thornborough, the rest of TBA polling district, and the majority of HE (Hermitage parish ward of Whitwick parish council) excluding Silver Street and roads to the north of it, which form a neater alignment with Holly Hayes.

The new Holly Hayes ward is the existing parish ward of that name, with the addition of a small part of Hermitage ward as noted above. In addition, The Pines is moved from the existing Broom Leys to Holly Hayes, noting that the small number of electors in this road are more closely aligned with the latter than the rest of Broom Leys (this adjustment also affects two properties on Hall Lane).

Thringstone ward, having donated the western edge to Swannington, takes on the northern part of TBB polling district (which was in Thornborough ward). Despite parish boundaries, these properties form a continuous flow.

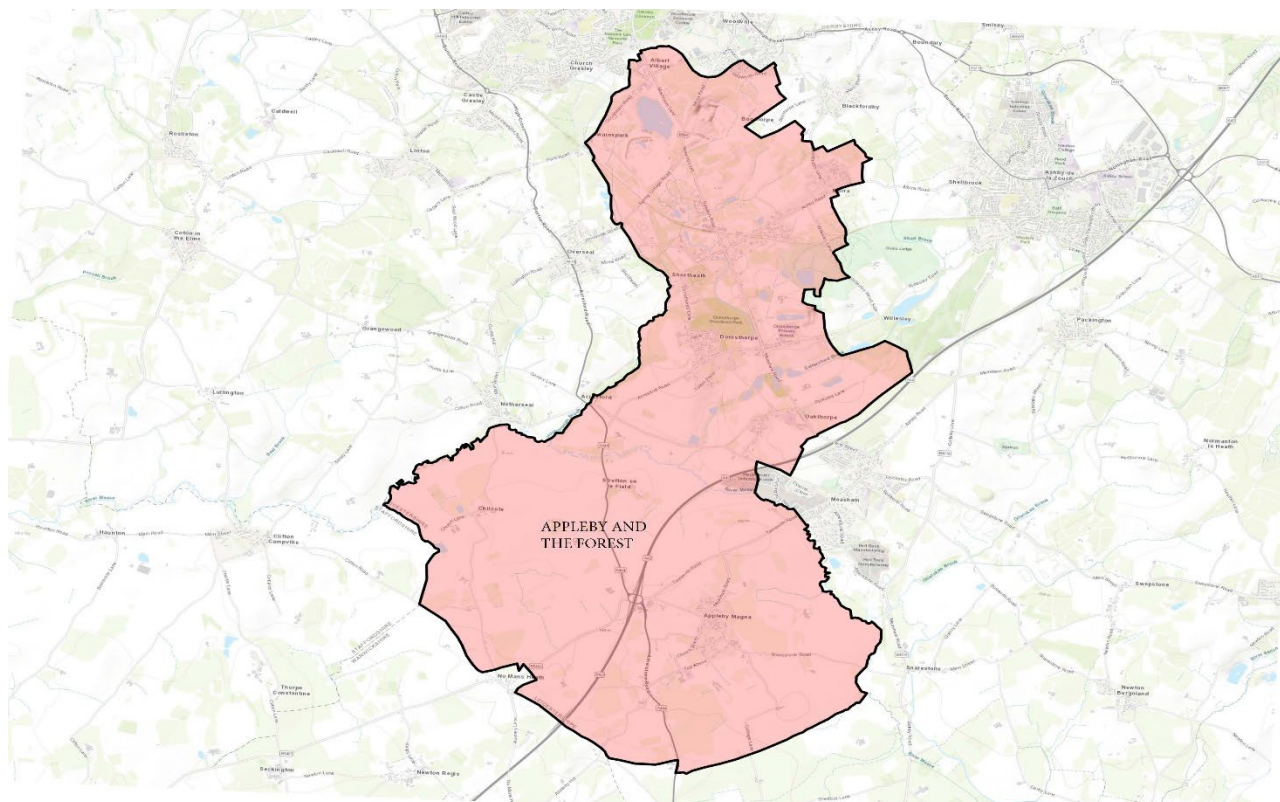
These new wards each have intra-ward access and good community representation.

These proposals do result in communities being split and reconfigured into new district wards. This is because each parish is too small to be a ward alone, and too big to be joined in pairs.

Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
THORNBOROUGH	Cllr Peter Moulton
THRINGSTONE	Cllr David Everitt
VALLEY	Cllr Russell Boam

GROUP: APPLEBY AND THE FOREST

Ward	Electorate 2023	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
APPLEBY AND THE FOREST Three-Member ward	6878	6%	6912	-4%



The communities of the south-west corner of the district will be served by 3 councillors in total. However, it is not straightforward to create three single-member wards in this area as it results in splitting communities artificially. After considerable thought and careful discussion by the Member Working Group, a solution was developed that ensured communities were kept together, and links between communities were preserved, whilst attempting to minimise the overall size of the ward.

The proposal for the area was:

- One two-member ward, serving Moira, Albert, Norris Hill, Oakthorpe, and the eastern side of Donisthorpe, with the boundary following clearly identifiable features (the stream, edge of woodland and footpath) to include Ramscliff Road and everything east of it. This ward has good community links, keeping the communities of Moira, Albert and Norris Hill together and supplementing with the smaller community of Oakthorpe. Good road links join these areas together.
- One single-member ward, serving the majority of Donisthorpe (west of Ramscliff Road), Appleby Magna, Chilcote, Stretton-en-le-Field, and Acresford. This ward also has

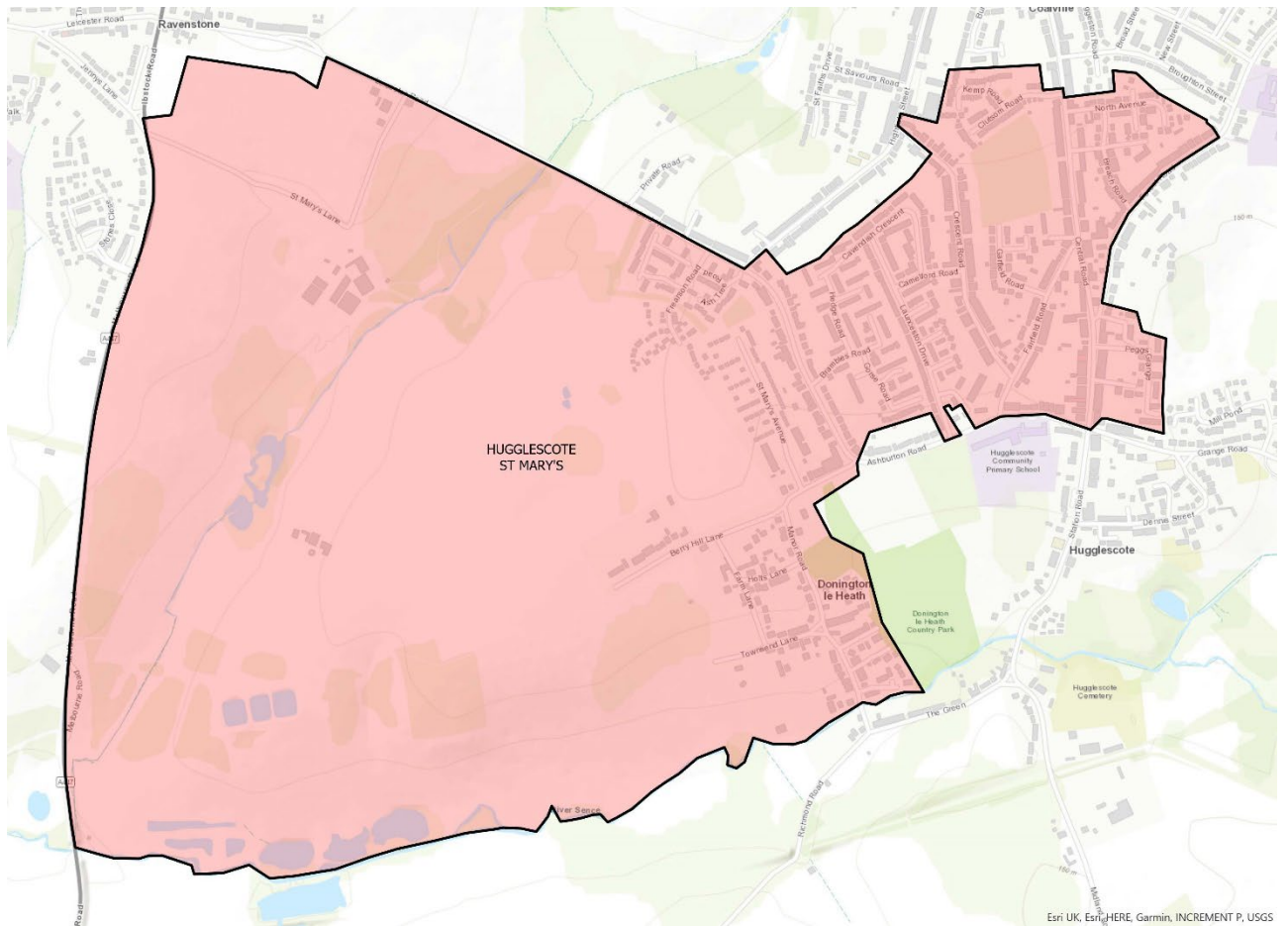
good intra-ward roads, and ensures smaller communities are not split further for the sake of electoral equality.

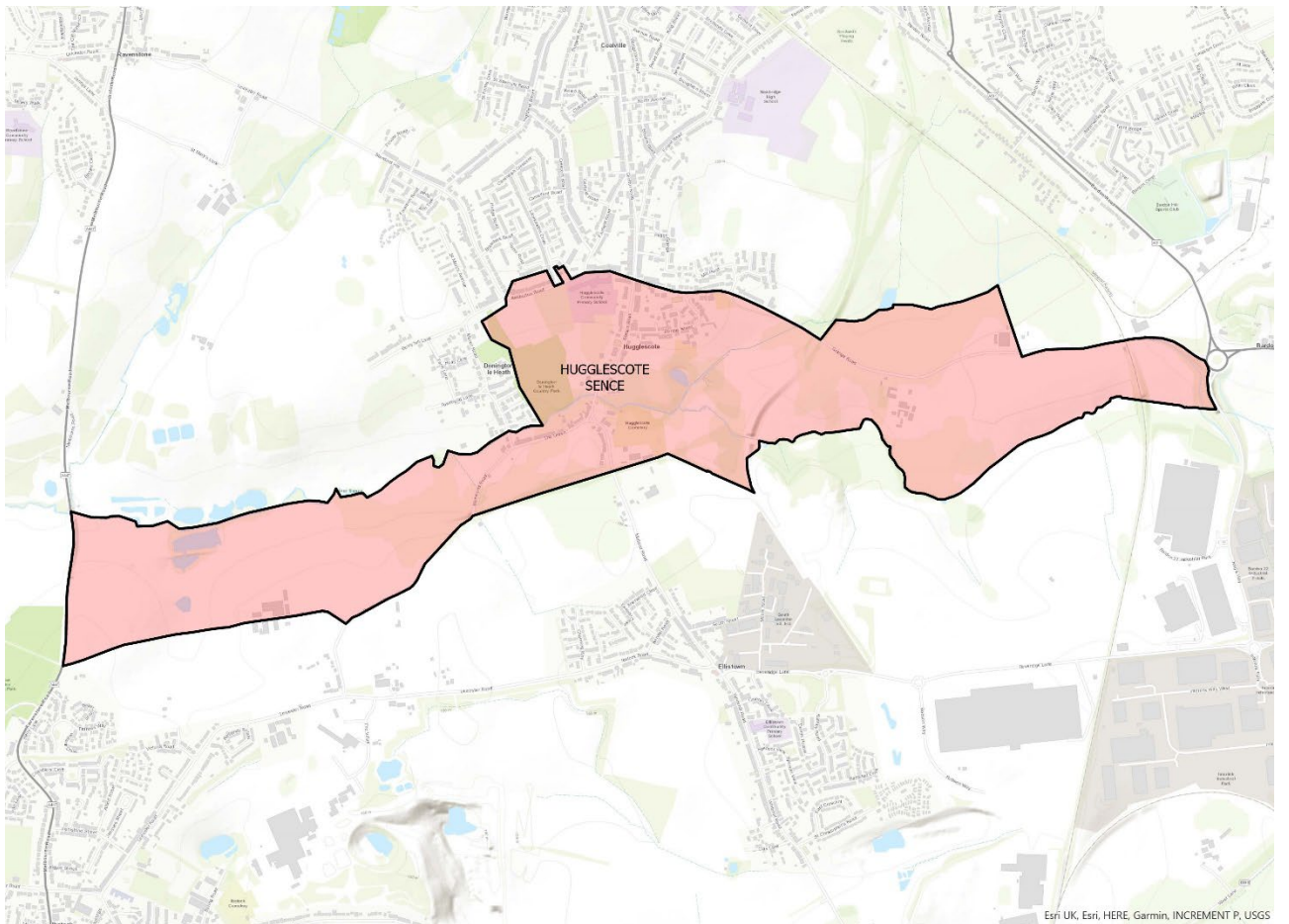
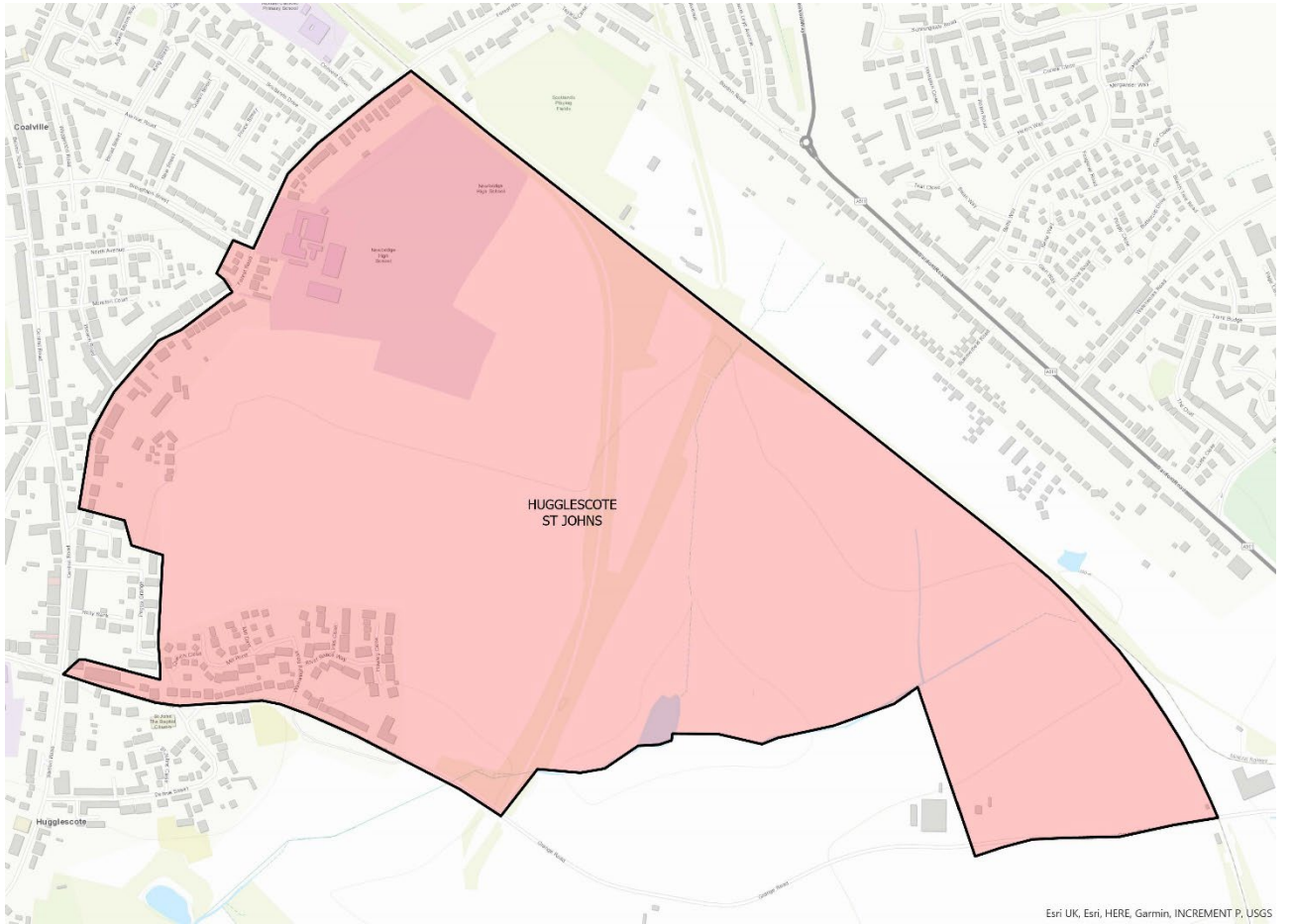
Following an all-Member briefing, further consideration was given to the area and the Member Working Group agreed that a One three-member ward to cover the whole of this area. This avoids splitting any of the communities.

Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
Appleby	Cllr Richard Blunt
Oakthorpe & Donisthorpe	Cllr Mike Ball
Ashby Woulds	Cllr Doug Cooper
Blackfordby	Cllr Andrew Woodman

GROUP: HUGGLESCOTE

Ward	Electorate 2023 *	Variance	Electorate 2030	Variance
HUGGLESCOTE ST MARY'S	2278	5%	2502	5%
HUGGLESCOTE ST JOHN'S	2916	35%	2408	1%
HUGGLESCOTE SENCE	n/a		2620	10%





As a whole, Hugglescote will be served by three Councillors. The existing ward of Hugglescote St Mary's requires a small additional group of electors in order to achieve electoral equality. This is achieved by including Manor Road and roads off it, north of the river, within this ward (currently in Hugglescote St John's). This also better reflects the communities, and uses the river as a natural marker between the two wards.

The remaining part of Hugglescote includes a very large residential development. Taking this development into account, the balance of the parish is proposed to be split into two parts. The first, comprising all properties to the north/east of Grange Road (excluding Forest Road, Fairfield Road and roads directly from them (Holly Bank, Peggs Close, Harper Lane and Lowe Street) becomes Hugglescote St John's ward. The remainder, following the River Sence in the south, becomes Hugglescote Sence ward. These two wards have good internal connectivity, and cohesive communities. The new St John's ward, for example, includes several phases of new development, which whilst part of the parish are not yet established as an integrated part of it; thus keeping this as a separate new ward better reflects local interests and identities than splitting the older and more established communities of Hugglescote, which would be the alternative.

Discussions with some local Members have questioned the electorate projections. However, these have been developed using a robust methodology, and submitted and agreed by the LGBCE. They are based on the best evidence available at the time of creation and, whilst we recognise there will be some deviation from the timetables due to a range of factors, this is not unique to this review area and the wards are based on the electorate projections available.

A local Member suggested parts of the proposed Sence ward did not make sense from a community perspective. To rectify this, whilst maintaining electoral equality, a number of changes have been made, taking Member views into account. These alter all three proposed wards as follows:

- (1) The Manor Road area, initially proposed to move to St Mary's, is now proposed to be in Sence ward. This retains the current boundary (currently between St Mary's and St John's in this area)
- (2) Fairfield Road, Central Road, Peggs Grange and Baron Close, originally proposed to be in Sence, are now proposed to be in St Mary's. This brings the boundary to the east of Peggs Grange, ensuring the whole of Fairfield Way is now in the same ward.
- (3) Forest Road and roads and developments from it are now proposed to be in St John's ward, rather than Sence.
- (4) The southern part of the 'Davidsons' area of development (including Usherwood Way and Catlow Street) are now included in Sence ward.

These changes deliver electoral equality, and a more convenient local governance whilst reflecting existing and future local communities.

An alternative option was to include the whole of the proposed St John's and Sence ward in one two-member ward. The Member Working Group noted that Council requested a preference for single member wards wherever possible, and the new development in St John's is not yet built out and so is not closely aligned with the rest of the ward.

Current ward	Current Councillor (for information)
Hugglescote St Mary's	Cllr Dr Terri Eynon
Hugglescote St John's	Cllr Russell Johnson

Full list

WARD	Cllrs	Electorate	Variance	Electorate	Variance
HEATHER & PACKINGTON	1	2458	14%	2458	3%
RAVENSTONE & SNIBSTON	1	2187	1%	2224	-7%
WORTHINGTON & COLEORTON	1	2355	9%	2355	-1%
BREEDON & BELTON	1	2545	18%	2580	8%
CASTLE ROCK	1	2229	3%	2359	-1%
BARDON	1	2256	4%	2440	2%
KEGWORTH SOUTH & LONG WHATTON	1	2662	23%	2573	8%
KEGWORTH NORTH &DALEACRE HILL	1	1960	-9%	2552	7%
CASTLE DONINGTON CASTLE	1	2040	-6%	2161	-10%
CASTLE DONINGTON CENTRAL	1	1916	-11%	2298	-4%
CASTLE DONINGTON PARK	1	2104	-3%	2198	-8%
MEASHAM NORTH	1	2067	-4%	2177	-9%
MEASHAM SOUTH	1	2031	-6%	2387	0%
ASHBY KNIGHTS CHASE	1	2325	8%	2576	8%
ASHBY CASTLE	1	2387	10%	2387	0%
ASHBY WILLESLEY	1	2073	-4%	2282	-4%
ASHBY HOLYWELL	1	2504	16%	2441	2%
ASHBY IVANHOE	1	2601	20%	2462	3%
ASHBY BLACKFORDBY					
ANNSWELL	1	1191	-45%	2611	9%
GREENHILL	1	2099	-3%	2241	-6%
BROOM LEYS	1	2702	25%	2460	3%
COALVILLE	1	2074	-4%	2546	7%
SNIBSTON NORTH	1	2620	21%	2684	12%
SNIBSTON SOUTH	1	1993	-8%	2607	9%
ELLISTOWN EAST	1	0	-100%	2344	-2%
ELLISTOWN WEST	1	185	-91%	2292	-4%
IBSTOCK EAST	1	3182	47%	2612	9%
IBSTOCK WEST	1	2378	10%	2378	0%
HUGGLESCOTE ST MARY'S	1	2278	5%	2502	5%
HUGGLESCOTE ST JOHN'S	1	2916	35%	2408	1%
HUGGLESCOTE SENCE	1	0	-100%	2620	10%
SWANNINGTON	1	1065	-51%	2273	-5%
HERMITAGE	1	2672	24%	2224	-7%
THRINGSTONE	1	3244	50%	2151	-10%
HOLLY HAYES	1	1932	-11%	2319	-3%
APPLEBY AND THE FOREST	3	6878	6%	6912	-4%
TOTAL	38	80109		91094	

* Where existing towns are split, the 2023 electorate is based on current ward boundaries, not revised.