

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**29 May 2012**

**Report of the Chief Executive**

**Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) Further Electoral Review – Response to LGBCE Draft Recommendations (Leadership and Culture)**

**Purpose of the Report**

To request Cabinet approval of the response to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's Draft Recommendations for the Further Electoral Review of Derbyshire.

**Information and Analysis**

In April 2011, the Boundary Commission confirmed that an electoral review of the county electoral divisions in Derbyshire would commence on 11 July 2011. The Commission's analysis of the 2010 electorate data for Derbyshire confirmed that significant imbalances exist in the County which meet their criteria for carrying out a Further Electoral Review to improve electoral equality. The analysis showed that 24 of the 64 divisions (38%) had an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the county average and one division, Hatton and Hilton, had an electoral variance of 39%.

The Review covers the entire Council not just the electoral divisions where there is evidence of electoral inequality and consists of three phases:

1. Preliminary period – information gathering;
2. Stage 1 - council size i.e. proposals for the total number of councillors/electoral divisions;
3. Stage 2 – area definition i.e. proposals for revised boundaries and names of electoral divisions.

In August 2011, the Commission confirmed that, in line with the Council's own view, they were minded to recommend retaining the Council's current size of 64 Members. In Stage Two, all interested parties (including the County Council) were invited to put forward proposals on the detailed electoral arrangements. On 22 November 2011, Cabinet approved the proposed county electoral division boundaries and electoral division names to be submitted to the Commission.

In April 2012, the Commission published their draft recommendations for Derbyshire having considered all the submissions received on division arrangements for the County. The Commission's proposals are broadly in line with those of the Council with the exceptions of Bolsover and North East Derbyshire districts where the Commission have proposed significant modifications to the Council's proposals.

The Commission's draft recommendations are subject to a period of public consultation. All responses to the recommendations need to be received by the Commission by 8 June 2012. Maps showing the Commission's draft recommendations for each district/borough are included in Appendix A and maps showing the Council's proposals are included in Appendix B.

### **Officer Comments**

Set out below is a summary of the responses to the Commission's proposals for each district in the County.

#### **Amber Valley**

The Commission's proposed boundaries and names are the same as those submitted by the County Council for the divisions of Alport & Derwent, Belper, Duffield & Belper South, Greater Heanor and Horsley. It is recommended that these proposals be accepted.

The Commission propose changing the name of Ripley West & Ambergate division to Ripley West & Heage whilst maintaining the boundary proposed by the Council. It is recommended that this proposal is accepted.

It is also recommended that a minor modification proposed by the Commission to ensure the boundary between the proposed Ripley East & Codnor and Heanor Central electoral divisions follows the Codnor parish boundary is accepted.

The Commission propose combining the County Council's proposed divisions of Alfreton & Somercotes and Swanwick & Riddings to create a two member division named Alfreton & Somercotes. It is recommended that the County Council oppose the creation of this two member division because it does not improve electoral equality and it may lead to a loss of community identity. Another wider concern is that the proposals will not provide efficient and effective local government. The area proposed will be so large it renders inefficient and ineffective community leadership.

#### **Bolsover**

The Commission propose changing the name of Shirebrook division to Shirebrook & Pleasley whilst maintaining the boundary proposed by the Council. It is recommended that this proposal is accepted. It is also recommended that the Commission's proposals for Bolsover South are accepted as the boundary provides good electoral equality and follows clear boundaries.

The Commission propose to change the boundaries of Barlborough & Clowne and Bolsover North. The Council's proposals for Barlborough & Clowne ensured electoral variance was maintained and also ensured the Barlborough district ward maintained coherent boundaries with the district boundary and its urban areas. The Council's original proposal reflected the local knowledge that there is very little community cohesiveness between the urban area of Creswell and the areas in the west of its electoral division due to the lack of accessible links. It is therefore recommended that the Commission's proposals for Barlborough & Clowne and Bolsover North are opposed and that the original County proposals are supported

as the Council's proposals better reflect community links and meet the Commission's electoral variance requirements.

The Commission propose to change the boundary of South Normanton & Pinxton division to include the polling district HA1b, part of the South Normanton civil parish from the neighbouring division of Tibshelf. This boundary change will maintain the split between the neighbouring urban areas of South Normanton and Pinxton. The Council's original submission for the pattern of division for South Normanton was based on improving community identity and cohesiveness. This proposal ensured that the residents of these urban areas were represented under a single elected member, aided by the good transport links of the B6019 and the A38. It is therefore recommended that the Commission's proposals should be opposed and that the pattern of division as specified in the County Council's original submission should be supported.

### **Chesterfield**

The Commission's proposed division boundaries and names are broadly the same as the proposals submitted by the County Council. It is therefore recommended that the Council accepts the Commission's proposed division boundaries and names for Brimington, St Mary's, Staveley and Staveley North & Whittington, all of which are the same as the Authority's proposals.

It is also recommended that the Council accepts the minor boundary changes proposed by the Commission to the electoral divisions of Birdholme, Boythorpe & Brampton South, Loundsley Green & Newbold, Spire and Walton & West.

The Council will ask the Commission to rectify its slight error in their published electorate for Birdholme and Spire divisions with ninety-nine electors being placed into Birdholme in their draft recommendations instead of Spire.

### **Derbyshire Dales**

The Commission's proposed division boundaries and names are the same as the proposals submitted by the County Council. It is therefore recommended that the Council accepts the Commission's proposed division boundaries and names for all the divisions of Ashbourne, Bakewell, Derwent Valley, Dovedale, Matlock and Wirksworth.

### **Erewash**

The Commission's proposed division boundaries and names are broadly the same as the proposals submitted by the County Council. It is recommended that the Council accepts the Commission's proposed division boundaries and names for Breaston, Ilkeston East, Ilkeston South, Long Eaton, Petersham, Sandiacre and Sawley, all of which were the same as the authority's proposals.

The Commission propose a minor boundary change affecting Breadsall and Ilkeston West Divisions. As this change affects only 62 electors it is recommended that this change be accepted.

After further consideration and reflection of the electoral division names and boundaries, an amendment to the Council's original proposed name for Breadsall division would be appropriate. It is proposed that the name be changed to West Hallam to better reflect the area covered by the division.

### **High Peak**

The Commission's proposed division boundaries and names are the same as the proposals submitted by the County Council for the divisions of Buxton North & East, Buxton West, Chapel & Hope Valley, Etherow, Whaley Bridge and New Mills. It is recommended that the Council therefore accepts these proposals.

The Commission propose combining the County Council's proposed divisions of Glossop North & Rural and Glossop South to create a two member division named Glossop & Charlesworth. It is recommended that the County Council oppose the creation of this two member division as there is no compelling evidence that the residents of Glossop and the surrounding areas are unhappy with their current electoral arrangements, as well as the same arguments as presented in the Alfreton & Somercotes electoral division in the district of Amber Valley.

### **North East Derbyshire**

It is recommended that the Council accepts the Commission's proposed division boundaries and names for Clay Cross North, Clay Cross South and Sutton, all of which are the same as the Authority's proposals.

It is also recommended that the Council accepts the boundary changes proposed by the Commission to the electoral divisions of Apperknowle, Dronfield East, Dronfield West & Walton and Killamarsh & Spinkhill.

After further consideration and reflection of the electoral division names and boundaries, an amendment to the Council's original proposed name for Wingerworth & Shirland division would be appropriate. It is proposed that the name be changed to Brackenfield to better reflect the various communities in the division, rather than the specific areas of Wingerworth and Shirland.

### **South Derbyshire**

The Commission's proposed division boundaries and names are broadly the same as the proposals submitted by the County Council. It is recommended that the Council accepts the Commission's proposed division boundaries and names for Hilton, Linton and Swadlincote North, all of which are the same as the Authority's proposals.

It is also recommended that the minor boundary changes proposed by the Commission to the electoral divisions of Etwall & Repton and Swadlincote Central be accepted.

After further consideration and reflection of the proposals for the divisions of Aston and Melbourne, a minor amendment to the Commission's proposals for Aston and Melbourne is suggested. This involves moving the parish of Stanton by Bridge from Aston to Melbourne which would give better community identity and improved electoral equality.

### **Next steps**

The Commission will consider all the responses to their draft recommendations before preparing final recommendations for Derbyshire. The Commission retain the right to undertake further information gathering and/or consultation if the responses do not lead to a clear picture of the degree to which the draft recommendations are acceptable to local people.

Final recommendations will be prepared and published by the Commission for a period of 8-10 weeks before laying down the order in the Houses of Parliament in mid-October 2012. The revised electoral divisions will be implemented in time for the next County Council elections in May 2013.

### **Considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: financial, legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

### **Key Decision**

Yes

### **Call-in**

Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No

### **Background papers**

Local Government Boundary Commission for England Electoral reviews: technical guidance.

### **Officer Recommendations**

1. That the response to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England draft recommendations as the third stage of the Further Electorate Review of Derbyshire as set out in the report be approved.
2. That updates on progress on the Further Electoral Review of Derbyshire as appropriate be reported in future meetings.

**Nick Hodgson**  
**Chief Executive**



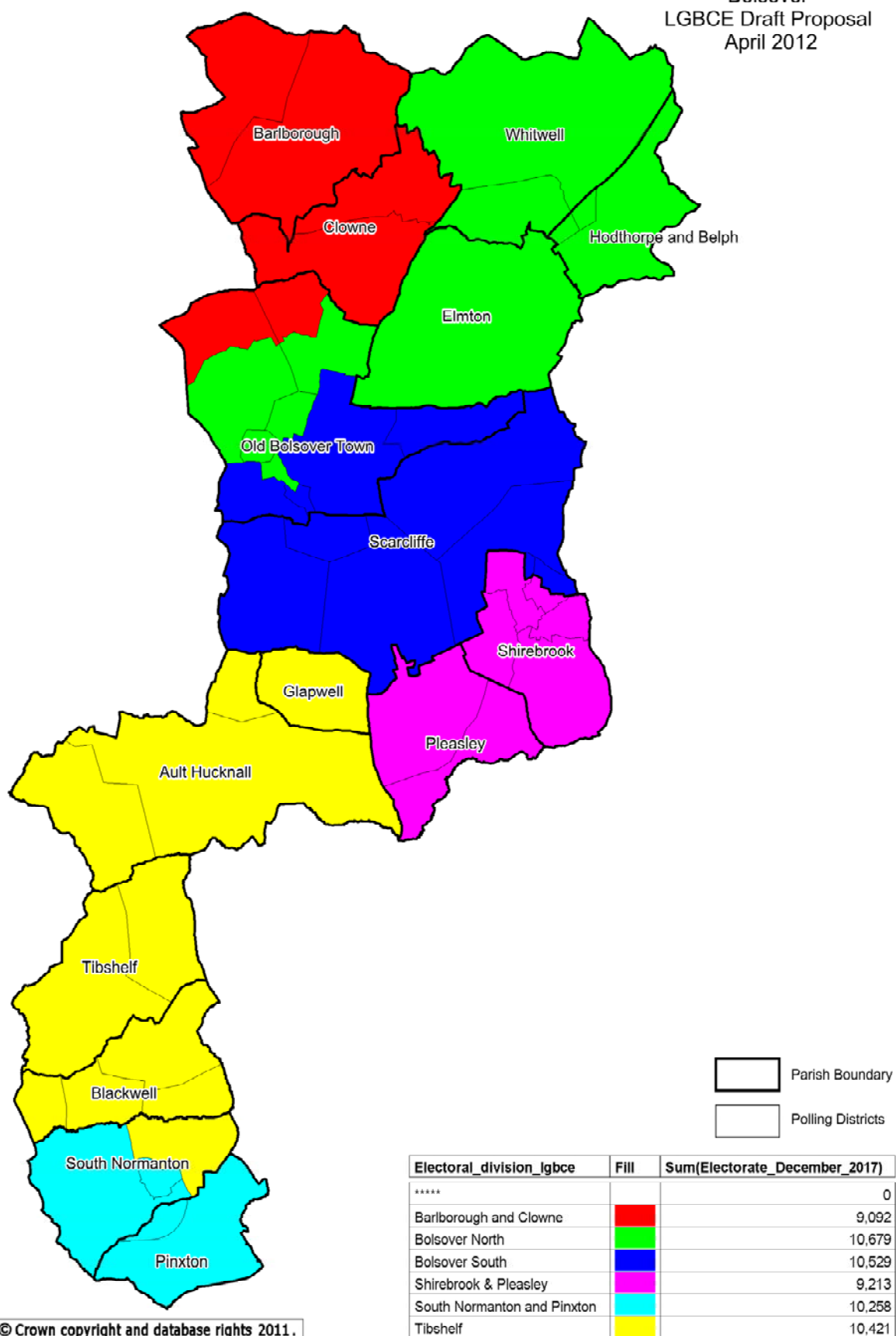
## LGBCE Draft Recommendations

Derbyshire Further Electoral Review  
Amber Valley  
LGBCE Draft Proposal  
April 2012



Electoral_division_lgbce	Fill	Sum(Electorate_December_2017)
*****		0
Alfreton and Somercotes		20,386
Alport and Derwent		9,749
Belper		9,439
Duffield and Belper South		9,343
Greater Heanor		10,269
Heanor Central		10,612
Horsley		10,309
Ripley East and Codnor		9,912
Ripley West and Heage		10,754

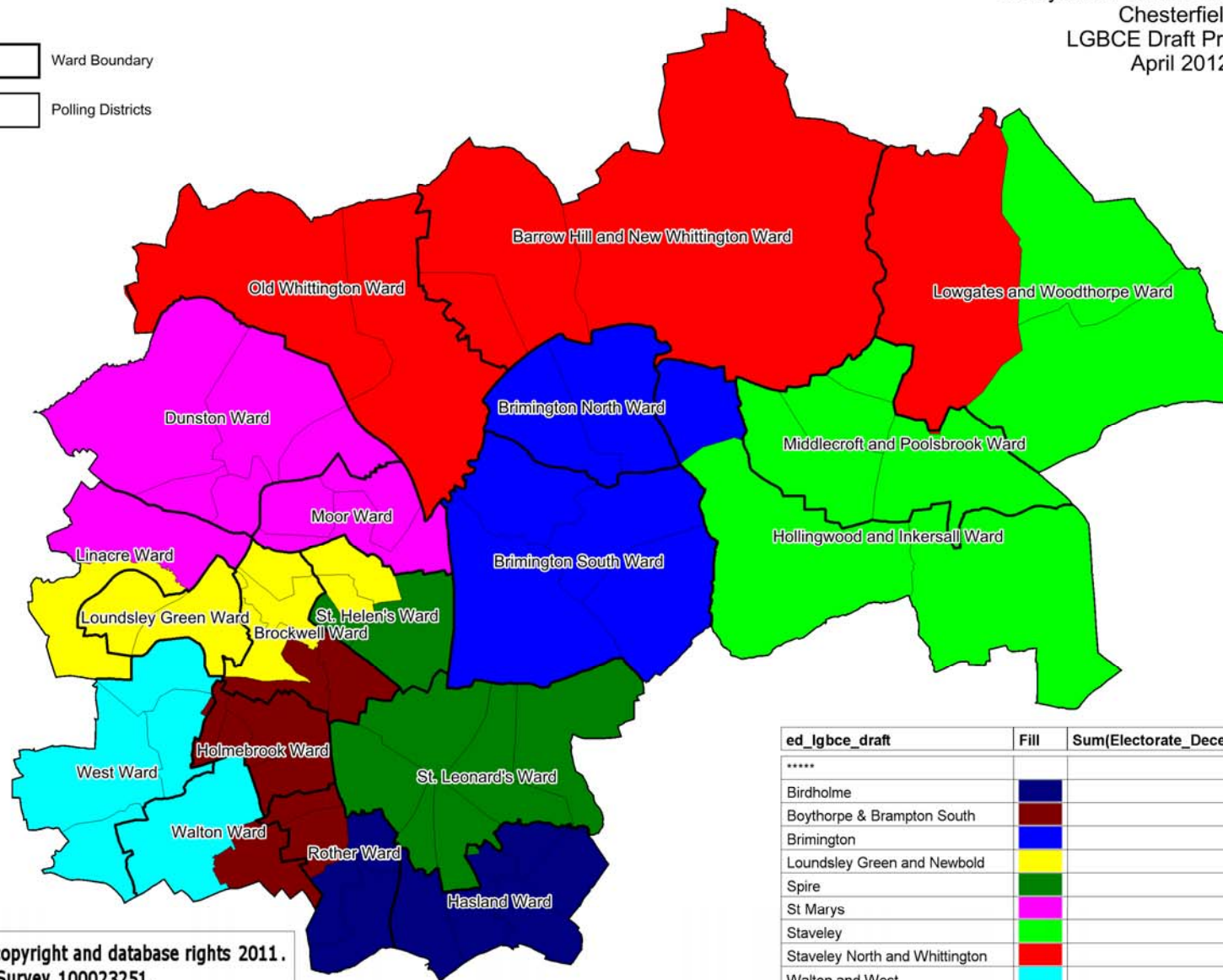
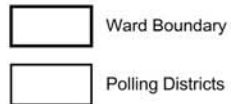
Derbyshire Further Electoral Review  
 Bolsover  
 LGBCE Draft Proposal  
 April 2012



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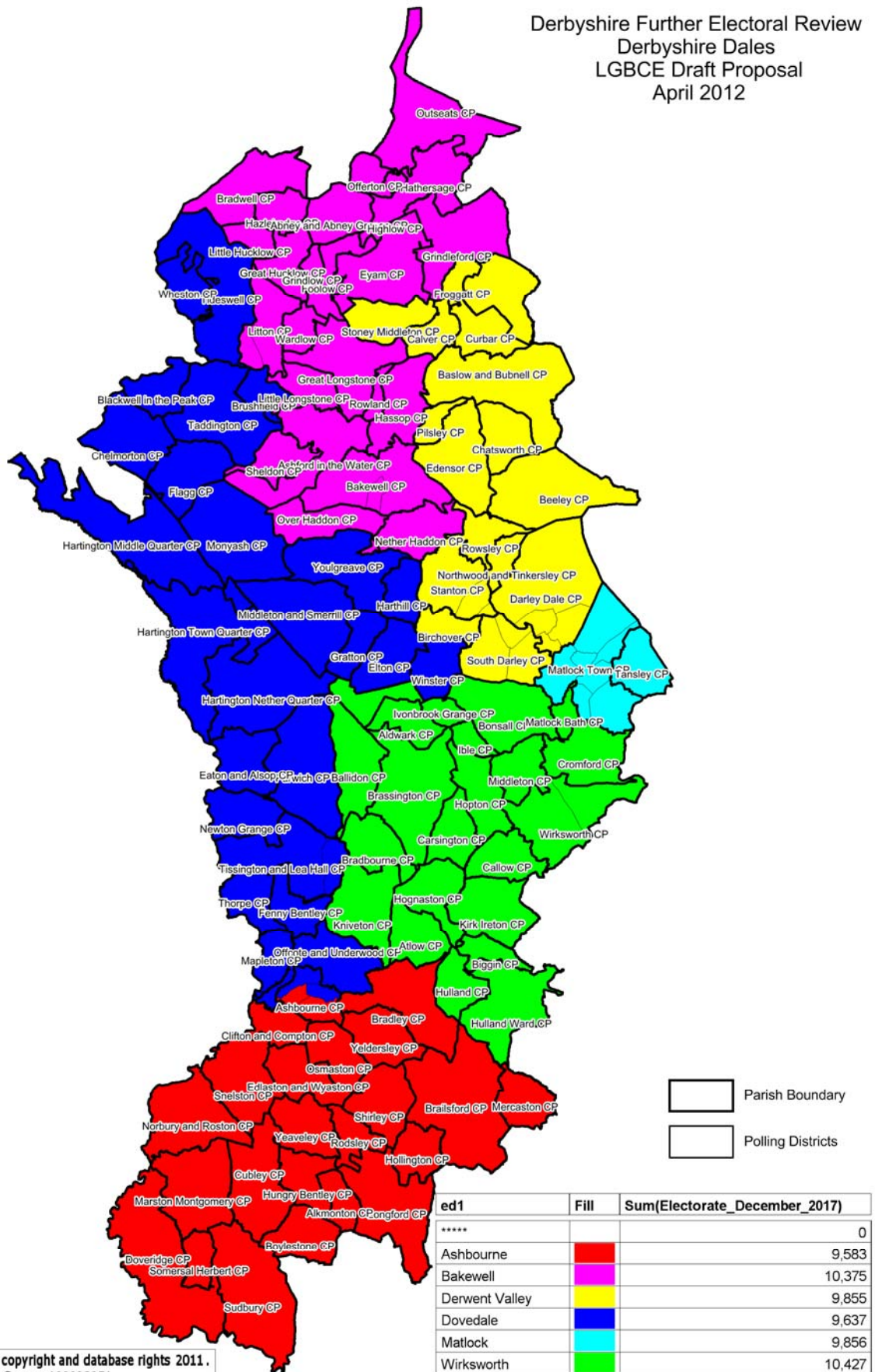
Derbyshire Further Electoral Review  
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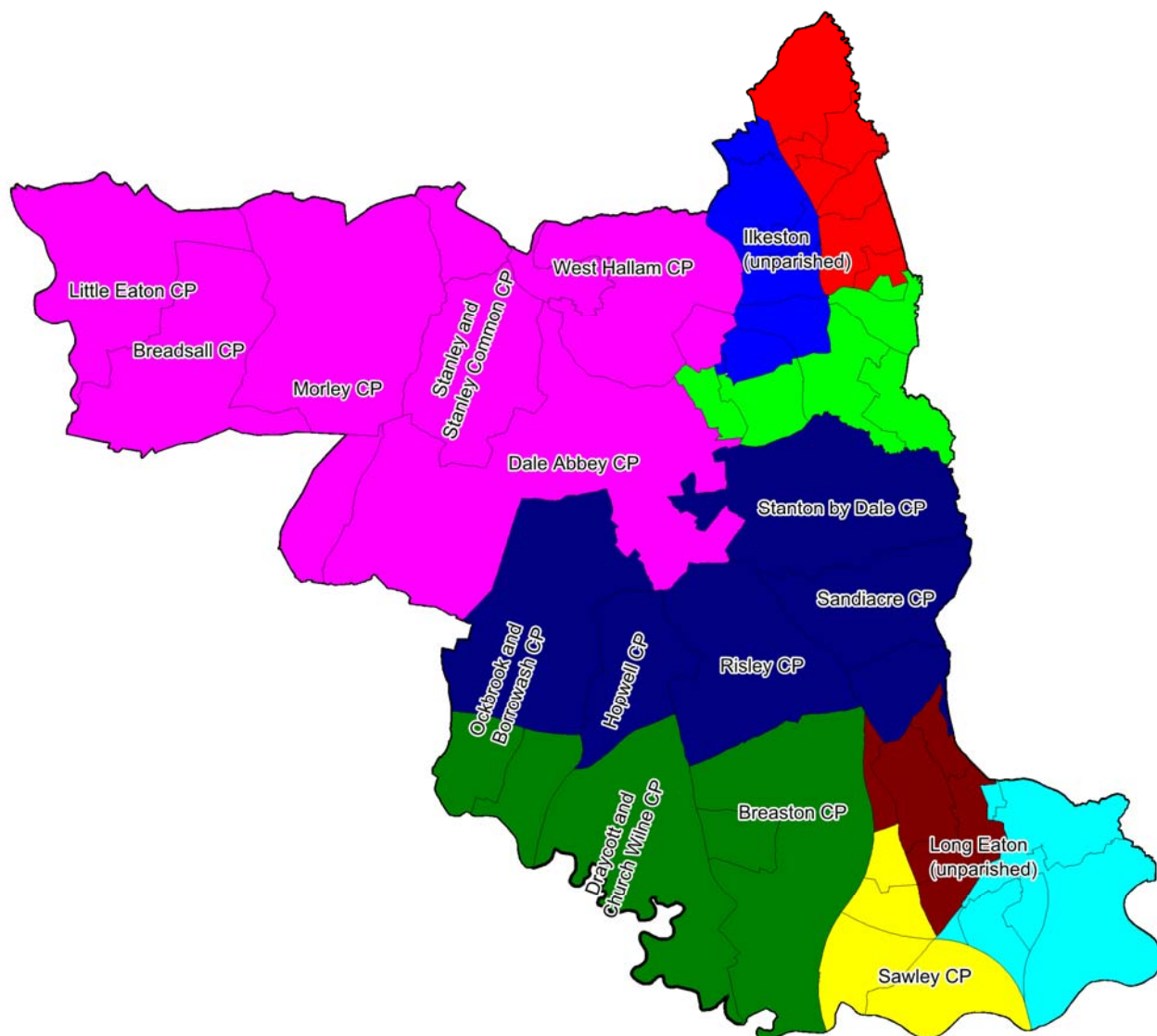
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Birdholme		8,676
Boythorpe & Brampton South		8,751
Brimington		9,889
Loundsley Green and Newbold		9,413
Spire		9,058
St Marys		9,722
Staveley		9,344
Staveley North and Whittington		9,812
Walton and West		8,741



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Derbyshire Further Electoral Review  
Derbyshire Dales  
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Derbyshire Further Electoral Review  
Erewash  
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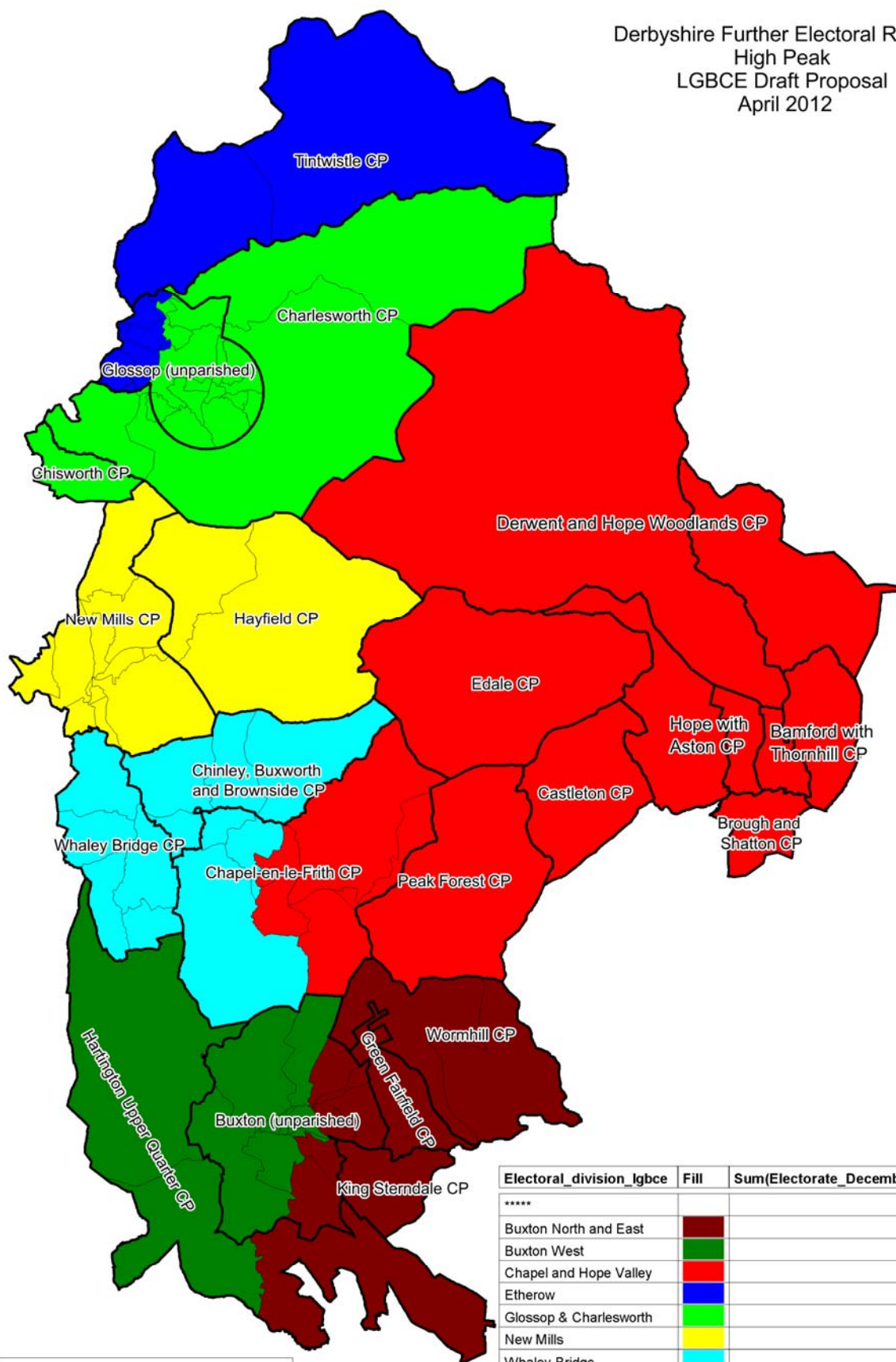
 Parish Boundary  
 Polling districts

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LGBCE_DRAFT_ED	Fill	Sum(Electorate_December_2017)
*****		0
Breadsall		9,318
Breaston		10,343
Ilkeston East		10,179
Ilkeston South		9,098
Ilkeston West		9,784
Long Eaton		9,791
Petersham		9,937
Sandiacre		9,493
Sawley		9,461

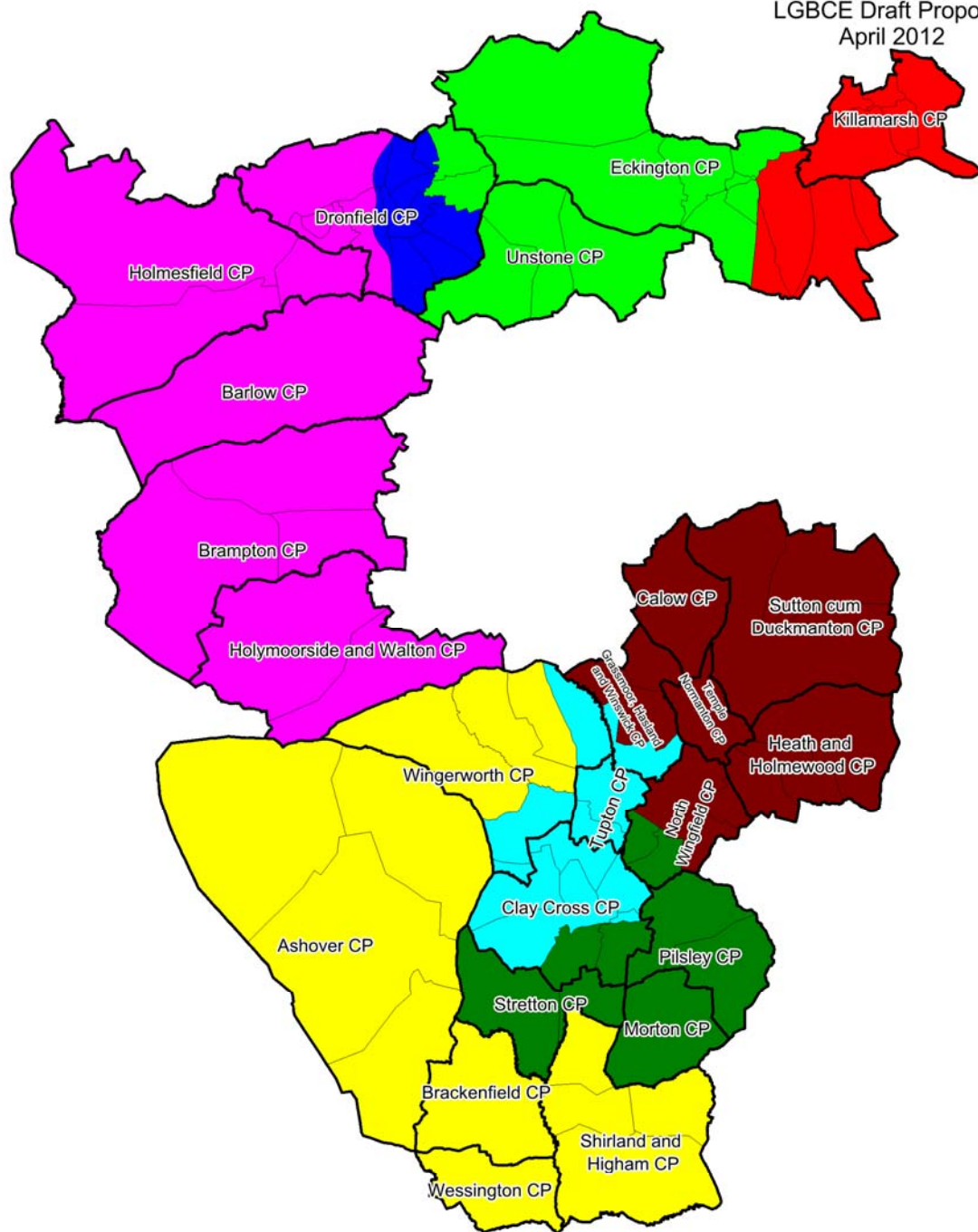


Derbyshire Further Electoral Review  
High Peak  
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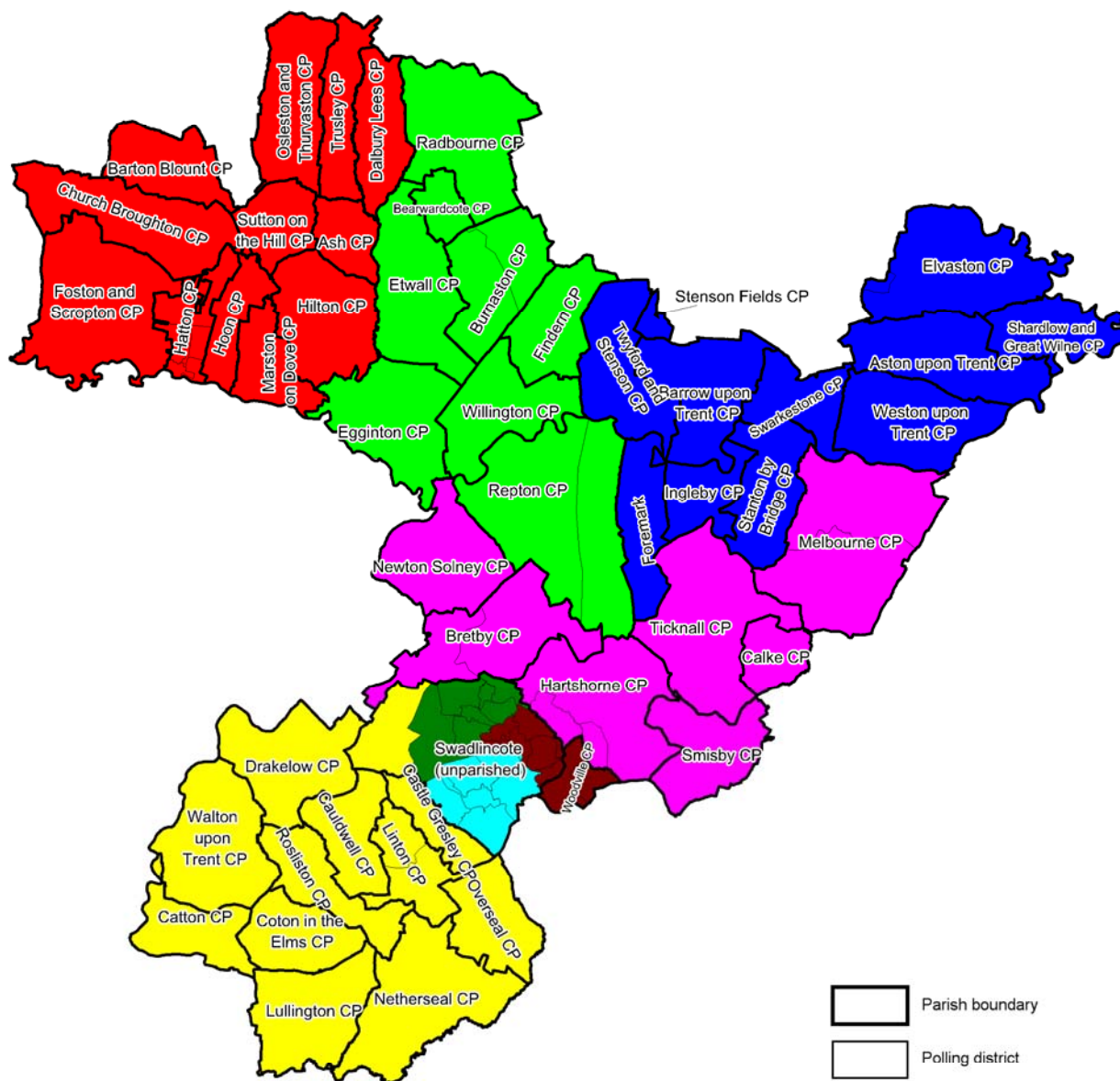
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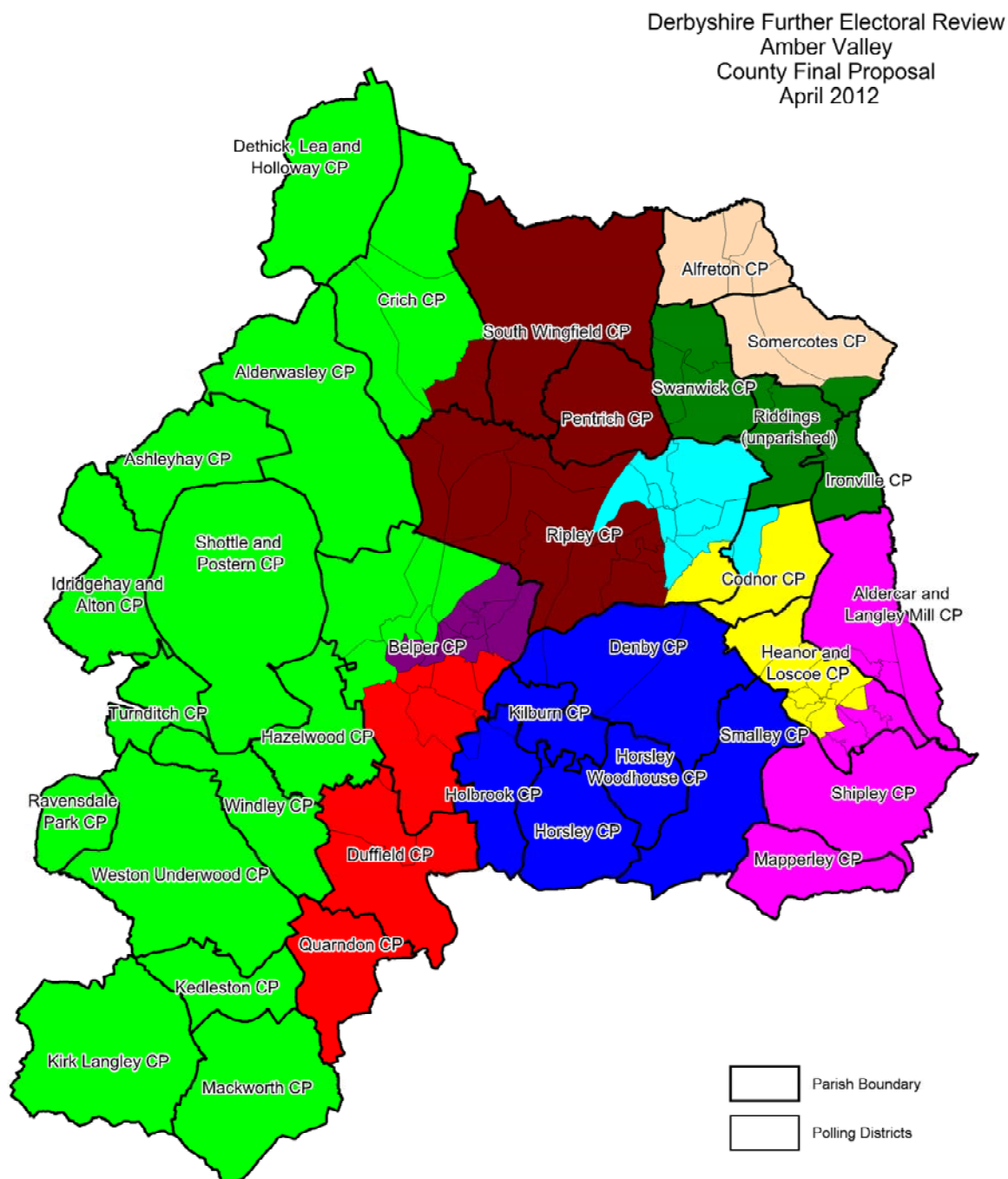
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Apperknowle		10,782
Clay Cross North		9,605
Clay Cross South		9,975
Dronfield East		8,673
Dronfield West & Walton		10,597
Killamarsh & Spinkhill		10,110
Sutton		10,023
Wingerworth & Shirland		10,871

Derbyshire Further Electoral Review  
South Derbyshire  
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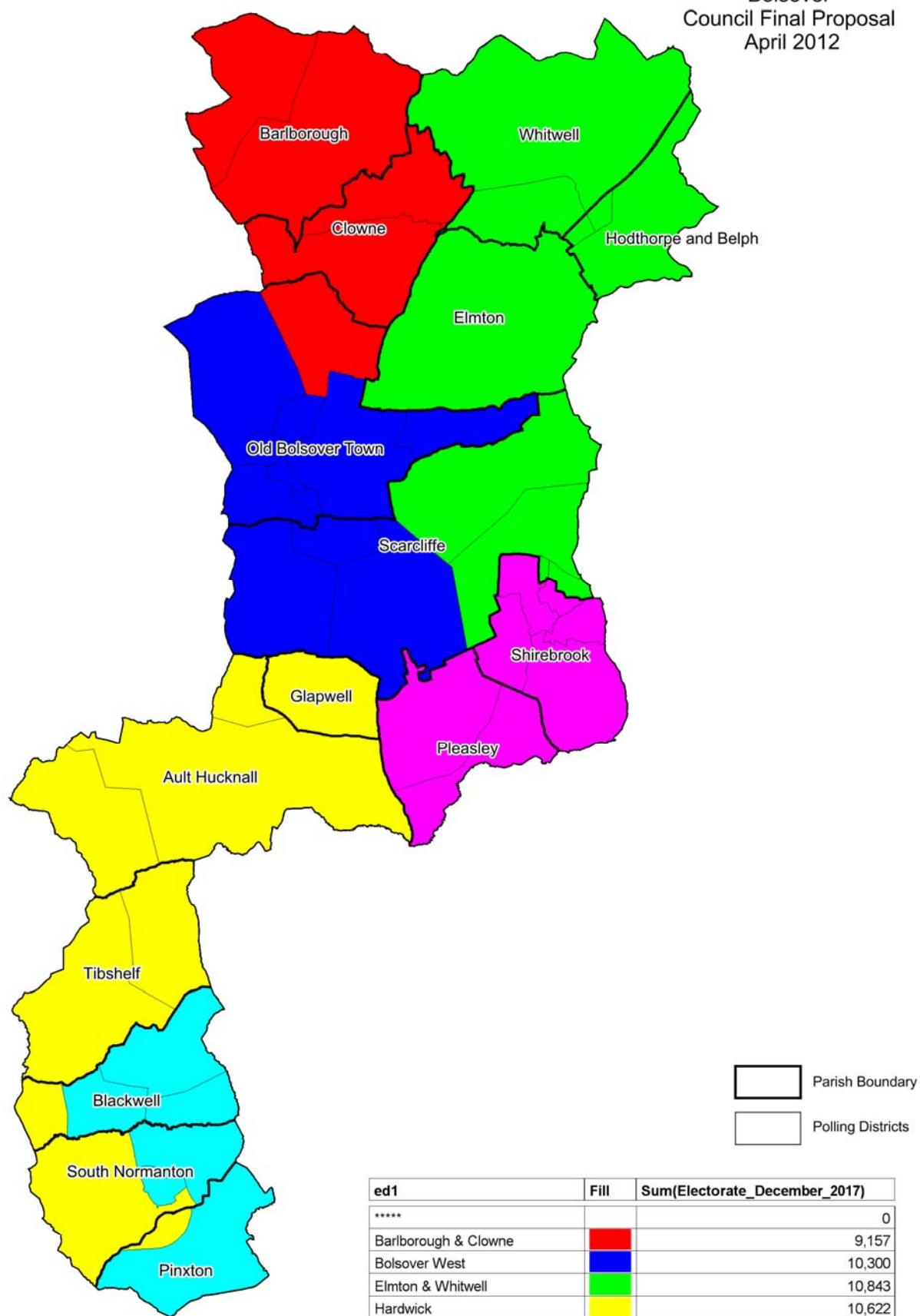
electoral_division_lgbce	Fill	Sum(Electorate_December_2017)
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Aston	Blue	10,532
Etwell and Repton	Green	10,053
Hilton	Red	9,482
Linton	Yellow	9,442
Melbourne	Magenta	9,209
Swadlincote Central	Brown	9,552
Swadlincote North	Dark Green	9,475
Swadlincote South	Cyan	9,361

## Derbyshire County Council Proposals – April 2012



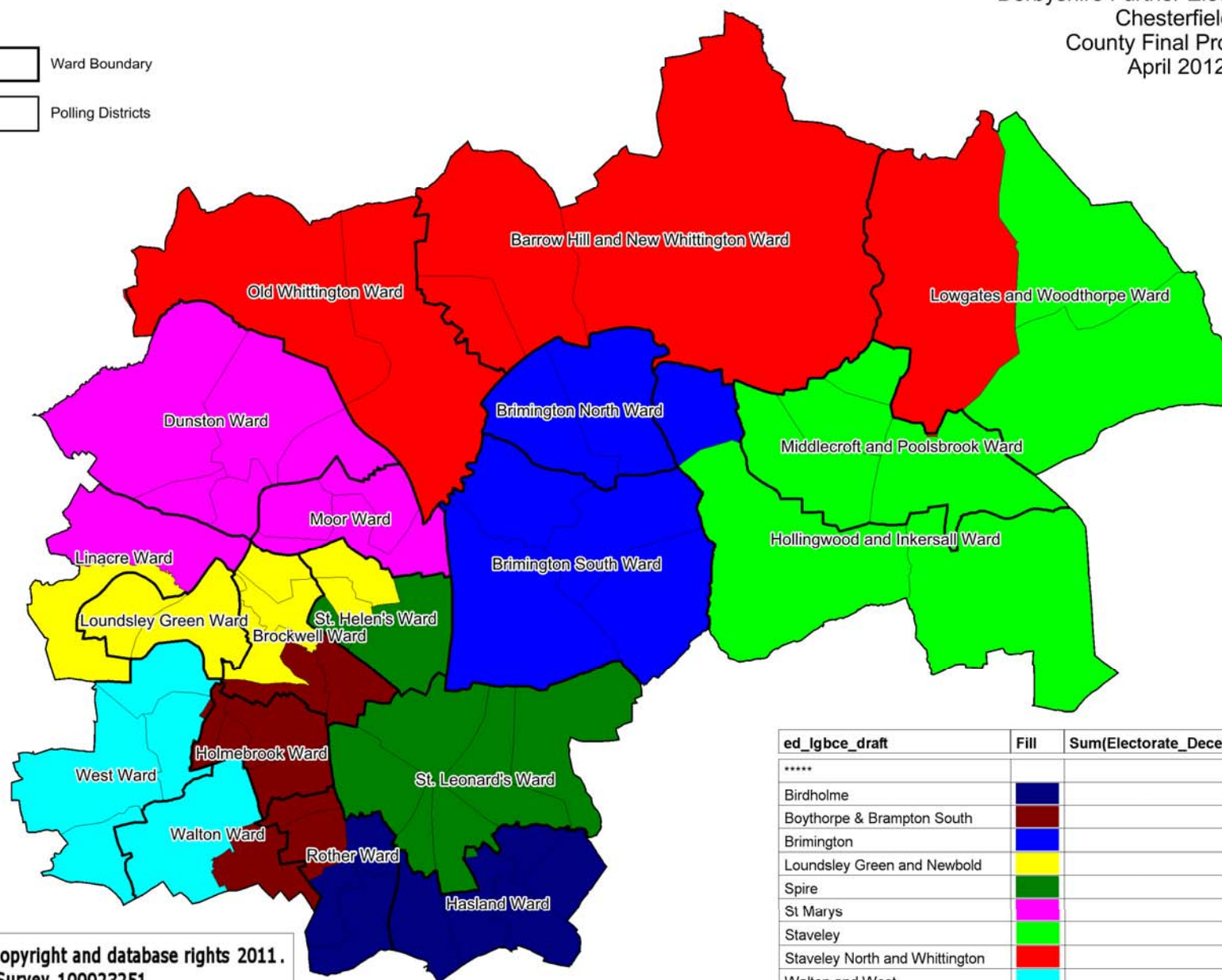
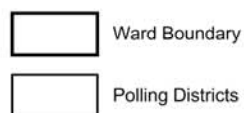
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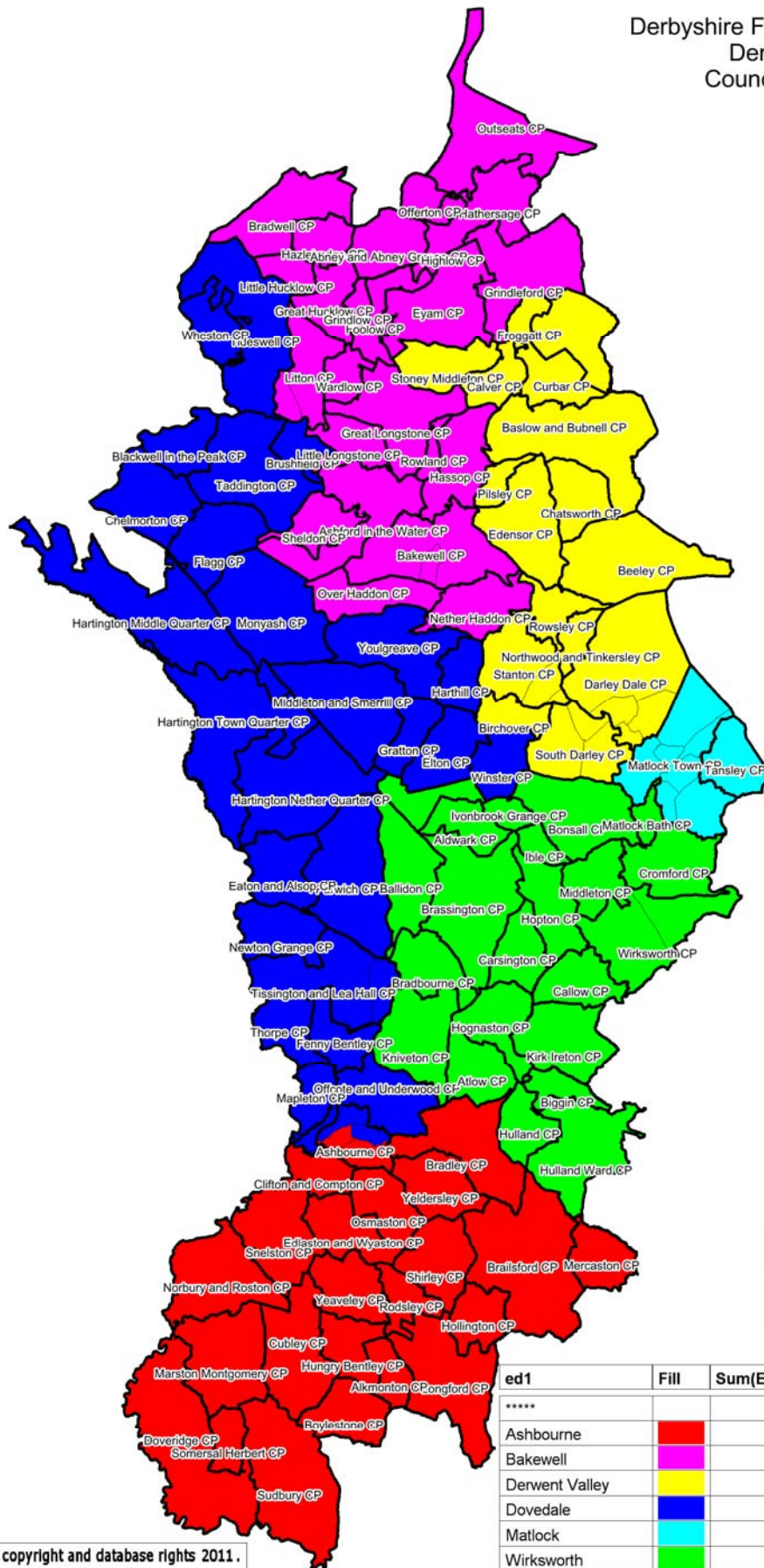
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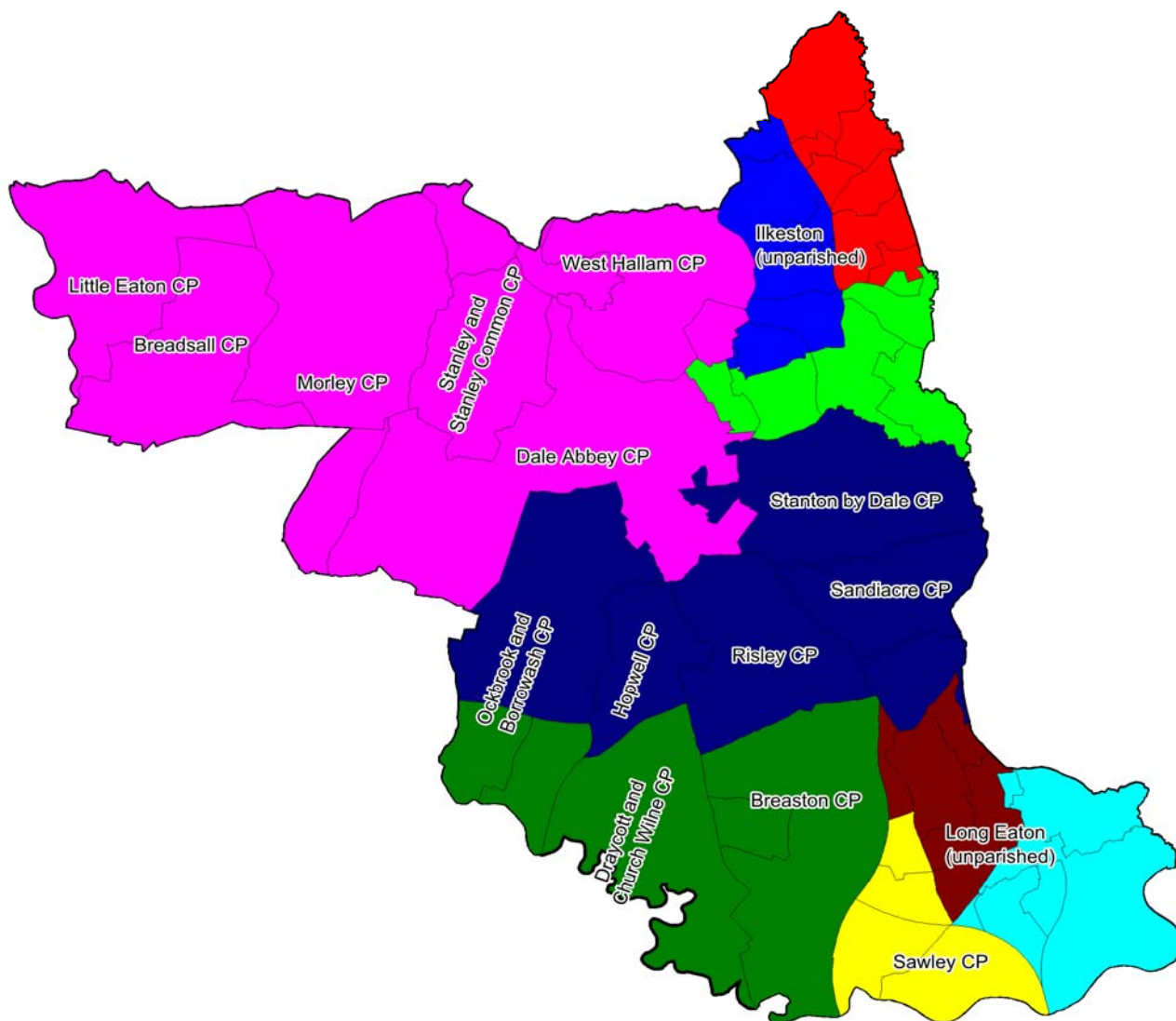
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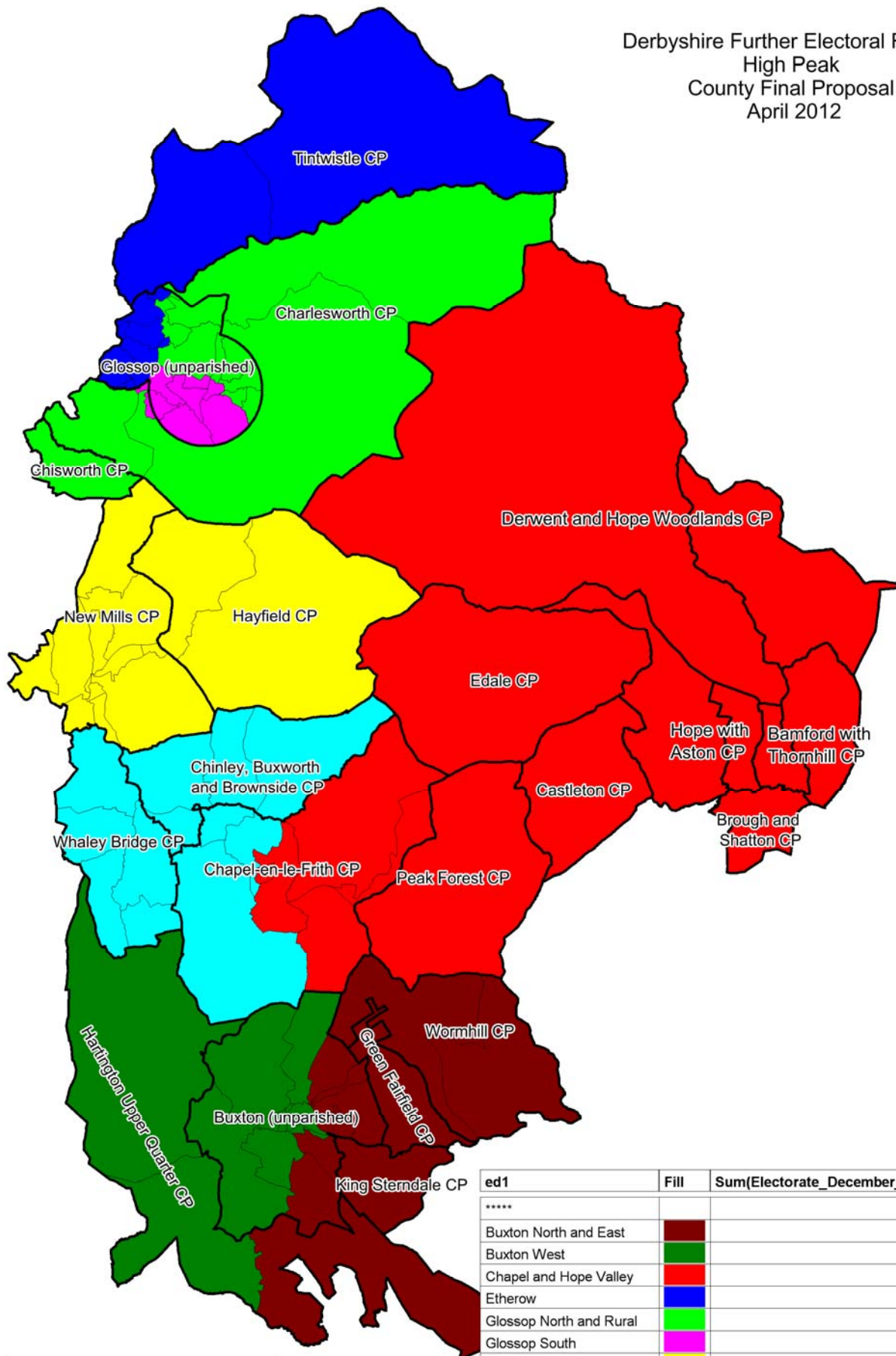
-  Parish Boundary
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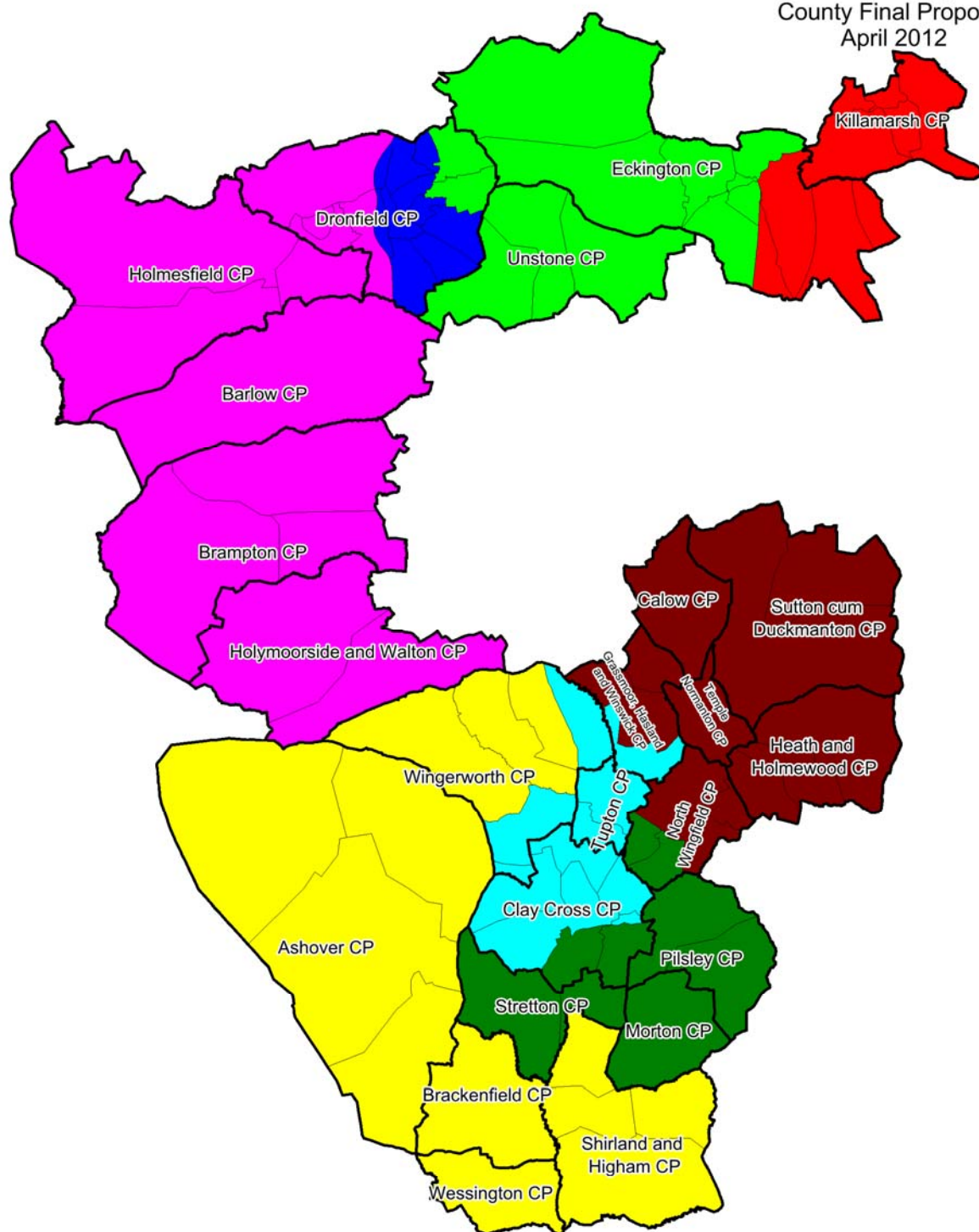


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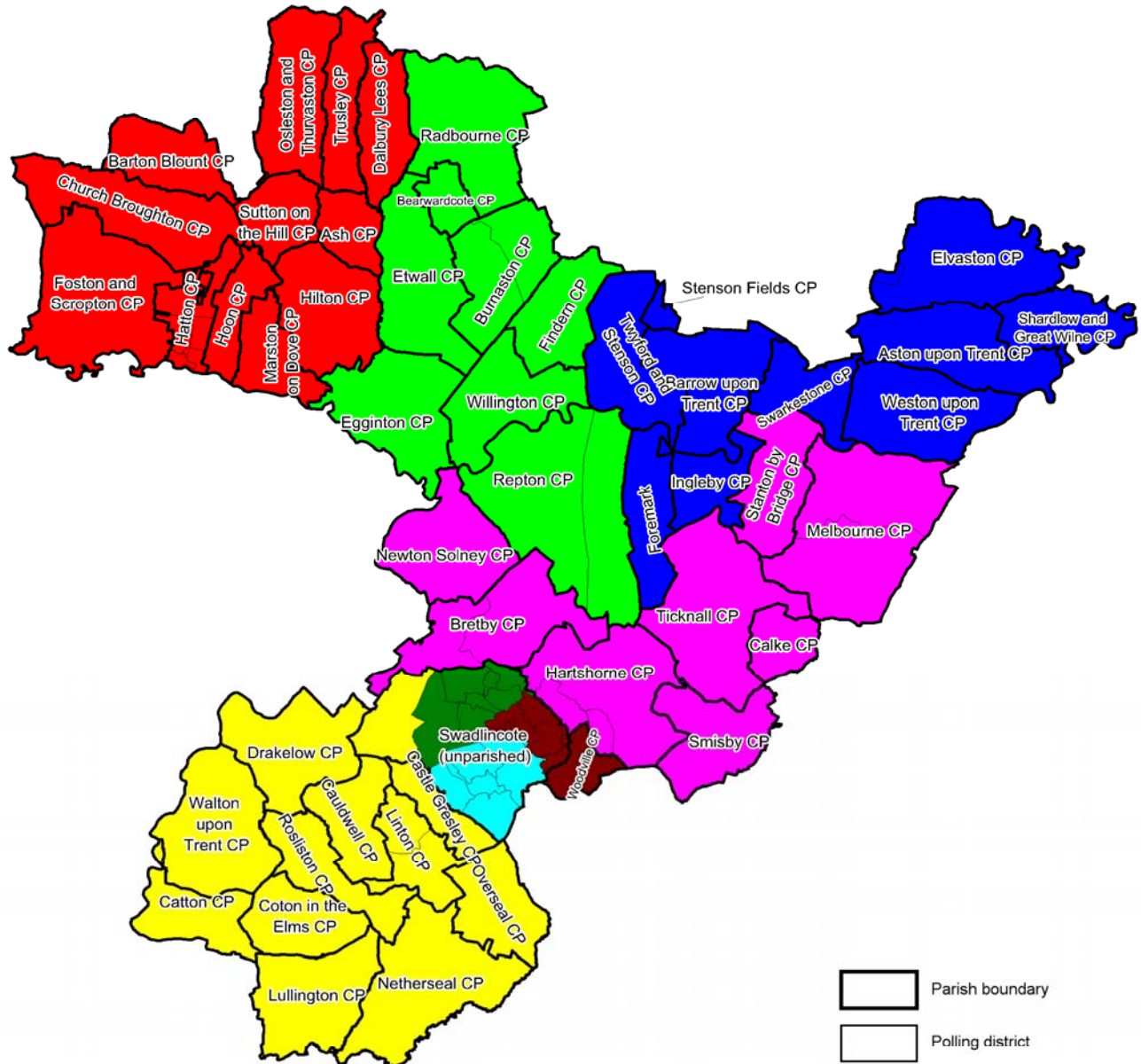
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