

Community Governance Reviews (CGR) Information Pack

Updated September 2025

Revised 29 September 2025

Community Governance Reviews

What is included in this pack?

- 1. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)
- 2. Outline Process
- 3. Outline Timetable

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Electorate Projections

Appendix 2: Current Town & Parish Maps for areas for consultation

Appendix 3: Proposed Town & Parish Council Maps for areas for

consultation.

Additional Information?

Further information can be accessed electronically here:

- Department for Communities and Local Government and the Local Government Boundary Commission Guidance for Community Governance Reviews
- Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007
- National Association of Local Councils

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Community Governance Review?

A Community Governance Review is a legal process where the council will consult with those living in the area, and other interested parties, on the most suitable ways of representing the people in the parishes identified in the review. This means making sure that those living in the area, and other interested groups, have a say in how their local communities are represented.

What the review can and can't change

The review can consider one or more of the following options:

- creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes
- the naming of parishes and the style of new parishes and the creation of town councils
- the electoral arrangements for parishes (for instance, the ordinary year of election; a council's geographical size; the number of councillors to be elected to the council, and parish warding)
- grouping parishes under a common parish council or de-grouping parishes
- other types of local arrangements, including parish meetings

The review cannot:

 change the amount of money that a parish council raises through your council tax (known as 'precept').

Who carries out the review?

Telford & Wrekin Council is legally responsible for carrying out this Community Governance Review ("the Review"). Formal decisions as to the Terms of Reference for the Review and the recommendations arising from the Review will be made by Telford & Wrekin Council's Boundary Review Committee.

Why we are having a review?

The Guidance on Community Governance Reviews issued by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government published in 2008 recommends that principal councils should undertake a Review of its area every 10-15 years. A Community Governance Review offers an opportunity to put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries, tied to firm ground features, and remove any parish boundaries anomalies that may exist. It can also consider the most appropriate community identity and effective electoral administration.

What the review will focus on

A Community Governance Review is required to take into account:

- the impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion; and
- the size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish

The council is required to ensure that community governance within the area under review will:

- be reflective of the identities and interests of the community in that area; and
- be effective and convenient.

Any other factors, such as council tax precept levels, cannot be considered.

How the review will be carried out and how you can make representations

Before making any recommendations or publishing final proposals, the council must consult local government electors for the area under review and any other person or body (including a local authority) which appears to the council to have an interest in the Review.

The council will therefore:

- publish a Notice and Terms of Reference;
- send a copy of the Notice and these Terms of Reference to all parish clerks and to Shropshire Association of Local Councils;
- send a copy of the Notice and these Terms of Reference to all local Members of Parliament;
- inform local groups and interested parties such as local businesses, local residents' associations, local public and voluntary organisations; and
- · canvass Borough Councillors.

The council recognises that the development of strong, sustainable communities depends on residents' active participation in decision making in respect of the governance arrangements of parish councils. The Council is therefore committed to engaging effectively with the diverse communities it serves and to enabling local people to participate meaningfully in the creation of effective community governance arrangements.

How to make a representation

You can complete an online survey on the Telford and Wrekin Council website here: Online survey

Email: your name, address, and submission to reviews@telford.gov.uk

Write: If you wish to submit a written representation regarding this review, please address it to:

Community Governance Review Electoral Services Darby House Telford & Wrekin Council Lawn Central Telford TF3 4JA

A paper version of the survey is available upon request and free of charge.

Additional Information:

What is a Town or Parish council?

A town or parish council is an elected body made up of local people representing the interests of their community. They are the most local branch of local government, closest to the electorate. They can provide views about planning applications which affect the Parish, alert the Borough Council to any problems which may arise or works which need to be undertaken and in some cases, provide a number of services, such as looking after cemeteries, providing benches, tending to parks, managing car parks and street lighting.

Is the creation of new parish/town councils the only option in areas which don't currently have one?

No. A review can also explore whether alternative forms of local governance would be more suitable for an area including:

- area committees
- neighbourhood management programmes
- tenant management organisations
- area or community forums
- residents and tenants associations
- community associations.

Is there a difference between a town and parish council?

No, they both have the same statutory powers and can provide the same services. The only differences are that a town council has decided that it should be known as a town council instead of a parish council, and a town council usually has a Mayor. Parish Councils have a Chairperson.

How are town and parish councils funded?

Town and parish councils are funded through a sum of money called a 'precept' – this is a separate charge which is added to, and collected along with, your existing Council Tax. The town or parish council will decide what it's budget need is for the coming year and that depends on what services and facilities are needed by the local community. Telford & Wrekin Council does not have any power to set the precept for Town and Parish Councils. Additionally, the Review does not allow Telford & Wrekin Council to consider the precept when making recommendations.

Town and parish councils can also apply for grants and loans. As the precept will depend on the size of the town or parish council, the services it provides and the number of properties across which it is spread, it is not possible to say how much a precept would be for an area which does not currently have a town or parish council.

Are town or parish councillors paid an allowance?

Town and Parish councillors can be paid an allowance for undertaking their duties, however that is a decision for each Town and Parish Council. Allowances are not something the Community Governance Review can take in to account.

Outline of Process:

The main steps that take place during a Community Governance Review are listed in the boxes below. Please note this is included for quick reference and is not formal guidance.

Trigger for a review	 A valid community petition; or A principal authority's own decision.
Decision to hold a review	 A principal authority takes a formal decision; Which can be to review all or a part of its area; Though it must have valid grounds for refusal if there has been a petition.
Terms of reference	 A principal authority must draw up and publish terms; Stating the matters and the geographic area to be covered; Notifying other local authorities which have an interest.
Undertaking a review	 A principal authority must consult electors in affected area(s); It should consult other bodies with an interest, including any affected local councils; It must then consider any representations received.
Making recommendations	 Bearing in mind representations, the criteria and other factors; Including alternative forms of governance in the area e.g. residents associations, neighbourhood forums; The principal authority formally recommends an outcome from the review; It must publish its recommendations and the reasons for them, informing those with an interest.
Implementing a review	 A principal authority makes a Reorganisation Order to put into effect any changes; Which must include a detailed map of the boundaries; It publishes the Order and map for public inspection; It must inform specified bodies e.g. Ordnance Survey; It should include in the Order any agreed incidental issues e.g. the transfer of assets.
Next steps	 An Order is often written to usually come into force the following April; Typically a new local council is then elected at the next ordinary election year. Until that time, any byelections are carried out under the old arrangements.

Outline Timetable:

BRC meets to agree Terms of Reference and Consultation	13 February 2025
Publication of Terms of Reference and Review Commences	17 February 2025
Initial Consultation – Invite initial submissions	17 February 2025 until 24 March 2025
BRC considers initial submissions and drafts recommendations	12 May 2025
Draft recommendations published	19 May 2025
Phase Two Consultation	19 May 2025 until 14 July 2025
BRC meets to consider submission and revised recommendations	4 September 2025
Third Phase Consultation	29 September until 19 October 2025
Final recommendations by BRC	4 November 2025
Publish final recommendations	November 2025
Consequential Order made	Winter 2025
Elections to Town and Parish Councils	May 2027

^{*} Timescales are approximate and for guidance only. Individual reviews may vary. A Community Governance Review must be concluded within 12 months from when it begins.

Proposed Town & Parish Council Boundaries

At its meeting 4 September 2025, the Boundary Review Committee agreed a series of draft proposals for future arrangements of specific areas that were to be the subject of a third phase of consultation of the Community Governance Review process. These areas were:

- Horsehay, Lightmoor, Little Dawley & Aqueduct
- Lawley & Overdale
- The Gorge
- Madeley
- Brookside and Hollinswood, Randlay & Stirchley
- Wrockwardine and Rodington
- St Georges & Donnington

Maps setting out the proposals are set out in Appendix C which should be referred to when considering these proposals.

The Committee's current intention is to accept the proposed position on the other areas of the borough. Details of these can found here:

https://democracy.telford.gov.uk/documents/s27834/Report%20September%204.pdf

The proposed arrangements for the third consultation, including the rationale for the draft proposed town and parish councils are:

HORSEHAY, LIGHTMOOR, LITTLE DAWLEY, AQUEDUCT, LAWLEY & OVERDALE, THE GORGE AND MADELEY

Further to the phase two Community Governance Review consultation and the strength of feeling regarding community identity in Horsehay, Lightmoor, Little Dawley & Aqueduct, the Committee requested at its last meeting for consideration to be given to any alternative proposals regarding this area.

Having looked at the criteria for community governance reviews, revised proposals have been developed which the Committee has agreed to seek further views through additional consultation. These revised proposals have consequential impacts on the proposed parish arrangements for Lawley & Overdale, The Gorge and Madeley.

Horsehay, Lightmoor, Little Dawley & Aqueduct

This proposed parish would broadly include Horsehay, Lightmoor, Little Dawley & Aqueduct and would include the Lightmoor parish ward that is currently in The Gorge Parish. It would exclude the Small Hill Parish Ward which it is proposed would be within the proposed revised Lawley & Overdale Parish.

If the Committee were to seek further consultation on this proposed parish, it is suggested that views are also sought specifically on the name of this parish if it were to be adopted.

Given the significant variance between electorate in each polling district, it is difficult to reach a councillor number which provides good equality of representation and it is considered that, having looked at the available guidance, the 'least worst' option in respect of representation is the best outcome.

The proposed Horsehay, Lightmoor and Aqueduct Parish Council would have an electorate of, 6,789 represented by 9 parish councillors across 4 wards.

Parish ward name	Polling districts	Seats	Electors August 2025	Electors per seat	Variance
Aqueduct	TDY	3	2168	723	-4%
Little Dawley	THA	1	794	794	5%
Lightmoor	THC	2	1003	502	-34%

Lawley & Overdale

The revised proposed Lawley & Overdale Parish Council would be primarily formed from the existing parish arrangements with the following proposed changes:

- The inclusion of Small Gate area and Lawley Gate (TLS polling district).
- That the following, part or all of, are moved to Great Dawley Town Council (this is not an exhaustive list):
- Cambridge Close
- Dawley Bank
- Grange Farm Rise
- Hill Fold
- Concorde

- Croft Fold
- Milners Court
- Wakeley Drive
- Cemetery Road
- Milners Lane

The revised proposed Lawley & Overdale Parish council would have an electorate of 9539 presented by 18 councillors across 5 parish wards. The Boundary Review Committee was keen to explore whether a different number of councillors would be more effective and would welcome views on this specific matter.

Parish ward name	Polling districts	Seats	Electors August 2025	Electors per seat	Variance
Lawley Common	TLB, TLS	5	3086	617	16%
Lawley East	TLL	5	2513	503	-5%
Lawley West	WLL	1	542	542	2%
Overdale & The Rock	TOY, TOX	5	2743	549	4%
Town Centre	TMH (part 66%)	2	655	328	-38%
Total		18	9539	530	

Madeley

The revised proposed Madeley Town Council would primarily be based on the existing arrangements with the addition of the Nightingale Walk parish ward from the current Dawley Hamlets Parish Council. This proposal for Nightingale Walk is predicated on community identity with the A4169 Queens Way acting as a hard boundary. This proposal would enhance coterminosity between borough ward boundary and parish boundary.

The revised proposed Madeley Town Council would have an electorate of 12,938 with 17 councillors across 4 parishes. It is clear, from the table below that the Academy Ward (Polling District TIH) results in a very unbalanced electoral ratio. Having looked at all options, without increasing councillor numbers significantly to the extent that they would be far outside the range contained in guidance, it is difficult to remedy this situation (see next page).

Parish ward name	Polling districts	Seats	Electors August 2025	Electors per seat	Variance
Academy	TIH	1	219	219	-71%
Cuckoo Oak	TMB, TMC	5	3977	795	5%
Madeley Village	TMA, TMD	5	3723	745	-2%
Woodside & Nightingale	TWP, TWO, TWL	6	5019	837	10%
Total		17	12,938	761	

The Gorge

The revised proposed Gorge Parish Council would be primarily formed from the existing parish arrangements with the key change being that the Lightmoor parish ward would become part of the proposed Horsehay & Lightmoor Parish Council. This proposed change is predicated on community identity as it is considered that there is

not a shared common identity between The Gorge and Lightmoor. This proposal would enhance coterminosity between borough and parish boundaries.

The revised proposed The Gorge Parish Council would have an electorate of 2,199 with 8 councillors across 2 parish wards. This is in line with guidance on councillor numbers and provides for reasonable electoral equality.

Parish ward name	Polling districts	Seats	Electors August 2025	Electors per seat	Variance
Coalport & Jackfield	TIR, TIO	2	512	256	-7%
Ironbridge Gorge	TIB, TIG	6	1687	281	2%
Total		8	2199	275	

BROOKSIDE, STIRCHLEY AND HOLLINSWOOD & RANDLAY

The Community Governance Review phase two community consultation found considerable opposition to the creation of a proposed The Nedge Parish Council which would have been created from the merger of the existing Stirchley & Brookside Parish Council and the existing Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council. In response to this phase two consultation finding, the Committee asked for further proposals in relation to this area. This was with a view to the need for parish and town council arrangements to deliver effective and efficient governance. The recent spate of councillor resignations from Stirchley & Brookside Parish Council may be considered to indicate that the arrangements need to be reviewed.

Furthermore, in past Borough reviews, there has been a variety of views around the best arrangements to adopt in relation to this area and lower electoral registration makes it difficult to identify the optimum arrangements.

Nonetheless, the Committee has agreed to consult on proposal two: create two new parish councils; one for Brookside and the second for Stirchley and Hollinswood & Randlay.

<u>Proposal two: create two new parish councils; one for Brookside and the second for Stirchley and Hollinswood & Randlay;</u>

The proposals set out below would deliver good electoral equality and would also aim to reflect shared character of the respective areas with the South Telford estate area of Brookside being given its own Parish Council to reflect that area.

Brookside

This proposal is based on the creation of a parish council that is formed from the Brookside community as defined by Brookside Avenue and then extends northwards

including properties to the south of Stirchley Road such that it is bounded by the Town Park.

Parish ward name	Polling district	Seats	Electors August 2025	Electors per seat	Variance
Brookside	TBR	5	3043	609	-1%
Stirchley Road	TTT (part 75%)	2	1273	636	3%
Total		7	4316	617	

Stirchley and Hollinswood & Randlay

This proposed parish council would see an area of Stirchley combine with the existing Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council. This area would, in general, be bounded by Stirchley Road (although it would include a small number of properties to the south of Stirchley Road at the north end of the recreation area) and include Tadorma Drive, Holmer Lane, Wroxeter Way and Boscobel Close in the Holmer Lake area.

Parish ward name	Polling district	Seats	Electors August 2025	Electors per seat	Variance
Hollinswood & Randlay	TTR, TTO	7	4361	623	4%
Stirchley & Holmer Lake	TTT (part 25%), TTS, TTH	5	2820	564	-6%
Total		12	7181	598	

WROCKWARDINE AND RODINGTON

The proposed parish arrangements which formed part of the phase two consultation for the Community Governance Review included a proposal to create a Little Wenlock, Wrockwardine and Rodington Parish Council. This proposal brought the pre-existing Little Wenlock and Rodington Parish Councils together with the Wrockwardine Parish Council excluding Bratton and Admaston as it is proposed these will become part of the revised Wellington Town Council.

The phase two Community Governance Review consultation found significant opposition to the proposal to create a parish council that included Little Wenlock, Wrockwardine and Rodington. A core objection was the size of the proposed parish and a lack of a cohesive identity. It is acknowledged that The Wrekin creates a significant natural barrier between Little Wenlock and Wrockwardine. In response and reflecting the changes that would be brought about as a result of the proposed changes to Wellington Town Council, the Committee wanted to consider an alternative proposal which would see the existing arrangements for Little Wenlock retained and a new proposed Wrockwardine and Rodington Parish.

Wrockwardine & Rodington

The proposed Wrockwardine & Rodington Parish Council would have an electorate of 1918 with 8 councillors across two parish wards which would deliver good electoral equality and reflect the rural village identity of this area.

Ward Name	Polling districts	Seats	Electors August 2025	Electors per seat	Variance
Wrockwardine	WWC	5	1163	233	-3%
Rodington	WWR, WWN	3	755	252	5%
Total		8	1918	240	

ST GEORGES AND DONNINGTON

The communities of St Georges and Donnington share a common identity of being older established communities in the borough with similar needs, demographics and identity. As such it is proposed that a parish council is established to serve these two communities which will be reflective of the identity and interests of the community.

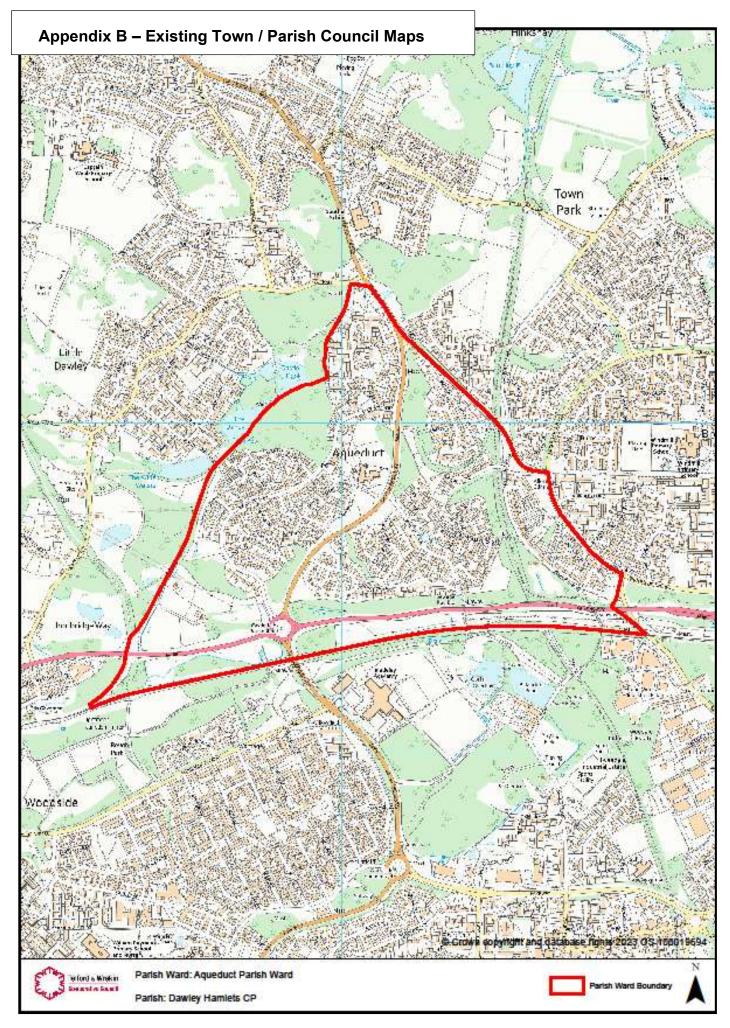
The arrangements for the proposed St Georges and Donnington Parish Council, are a current electorate of 12,759 served by 17 councillors across 3 parish wards. The three parish wards will be Donnington, St Georges and Red Hill. Red Hill has a distinct identity to the other two areas both by geography and by way of it being a community in development. The variance in the electorate per councillor ratio in Red Hill is forecast to rapidly alter as the planned development in built out. Whilst there were mixed views on the merits of merging these two communities, on the whole, there was support for the proposal.

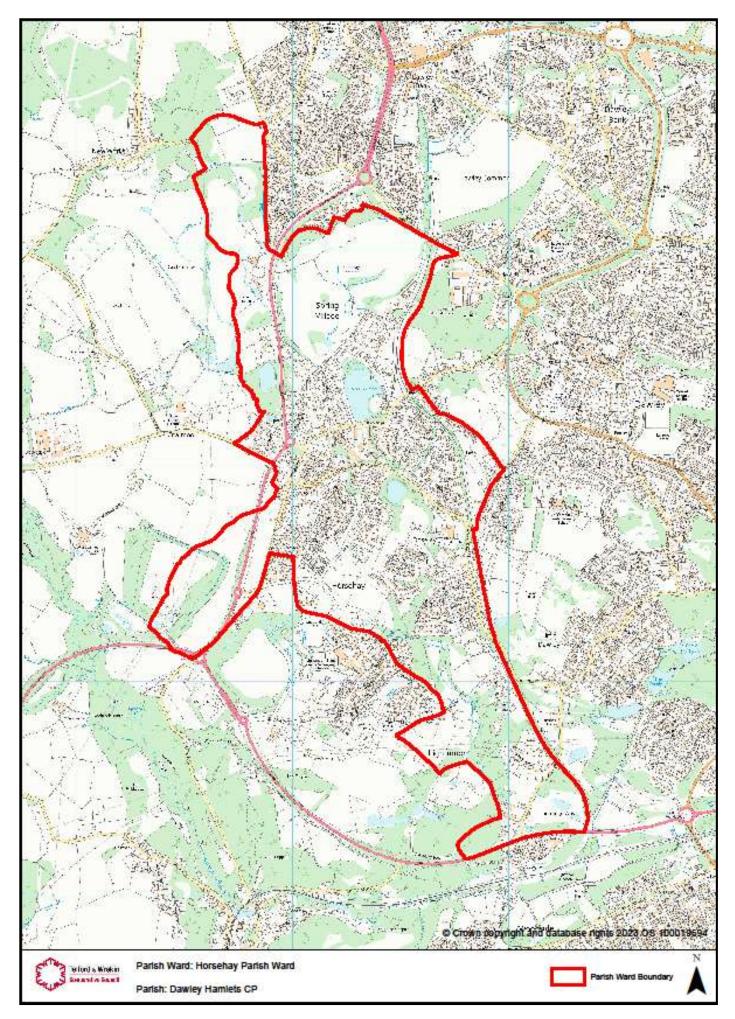
In considering these proposals, they asked that further work was completed to develop the parish ward arrangements and associated number of councillors and that these should form part of the third phase consultation. These revised proposed warding arrangements are:

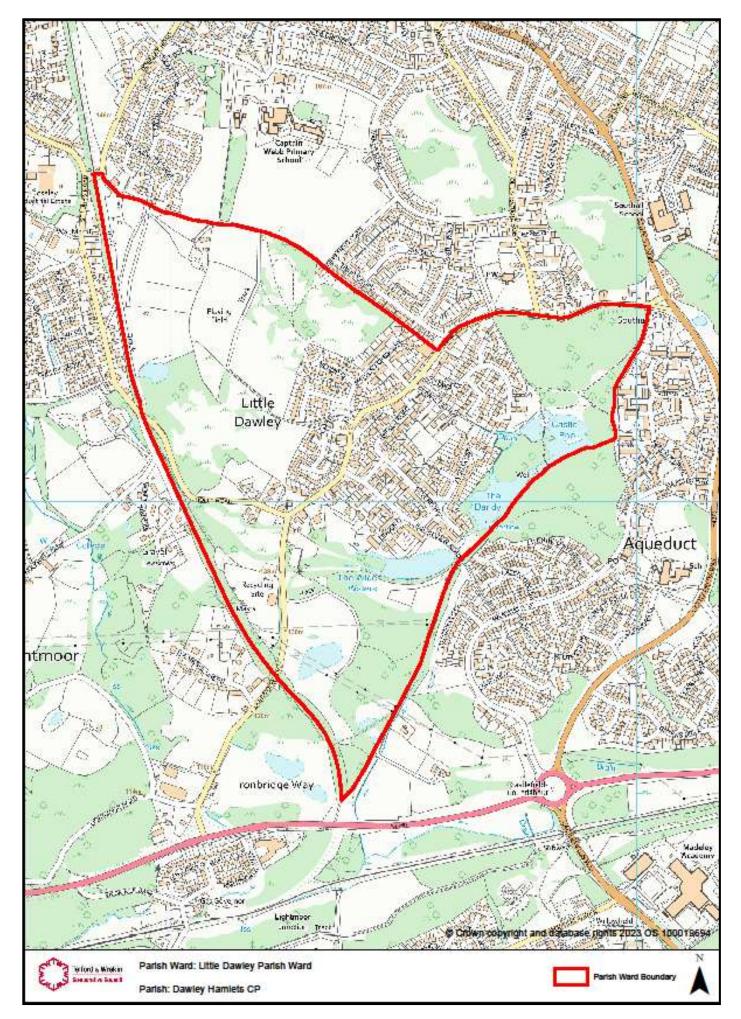
Ward name	Polling districts	Seats	Electors August 2025	Electors per seat	Variance
St Georges West	TSP, TGK	4	2414	603.5	-20%
St George's East	TSG, TSE	3	2834	945	26%
Sendshill	TPS	1	398	398	-47%
Redhill	WMM	1	590	590	-21%
Hunbers	WMH	1	692	692	-8%
Donnington wood	WDE	2	1244	622	-17%
Donnington	WDG, WDO	4	4139	1035	38%
The Lamb	TSW	1	448	448	-40%
Total		17	12759	751	

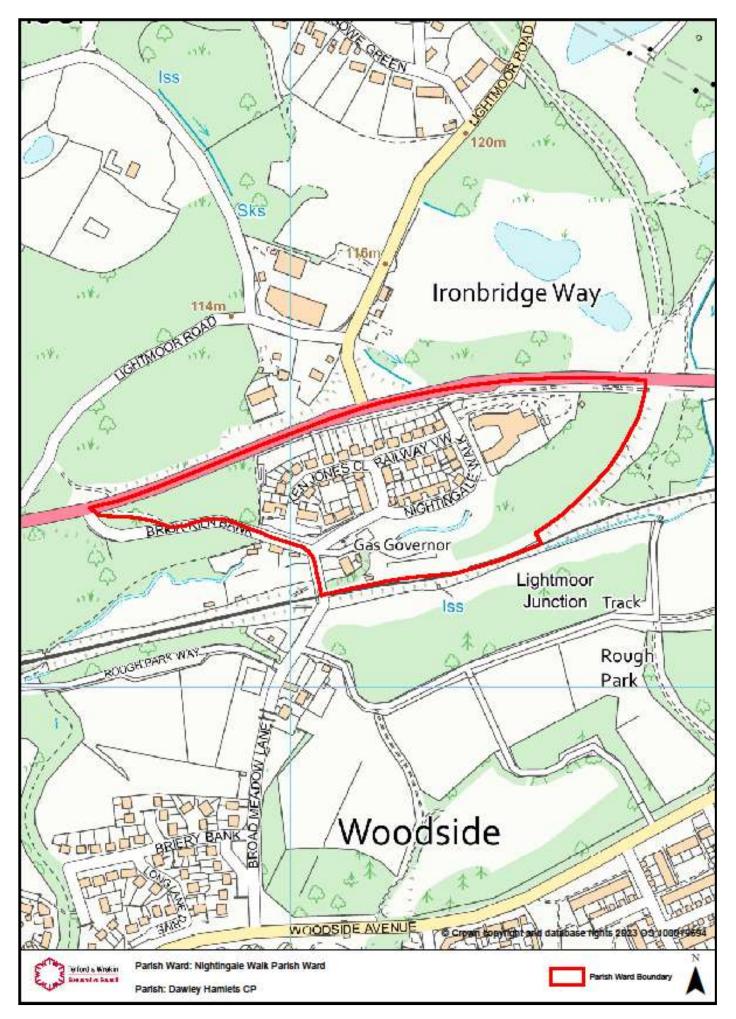
Appendix A – Existing Town / Parish Electorate Data

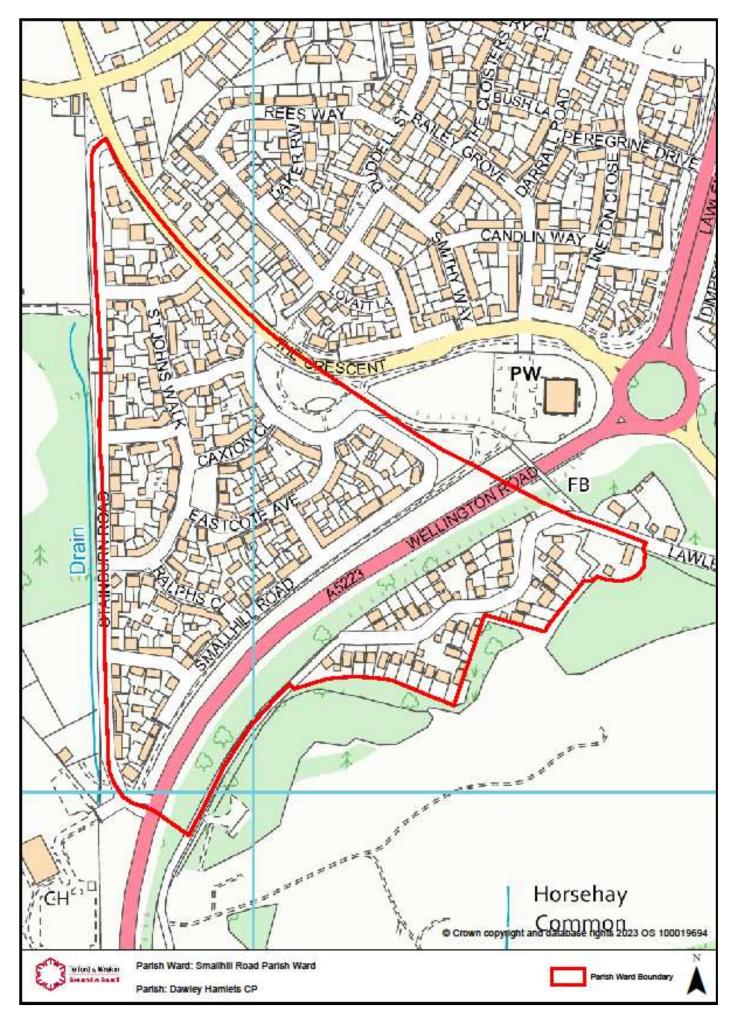
Parish	Electorate Jan 2025	% total electorate Jan 2025	Projected electorate 2032
Chetwynd	478	0.3	570
Chetwynd Aston &			
Woodcote	534	0.4	637
Church Aston	1,075	0.8	1,282
Dawley Hamlets	6,298	4.5	7,513
Donnington & Muxton	10,273	7.4	12,255
Edgmond	1,079	0.8	1,287
Ercall Magna	1,434	1.0	1,711
Eyton upon the Weald Moors	71	0.1	85
Great Dawley	8,672	6.3	10,345
Hadley & Leegomery	11,698	8.4	13,955
Hollinswood & Randlay	4,328	3.1	5,163
Ketley	3,820	2.8	4,557
Kynnersley	149	0.1	178
Lawley & Overdale	9,154	6.6	10,920
Lilleshall	1,106	0.8	1,319
Little Wenlock	436	0.3	520
Madeley	12,761	9.2	15,223
Newport	9,756	7.0	11,638
Oakengates	6,828	4.9	8,145
Preston upon the Weald Moors	222	0.2	265
Rodington	761	0.5	908
St Georges & Priorslee	10,156	7.3	12,115
Stirchley & Brookside	7,093	5.1	8,461
The Gorge	3,148	2.3	3,755
Tibberton &	3,113		5,
Cherrington	794	0.6	947
Waters Upton	1,013	0.7	1,208
Wellington	17,269	12.5	20,600
Wrockwardine	3,849	2.8	4,591
Wrockwardine Wood &			
Trench	4,253	3.1	5,073
	138,508		165,227

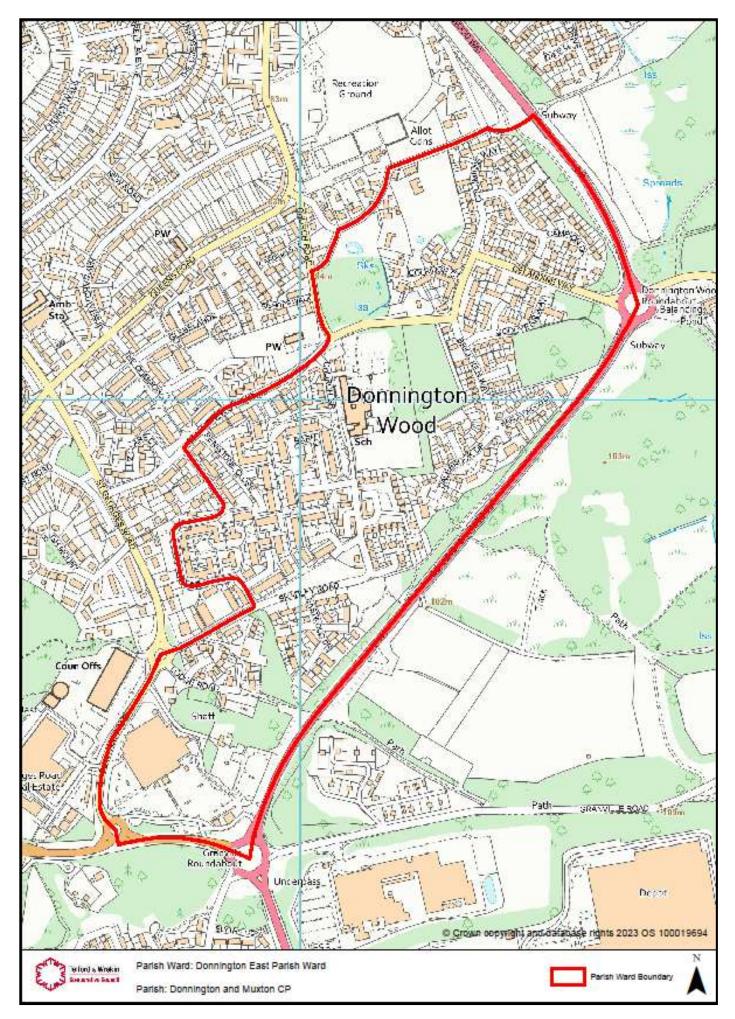


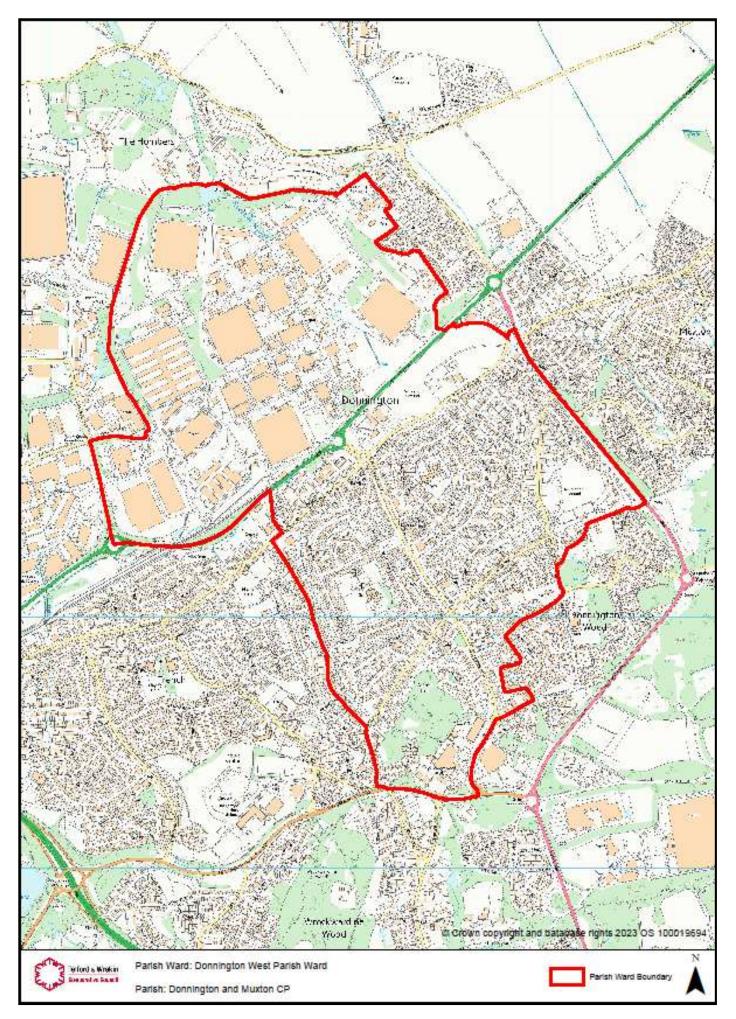


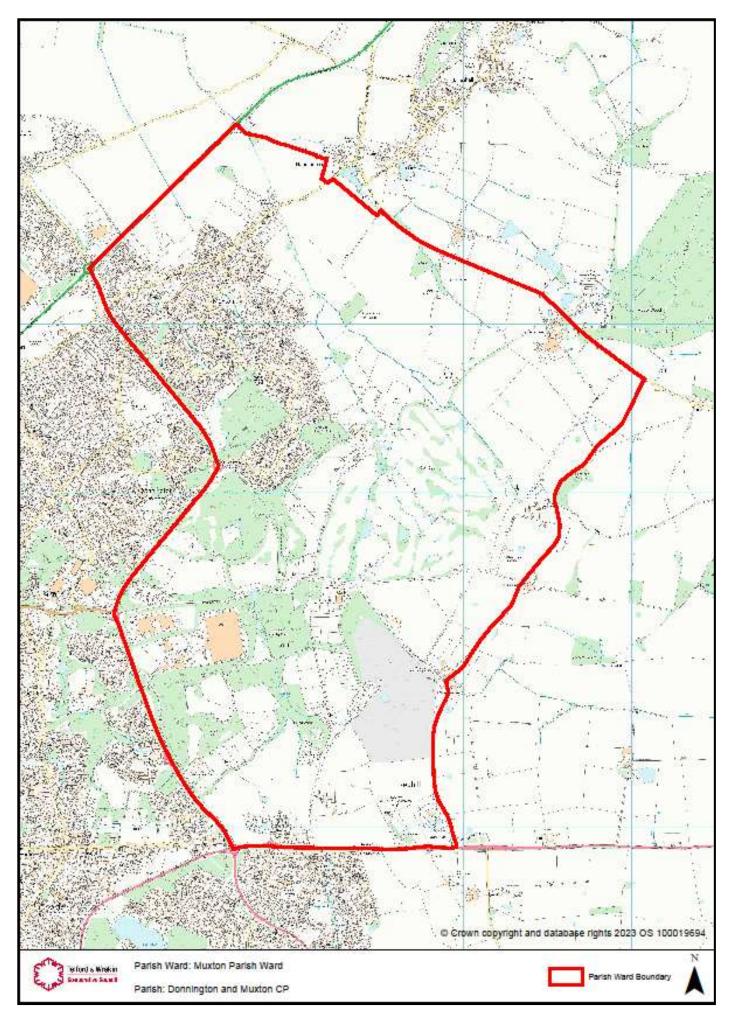


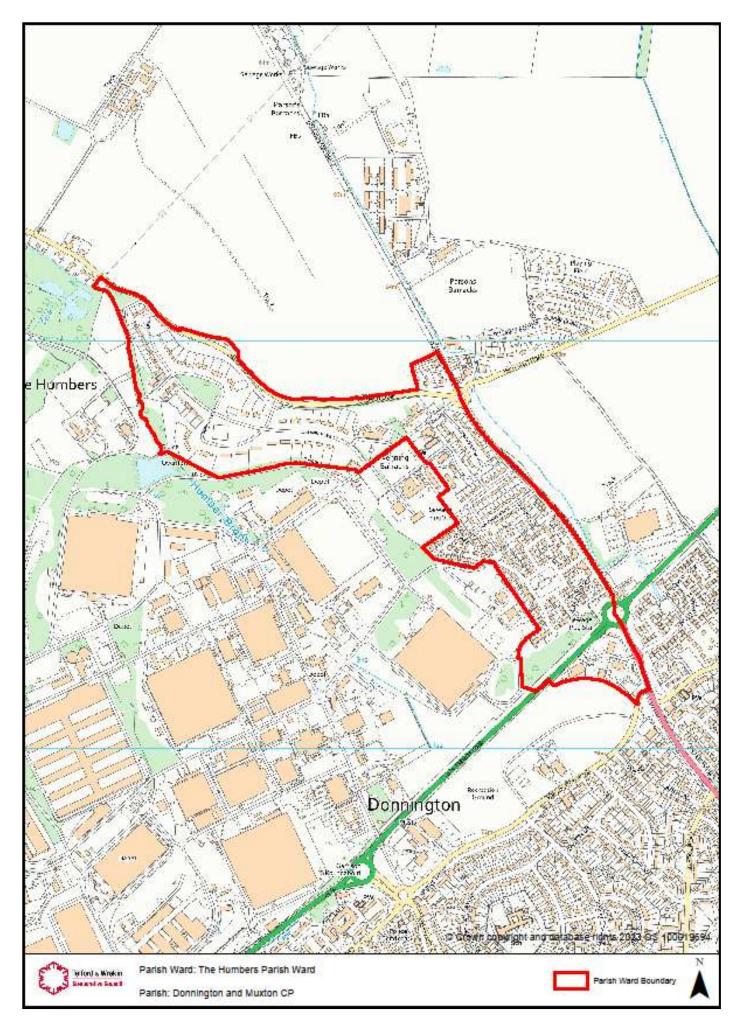


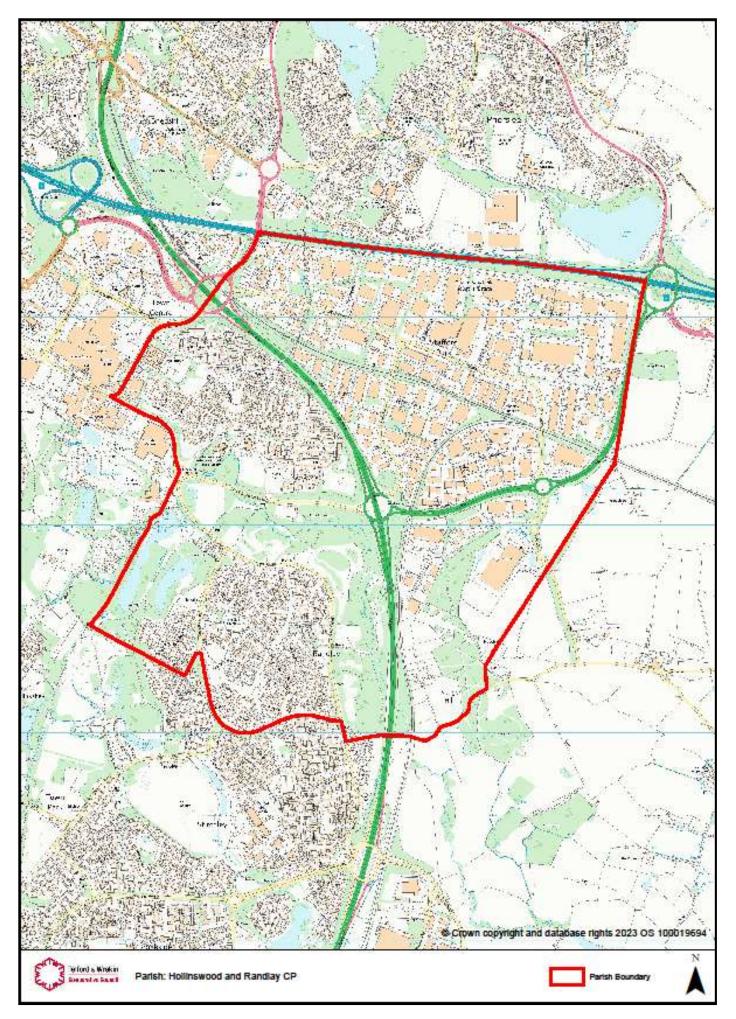


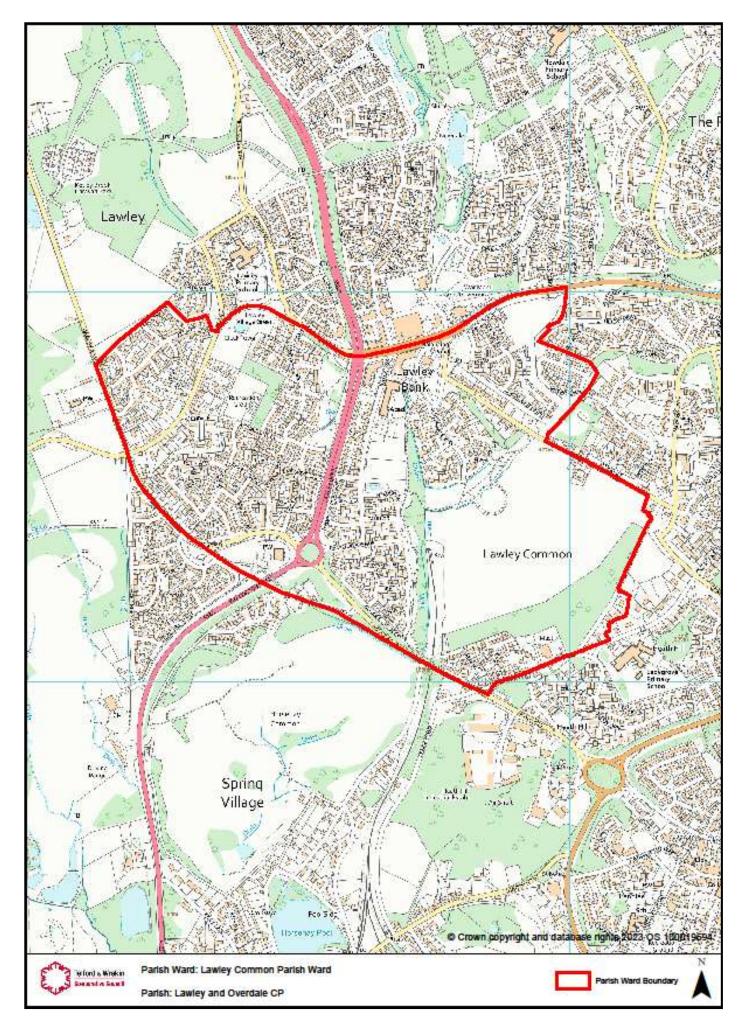


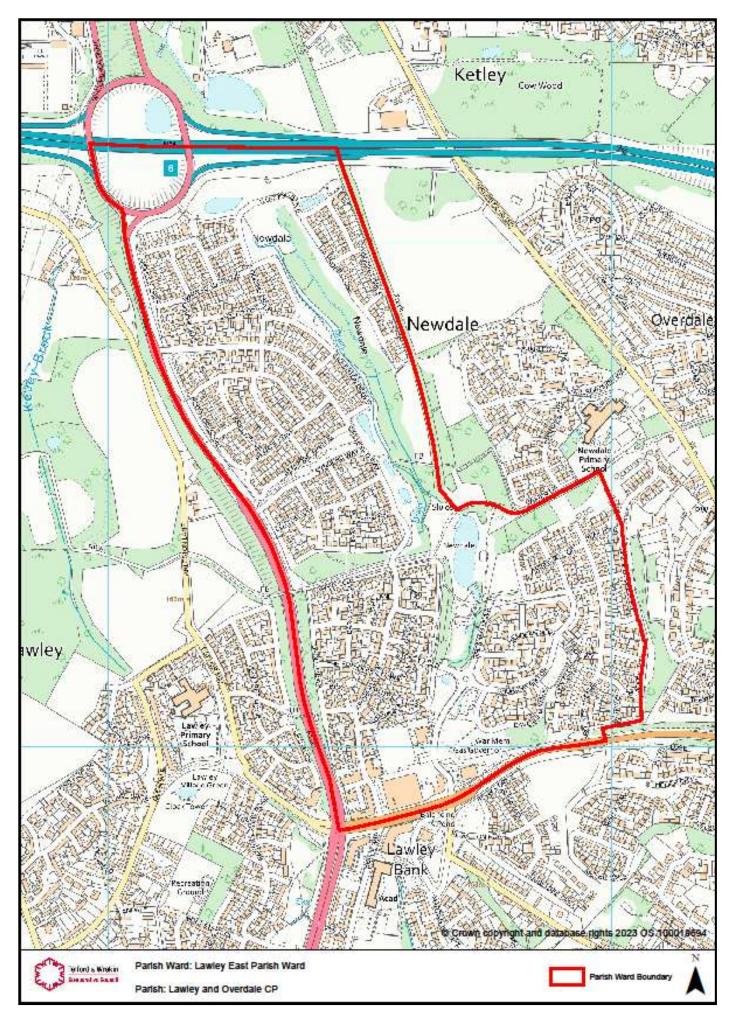


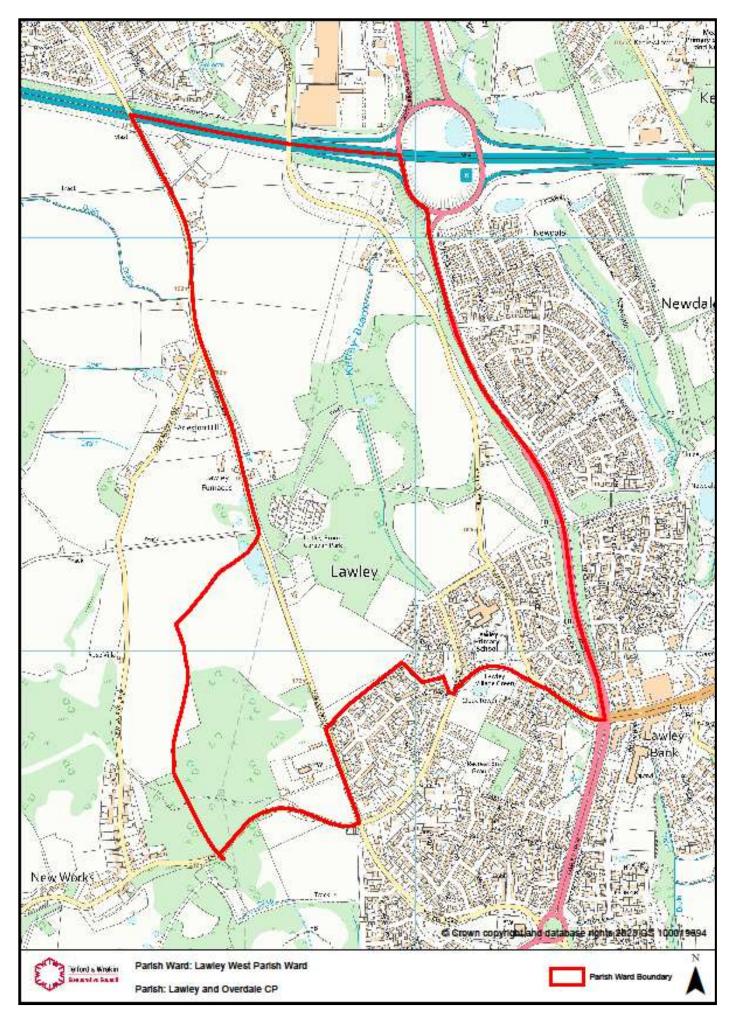


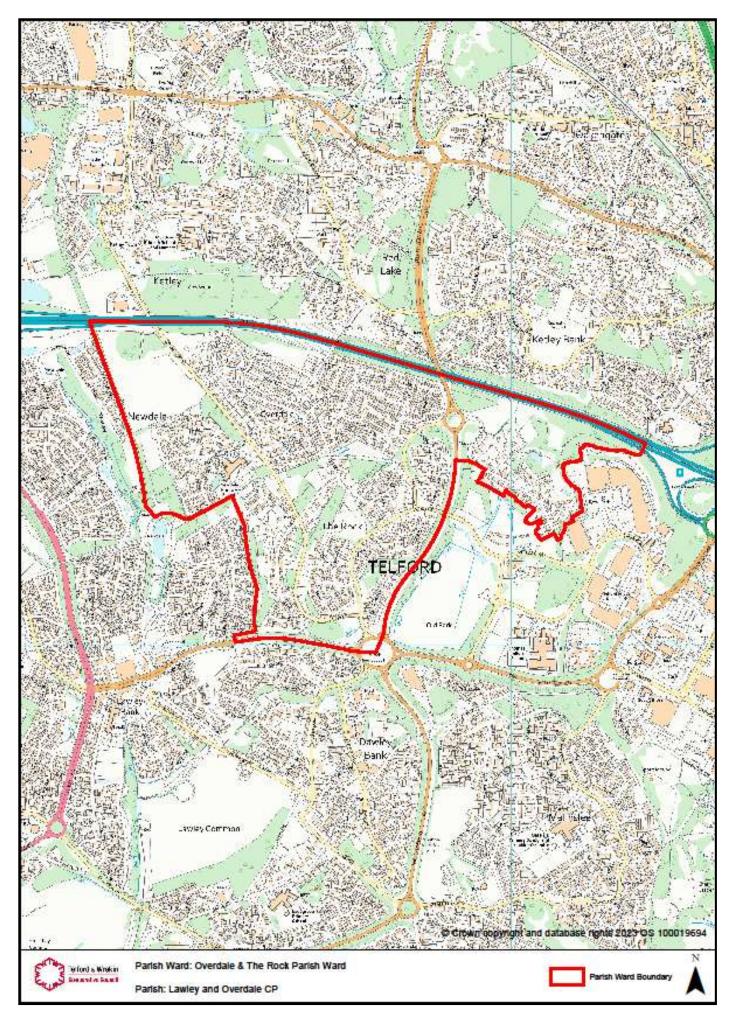


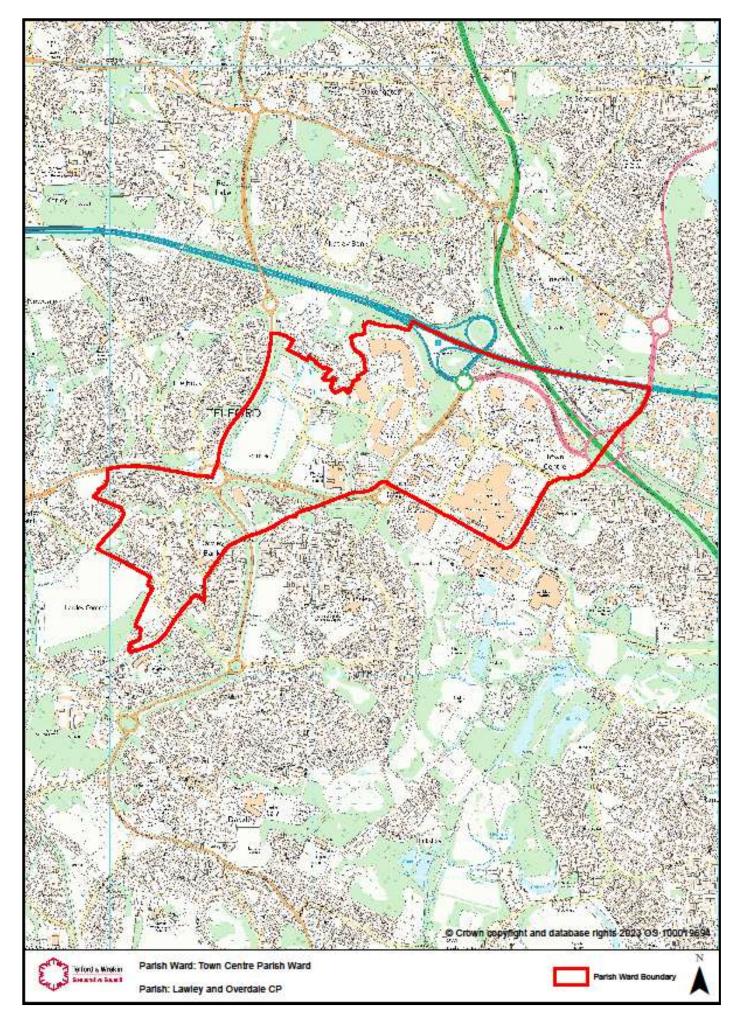


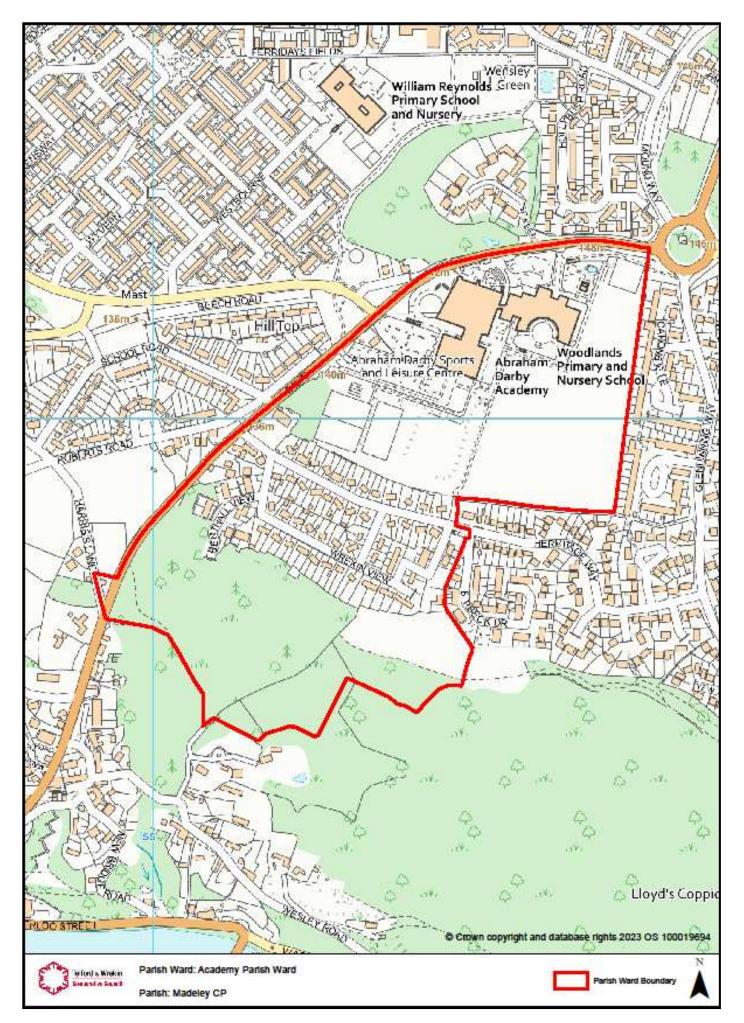


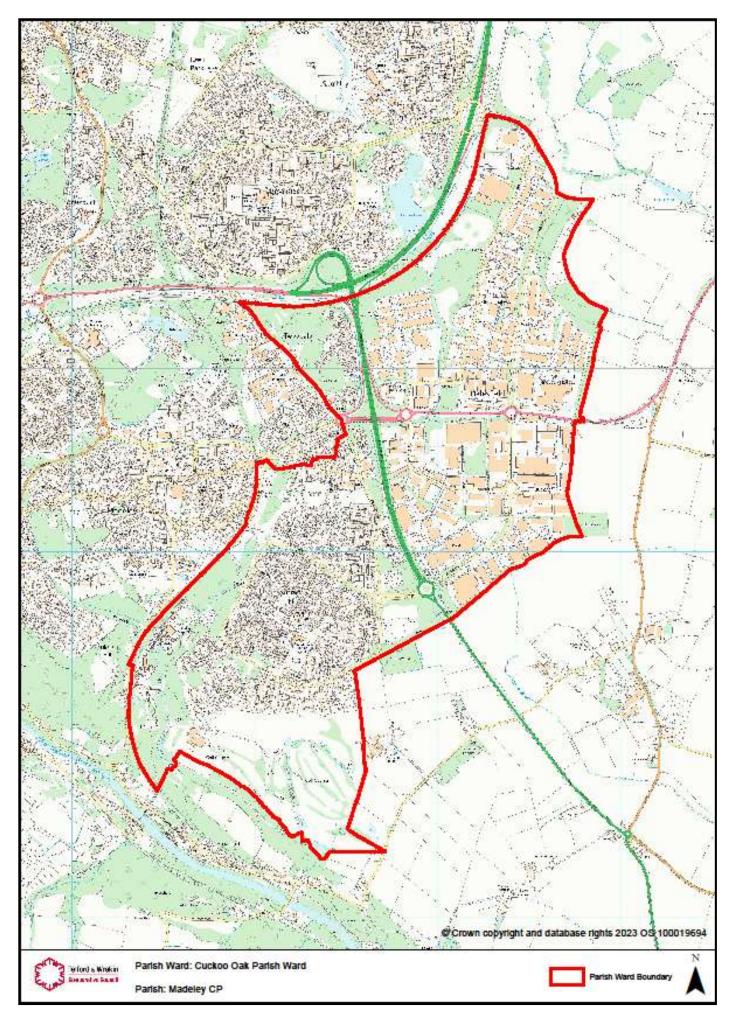


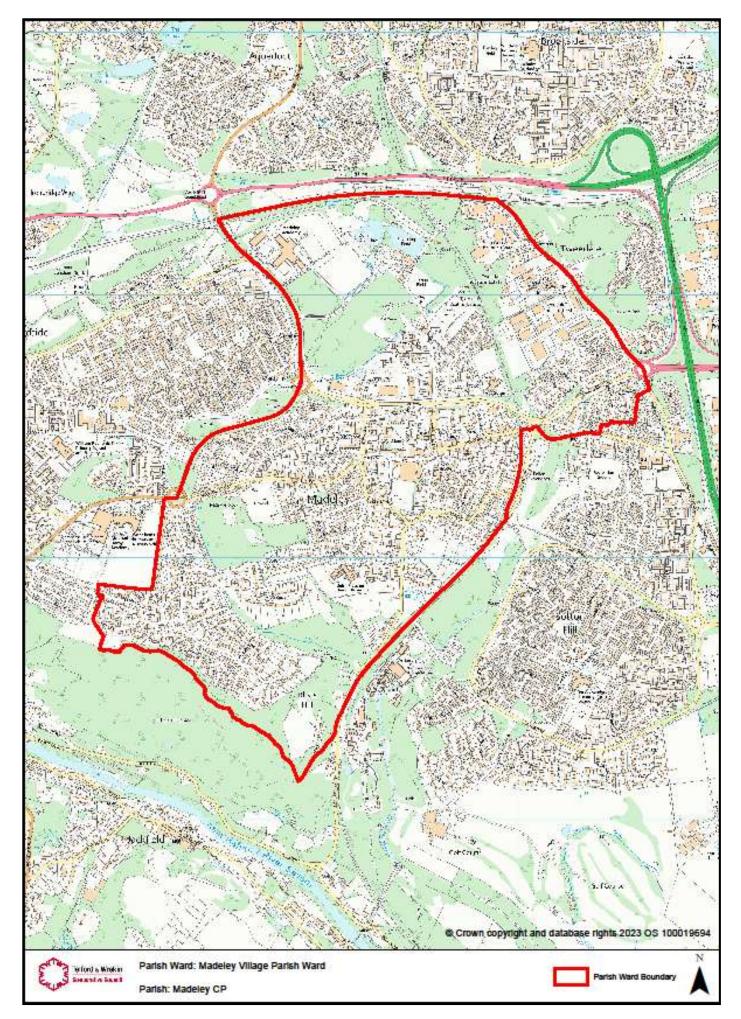


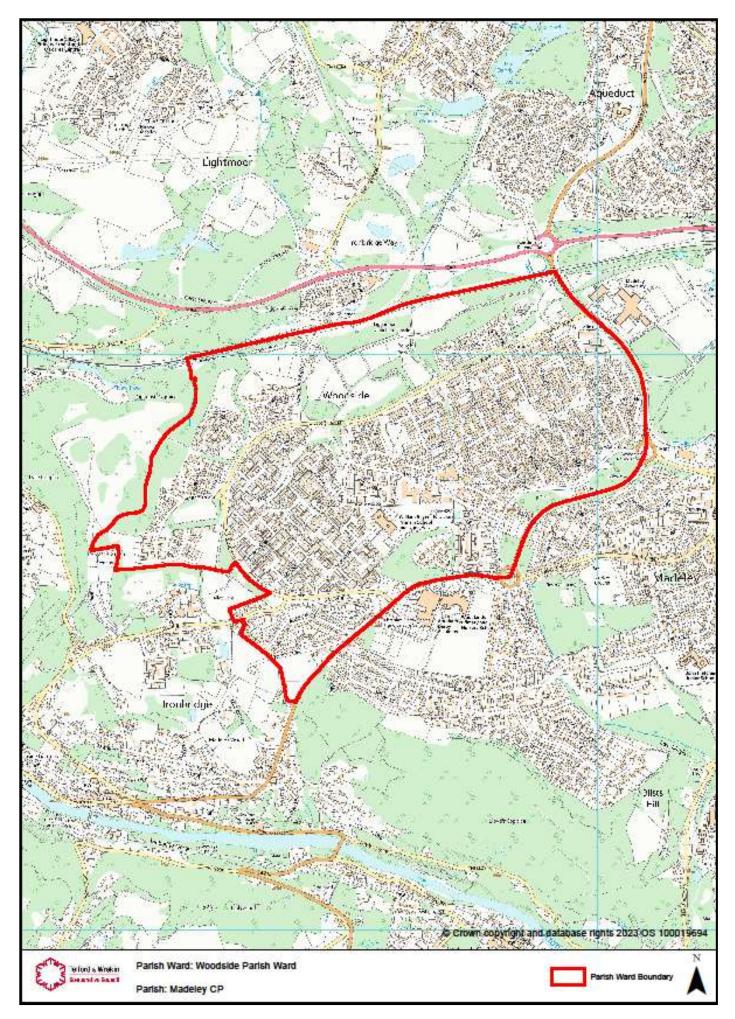


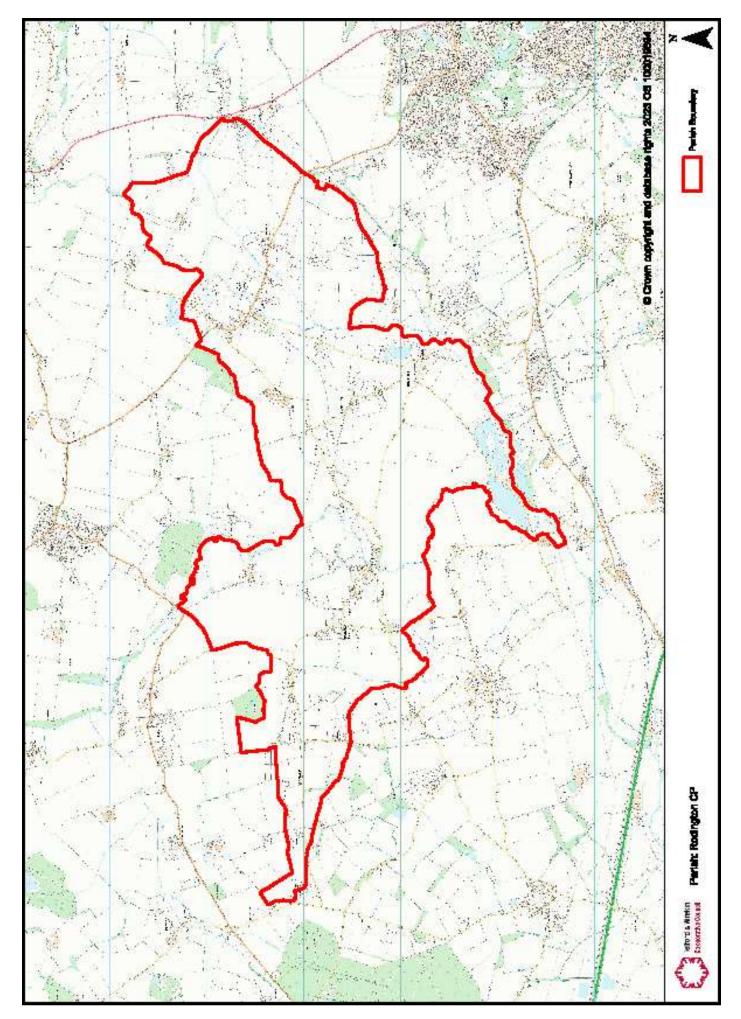


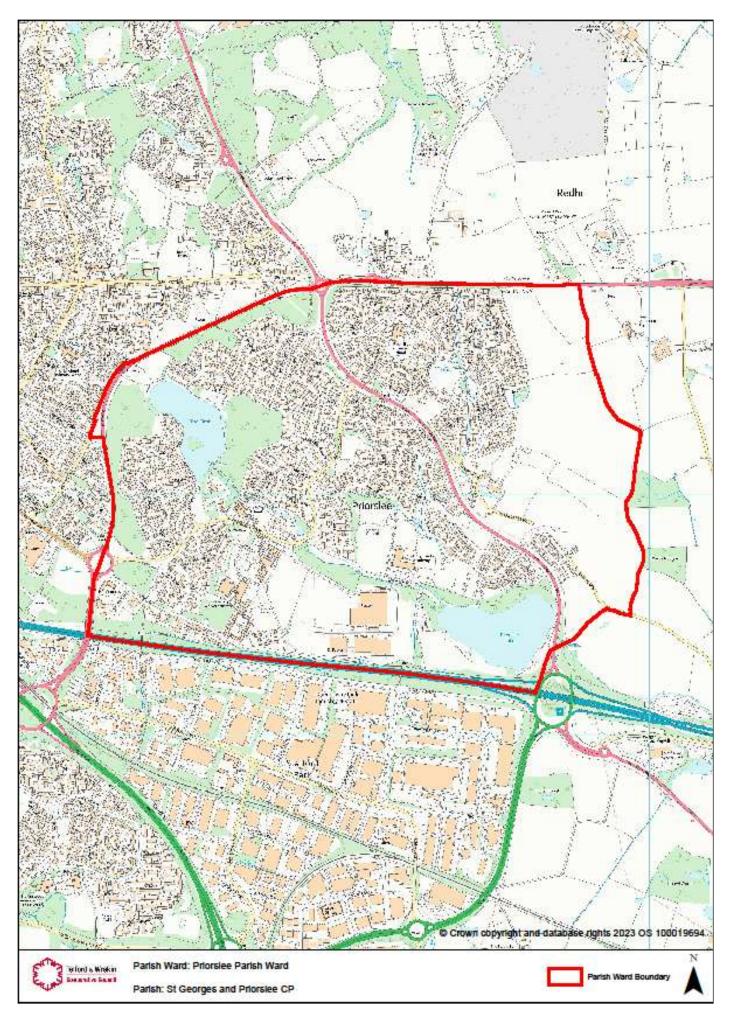




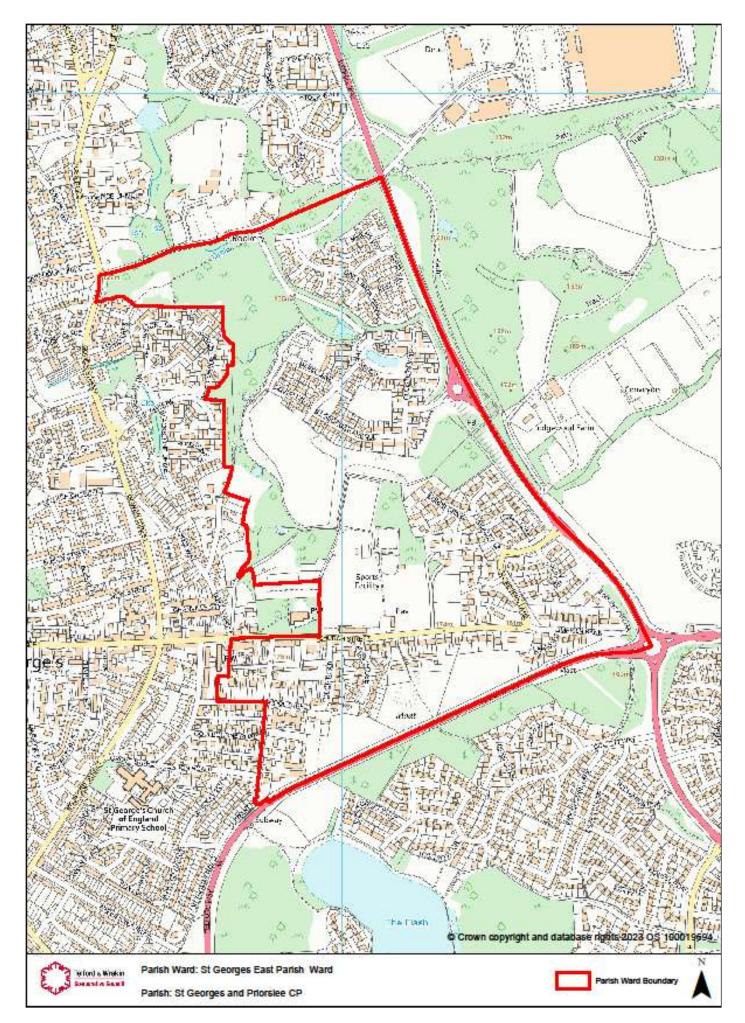


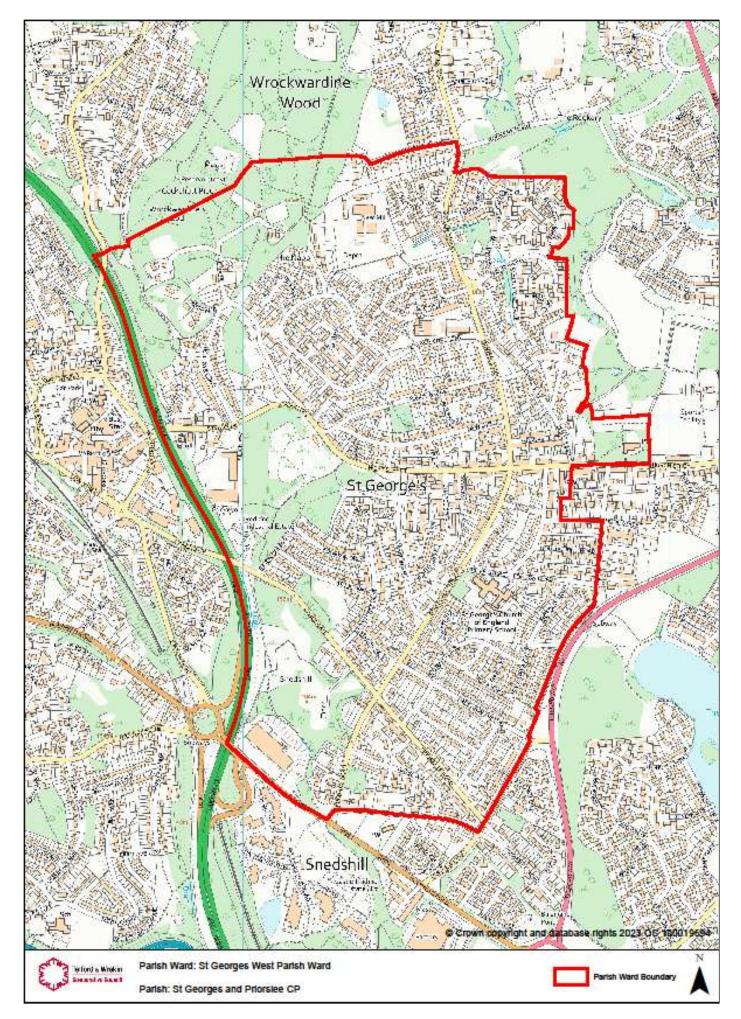


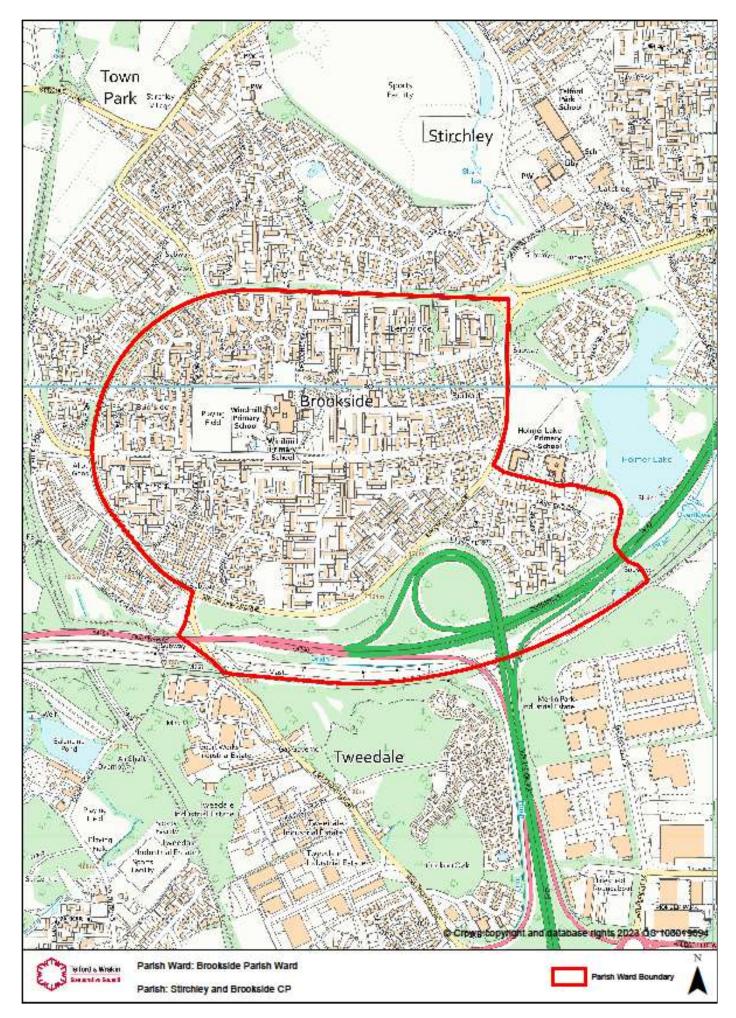


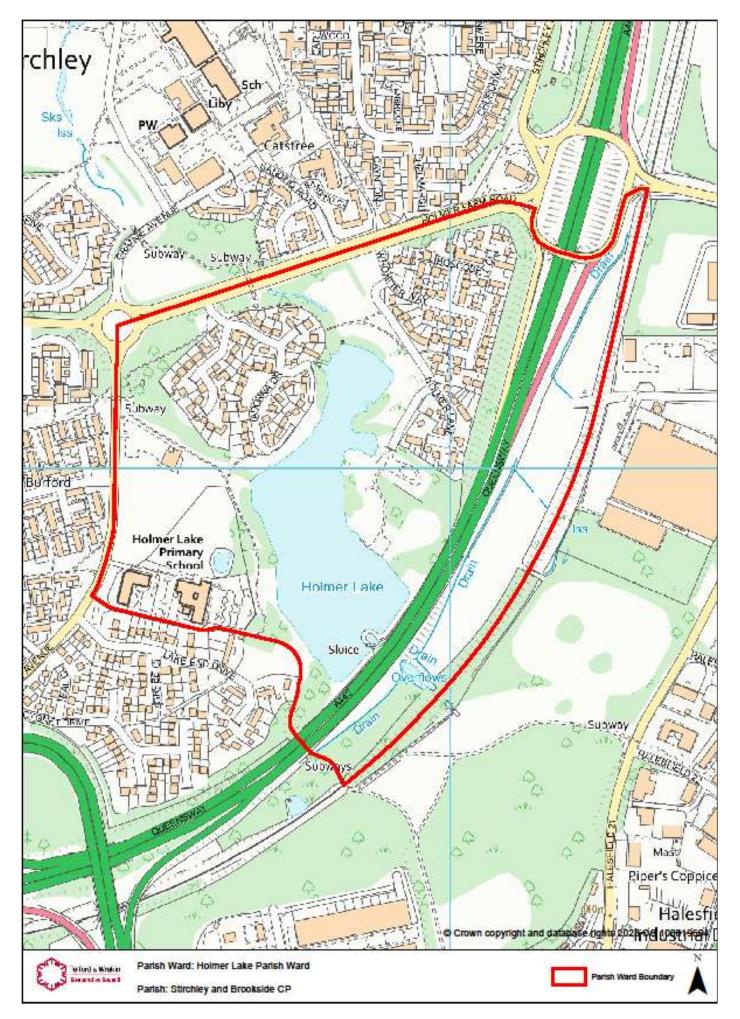


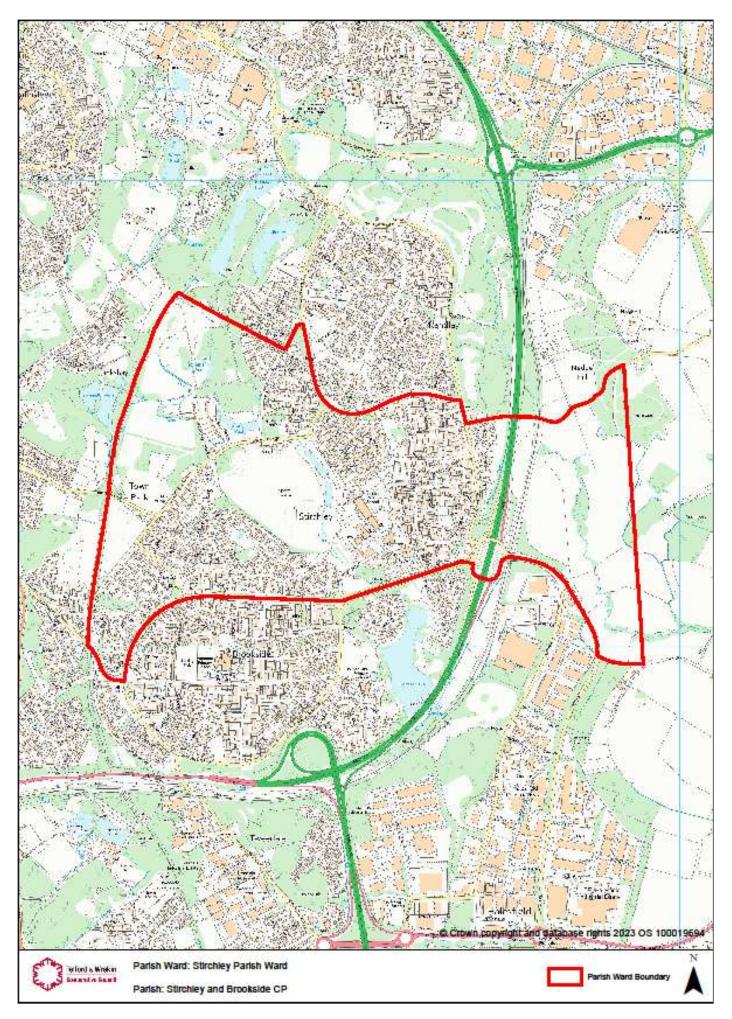


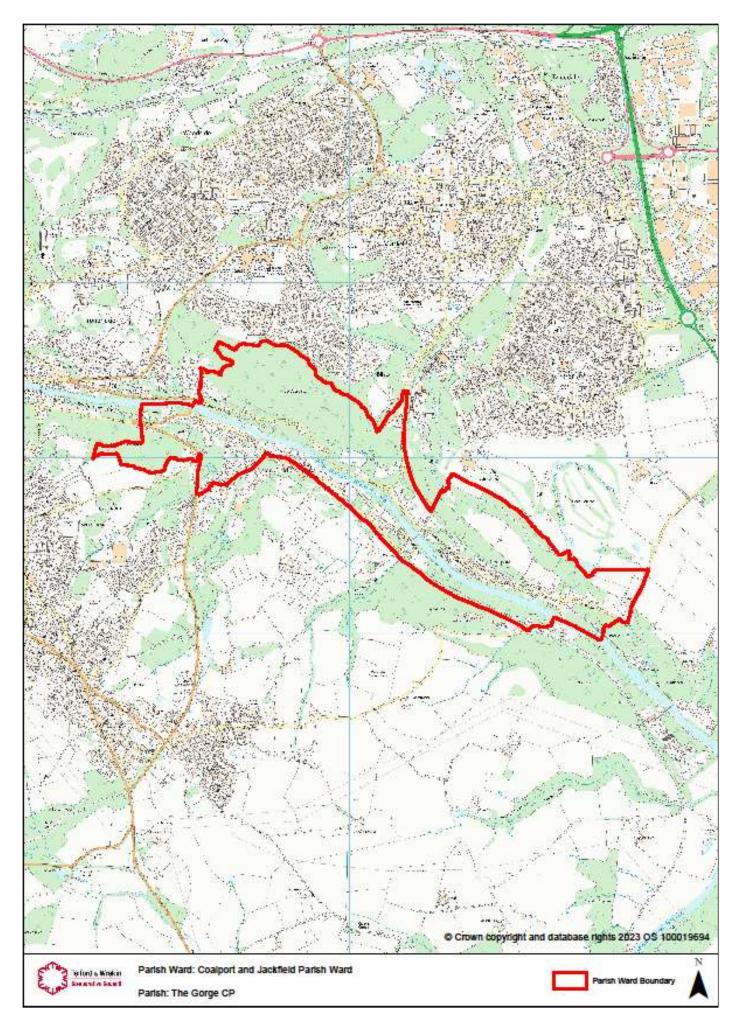


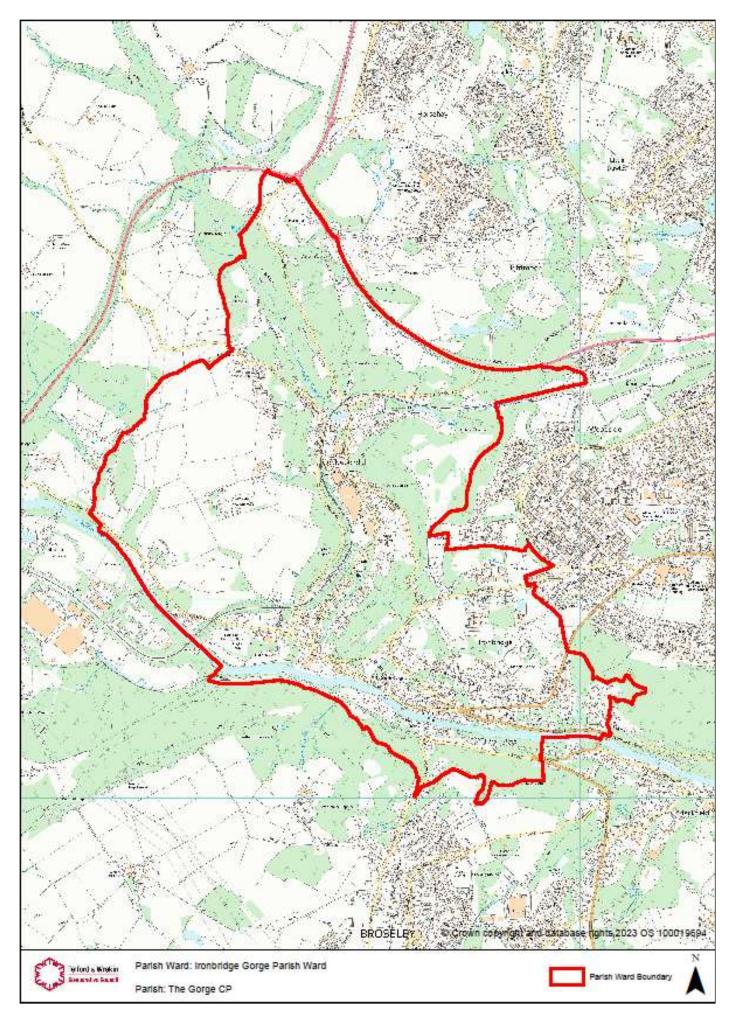


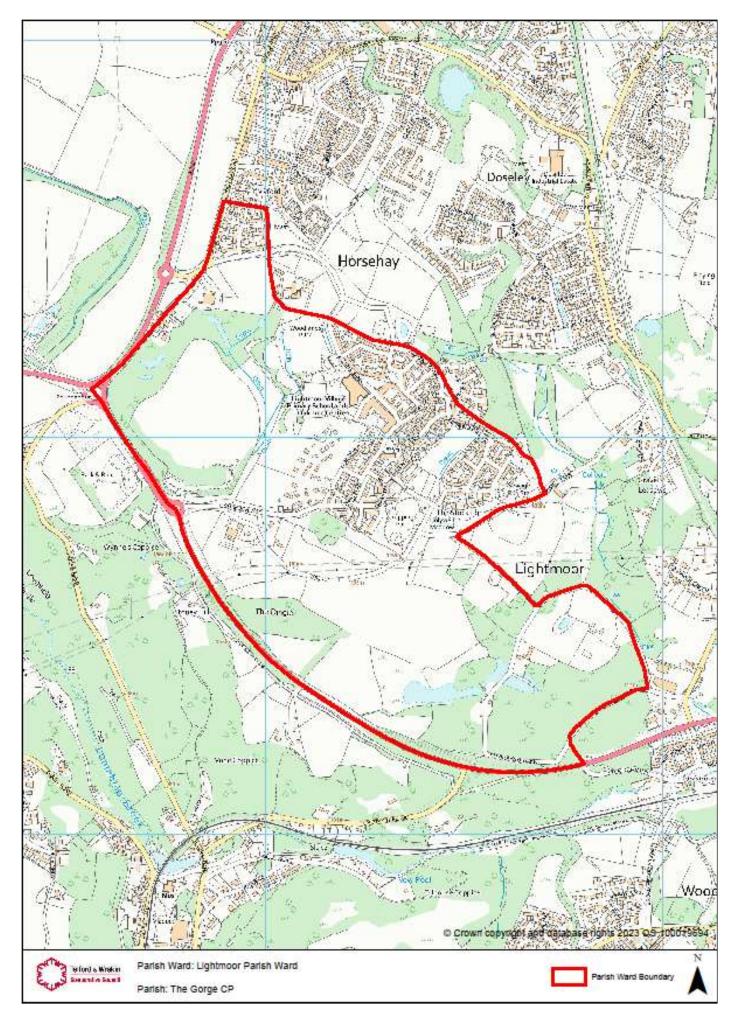


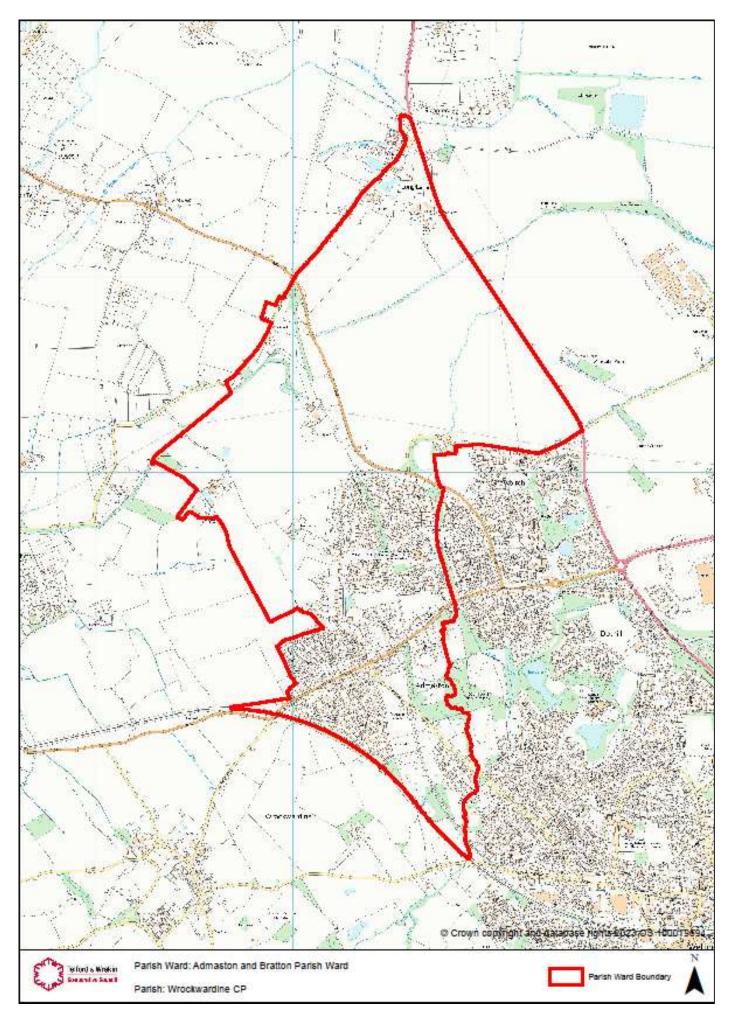


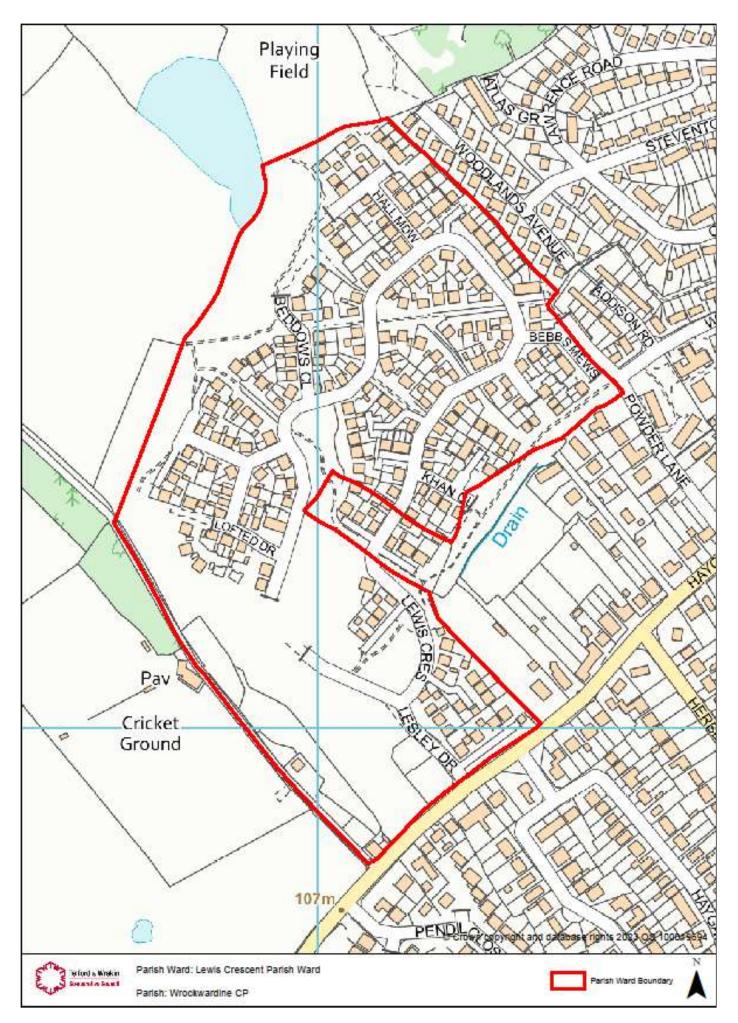


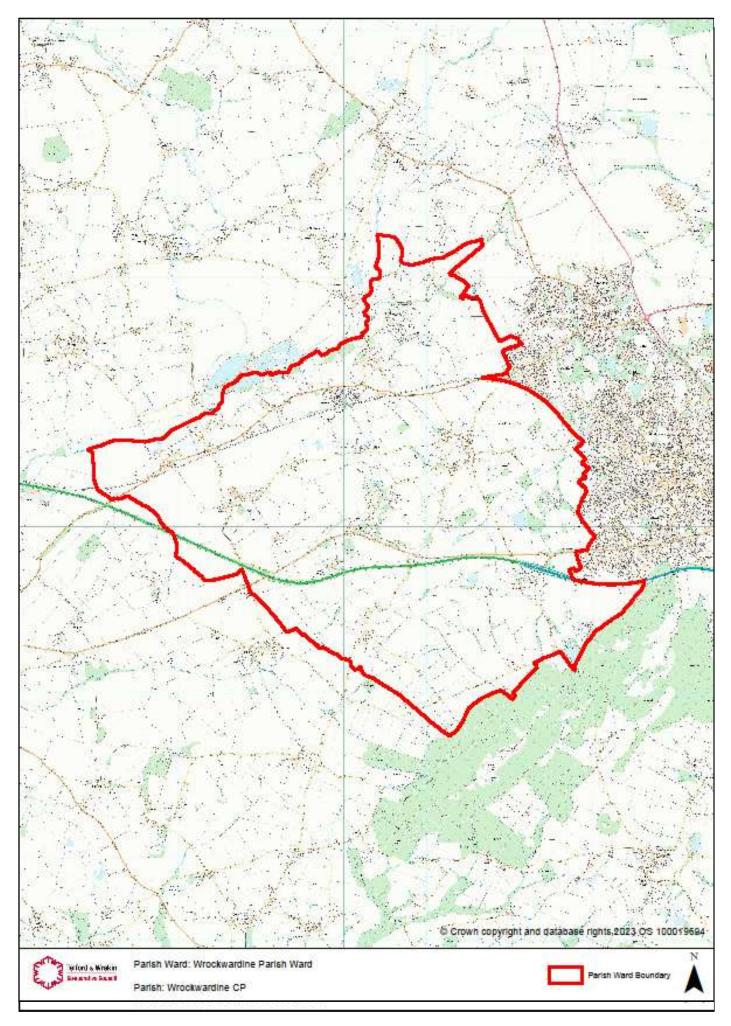




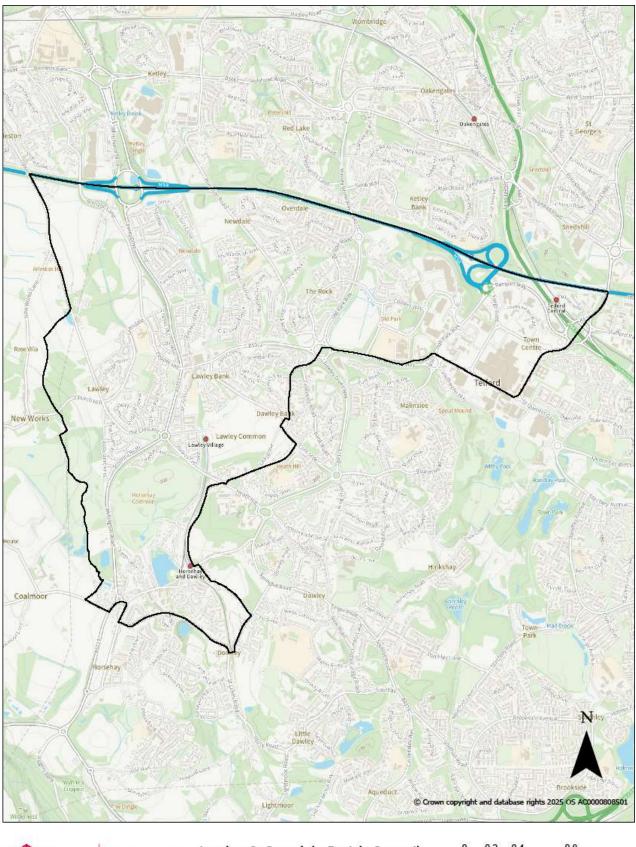








Appendix 3: Proposed Town & Parish Council Maps

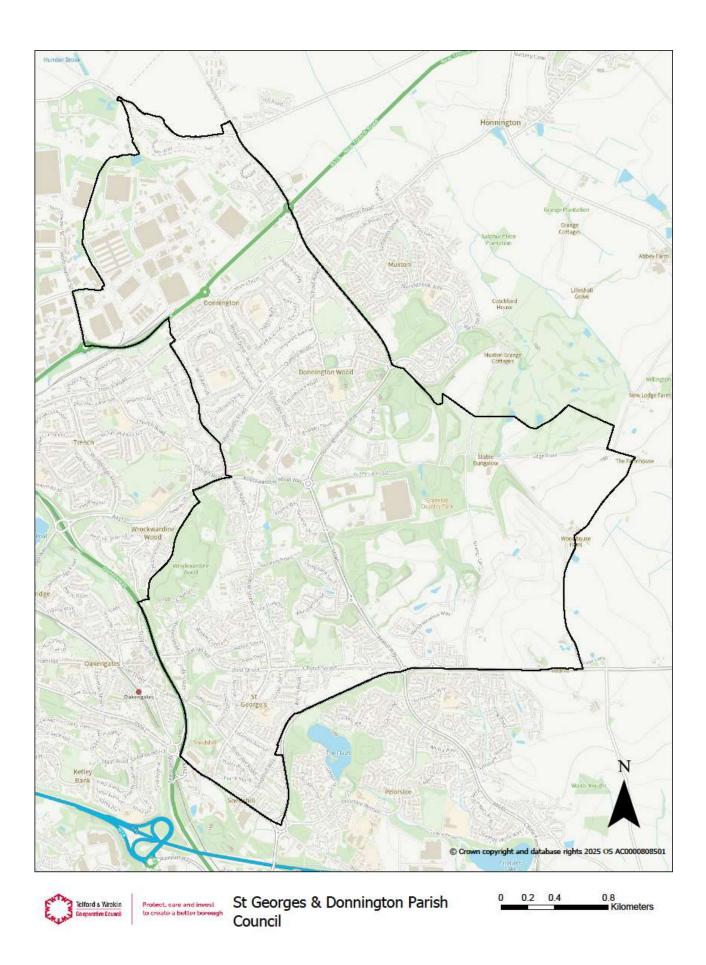


Telford & Wrekin Geoperative Council

Protect, care and invest to create a better borough

Lawley & Overdale Parish Council

0 0.2 0.4 0.8 Kilometers



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