

Appendix 4

Detailed proposals for each Ward – organised by Local Area Partnership (LAP)

Proposed Wards within the Knutsford Local Area Partnership

Knutsford Local Area Partnership (LAP) is situated towards the north-west of Cheshire East, and borders Wilmslow to the north-east, Macclesfield to the south-east and Congleton to the south. The M6 and M56 motorways pass through this LAP. Hourly train services link Knutsford, Plumley and Mobberley to Chester and Manchester, while in the east of this LAP hourly trains link Chelford with Crewe and Manchester.

The town of Knutsford was the model for Elizabeth Gaskell's novel *Cranford* and scenes from the George C. Scott film *Patton* were filmed in the centre of Knutsford, in front of the old Town Hall.

Barclays Bank employs thousands of people in IT and staff support functions at Radbroke Hall, just outside the town of Knutsford.

Knutsford is home to numerous sporting teams such as Knutsford Hockey Club, Knutsford Cricket Club, Knutsford Rugby Club and Knutsford Football Club. Attractions include Tatton Park, home of the RHS Flower show, the stately homes Arley Hall, Tabley House and Peover Hall, and the Cuckooland Museum of cuckoo clocks.

In detail, the proposals are:

Knutsford is a historic, self-contained urban community with established extents and comprises the former County Ward of Knutsford, containing 7 polling districts. The Parish of Knutsford also mirrors the boundary of this proposal. Knutsford Town is surrounded by Green Belt which covers 58% of this proposed division.

The proposed ward has excellent communications by road, motorway and rail and is bounded to the north by Tatton Park and to the east by Birkin Brook. Knutsford High School provides the focus for secondary education for the town and beyond.

It is proposed that Knutsford is represented by 3 members.

High Legh is a sparse rural area to the west of Knutsford Town with High Legh its largest settlement. It is comprised of Agden, Little Bollington, Millington, High Legh, Mere, Aston by Budworth, Tabley Superior, Pickmere and Tabley Inferior parishes. The proposal forms just over a third of what was Bucklow Ward and provides this rural north-west corner of Cheshire East Council with a clearer identity. The North Cheshire Green Belt covers over 99% of this proposed division.

The proposal uses the natural boundary of the A556 in the north with the M6 and Smoker Brook forming the southern boundary.

It is proposed that High Legh is represented by 1 member.

Chelford and Mobberley – covers 106sq km and borders Knutsford to the north, east and south and is a sparse, rural area with Chelford and Mobberley its largest settlements. It also contains Manchester Airport's 2nd runway and Tatton Park. The North Cheshire Green Belt covers over 99% of this proposed division.

It is composed from the following parishes:

Plumley	Marthall
Bexton	Snelson
Toft	Chelford
Peover Inferior	Nether Alderley
Peover Superior	Rostherne
Ollerton	Ashley
Tatton	Little Warford
Great Warford	Mobberley

It is proposed that Chelford and Mobberley is represented by 2 members.

Proposed Wards within the Wilmslow Local Area Partnership

Wilmslow Local Area Partnership (LAP) is situated in the North of Cheshire East, between Poynton to the East and Knutsford to the West. The area contains good road links to the M6, M56 and M60 motorways, and regular trains connect Wilmslow to Manchester in the north and Crewe to the south. Manchester International Airport is also within easy reach by car or train.

Lindow Man, believed to be from the Iron Age, was found in a peat bog at the northern border of Wilmslow, although he is now housed in the British Museum. Alan Turing, the father of modern computer science, lived in Wilmslow when he was working at the University of Manchester.

Attractions in Wilmslow LAP include Quarry Bank Mill, one of the best preserved cotton mills from the Industrial Revolution, which is now a museum of the cotton industry, owned by the National Trust. The Alderley Edge red sandstone escarpment is also National Trust owned, and is a popular destination for day trippers; it is a site of geological importance, with a history of copper mining dating back to the Bronze Age.

In detail, the proposals are:

Wilmslow North – is predominantly urban in nature comprising of Handforth, the north east outskirts of Wilmslow and Dean Row. The boundary is coterminous with the existing Wilmslow North ward boundary. Land beyond the urban fringe is covered by the North Cheshire Green Belt and accounts for 52% of the area of the proposed division.

It is proposed that Wilmslow North be represented by 3 members.

Wilmslow South – covers the centre and surrounding urban areas of Wilmslow and includes Styal Country Park along with other local villages which have community ties with Wilmslow. This ward is comprised of the existing Wilmslow South ward along with a proportion of Polling District ref. 8FA1. The North Cheshire Green Belt surrounds the urban area and covers nearly 75% of this proposed ward.

It is proposed that Wilmslow South be represented by 3 members.

Alderley Edge – is a self-contained settlement, surrounded by Green Belt (which accounts for 68% of the ward), to the south of Wilmslow. Traversed by major routes of communication but still a natural community this ward proposal follows the existing ward boundary but is enlarged to the north by the addition of part of the Polling District ref. 8FA1 and all of 8FB1 covering the Davenport Green area.

It is proposed that Alderley Edge is represented by 2 members.

Proposed Wards within the Poynton Local Area Partnership

Poynton Local Area Partnership (LAP) is situated in the north-east of Cheshire East, between Macclesfield to the south and Wilmslow to the west, bordering with Greater Manchester to the north. The area is within easy distance of both the M6 and M60 motorways. Hourly trains connect Poynton, Adlington and Prestbury with Stockport and Manchester to the north and Macclesfield to the south.

Attractions include Lyme Park, a mansion house with gardens, moorland and an ancient deer park, that was featured in *Pride and Prejudice*, and Adlington Hall, a manor house dating back to Saxon times.

In detail the proposals are:

Poynton West – is a compact, urban centre buffered from nearby Bramhall and Hazel Grove by the North Cheshire Green Belt (covering 58% of the proposed division) and the severe constraints on development which this provides. It is composed from three Polling Districts (4JC2, 4JG1, 4JH1) and benefits from a well developed road and rail communications network with Poynton High School providing secondary education for this area and beyond.

Exceptionally this ward is slightly outside the electoral ratio tolerance, however with public sector development which does not yet have planning permission the proposal will fall within the normal tolerance.

It is proposed that Poynton West be represented by 2 members.

Poynton East and Rural – is a sparse rural division with several small settlements and much open countryside. It is created from the following polling districts: 4JC1, 4JD1, 4JE1, 4JF1, 4JA1, 4JB1. The many small settlements are connected by a comprehensive network of roads and the area is traversed by Macclesfield Canal running north-south. To the west of the area and south of the town of Poynton in Adlington Parish are two business parks which sit on the A523 trunk road.

All but 1% of this proposal is covered by Green Belt land or the Peak District National Park (54% of the proposal being Green Belt and 45% being within the Peak District National Park).

It is proposed that Poynton East and Rural be represented by 2 members.

Poynton Town Council supports these proposals.

Prestbury – is comprised of Mottram St Andrew and Prestbury parishes. Its major settlement is the village of Prestbury with sparse settlements beyond connected by a network of rural roads. The ward has the River Bollin passing through it which has shaped the landscape giving the area its strong visual and geographic identity. 91% of this proposed ward falls within the North Cheshire Green Belt.

It is proposed that Prestbury be represented by 1 member.

Disley – is a self-contained settlement in the north east corner of Cheshire East. It has strong east-west communications of both road and rail with the Peak Forest Canal sharing the same route.

87% of this proposed ward is covered by Green Belt and the Peak National Park. It borders sparsely populated, open countryside, with Lyme Park in the south west and the hills of Derbyshire completing the eastern border. The proposed ward mirrors the boundary of Disley and Lyme Handley parishes and contains 4 polling districts.

It is proposed that Disley be represented by 1 member.

Proposed Wards within the Macclesfield Local Area Partnership

Macclesfield Local Area Partnership (LAP) is situated towards the north-east of Cheshire East, between Congleton to the south and Knutsford, Wilmslow and Poynton to the north. The area is within easy reach of the M6, M56 and M60 motorways.

Macclesfield has good railway links, due to its situation on the West Coast Main Line. Hourly services depart to London Euston, with an average journey time of just under two hours, with thrice-hourly services departing to Manchester at peak times.

The town of Macclesfield is home to the football team Macclesfield Town FC (founded in 1874), and the rugby team Macclesfield RUFC. Attractions in the LAP area include the Silk Museum, West Park Museum and Paradise Mill.

The LAP includes extensive rural areas.

Bollington – consists of the parishes of Bollington, Pott Shrigley and, to the south, Higher Hurdsfield. A polling district (4FE1) has been added to include the eastern fringes of Bollington which also contains the local landmark of White Nancy.

This configuration retains the geographic separation of Bollington from the northern extents of Macclesfield's Tytherington and Hurdsfield districts. Macclesfield Canal is a natural boundary to the south east part of the ward where open countryside meets industrial and urban development. To the east, Kerridge Ridge is a clear boundary with open countryside beyond. 90% of this proposed ward lies within the North Cheshire Green Belt.

It is proposed that Bollington be represented by 2 members.

It is understood that Pott Shrigley Parish Council supports this proposal.

Macclesfield North – would consist of 4 existing polling districts with a proportion of a 5th (4AE1) covering north Macclesfield from its boundary with the village of Henbury in the west to the obvious boundary of the Silk Road in the east. The proposal brings together Tytherington and northern areas of Macclesfield. Previously Tytherington formed the southern part of the much larger Prestbury and Tytherington ward. Tytherington, with its buffer of green space between it and Prestbury, has natural functional identity with Macclesfield. The proposed area is essentially residential and contains all levels of schools and other community facilities including a leisure centre and a golf course. The North Cheshire Green Belt accounts for 47% of this proposed ward.

It is proposed that Macclesfield North be represented by 3 members.

Macclesfield West – would consist of 8 existing polling districts and part of one other. The proposed ward has a strong communication network with the main east-west A537 traversing the area and the Silk Road forming the eastern boundary. This nature of the area is strongly residential and contains the District General Hospital. Only 7% of this proposed division is Green Belt.

It is proposed that Macclesfield West be represented by 3 members.

Macclesfield South – would consist of 4 complete polling districts and elements of 2 others. Polling District 4BB1 would be shared with Macclesfield East to balance the electorate, while a small portion of Polling District 4GD1 would also be added.

This proposed ward is currently part of the much larger Macclesfield Forest ward and the creation of Macclesfield South would restore its identity as the natural southern community within the town. The proposal has strong north-south road access and contains the recently completed Macclesfield Learning Zone, local football club stadium as well as having a strong local identity. Macclesfield canal forms a clear boundary to the east and open countryside beyond. 15% of this proposal lies within the North Cheshire Green Belt.

It is proposed that Macclesfield South be represented by 3 members.

Macclesfield East – would follow closely the boundary of the existing Macclesfield Town ward with the reduction of one polling district on the west side (4BA1) but with the inclusion of a section of a neighbouring polling district (4BB1). The Hurdsfield area is contained by the Silk Road to the west and the Macclesfield Canal to the east. The northern-most part of the area houses several major employers. The main east-west route into the town, A523, traverses the eastern part of the proposal which is contained by the natural topography of the area. The North Cheshire Green Belt accounts for 39% of this proposed ward.

It is proposed that Macclesfield East be represented by 3 members.

Gawsworth – is a sparsely populated rural extent of some 86 sq km, 48 of which are Green Belt land (55% of the proposed ward). It is comprised of Over Alderley, Henbury, Siddington, Lower Withington, Marton, Gawsworth, Eaton and North Rode Parishes. Although geographically large this predominantly farmed landscape is dotted with many settlements of a similar size and a well developed network of roads ensures that no area within this proposal is isolated. As well as the minor road network the area is served by several major routes. The well established parish extents of this provide a clear geographic boundary for the proposed ward.

It is proposed that Gawsworth be represented by 1 member.

Sutton – is comprised of six parishes, namely Rainow, Kettleshulme, Macclesfield Forest & Wildboarclough, Sutton, Bosley and Wincle, Sutton being the largest. At just over 100 sq km this proposed ward reflects that of its neighbouring proposal – Macclesfield Rural West with the wards of Macclesfield cushioned between the two.

However the landscape of the proposal takes on the more undulating nature of the Peak fringe from Kettleshulme in the north to Wincle in the south. The proposed division is crossed by several key roads, which in turn provide the backbone for a network of smaller roads which link up the disparate communities. More than 80% of this proposed division is within the Peak District National Park or the North Cheshire Green Belt (18% of the proposed division is Green Belt and 65% is within the Peak District National Park).

It is proposed that Sutton be represented by 1 member.

Sutton Parish Council supports this proposal.

Proposed Wards within the Congleton Local Area Partnership

Congleton Local Area Partnership (LAP) lies between Crewe and Nantwich to the south-west, Macclesfield to the east and Knutsford to the north west. The M6 passes through the area. Hourly trains link Congleton with Manchester to the north and Stoke-on-Trent and Birmingham to the south. Airbags International is a major employer in the area.

Attractions include *The Cloud*, a hill 1,125 feet high, and the National Trust owned Little Moreton Hall, a half-timbered house dating back to the 15th century. Alsager hosts the UK's biggest 5 Mile Road Race each year in February and is home to Manchester Metropolitan University's Contemporary Arts and Sports Science Departments. Sandbach has an annual transport festival which usually takes place during April. It originally started in 1992 as 'Transport through the Ages parade', and was such a success that it became an annual event; since its inception it has been run alongside the National Town Criers' competition.

Holmes Chapel – consists of four parishes – Goostrey, Cranage, Holmes Chapel and Twemlow which are linked by a network of local roads as well as benefiting from nearby regional rail, road and motorway access. Holmes Chapel itself is a sizeable settlement with over 4603 electors warranting more than one councillor but suggesting the addition of the adjoining parishes which have community links with Holmes Chapel.

It is proposed that Holmes Chapel be represented by 2 members.

Congleton Rural – is a large (88sq km) proposal consisting of eleven parishes:

Warmingham	Swettenham
Moston	Arclid
Brereton	Bechton
Smallwood	Somerford Booths
Bradwall	Hulme Walfield
Somerford	

It is bordered to the north by Middlewich and Holmes Chapel, to the south by Elworth and Sandbach and to the east by Congleton. Its many small settlements are linked with a comprehensive, minor road network and wider access to these towns and beyond is provided by major road, motorway and rail links.

It is proposed that Congleton Rural be represented by 2 members.

Congleton West – involves retaining the existing ward which reflects community identity well, however a small portion (450 electors) of the COC1 polling district would be transferred to Congleton Town East to aid continuity between neighbourhoods. This also helps balance the electorate figures between the two wards.

It is proposed that Congleton West be represented by 3 members.

Congleton East – is comprised of the former Congleton Town East ward (which in the most part reflects community identity well) minus Newbold Astbury and Moreton cum Alcumlow Parishes which would relate better to rural neighbours. A small portion of the COC1 polling district would be added to this ward.

It is proposed that Congleton East be represented by 3 members.

Odd Rode – is a largely rural extent comprised of the parishes of Newbold Astbury, Moreton cum Alcumlow, Odd Rode and Church Lawton with Odd Rode being the largest of these with some 4475 electors. The larger settlements are found in the south of the area. The main routes of communication follow the same orientation and topography of the proposed ward with the Macclesfield Canal a central feature along with several long distance footpaths (Gritstone Trail, South Cheshire Way and the Staffordshire Way).

It is proposed that Odd Rode be represented by 2 members.

Newbold Astbury and Moreton cum Alcumlow Parish Council supports this proposal.

Middlewich – is a self-contained town with a long community tradition and it is proposed to retain the current ward boundary which also serves as its parish boundary. The River Wheelock forms the west boundary and the River Dane its north boundary which act as a clear border between Cheshire East Council and Cheshire West and Chester Council. The ward is comprised of 6 polling districts and the town has excellent motorway, road and rail links with its neighbours.

It is proposed that Middlewich be represented by 3 members.

This proposal is supported by the Middlewich Independent Councillors

Sandbach is a well established historic settlement with 14613 electors and is too large for a three member ward therefore two 2 member wards are

proposed with some minor adjustments. The town contains all levels of schooling and is the home of Cheshire East Council's Headquarters.

Proposals in more detail:

Sandbach West – is a thriving town composed from 5 polling districts and a small proportion of a 6th which is shared with the proposal for Sandbach East. The proposed ward has a full range of services including schools and a leisure centre as well as comprehensive road and rail links.

It is proposed that Sandbach West be represented by 2 members.

Sandbach East – is similar to its neighbour, both in size, configuration and services. It is composed of five polling districts and shares a proportion of a sixth. The M6 motorway passes through this proposed ward with junction 17 a major feature.

It is proposed that Sandbach East be represented by 2 members.

Alsager – follows the boundary of the parishes of Alsager, based on a long established community, along with Hassell. The proposed ward includes land to the east of the M6 which is more naturally associated with Alsager. The proposed ward has excellent communications and could be classed as a traditional market town.

It is proposed that Alsager be represented by 3 members.

Proposed Wards within the Nantwich Local Area Partnership

Nantwich Local Area Partnership (LAP) is situated towards the south-west of Cheshire East, bordering both Crewe, to the east, and Congleton, to the north-east. The area is within easy reach of the M6 motorway and the A500. The A51, A49 and A534 roads run through the area.

Trains link Nantwich and Wrenbury to Shrewsbury and South Wales to the south, and Crewe and (in the morning) Manchester.

The town of Nantwich is well-known for its architecture and has over one hundred listed buildings. The Battle of Nantwich has been re-enacted as *Holly Holy Day* on its anniversary every year since 1973 by the Sealed Knot, a registered charity devoted to re-enacting English civil war battles for educational purposes. In recent years Audlem has been voted 'Village of the Year' in both Cheshire and the North of England. Every year sees 3 major events in Audlem: an outdoor midsummer music concert, transport festival and a Guy Fawkes bonfire and fireworks display. Wrenbury is known for its annual scarecrow trail, which is held on the first weekend in July as part of a Summer Fayre.

The Shropshire Union Canal, one of Thomas Telford's achievements, passes through the area and attracts visitors each year.

At the earlier consultation phase of the review several of the rural parish councils in this area expressed broad support for the creation of single member rural wards.

Bunbury – at 86sq km is a large, sparsely populated rural division consisting of 16 parishes. Although the settlement pattern is disparate the local road infrastructure forms an inclusive network, along with major routes which cross the area. This proposed division sits adjacent to the Shropshire border leaving few alternative warding options.

It is proposed that Bunbury be represented by 1 member.

Wrenbury – is the largest (at 111sq km) of the four rural proposals in the Nantwich area and comprises of 17 parishes. With the natural boundary of the Peckforton Hills in the west the proposed division, though sparsely populated, has a contiguous character, again with an inclusive road network. Many features characterise this area including Cholmondeley Castle, the Llangollen Canal and the South Cheshire Way.

It is proposed that Wrenbury be represented by 1 member.

Audlem – is the southern-most proposed ward in the Cheshire East area and is 74sq km rural in nature with the village of Audlem the largest settlement. The proposed division contains 8 parishes and a number of features including Combermere Park and a section of the Shropshire Grand Union Canal.

It is proposed that Audlem be represented by 1 member.

Wybunbury – is the smallest of the four rural ward proposals in the Nantwich area at 67 sq km but contains a greater proportion of more sizeable settlements with Wybunbury the largest. It is made up of 16 parishes and has good communications along with several features including portions of the Shropshire Grand Union Canal and the South Cheshire Way as well as Doddington Park.

It is proposed that Wybunbury be represented by 1 member.

Nantwich North – is comprised of three polling districts (NA0, NA3 and NA4). However, part of NA1 (south of Welsh Row) is proposed to be amalgamated with Nantwich South. While part of NA5 (centred on the Pillory Street area) would move northwards, providing a more balanced boundary and preserving a clearer community identity. The proposed ward contains a historic centre along with a full range of housing, community and recreational facilities including Barony Park

It is proposed that Nantwich North be represented by 2 members.

Nantwich South - is comprised of four polling districts (NA2, NA5, FC1 and FC2) and part of one other: a proportion of NA1 which covers the area south of Welsh Row. The area has a full range of housing types along with schools and recreational facilities. Other features include Stapeley Water Gardens and Nantwich swimming pool.

It is proposed that Nantwich South be represented by 2 members.

The proposals of Nantwich Town Council are awaited.

Proposed Wards within the Crewe Local Area Partnership

Crewe Local Area Partnership (LAP) is situated towards the south of Cheshire East, between Nantwich to the west and Congleton to the north east. The area is bordered on the east by the M6 motorway and in the south by the A500 trunk road.

Crewe LAP is probably best known for its railway station, which is a major intersection station on the West Coast Main Line. It opened in 1837 and led to growth in the population of the area – Crewe was made a Municipal Borough in 1877. Crewe has had a strong history of train manufacturing, through the Crewe Railway Works, but now provides a range of engineering services. Employment is heavily dependent on the service industry, and manufacturing continues through such employers as Bentley Motors.

The town is home to Leighton Hospital and the football teams Crewe Alexandra FC (founded in 1877 and named after Princess Alexandra) and Crewe FC (founded in 1998), and the rugby teams Crewe Wolves RLFC and Crewe & Nantwich RUFC. Attractions include the Crewe Heritage Centre, which houses railway memorabilia; Englesea Brook Museum of Primitive Methodism; Lakemore Country Park and Rare Breeds Centre; and the Lyceum theatre, which holds art exhibitions as well as plays and concerts.

Haslington – consists of five parishes with Haslington being the largest and containing the greatest population. The other parishes are Crewe Green, Barthomley, Weston, Oakhanger and Basford. The proposed ward is crossed by several major routes with all the small communities being linked by a network of minor roads. This rural grouping of parishes forms a buffer between Crewe and Sandbach and is crossed by the South Cheshire Way.

It is proposed that Haslington be represented by 2 members.

Crewe North – is comprised from 13 polling districts. It is proposed that Crewe North be represented by 3 members. The proposed ward contains a full range of housing from traditional 19th century terraces and social housing to more recent developments over the last 30 years. To the south are the railway works while the north of the area becomes a more traditional farming landscape.

Crewe South – is comprised from 11 polling districts and contains the major features of Crewe Railway station, Crewe Alexander Football Club and the South Cheshire College. The proposed ward has a full range of residential developments and has a good range of community facilities and schools.

It is proposed that Crewe South be represented by 3 members.

Crewe East – is comprised from 8 polling districts and part of one other. The main town centre facilities are found here including the Civic Centre and Council Offices, the theatre and law courts. The proposed ward has a thriving indoor and outdoor market and benefits from a pedestrianised shopping area as well as purpose-built retail parks. There is a full range of schools and recreational facilities.

It is proposed that Crewe East be represented by 3 members.

Crewe West – is comprised from 7 polling districts. The area has a mix of uses and is largely residential in nature with open countryside to the west of the proposed ward where it borders the River Weaver. However, motor manufacturing is also a feature here along with municipal recreation facilities and farming.

It is proposed that Crewe West be represented by 3 members.

Rope – is comprised of 7 polling districts and is bisected by A500 and other main road and rail routes. The villages of Shavington, Willaston and Wistaston are a feature of this area and contain a range of housing types along with a range of community facilities. These villages are surrounded in the main by farming land.

It is proposed that Rope be represented by 3 members.

