

Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No. 619

Principal Area Boundary Review

DISTRICT OF STAFFORDSHIRE
MOORLANDS/BOROUGH OF
STAFFORD

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

REPORT NO. 619

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

PRINCIPAL AREA BOUNDARY REVIEW
STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT AND STAFFORD BOROUGH IN THE
COUNTY OF STAFFORDSHIRE

COMMISSION'S FINAL REPORT AND PROPOSAL

INTRODUCTION

1. We have recently considered whether a change was required to the boundary between the districts of Staffordshire Moorlands and Stafford Borough in the vicinity of Blythe Bridge. The present boundary is not aligned to any ground feature, and divides 14 properties between the two districts.

BACKGROUND

2. During a parish review of the District of Staffordshire Moorlands in 1978, the possibility of an alteration to a district boundary, involving a considerable area, was raised by Forsbrook Parish Council. They proposed that the whole of the Blythe Bridge Ward should be transferred from Fulford Parish (in Stafford) to Forsbrook (in Staffordshire Moorlands) on the grounds that the whole of Blythe Bridge was one community and should be united in one parish. The proposal was not supported by Staffordshire Moorlands District Council (which was aware that a principal area boundary review would be needed), mainly because Fulford Parish Council, Stafford Borough Council and Staffordshire County Council objected.

3. In the course of the Borough of Stafford Parish Review in 1978, Fulford Parish Council suggested that 14 properties in Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge, which are divided by the present

district boundary, be united in Forsbrook Parish (in Staffordshire Moorlands). The Council gave no particular reason, presumably regarding it as a measure to rationalise the boundary.

4. In a letter dated 11 November 1987 to the Department of the Environment, Stafford Borough Council asked how they should deal with Fulford's proposal, which appeared to involve a review of district boundaries. The Department of Environment passed the query on to us. We wrote on 10 February 1988 to the District and Borough Councils; Staffordshire County Council; Stoke on Trent City Council; and also to Forsbrook and Fulford Parish Councils; seeking their views on the proposal, and on whether a larger scale change might be appropriate (eg using the railway line or the line of the A50 (T) road, in line with the earlier suggestion by Forsbrook Parish Council).

5. Both Staffordshire Moorlands District Council and Stafford Borough Council favoured the proposal to realign the boundary along Uttoxeter Road but wished to consider further the desirability of wider change.

6. Between February 1988 and June 1990, the question of the scale of change was pursued in correspondence. Finally, in June 1990, we wrote again to all four councils asking them to confirm their views of the matter. The Councils all confirmed their support for a minor realignment of the boundary along Uttoxeter Road to make the boundary clearer and to improve service provision.

PROGRESS OF THE REVIEW

7. Accordingly, on 28 June 1991, we launched a principal area boundary review and simultaneously published a draft proposal that the district boundary be realigned along Uttoxeter Road. Copies of our letter were sent to the local authorities concerned, who were asked to place it on deposit for inspection for a period of six weeks, and to the residents of the 14 properties affected by the proposal. Representations were invited by 23 August 1991.

OUR FINAL PROPOSAL

8. We received four representations. Staffordshire County Council wrote to say it had no objection to the draft proposal and Stafford Borough Council similarly reaffirmed its support. Two representations were received from residents of the properties proposed for transfer. One supported the draft proposal, while the other suggested that the boundary be moved northwards to the railway line. However, this would transfer a significant area of land and a number of residential properties from the District of Staffordshire Moorlands to the Borough of Stafford and there is no evidence that any of the local authorities or the other residents would support such a move. We therefore decided not to pursue this suggestion.

9. In the absence of any other objections, we have concluded that our proposal to realign the boundary between Staffordshire Moorlands District and Stafford Borough in the area of Blythe Bridge along Uttoxeter Road is in the interests of effective and convenient local government. We therefore commend it to you.

PUBLICATION

10. A separate letter, enclosing copies of this report, is being sent to Staffordshire County Council, Staffordshire Moorlands District Council and Stafford Borough Council. It asks them to place copies of the report on deposit for inspection at their main offices for a period of six months and to place notices to this effect on public notice boards. The Commission will itself insert a notice in the local press. The text of the notice will explain that the Commission has fulfilled its statutory role in the matter and that it now falls to you to make an Order implementing the proposal, if you see fit, though not before a period of six weeks has elapsed from the date on which our report was submitted to you. Copies of this report, with small scale maps of our recommendation, are also being sent to the parish councils of Forsbrook and Fulford, to interested bodies, and to the residents of the 14 properties on Uttoxeter Road affected by the recommendation.

LS

Signed: G J ELLERTON (Chairman)

K F J ENNALS

G R PRENTICE

HELEN SARKANY

C W SMITH

K YOUNG

R D COMPTON

Secretary

24 October 1991

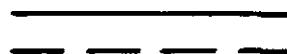
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

PRINCIPAL AREA BOUNDARY REVIEW

BOROUGH OF STAFFORD/
STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT

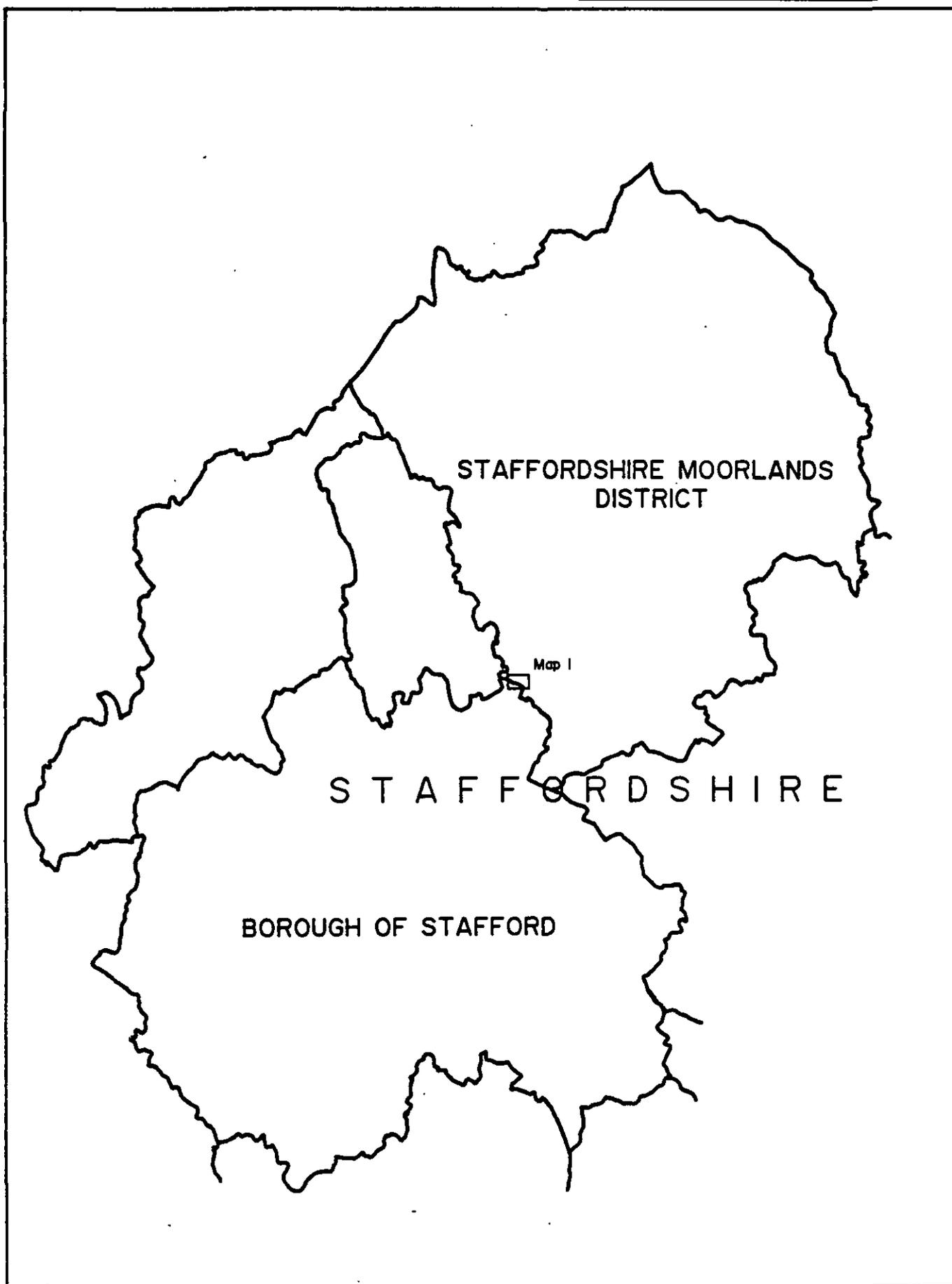
FINAL PROPOSALS

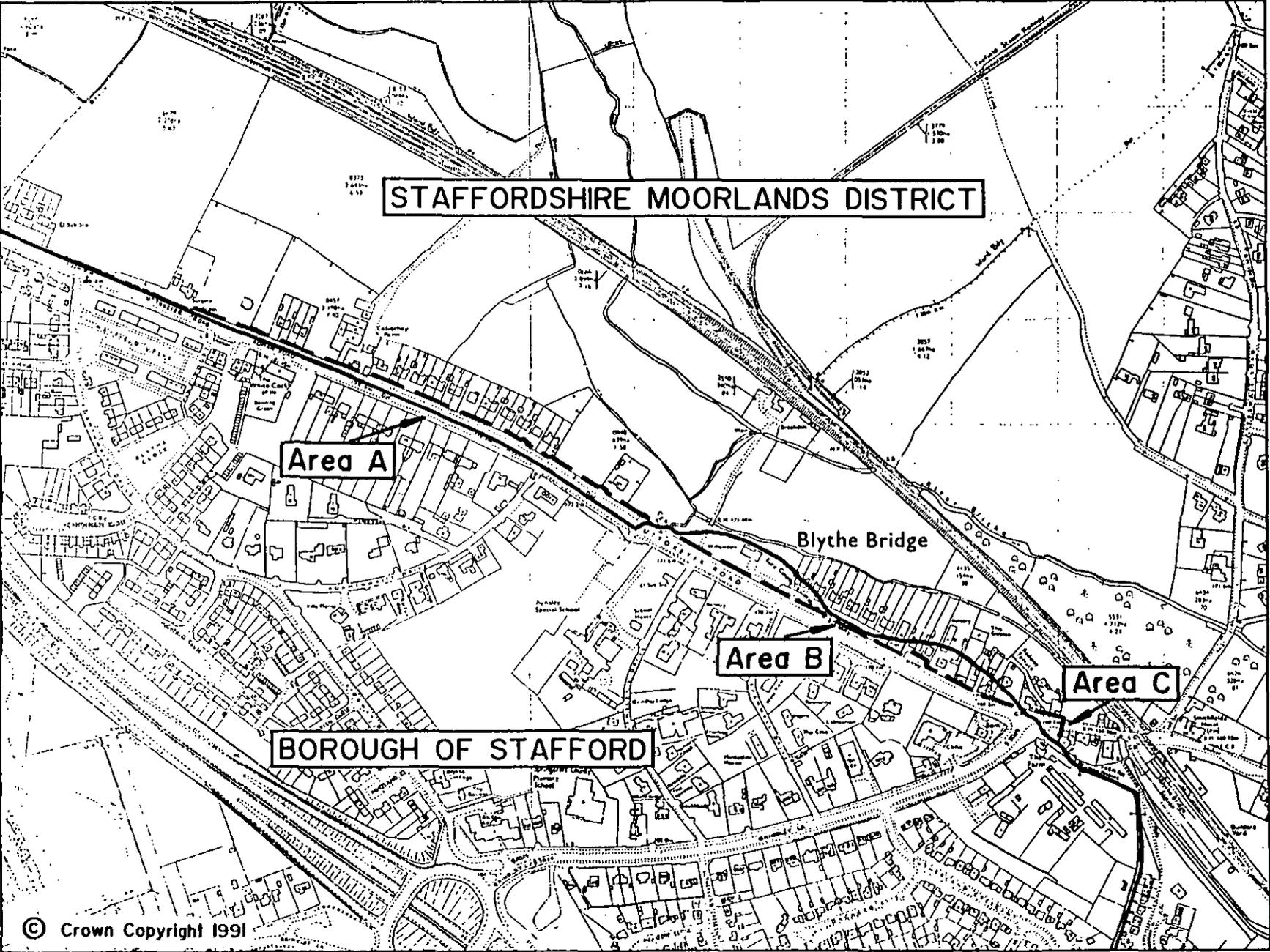
Existing Boundary
Proposed Boundary



Produced by the Ordnance Survey for the
Local Government Boundary Commission for England

LOCATION DIAGRAM





STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT

Area A

Blythe Bridge

Area B

Area C

BOROUGH OF STAFFORD

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Map 1

CONSEQUENTIAL CHANGES

Map No.	Area Ref.	From	To
1	A C	Staffordshire Moorlands District Forsbrook CP Forsbrook Ward Caverswall ED	Borough of Stafford Fulford CP Fulford Ward Stone Rural ED
	B	Borough of Stafford Fulford CP Fulford Ward Stone Rural ED	Staffordshire Moorlands District Forsbrook CP Forsbrook Ward Caverswall ED