

Electoral Review Sub-Committee

Agenda

Date: Wednesday, 31st January, 2024
Time: 4.00 pm
Venue: Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road,
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

It should be noted that Part 1 items of Cheshire East Council decision making meetings are audio recorded and the recordings will be uploaded to the Council's website.

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests, other registerable interests, and non-registerable interests in any item on the agenda.

3. Minutes of Previous meeting (Pages 3 - 6)

To approve the minutes of the last formal meeting of the Sub-Committee held on 30th October 2023.

4. Public Speaking / Open Session

In accordance with paragraph 2.24 of the Committee Procedure Rules and the Appendix on Public Speaking, as set out in the Constitution, a total period of 15 minutes is allocated for members of the public to put questions to the Sub-Committee on any matter relating to this agenda. Each member of the public will be allowed up to two minutes to speak; the Chair will have discretion to vary this where he/she considers it appropriate.

Members of the public wishing to speak are required to provide notice of this at least three clear working days in advance of the meeting.

Contact: Paul Mountford, Democratic Services
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5. **Cheshire East Electoral Review - Warding Proposals** (Pages 7 - 150)

To consider the proposed warding arrangements for Cheshire East Council for recommendation to the Corporate Policy Committee and full Council, to enable the Council to respond as a consultee to the second stage of the electoral review by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

THERE ARE NO PART 2 ITEMS

Membership: Councillors J Bratherton, C Browne (Vice-Chair), J Clowes, S Corcoran (Chair), C O'Leary, J Pearson, F Wilson and R Kain (Associate Non-Voting Member)

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Electoral Review Sub-Committee**
held on Monday, 30th October, 2023 in Committee Suite 1, 2 & 3, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor S Corcoran (Chair)
Councillor C Browne (Vice-Chair)

Councillors J Bratherton, J Clowes, L Crane (for Cllr Wilson) and S Edgar (for Cllr O'Leary)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

David Brown, Director of Governance and Compliance
Brian Reed, Head of Democratic Services and Governance
Nick Billington, Economic Research and Intelligence Officer
Peter Jones, Senior Lawyer
Laura Bateman, Senior Project Officer
Paul Mountford, Democratic Services
Diane Barnard, Electoral Services Manager

APOLOGIES

Councillors C O'Leary, J Pearson and F Wilson

8 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

9 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 16th August 2023 be approved as a correct record.

10 PUBLIC SPEAKING / OPEN SESSION

There were no public speakers.

11 CHESHIRE EAST ELECTORAL REVIEW

The Sub-Committee considered the draft council size submission for recommendation to the Corporate Policy. It also considered the final version of the electorate forecasting methodology report.

At an informal meeting of the Sub-Committee on 22nd September 2023, members had considered and endorsed a report on the electoral forecast methodology and results. The final version of the electoral forecasting

methodology main report, and its sister document Appendix 1, were now presented to the Sub-Committee for approval. Further proposed changes to the methodology report had been circulated to members following publication of the agenda. Officers advised that following feedback from the Boundary Commission, the forecast end date in the methodology report had been changed from December 2029 to January 2030; the change had no impact on the accuracy and interpretation of the forecasts.

At the informal meeting on 22nd September, members had also considered and endorsed a first draft of the council size submission. Officers undertook to ensure that each subsequent draft of the submission would show clearly, by the use of tracked changes, any amendments agreed by members to the previous draft.

Members now considered a revised draft council size submission, showing those sections of the submission that had been added, deleted or changed since the Sub-Committee's meeting on 22nd September. The submission included the results of a survey of all members regarding their workload. Further proposed changes to the submission had been circulated to members following publication of the agenda.

Officers advised that the revised submission stated that a reduction from the current council size of 82 was likely to result in unsustainable pressures on Members and that the current size of 82 members continued to reflect sufficient capacity in terms of members to electorate ratio and still provided sufficient room for growth.

Members agreed a number of amendments to the council size submission:

Agenda page:	Amendment
30	Insert: 'This model involves 80 of the 82 members of the Council serving on standing committees.'
32	Replace 'the Council has large committee memberships' with 'the Council has inclusive committee memberships'
37	Delete reference to a vacancy on the Southern Planning Committee.
38	Insert: 'The Borough also has (x) conservation areas and (x) SSSIs which further demonstrates the complexity of decisions taken by planning committees and places additional responsibilities on some ward members.'
43	Replace: The Council encourages residents to take up queries and complaints with officers, as opposed to directly with Members' with 'Residents are encouraged to contact the Council as appropriate.'
46	1 st sentence, replace: 'and its Members are frequently unable to serve and support residents, business and partner organisations effectively' with 'and its Members face frequent pressures on their workload in supporting residents, business and partner organisations'

78	Delete the sentence referring to discussions on a potential devolution agreement.
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Members asked whether, once the Council had approved its recommendation on council size and had forwarded its submission to the Boundary Commission, there would be any scope or flexibility to adjust the council size figure if it became apparent during the subsequent review of warding arrangements that a different council size might be appropriate. Officers undertook to seek clarification from the Boundary Commission.

The Corporate Policy Committee would be recommended at its meeting on 30th November 2023 to approve the Council's draft council size submission for recommendation to full Council. A further meeting of the Sub-Committee was scheduled for 16th November which would provide an opportunity to agree any further changes to the submission before it was presented to the Committee.

The Boundary Commission had asked for earlier sight of the draft submission and had agreed that the Council could provide the draft submission by 22nd November, the date of publication of the agenda for the Corporate Policy Committee. Any feedback from the Commission prior to the Corporate Policy Committee's meeting would be reported to the Committee together with any comments by the Sub-Committee.

It was agreed that the Sub-Committee should seek delegated authority to make any further changes to the council size submission prior to the submission of the documentation to the Boundary Commission by the deadline of 18th December.

RESOLVED

That the Sub-Committee

1. approves the draft council size submission for recommendation to the Corporate Policy Committee on 30th November 2023, subject to the amendments agreed at the meeting, and subject to any further content which may be brought to the Sub-Committee at its meeting on 16th November;
2. approves the final version of the electorate forecasting methodology main report and its sister document, Appendix 1; and
3. agrees to seek delegated authority to make any further changes to the council size submission and related documentation prior to submission to the Boundary Commission.

The meeting commenced at 9.30 am and concluded at 10.40 am

Councillor S Corcoran (Chair)

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Electoral Review Sub-Committee**31st January 2024****Cheshire East Electoral Review –
Warding Proposals**

Report of: David Brown, Director of Governance and Compliance**Report Reference No: ER/15/23-24****All Cheshire East Council wards are affected****Purpose of Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to consider the proposed warding arrangements for Cheshire East Council for recommendation to the Corporate Policy Committee and full Council.
2. This is to enable the Council to respond as a consultee to the second stage of the electoral review being conducted by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.
3. In responding to the review, the Council will be fulfilling its Corporate Plan objective, to be “open” by providing strong community leadership and by working transparently with residents, businesses and partners, to deliver the Council’s ambitions within the Borough.

Executive Summary

4. The Council has previously approved its proposals for future council size and submitted them to the Boundary Commission in line with its deadline of 18th December 2023. This report now deals with the second stage of the electoral review, in which the Council is invited to submit proposals for future warding arrangements. The factors which the Commission will apply in considering any warding proposals are set out in the report.

RECOMMENDATION

The Sub-Committee is recommended:

1. to approve the draft proposals on warding set out in **Appendix 1**, and to agree proposals in respect of the remaining areas, for recommendation to the Corporate Policy Committee on 13th February 2024, with a view to these being recommended to Council on 27th February 2024; and
2. to seek delegated authority for the Sub-Committee:
 - (a) to make any further required changes to these proposals, and to approve any outstanding proposals and to deal with any matters which arise, following the Corporate Policy Committee's meeting and prior to the consideration of the proposals by full Council, and also in respect of any outstanding proposals which have not been finalised in time for consideration by Council;
 - (b) to make any further changes to the proposals arising from the Council meeting on 27th February, or which become necessary after that meeting; and
 - (c) to respond on the Council's behalf to any further informal or formal consultation by the Boundary Commission which relates to the second period of consultation.

Background

5. The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (the Commission) is an independent body set up by Parliament. Its main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England. The Commission is undertaking a review of the Council's electoral arrangements. This Council is being asked to respond to the review as a consultee. The Commission will ultimately determine the outcome of the review, and its recommendations will be laid before Parliament for approval.
6. The electoral review is in two stages. The first stage, now complete, addressed the size of the Council: the number of councillors that Cheshire East Council should have in future. The second stage addresses the warding arrangements: the number of wards, their boundaries and the number of councillors for each ward.
7. The Commission met on 16th January to consider the Council size, but has set out the following timetable for the second stage of the review:

- Commission to consult on warding patterns: 23 January-1 April 2024
 - Commission to meet to discuss draft recommendations: 16 July 2024
 - Commission to consult on draft recommendations: 30 July – 7 October 2024
 - Commission to meet to discuss final recommendations: 17 December 2024
 - Final recommendations published: 14 January 2025
 - Order laid before Parliament: early 2025
 - Order made: spring 2025
 - Implementation: 2027
8. The Electoral Review Sub-Committee was appointed by the Corporate Policy Committee at its meeting on 11th July 2023 ‘to make recommendations to the Corporate Policy Committee in respect of all matters relating to the Cheshire East Council Electoral Review’.
9. The Sub-Committee has already made recommendations on the first part of the review regarding council size and has therefore completed this part of its work. The Council, at its meeting on 13th December 2023, approved the Council’s submission on council size which was submitted to the Boundary Commission by its deadline of 18th December. This report deals with the second stage of the review. It presents, for the Sub-Committee’s consideration and approval, the Council’s draft proposals on future warding arrangements.
10. In order to conduct the review, a model has been prepared which has generated forecasts of future electorate numbers up to the start of 2030, for various geographical tiers. Officers have also prepared a detailed technical report that explains the forecasting methodology. A copy of this report was sent to the Commission during the early stages of the review, prior to submitting the council size submission.
11. In considering future warding arrangements, the Sub-Committee must have regard to the statutory warding criteria used by the Commission in its review.
12. The Boundary Commission has three main criteria, as set out below, derived from legislation, which it must follow when producing a new pattern of wards:
1. Delivering electoral equality for local voters
- This means ensuring that each local councillor represents roughly the same number of people so that the value of a vote is the same regardless of where a person lives in the local authority area.

Electoral equality is the only criterion which the Commission can measure with precision. It will therefore take a firm view on the extent to which the Council's proposals meet the ambition to deliver electoral fairness. Decisions are based on the number of electors in a ward and not the total population.

2. Reflecting the interests and identities of local communities

This means establishing electoral arrangements which, as far as possible, maintain local ties, and where boundaries are easily identifiable.

Unlike electoral equality, it is not possible for the Commission to measure levels of community identity. The Commission will therefore be looking for evidence on a range of issues, such as the existence of communication links and facilities, with an explanation of how local people use those facilities; identifiable boundaries such as rivers, major roads and railway lines, and parish boundaries. The Commission will also have regard to urban, suburban and rural characteristics, such areas having different needs and interests.

3. Promoting effective and convenient local government

This means ensuring that the new wards or electoral divisions can be represented effectively by their elected representative(s) and that the new electoral arrangements as a whole allow the local authority to conduct its business effectively. In addition, the pattern of wards must reflect the electoral cycle of the Council.

Where a council holds whole-council elections every four years, the Commission is able to propose any pattern of wards or divisions that it believes best meets its statutory criteria. This is usually a mixture of single-, two- and three-member wards or divisions.

The Commission will also consider the geographic size of wards, to ensure that they are not so large that it would be difficult for a councillor to represent them.

In addition, the Commission will consider the names of wards which are often important to local people. The Commission rarely has strong views on this aspect of a review and will usually use names which have been proposed by local people.

13. The Commission's decisions on new wards and boundaries will always be based on these criteria. The Commission is therefore much more likely to accept the Council's proposals if they are based on one or more of the criteria.

14. Occasionally, it will not be possible for the Commission to put forward a boundary proposal that clearly meets all the statutory criteria which can sometimes contradict one another, for example where a proposed ward might reflect the shape of local communities but deliver poor levels of electoral equality. In such cases, the Commission will use its discretion, and the quality of the evidence presented to it, to reach a conclusion.
15. In accordance with the electoral review timetable, the Council's proposals on future warding arrangements must be submitted to the Commission by the end of March. The submission must therefore be approved by full Council, following a recommendation of the Corporate Policy Committee. The final scheduled Council meeting before the Commission's deadline is 27th February, which means that the Sub-Committee's recommendations on warding must be submitted to the Corporate Policy Committee no later than 13th February. The agenda for the meeting on 13th February must be published by 5th February. This timescale has been determined by the Commission and cannot be changed. Members will understand that this presents significant challenges to the Council in developing, progressing and finalising warding proposals during the time available before the 27th February Council meeting. For this reason, the Council needs a mechanism by which any remaining proposals or changes to proposals can be agreed by the Electoral Review Sub-Committee, after both the meeting of the Corporate Policy Committee and the Council meeting.
16. The Electoral Review Sub-Committee has met informally on a number of occasions between late November and mid-January to consider in detail proposals for future warding. Members of the Sub-Committee have also been consulting informally with local ward members and within their political groups.
17. The warding proposals report and its supporting maps are set out at **Appendix 1**. This shows that agreement has been reached on the vast majority of warding proposals. However, there are a number of areas of the Borough where, at the time of agenda publication, some aspects of the warding proposals remain to be resolved. These are highlighted in the warding proposals report and are the subject of a separate set of maps at **Appendix 2** (to follow). It may be possible that in some cases, counter proposals will be submitted in relation to these areas at or before the meeting.
18. The Sub-Committee is recommended to approve the proposals set out in **Appendix 1**, and to agree proposals in respect of the remaining areas, for recommendation to the Corporate Policy Committee.

19. The Sub-Committee is also recommended to seek delegated authority from the Corporate Policy Committee, and then from Council, to make any further changes to the warding proposals following the Corporate Policy Committee and Council meetings:
- a. arising from any amendments agreed by the Committee or at Council;
 - b. arising from any relevant feedback which might be received from the Boundary Commission prior to or after the Council meeting;
 - c. and to finalise any warding proposals which, for whatever reason, have not been ready to present to the Committee or to Council.
20. As mentioned in paragraph 7 of this report, the Boundary Commission will be meeting on 16th July 2024 to discuss its draft recommendations. It will then publish its draft recommendations on 30th July 2024 and there will be a further period of consultation on those recommendations which will end on 7th October 2024. This presents a difficulty for the Council in that the nearest Corporate Policy Committee meeting is scheduled to take place on 11th July 2024, which will not allow sufficient time for the Commission's draft recommendations to be fully analysed and a Council response formulated. In addition, full Council would not meet until 16th October, which is after the second consultation deadline. It is therefore proposed that the delegation to the Electoral Review Sub-Committee should include the ability for the Sub-Committee to respond to any informal or formal consultation by the Commission between 16th July and 7th October.

Consultation and Engagement

21. The Council will not undertake any consultation work on the review, except internally, with its own Members. The review is being led by the Commission, not the Council, and the Commission has a clearly identified programme of consultation which it is understood will include the list of stakeholders that the Commission has requested from the Council.

Reasons for Recommendations

22. The recommendation of this report seeks to ensure that the Council responds to the Boundary Commission's review of the Council's electoral arrangements in a timely way in accordance with the timetable laid down by the Commission.
23. In responding to the review, the Council will be fulfilling its Corporate Plan objective of being "open" by providing strong community leadership

and by working transparently with residents, businesses and partners, to deliver the Council's ambitions within the Borough.

Other Options Considered

- 24 The Council could choose not to engage with the Commission's review, but this would be an unhelpful approach and would deprive the Council of the important opportunity to make submissions, and to influence its electoral arrangements which will apply from 2027.
- 25 *Impact assessment:*

Option	Impact	Risk
Do nothing (ie do not engage with the review)	The Council would be deprived of the important opportunity to make representations	The review would not secure the benefit of the Council's input as the key respondent. The resulting electoral review order, which will be implemented in 2027 would not be informed by the Council's views.

Implications and Comments

Monitoring Officer/Legal

- 26 The main piece of legislation governing the review is the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (the 2009 Act). This consolidates and amends provisions previously contained in the Local Government Act 1972, the Local Government Act 1992 and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
- 27 Section 56 of the 2009 Act requires that the Commission carry out reviews 'from time to time', of every principal local authority in England and make recommendations about electoral arrangements (but not their external boundaries) (Period Electoral Reviews or PERs). In addition, the Commission can at any time review the arrangements for all or any parts of a principal local authority's area if it appears to the Commission to be desirable.
- 28 Subsections 56(1) and (4) require the Commission to recommend whether a change should be made to the electoral arrangements for that area. Electoral arrangements include the total number of councillors to be elected to the council (known as 'council size'); the number and

boundaries of wards/divisions; the number of councillors to be elected for each ward/division; and the name of any ward/division.

- 29 In making its recommendations, Schedule 2 to the 2009 Act requires the Commission to have regard to—
- (a) the need to secure that the ratio of the number of local government electors to the number of members of the district council to be elected is, as nearly as possible, the same in every electoral area of the council,
 - (b) the need to reflect the identities and interests of local communities and in particular—
 - (i) the desirability of fixing boundaries which are and will remain easily identifiable, and
 - (ii) the desirability of fixing boundaries so as not to break any local ties,
 - (c) the need to secure effective and convenient local government,

Further information on the legal implications of the review can be found in the Commission's Technical Guidance:

<https://www.lgbce.org.uk/sites/default/files/2023-03/technical-guidance-2021.pdf>

Section 151 Officer/Finance

- 30 There will be no impact on the council's Medium-Term Financial Strategy. The proposal will be funded from within existing Democratic Services budgets, aided by internal officer resource contributions from various other departments, and it is not anticipated that any external spend will be required in order for the Council to respond to the review.

Policy

- 31 The key policy implication of this report is that, in responding to the review, the Council will be meeting one of its most fundamentally important objectives: providing strong community leadership and by working transparently with residents, businesses and partners, to deliver the Council's ambitions within the Borough. In doing so, the Council will be fulfilling the objective of empowering and caring about people within the Borough. The electoral representation of the Council is of key importance in this regard.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

- 32 Given that this report is a response to the Commission's review of the Council's electoral arrangements, and that it simply recommends the

means by which the Sub-Committee will make recommendations upon Council size, there would appear to be no equality, diversity and inclusion implications.

- 33 However, in developing its recommendations, the Sub-Committee will be mindful of these important considerations. Undoubtedly, the Commission will be equally mindful of these matters when making its final recommendations on the Council's electoral arrangements.

Human Resources

- 34 There are no direct human resources implications.

Risk Management

- 35 There are no direct risk management implications arising from this report, other than the matters referred to within it. However, the risks associated with any decision of the Council not to engage with the review are set out above.

Rural Communities

- 36 There are implications arising from the recommendations of this report in respect of rural communities. These implications have been given careful consideration as the Sub-Committee committee has developed its proposals.

Children and Young People including Cared for Children, care leavers and Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

- 37 There are no such direct implications.

Public Health

- 38 No direct public health implications arise from the recommendations of this report.

Climate Change

- 39 There are no direct climate change implications, which arise from the recommendations of this report.

Access to Information	
Contact Officer:	Contact Officer: Brian Reed Brian.reed@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Background Papers:	<p>Background Papers:</p> <p>Report to Council on 13th December 2023 approving the council size submission</p> <p>Local Government Boundary Commission for England website</p>
Appendices	<p>Appendix 1 – Warding proposals report and maps of agreed proposals</p> <p>Appendix 2 – maps of unresolved warding proposals (to follow)</p>

Cheshire East Council

Electoral Review 2023-24:

Warding Proposal Report

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1 Introduction

Cheshire East Council is keen to ensure that the Local Government Boundary Commission's current Electoral Review produces electoral arrangements that:

- enable the Council to deliver public services effectively and efficiently;
- allow an even division of councillors' workloads, taking into factors such as rurality and deprivation, as well as the numbers of electors;
- reflect the interests and identities of the Borough's communities;
- give electors a fair (broadly equal) say in the Council's decision-making and resource allocation.

The Council therefore welcomes the opportunity to submit proposals for future warding arrangements, as part of the Commission's consultation on warding.

This report sets out in detail the Council's warding proposals, as informally agreed so far, along with the approach taken in developing those proposals. As such, this report will form the basis of the Council's intended response to the warding consultation.

The rest of this report is structured as follows:

- Section 2 outlines the Council's approach to developing its warding proposals.
- Section 3 provides a table of electoral statistics for each ward, as informally agreed so far (the proposed number of councillors or 'seats', elector numbers, electors per councillor ratios – referred to subsequently as 'electors per seat' ratios - and the variances of these ratios from the Borough average). As can be seen in this section, it is proposed that there should be a mixture of single-, two- and three-Member wards, and a total of 82 seats, as recommended by the Commission. However, the total number of wards is still to be confirmed, as warding arrangements for a few areas of the Borough are yet to be agreed, as Section 3 explains in more depth.
- Section 4 provides detailed information on the geographical area that each ward would cover, how these differ from existing ward boundaries, and the rationale for the proposed boundaries and ward names.
- Appendix A ('Maps of the proposed wards'), which is a separate document accompanying this main report, includes detailed maps for each of the proposed wards and an overview map of the proposed ward boundaries for the Borough as a whole.

2 Approach

Under the Council's Constitution, Full Council is responsible for "approving the Council's response to any issues or proposals in relation to local government boundaries including Electoral Wards, the conduct of elections and community governance functions".

The Council's Corporate Policy Committee appointed the Electoral Review Sub-Committee to make recommendations upon all matters relating to the Boundary Commission's Review. These recommendations will be considered by the Corporate Policy Committee, prior to the Committee making recommendations to Council.

Officers have provided advice to Members throughout the Review process.

In developing these warding proposals, the Sub-Committee has focused on the criteria laid out in the Commission's guidance¹, namely:

- Delivering **electoral equality** for local voters, which means ensuring that each local councillor represents roughly the same number of people.
- Reflecting the **interests and identities of local communities**, which means establishing electoral arrangements which, as far as possible, maintain local ties and where boundaries are easily identifiable.
- Promoting **effective and convenient local government**, which means ensuring that the new wards can be represented effectively by their elected representative(s) and that the new electoral arrangements as a whole allow the local authority to conduct its business effectively.

In assessing potential warding arrangements against the first of the Commission's criteria, electoral equality, the Council has taken account of:

- The electoral forecasts for 2023-30 that it (the Council) produced to inform this Review, and which the Commission has accepted as being fit for purpose.²
- The fact that the Commission tries to ensure that, for all wards, the electors per councillor ratio at the end of the Review's forecast period (2030 in this case) is no more than 10% different from the Borough average. (In the interests of concise wording, this submission subsequently refers to the number of councillors as the number of 'seats' and to the electors per councillor ratio as the 'electors per seat' ratio.)

¹ 'How to propose a pattern of wards', LGBCE: https://www.lgbce.org.uk/sites/default/files/2023-03/how_to_propose_a_pattern_of_wards_2018.pdf

² The base date for the forecasts is 1 July 2023, as (at the time the forecasts were produced) this was the date of the most recently available Electoral Register data. The Commission's guidance on electorate forecasts highlights a requirement for an electoral review to consider changes in the electorate that are likely to occur within five years of the release of the review's final recommendations. The Commission intends to publish its final recommendations for the current review in January 2025. Hence forecasts are required up to January 2030. The resulting forecasts are therefore for the period from mid-2023 (1 July 2023) to the start of 2030 (January 2030).

- The Commission's recommendation, announced on 23 January 2024 at the start of the first public consultation stage of this Review, that the future (post-Review) number of councillors should be 82, the same as now. This is the number proposed in the 'council size' submission that Cheshire East sent to the Commission in December 2023.

In email correspondence about the range of ratios that would meet the electoral equality criterion, the Commission has confirmed to Cheshire East that its usual cut-off point is 10% variance from the Borough average after rounding: so a variance of 10.499%, for example, is acceptable, but 10.5% is (generally) seen as too high.

The Council's forecast is that the number of electors will be 337,339 by 2030. Assuming, as indicated above, a total of 82 Members, this implies an average of 4,113.89 electors per councillor (337,339 divided by 82) as of 2030.

Therefore, for all proposed wards to have ratios within the +/-10% range usually sought by the Commission, the number of electors per councillor for each ward has to be:

- a minimum of 3,682 ($4,113.89 \times 0.895$, rounded up to the nearest whole number); and
- a maximum of 4,545 ($4,113.89 \times 1.105$, rounded down to the nearest whole number).

Besides the Commission's criteria outlined above, the Council's warding proposals are based on the following broad principles, though with the understanding that exceptions to this general approach are appropriate in some circumstances:

- Ward boundaries should, in general, follow parish boundaries, as the Council has only recently undertaken a Community Governance Review of the whole Borough (with final recommendations approved in April 2022 and implemented in April 2023). Therefore the current parish boundaries are a good reflection of local communities' interests and identities. In other words:
 - Warding in areas with smaller, more rural parishes, should in general use individual parishes as building blocks.
 - Warding in larger towns should, in general, aim to create wards that are subdivisions of the town council area, rather than wards that consist of part of the town council area and part of another (adjacent) town or parish council. However, the level and nature of neighbouring areas' ties to town council areas should also be considered, as well as the fact that Cheshire East Council and its Borough ward councillors have different functions and responsibilities to town and parish councils and their councillors. In addition, it may not always be possible to meet the Commission's electoral equality criterion by 'constraining' Borough ward boundaries to town council boundaries. These factors may mean in some instances that making Borough ward boundaries coterminous with town council boundaries is not necessarily the best warding arrangement.

- In those cases where parish boundaries are unsuitable building blocks for wards, parish wards or else polling districts are likely to be the most suitable alternative building blocks to use.
- Whilst existing electoral geographies should be used as building blocks where practical, splitting individual existing polling districts may be necessary in some cases, in order to best meet all the Commission's warding criteria.
- A mixture of single-, two- and three-Members (as Cheshire East currently has) works well and better meets the Commission's criteria than would a more rigid arrangement under which all wards had the same number of Members. In the more rural parts of the Borough, where settlements are often very small and dispersed and where travel can be challenging because of factors such as more limited road networks and settlements at higher elevations, single-Member wards are the only practical option: two-Member wards in these locations would cover too large a geographical area to enable effective and convenient local government and manageable workloads for Members. Even in more densely populated parts of the Borough, single- or two-Member wards often better reflect community identity and allow Members to focus more on specific local issues.

In developing its warding proposals, the Council has drawn on a wide range of evidence, including the following:

- The Council's electorate forecasts for 2023-30, as noted above. These forecasts were produced for various electoral tiers: polling districts, parish wards, parishes, town/ parish councils, current Borough wards and the local authority as a whole.
- The Council's corporate mapping software system (QGIS).
- A wide array of map data, including Ordnance Survey data, existing (and possible future) ward boundaries and boundaries for other electoral tiers.
- Data on the locations and extents (boundaries) of sites where housing development has occurred in recent years (2010 onwards), or where housing development is currently ongoing or expected to begin before 2030 – and on the (net) number of homes being developed on each of these sites. This housing completions data formed a key input into the electorate forecasts.
- Data relating to different settlements' and communities' services and amenities (for example, the locations of schools, GP practices, convenience stores and community centres/ village halls). Much of this comes from a recent review undertaken by the Council of Cheshire East's settlement hierarchy.
- The Community Governance Review (CGR) Final Recommendations Assessment Report (2022)³, which has detailed evidence – submitted as part of

³ Cheshire East Council Community Governance Review Final Recommendations Assessment Report, March 2022:

<https://moderngov.cheshireeast.gov.uk/ecminutes/documents/s94017/Appendix%203%20-%20CEC%20CGR%20Final%20Recommendations%20Assessment%20Report%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

the autumn 2021 consultation on the CGR Draft Recommendations - on community ties within the Borough.

- Relevant evidence gathered (during summer and autumn 2023) from town/ parish council websites. These websites often include information on services and amenities available within the town or parish council area and sometimes on community ties (or other links) to neighbouring town and parish councils.
- Recent (2023) information, taken from the Borough Council and operators' websites, on current bus and train service routes.
- Members' and officers' local knowledge.

3 Summary of the proposals

Table 3.1 below lists the elector numbers, ratios (electors per seat) and variances (percentage variation of the ward's ratio from the Borough average) for each of the proposed wards agreed so far, for both 2023 and 2030. As can be seen, the proposed warding ensures that nearly all these wards will (by 2030) have variances that are no more than 10% from the Borough average.

This table excludes the six areas for which full warding arrangements have yet to be agreed. For these four outstanding areas, the overall number of seats has been agreed and is as follows: Bollington and Rainow 2 seats; Congleton 6 seats; Gawsorth 1 seat; Macclesfield 11 seats; Rope and Shavington 2 seats; Sutton 1 seat. It has also been agreed that Bollington and Rainow would be a single ward with two Members. However, there has been no decision yet on whether the Rope and Shavington area should be divided into two single-Member wards, nor on exactly how many wards Congleton and Macclesfield should be divided into and where the boundaries between these wards should be. Further details of progress with the warding for these six areas can be found in Section 4 of this report, under the subsections relating to Bollington and Rainow, Congleton, Gawsorth, Macclesfield, Rope and Shavington and Sutton.

Table 3.1: electoral statistics for the proposed wards agreed so far

Ward name	Council seats	Electors, Jul 2023	Electors, Jan 2030	Electors per seat ratio, Jul 2023	Electors per seat ratio, Jan 2030	Ratio's % variance (from Borough average), Jul 2023	Ratio's % variance (from Borough average), Jan 2030
Alderley Edge	1	4,055	4,091	4,055	4,091	+6%	-1%
Alsager	3	11,567	12,503	3,856	4,168	0%	+1%
Audlem	1	4,306	4,428	4,306	4,428	+12%	+8%
Brereton	1	3,361	4,121	3,361	4,121	-12%	0%
Bunbury	1	3,840	4,021	3,840	4,021	0%	-2%
Chelford	1	3,827	3,977	3,827	3,977	0%	-3%
Crewe East	2	8,845	8,824	4,423	4,412	+15%	+7%
Crewe Maw Green	1	2,802	3,855	2,802	3,855	-27%	-6%
Crewe North	2	8,457	8,564	4,229	4,282	+10%	+4%

Ward name	Council seats	Electors, Jul 2023	Electors, Jan 2030	Electors per seat ratio, Jul 2023	Electors per seat ratio, Jan 2030	Ratio's % variance (from Borough average), Jul 2023	Ratio's % variance (from Borough average), Jan 2030
Crewe South	2	7,284	7,653	3,642	3,827	-5%	-7%
Crewe St Barnabas	1	3,546	4,038	3,546	4,038	-8%	-2%
Crewe West	2	8,000	8,061	4,000	4,031	+4%	-2%
Dane Valley	2	8,714	8,905	4,357	4,453	+14%	+8%
Disley	1	4,245	4,253	4,245	4,253	+11%	+3%
Handforth	2	5,881	7,241	2,941	3,621	-23%	-12%
Haslington	1	4,258	4,387	4,258	4,387	+11%	+7%
High Legh	1	3,647	3,704	3,647	3,704	-5%	-10%
Knutsford	3	10,413	11,639	3,471	3,880	-10%	-6%
Leighton	2	5,463	7,707	2,732	3,854	-29%	-6%
Middlewich	3	11,301	12,626	3,767	4,209	-2%	+2%
Mobberley	1	3,948	3,980	3,948	3,980	+3%	-3%
Nantwich North & West	2	7,723	8,400	3,862	4,200	+1%	+2%
Nantwich South & Stapeley	2	8,549	8,833	4,275	4,417	+11%	+7%
Odd Rode	2	8,137	8,237	4,069	4,119	+6%	0%
Poynton	3	11,765	12,097	3,922	4,032	+2%	-2%
Prestbury	1	4,206	4,239	4,206	4,239	+10%	+3%
Sandbach East & Central	2	8,300	8,660	4,150	4,330	+8%	+5%
Sandbach Elworth & Ettiley Heath	2	7,695	7,966	3,848	3,983	0%	-3%
Weston	1	2,117	4,286	2,117	4,286	-45%	+4%
Wheelock & Winterley	1	3,756	3,852	3,756	3,852	-2%	-6%
Wilmslow East	2	8,255	8,484	4,128	4,242	+8%	+3%
Wilmslow Lacey Green	1	3,684	3,758	3,684	3,758	-4%	-9%
Wilmslow West	2	8,362	8,450	4,181	4,225	+9%	+3%
Wistaston	2	8,520	8,553	4,260	4,277	+11%	+4%
Wrenbury	1	3,865	4,026	3,865	4,026	+1%	-2%
Wybunbury	1	3,895	4,282	3,895	4,282	+1%	+4%

4 Details of the proposals for individual wards

4.1 Alderley Edge

Proposed ward name	Alderley Edge		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	4,091	4,091	-1%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	Addition of the parish of Chorley (polling district 3DD1)		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The parishes of Alderley Edge and Chorley		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 3DD1, 3DF1, 3DG1, 3DH1		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>This proposal improves the electoral equality of the ward by adding the parish of Chorley (forecast to have 380 electors by 2030), giving the ward an electors per seat ratio very close to the Borough average (without Chorley, the ratio's variance would be 10% below average).</p> <p>The proposal would also reflect interests and identities of local communities, as Chorley does not identify with or have significant ties to Wilmslow (with part of which it is currently warded). As detailed in the Council's Community Governance Review (CGR) Final Recommendations Assessment Report (2022), the CGR consultation stage generated substantial evidence to demonstrate the limited nature of Chorley's ties to Wilmslow.</p> <p>Chorley is geographically very close to Alderley Edge (the two were previously warded together) and is well connected to it by road, making its larger neighbour an important centre for many key services and amenities (Alderley Edge has a supermarket, GP practice, pharmacy, library and a large number of retail outlets).</p>		

	<p>The proposal also promotes effective and convenient government by enabling the elected Member to work with two geographically close and linked communities, rather than a more dispersed and less cohesive group of settlements.</p> <p>Adding any of the other adjacent rural parishes to the ward (instead of Chorley) would not meet the Commission's warding criteria as well as the proposed arrangement. In particular, Alderley Edge shares only a very narrow border with the parish of Mottram St Andrew (525 electors by 2030) and the settlements in the parishes of Over Alderley (406 electors) and Nether Alderley (818) are dispersed and very different in character to Alderley Edge. Adding any of these parishes to the ward would greatly enlarge its geographical extent and disproportionately increase the time required to travel between the ward's communities. It should also be noted that Alderley Edge is a relatively self-contained community and it has a distinct character that separates it from most of the neighbouring areas.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	<p>The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and reflects community identity, as Alderley Edge is the main settlement within the area.</p>

4.2 Alsager

Proposed ward name	Alsager		
Proposed number of seats	3		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	12,503	4,168	+1%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	Addition of polling districts 2GDT (from the current Haslington Borough ward) and LAWT (from the current Odd Rode Borough ward)		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	Alsager Town Council		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 2GDT, ALEA, ALEB, ALEC, ALED, ALEE, ALEF, ALEG, LAWT		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>This proposal would align the Alsager Borough ward boundary with the post-Community Governance Review (CGR) boundaries between Alsager Town Council and Haslington Parish Council, and bring the new housing development on the western edge of Alsager within the Borough ward that contains the town. Similarly, it would align the Alsager Borough ward boundary with the post-CGR boundaries between the Town Council and Church Lawton Parish Council, and bring the whole of the housing development on Local Plan site LPS 21 (the estate including Richard Woodcock Way and roads accessed from it) within Alsager Borough ward.</p> <p>These boundary changes would better reflect local communities' interests and identities, as these new housing developments are intended to support Alsager's outward expansion. The new western boundary, following the M6, would offer a clearer boundary line than the existing one. The proposal also promotes effective and convenient government by enabling the elected Member to work with a single parish council and one community. In addition, the proposed ward would have good electoral equality, with an electors per seat ratio very close to the Borough average.</p> <p>It is essential that the Alsager Borough ward boundary does <u>not</u> extend into the triangular area between LPS 21 and the B5077/ A5011 crossroads, as this includes part of the Church Lawton</p>		

	Barrows: an ancient burial of archaeological importance and which is a key part of Church Lawton's heritage and identity. This triangular area of land falls within Church Lawton Parish Council.
Rationale for the proposed name	The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and reflects community identity, as the ward would consist solely of the Alsager Town Council area.

4.3 Audlem

Proposed ward name	Audlem		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	4,428	4,428	+8%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	No changes proposed		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The current Borough ward area		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 1FH1, 1FH6, 1GK1, 3EA1, 3EL1, 3EU6, 3EV6, 3EW6, 3FH3, 3FH4, 3FH7		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>Although the proposed (and current) Borough ward is forecast to have an above-average electors per seat ratio (8% above the Borough average by 2030), this ratio is within the range usually sought by the Commission and is expected to decline between 2023 and 2030. This ratio could in theory be brought closer to the Borough average by transferring part of the current Borough ward to another ward. However, keeping the existing combination of parishes in this Borough ward would best reflect the interests and identities of the local communities and is therefore proposed. In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The village of Audlem is relatively well endowed with services and amenities. Unlike the other parishes in the Borough ward, it has a supermarket, convenience store, GP surgery, nursery/ creche and pharmacy and is the nearest location for these services for Hankelow, Buerton and parts of Dodcott cum Wilkesley and Sound & District. • Buerton, Hankelow and the main settlements in the parish of Dodcott cum Wilkesley are in the catchment for Audlem St James' Church of England Primary School. • The catchment area for Sound & District Primary School includes the five Sound & District Parish Council parishes that are already in Audlem Borough ward (Austerson, Baddington, 		

	<p>Broomhall, Coole Pilate and Sound) and the main settlements in the parish of Newhall (Newhall and Aston).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sound, Buerton, Audlem and Hankelow are on the same bus route. <p>Besides its above-average electors per seat ratio, there are other good reasons for not expanding the Audlem Borough ward area to include other parishes, as these other parishes' community ties lie mainly elsewhere:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Though also in Sound & District, Baddiley is on the opposite side of the railway line and its properties are outside the catchment area for Sound & District Primary School. • The village of Wrenbury has a number of key services and amenities, so is not dependent on Audlem. The settlements of Bridgemere and Hunsterson (in Doddington & District parish) are in the Bridgemere Church of England Primary School catchment. • Hatherton and Walgherton are geographically closer to Stapeley and Wybunbury (than to Audlem) and are in the catchment areas for Wybunbury/ Stapeley primary schools. For Hatherton and Walgherton, the nearest convenience store is in Wybunbury. • The settlements in Marbury & District are geographically much closer to Wrenbury and its services (and in its primary school catchment). <p>The proposed ward would also promote effective and convenient government by enabling the elected Member to serve an entirely rural area that (apart from excluding Baddiley parish, for the reasons explained earlier) consists of whole parish councils and settlements that have community links with each other.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	<p>The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and reflects community identity, as the village of Audlem is the main settlement in the proposed ward and the one where key services and amenities are concentrated, making it a focal point for the ward.</p>

4.4 Bollington & Rainow warding (details still to be confirmed)

Full details of the warding for Bollington & Rainow have yet to be agreed.

It has already been decided that there should be one two-Member Bollington & Rainow ward, which would, as a minimum, include the parishes of Pott Shrigley and Rainow, as well as the whole of Bollington Town Council north of the Silk Road (A523).

However, the following matters have yet to be determined:

- Whether the parish of Higher Hurdsfield, which is currently in Bollington Borough ward, should be included in the proposed Bollington & Rainow Borough ward, or in a Macclesfield Borough ward.
- Where the boundary between the proposed Bollington & Rainow Borough ward and the Tytherington area of Macclesfield should be drawn.

4.5 Brereton

Proposed ward name	Brereton		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	4,121	4,121	0%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (Brereton Rural) (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Transfer (removal) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> polling district BRET to the proposed Middlewich Borough ward. BRET2 to the proposed Sandbach Elworth & Ettiley Heath Borough ward. the Bluebell Green estate area (part of BRE1) to the proposed Dane Valley Borough ward. all of Somerford Booths parish ward (AST5) and all of the parish of Swettenham (DAN4) of to the proposed Gawsworth Borough ward. the part of Hulme Walfield parish ward (AST4) that lies north of Congleton Link Road, to Gawsworth Borough ward. the parts of Hulme Walfield parish ward (AST4) that lie south of Congleton Link Road. However, it is yet to be agreed whether all of this part of AST4 south of the Link Road would transfer to a Congleton Borough ward, or whether part of it would transfer to Gawsworth Borough ward. the parishes of Betchton (LAW3), Hassall (LAW4) and Smallwood (AST6) to the proposed Odd Rode Borough ward. <p>Addition of COWT from the current Congleton West Borough ward.</p>		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	Most of the parish of Brereton (all except the Bluebell Green estate area) and the parishes of Arclid, Bradwall, Moston, Somerford and Warmingham.		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	<p>Polling districts 3FK6, AST3, BRE1 (part only), BRE2, BRE3, BRE4, COWT.</p> <p>The part of BRE1 to be included would be all of this polling district, except for: the Bluebell Green housing estate (Bluebell Road and the roads accessed from it); Field View Close; Paddock Close; nos 130 & 132 on the west (even) side of London Road; the properties on the Dunkirk Farm site.</p>		

	<p>A map showing a close-up of the proposed division of BRE1 and the resulting boundary line can be found in Appendix A ('Maps of the proposed wards'), the separate document accompanying this main report.</p>
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>Due to major housing development, the population of the current Brereton Rural Borough ward has grown rapidly and the area is forecast to see a further large increase in population up to 2030. As a result, its electors per seat ratio was 63% above the Borough average by 2023 and forecast to be 127% above average by 2030. The proposed new warding would address this major imbalance in electoral equality and involve a new 'Brereton' ward with an electors per seat ratio very close to the Borough average.</p> <p>There are good reasons for warding these parishes together, as Somerford and Arclid have links and common interests with Brereton (and shared challenges). Bradwall is also rural and geographically close (with direct road links) to Brereton. Moston and Warmingham are, like Bradwall, rural areas with small populations and are more connected to the rural parishes to their east than to those further west. In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The settlements of Brereton Heath and Somerford are adjacent. Whilst most of their residential properties are in the parish of Brereton, those on the east side of Holmes Chapel Road (the A54) are in the parish of Somerford, as is Somerford Park Farm (which adjoins the village of Brereton Heath). • Arclid is in the catchment for Brereton Church of England Primary School and is a relatively short distance by road (the A50) to the village of Brereton Green (in Brereton parish). • Although the parish of Arclid extends some way to the south of the rest of the proposed ward, the village and most residential properties are at the northern edge of the parish. • Arclid is the only settlement in the area with a convenience store, which is a conveniently close location for residents in the adjacent (Brereton Green) part of Brereton. • Brereton Green is the nearest village with any amenities to the village of Bradwall.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The consultation on the Community Governance Review (CGR) draft recommendations generated extensive evidence that the residents of the new housing developments in the southeast of Somerford parish have a strong rural/ semi-rural identity and do not see themselves as part of Congleton. (This includes residents of the COWT polling district that was part of Congleton up until the implementation of the CGR final recommendations.) There are also good road links from this part of Somerford parish to Brereton's main settlements and to Arclid. • Warmingham is relatively well endowed with amenities for its small size (having a school, pub, village hall and church) and there is no direct road access between it and the parish of Minshull Vernon to its west. Including it in the same ward as Moston (which has no amenities and so is dependent on Warmingham or nearby towns) is therefore more appropriate. <p>The parishes of Hulme Walfield & Somerford Booths and Swettenham, though part of the current Brereton Rural Borough ward, are on the opposite side of the River Dane to the rest of that ward. There is only one road crossing along this long stretch of the river, meaning that there are no community ties or other significant links between Somerford and its eastern neighbours. Hence the proposal that Hulme Walfield & Somerford Booths and Swettenham be located in other wards.</p> <p>Similarly, the parishes of Betchton, Hassall and Smallwood have links to parts of the current Odd Rode Borough ward, rather than to Brereton or Somerford (see the proposals for the new Odd Rode Borough ward for further details).</p> <p>Although the CGR draft recommendations consultation revealed substantial evidence of Bluebell Green having ties to the rest of Brereton, it lies immediately outside the village of Holmes Chapel and is dependent on Holmes Chapel for the many key services unavailable in Brereton.</p> <p>Similarly, BRET and BRET2 were developed to meet the housing needs of Middlewich and Sandbach and lie on the outskirts of those towns. The CGR resulted in the Middlewich and Sandbach Town Council boundaries being extended to include these new housing areas. Including these areas in, respectively, the proposed Middlewich and Sandbach Elworth & Ettiley</p>
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	<p>Heath Borough wards would therefore align Borough ward and Town Council boundaries and best reflect local community identity and interests.</p> <p>The proposal also promotes effective and convenient government by enabling the elected Member to work with a group of largely rural communities with similar characters and identities, but covering a somewhat smaller geographical area than the current Brereton Rural ward.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	<p>Brereton is one of the two larger parishes (in population terms) in the proposed Borough ward and 'Brereton' features in the names of some of its main settlements (Brereton Green and Brereton Heath). Use of 'Brereton' in the ward name for this area is also well-established.</p> <p>Although Somerford parish also has a sizeable population, the vast majority of its residents live in the southeastern part of the parish, rather than in the settlement of Somerford itself.</p>

4.6 Bunbury

Proposed ward name	Bunbury		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	4,021	4,021	-2%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Transfer (removal) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> polling district 3FBT, which is the Kingsley Fields housing development, to the proposed Nantwich North & West Borough ward. Burland & Acton Parish Council's Acton & Henhull parish ward (polling districts 3FA5 and 3FA7), to the proposed Wrenbury Borough ward. The parish of Minshull Vernon (3FJ7) to the proposed Leighton Borough ward. <p>Addition of the parishes of Haughton (3EP6) and Spurstow (3EP7) from the current Wrenbury Borough ward.</p>		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The following parishes: Alpraham & Calveley; Aston juxta Mondrum; Bunbury; Cholmondeston; Church Minshull; Haughton; Poole; Spurstow; Stoke & Hurleston; Wardle; Wettenhall; Worleston.		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 3EB1, 3ED1, 3EF1, 3EH6, 3EJ6, 3EJ7, 3EN6, 3EN7, 3EP6, 3EP7, 3ES1, 3FB7, 3FB8, 3FB9		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>Major housing development in part of the current Borough ward (the Kingsley Fields development just outside the current Nantwich North & West Borough ward) has resulted in substantial population growth in Bunbury Borough ward, with this forecast to continue. For the current ward area, the electors per seat ratio was 30% above the Borough average as of 2023 and predicted to be 41% above average by 2030. The proposed new warding would however bring this ratio close to the Borough average and also meet the Commission's other warding criteria.</p> <p>The proposal would reflect local communities' identities and interests by:</p>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aligning the Borough ward boundary between Bunbury and the Nantwich Borough wards with the post-Community Governance Review (CGR) boundaries between Nantwich Town Council, Burland & Acton Parish Council and Worleston & District Parish Council, and bring the Kingsley Fields housing development (on Local Plan site LPS 46) within the Borough ward that contains the adjacent part of the town of Nantwich. Reflecting Haughton's and Spurstow's ties to Bunbury. The two settlements are geographically close to Bunbury, with a direct road link. A small part of Bunbury village is actually on the Spurstow side of the parish boundary. Both Haughton and Spurstow are in the catchment for Bunbury Aldersey Church of England Primary School. Bunbury is also the nearest settlement to Haughton and Spurstow for key services and amenities such as a GP surgery, convenience store and community centre. <p>There are also good reasons – again related to community identity and interests - for keeping Alpraham & Calveley, Cholmondeston & Wettenhall, Stoke & Hurleston and Wardle in the same Borough ward (as they are currently):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alpraham and Calveley are affected by issues relating to traffic going on the A51 to and from Wardle Industrial Estate. The A51 runs through Alpraham, Calveley, Wardle and the settlement of Barbridge (which is in the parish of Stoke), so they are well connected by road. Wardle and Barbridge are within walking distance of each other. Cholmondeston and Wettenhall are in the catchment for Calveley Primary Academy. Consultation responses to the CGR highlighted the links (related to the importance locally of agriculture and the canal) between Wardle, Stoke and Cholmondeston. <p>Similarly, there is logic in keeping Worleston & District's parishes (Aston juxta Mondrum, Poole and Worleston) and Church Minshull in the same Borough ward. Church Minshull is in the catchment for St Oswald's (Worleston) Church of England Primary School and Worleston is relatively well endowed with other amenities, including a store, village hall and Post Office, making it a convenient destination for Church Minshull residents requiring some of these services.</p>
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	<p>However, Minshull Vernon is relatively distant from most of the other parishes in the current (and proposed) Bunbury ward and has significant ties to Leighton and Woolstanwood, with all three parishes forming parts of the same parish council. Hence the proposal (detailed later) that Minshull Vernon be warded with these parishes instead.</p> <p>The parish of Burland & Acton is currently divided between Bunbury and Wrenbury Borough wards, despite the evidence of ties between its two main settlements: Burland (currently in Wrenbury) and Acton (currently in Bunbury). At the time of the CGR draft recommendations consultation, the then Burland Parish Council noted that many Burland residents identified strongly with Acton. The proposed new warding would better reflect community identity by placing the whole parish within Wrenbury Borough ward.</p> <p>The proposal also promotes effective and convenient government by enabling the elected Member to work with an entirely rural area that involves groups of parishes with shared issues and ties.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	<p>Bunbury is the largest settlement in the proposed ward and – because of its size and large number of services and amenities - a key focal point for many of the other parishes in the proposed ward. The use of Bunbury as the local ward name is also well established.</p>

4.7 Chelford

Proposed ward name	Chelford		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	3,977	3,977	-3%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Transfer of the parish of Ollerton with Marthall to the proposed Mobberley Borough ward.</p> <p>Addition of the parish of Over Alderley, from the current Prestbury Borough ward.</p>		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	<p>The following parishes and parish ward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The parishes of Chelford, Nether Alderley Over Alderley, Peover Superior & Snelson and Plumley with Toft & Bexton. • Peover Inferior parish ward, which is the part of Lower Peover Parish Council that falls within Cheshire East. (The other parish ward, Nether Peover, is in Cheshire West & Chester and therefore outside the scope of this Review.) 		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 3CD1, 3CN1, 3CR1, 3CS1, 3DA1, 3DA2, 3DB1, 3DC1		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>Plumley with Toft and Bexton, Peover Inferior and Peover Superior & Snelson have very strong ties to each other and to Chelford, involving shared services, common school catchments and other longstanding links, so it is important they remain warded together.</p> <p>Nether Alderley and Over Alderley have a number of shared interests. In particular, Alderley Park, one of the main development sites in Cheshire East, is split between the two parishes. Hence, under current ward boundaries, issues relating to the site require the involvement of both the Chelford and Prestbury councillors. The proposed warding would allow these issues to be addressed more efficiently, by bringing the whole site within Chelford Borough ward.</p> <p>Whilst Ollerton with Marthall is currently part of Chelford Borough ward, it has no significant ties to Chelford or any shared services. The issues Ollerton with Marthall faces are more similar to</p>		

	<p>those Great Warford, which is in Mobberley Borough ward and would remain so under the Council's warding proposals.</p> <p>The proposals would therefore better reflect the identities of the affected communities. They would also enable more effective and convenient local government, for example regarding Alderley Park issues - and the net impact of the changes would mean the electors per seat ratio remains close to the Borough average.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	<p>The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and reflects community identity, as Chelford is the main settlement within the proposed Borough ward and an important local centre for key services and amenities.</p>

4.8 Congleton warding (details still to be confirmed)

Full details of the warding for Congleton have yet to be agreed.

It has already been decided that:

- The Congleton wards should have a total of six of the Council's proposed 82 seats. This total (no change from the present number) reflects Congleton's expected share of the Borough's total electorate at the end of the forecast period for this Review (2030).
- The Congleton wards' combined area should be aligned with the Congleton Town Council boundary, but with one exception: namely to also include at least part of polling district AST4 (Hulme Walfield & Somerford Booths Parish Council's Hulme Walfield parish ward) that is bounded by the Congleton Link Road to the north. This part of AST4 includes the housing development on Local Plan sites LPS 28 and 29, as well as established properties on the east side of Giantswood Lane.

However, a decision has yet to be made on whether the Congleton wards would consist of two three-Member wards or three two-Member wards, and whether the part of AST4 that lies south of the Link Road and west of Giantswood Lane (site LPS 27) would be included in a Congleton Borough ward.

4.9 Crewe East

Proposed ward name	Crewe East		
Proposed number of seats	2		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	8,824	4,412	+7%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Division of the current three-Member Crewe East ward into two smaller wards, with the boundary between the two wards running (from west to east) along Broad Street, Remer Street, Sydney Road and finally the southern boundary of the new housing development on Local Plan site LPS 7. Along the section of Sydney Road west of the railway line, the proposed ward boundary follows rear property boundaries (on the west side of Sydney Road), in order to align with the boundary between polling districts 1CE1 and 1CF1.</p> <p>The proposed new Crewe East ward would be the one lying to the south of this dividing line, with the proposed new Crewe Maw Green Borough ward being the one covering the rest (the northern part) of the current Crewe East Borough ward.</p>		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	See description above.		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	<p>1AC1, 1AD1, 1CD1 (part only), 1CE1, 1CF1 (part only), 1DF1, 1DF2 (part only), 1DF3, 1DG1.</p> <p>The part of 1CD1 to be included would be the part south of Broad Street: the properties on the south (odd numbers) side of Broad Street and those on Lime Street, Britannia Close, Crossway, Greenway, Middlewich Street, Russet Close and The Haven.</p> <p>The part of 1CF1 to be included would be the part south of Remer Street: the properties on the south (odd numbers) side of Remer Street and those on Acer Avenue, Prunus Road, Cherry Tree Road, Almond Avenue, Ash Road, Hawthorn Grove and Maple Grove.</p>		

	<p>The part of 1DF2 to be included would be all of this polling district, except for: the part of Local Plan site LPS 7 that falls within 1DF2 and the other new development that falls between LPS 7, Sydney Road and the railway line (including numbers 116 to 140 Sydney Road).</p> <p>Maps showing close-ups of the proposed division of 1CD1, 1CF1 and 1DF2 and the resulting boundary line can be found in Appendix A ('Maps of the proposed wards'), the separate document accompanying this main report.</p>
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The current Crewe East is large and unwieldy, spanning a geographically wide and diverse area covering various communities and the large business park/ industrial estate areas and the Higher Education site (the Apollo Buckingham Health Science Campus) in the southeast of the town.</p> <p>As such, it does not enable convenient and effective local government and needs to be divided into two smaller, more manageable areas.</p> <p>The Maw Green area to the north and east of Sydney Road and Remer Street has housing of a different character to that further south. The development on Local Plan site LPS 7 is more similar to the Maw Green properties than to the established residential areas to its south. Consequently the proposed placement of the Maw Green and LPS 7 areas in a separate Crewe Maw Green ward would better reflect local communities' identities and interests whilst reducing councillors' overall workloads. The proposed division would also ensure electoral equality, with both the new wards having electors per seat ratios within 10% of the Borough average.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	<p>The name reflects the geographical area of Crewe covered by the ward and it is a well-established and accepted ward name locally.</p>

4.10 Crewe Maw Green

Proposed ward name	Crewe Maw Green		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	3,855	3,855	-6%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Division of the current Crewe East ward into two smaller wards, with the boundary between the two wards running (from west to east) along Broad Street, Remer Street, Sydney Road (as far as the railway line) and finally the southern boundary of the new housing development on Local Plan site LPS 7. Along the section of Sydney Road west of the railway line, the proposed ward boundary follows rear property boundaries (on the west side of Sydney Road), in order to align with the boundary between polling districts 1CE1 and 1CF1.</p> <p>The proposed new Crewe Maw Green ward would be the one lying to the north of this dividing line, with the proposed new Crewe East Borough ward being the one covering the rest (the southern part) of the current Crewe East Borough ward.</p>		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	See description above.		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	<p>1CD1 (part only), 1CF1 (part only), 1DF2 (part only).</p> <p>The part of 1CD1 to be included would be the part north of Broad Street, including properties on the north (even numbers) side of Broad Street (numbers 280 to 334).</p> <p>The part of 1CF1 to be included would be the part north of Remer Street, including properties on the north (even numbers) side of Remer Street (numbers 4 to 180a).</p> <p>The part of 1DF2 to be included would be the part of Local Plan site LPS 7 that falls within 1DF2 and the other new development that falls between LPS 7, Sydney Road and the railway line (including numbers 116 to 140 Sydney Road).</p>		

	Maps showing close-ups of the proposed division of 1CD1, 1CF1 and 1DF2 and the resulting boundary line can be found in Appendix A ('Maps of the proposed wards'), the separate document accompanying this main report.
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	See the Crewe East section of this report, as that sets out the rationale for both that proposed Borough ward and the new Crewe Maw Green ward.
Rationale for the proposed name	Maw Green is the name of the area of Crewe that much of the new ward would cover and it is a well-established and widely recognised name.

4.11 Crewe North

Proposed ward name	Crewe North		
Proposed number of seats	2		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	8,564	4,282	+4%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	Merger of the current Crewe Central and Crewe North Borough wards into a new, enlarged ward called Crewe North		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The current Crewe Central and Crewe North Borough wards		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 1AB1, 1AE1, 1AF1, 1CB1, 1CB2, 1CC2		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The current Crewe Central ward has an electors per seat ratio that is more than 20% above the Borough average and which is expected to still be more than 20% above by 2030. In contrast, the current Crewe North's ratio (already 6% below average) is forecast to be 13% below average by 2030.</p> <p>Merging the two into a new, two-Member ward would result in the new ward having an electors per seat ratio close to the Borough average.</p> <p>It would also mean that warding in this part of Crewe continued to reflect local communities' identities and interests. The current Central ward is a very diverse community, including a wide range of migrant workers, as well as older residents who have lived in the area a long time. The current North has growing communities of varying nationalities, so it now has some similarities to the current Central ward.</p> <p>The proposal would therefore promote effective and convenient government by enabling the elected Member to serve areas of the town with increasingly similar demographics and facing similar issues.</p>		

Rationale for the proposed name	The name broadly reflects the geographical area of Crewe covered by the ward and it is a well-established and accepted ward name locally. Whilst the new ward would include the central area of the town, it would be less accurate to call the ward 'Central', given that it would extend to the northern outskirts of Crewe.
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4.12 Crewe South

Proposed ward name	Crewe South		
Proposed number of seats	2		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	7,653	3,827	-7%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	Transfer of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling district 1BD2 to the proposed Crewe West Borough ward. • Shavington Parish Council's Gresty Brook parish ward (1GM2) to the proposed Borough ward (or one of the proposed wards, if the option of two single-Member wards is agreed) covering Rope and Shavington. 		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	All of the current Crewe South Borough ward, except for Gresty Brook and 1BD2. This equates to all of the current South ward on Crewe Town Council, except for 1BD2.		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 1BD3, 1DA1, 1DB1, 1DC1, 1DE1		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>Given the positions of the railway lines running through Crewe, and the relatively few crossings over these, the Borough Council considers that any changes to the current Crewe South ward boundary should be limited to the Crewe West area (which is bounded by the same pair of railway lines) and the parish of Shavington to the south. The railway forms a natural boundary between the South ward and the East and Central wards and alternative boundary lines in those locations would split local communities or merge residential areas that have few ties to each other.</p> <p>Like other current Crewe wards, the current South ward has areas of significant deprivation. However, as noted in Cheshire East Council's proposed council size submission for this Review, the South has an electoral registration rate (registered electors per adult) that is unusually low (under 0.8, against 0.87 or more in all but one of the Borough's other wards). Hence the 2030 electorate forecast numbers alone probably significantly understate the South ward Members' future workloads.</p>		

	<p>Despite this, the current South ward is forecast to have an electors per seat ratio 5% above the Borough average by 2030.</p> <p>The proposed transfer of Gresty Brook would bring this ratio down to 2% below the Borough average, but the current West ward (where the registration rate is not unusually low), if left with its current boundary, would have a ratio 7% below average. Therefore the proposal also involves moving 1BD2 from the South ward to the West, as the variances in the two wards' ratios would then be reversed (to South 7% below, West 2% below). This would be a better reflection of the South's low registration rate, as well as providing a clearer ward boundary line in this area (Nantwich Road).</p> <p>The proposal therefore promotes effective and convenient government by transferring some of the South ward's electors to the West ward, to better reflect what the evidence on registration rates indicates about likely workload levels.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	The name broadly reflects the geographical area of Crewe covered by the ward and it is a well-established and accepted ward name locally.

4.13 Crewe St Barnabas

Proposed ward name	Crewe St Barnabas		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	4,038	4,038	-2%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	No changes proposed		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The current Crewe St Barnabas Borough ward		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 1BE1, 1BER, 1CA1		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>Merging St Barnabas with the adjacent North or Central wards (or changing the boundaries between St Barnabas and these wards) is not considered appropriate. The current Central ward is a very diverse community (a mixture of migrant workers and older, more established local residents) and diversity is growing in the North. St Barnabas is very different to these areas. It has its own distinct identity, with St Barnabas church on West Street being a key element of that and the Bentley Motors site being an important feature. Local residents see themselves as West Enders and have a different allegiance to people in the current North ward.</p> <p>Furthermore, St Barnabas' electors per seat ratio is currently within 10% of the Borough average and is expected to converge with the average up to 2030, so the existing boundary ensures electoral equality.</p> <p>Therefore the Commission's criteria are best achieved by leaving the current ward boundary unchanged.</p>		
Rationale for the proposed name	The name is well-established and accepted and St Barnabas is an area with a distinct identity.		

4.14 Crewe West

Proposed ward name	Crewe West		
Proposed number of seats	2		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	8,061	4,031	-2%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	Addition of polling district 1BD2, from the current Crewe South Borough ward.		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The current Crewe West Borough ward, plus 1BD2		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 1BA1, 1BAR, 1BB2, 1BC1, 1BD1, 1BD2, 1BF1, 1DD1		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	See the Crewe South section of this report, as that sets out the rationale for both that proposed Borough ward and the new Crewe West ward.		
Rationale for the proposed name	The name broadly reflects the geographical area of Crewe covered by the ward and it is a well-established and accepted ward name locally.		

4.15 Dane Valley

Proposed ward name	Dane Valley		
Proposed number of seats	2		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	8,905	4,453	+8%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	Transfer, from the current Brereton Rural Borough ward, of the part of the parish of Brereton (polling district BRE1) containing the Bluebell Green estate.		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The current Borough ward area (the parishes of Cranage, Goostrey, Holmes Chapel and Twemlow) and the Bluebell Green estate area.		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	<p>Polling districts BRE1 (part only), DAN1, DAN2, DAN3, DAN5, HCE1, HCE2, HCE3, HCE4.</p> <p>The part of BRE1 to be included would be: the Bluebell Green housing estate (Bluebell Road and the roads accessed from it); Field View Close; Paddock Close; numbers 130 & 132 on the west (even) side of London Road; the properties on the Dunkirk Farm site.</p> <p>A map showing a close-up of the proposed division of BRE1 and the resulting boundary line can be found in Appendix A ('Maps of the proposed wards'), the separate document accompanying this main report.</p>		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>There are significant links between Holmes Chapel and the parishes of Cranage, Goostrey and Twemlow, which mean that warding them together will reflect local communities' identities and interests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are geographically close and well connected by road. The Final Recommendations report (2010) from the Commission's previous Review cited the proximity of Twemlow to Holmes Chapel and the strong transport links between the two provided by the A535 – and this remains the case today. • There are other transport links connecting these parishes. All four parishes are on the same bus route and Holmes Chapel and Goostrey are adjacent stops on the Crewe-Manchester railway line. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Cranage and Twemlow (which have no convenience store) and for Goostrey, Holmes Chapel is the closest location within Cheshire East with services and amenities such as a supermarket and GP practice. • Cranage is in the catchment for one of Holmes Chapel's primary schools and Twemlow is in the catchment for Goostrey Community Primary School. <p>Although the Borough Council's consultation (2021) on its Community Governance Review draft recommendations revealed substantial evidence of Bluebell Green having ties to the rest of Brereton, it lies immediately outside the village of Holmes Chapel and is dependent on Holmes Chapel for the many key services unavailable in Brereton.</p> <p>The proposed warding would achieve electoral equality by having an electors per seat ratio that (as of 2030) would be within 10% of the Borough average.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and reflects one of key geographical features that form part of this area's identity, namely the River Dane.

4.16 Disley

Proposed ward name	Disley		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	4,253	4,253	+3%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	Addition of the parish of Kettleshulme & Lyme Handley (polling districts 4FB6, 4FD1, 4FD7), from the current Poynton East & Pott Shrigley Borough ward		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The parishes of Disley and Kettleshulme & Lyme Handley		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 4FA1, 4FB1, 4FB2, 4FB6, 4FD1, 4FD7		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>If the boundary were limited (as now) to the parish of Disley, its electors per seat ratio by 2030 would be 6% below the Borough average, which would be on the low side for a relatively compact settlement that covers a small geographical area and has no deprivation issues. Adding Kettleshulme & Lyme Handley to the ward achieves better electoral equality for Disley and the other proposed Borough wards in this area.</p> <p>The current Poynton East & Pott Shrigley Borough ward spans an area running from the eastern half of the town of Poynton to the rural parishes of Kettleshulme & Lyme Handley and Pott Shrigley. The latter two parishes collectively cover an extensive geographical area that includes a significant part of the Peak Park. This warding arrangement combines some very different communities with varying interests. It also adds to the local Members' workload due to the additional time involved in travelling around the ward and issues arising from the Peak Park's specific needs and its separate planning regime.</p> <p>The proposed new arrangements for Disley and for Poynton would better reflect local communities' identities and interests and enable more convenient and effective local government by warding Kettleshulme & Lyme Handley (and also Pott Shrigley) with smaller settlements, and</p>		

	by creating a single ward for Poynton that would cover only the Town Council area. (See the separate section on Poynton for further details.)
Rationale for the proposed name	The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and Disley is the main settlement within this area.

4.17 Gawsworth (details still to be confirmed)

Full details of the warding for Gawsworth have yet to be agreed.

The following changes have already been agreed:

- Addition of the following (all from the current Brereton Rural Borough ward):
 - the parish of Swettenham (polling district DAN4)
 - AST5 (Hulme Walfield & Somerford Booths Parish Council's Somerford Booths parish ward)
 - the part of AST4 (Hulme Walfield & Somerford Booths Parish Council's Hulme Walfield parish ward) that lies north of Congleton Link Road.
- Transfer (removal) of:
 - the parishes of North Rode (4GH6) and Bosley (4GA1), to the proposed Sutton Borough ward.
 - 4GET (the part of Local Plan site LPS 18 that moved into Macclesfield Town Council as part of the Community Governance Review changes), to a Macclesfield Borough ward.
 - 4GCT (the parts of Local Plan sites LPS 29 and LPS 30 that moved into Congleton Town Council as part of the Community Governance Review changes), to a Congleton Borough ward.
 - 4GCT2 (the part of Buglawton that moved into Congleton Town Council as part of the Community Governance Review changes), to a Congleton Borough ward).

Gawsworth Borough ward will therefore include the following areas:

- Gawsworth Parish Council's Gawsworth Village parish ward.
- the parishes of Eaton, Henbury, Lower Withington, Marton, Siddington and Swettenham.
- the part of Hulme Walfield & Somerford Booths parish that lies north of Congleton Link Road.

However, a decision has yet to be made on whether the ward should include:

- Gawsworth Parish Council's Gawsworth Moss parish ward (polling districts 4BFR and 4GDT).
- the part of Hulme Walfield & Somerford Booths parish that lies south of Congleton Link Road and west of Giantswood Lane.

4.18 Handforth

Proposed ward name	Handforth		
Proposed number of seats	2		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	7,241	3,621	-12%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Addition of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Fairways estate (polling district 8FKT), which is Local Plan site LPS 34, from the current Wilmslow Lacey Green Borough ward. the parish of Styal (8FK1). <p>Transfer (removal) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8EA1 (part of the Finney Green area of Wilmslow) to the proposed Wilmslow Lacey Green Borough ward. 8EE1 (which consists of the Colshaw Farm estate and the Summerfields estate) to the proposed Wilmslow East Borough ward. 		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	Handforth Town Council and the parish of Styal		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 8EF1, 8EG1, 8EH1, 8EJ1, 8FK1, 8FKT		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The proposed changes would reflect community identity and interests much better than the current warding, as the changes would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extend Handforth Borough westwards, to include the new Fairways development. This new estate was developed to meet Handforth's housing needs and Fairways is very close to and well connected by road to the many shops and other services in the centre of Handforth. Bring the Colshaw Farm estate into a Wilmslow Borough ward. There is no road access from this estate into Handforth and Colshaw Farm residents identify as being part of Wilmslow. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place 8EA1 in the same Wilmslow ward as the rest of Finney Green. The adjacent part of Handforth Town Council consists of Deanway Business Park and this, together with the railway line to the east of 8EA1 and the natural boundary of the River Dean, mean that residents of 8EA1 have limited connections to the nearest residential areas of Handforth. <p>Although there is no direct road link from Styal into Handforth through the Fairways estate, there is pedestrian access, and road travel between the two parishes (which have previously been warded together) is relatively quick via the B5166 and A555. The services and amenities in Wilmslow town centre are not particularly close to Styal and the road network and large retail outlets in Handforth (most obviously Handforth Dean Retail Park) make Handforth a convenient location for many of the service needs of Styal residents.</p> <p>The proposed warding would result in an electors per seat ratio that (as of 2030) would be 12% below the Borough average. However, the Borough Council considers that this is justifiable, given that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There would be a very positive impact on community identity and interests, as set out above. The proposed ward contains the Handforth Garden Village site (Local Plan site LPS 33), which is one of the largest housing developments provided for in the Council's Local Plan. According to the Council's housing forecasts that were used to inform the electorate forecasts for this Review, the number of net housing completions on LPS 33 is predicted to reach around 600 by the start of 2030, but a total of 1,500 homes are provided for (and expected) on the site eventually. Therefore it is anticipated that the number of electors in the proposed ward will grow significantly not just up to 2030, but well beyond that date, meaning that the electors per seat ratio is likely to converge with the Borough average over the longer term.
Rationale for the proposed name	The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established. Handforth is the main settlement within this area, as well as a key centre for services and amenities.

4.19 Haslington

Proposed ward name	Haslington		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	4,387	4,387	+7%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Transfer (removal) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling district 2GDT (areas of new housing development on the western edge of Alsager Town Council), to the proposed Alsager Borough ward. • The parish of Barthomley (2GA6) and Weston & Crewe Green Parish Council's Weston and Crewe Green parish wards (polling districts 1GF1, 1GF1T, 1GG1) to the proposed Weston Borough ward. • The Winterley village and the Wheelock Heath part of the current Borough ward (2GE1) to the proposed Wheelock & Winterley Borough ward. 		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	Haslington village (polling districts 2GC1, 2GC2 & 2GC3) and the settlement of Oakhanger (2GD1)		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 2GC1, 2GC2, 2GC3, 2GD1		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>By removing 2GDT, this proposal would align the Alsager Borough ward boundary with the post-Community Governance Review (CGR) boundaries between Alsager Town Council and Haslington Parish Council, and bring the new housing development on the western edge of Alsager within the Borough ward that contains the town.</p> <p>The population of the current Haslington Borough ward has grown substantially in recent years as a result of significant new housing development and this trend is expected to continue up to 2030. As a result, the existing ward will (by 2030) be too large for a two-Member ward but too small to justify three Members. In addition, it covers an extensive geographical area and this adds considerably to Members' workloads. The proposed new warding would address these constraints on effective and convenient local government and would better reflect community</p>		

	<p>identity and interests, by allocating parts of the current ward to new wards and leaving the remaining settlements of Haslington and Oakhanger as a single-Member ward.</p> <p>Haslington village is a distinct community, with a number of key services and amenities contributing to its self-containment and sense of identity. Oakhanger residents have a natural tie to Haslington, given that it is the most convenient centre for key services (Alsager is closer as the crow flies, but road access and the scope for community ties to the town are constrained by the physical barrier of the M6).</p> <p>Winterley and Wheelock Heath residents, in contrast, tend to rely primarily on Sandbach for key services, as do people living in the Wheelock part of Sandbach, so warding these communities together, in the proposed Wheelock & Winterley ward, would better reflect local interests and identities.</p> <p>The proposed warding would also result in an electors per seat ratio that (as of 2030) would be within 10% the Borough average, meeting the Commission's requirement for electoral equality.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	<p>The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established. Haslington is the main settlement within this area, as well as being the proposed ward's key (and only) centre for services and amenities.</p>

4.20 High Legh

Proposed ward name	High Legh		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	3,704	3,704	-10%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	Transfer (removal) of polling district 3CVT (which contains the western part of Local Plan site LPS 36A), to the proposed Knutsford Borough ward.		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The parishes of Aston by Budworth, High Legh, Little Bollington with Agden, Mere, Pickmere and Tabley Millington & Rostherne Parish Council's Millington parish ward 		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 3CA1, 3CA2, 3CC6, 3CG1, 3CK1, 3CL1, 3CLT, 3CT1, 3CV1		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The proposed warding would reflect local communities' interests and identities and enable effective and convenient local government, given that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By removing 3CVT, this proposal would align the Knutsford Borough ward boundary with the post-Community Governance Review boundaries between Knutsford Town Council and Tabley Parish Council, and bring the new housing development on the western edge of Knutsford within the Borough ward that contains the rest of the town. The parishes of Aston by Budworth, High Legh, Mere, Pickmere and Tabley have similarly rural characters and largely lie on the same side of the A556/ M56 road network. Millington & Rostherne Parish Council's Millington parish ward is in the catchment area for High Legh's primary school. Millington is also geographically close to High Legh and is on the same side of the A556, M56 and M6. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although Little Bollington with Agden is on the opposite side the M56 to the rest of the proposed Borough, it is on the western side of the A556 (like most of the proposed ward) and is well connected to High Legh via the A56 and B5159. The village of Mobberley, which forms the main settlement and service in the proposed Mobberley Borough ward to east, is much more distant from Little Bollington and there is no direct, quick road link between the two. Therefore warding Little Bollington with Agden with Mobberley would not reflect community identity or promote effective and convenient local government as well. <p>The proposed ward's electors per seat ratio (10% below the Borough average as of 2030) would be at the lower end of the range usually sought by the Commission. However, other things being equal, Member workloads are higher in large rural areas such as the proposed ward and its geographical position, the location of major road networks and the community ties of neighbouring parishes mean that alternative warding arrangements would be less appropriate. In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adding Plumley with Toft and Bexton (and potentially Peover Inferior too) to the High Legh ward would not reflect community identity and interests, as they have very strong ties to Peover Superior & Snelson, involving shared services, common school catchments and other longstanding links. Although it forms part of the same parish council as Millington, the Rostherne & Tatton parish ward lies east of the A556 and its residents fall within the catchment areas for schools in Mobberley and Knutsford.
Rationale for the proposed name	The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and High Legh is the main settlement within this area.

4.21 Knutsford

Proposed ward name	Knutsford		
Proposed number of seats	3		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	11,639	3,880	-6%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	Addition of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> polling district 3CVT (which contains the western part of Local Plan site LPS 36A), from the current High Legh Borough ward. Polling district 3CMT (the small part of the Longridge Trading Estate not currently in Knutsford Borough ward), from the current Mobberley Borough ward. 		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	Knutsford Town Council		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 3BA1, 3BAR, 3BART, 3BAT, 3BB1, 3BBR, 3BC1, 3BD1, 3BDT, 3BE1, 3BF1, 3BF2, 3CMT, 3CVT		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The proposed warding would reflect local communities' interests and identities and enable effective and convenient local government, given that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By adding 3CVT, this proposal would align the Knutsford Borough ward boundary with the post-Community Governance Review (CGR) boundaries between Knutsford Town Council and Tabley Parish Council, and bring the new housing development on the western edge of Knutsford within the Borough ward that contains the rest of the town. By adding 3CMT, the proposal would align the Knutsford Borough ward boundary with the post-CGR boundaries between Knutsford Town Council and Mobberley Parish Council. This change would also bring the whole of the Longridge Trading Estate within a single Borough ward, avoiding the potential requirement for Members from two different Borough wards to liaise over issues relating to the Estate. 		

	The proposed ward's electors per seat ratio (6% below the Borough average as of 2030) would be relatively low for a compact urban area. However, warding part or all of one (or more) of the neighbouring rural parishes would not reflect community identity or promote effective and convenient local government and including some of the more sparsely populated ones would have minimal impact on the ward's ratio. The adjacent rural parishes and parish wards all cover very large geographical areas and so would add considerably to the Knutsford Members' workloads whilst warding together communities with very different characters and interests.
Rationale for the proposed name	The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and reflects community identity, as the ward would consist solely of the Knutsford Town Council area.

4.22 Leighton

Proposed ward name	Leighton		
Proposed number of seats	2		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	7,707	3,854	-6%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	Addition of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The parish of Minshull Vernon (polling district 3FJ7) from the current Bunbury Borough ward. The parish of Woolstanwood (1FJ1) from the current Wistaston Borough ward. 		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	Leighton, Minshull Vernon & Woolstanwood Parish Council		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 1FJ1, 1FJ4, 3FJ2, 3FJ3, 3FJ5, 3FJ6, 3FJ7		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The current Borough ward has seen substantial housing development and population growth in recent years and this is expected to continue up to 2030. As a consequence, the electors per seat ratio was 23% above the Borough average by 2023 and is forecast to rise to 69% above average by 2030. Taking account of the Commission's electoral equality criterion, this means the current ward's electorate size has much become too high for a single-Member seat, but will not (even by 2030) be high enough to warrant two Members.</p> <p>The proposed new warding would bring the ratio within 10% of the Borough average by 2030. It would also reflect local communities' identities and interests, as the parishes of Leighton, Minshull Vernon and Woolstanwood are part of the same parish council and the recent Community Governance Review (CGR) undertaken by the Borough Council generated a lot of evidence of the ties between these parishes. In particular, the CGR draft proposals to bring Leighton and Woolstanwood within Crewe Town Council and merge Minshull Vernon with Church Minshull prompted a large number of responses – the overwhelming majority opposing the proposal and supporting the retention of the existing parish council. The Parish Council held an official poll on the proposals and over 95% of voters in the parishes of Leighton and Woolstanwood opposed a break-up of the council, as did two thirds of those in Minshull Vernon.</p>		

	<p>The proposed ward's electors per seat ratio (6% below the Borough average as of 2030) would be relatively low for a compact urban area. However, the proposed ward covers an extensive swathe of land and Minshull Vernon is a large rural area, so its geographical composition will add to Members' workloads.</p> <p>The option of including other rural parishes to the proposed ward is not favoured, given that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church Minshull has ties to Worleston (it is in the same primary school catchment). • Worleston itself has a notable range of amenities and services for its small size, including a shop and Aston Juxta Mondrum has ties to Worleston (both are part of the same parish council). These parishes are in any case geographically distant from the main residential areas of Leighton and Woolstanwood. • A railway line divides Warmingham from Minshull Vernon and road access between these two parishes is only possible via Crewe or settlements in Cheshire West & Chester.
Rationale for the proposed name	The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and Leighton is the main settlement within this area.

4.23 Macclesfield warding (details still to be confirmed)

Full details of the warding for Macclesfield have yet to be agreed.

It has already been decided that:

- The Macclesfield wards should have a total of 11 the Council's proposed 82 seats. The total of 11 (one less than at present) reflects Macclesfield's expected share of the Borough's total electorate at the end of the forecast period for this Review (2030).
- The Macclesfield wards' combined area should be aligned with the Macclesfield Town Council boundary, but with the following exceptions:
 - Polling district 4GDT (Local Plan site LPS 15), which is in the current Gawsworth Borough ward, will be included in a Macclesfield Borough ward.
 - The parish of Higher Hurdsfield, which is currently in Bollington Borough ward, could be included in either the proposed Bollington & Rainow Borough ward, or in a Macclesfield Borough ward.
 - The boundary between the proposed Bollington & Rainow Borough ward and the Tytherington area of Macclesfield has yet to be agreed.
 - Part of 4CBR, which is currently in Macclesfield South Borough ward, could potentially be included in Sutton Borough ward.

4.24 Middlewich

Proposed ward name	Middlewich		
Proposed number of seats	3		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	12,626	4,209	+2%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	Addition of polling district BRET, from the current Brereton Rural Borough ward.		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	Middlewich Town Council		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts BRET, MIAA, MIAB, MIAC, MIAE, MIAF, MIAG, MIAH, MIAJ		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The proposed ward would align the Middlewich Borough ward boundary with the post-Community Governance Review boundaries between Middlewich Town Council and Moston Parish Council, and bring the whole of the housing development on Local Plan sites LPS 42 and LPS 45 within Middlewich Borough ward.</p> <p>This change would reflect local communities' interests and identities, as these new development sites were provided in order to help meet Middlewich's housing needs and residents there will naturally look to Middlewich for services and amenities.</p> <p>The proposal would also leave Middlewich with an electors per seat ratio close to the Borough average.</p> <p>Including one or both of the adjacent parishes of Moston and Bradwall in the ward would not be appropriate, as they are small rural communities with dispersed populations. In addition, Middlewich's ties to neighbouring settlements are primarily to the Cheshire West & Chester towns of Winsford and Northwich, rather than to the rest of Cheshire East. Winsford and Middlewich Town Councils provided evidence of this during the recent (2021-22) consultations on parliamentary constituency boundaries, which led to the Boundary Commission for England</p>		

	placing all three towns in the same constituency. In other words, Middlewich is very much a separate community to the rest of Cheshire East.
Rationale for the proposed name	The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and reflects community identity, as the ward would consist solely of the Middlewich Town Council area.

4.25 Mobberley

Proposed ward name	Mobberley		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	3,980	3,980	-3%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Addition of the parish of Ollerton with Marthall (polling districts 3CJ1 and 3CO1), from the current Chelford Borough ward.</p> <p>Transfer (removal) of polling district 3CMT (the small part of the Longridge Trading Estate currently in Mobberley Borough ward), to the proposed Knutsford Borough ward.</p>		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	<p>The following parishes and parish wards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The parishes of Ashley, Great Warford, Little Warford, Mobberley and Ollerton with Marthall. Millington & Rostherne Parish Council's Rostherne & Tatton parish ward (polling districts 3CU1 and 3CU7). 		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 3CB6, 3CH1, 3CJ1, 3CM1, 3CMR, 3CO1, 3CU1, 3CU7, 3DE1		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The current Borough has a relatively low electors per seat ratio: the ratio was 9% below the Borough average as of 2023 and this variance is forecast to widen, to 15% below the average, by 2030. It is therefore necessary to expand the geographical area of the ward, in order for its ratio to fall within the range usually sought by the Commission.</p> <p>The proposed addition of Ollerton with Marthall to the ward would achieve this and result in a ratio (as of 2030) close to the Borough average. This change would also reflect local communities' identities and interests. Whilst Ollerton with Marthall is currently part of Chelford Borough ward, it has no significant ties to Chelford or any shared services. The issues Ollerton with Marthall faces are more similar to those for Great Warford, so there are benefits in warding them together in Mobberley. Ollerton and Mobberley are also on the same bus route.</p>		

	<p>Ashley, Great Warford and Rostherne also have links to Mobberley Borough, meaning that there is logic in keeping these areas warded together:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The parishes of Great Warford and Ashley are reasonably close to Mobberley and well connected to it by road. Mobberley and Ashley are also adjacent stops on the same (Chester-Manchester) railway line. • Ashley and Rostherne are in the catchment for Mobberley's primary school. • For Ashley and Great Warford, Mobberley is the nearest location in Cheshire East with a supermarket or a pharmacy. <p>Although the proposed warding would mean that the parish of Millington & Rostherne would still be split between Mobberley and High Legh Borough wards, the Millington parish ward has ties to High Legh rather than High Legh. As noted in the section of this report covering the proposed warding for High Legh, Millington is on the same side of the A556 as High Legh and is in the same school catchment.</p> <p>By transferring 3CMT to the proposed Knutsford Borough ward, the proposal would align the Knutsford Borough ward boundary with the post-CGR boundaries between Knutsford Town Council and Mobberley Parish Council. This change would also bring the whole of the Longridge Trading Estate within a single Borough ward, avoiding the potential requirement for Members from two different Borough wards to liaise over issues relating to the Estate. As this polling district has no electors either currently or expected by (or after) 2030, its removal from Mobberley ward would have no impact on electoral equality.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	<p>The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and reflects community identity, as Mobberley is the main settlement within the proposed Borough ward and an important local centre for key services and amenities.</p>

4.26 Nantwich North & West

Proposed ward name	Nantwich North & West		
Proposed number of seats	2		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	8,400	4,200	+2%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Addition of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> polling district 3FBT (the Kingsley Fields housing development, Local Plan site LPS 46), from the current Bunbury Borough ward. 3FAT (the Malbank Waters housing development), from the current Wrenbury Borough ward. <p>Transfer (removal) of 1NA3 to the proposed Nantwich South & Stapeley Borough ward.</p>		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	Most of the current Borough ward (all except for the Mount Drive estate area covered by 1NA3), plus the Kingsley Fields and Malbank Waters developments.		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 1NA0, 1NA1, 1NA2, 1NA6, 1NAC, 3FAT, 3FBT		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The proposed changes would reflect local communities' interests and identities by aligning the Borough ward boundary between the Bunbury and Nantwich Borough wards with the post-Community Governance Review boundaries between Nantwich Town Council, Burland & Acton Parish Council and Worleston & District Parish Council, and bring the Kingsley Fields and Malbank Waters development within the Borough ward that contains the adjacent part of the town of Nantwich. These new developments were intended to meet Nantwich's housing needs and residents of the new properties are dependent on the town for key services and amenities.</p> <p>However, if the addition of Kingsley Fields and Malbank Waters were the only changes made to the ward, Nantwich North & West would have an expected 9,530 electors by 2030, giving it an electors per seat ratio 16% above the Borough average, whilst the Nantwich South & Stapeley Borough ward, if left unchanged, would have a ratio 6% below the average. Hence the Borough</p>		

	<p>Council proposes that polling district 1NA3 be transferred from the North & West ward to the South & Stapeley ward, so that both have a (2030) ratio within 10% of the Borough average.</p> <p>The reasons for proposing to transfer this specific part of the current North & West Borough ward to South & Stapeley are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transferring an area of Nantwich North & West that is further west (namely part or all of 1NA0) would, given the physical barrier of the River Weaver, limit direct access between the northern and western parts of the redrawn North & West ward. • It would keep all the properties in the Mount Drive area (which broadly equates to 1NA3) in the same Borough ward. <p>The resulting ratios for the two proposed Borough wards would, as of 2030, both be within 10% of the Borough average (2% above and 7% above respectively).</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and reflects the geographical parts of the town that the proposed ward would cover.

4.27 Nantwich South & Stapeley

Proposed ward name	Nantwich South & Stapeley		
Proposed number of seats	2		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	8,833	4,417	+7%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	Addition of polling district 1NA3, from the current Nantwich North & West Borough ward.		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The current Borough ward (which includes the parish of Stapeley & District) plus 1NA3		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 1FC1, 1FC2, 1FC6, 1FCR, 1NA3, 1NA4, 1NA5, 1NAR		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The previous (Nantwich North & West) section of this report explains the reasons for the proposed addition of 1NA3.</p> <p>Although Stapeley & District is a separate parish to Nantwich and has its own identity, the vast majority of its residential properties (many of them on recent housing development sites) are part of the same conurbation as Nantwich and there are good, direct road links from the more sparsely-populated parts of Stapeley into Nantwich. Stapeley residents are dependent on Nantwich for many key services.</p>		
Rationale for the proposed name	The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and reflects the geographical parts of Nantwich that the proposed ward would cover. It also reflects the fact that Stapeley makes up a large proportion of the ward's population and (as the recent Community Governance Review confirmed) has its own separate identity.		

4.28 Odd Rode

Proposed ward name	Odd Rode		
Proposed number of seats	2		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	8,237	4,119	0%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Transfer (removal) of polling district LAWT (to the proposed new Alsager Borough ward).</p> <p>Addition of the parishes of Smallwood (AST6), Betchton (LAW3) and Hassall (LAW4).</p>		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The parishes of Betchton, Church Lawton, Hassall, Newbold Astbury cum Moreton, Odd Rode and Smallwood.		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts AST1, AST2, AST6, LAW1, LAW2, LAW3, LAW4, ORD1, ORD2, ORD3, ORD5		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The removal of LAWT will align the Odd Rode Borough ward with the post-Community Governance Review (CGR) boundaries between Alsager Town Council and Church Lawton Parish Council, and bring the whole of the housing development on Local Plan site LPS 21 with Alsager Borough ward. This site was provided to help meet Alsager's housing needs and residents are dependent on the town for key services and amenities. The boundary change will therefore better reflect community identity and interests.</p> <p>The existing Borough ward would be too small to meet the Commission's electoral equality criterion, with its electors per seat ratio forecasts to be 15% below the Borough average by 2030. The removal of LAWT, if not undertaken in tandem with other boundary changes, would exacerbate this slightly, resulting in a ratio 16% below average.</p> <p>Adding the parishes of Smallwood, Betchton and Hassall to the existing ward would address this imbalance and give the expanded ward a ratio that matched the Borough average. Including these parishes in the ward would also reflect local communities' identities and interests, as there are significant community ties between the parishes in the proposed Borough ward. In particular:</p>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some of the settlements in Church Lawton and Odd Rode parishes have convenience stores or a supermarket and two of them (Rode Heath and Scholar Green) have key services such as a GP surgery and post office, whereas Hassall, Smallwood and Betchton have no such services and no retail provision. There are direct road links from Hassall Green (Betchton's main settlement) to Rode Heath (in Odd Rode parish) and the main settlements in Church Lawton, making their services relatively accessible to the smaller parishes to their north. Similarly, there are good road links between the main settlements in Smallwood/ Newbold Astbury and Rode Heath/ Scholar Green (which are in Odd Rode parish). • Hassall and Betchton are in the catchment area for Smallwood Church of England Primary School and Moreton parish ward is in the catchment for Scholar Green Primary School. • In the final recommendations report (2010) from the Commission's last review of Cheshire East, evidence (from Betchton Parish Council) was cited of Betchton's community ties to Odd Rode. <p>The proposals mean the new ward would cover a large and much expanded geographical area. Even the existing ward's area sometimes presents challenges arising from the hilly terrain of its Mount Pleasant parish ward (as Odd Rode Parish Council noted in its response to the CGR draft recommendations consultation). Therefore, it is not felt that the ward should be extended to include more than the proposed six parishes. As noted in the proposal for Brereton, Arclid has closer ties to Brereton than to Odd Rode and all the other rural parishes adjoining the proposed ward are relatively large in terms of land area and population and face different issues to those in the proposed Odd Rode ward (for example, major new housing development sites).</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and closely associated with the area (the parish of Odd Rode) where the majority of the proposed ward's electors live.

4.29 Poynton

Proposed ward name	Poynton		
Proposed number of seats	3		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	12,097	4,032	-2%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Transfer (removal), from the current Poynton East & Pott Shrigley Borough ward, of the parishes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kettleshulme & Lyme Handley (to be added to the proposed Disley Borough ward). • Pott Shrigley (to be added to the proposed Bollington & Rainow Borough ward). <p>Transfer (removal), from the current Poynton West & Adlington Borough ward, of the parish of Adlington.</p> <p>Merger of the residual areas of these two Poynton wards into a single new ward.</p>		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	Poynton Town Council		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 4JC1, 4JC2, 4JD1, 4JDR, 4JE1, 4JF1, 4JG1, 4JG2, 4JH1		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>These changes would address the fact that both existing Poynton wards have electors per seat ratios that are well below the Borough average: without boundary changes, both of them would be more than 10% (and one of them more than 20%) below that average by 2030.</p> <p>The changes would mean a Borough ward boundary that is coterminous with the Town Council boundary. The elected Members would consequently be able to focus on the needs and interests of the town, rather than having to address, in addition, the rather different needs and issues of the rural neighbouring parishes currently included in the Poynton wards.</p>		

	<p>It is recognised that Pott Shrigley and Adlington have some ties to Poynton. For example, there are good road connections to the town, Adlington train station is on the line to Poynton – and Poynton Industrial Estate (located in Adlington parish) is adjacent to the town.</p> <p>However, these two parishes, along with Kettleshulme & Lyme Handley, each cover a wide geographical area. Travel times will account for a significant proportion of Members' working hours and accessibility to parts of the Peak Park area (which spans much of Pott Shrigley and Kettleshulme & Lyme Handley) are more difficult in winter weather. The Park's different planning regime can potentially also add to the complexity of the workload for Members serving this area.</p> <p>All three of the rural parishes currently included in the Poynton wards also have their own primary schools, which again limits their dependency and links to nearby towns.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and reflects community identity, as the ward would consist solely of the Poynton Town Council area.

4.30 Prestbury

Proposed ward name	Prestbury		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	4,239	4,239	+3%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Transfer (removal) of the parish of Over Alderley (polling district 3DC1) to the proposed Chelford Borough ward.</p> <p>Addition of the parish of Adlington (polling districts 4JA1 & 4JB1), from the current Poynton West & Adlington Borough ward.</p>		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The parishes of Adlington, Mottram St Andrew and Prestbury		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 4HE1, 4HE2, 4HF1, 4HF2, 4HF3, 4JA1, 4JB1		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>Three parishes in the proposed ward are of similar character, being home to fairly affluent communities and covering large rural areas. The main villages in the three parishes are well connected by road and have well established links to each other. Adlington is also connected to Prestbury by rail. Prestbury is well endowed with services and amenities, including a library, supermarket, GP surgery and pharmacy and is the nearest location for these for many Adlington and Mottram St Andrew parish residents. Adlington has previously been warded with Prestbury and the Commission's final recommendations report from its last (2010) review of Cheshire reported that Adlington Parish Council's preferred option was to be warded with Prestbury.</p> <p>Over Alderley too has some ties to Prestbury, but, as noted in the section on Chelford, Nether Alderley and Over Alderley have a number of shared interests, such as the Alderley Park development site, which is split between the two parishes.</p> <p>The Council's consultation on its Community Governance Review draft recommendations had proposed that the parishes of Mottram St Andrew and Over Alderley be merged, but the</p>		

	<p>responses to that proposal included a substantial amount of evidence of a relative lack of links and common interests between the two parishes. In particular, Mottram St Andrew has a diverse array of amenities, including a hotel, golf club and garden centres, whereas Over Alderley has very few. The consultation responses also noted that Mottram St Andrew's numerous social clubs and other communal activities have no links to Over Alderley.</p> <p>Therefore it is felt that Over Alderley now fits better in the proposed Chelford ward. This change would also result in better electoral equality. The current Prestbury ward's electors per seat ratio is forecast to be 8% below the Borough average by 2030. However, removing Over Alderley from the ward and 'replacing' it with Adlington increases the Prestbury ward's electorate significantly, making it much closer to the Borough average.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	The current (and proposed) ward name is well-established and Prestbury would be the ward's main village and centre for key services and amenities, making it a major focal point.

4.31 Rope and Shavington warding (details still to be confirmed)

Full details of the warding for Rope and Shavington have yet to be agreed.

It has already been decided that this area should have a total of two Members and should cover:

- the parishes of Rope and Shavington;
- part of polling district 1FE2, which lies in the parish of Wistaston.

The part of 1FE2 to be included would be all of this polling district, except for: numbers 156 to 160 Wistaston Road; numbers 314-348 on the even (east) side of Crewe Road; the properties in Holly Place and Gerard Garden that fall within 1FE2; and numbers 351/ 351a to 421 on the odd (west) side of Crewe Road.

In terms of current Borough ward areas, 'Rope and Shavington' would therefore consist of:

- The current Shavington Borough ward
- Polling district 1GM2 (Shavington Parish Council's Gresty Brook parish ward), which is currently in Crewe South Borough ward
- Polling districts 1FE1 and 1GMT, which are currently in Willaston & Rope Borough ward
- The part of 1FE2 specified above, which is currently in Wistaston Borough ward

However, it has yet to be decided whether this area would have:

- two single-Member wards, called 'Rope & Gresty' and 'Shavington' with the A500 being the boundary between these; or
- one two-Member ward.

4.32 Sandbach East & Central

Proposed ward name	Sandbach East & Central		
Proposed number of seats	2		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	8,660	4,330	+5%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Transfer, to the proposed Sandbach Elworth & Ettiley Heath Borough ward, of part of polling district SAE2</p> <p>Merger of the rest of Sandbach Town Borough ward and the whole of the current Sandbach Heath & East Borough ward, to form the proposed Sandbach East & Central Borough ward</p>		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	All of the current Sandbach Town and Sandbach Heath & East Borough wards, except for the Middlewich Road/ Park Lane part of SAE2.		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	<p>Polling districts SAE1, SAE2 (part only), SAE3, SAEC, SAN1, SAN2.</p> <p>The part of SAE2 to be included would be all of this polling district, except for: the Park Lane part (both sides of the road); Blackacres Close; Bowles Close; numbers 112-160 on south (even) side and numbers 101-129 on north (odd) side of Middlewich Road.</p> <p>A map showing a close-up of the proposed division of SAE2 and the resulting boundary line can be found in Appendix A ('Maps of the proposed wards'), the separate document accompanying this main report.</p>		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The proposals for the East & Central ward have been informed in large part by the electoral forecast numbers and identities of the communities in other parts of the town. This is a consequence of recent housing and population growth leading to a situation where Sandbach's current allocation of four council seats is too few to reflect the size of its electorate, but five seats is too many to divide the town into whilst meeting the Commission's main three criteria. An added complication is that of this demographic growth being much more concentrated in some of the town's current Borough wards than others. In particular, the current Elworth Borough ward has an</p>		

	<p>electors per seat that is at (and forecast to remain) over 20% above the Borough average, whilst the ratios forecast for the other three wards range from 4% to 10% above average.</p> <p>Whilst they largely form part of the same urban area and have the sort of community ties that would justify warding them together, a merger of the current Elworth and Ettiley Heath & Wheelock wards would create a ward with an electors per seat ratio too high to meet the Commission's electoral equality criterion. Including the new Albion Lock development (polling district BRET2), which identifies as part of Elworth and which became part of the Town Council's Elworth ward as part of the Community Governance Review changes, would therefore make this ratio higher still.</p> <p>A merger of the Town Council's Elworth ward (BRET2, SAN3, SAW1 and SAW2) and the Ettiley Heath area (SAW3), to create a two-Member ward, means a somewhat lower ratio, because of the exclusion of polling districts that contain Wheelock. Such a ward would have a ratio within 10% of the Borough average, but would be somewhat on the low side (8% below average). A merger of the current Town and Heath & East wards would likewise have a ratio within 10% of the Borough average, but on the high side (7% above).</p> <p>The proposal addresses this disparity between the two would-be wards' ratios – and also provides a better reflection of community identity and interests – by doing the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • taking the Middlewich Road and Park Lane part of SAE2 (currently in the Sandbach Town Borough ward) as far east as the town's secondary schools - and including these properties in the proposed Elworth & Ettiley Heath Borough ward; • also including the properties on the Park Lane part of SAWR in the proposed Elworth & Ettiley Heath Borough ward. <p>The housing stock in these parts of SAE2 and SAWR are generally of similar character to those along the adjacent (SAW2/ SAN3) stretch of Middlewich Road and form part of the same community, whereas the Middlewich Road properties east of the secondary schools are of a different character and form part of the town's central areas.</p>
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	<p>The impact of including these parts of SAE2 and SAWR in the Elworth and Ettiley Heath ward is to increase its ratio to 3,983 (3% below average) and lower the Central & East ward's ratio to 4,330 (5% above average).</p> <p>The part of the Town Council not included in these proposed wards is the Wheelock area, which consists of SAW4 and all of SAWR except the Park Lane part. Wheelock has a few retail outlets and amenities, but relies primarily on the central areas of Sandbach for key services. Wheelock on its own has far too few electors to justify its own ward, but it and the Winterley and Wheelock Heath areas of Haslington Parish Council are forecast to have a total of 3,852 electors as of 2030, which equates to a ratio 6% below the Borough average. Although they fall within a different parish council and are a separate community to Wheelock, Winterley and Wheelock Heath residents also tend to rely on Sandbach for key services, rather than Haslington village, and so there is a natural link between these communities. Therefore the council's proposes that Wheelock, Winterley and Wheelock Heath be warded together.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	The name clearly indicates the geographical areas of Sandbach that the ward would cover.

4.33 Sandbach Elworth & Ettiley Heath

Proposed ward name	Sandbach Elworth & Ettiley Heath		
Proposed number of seats	2		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	7,966	3,983	-3%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Merger of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the current Elworth Borough ward. the Albion Lock housing development (polling district BRET2), which is currently part of Brereton Rural Borough ward. the Ettiley Heath (SAW3) part of the current Sandbach Ettiley Heath & Wheelock Borough ward. the Middlewich Road/ Park Lane part of SAE2, which is currently part of Sandbach Town Borough ward. the Park Lane part of SAWR, which is currently part of Sandbach Ettiley Heath & Wheelock Borough ward. 		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	See above list of merged areas.		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	<p>Polling districts BRET2, SAE2 (part only), SAN3, SAW1, SAW2, SAW3, SAWR (part only).</p> <p>The part of SAE2 to be included would be: the part of Park Lane (on both sides) that is within this polling district; Blackacres Close; Bowles Close; numbers 112-160 on south (even) side and numbers 101-129 on north (odd) side of Middlewich Road.</p> <p>The part of SAWR to be included would be: the part of Park Lane (on both sides) that is within this polling district; Fields Drive; Drovers Way.</p> <p>A map showing a close-up of the proposed division of SAE2 and SAWR and the resulting boundary lines can be found in Appendix A ('Maps of the proposed wards'), the separate document accompanying this main report.</p>		

Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	See section on the warding for Sandbach Central & East, as this sets out the rationale for warding for all those areas containing the existing Sandbach Borough wards and the other area (BRET2) that falls within the Town Council.
Rationale for the proposed name	Elworth and Ettiley Heath are distinct areas of Sandbach with their own sense of identity and their inclusion in ward names is a well-established and accepted practice.

4.34 Sutton (details still to be confirmed)

Full details of the warding for Sutton have yet to be agreed.

The following changes have already been agreed:

- Addition of the parishes of Bosley and North Rode, from the current Gawsworth Borough ward
- Transfer (removal) of the parish of Rainow, to the proposed Bollington & Rainow Borough ward

Sutton Borough ward will therefore include the parishes of Bosley, Macclesfield Forest & Wildboarclough, North Rode, Sutton and Wincle.

However, a decision has yet to be made on whether the ward should include any part of polling district 4CBR, which is currently part of Macclesfield South Borough ward.

4.35 Weston

Proposed ward name	Weston		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	4,286	4,286	+4%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>This new ward would consist of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the parish of Barthomley, which is currently in Haslington Borough ward. the parish of Weston & Crewe Green. This consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weston parish ward and Crewe Green parish wards, which are currently in Haslington Borough ward. Wychwood parish ward, which is currently in Wybunbury Borough ward. 		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The parishes of Barthomley and Weston & Crewe Green.		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 1GF1, 1GF1T, 1GFR, 1GG1, 2GA6, 2GB1		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>This proposed warding would reflect community identity and interests by bringing the whole of the parish of Weston & Crewe Green into a single Borough ward. The area is largely rural, but with two relatively large villages, Weston and Wychwood, where the population has grown in size in recent years as the result of major housing developments. The proposed ward would have at its heart the South Cheshire Growth Village (Local Plan site LPS 8), where additional housing development is expected in the years to come.</p> <p>Wychwood village is currently in Wybunbury Borough ward, but is a separate community to the Wychwood Park development to its immediate south. Wychwood village has more in common with Weston than with Wychwood Park. This is reflected in the final recommendations from the recent Community Governance Review, which resulted in Wychwood Park (previously split between the then Weston & Basford and Hough & Chorlton Parish Councils) being located entirely within Hough & Chorlton Parish Council.</p>		

	<p>Including Wychwood village in the proposed Weston Borough ward would therefore reflect local communities' identities and interests better than the existing Haslington-Wybunbury Borough ward boundary. Therefore Weston & Crewe Green Parish Council's Wychwood parish ward (polling district 1GFR, which contains Wychwood village) is included in the proposed Weston Borough ward.</p> <p>This change to the current Borough ward boundary with Wybunbury would also meet the Commission's electoral equality criterion. The proposed Weston Borough ward would have an electors per seat ratio 4% above the Borough average by 2030. By removing 1GFR from Wybunbury, but otherwise leaving that Borough ward unchanged, Wybunbury's ratio would also be 4% above the average, as opposed to 20% above otherwise.</p> <p>Barthomley is roughly equidistant from Weston village and the town of Alsager. It is in the catchment area for an Alsager primary school and the Radway Green Business Park is split between the two parishes. However, Barthomley is a very small rural community of a completely different character to Alsager and Barthomley village is on the opposite side of the M6 and A500 to the town. Barthomley has its own community centre, church and pub, which reduce its dependency on larger settlements for social activities and community ties. Therefore it fits better within the proposed Weston ward, which likewise includes some very small, dispersed communities.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	<p>Weston is the name of one of the area's two main villages and it features in the name of the parish that would comprise most of the proposed Borough ward. The use of this name at parish council level is already well established and accepted.</p> <p>As noted above, Wychwood village is the other main settlement in the proposed ward. However, calling the ward 'Wychwood' or 'Weston & Wychwood' could potentially cause confusion, given that it would not include the Wychwood Park development. Hence the Borough Council's proposal that the ward be named simply 'Weston'.</p>

4.36 Wheelock & Winterley

Proposed ward name	Wheelock & Winterley		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	3,852	3,852	-6%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>This new ward would consist of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of polling district SAWR (all except the part containing Park Lane and the roads accessed from it) and all of polling district SAW4. Collectively these areas cover the Wheelock area of Sandbach Town Council. • Polling districts SAWT and 2GE1, which make up the Winterley parish ward on Haslington Parish Council. This area includes the settlement of Wheelock Heath, as well as Winterley village itself. 		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The communities of Wheelock, Wheelock Heath and Winterley.		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	<p>Polling districts 2GE1, SAW4, SAWR (part only), SAWT.</p> <p>The part of SAWR to be included would be all of this polling district, except for: the Park Lane part (both sides of the road); Fields Drive; Drovers Way.</p> <p>A map showing a close-up of the proposed division of SAWR and the resulting boundary line can be found in Appendix A ('Maps of the proposed wards'), the separate document accompanying this main report.</p>		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	Wheelock is part of Sandbach Town Council and falls within the current Sandbach Ettiley Heath & Wheelock Borough ward, whereas Winterley and Wheelock Heath are part of Haslington Parish Council and currently within Haslington Borough ward.		

	<p>Although they fall within a different parish council and are a separate community to Wheelock, Winterley and Wheelock Heath residents tend to rely on Sandbach for key services (as do people in Wheelock), rather going into Haslington village. Wheelock is of similar size (in population terms) to Winterley/ Wheelock Heath and the characters of these areas are similar, with a limited number of local amenities and some distinctive natural features, such as the canal network and river around Wheelock and Winterley Pool in Winterley. As such, they share common interests and similar identities and there is logic in warding them together. In addition, the road network provides easy access between Wheelock to the north and Winterley/ Wheelock Heath further south.</p> <p>Looking solely at the Commission's 'interests and identities of local communities' criterion, boundaries based on Sandbach Town Council's area would be the most appropriate solution. However, this would not achieve good electoral equality due to the town's 'fair' share of Borough ward councillors falling roughly midway between four and five councillors. Therefore electors per seat ratios within the usually-required range (10% of the Borough average) can be obtained only through having a ward that spans both part of the Sandbach Town Council area. The proposed Wheelock & Winterley ward is considered to be the best means of achieving that, given the similarities and connections to Sandbach that Wheelock, Wheelock Heath and Winterley have. All the other communities surrounding Sandbach are far more rural, with smaller, more dispersed populations and warding any of those areas with part of Sandbach would reflect community identity and interests far less well.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	<p>Wheelock and Winterley are the two main settlements in the proposed ward and, as noted above, are broadly similar in terms of population size. The names 'Wheelock' and 'Winterley' also appear in the names of some of the area's key natural features, namely the River Wheelock and Winterley Pool. Including both settlement names in the ward's name therefore reflects their dual importance and provides clarity as to the extent of the geographical area covered. This is particularly important, given that the ward would span two parishes (Sandbach and Haslington) and two parliamentary constituencies.</p>

4.37 Wilmslow East

Proposed ward name	Wilmslow East		
Proposed number of seats	2		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	8,484	4,242	+3%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Addition of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> polling district 8EE1 from the current Handforth Borough ward. the current Wilmslow Dean Row Borough ward. part of 8FC1 from the current Wilmslow West & Chorley Borough ward. <p>Transfer (removal) of 8FA1 to the proposed Wilmslow West Borough ward.</p>		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The eastern and town centre areas of Wilmslow		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	<p>Polling districts 8EB1, 8EC1, 8ED1, 8EE1, 8FC1 (part only), 8FE1, 8FF1.</p> <p>The part of 8FC1 to be included would be: Grove Avenue/ Grove Way; and the part of the polling district bounded by Water Lane to the north and Hawthorn Street/ Bedells Lane to the west.</p> <p>A map showing a close-up of the proposed division of 8FC1 and the resulting boundary line can be found in Appendix A ('Maps of the proposed wards'), the separate document accompanying this main report.</p>		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The current, single-Member Wilmslow East Borough ward is forecast to have a relatively low electors per seat ratio by 2030 (14% below average).</p> <p>The proposed changes would result in a ratio much closer to the Borough average.</p> <p>They would also better reflect community identity and interests and enable more effective and convenient local government than the current warding:</p>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As noted in the section on Handforth, the proposed warding in this part of the Borough would bring the Colshaw Farm estate into a Wilmslow Borough ward, the proposed Wilmslow East. The Colshaw Farm area, which comprises most of 8EE1, is the most deprived community in Wilmslow or Handforth, ranking (according to the Government's 2019 English Indices of Deprivation) among the 'top' 20% in England for overall deprivation. There is no road access from this estate into Handforth and Colshaw Farm residents identify as being part of Wilmslow. The proposed boundary change involving part of 8FC1 would largely concentrate the town centre area and its commercial and retail premises within Wilmslow East. <p>As such, issues relating to Colshaw Farm or the town centre could be readily addressed by councillors from a single ward, rather than having to involve those representing other wards.</p> <p>The transfer of 8FA1 (the Fulshaw Park area west of Alderley Road) to the Wilmslow West Borough ward helps ensure electoral equality (similar ratios) for the East and West wards, but without an adverse impact on community identity and interests. Alderley Road provides a clear boundary between the proposed East and West wards in this location.</p> <p>In the northern part of the proposed Wilmslow East ward, the railway line would provide a clear western boundary. To the south of the River Bollin, the railway line is still a physical barrier, but there are multiple road and pedestrian crossing points that allow access between the southeastern (8FF1) and southwestern (8FE1) parts of the proposed ward.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	The name reflects the geographical area of Wilmslow covered by the ward and it is a well-established and accepted ward name locally.

4.38 Wilmslow Lacey Green

Proposed ward name	Wilmslow Lacey Green		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	3,758	3,758	-9%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Addition of polling district 8EA1 (part of the Finney Green area of Wilmslow) from the current Handforth Borough ward.</p> <p>Transfer (removal) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Fairways estate (polling district 8FKT), which is Local Plan site LPS 34, from the current Wilmslow Lacey Green Borough ward. the parish of Styal (8FK1). 		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The Lacey Green and Finney Green areas of Wilmslow		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 8EA1, 8EK1, 8EKC		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The proposed changes would reflect community identity and interests much better than the current warding. The changes would, as noted in the section on Handforth's proposed warding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extend Handforth Borough westwards, to include the new Fairways development. This new estate was developed to meet Handforth's housing needs and Fairways is very close to and well connected by road to the many shops and other services in the centre of Handforth. There is no direct road link from Fairways into Wilmslow, other than via Handforth. Place 8EA1 in the same Wilmslow ward as the rest of Finney Green. The adjacent part of Handforth Town Council consists of Deanway Business Park and this, together with the railway line to the east of 8EA1 and the natural boundary of the River Dean, mean that residents of 8EA1 have limited connections to the nearest residential areas of Handforth. 		

	The section on the proposed Handforth ward also sets out the rationale for warding the parish of Styal with Handforth, rather than with Wilmslow Lacey Green.
Rationale for the proposed name	The name reflects the geographical area of Wilmslow covered by the ward and it is a well-established and accepted ward name locally.

4.39 Wilmslow West

Proposed ward name	Wilmslow West		
Proposed number of seats	2		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	8,450	4,225	+3%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Addition of polling district 8FA1, from the current Wilmslow East Borough ward.</p> <p>Transfer (removal) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the parish of Chorley (3DD1) to the proposed Alderley Edge Borough ward. part of 8FC1 to the proposed Wilmslow East Borough ward. 		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The western part of Wilmslow		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	<p>Polling districts 8FA1, 8FB1, 8FBR, 8FC1 (part only), 8FG1, 8FH1, 8FHR, 8FJ1.</p> <p>A map showing a close-up of the proposed division of 8FC1 and the resulting boundary line can be found in Appendix A ('Maps of the proposed wards'), the separate document accompanying this main report.</p>		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The proposed changes would better reflect local communities' identities and interests, while ensuring that the redrawn ward would still have an electors per seat ratio close to the Borough average.</p> <p>As noted in the sections on the warding proposals for Alderley Edge and Wilmslow East:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chorley does not identify with or have significant ties to Wilmslow (with part of which it is currently warded). Chorley is geographically very close to Alderley Edge (the two were previously warded together) and is well connected to it by road, making its larger neighbour an important centre for many key services and amenities. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed boundary change involving part of 8FC1 would largely concentrate the town centre area and its commercial and retail premises within Wilmslow East. • The transfer of 8FA1 (the Fulshaw Park area west of Alderley Road) to the Wilmslow West Borough ward helps ensure electoral equality (similar ratios) for the East and West wards, but without an adverse impact on community identity and interests. Alderley Road provides a clear boundary between the proposed East and West wards in this location.
Rationale for the proposed name	The name reflects the geographical area of Wilmslow covered by the ward and it is a well-established and accepted ward name locally.

4.40 Wistaston

Proposed ward name	Wistaston		
Proposed number of seats	2		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	8,553	4,277	+4%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Addition of polling districts 1FD1, 1FDC and 1FDR (which collectively cover almost all of Willaston village), from the current Willaston & Rope Borough ward.</p> <p>Transfer (removal) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The parish of Woolstanwood (1FJ1) to the proposed Leighton Borough ward. Part of 1FE2 to one of the proposed wards covering the Rope and Shavington area. (The warding arrangements for Rope and Shavington have yet to be agreed.) 		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The settlements of Wistaston and Willaston		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	<p>Polling districts 1FD1, 1FD2, 1FDC, 1FDR, 1FE2 (part only), 1FF1, 1FFR, 1FG1, 1FG2.</p> <p>The part of 1FE2 to be included would be: numbers 156 to 160 Wistaston Road; numbers 314-348 on the even (east) side of Crewe Road; the properties in Holly Place and Gerard Gardens that fall within 1FE2; and numbers 351/ 351a to 421 on the odd (west) side of Crewe Road.</p> <p>A map showing a close-up of the proposed division of 1FE2 and the resulting boundary line can be found in Appendix A ('Maps of the proposed wards'), the separate document accompanying this main report.</p>		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>Although currently warded with Wistaston, there are few ties between the parish of Wistaston and the parish of Woolstanwood. In addition, Woolstanwood is part of Leighton, Minhsull Vernon & Woolstanwood Parish Council and (as noted in the section on warding for Leighton) the recent Community Governance Review revealed extensive evidence that Woolstanwood residents</p>		

	<p>identify with the other parishes in their parish council. Therefore the proposed warding includes Woolstanwood with Leighton, not with Wistaston.</p> <p>The other proposed changes to Wistaston's warding would also better reflect community identity and interests (as well as ensuring its electors per seat ratio remains close to the Borough average). The rationale for dividing 1FE2 and including only a small southwestern segment of it in the proposed Wistaston ward is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1FE2 consists largely of a housing estate (Laidon Avenue/ Berkeley Crescent and roads off these) that spans the parishes of Wistaston, Rope and Shavington (specifically Shavington Parish Council's Gresty Brook parish ward). The entire estate falls within the same primary school catchment (for Berkeley Primary School), as do the Rope Lane and Springfield Drive (Wells Green) areas of 1FE2. People on the estate also share the same medical practice. • As the estate comprises a single community, it is proposed that all of 1FE2 be warded with Rope and Shavington, except for the small southern 'loop' of that polling district (south of the Crewe Road/ Church Lane junction) that forms part of Willaston village. <p>The proposed warding would also reflect local communities' identities and interests by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • placing the whole of Willaston <u>village</u> in the same Borough ward (currently, Holly Place, Gerard Gardens and the adjacent section of Crewe Road are split between two Borough wards); • placing the whole of Willaston <u>parish</u> in a single Borough ward (unlike now); • retaining all of Wistaston parish, except for the Laidon Avenue estate area.
Rationale for the proposed name	The name reflects the main settlement covered by the ward and it is a well-established and accepted ward name locally.

4.41 Wrenbury

Proposed ward name	Wrenbury		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	4,026	4,026	-2%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	<p>Addition of Burland & Acton Parish Council's Acton & Henhull parish ward (polling districts 3FA5 & 3FA7), from the current Bunbury Borough ward.</p> <p>Transfer (removal) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3FAT (the Malbank Waters housing development), to the proposed Nantwich North & West Borough ward • the parishes of Haughton and Spurstow, to the proposed Bunbury Borough ward. 		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The following parishes: Baddiley; Bickerton; Brindley; Bulkeley & Ridley; Burland & Acton; Cholmondeley; Chorley (near Wrenbury); Egerton; Faddiley; Marbury & District; Peckforton; Wrenbury.		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 3EC1, 3EC2, 3EC8, 3EE1, 3EET, 3EG1, 3EK6, 3EK7, 3EM6, 3EO6, 3EQ1, 3ER6, 3ER8, 3ER9, 3ET1, 35A5, 3FA6, 3FA7, 3FH8, 3FHT		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>The proposed change involving 3FAT would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reflect local communities' interests and identities by aligning the Borough ward boundary between Wrenbury and the Nantwich Borough wards with the post-Community Governance Review (CGR) boundaries between Nantwich Town Council and Burland & Acton Parish Council, and bring the Malbank Waters development within the Borough ward that contains the adjacent part of the town of Nantwich. This development was intended to meet Nantwich's housing needs and residents of the new properties are relatively dependent on the town for key services and amenities. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • greatly reduce the ward's electors per seat ratio. This change alone would reduce the 2030 ratio from 19% above average to 2% above. <p>The other proposed changes would also reflect local communities' identities and interests by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflecting Haughton's and Spurstow's ties to Bunbury. The two settlements are geographically close to Bunbury, with a direct road link. A small part of Bunbury village is actually on the Spurstow side of the parish boundary. Both Haughton and Spurstow are in the catchment for Bunbury Aldersey Church of England Primary School. Bunbury is also the nearest settlement to Haughton and Spurstow for key services and amenities such as a GP surgery, convenience store and community centre. • placing the whole of Burland & Acton parish within Wrenbury Borough ward. The parish is currently divided between Bunbury and Wrenbury Borough wards, despite the evidence from the CGR of ties between its two main settlements: Burland (currently in Wrenbury) and Acton (currently in Bunbury). <p>The net impact of all the boundary change proposals is to bring Wrenbury's electors per seat ratio down to slightly (2%) below the Borough average.</p> <p>There are good reasons for keeping Bickerton & Egerton, Bulkeley & Ridley and Cholmondeley & Chorley parish councils and their respective parishes warded together in Wrenbury Borough (as they are currently):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulkeley & Ridley and Cholmondeley & Chorley are in the catchment for Bickerton Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School. • The responses to the consultation on the Council's CGR draft recommendations provided evidence that Bulkeley & Ridley relies on Bickerton's village hall and church for many social and recreational activities and religious worship (and mentioned the dependence on Bickerton's school).
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	<p>In addition, there are sounds reasons for keeping Wrenbury Borough ward's other existing parishes with the ward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For parishes such as Chorley, Baddiley and Marbury & District, Wrenbury is the nearest settlement in the Borough with a Post Office, GP surgery and convenience store – and Marbury & District is in the catchment for Wrenbury Primary School. • Burland, Brindley and Faddiley are relatively close to each other and well connected via the A534. <p>Peckforton's ties to the rest of the proposed ward (or to Spurstow in the adjacent part of the proposed Bunbury ward) are less strong: residents are largely concentrated in the village itself and the CGR consultation responses highlighted the fact that it has a different character and faces different issues to some of the adjacent parishes. Peckforton's village hall is shared with Beeston in Cheshire West & Cheshire and so to some extent its links are outside Cheshire East. Warding Peckforton with Bunbury would give Bunbury a ratio above the Borough average. Keeping Peckforton as part of the Wrenbury Borough, however, as the Borough Council proposes, would give both Bunbury and Wrenbury ratios below the Borough average, achieving a better balance of the workload arising from those two wards' very large rural areas.</p>
Rationale for the proposed name	The name reflects the main settlement covered by the ward and it is a well-established and accepted ward name locally.

4.42 Wybunbury

Proposed ward name	Wybunbury		
Proposed number of seats	1		
Electoral statistics (for 2030)	Electors	Electors per seat ratio	Ratio's variance from Borough average
	4,282	4,282	+4%
Summary of any changes proposed to the current (pre-Review) ward boundary	Transfer (removal) of Weston & Crewe Green Parish Council's Wychwood parish ward (polling district 1GFR) to the proposed Weston Borough ward.		
Summary of area covered by proposed ward	The following parishes: The following parishes: Doddington & District; Hatherton; Hough & Chorlton; Walgherton; Wybunbury.		
Details of area covered by proposed ward	Polling districts 1GFT, 1GG2, 1GG3, 1GH6, 1GH7, 1GH8, 1GJ6, 1GJ7, 1GJ8, 1GL6, 1GN1, 1GN6		
Rationale for the proposed boundary and for any changes to current warding	<p>As noted in the section on the proposed Weston Borough ward, Wychwood village (the settlement that makes up Wychwood parish ward) is currently in Wybunbury Borough ward, but is a separate community to the Wychwood Park development to its immediate south. Wychwood village has more in common with Weston than with Wychwood Park. Including Wychwood village in the proposed Weston Borough ward would therefore reflect local communities' identities and interests better.</p> <p>This change would also address the problem of Wybunbury Borough having a very high electors per seat ratio. The current Borough ward is forecast to have a ratio 20% above the average by 2030, but removing the Wychwood parish ward, as proposed, would make this ratio only 4% above average.</p> <p>This proposed change would leave Wybunbury Borough ward consisting of four parish councils: Wybunbury, Hough & Chorlton, Hatherton & Walgherton and Doddington & District. These parish councils have a number of community ties to each other, meaning that the proposed ward would reflect local communities' identities and interests:</p>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The four parishes have a recent history of working together, notably on the Wybunbury Combined Parishes Neighbourhood Plan. • The main settlements in Hatherton and Walgherton fall within the Wybunbury Delves Church of England Primary School catchment, as does the northern half of Doddington & District. • For some of these settlements, such as Hatherton & Walgherton, Wybunbury is the nearest location with a convenience store, a place of worship or a play area.
Rationale for the proposed name	The name reflects the main settlement covered by the ward and it is a well-established and accepted ward name locally.

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Cheshire East Council Electoral Review 2023-24: Warding Proposal Report

Appendix A: Maps of the proposed wards

**Note: the maps include only those proposed wards informally
agreed so far.**

Document version no. 2 (23 January 2024)

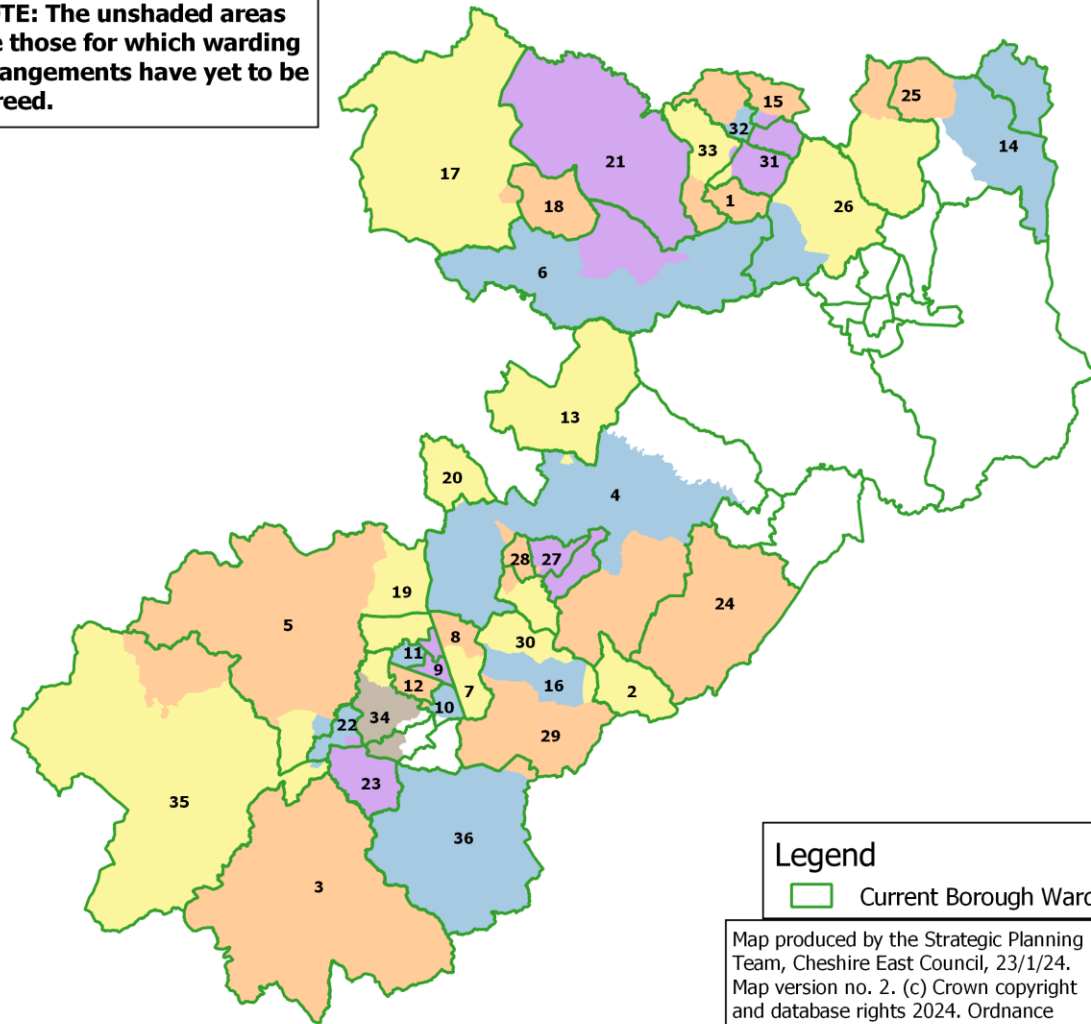
Overview Map

Cheshire East: Proposed Borough Wards

MAP GUIDE

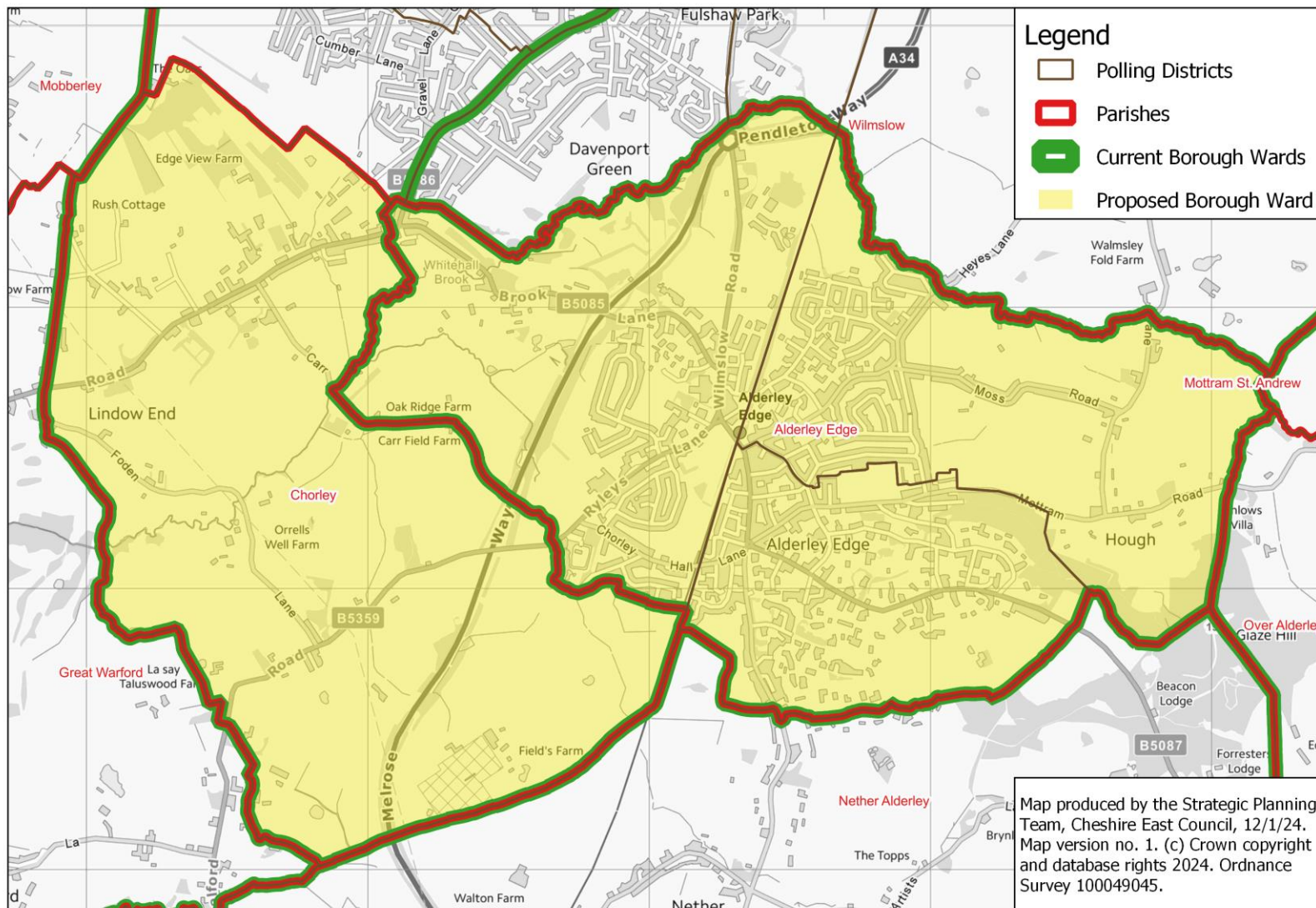
1. Alderley Edge
2. Alsager
3. Audlem
4. Brereton
5. Bunbury
6. Chelford
7. Crewe East
8. Crewe Maw Green
9. Crewe North
10. Crewe South
11. Crewe St Barnabas
12. Crewe West
13. Dane Valley
14. Disley
15. Handforth
16. Haslington
17. High Legh
18. Knutsford
19. Leighton
20. Middlewich
21. Mobberley
22. Nantwich North & West
23. Nantwich South & Stapeley
24. Odd Rode
25. Poynton
26. Prestbury
27. Sandbach East & Central
28. Sandbach Elworth & Ettiley Heath
29. Weston
30. Wheelock & Winterley
31. Wilmslow East
32. Wilmslow Lacey Green
33. Wilmslow West
34. Wistaston
35. Wrenbury
36. Wybunbury

NOTE: The unshaded areas are those for which warding arrangements have yet to be agreed.



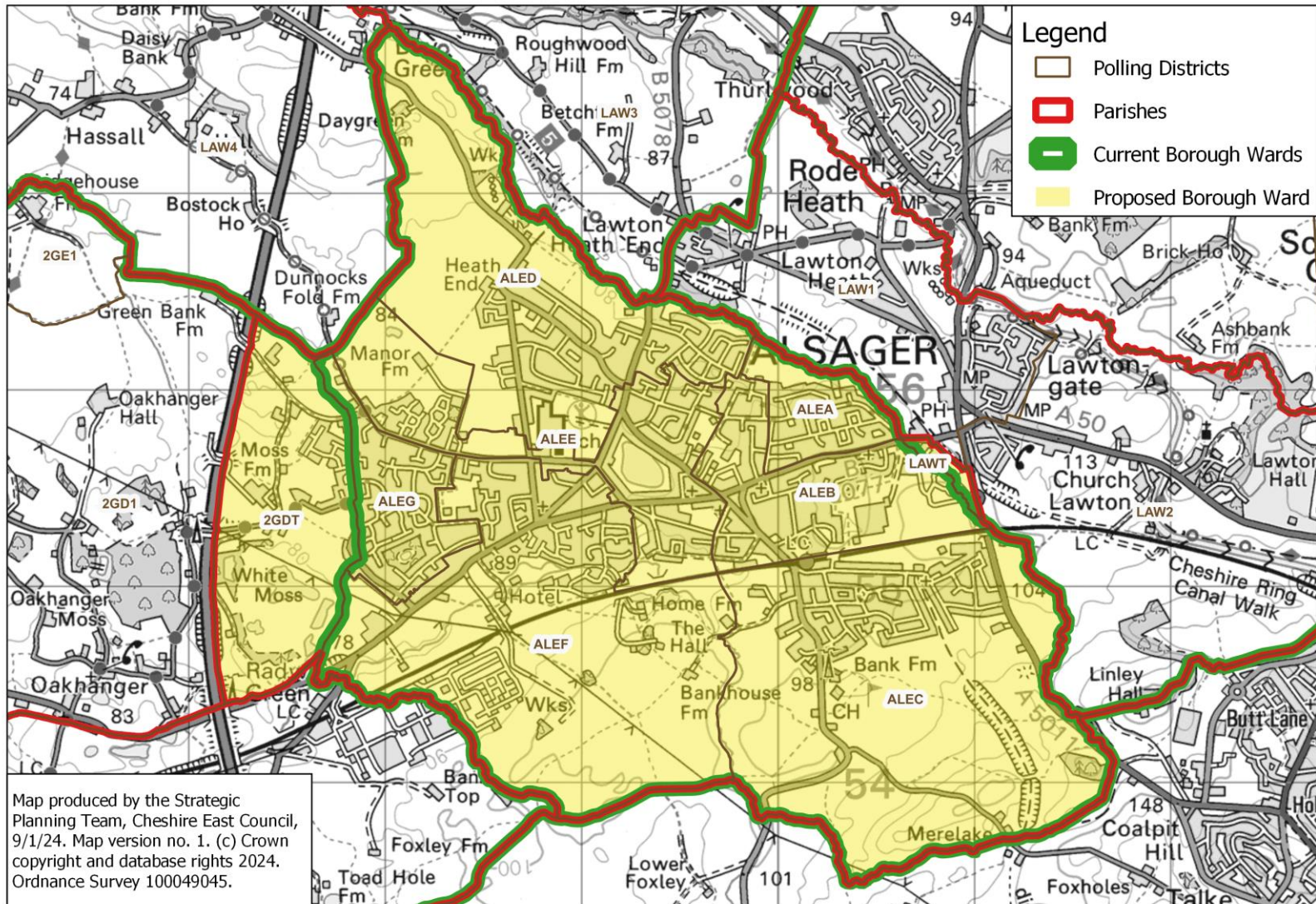
Alderley Edge

Proposed Borough Ward: Alderley Edge



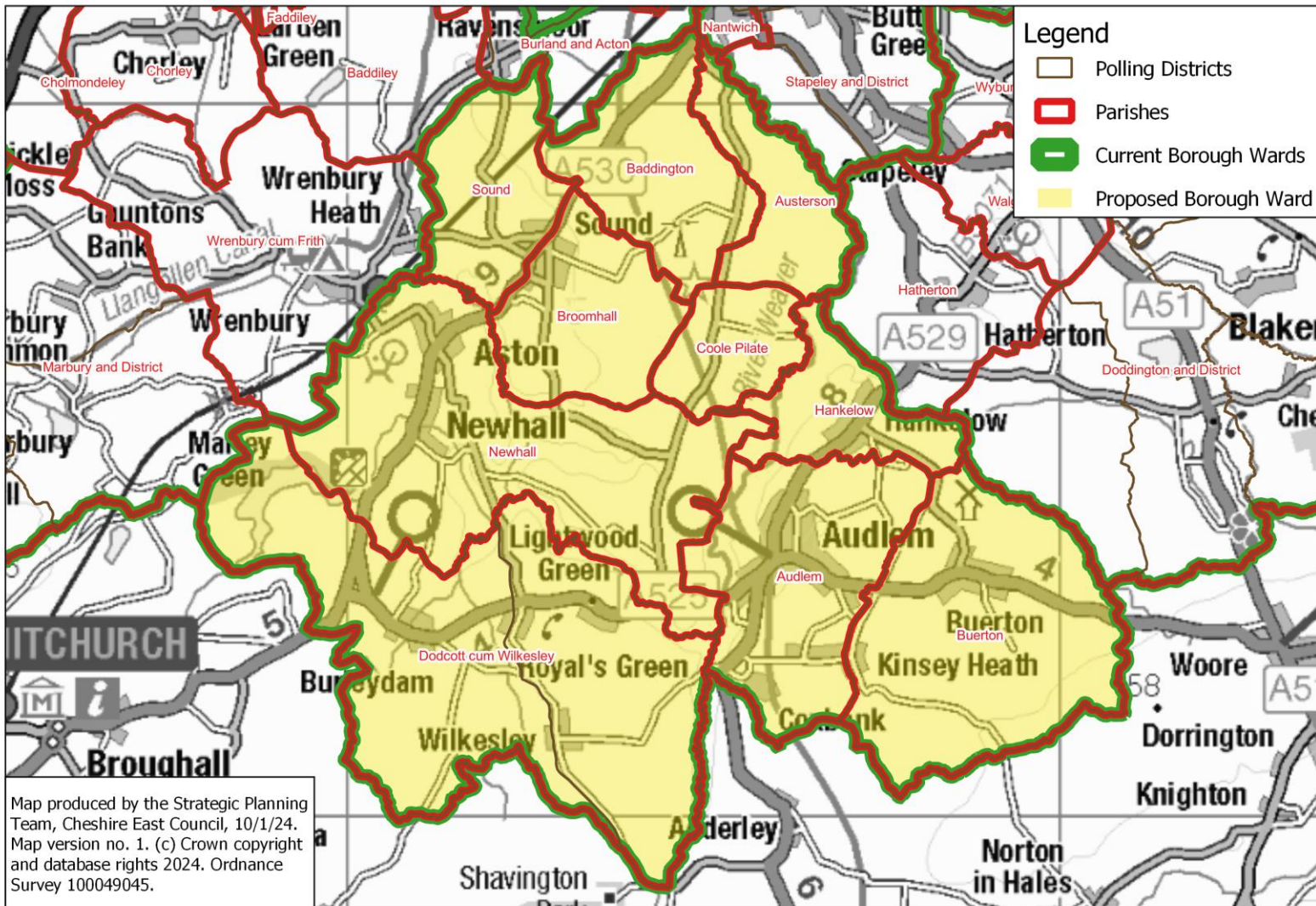
Alsager

Proposed Borough Ward: Alsager



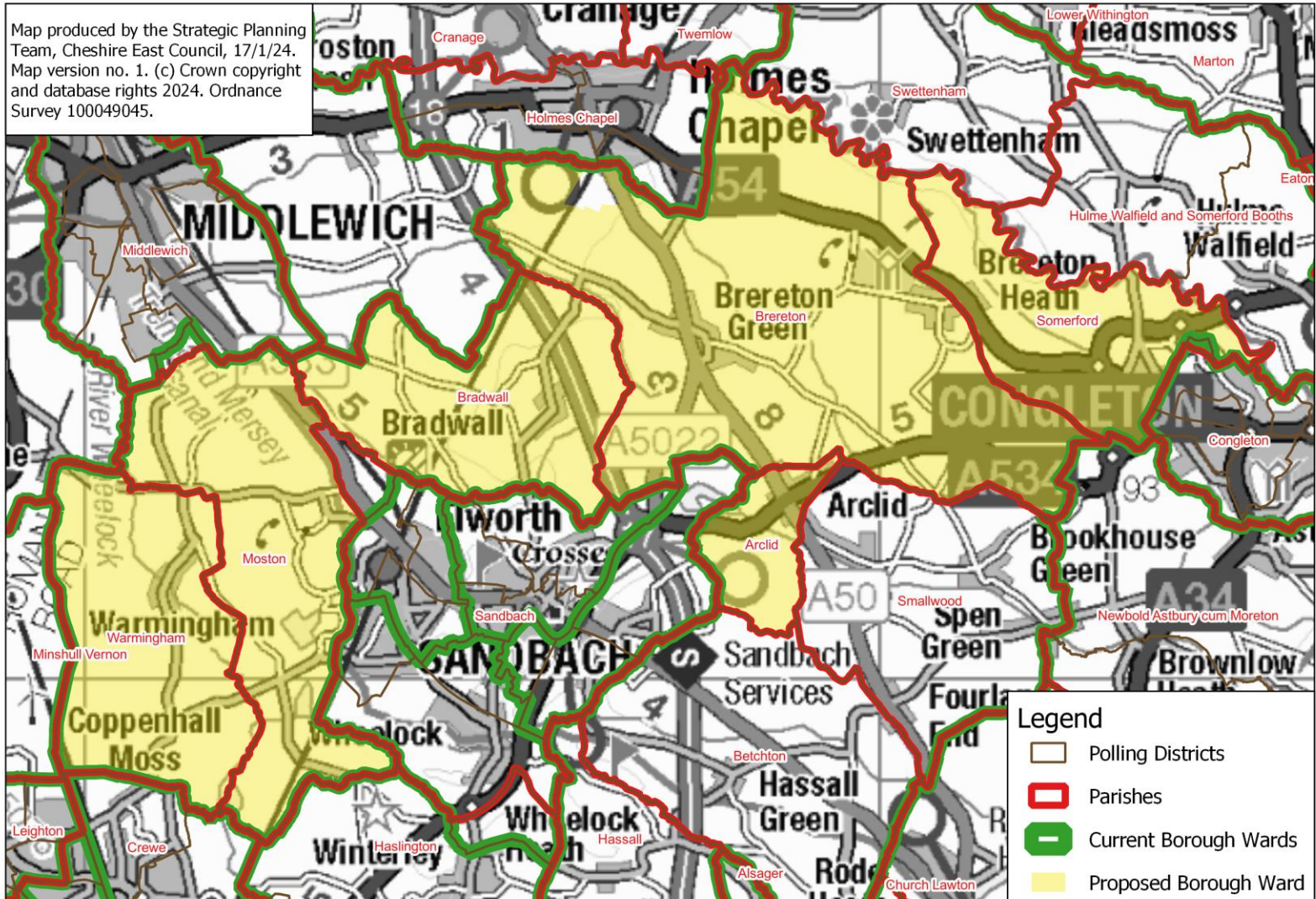
Audlem

Proposed Borough Ward: Audlem



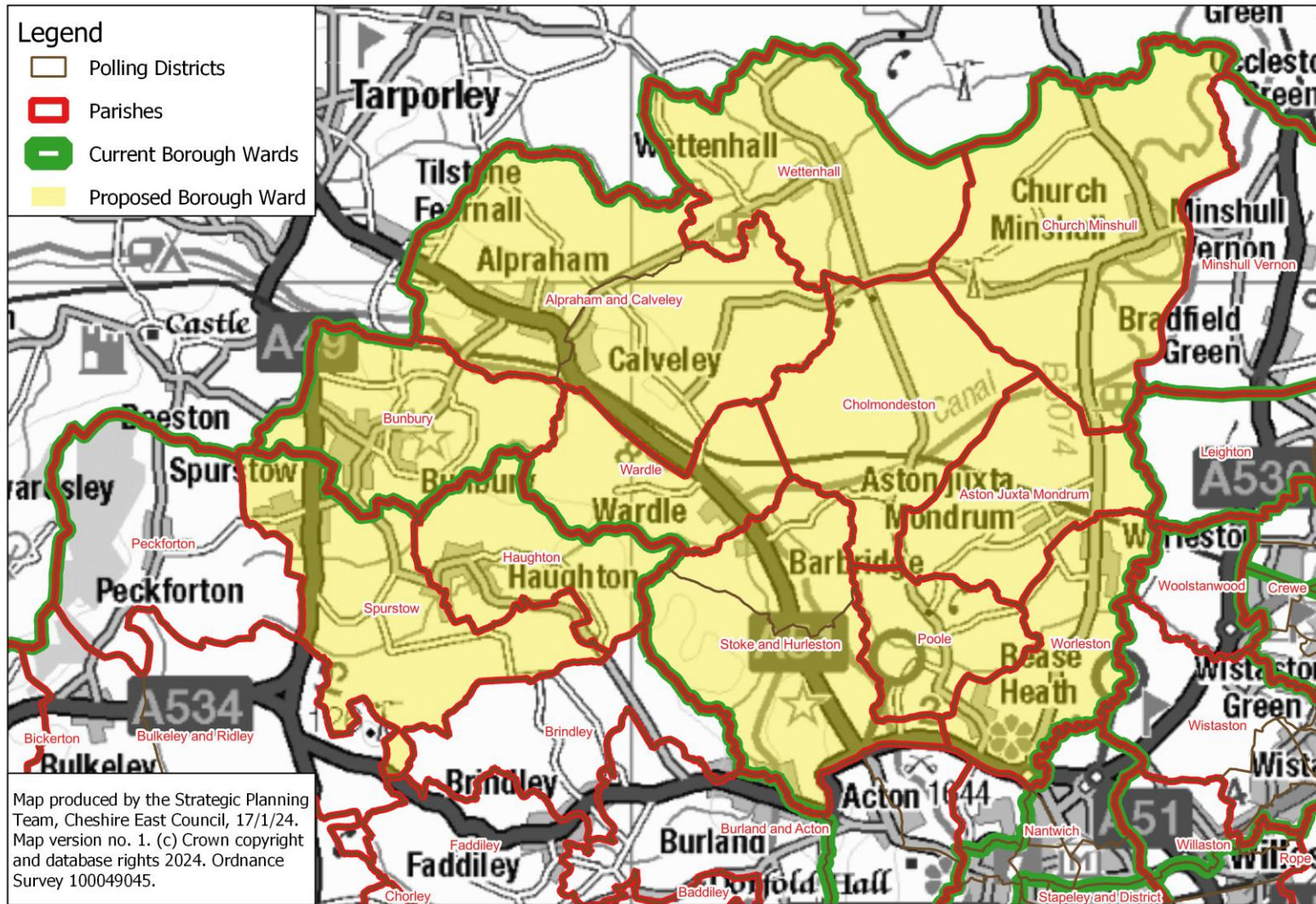
Brereton

Proposed Borough Ward: Brereton



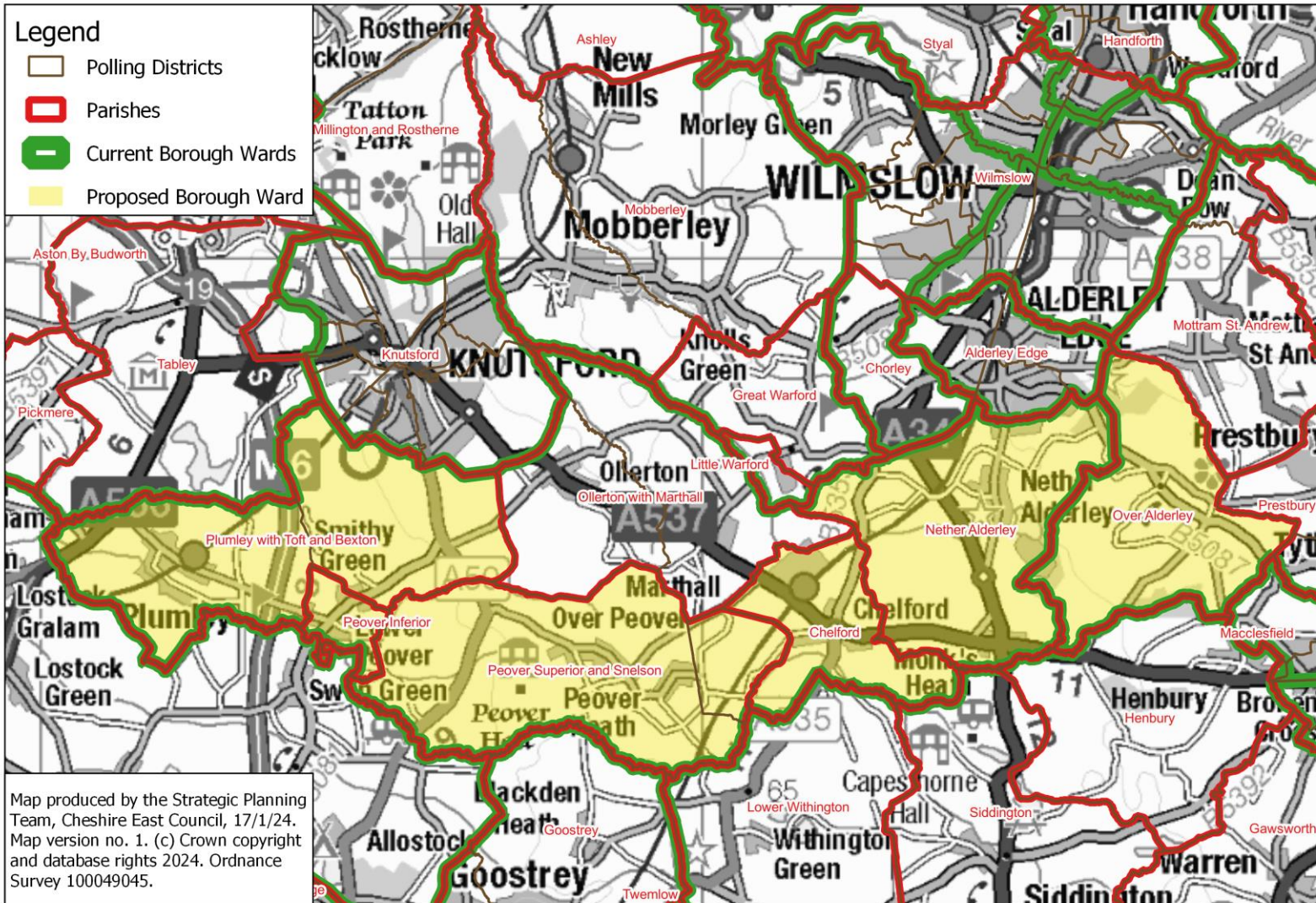
Bunbury

Proposed Borough Ward: Bunbury



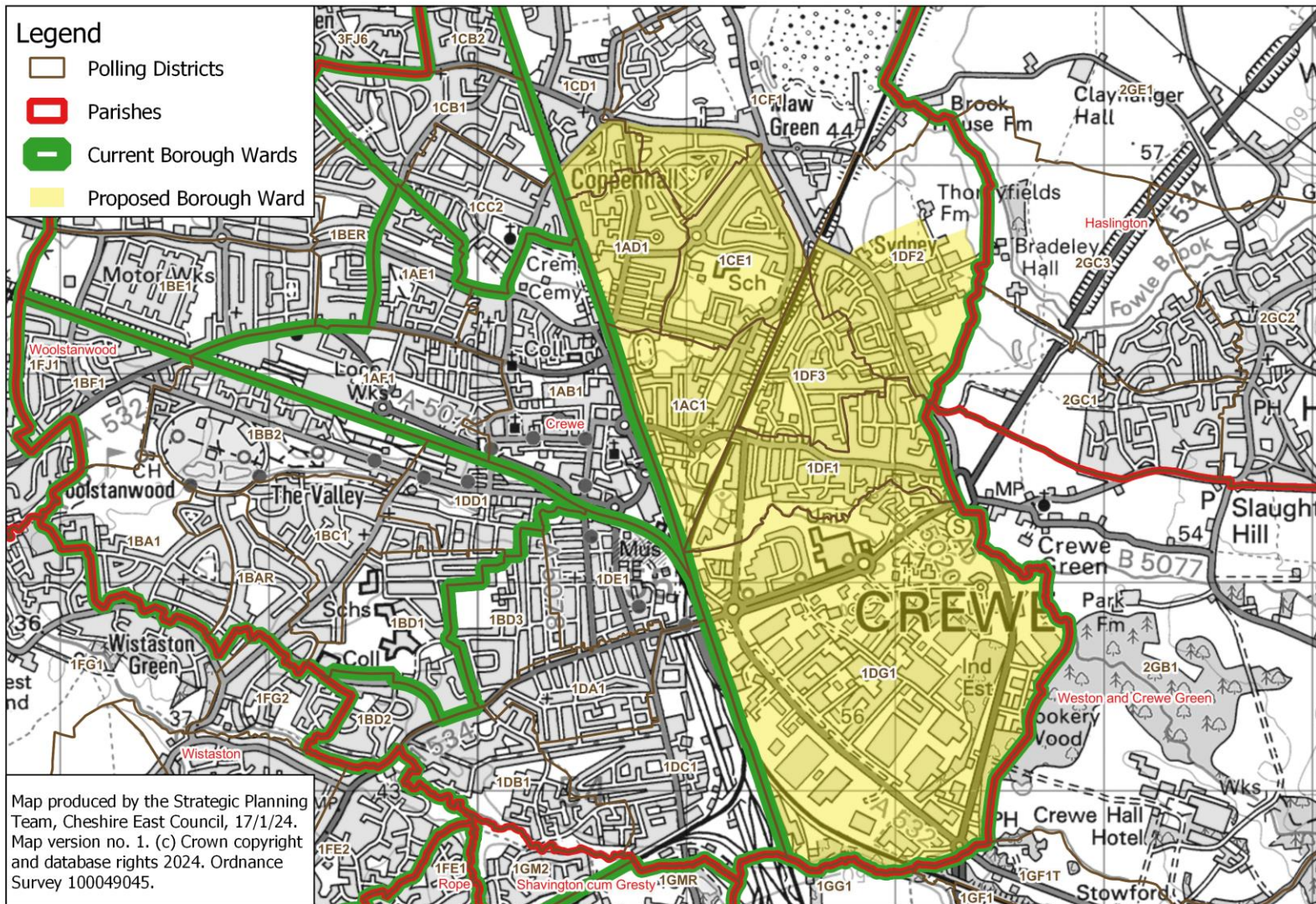
Chelford

Proposed Borough Ward: Chelford



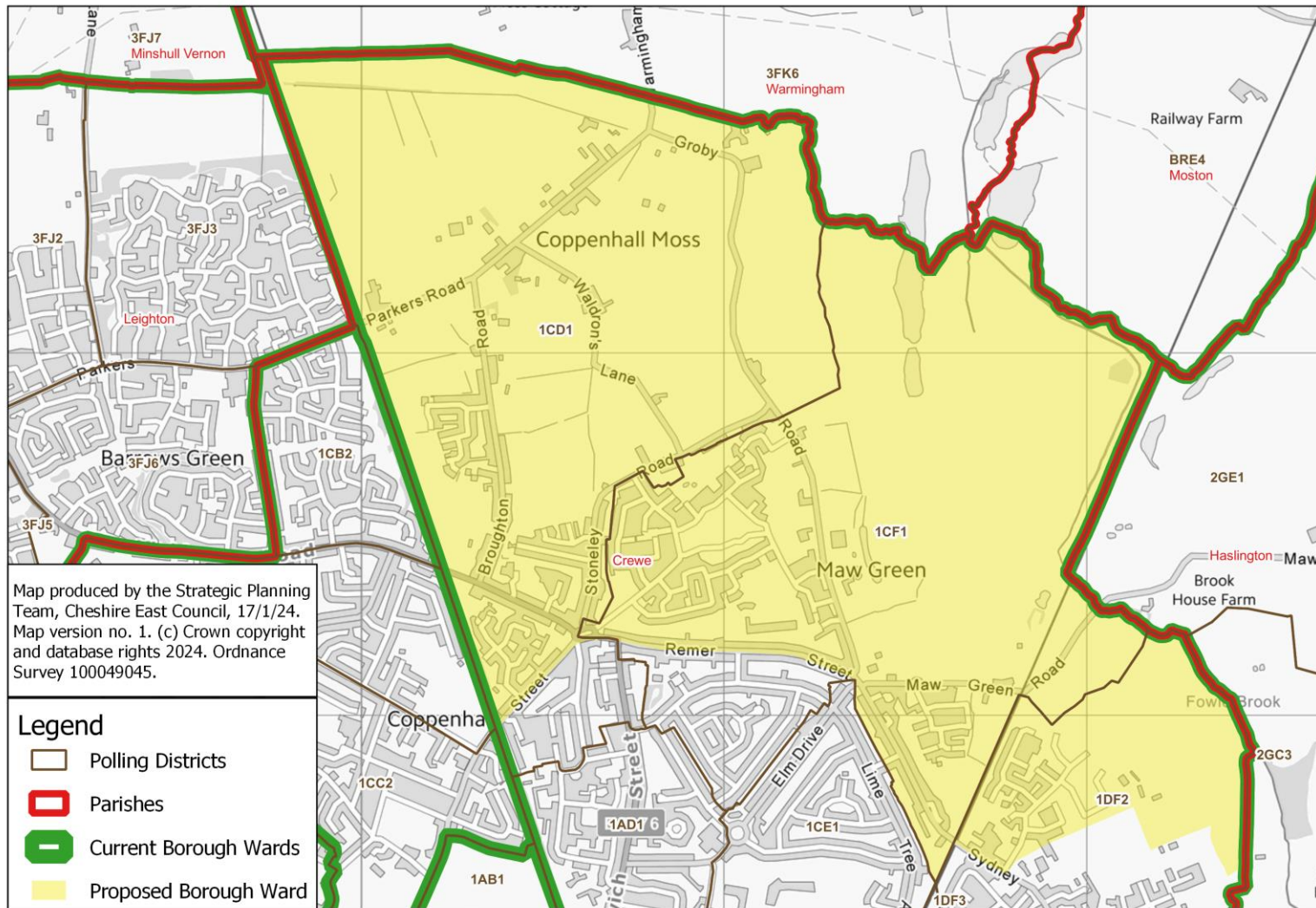
Crewe East

Proposed Borough Ward: Crewe East



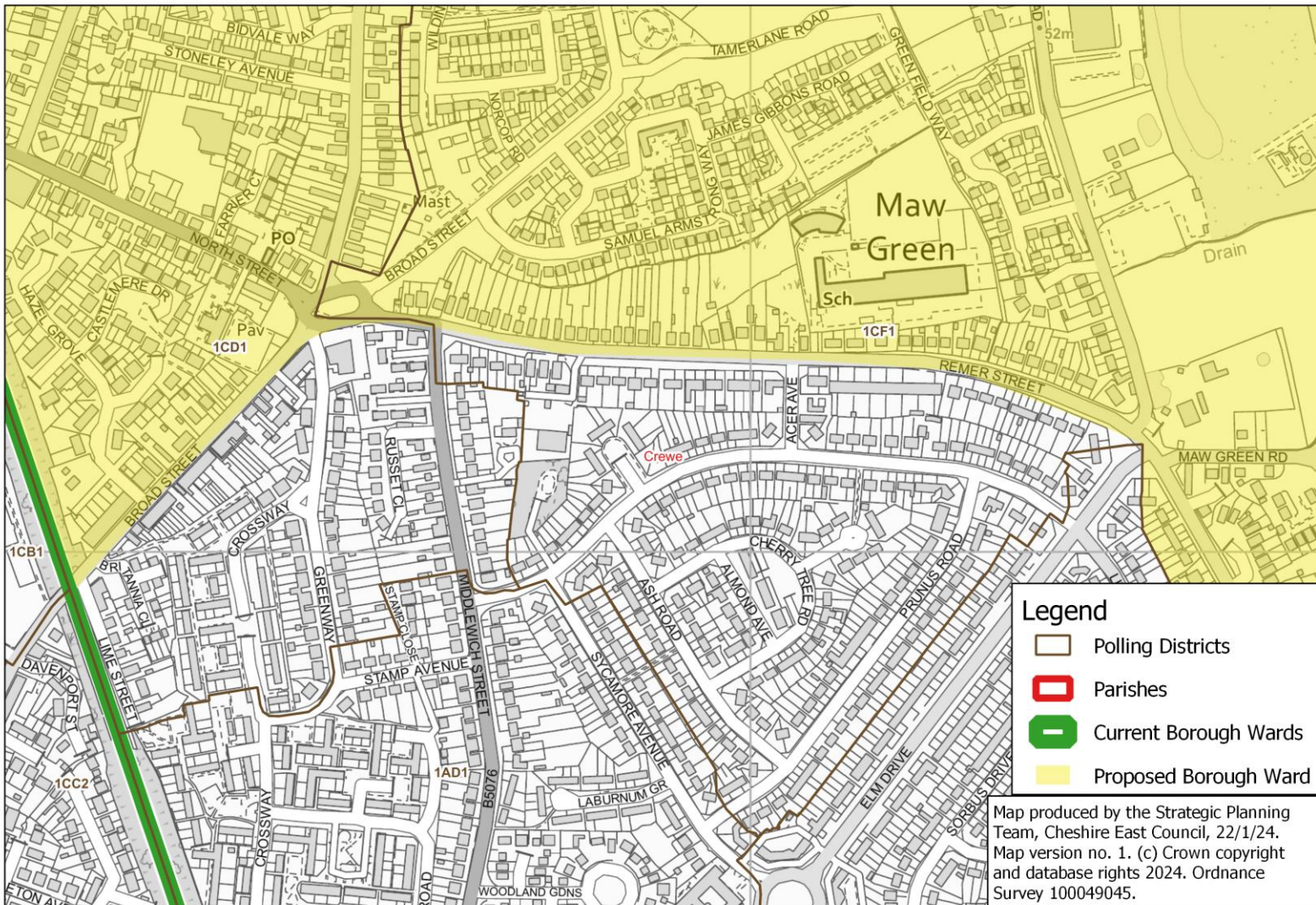
Crewe Maw Green

Proposed Borough Ward: Crewe Maw Green



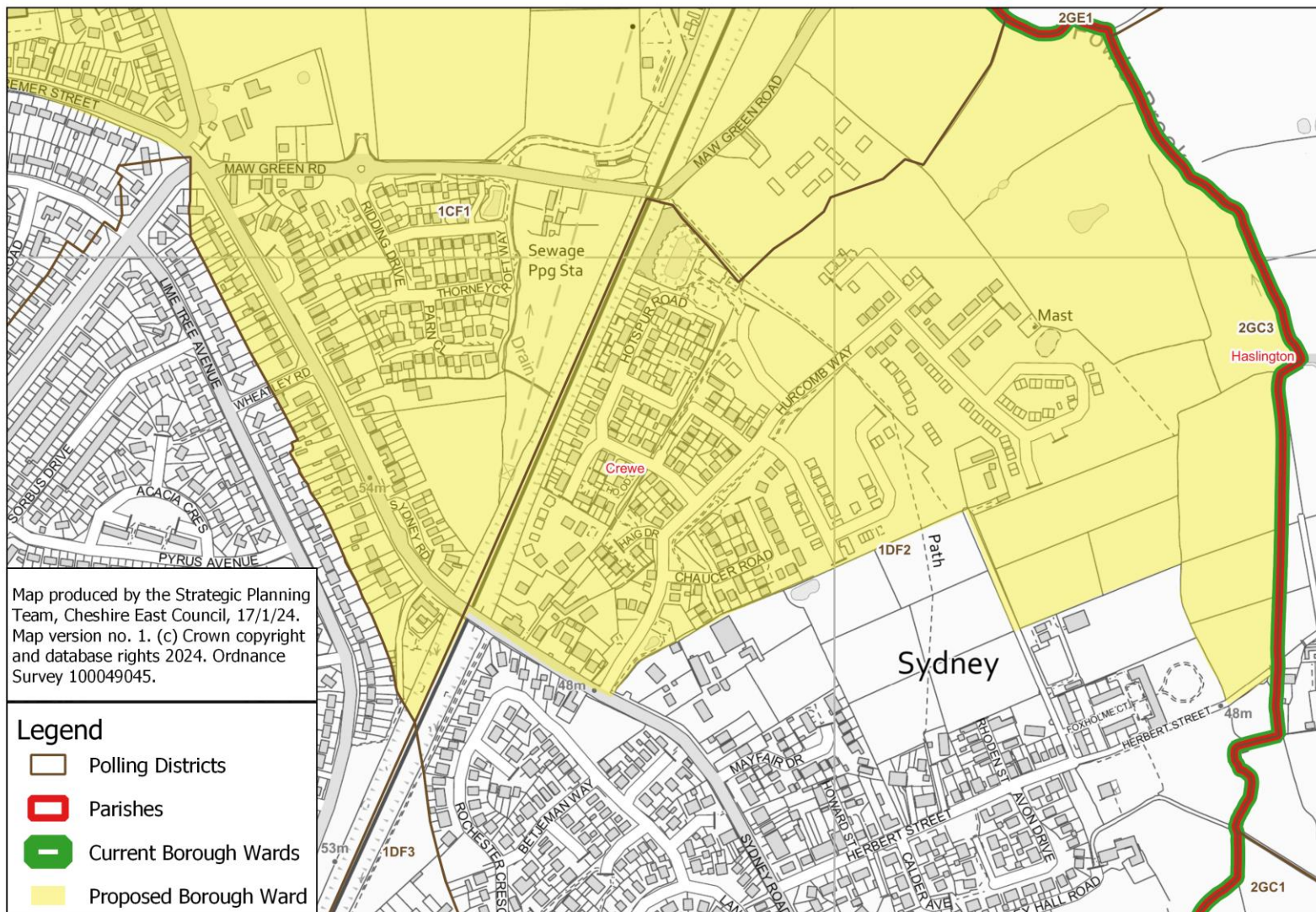
Crewe Maw Green: close-up of southwestern boundary

Proposed Borough Ward: Crewe Maw Green - close-up of southwestern section of proposed boundary



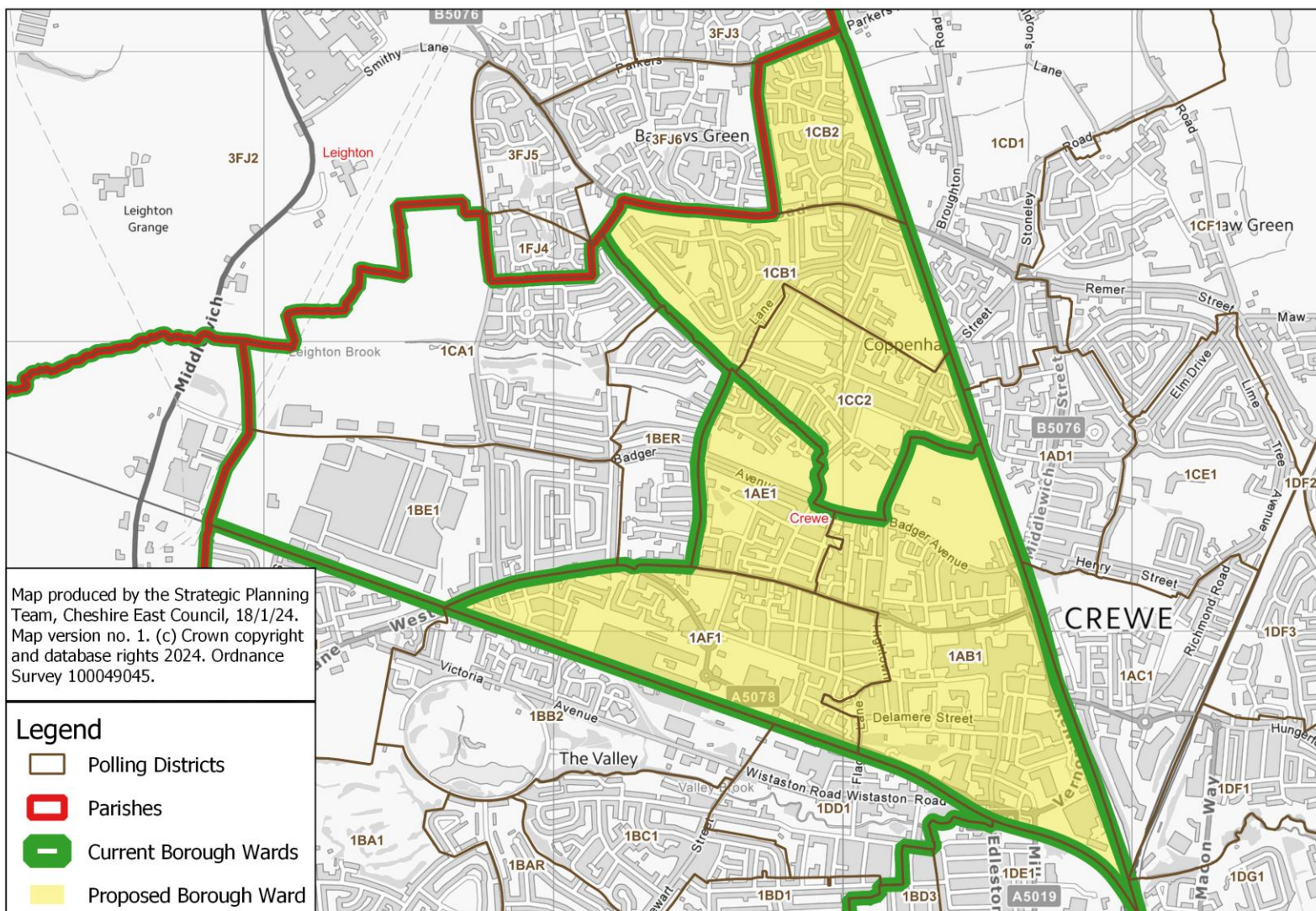
Crewe Maw Green: close-up of southeastern boundary

Proposed Borough Ward: Crewe Maw Green - close-up of southeastern section of proposed boundary

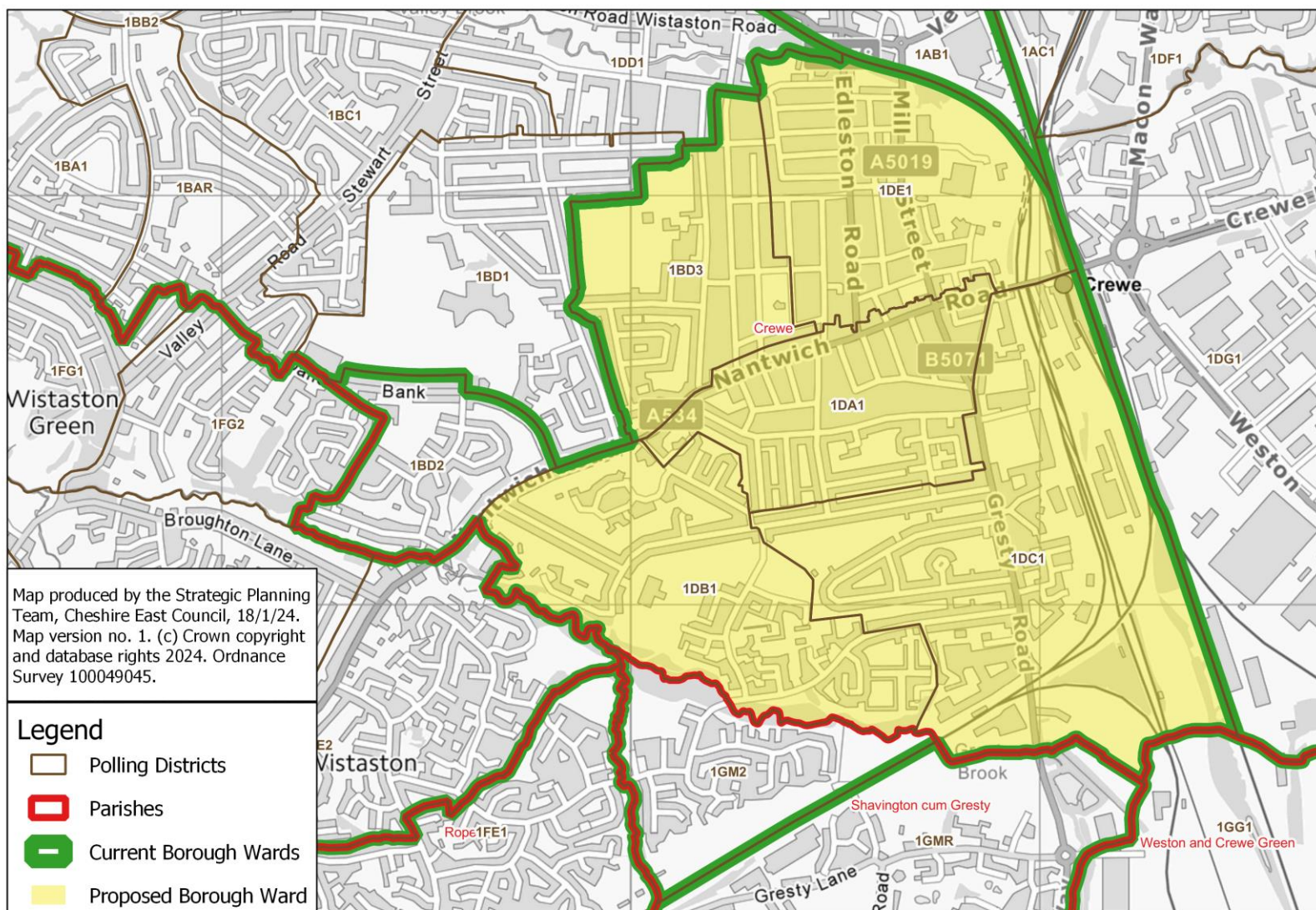


Crewe North

Proposed Borough Ward: Crewe North

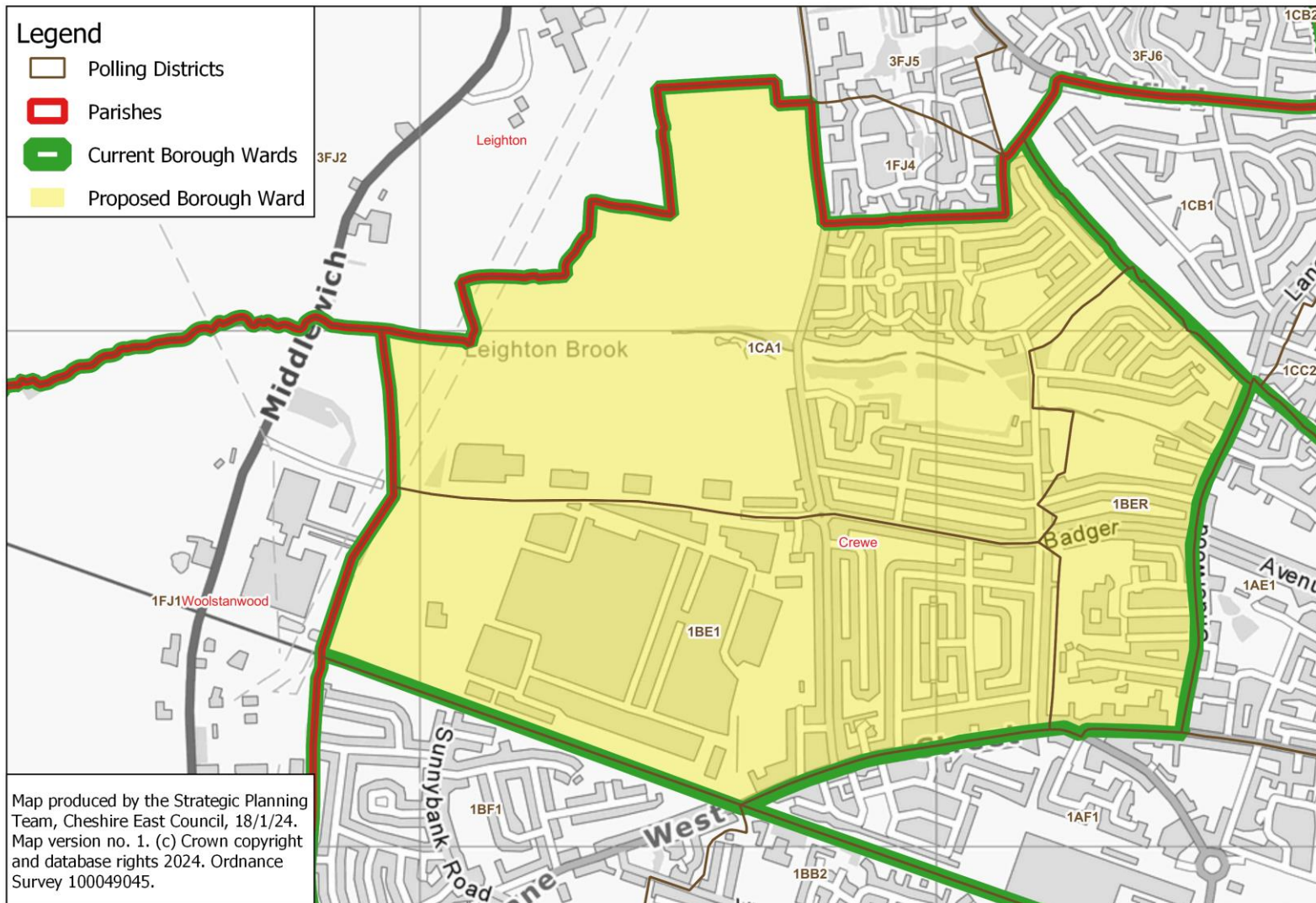


Proposed Borough Ward: Crewe South



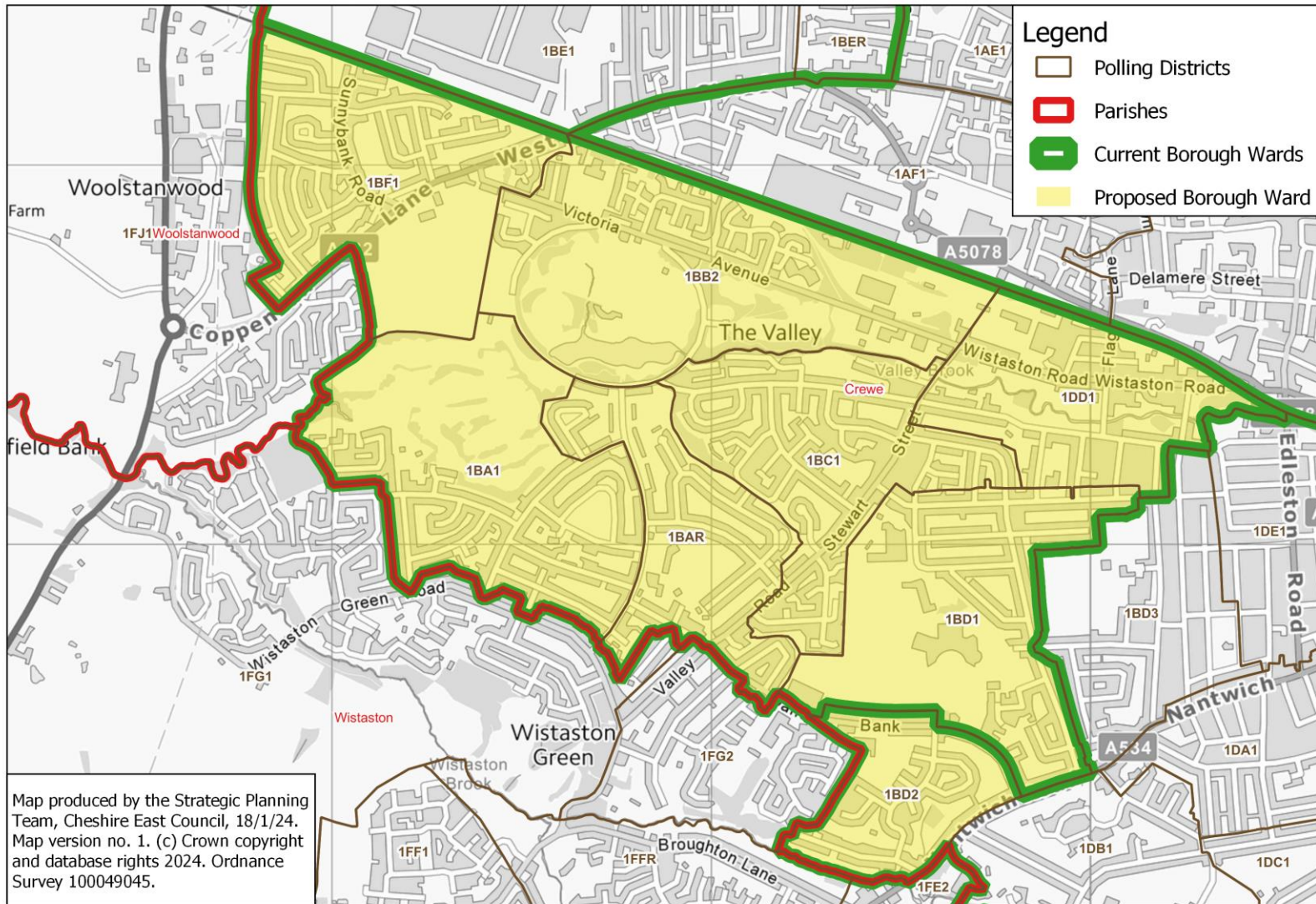
Crewe St Barnabas

Proposed Borough Ward: Crewe St Barnabas



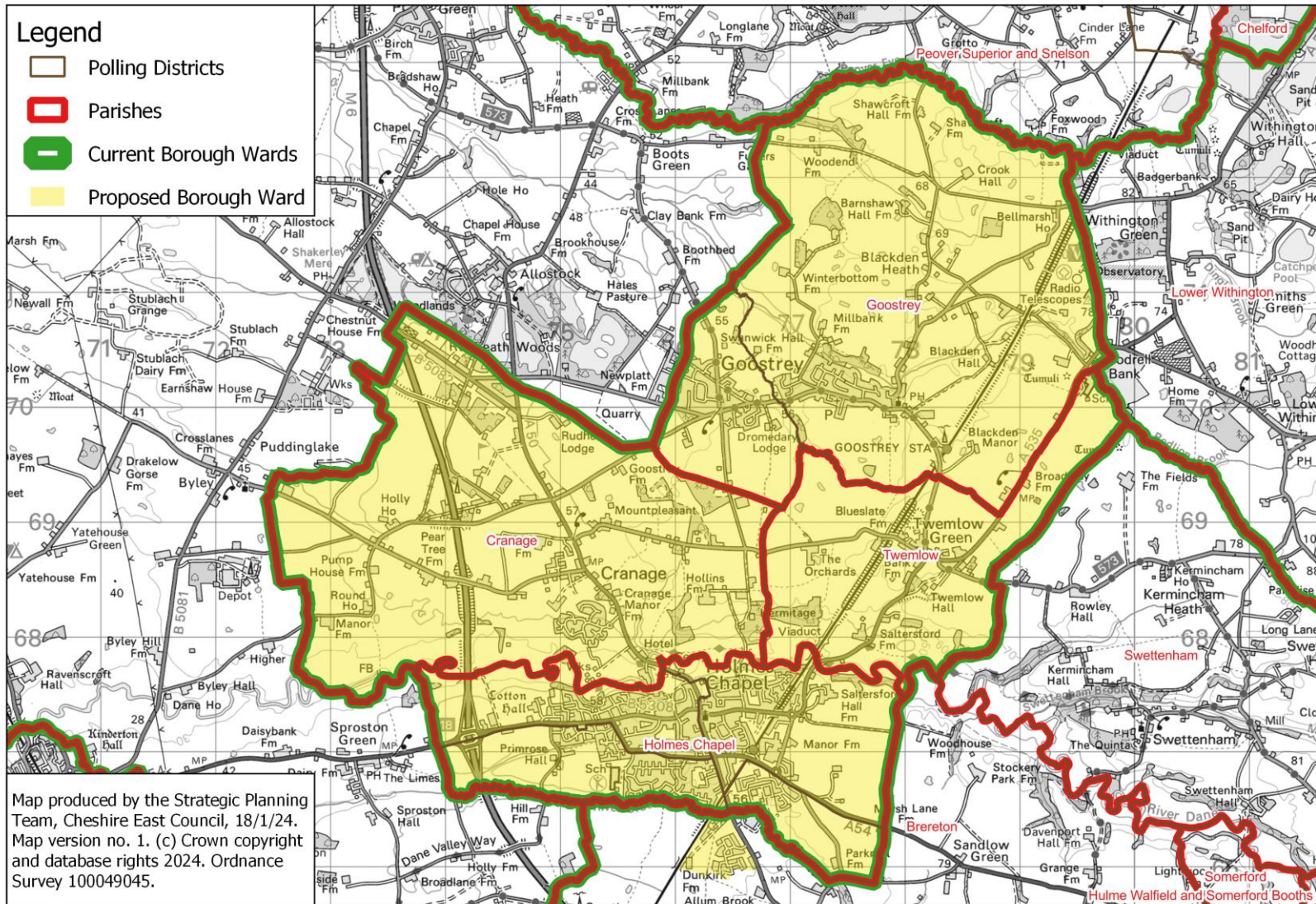
Crewe West

Proposed Borough Ward: Crewe West



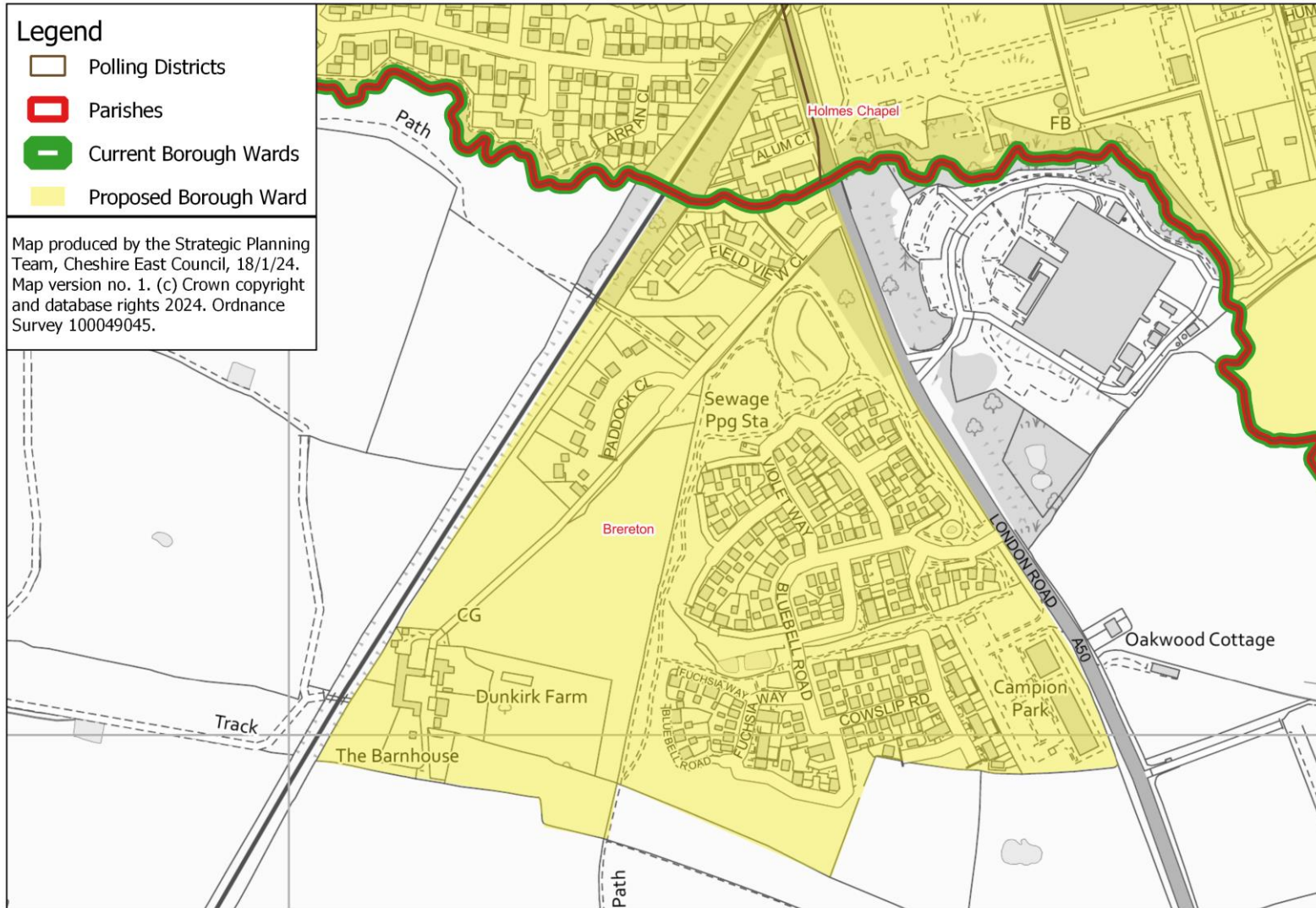
Dane Valley

Proposed Borough Ward: Dane Valley



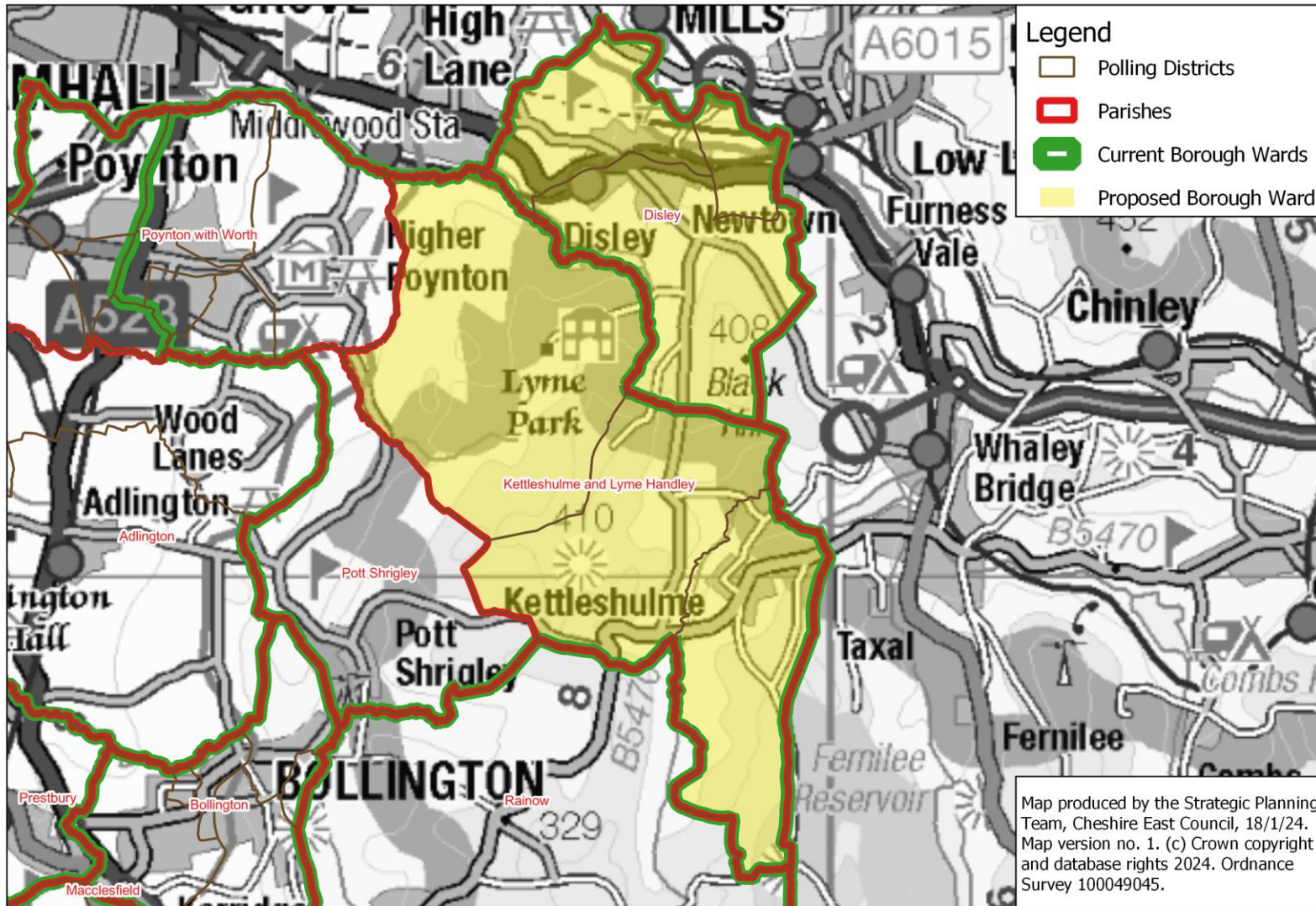
Dane Valley: close-up of boundary in Bluebell Green area

Proposed Borough Ward: Dane Valley - close-up of Bluebell Green area



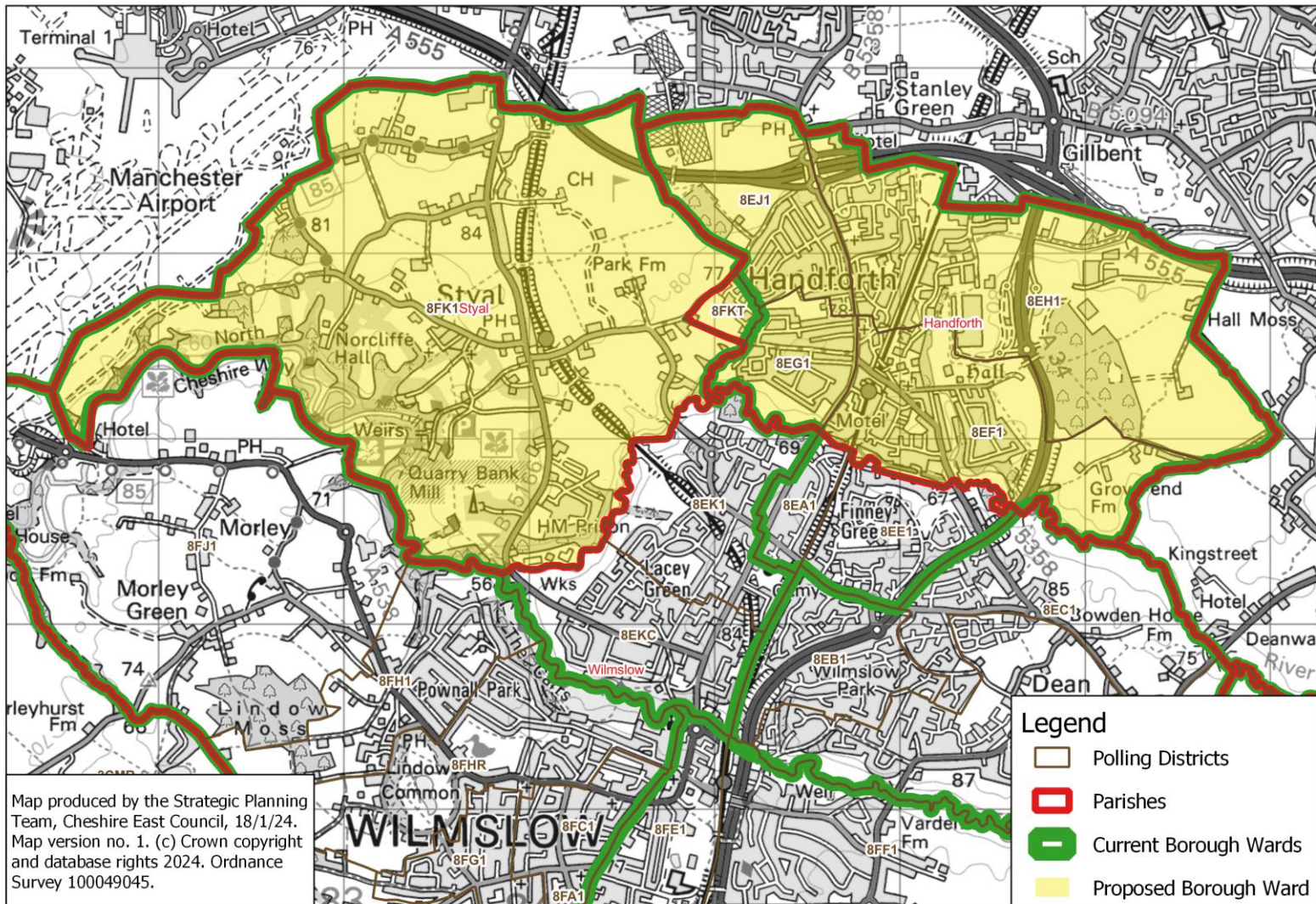
Disley

Proposed Borough Ward: Disley



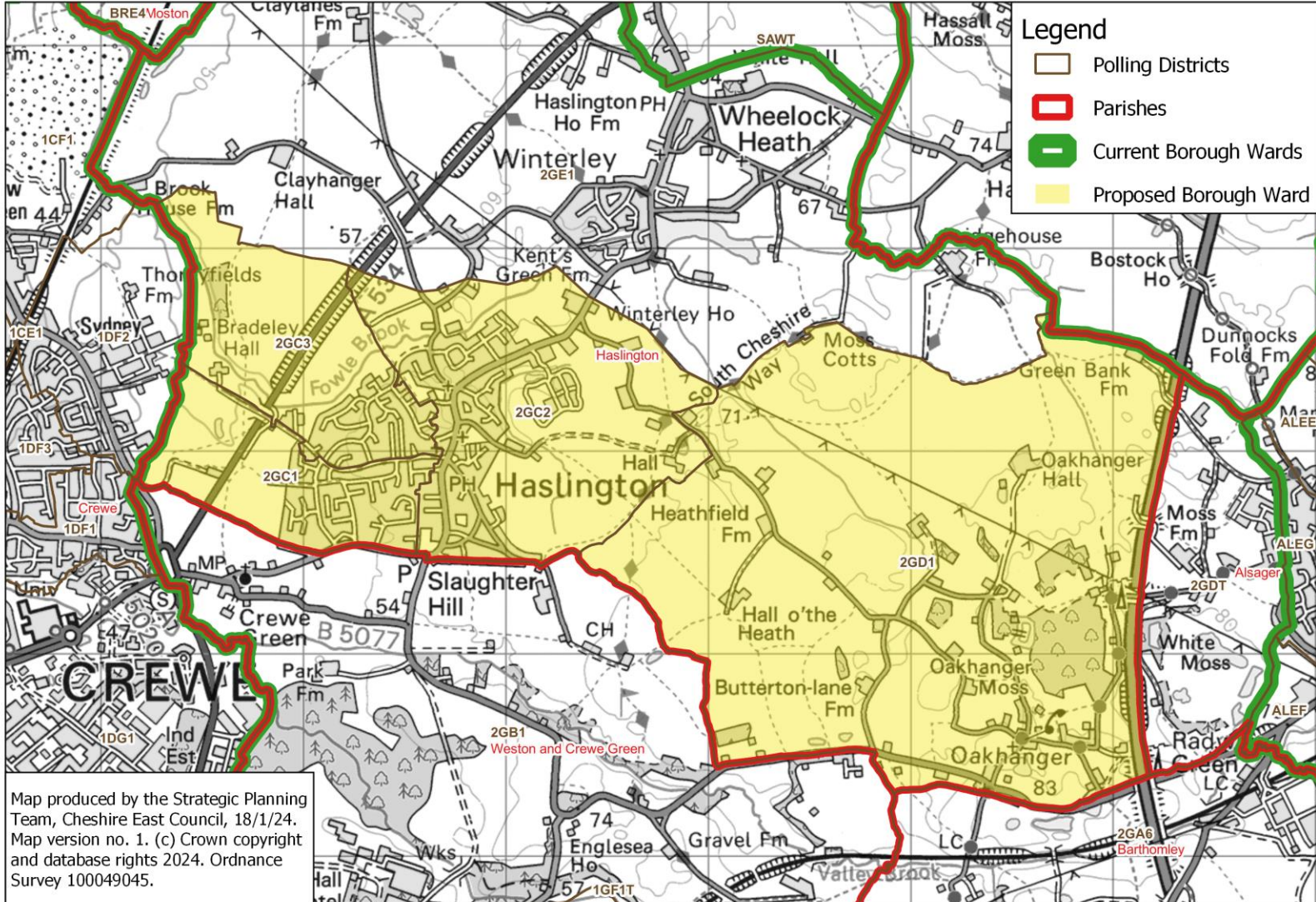
Handforth

Proposed Borough Ward: Handforth



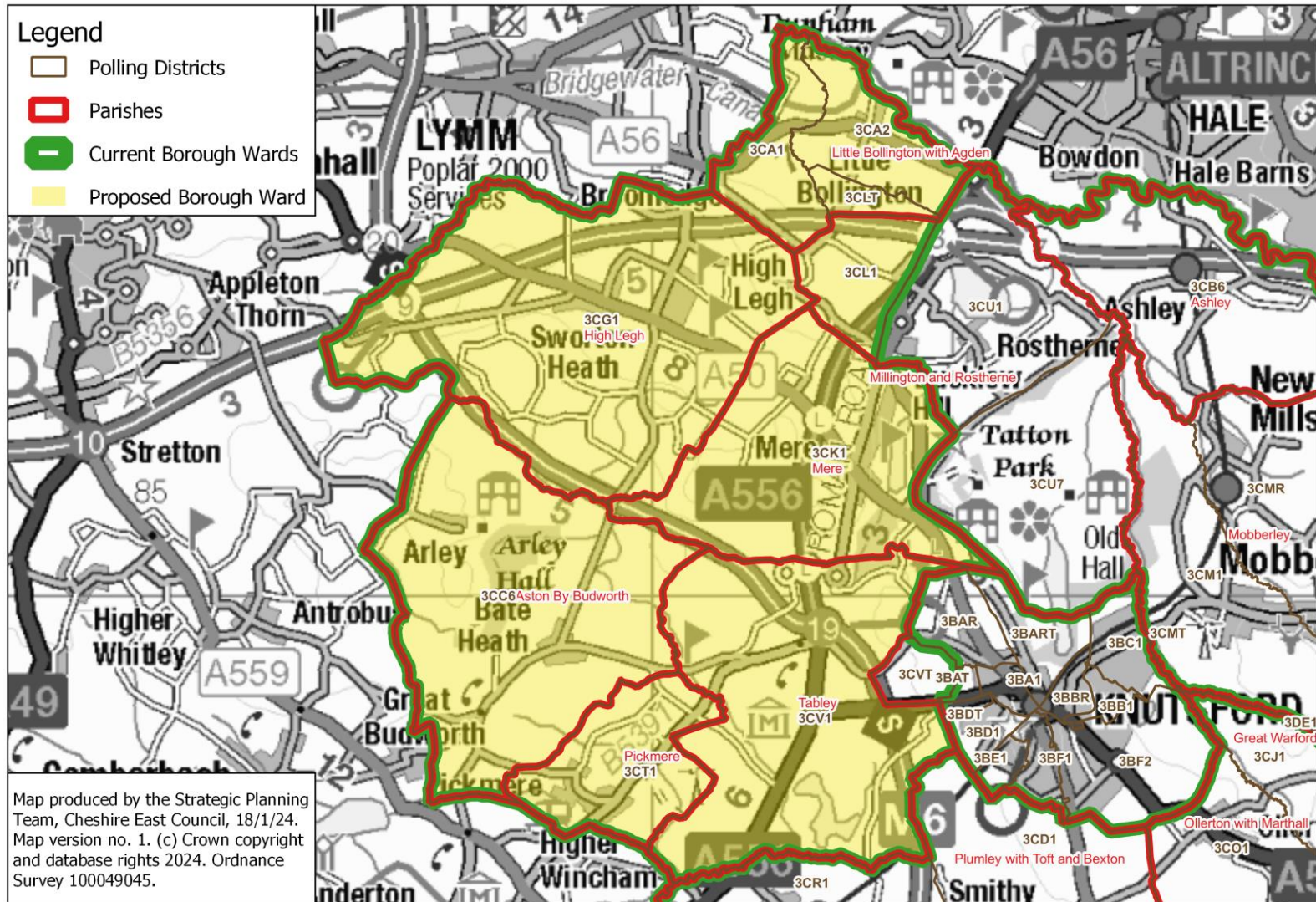
Haslington

Proposed Borough Ward: Haslington



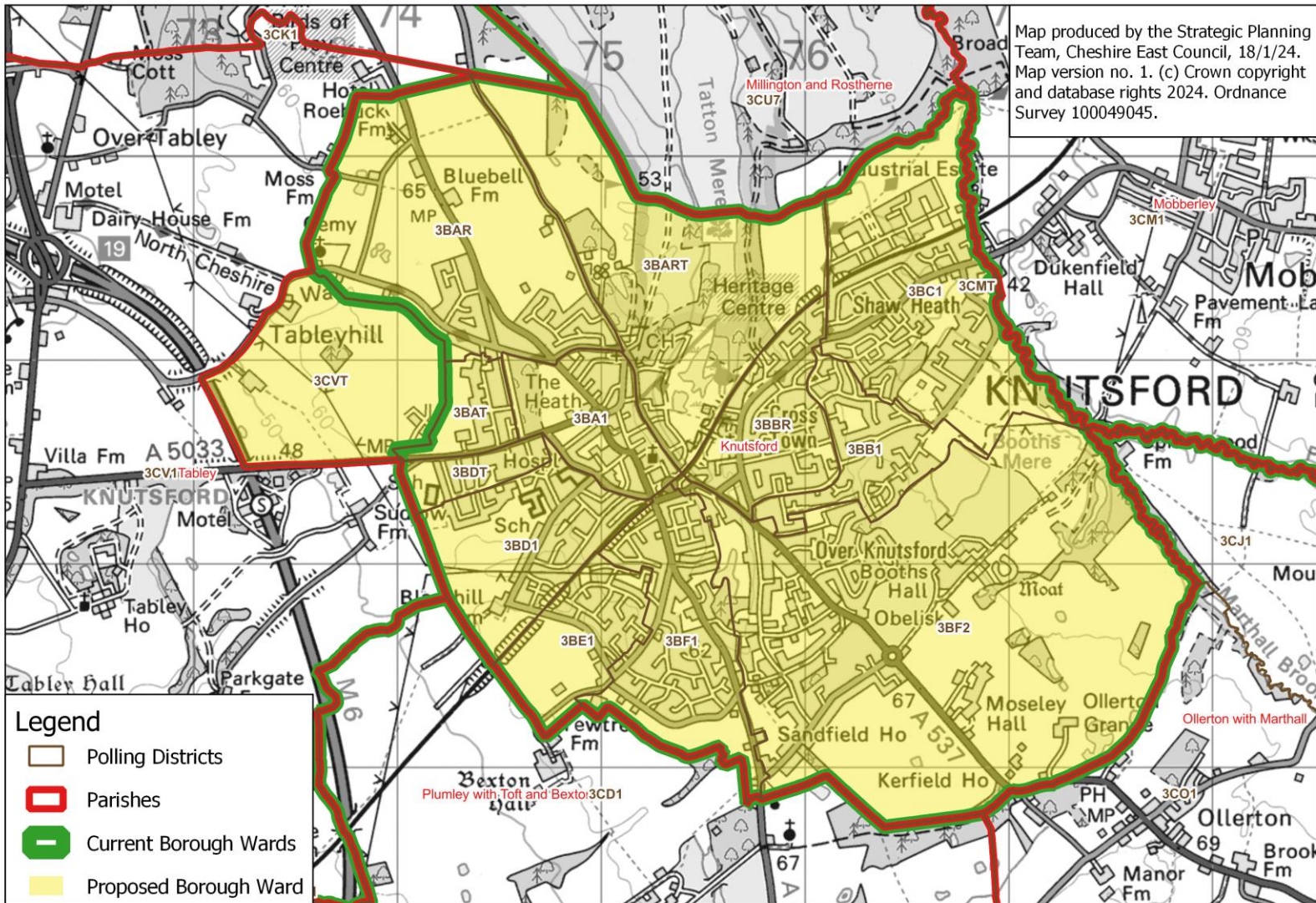
High Legh

Proposed Borough Ward: High Legh



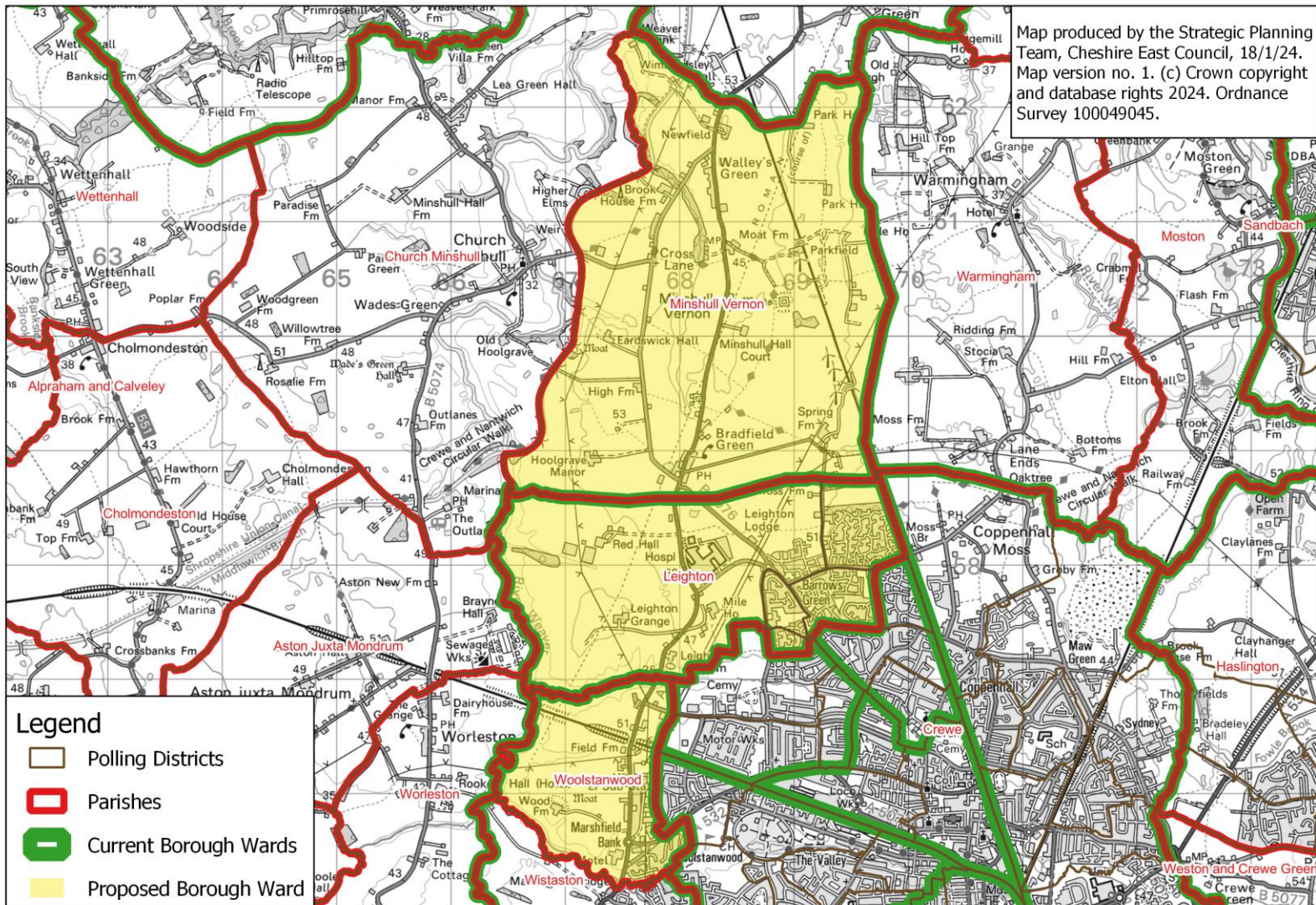
Knutsford

Proposed Borough Ward: Knutsford



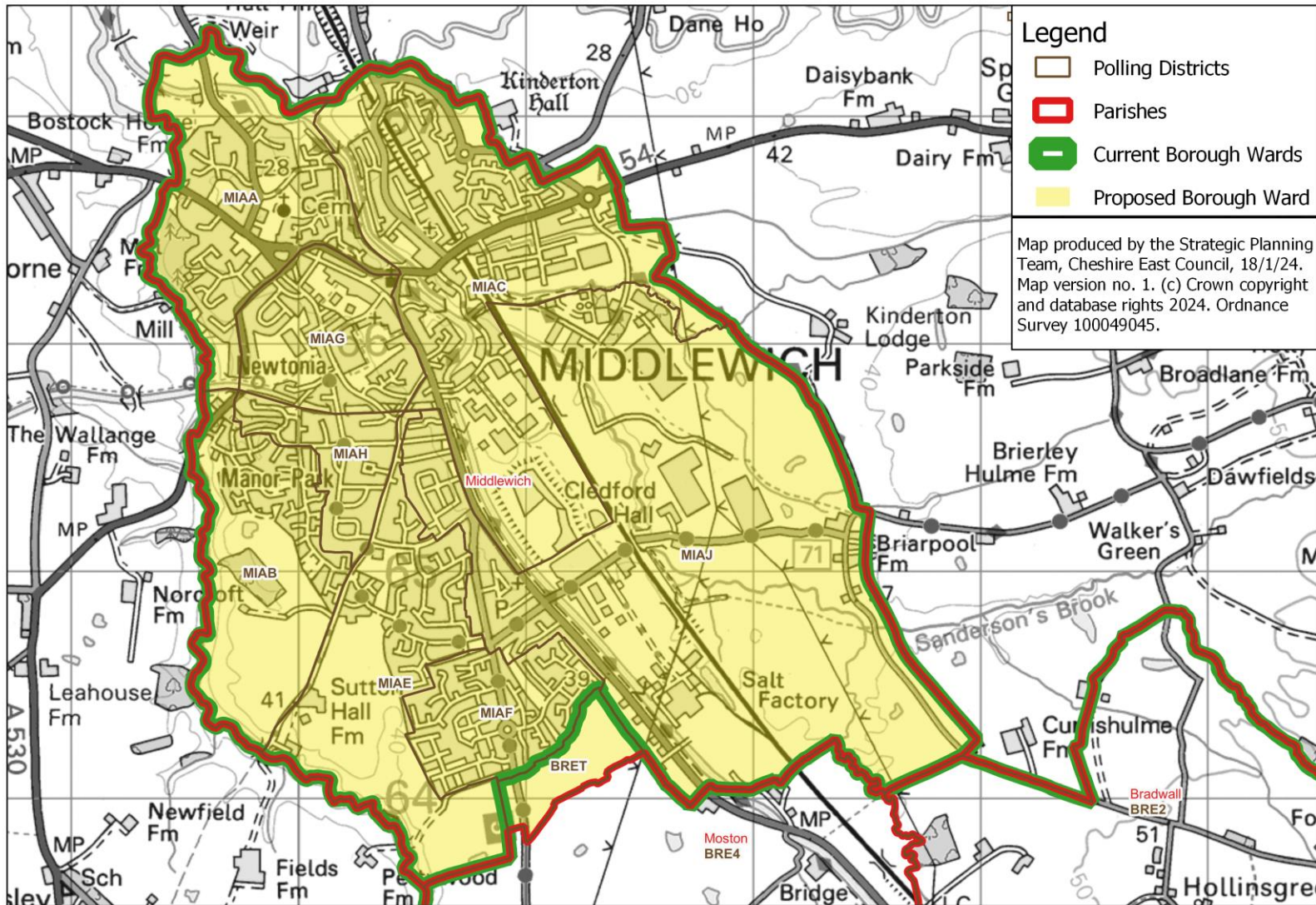
Leighton

Proposed Borough Ward: Leighton



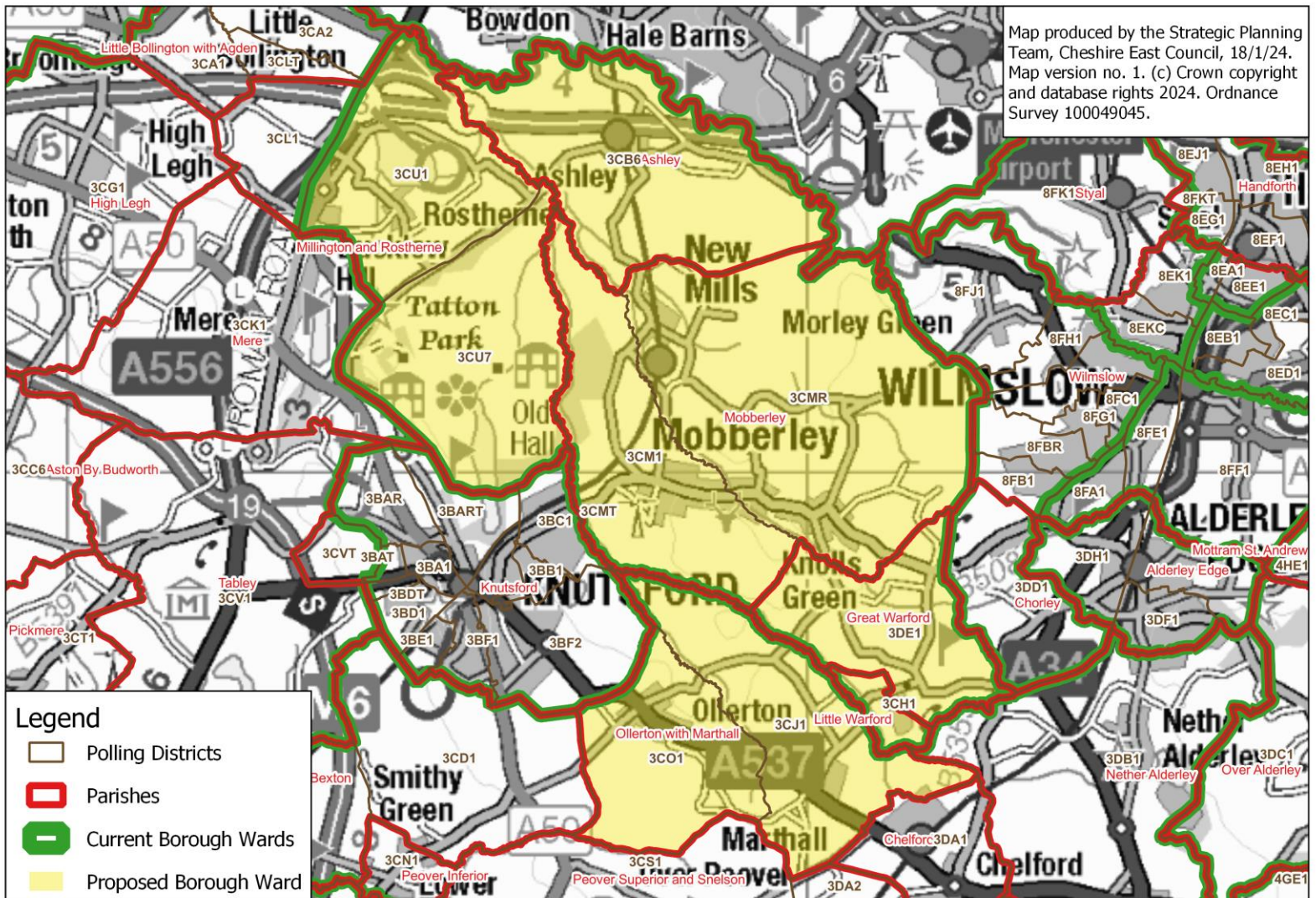
Middlewich

Proposed Borough Ward: Middlewich



Mobberley

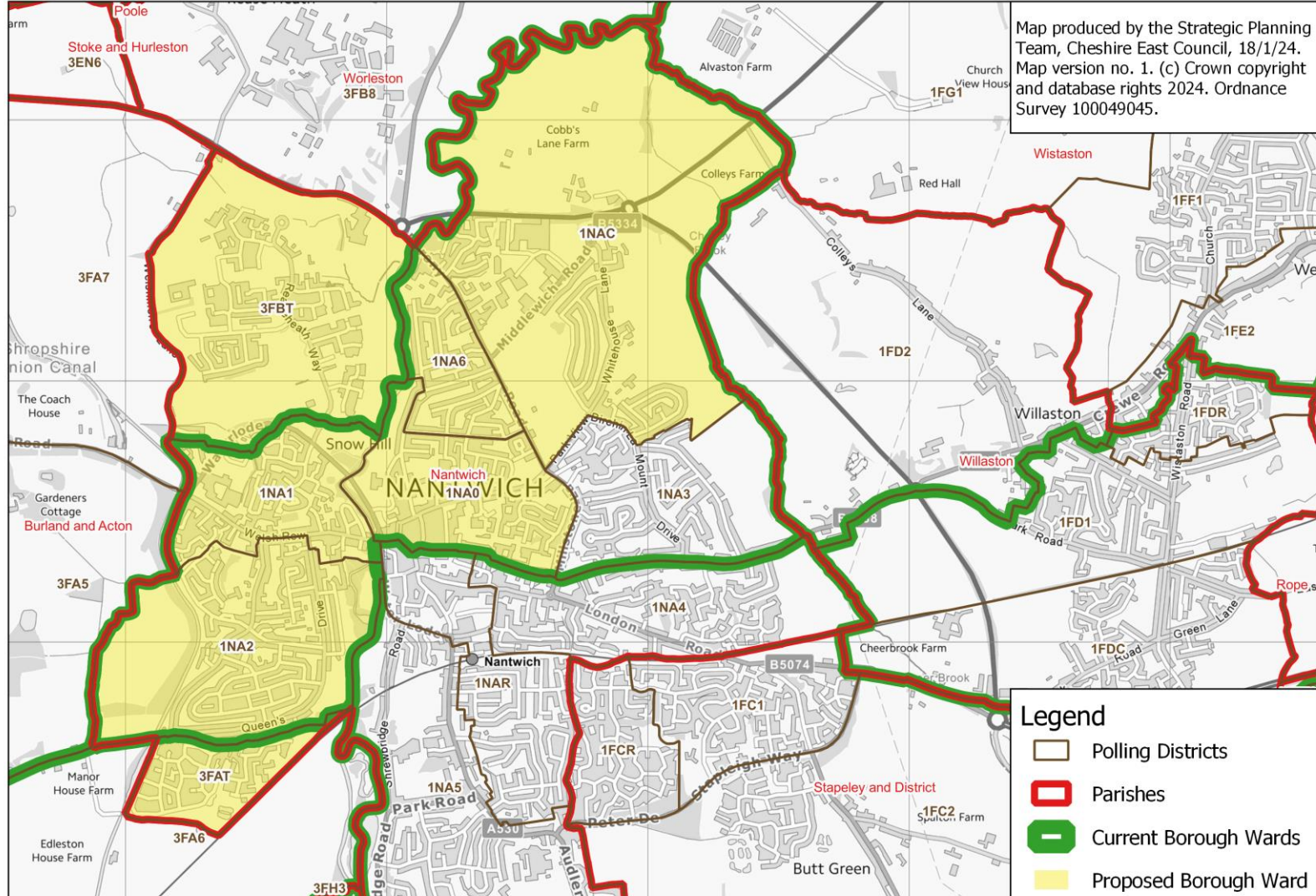
Proposed Borough Ward: Mobberley



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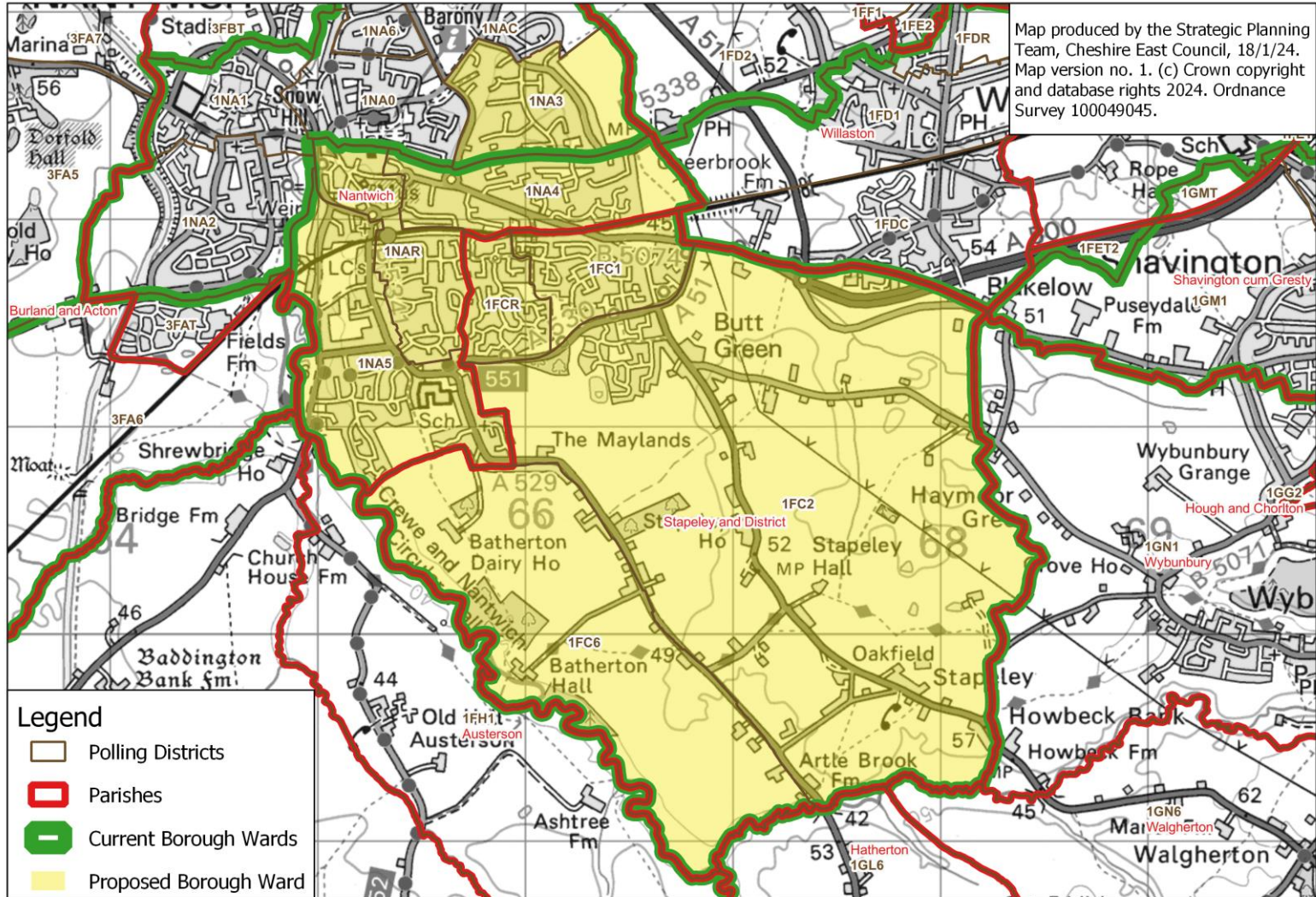
Nantwich North & West

Proposed Borough Ward: Nantwich North & West



Nantwich South & Stapeley

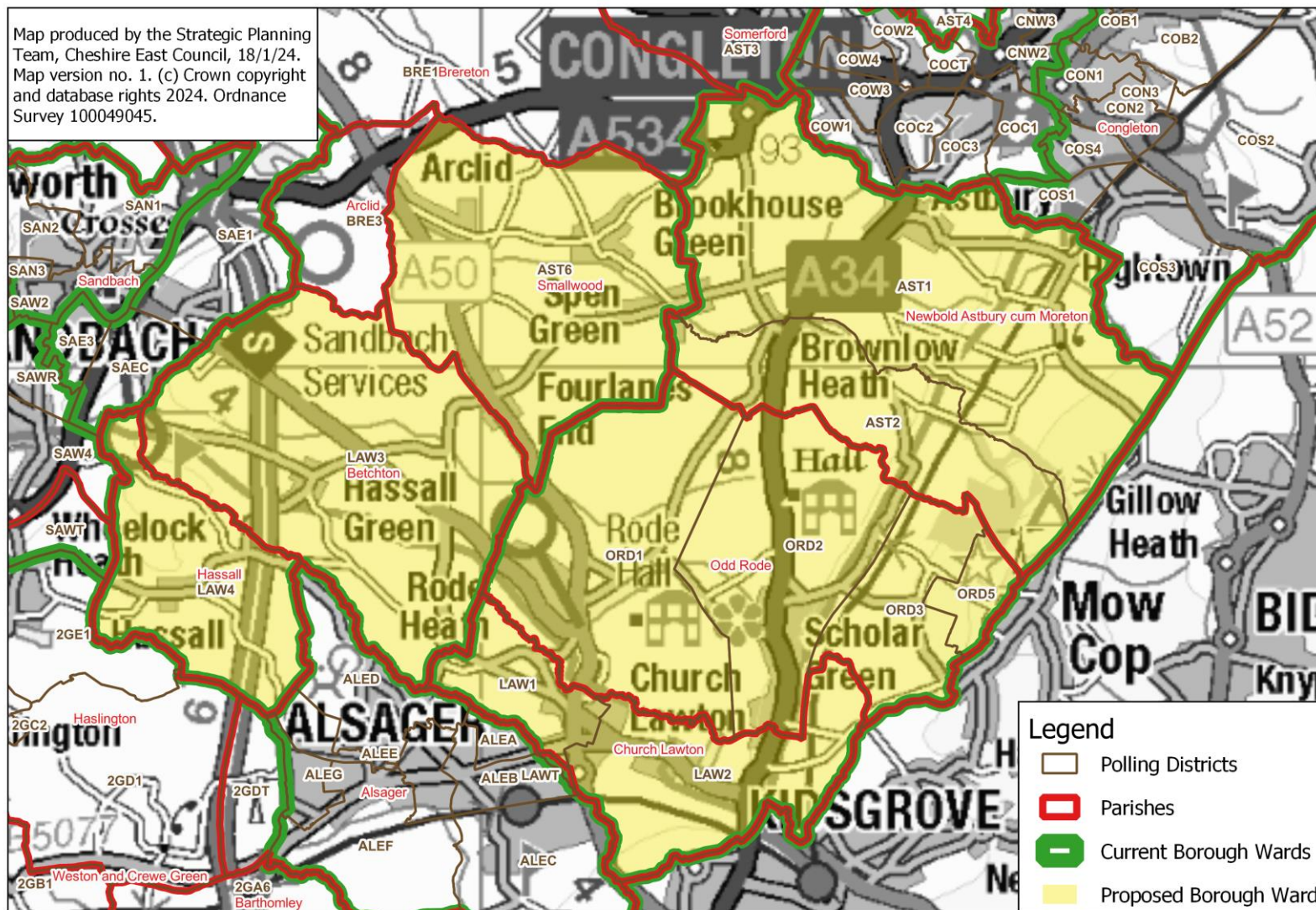
Proposed Borough Ward: Nantwich South & Stapeley



Odd Rode

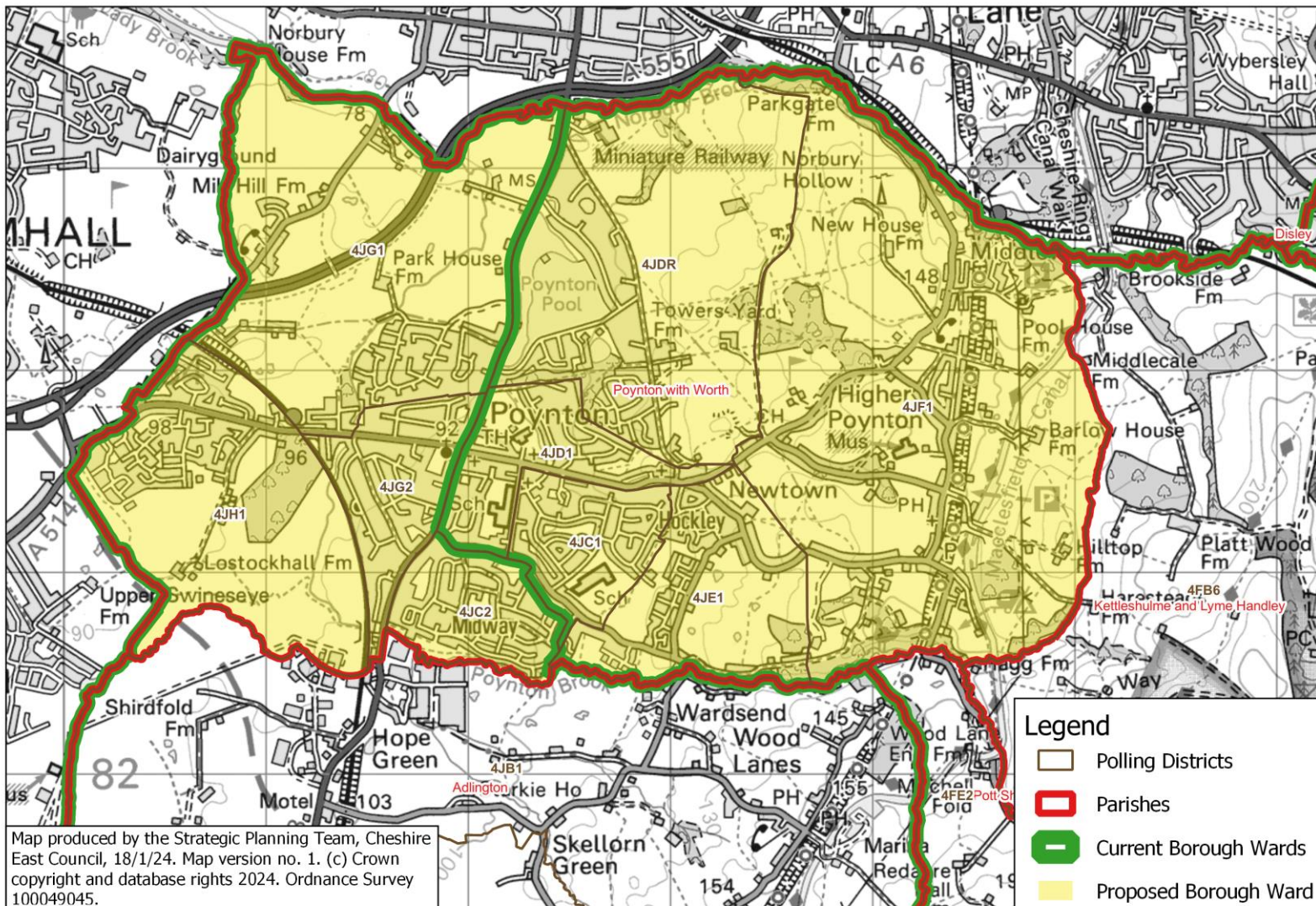
Proposed Borough Ward: Odd Rode

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Poynton

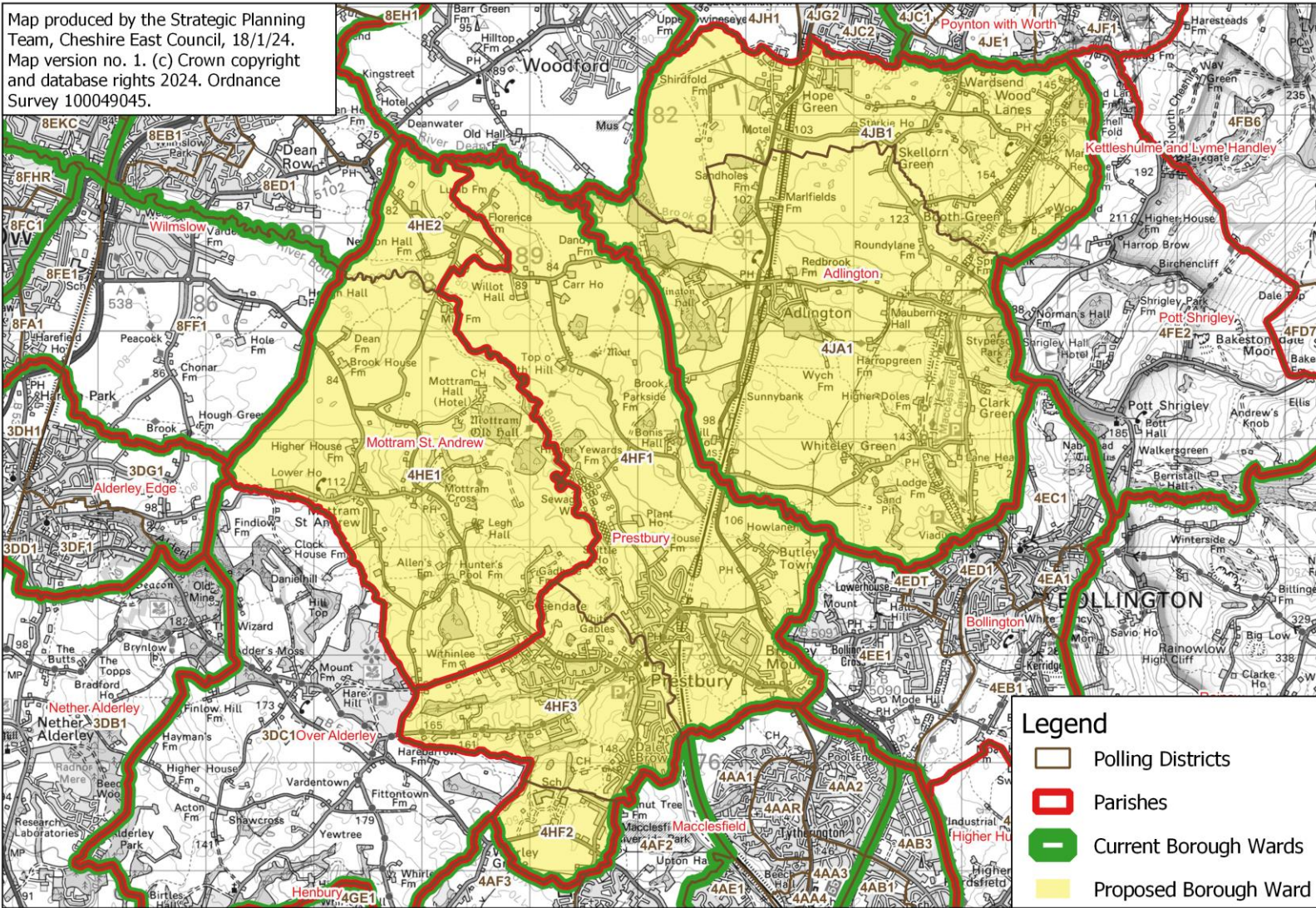
Proposed Borough Ward: Poynton



Prestbury

Proposed Borough Ward: Prestbury

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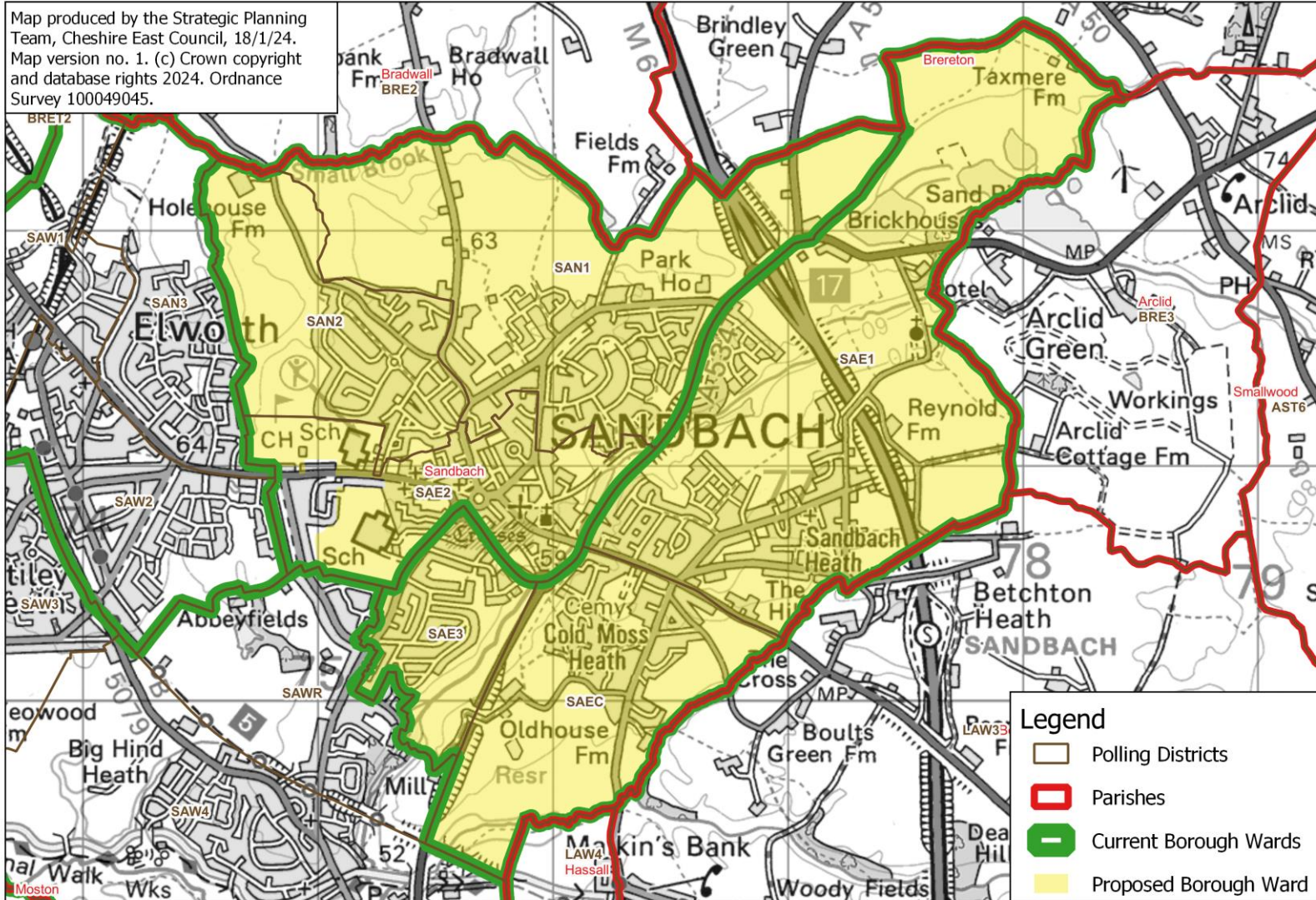


Legend

- Polling Districts
- Parishes
- Current Borough Wards
- Proposed Borough Ward

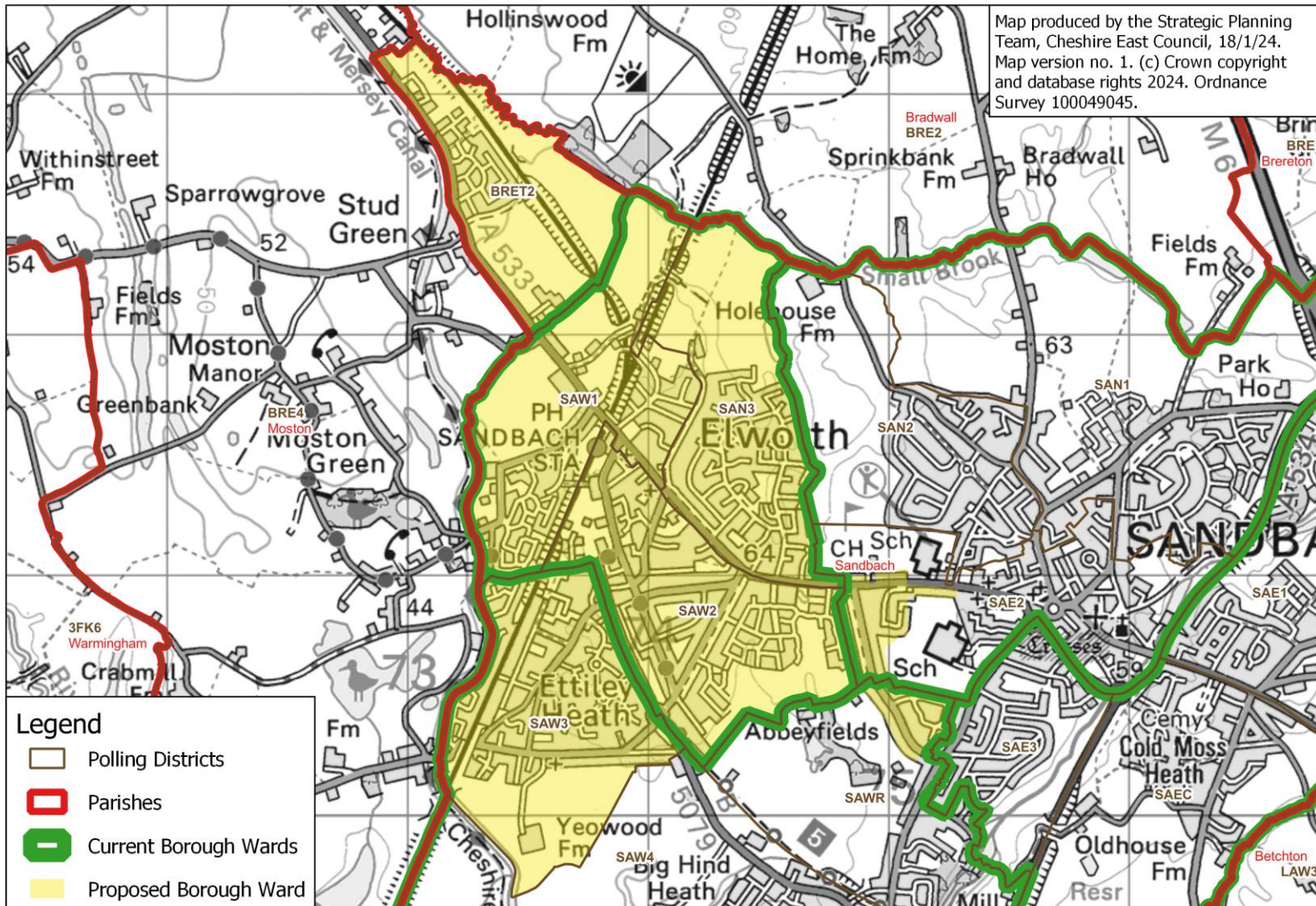
Sandbach East & Central

Proposed Borough Ward: Sandbach East & Central



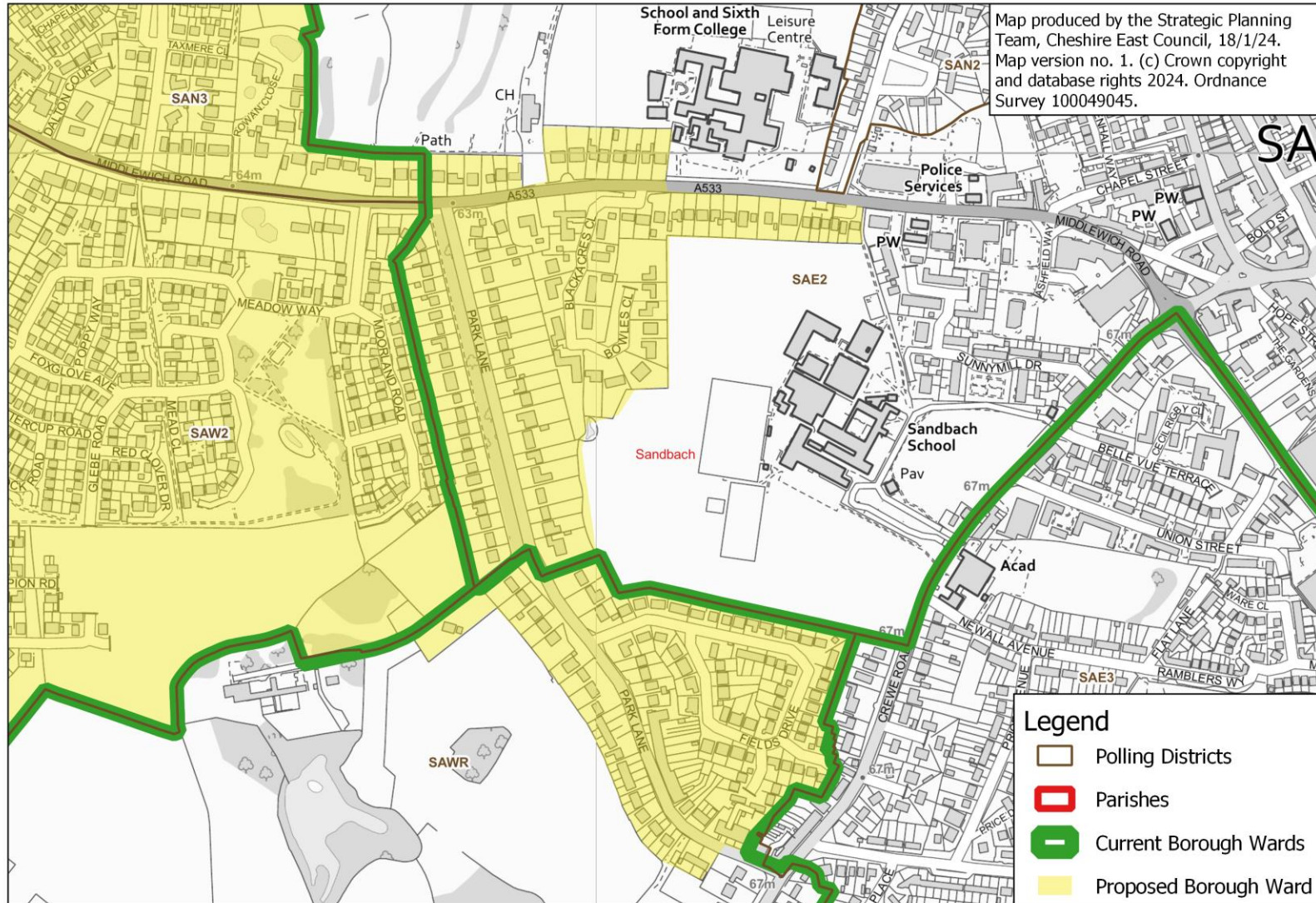
Sandbach Elworth & Ettiley Heath

Proposed Borough Ward: Sandbach Elworth & Ettiley Heath



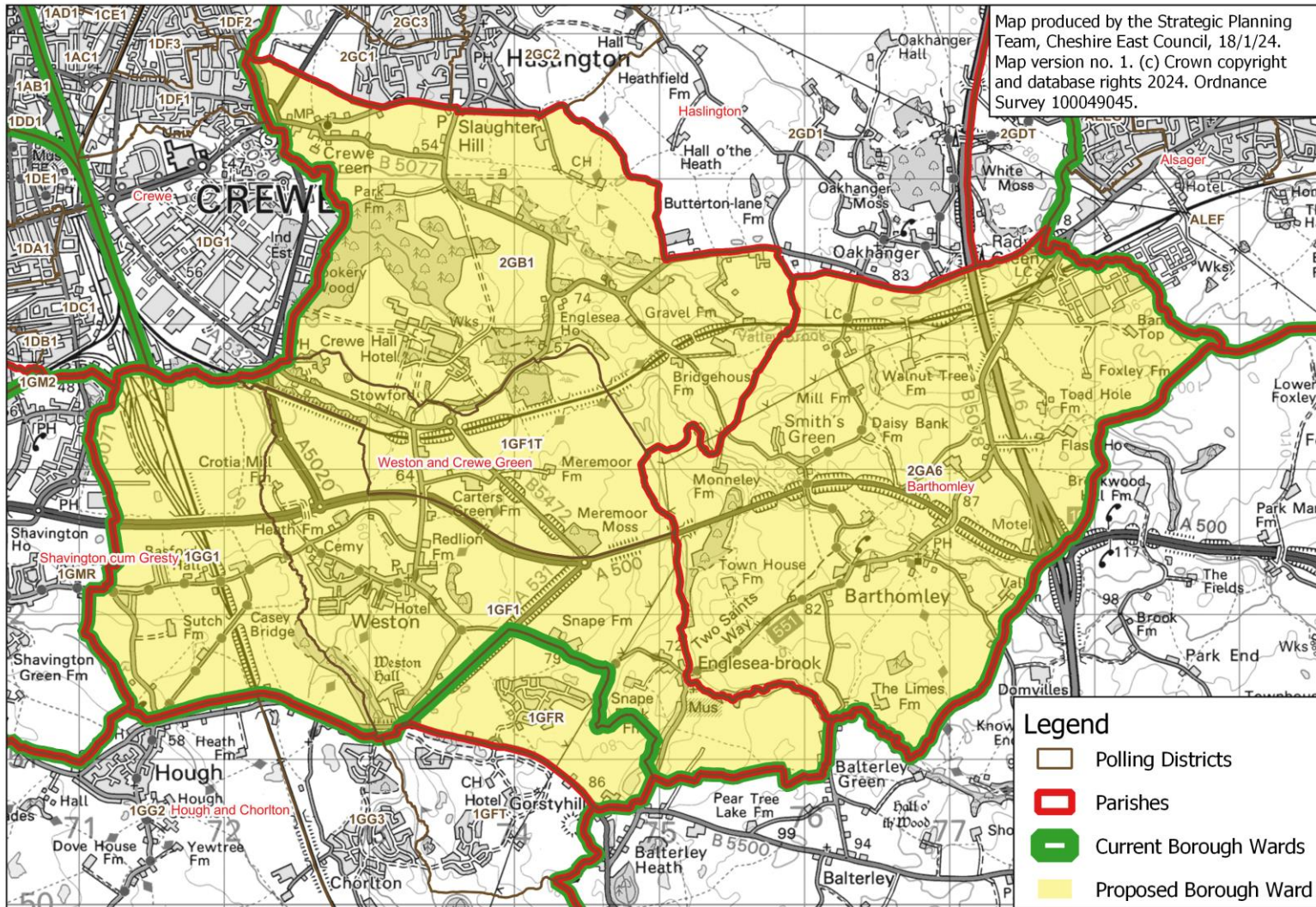
Sandbach Elworth & Ettiley Heath: close-up of Park Lane area

Proposed Borough Ward: Sandbach Elworth & Ettiley Heath - close-up of areas of SAE2 and SAWR to be included

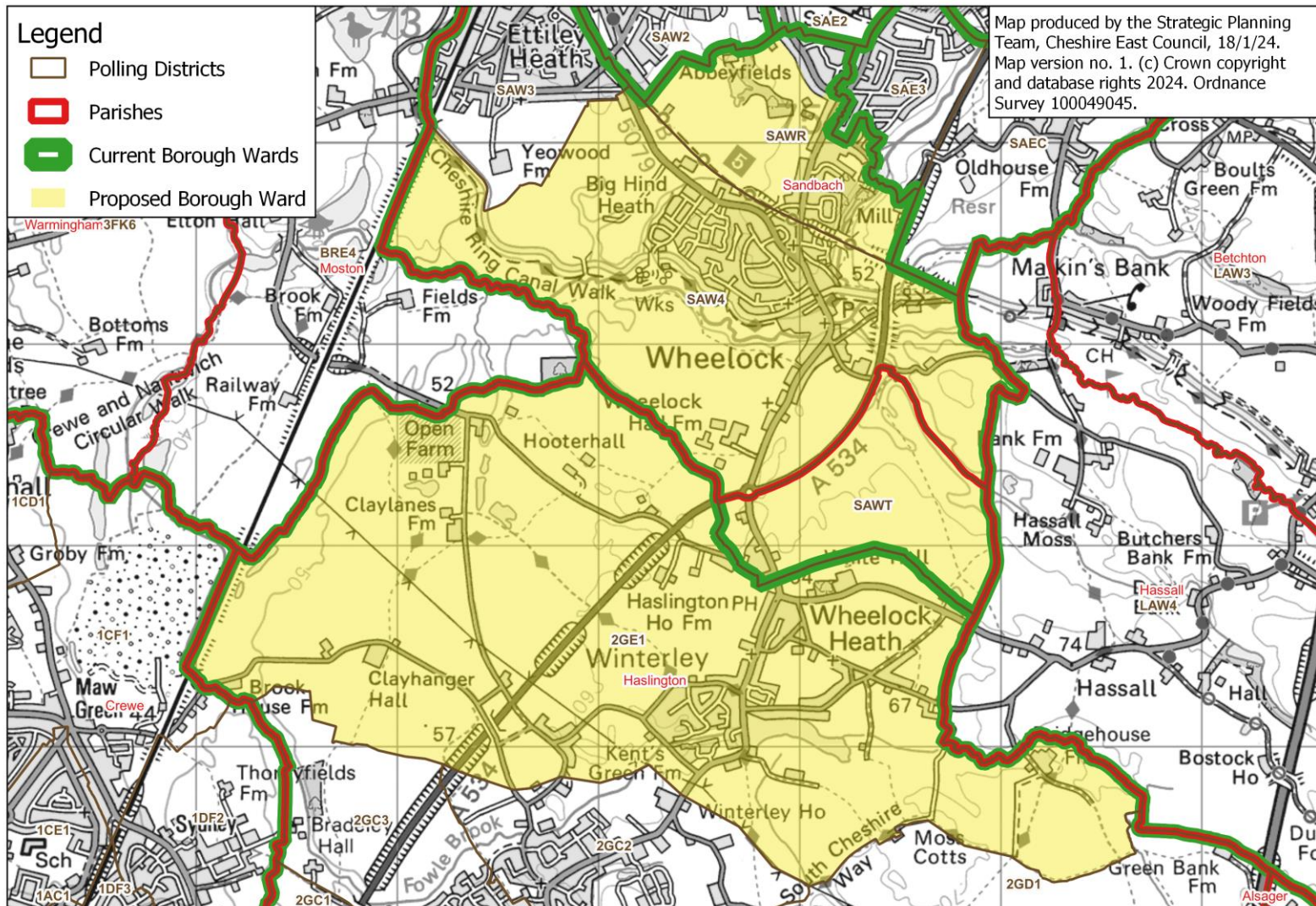


Weston

Proposed Borough Ward: Weston



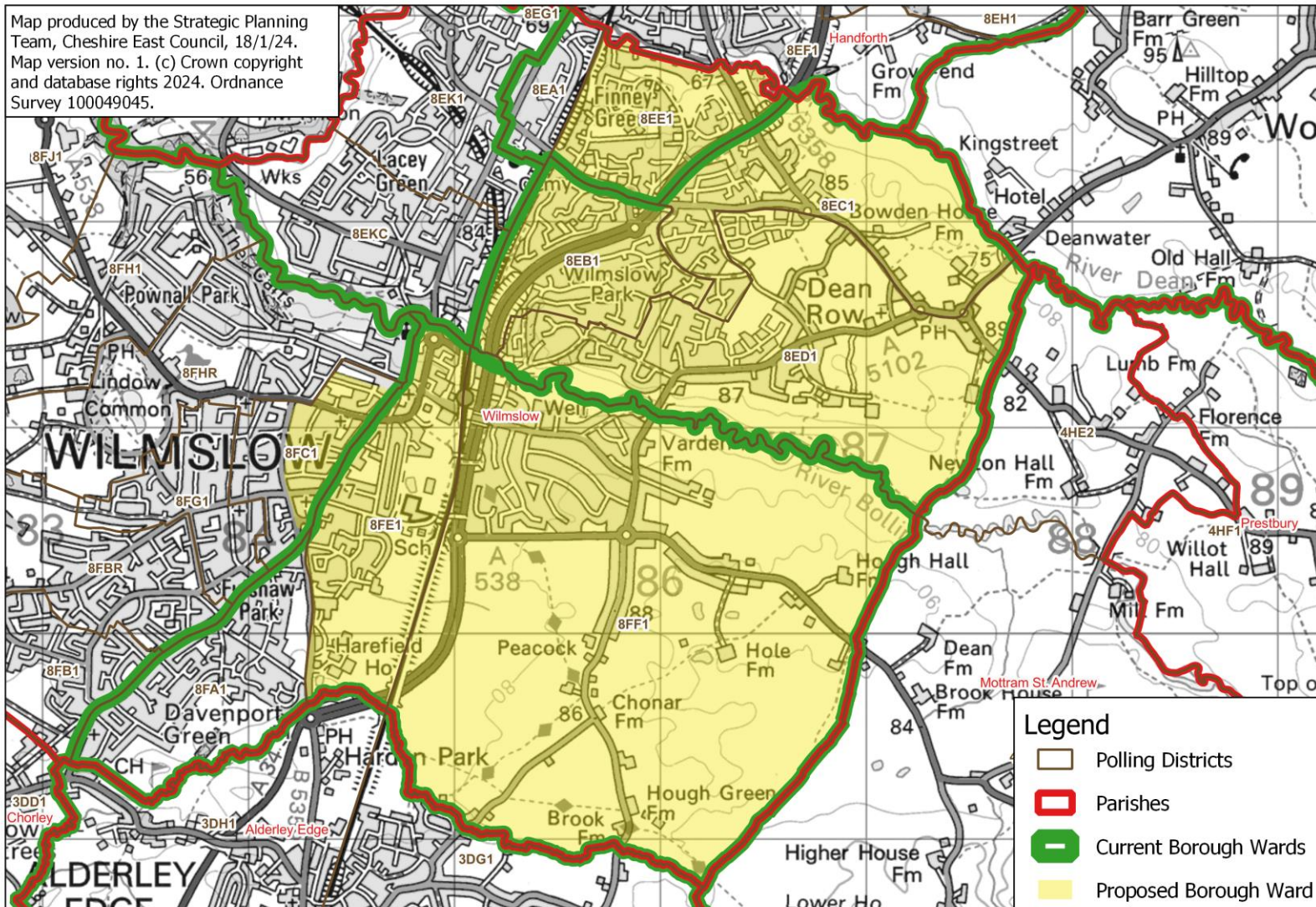
Proposed Borough Ward: Wheelock & Winterley



Wilmslow East

Proposed Borough Ward: Wilmslow East

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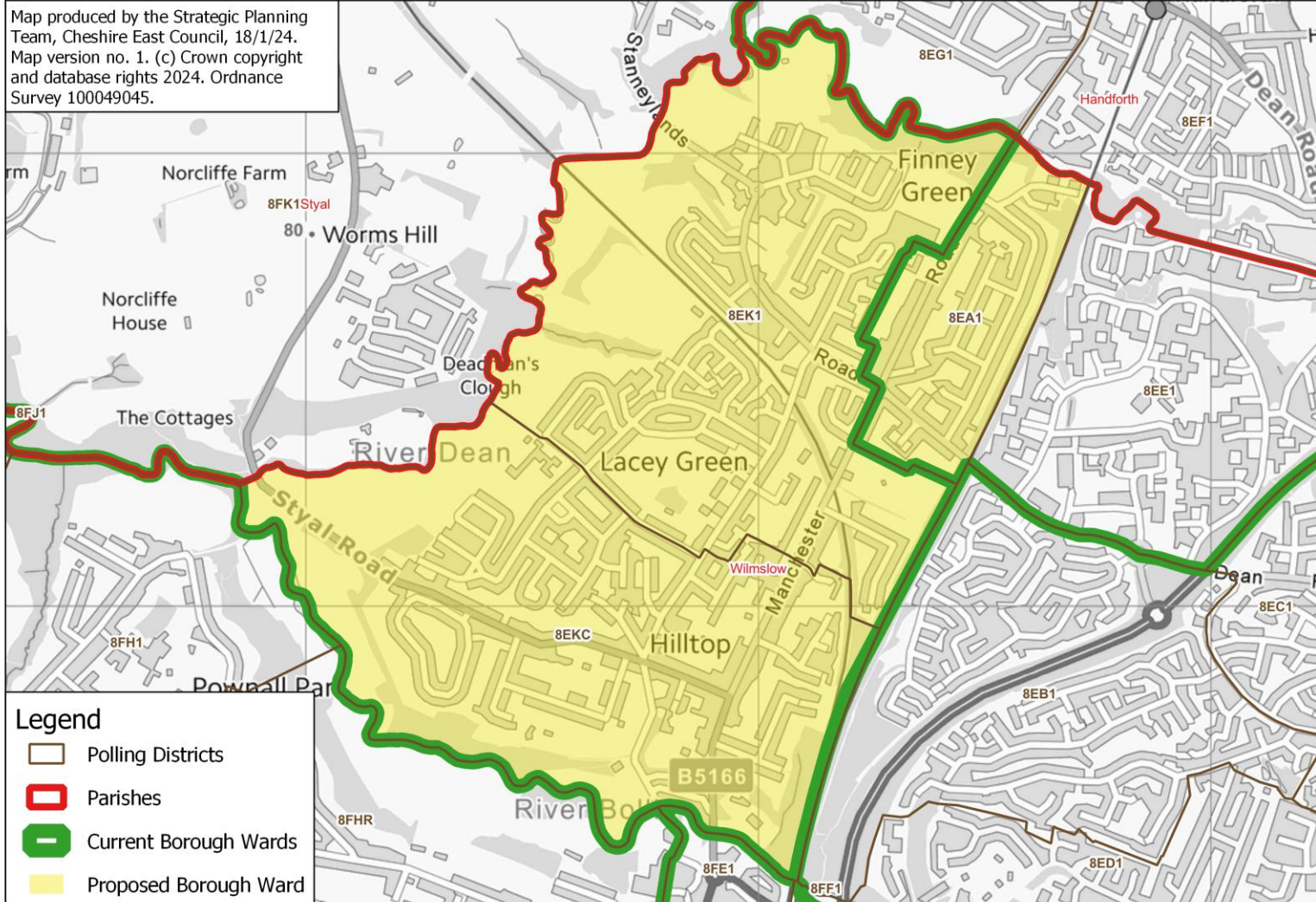
Proposed Borough Ward: Wilmslow East - close-up of area of 8FC1 to be included

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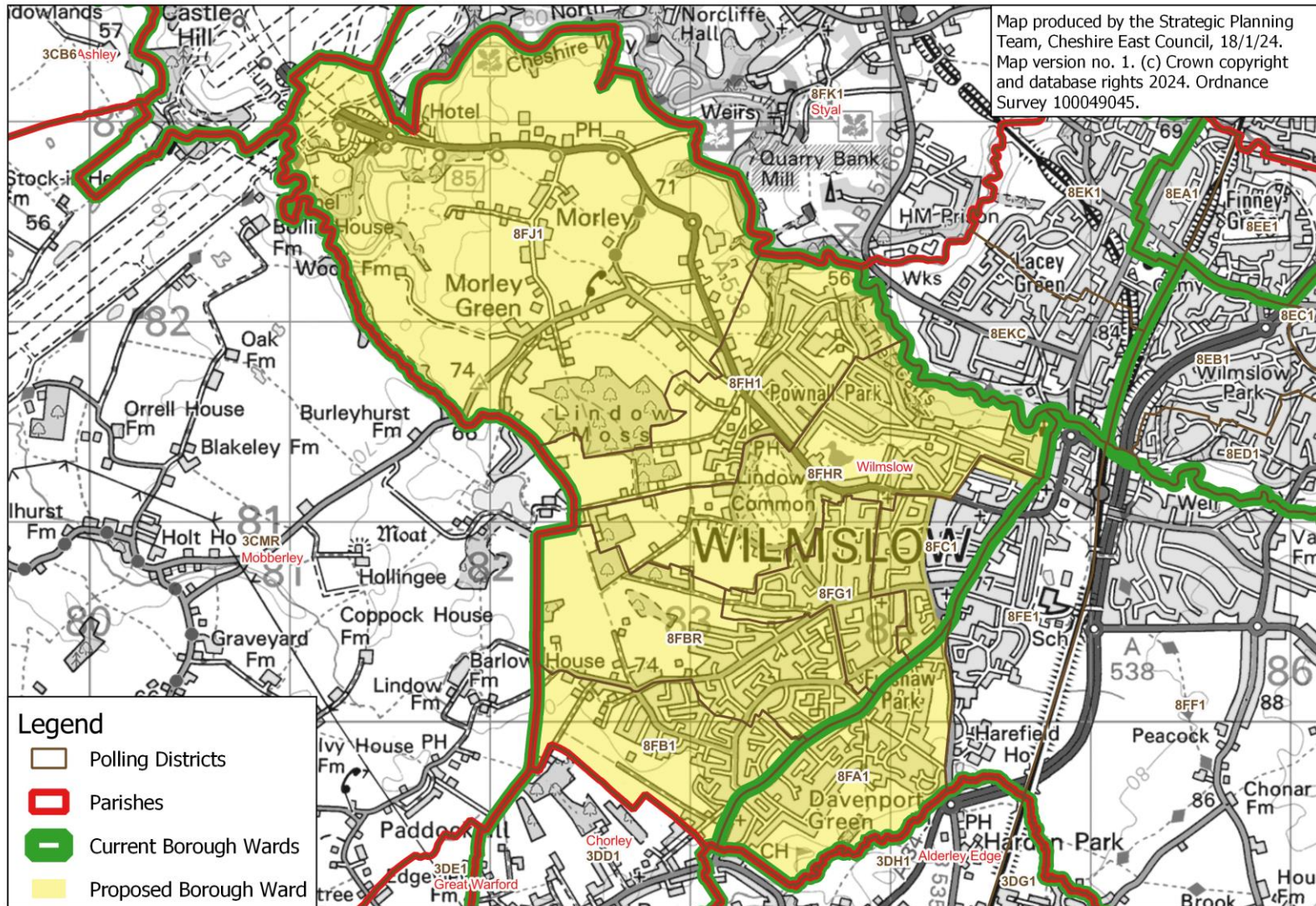
Wilmslow Lacey Green

Proposed Borough Ward: Wilmslow Lacey Green

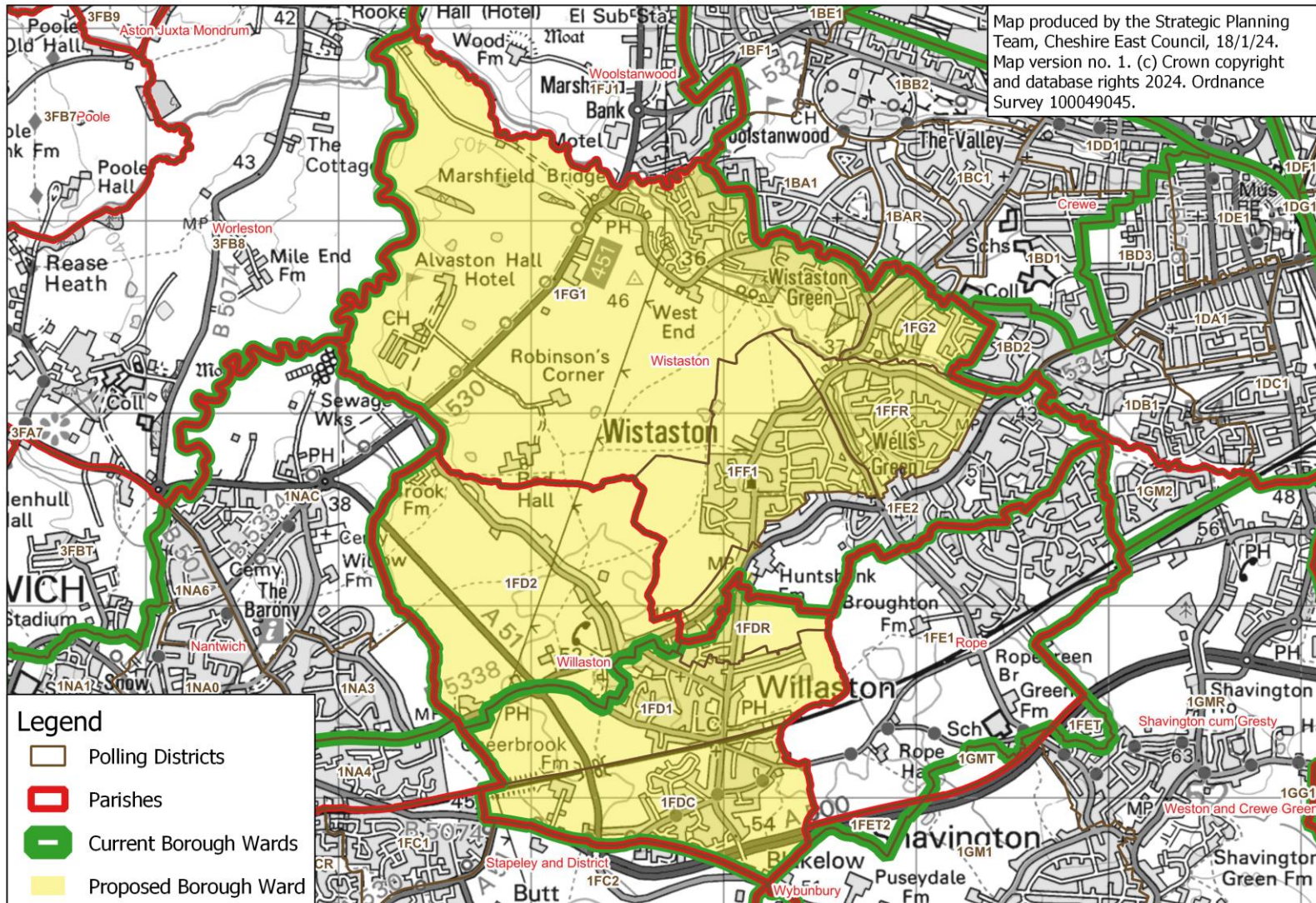


Wilmslow West

Proposed Borough Ward: Wilmslow West

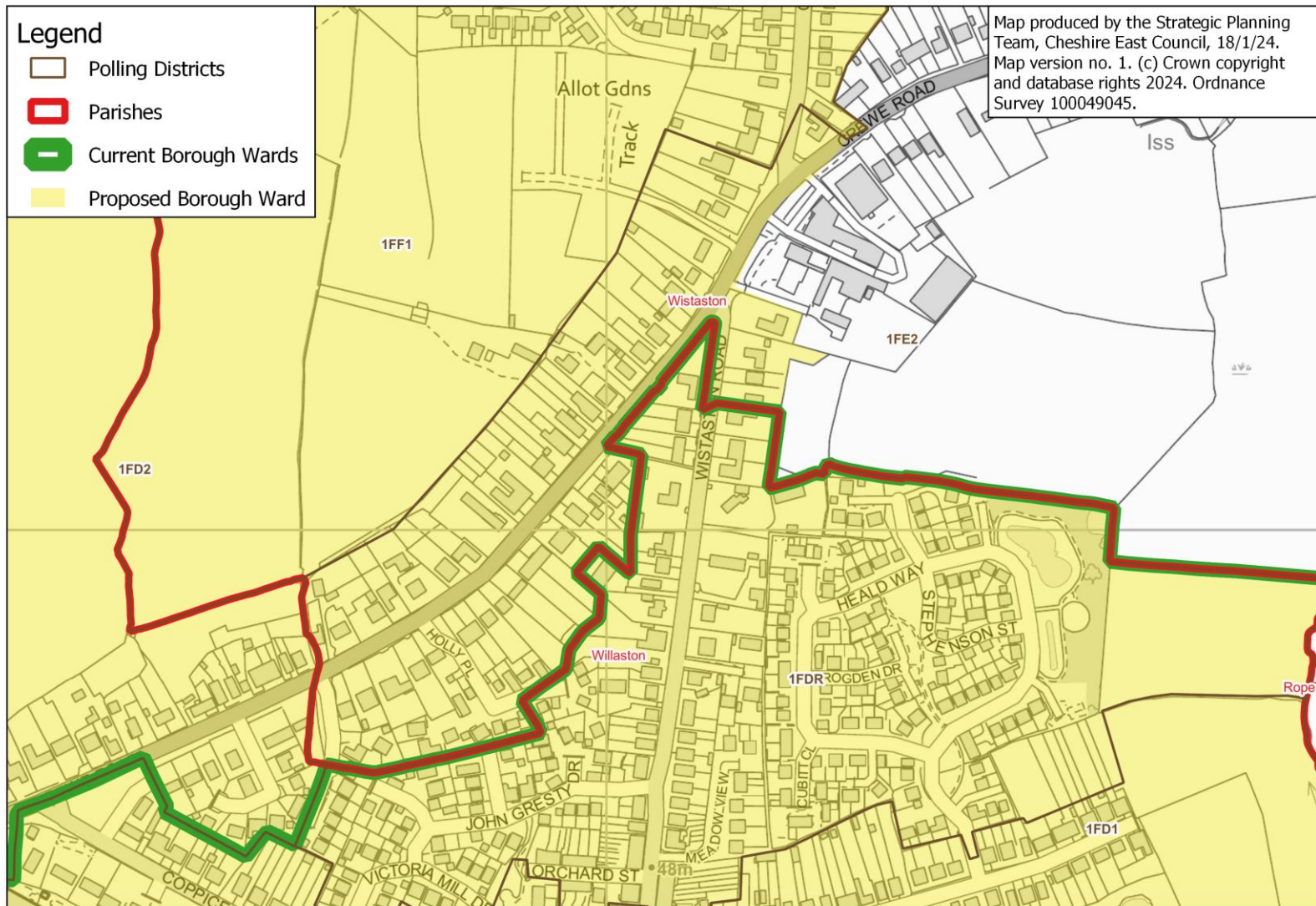


Proposed Borough Ward: Wistaston



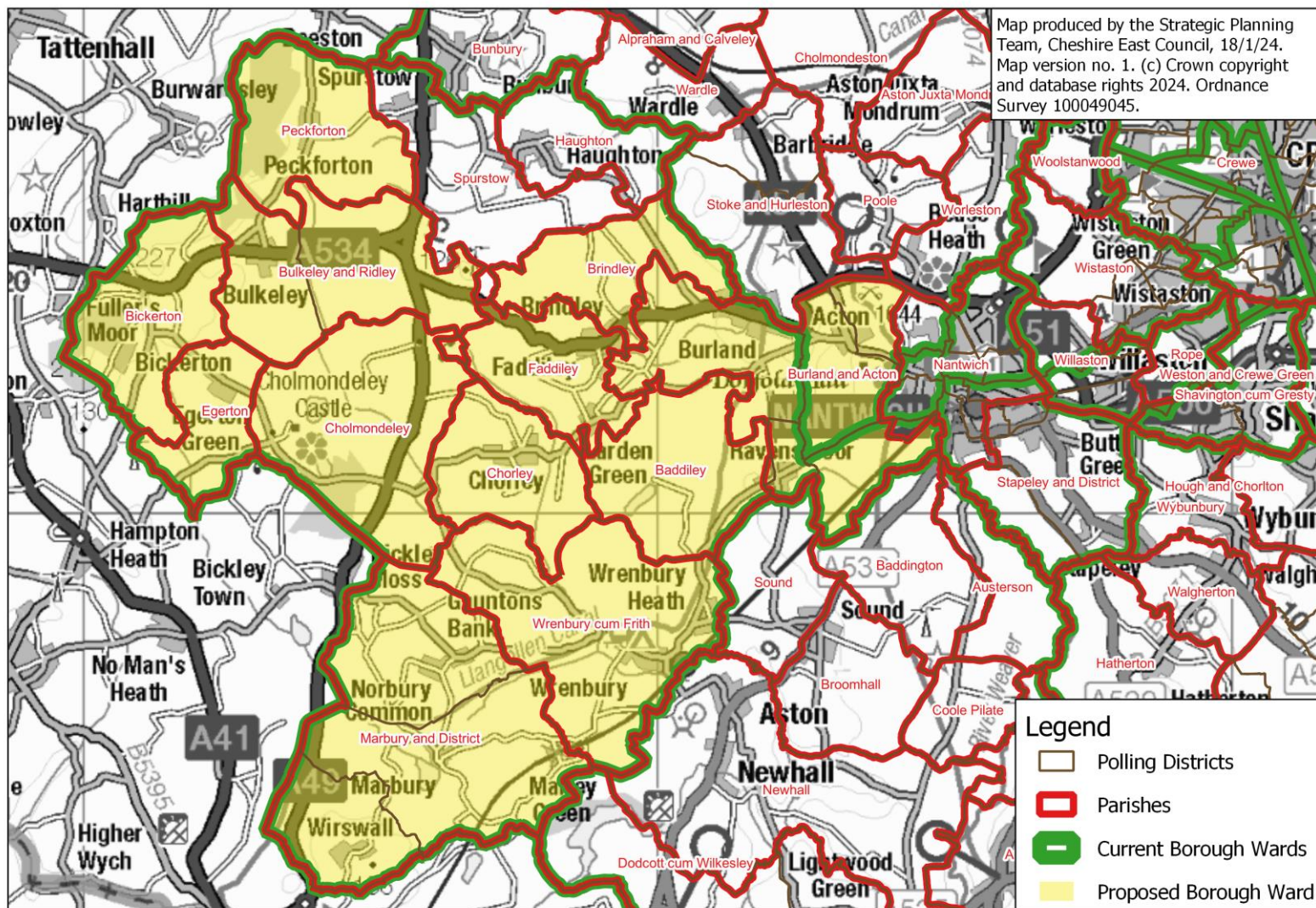
Wistaston: close-up of Wistaston Road area

Proposed Borough Ward: Wistaston - close-up of area of 1FE2 to be included



Wrenbury

Proposed Borough Ward: Wrenbury



Wybunbury

Proposed Borough Ward: Wybunbury

