

Ashford Borough Council

Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Ashford Borough Council held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford on the **8th September 2016**.

Present:

His Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S J G Koowaree (Chairman);

Cllrs. Bartlett, Mrs Bell, Bell, Bennett, Mrs Blanford, Bradford, Buchanan, Burgess, Chilton, Clarkson, Clokie, Mrs Dyer, Feacey, Galpin, Heyes, Mrs Heyes, A Howard, W Howard, Krause, Link, MacPherson, Miss Martin, Mrs Martin, Murphy, Ovenden, Pickering, Shorter, Smith, Wedgbury.

Also Present:

Chief Executive, Corporate Director (Law and Governance), Head of Finance, Programme Manager, Member Services Manager, Senior Member Services Officer.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting: -

- (i) His Worshipful the Mayor said he would like to draw Members attention to some material he had circulated to inform them about Organ Donation Week which was taking place this week. He asked colleagues to read the material and perhaps try to share it with constituents in an attempt to raise awareness of this important issue and hopefully secure more organ donors in the Borough.
- (ii) His Worshipful the Mayor also welcomed Councillor Ryan MacPherson to his first meeting as a newly elected Councillor and wished him well in his new role.

Apologies:

Cllrs. Aaby, Apps, Barrett, Farrell, Hicks, Knowles, Michael, Powell, Sims, Waters, Mrs Webb.

111 Exempt or Confidential Information

The Mayor asked whether any items should be dealt with in private because of the likely disclosure of exempt or confidential information. The Corporate Director (Law and Governance) advised that there were none.

112 Review of Ward Boundaries for Ashford Borough Council

The Mayor directed Members' attention to the tabled papers which set out proposed changes to the names of three Wards suggested by the relevant Ward Members. The Leader of the Council advised that there had been an additional proposed change, to the name of Ward Number 12, to Aylesford and East Stour, which better reflected the wishes of the community in that area.

113 Committee of the Whole Council

The Leader proposed that “General Procedure Rule 12 (r) be applied and the meeting become a Committee of the Council.” This was seconded, put to the vote and carried.

Resolved:

That the meeting become a Committee of the Council in accordance with General Procedure Rule 12 (r).

114 Review of Ward Boundaries for Ashford Borough Council

The Leader said that in moving the recommendations of the Electoral Review Task Group, along with the amendments on the tabled papers and the one suggested at the meeting this evening, he wanted to thank not only colleague Councillors but also the small Officer team which had supported the Task Group’s work so well on what was a very difficult and sensitive issue. He said that no set of proposals for ward boundary changes would ever be perfect, but he firmly believed that what they had before them was as good as it could possibly be. Any moves to adjust the boundaries had affected a whole range of wards, and that had been worked through diligently to arrive at the current position. Most importantly, the proposals met all of the Boundary Commission’s criteria, so they could be confident about how the proposals would be received by them.

The Leader advised that the Task Group had met three times in July and August to consider and refine the proposals and several interested Ward Councillors attended those meetings to put forward their views. In addition there was a two week consultation period in July and August when all Councillors were given a further chance to input views. He was pleased that several had done so and where possible the views put forward by colleagues had been added and accommodated in the proposals. Sets of drawings had been displayed in various locations throughout the Civic Centre, including his own office. A further consultation stage would be carried out by the Boundary Commission itself between November 2016 and January 2017.

Recommended:

That the recommendations set out in the report and as amended by the changes set out in the tabled paper and made at the meeting be approved.

115 Meeting of the Council

The Leader of the Council proposed that “General Procedure Rule 12(s) be applied and the meeting of the Council be resumed”. This was seconded, put to the vote and carried.

Resolved:

That the meeting of the Council be resumed in accordance with General Procedure Rule 12 (s).

116 Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Council

The Leader of the Council proposed that “the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole Council as contained in Minute No. 115 be approved”. This was seconded.

Resolved:

That the recommendations of the Committee of the Whole Council as contained in Minute No. 115 be approved and adopted.

(DS)
MINS:

Queries concerning these Minutes? Please contact Danny Sheppard
Telephone: 01233 330349 Email: danny.sheppard@ashford.gov.uk
Agendas, Reports and Minutes are available on: www.ashford.gov.uk/committees

Appendix A
Review of ward boundaries
Summary of proposed wards

No	Ward name	No of Cllrs	Electorate	% variance	Commentary
1	Conningbrook and Little Burton Farm	1	1974	-7%	Follows the Community Governance Review boundary for North Willesborough joining the Conningbrook development with the Little Burton Farm development.
2	Saxon Shore	1	2162	+2%	Existing Saxon Shore Ward split into two single Member wards along the parish boundary line between Smeeth and Aldington.
3	Bircholt	1	2169	+2%	As above.
4	Downs West	1	2105	-1%	New ward consisting of Westwell, Challock, Eastwell and Boughton Aluph minus Goat Lees. The ward reflects the Community Governance Review boundary which follows Sandyhurst Lane.
5	Upper Weald	1	2072	-2%	Incorporate the Community Governance Review boundary between Little Chart and Charing along the M20. The Ward is made up of Pluckley, Little Chart and Hothfield parishes with the inclusion of Charing Heath.
6	Singleton West	1	2015	-5%	New ward covering Singleton North area.

7	Mersham, Sevington South with Finberry	1	2203	+4%	New ward consisting of Mersham, Sevington South, the new Finberry development. The ward boundary reflects the Community Governance Review boundary change which follows the A2070.
8	Rolvenden and Tenterden West	1	2158	+2%	Existing Rolvenden and Tenterden West but with a boundary change along Smallhythe Road.
9	Goat Lees	1	1915	-10%	New ward covering the Goat Lees area. In response to the Member consultation Sherwood Close and the properties on the north side of Grosvenor Road were moved into Kennington Ward to better reflect community identity.
10	Bockhanger	1	2129	0%	New ward covering the Bockhanger area.
11	Highfield	1	1972	-7%	Highfield Estate including Kingfisher Close, Boys Hall Road and Ashford Business Park. The boundaries follow Hythe Road, Bad Munstereifel Road and the train line. In response to the Member consultation Church Road, Millstream Green and Twelve Acres have been included into this ward to better reflect the community identity.

12	Aylesford and East Stour	2	4590	+8%	New ward comprising Newtown, Adams Drive, Bentley Road, South Willesborough, the Boulevard and Monument Way.
13	Repton	2	4044	-5%	New ward comprising Repton Park, Orchard Heights and Campion Close.
14	Godinton	1	1934	-9%	New ward comprising Godinton Park Estate.
15	Kingsnorth Village and Bridgefield	1	2225	+5%	New ward consisting of Kingsnorth Village and Stubbs Cross. The new ward incorporates Bridgefield. The new Local Plan which is out for consultation puts forward proposals for a large part of rural Kingsnorth to become residential. The suggested boundary change would allow for Bridgefield to become a ward in its own right in the future.
16	Weald Central	2	4294	+1%	New ward consisting of High Halden, Bethersden, proposed Chilmington Green Parish Ward and Great Chart Village.
17	Roman	1	2225	+5%	New ward comprising West Hawk Farm, Britannia Lane and Coulter Road. Following the Member consultation The Limes has been moved into this Ward to improve electorate equality.

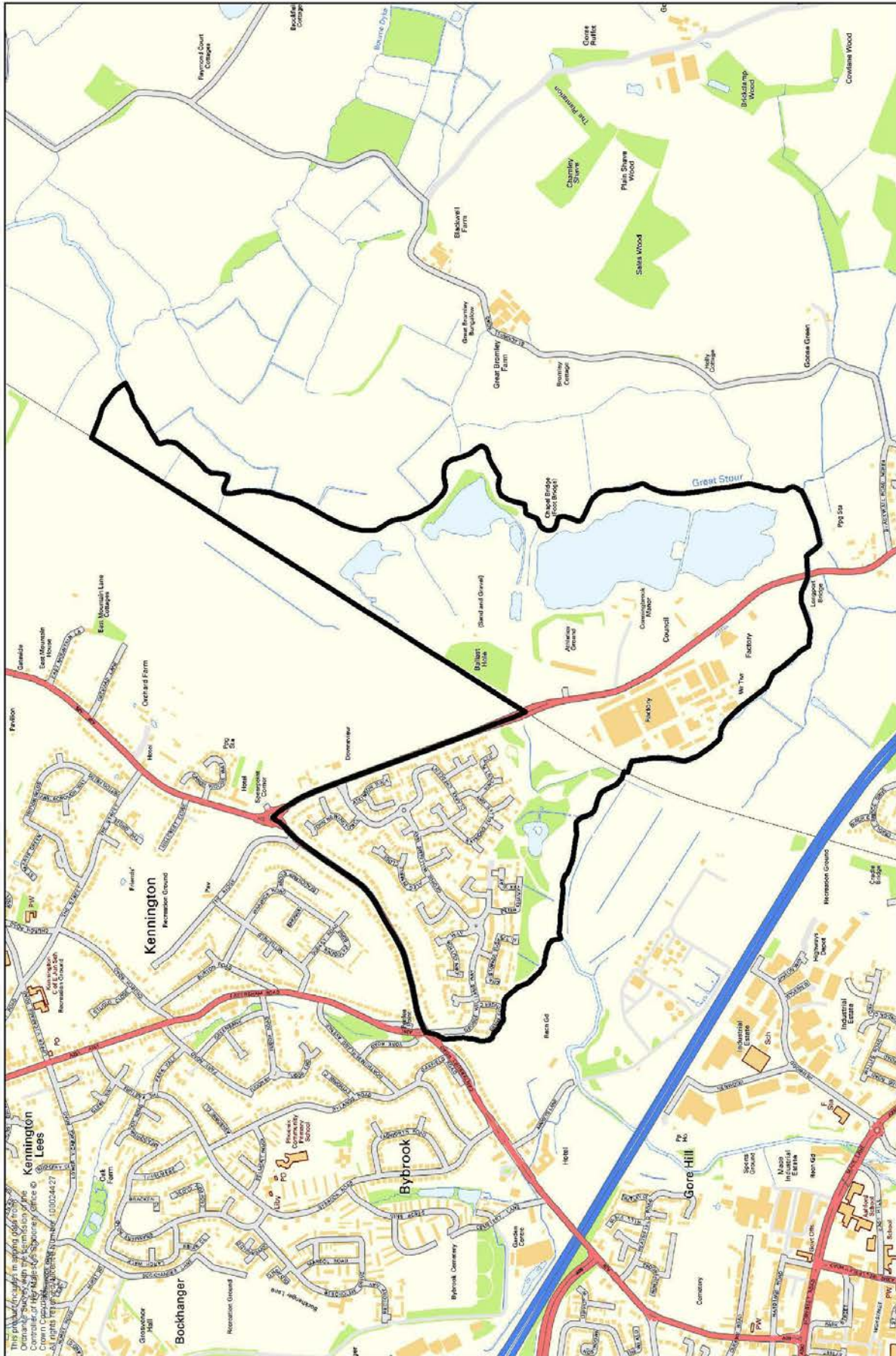
18	Singleton East	1	2107	-1%	Existing ward with the exclusion of Running Foxes Lane and Greenfields Lane.
19	Washford	1	2160	+2%	New ward comprising Washford Farm Road, Langney Drive and John Wesley Primary School, Running Foxes Lane and Greenfields Lane.
20	Weald North	1	1998	-6%	Existing Weald North Ward except for minor amendment to reflect the Community Governance Review. This change affects 3 properties.
21	Weald South	2	4288	+1%	Existing Weald South with polling district WS5 removed (Stubbs Cross).
22	Wye with Hinxhill	1	1976	-7%	Existing Wye with Hinxhill Ward unchanged.
23	Beaver	2	4669	+10%	Existing Beaver Ward except boundary change to reflect the Community Governance Review along Knoll Lane and the removal of Arlington and Boxley. Farrow Court is included in this Ward.
24	Biddenden	1	2204	+4%	Existing Biddenden Ward. The existing boundary has been moved to run along the High Halden Road so that the Woodlands Caravan Park falls within one ward.

25	Charing	1	2229	+5%	Existing Charing Ward but with boundary change along the M20 to reflect the Community Governance Review changes.
26	Downs North	1	2099	-1%	Existing Downs North Ward unchanged.
27	Isle of Oxney	1	2207	+4%	Existing Isle of Oxney boundary retained.
28	Kennington	1	2086	-2%	Existing ward with the inclusion of Oak Farm because access is off Lower Vicarage Road. This affects one property only. Following the Member consultation Sherwood Close and the properties on the north side of Grosvenor Road have been moved into this Ward to better reflect community identity.
29	Norman	1	2140	+1%	Existing Norman Ward reflecting the Community Governance Review change along Badmunsteriefel.
30	North Willesborough	2	4444	+5%	New ward including the Community Governance Review boundary along Willesborough Road. The ward includes Willesborough Lees, Hythe Road, Breadlands Road, Summer Leeze.
31	Park Farm South	1	1949	-8%	Existing Park Farm South with the exclusion of Acorn Close and part of Wood Lane and with the inclusion of Finn Farm and Finn Farm Court.

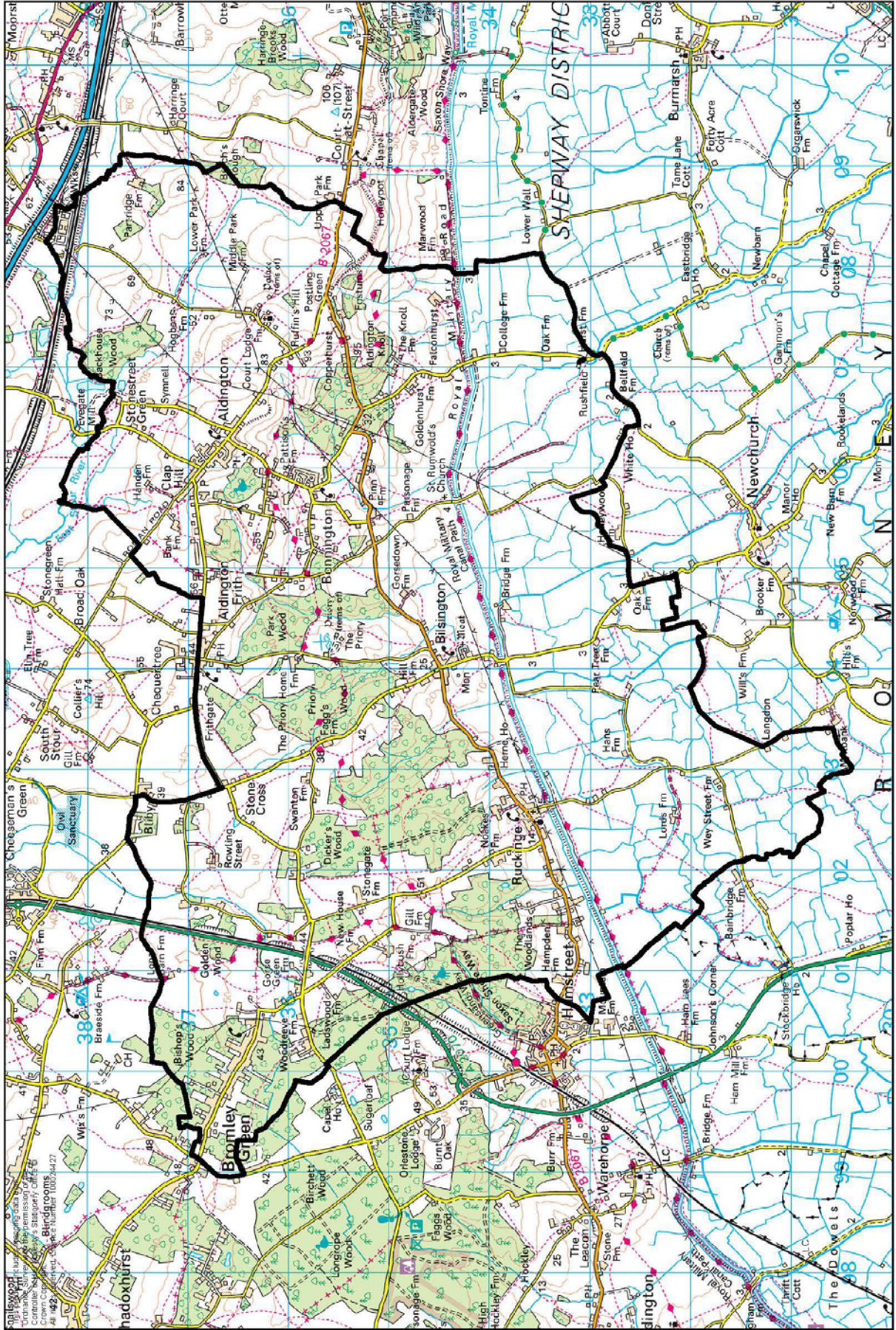
32	Park Farm North	1	1926	-9%	Existing Park Farm North Ward with the exclusion of Britannia Lane, and West Hawk Farm and the inclusion of Acorn Close and part of Wood Lane.
33	Tenterden St Michael's	1	2019	-5%	Formerly St Michael's Ward. Boundary retained except for the addition of Colonel Stephen's Way.
34	Stanhope	1	2324	+9%	Existing Stanhope Ward with the exclusion of The Limes.
35	Furley	2	4623	+9%	Existing Stour ward with amendment to boundary to include Sussex and Kent Avenue, Highworth School, Warren Lodge Nursing Home and Chamberlain Manor.
36	Tenterden North	1	1927	-9%	Existing Tenterden North ward with inclusion of Beacon Oak Road, Eastgate Road, Craythorne and part of Woodchurch Road. Colonel Stephen's Way has been removed from the existing ward as its only access is from a neighbouring ward.
37	Tenterden South	1	1964	-8%	Existing Tenterden South ward with boundary change along Smallhythe Road. Beacon Oak Road, Eastgate Road, Craythorne and part of Woodchurch Road have been removed from existing ward to reflect councillor comments.

38	Victoria	2	4276	+1%	Existing Victoria Ward with the inclusion of Godinton Road, Kings Avenue and Barrow Hill and the exclusion of Kent and Sussex Avenue and Arlington Boxley.
39	Bybrook	1	2064	-3%	New ward covering the Bybrook area.

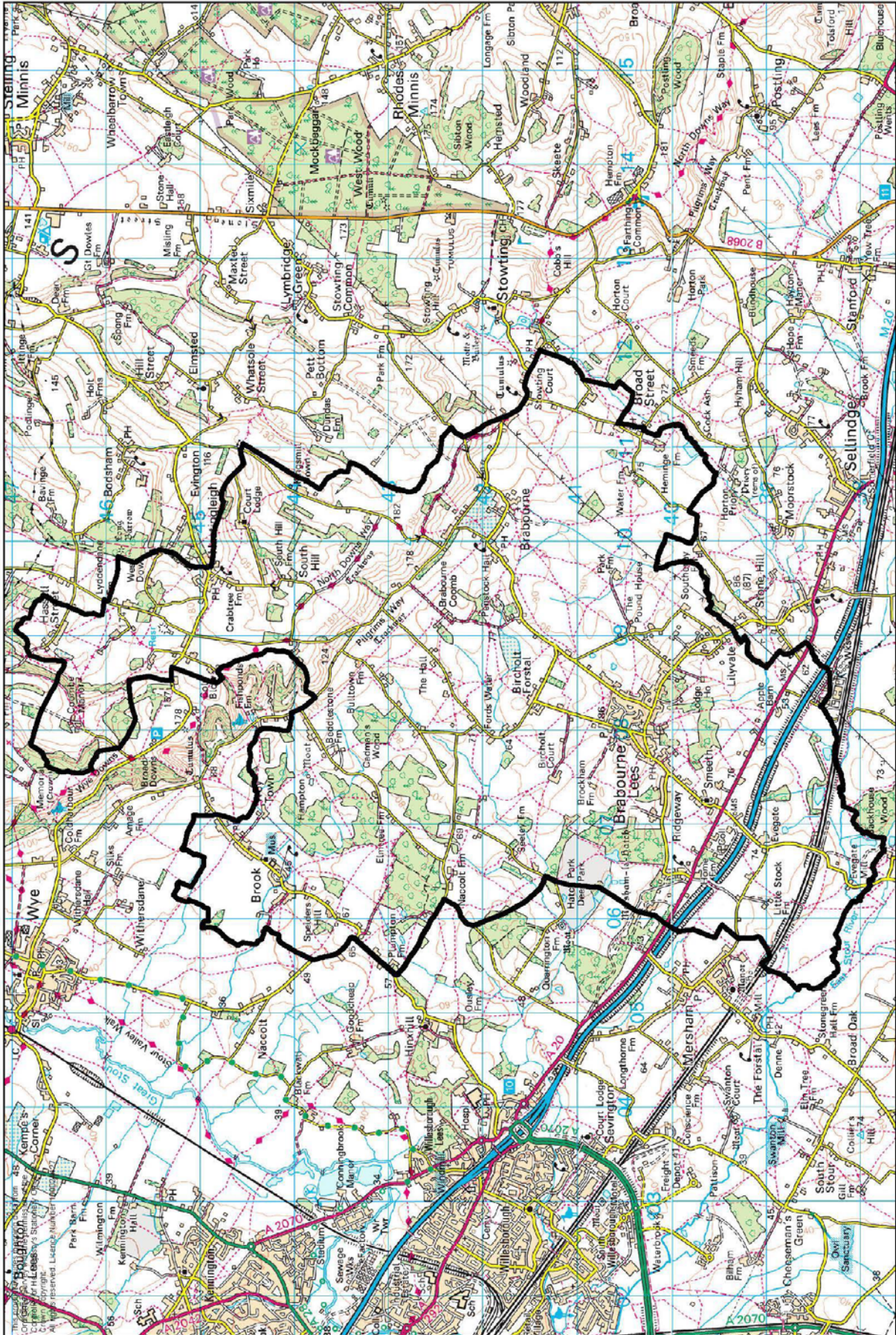
Appendix B



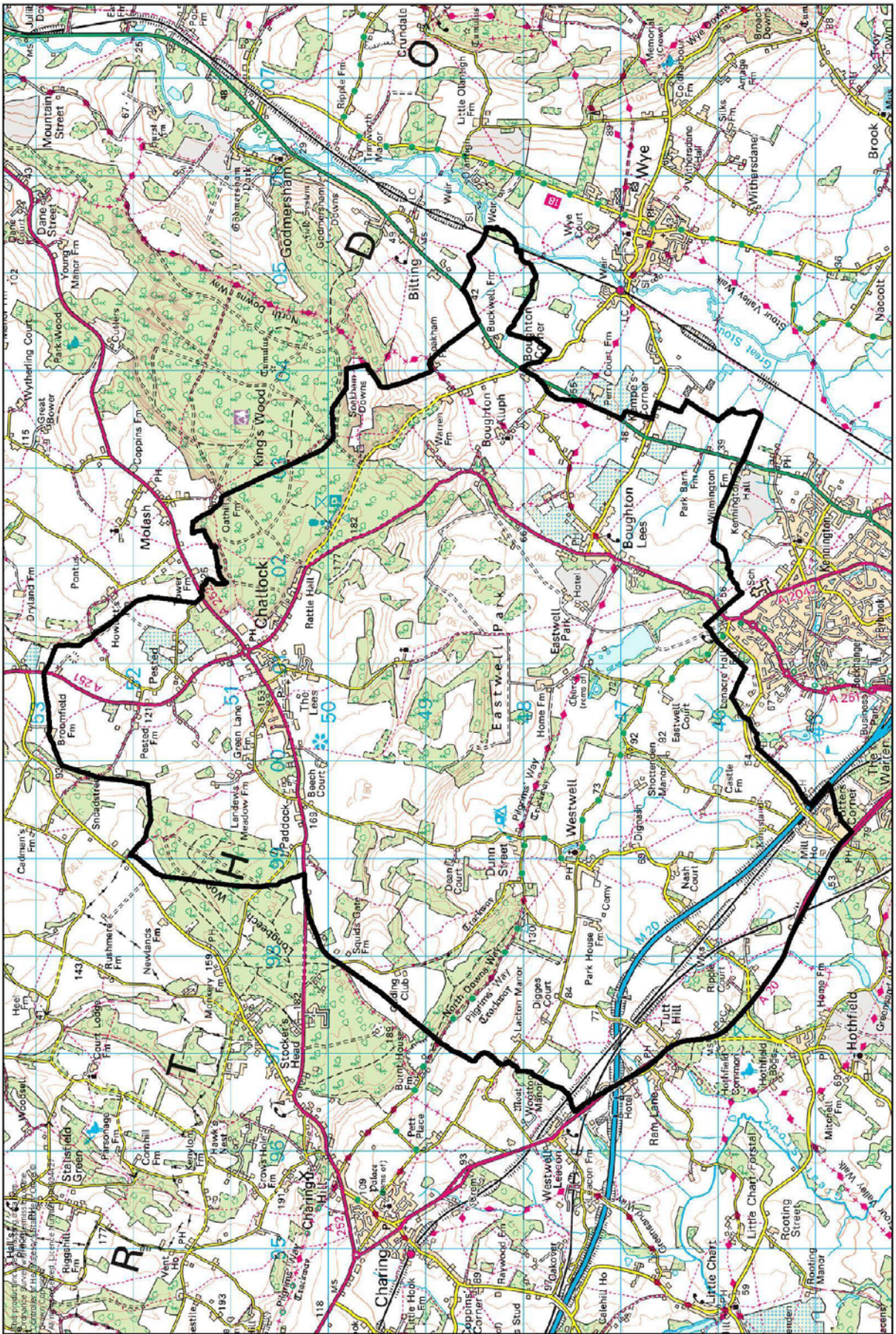
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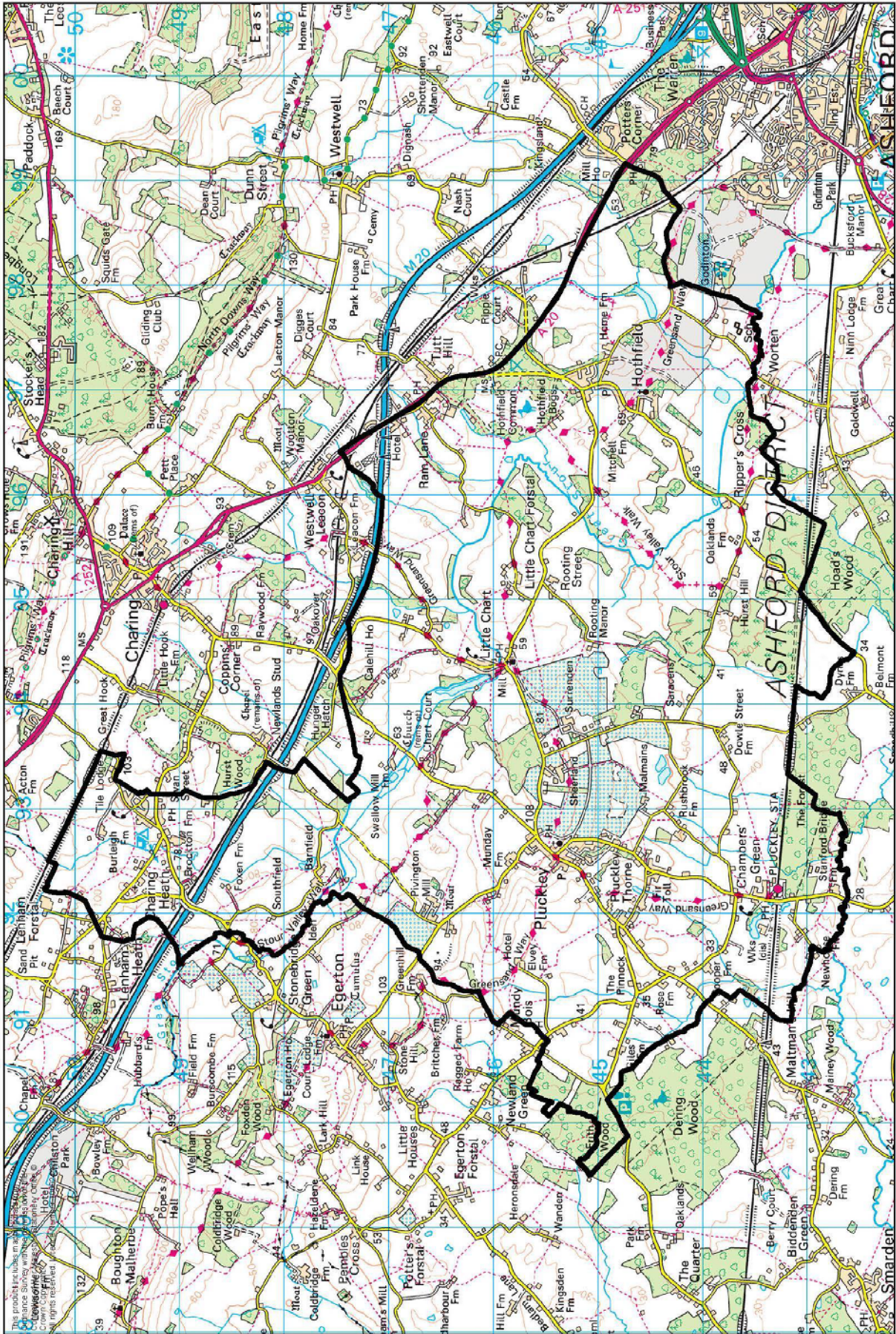
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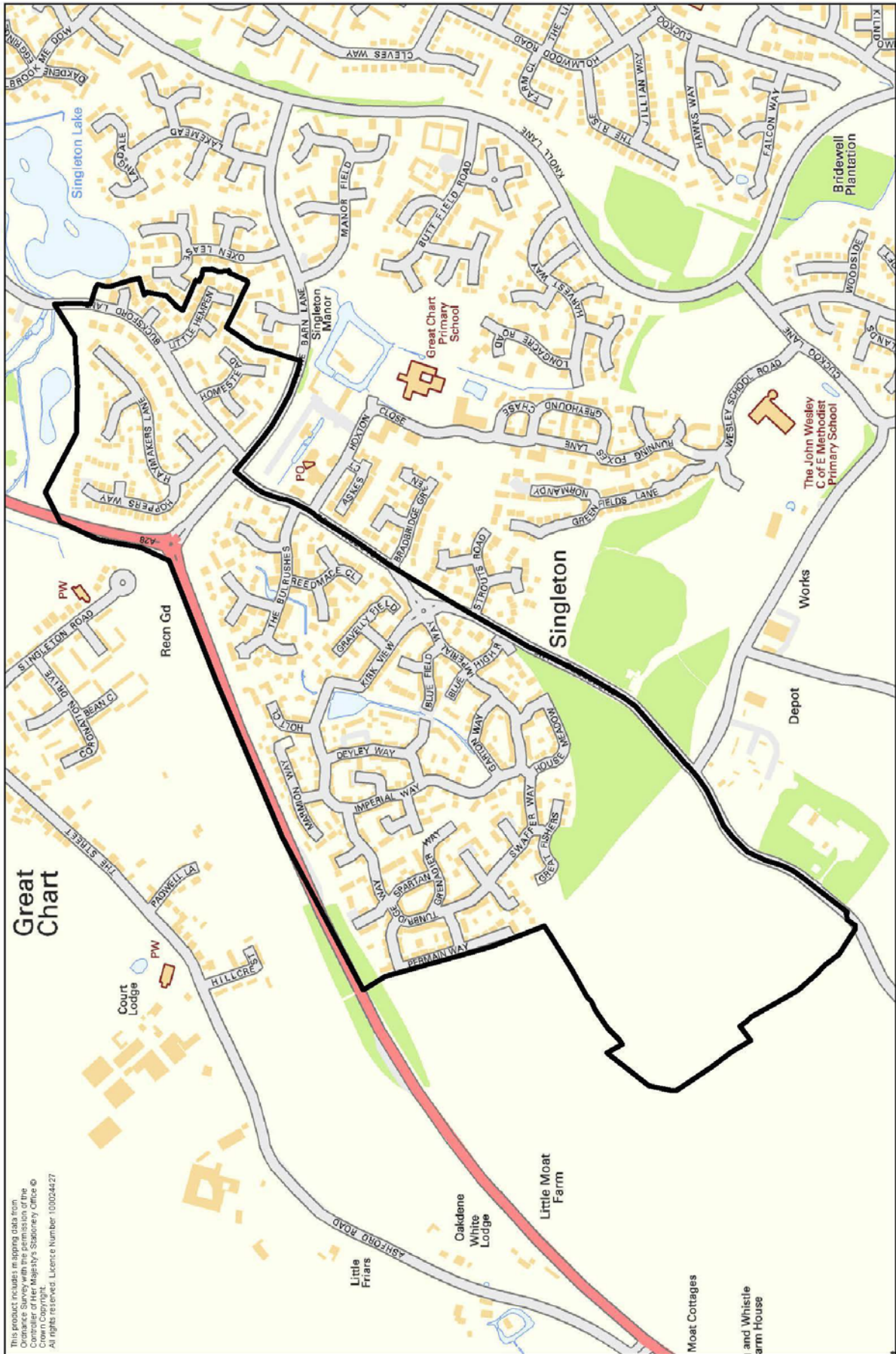
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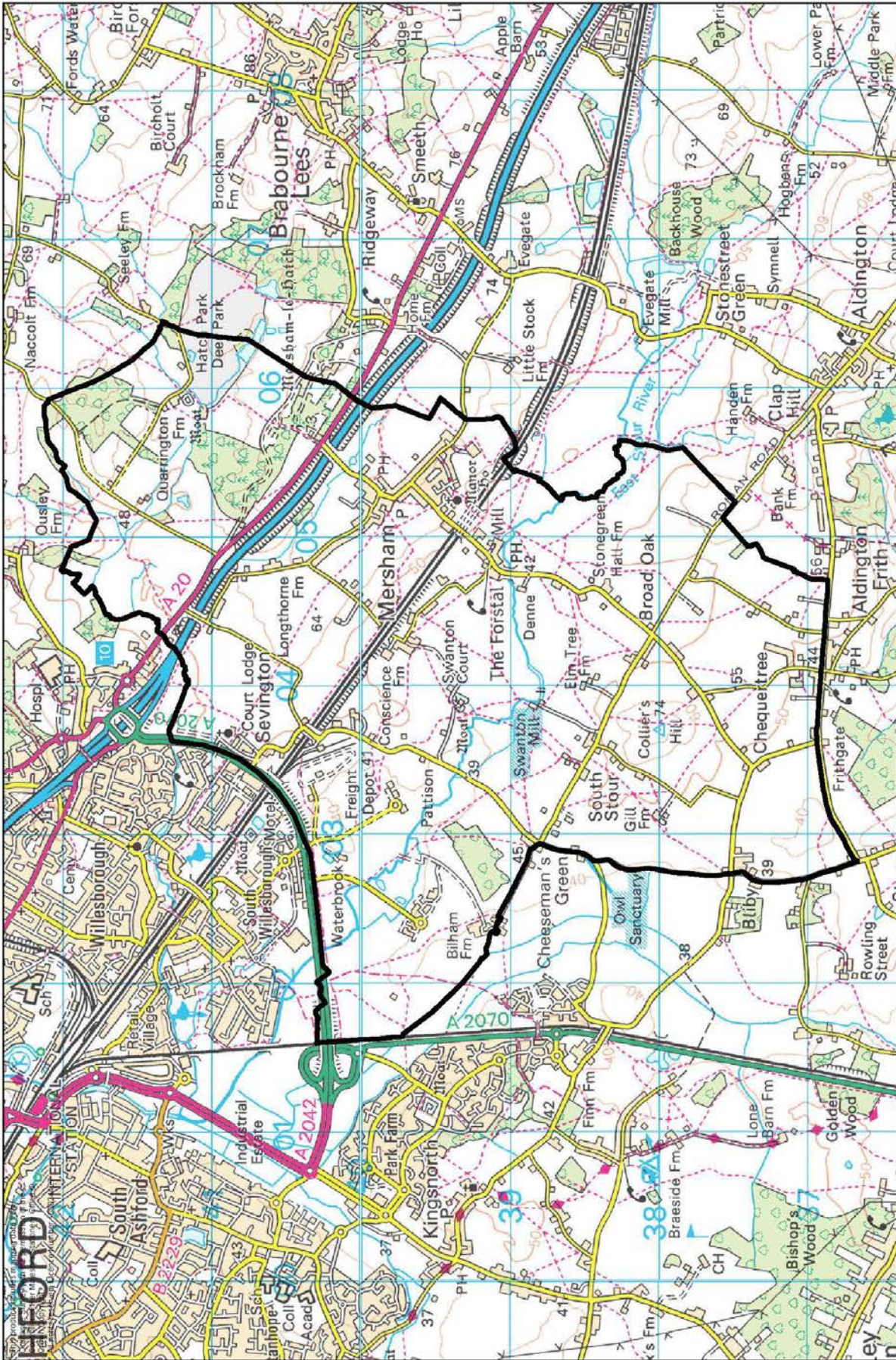
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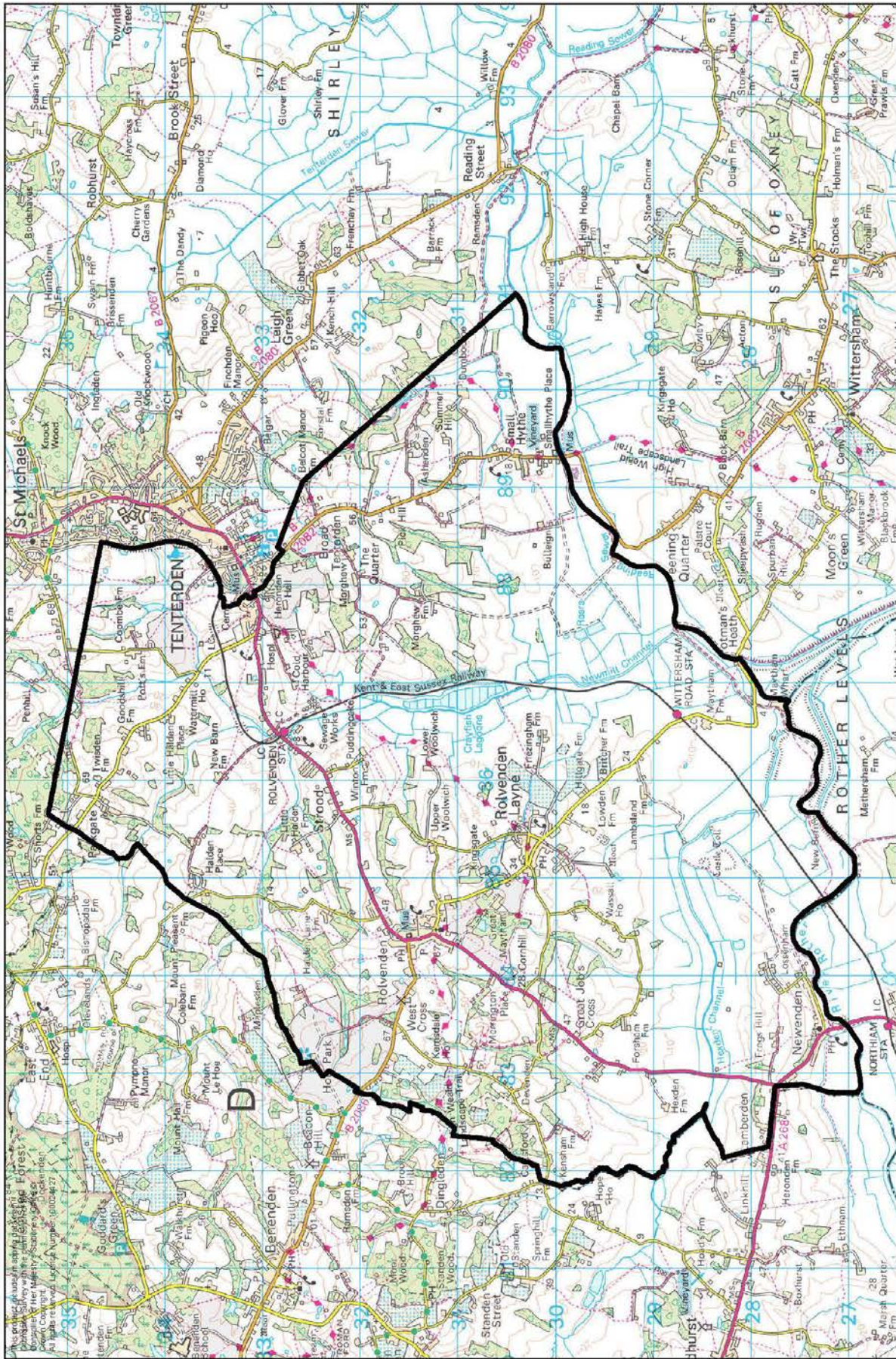
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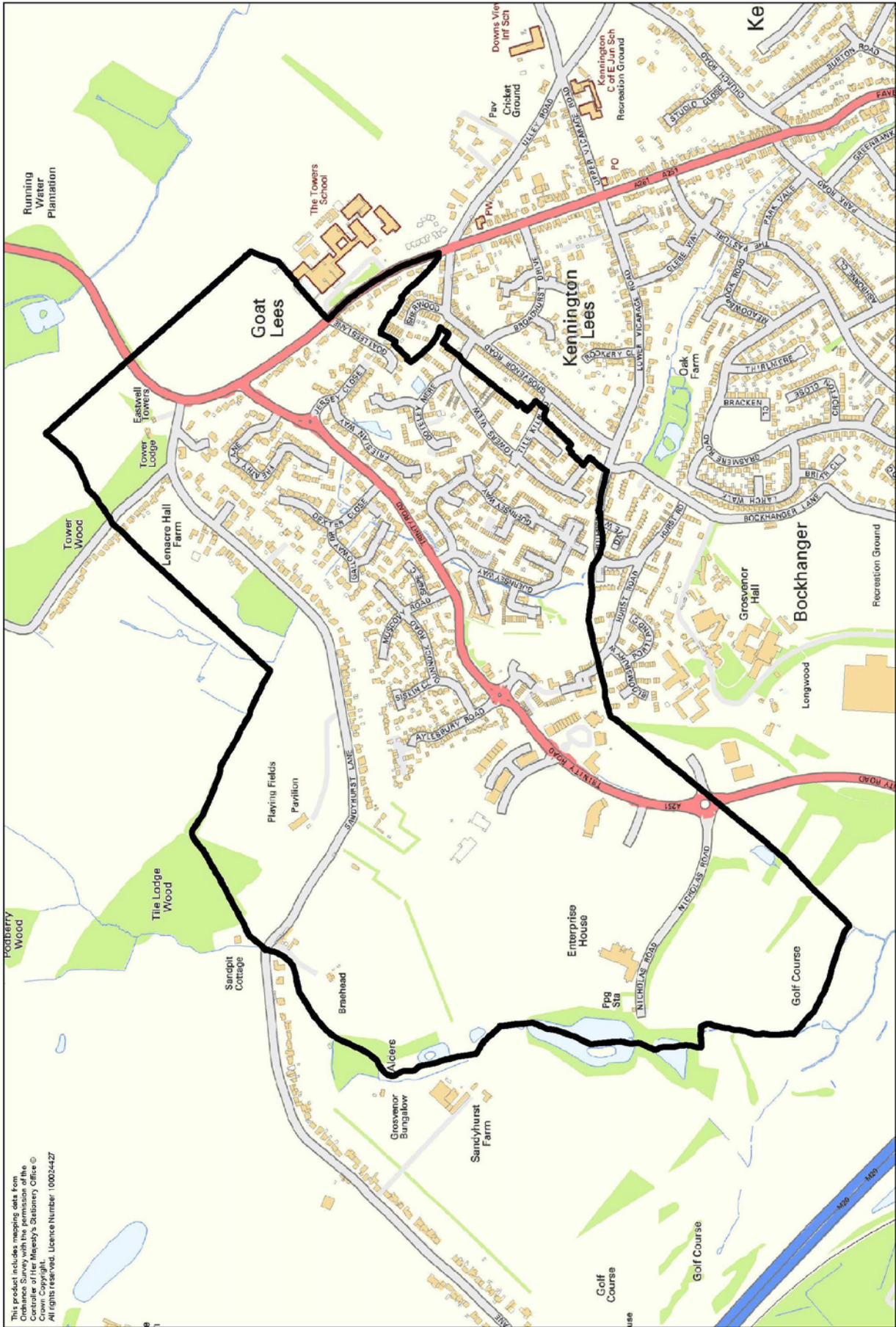
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Ward Boundary Review - Ward 7

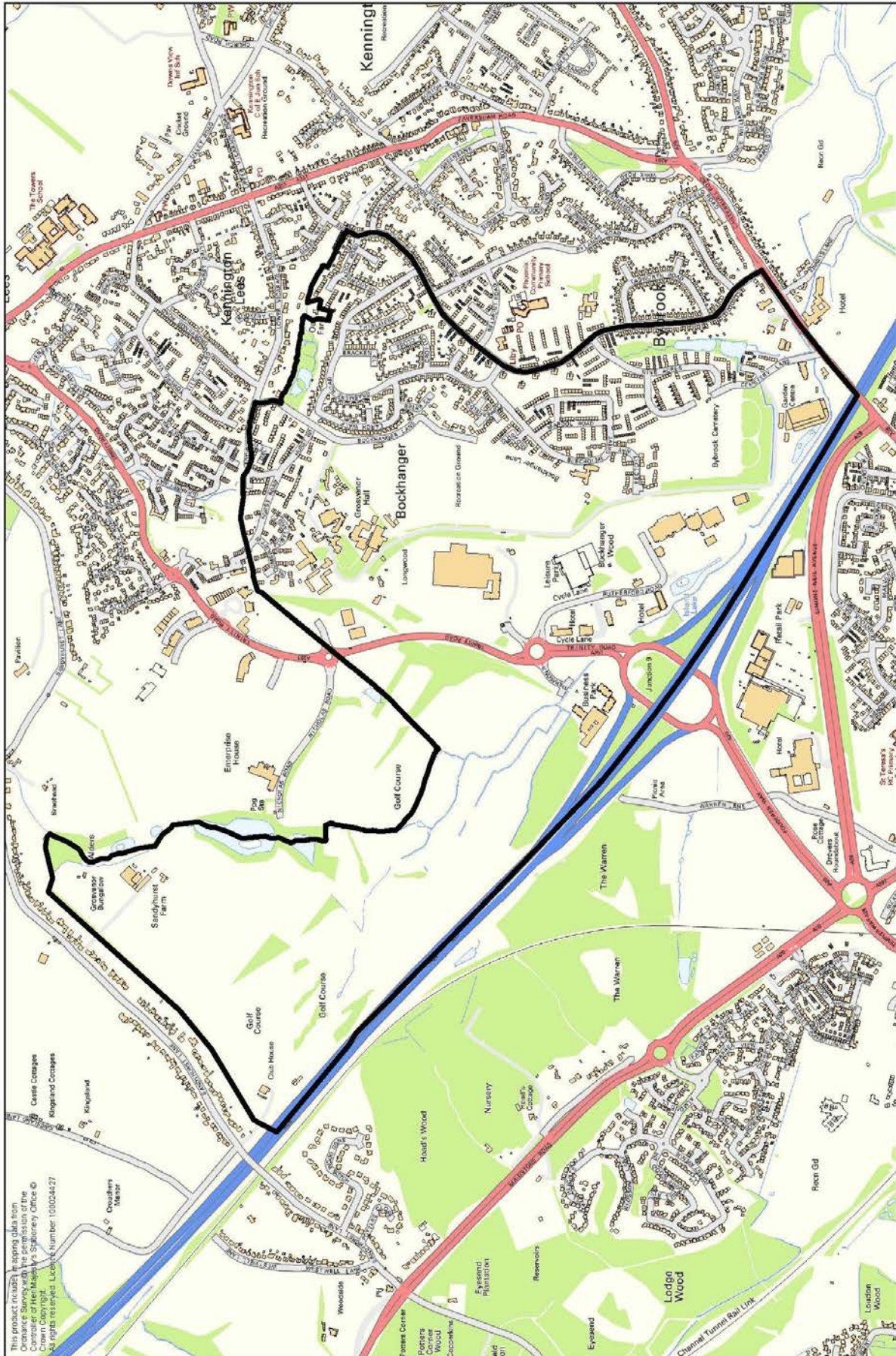


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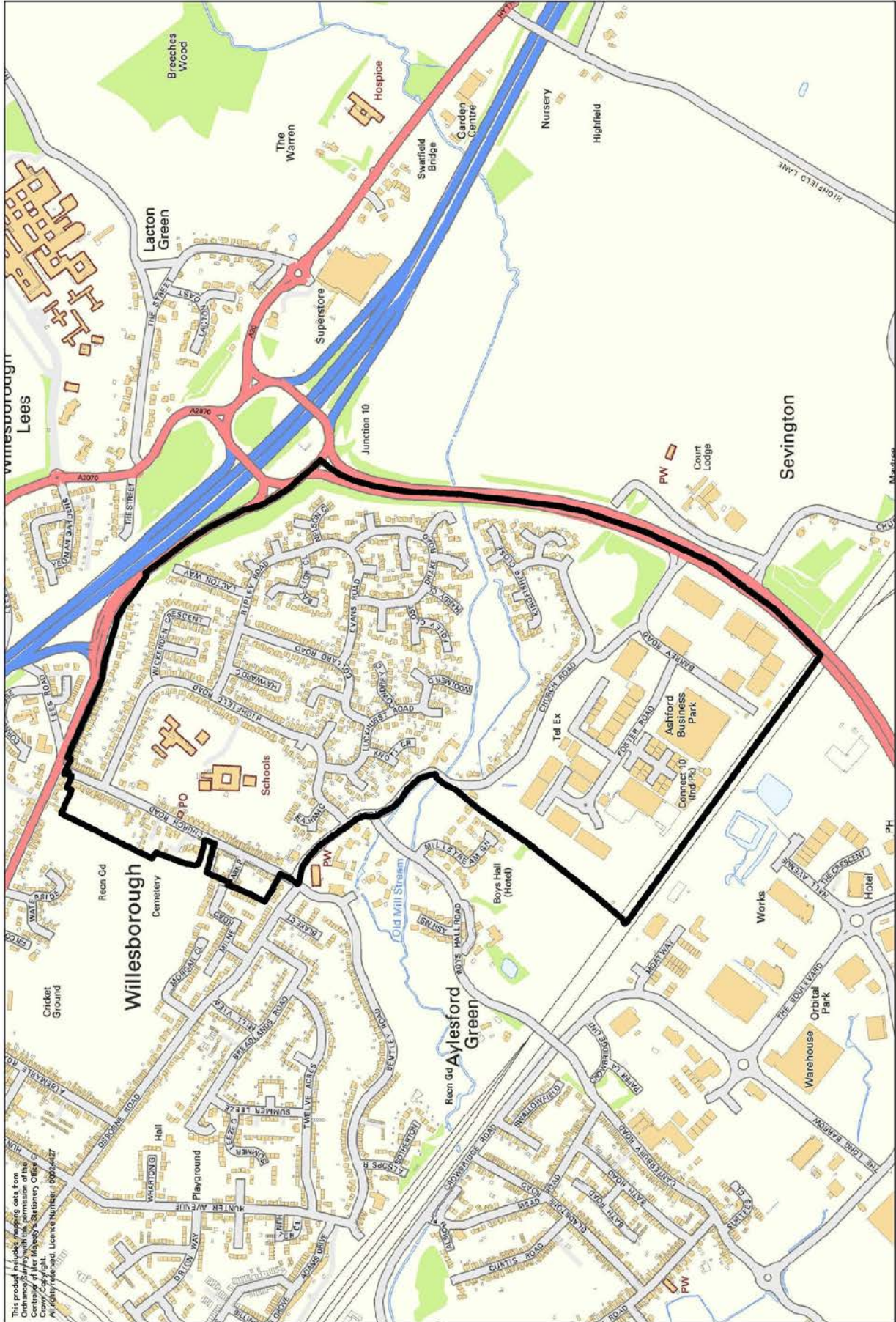


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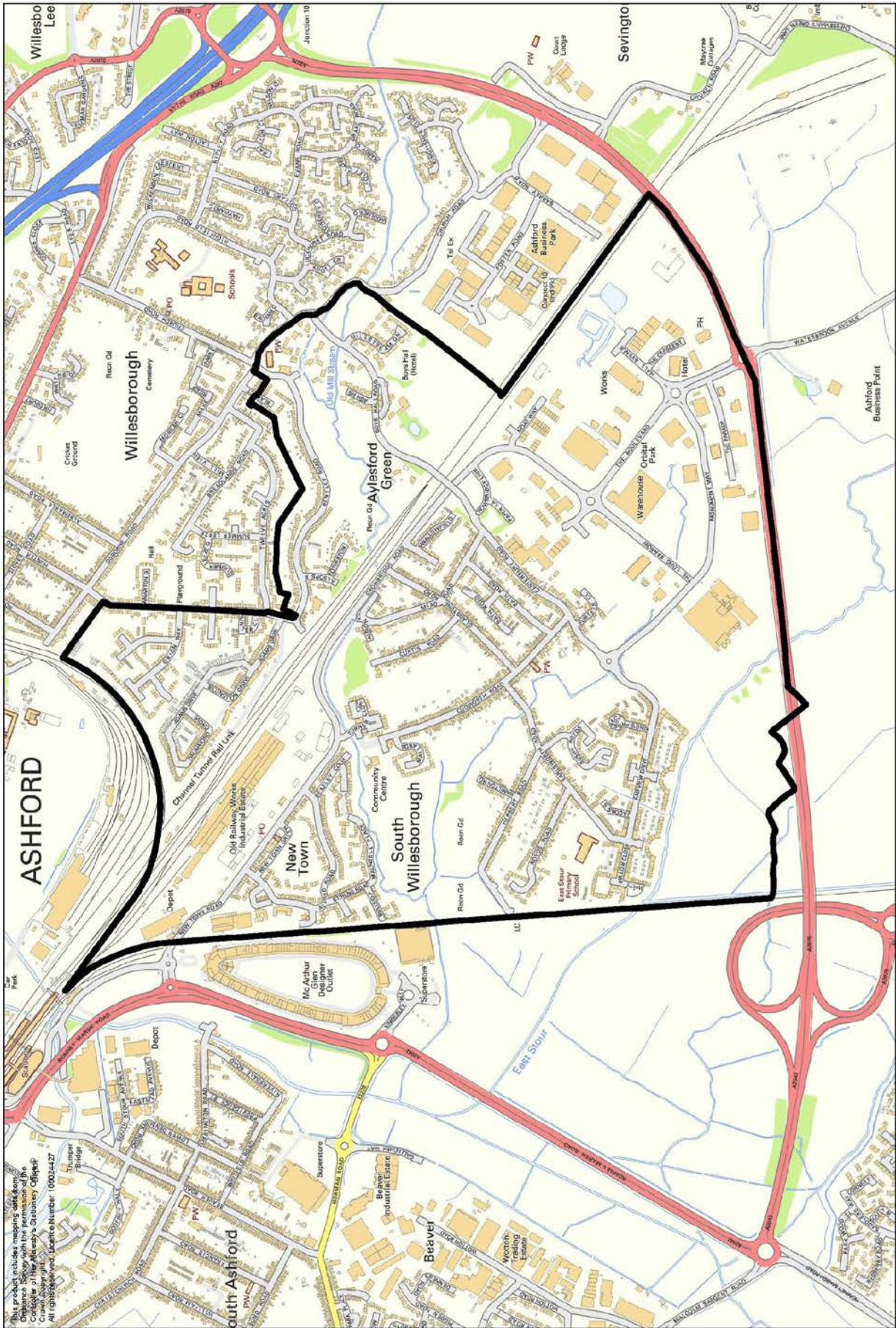
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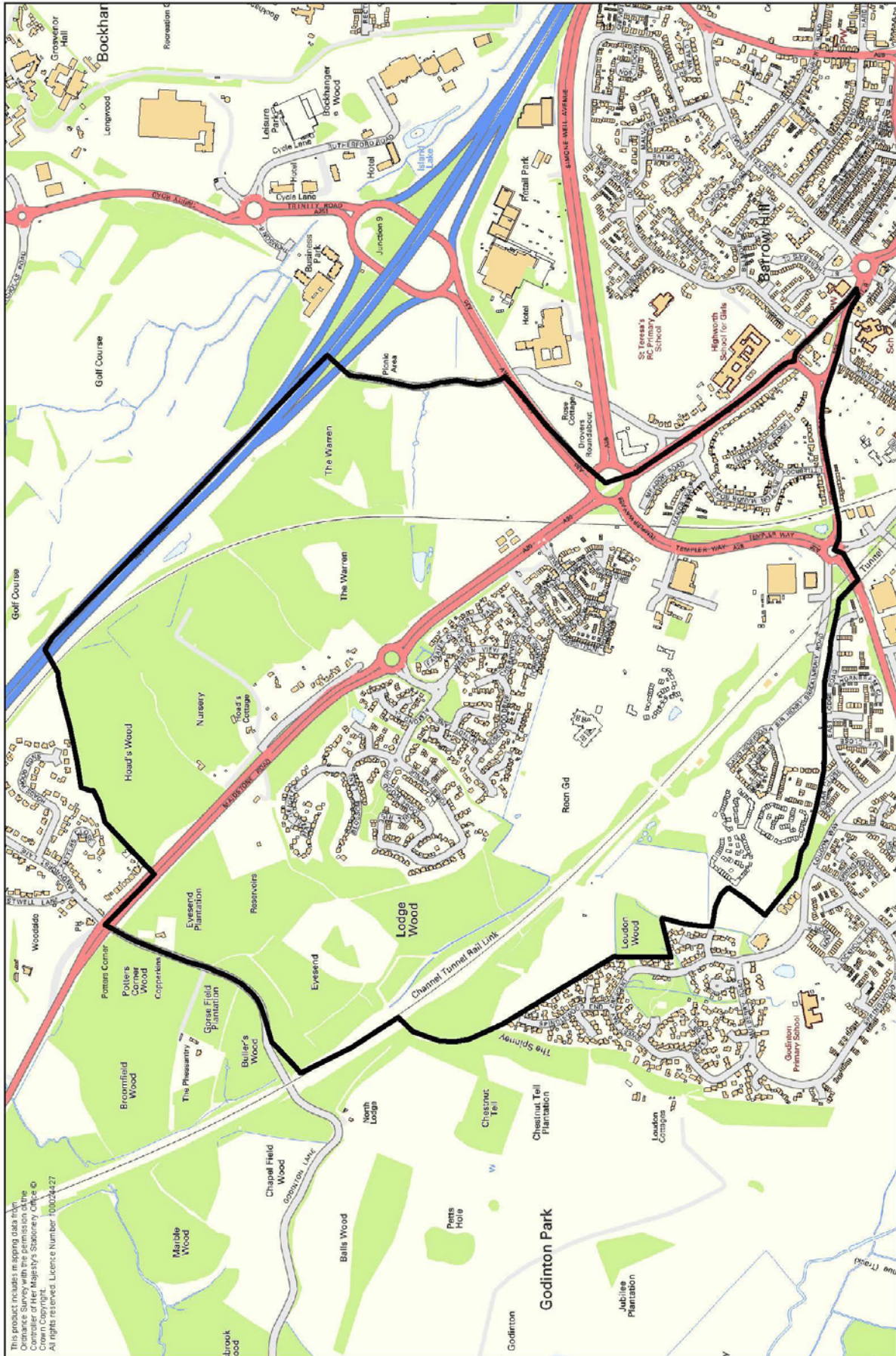
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Ward Boundary Review - Ward 11

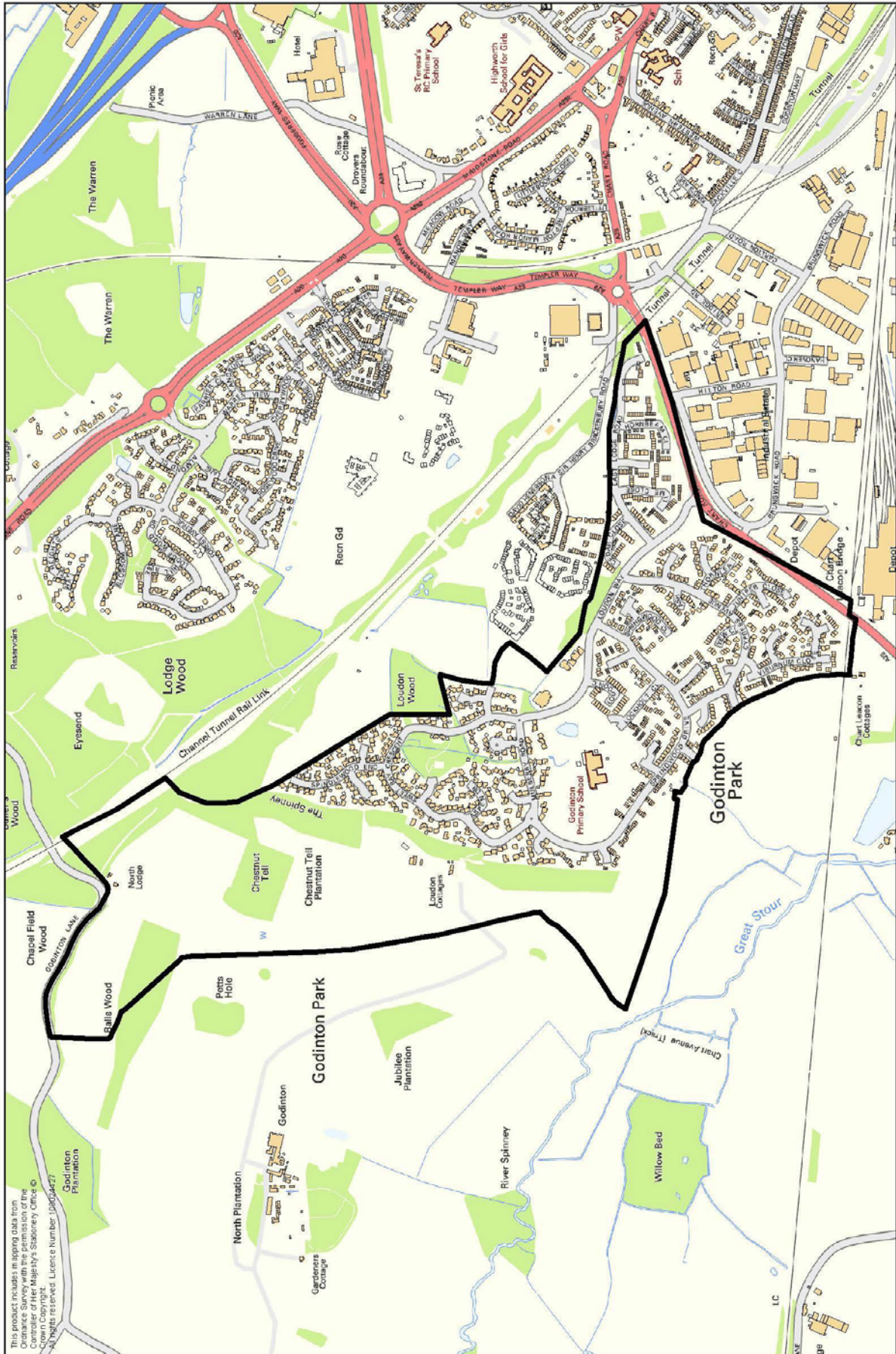


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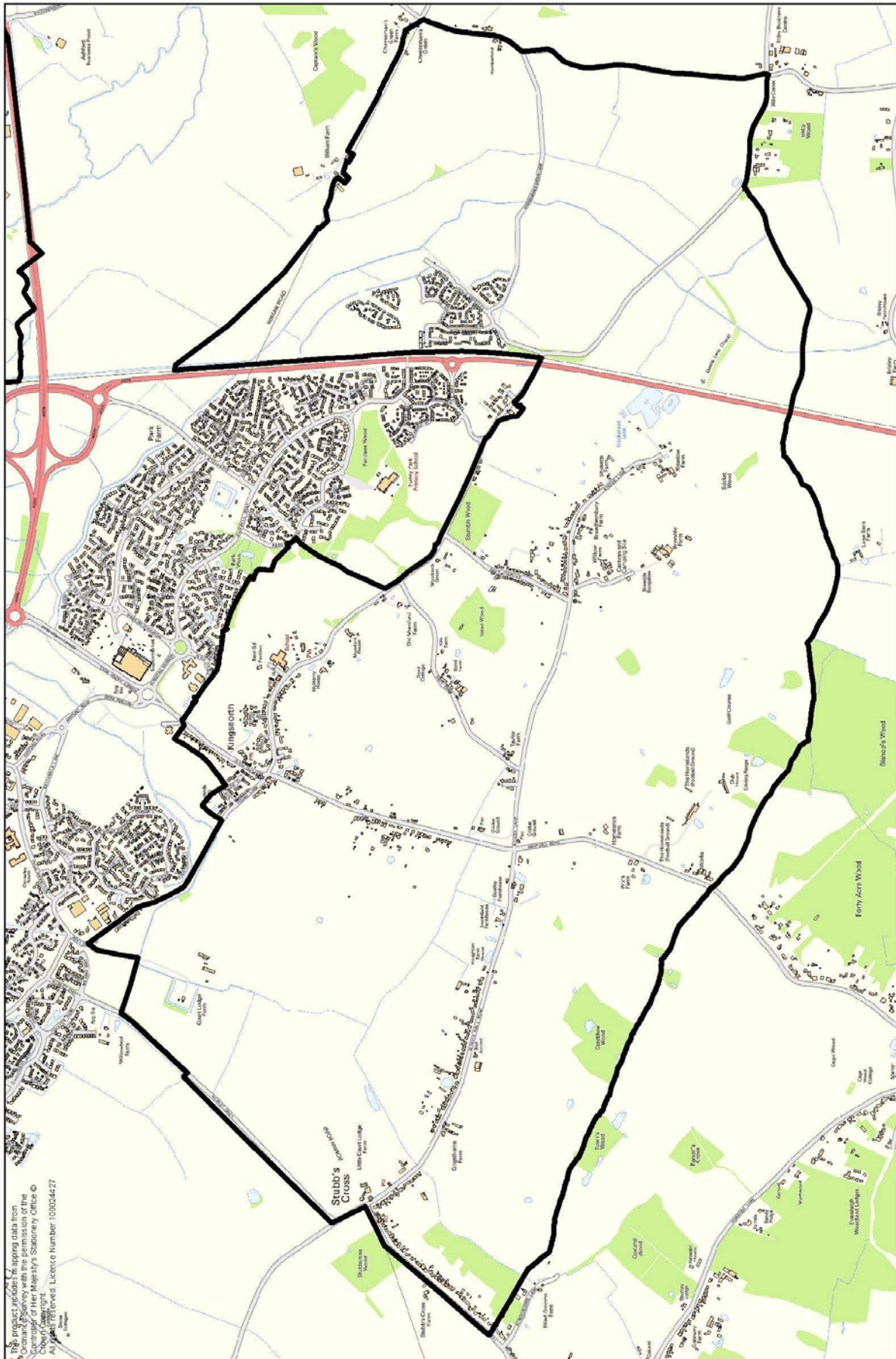


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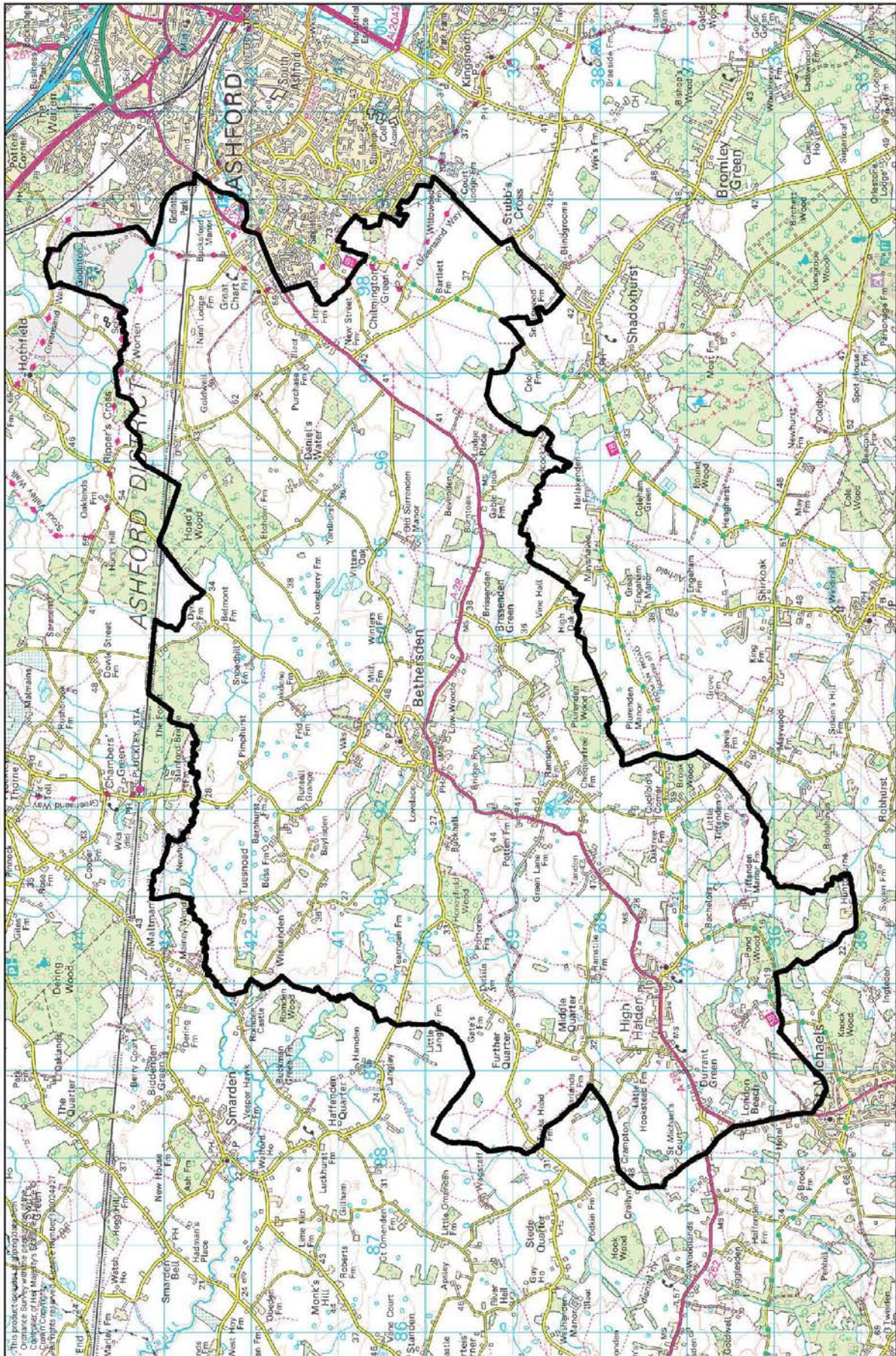
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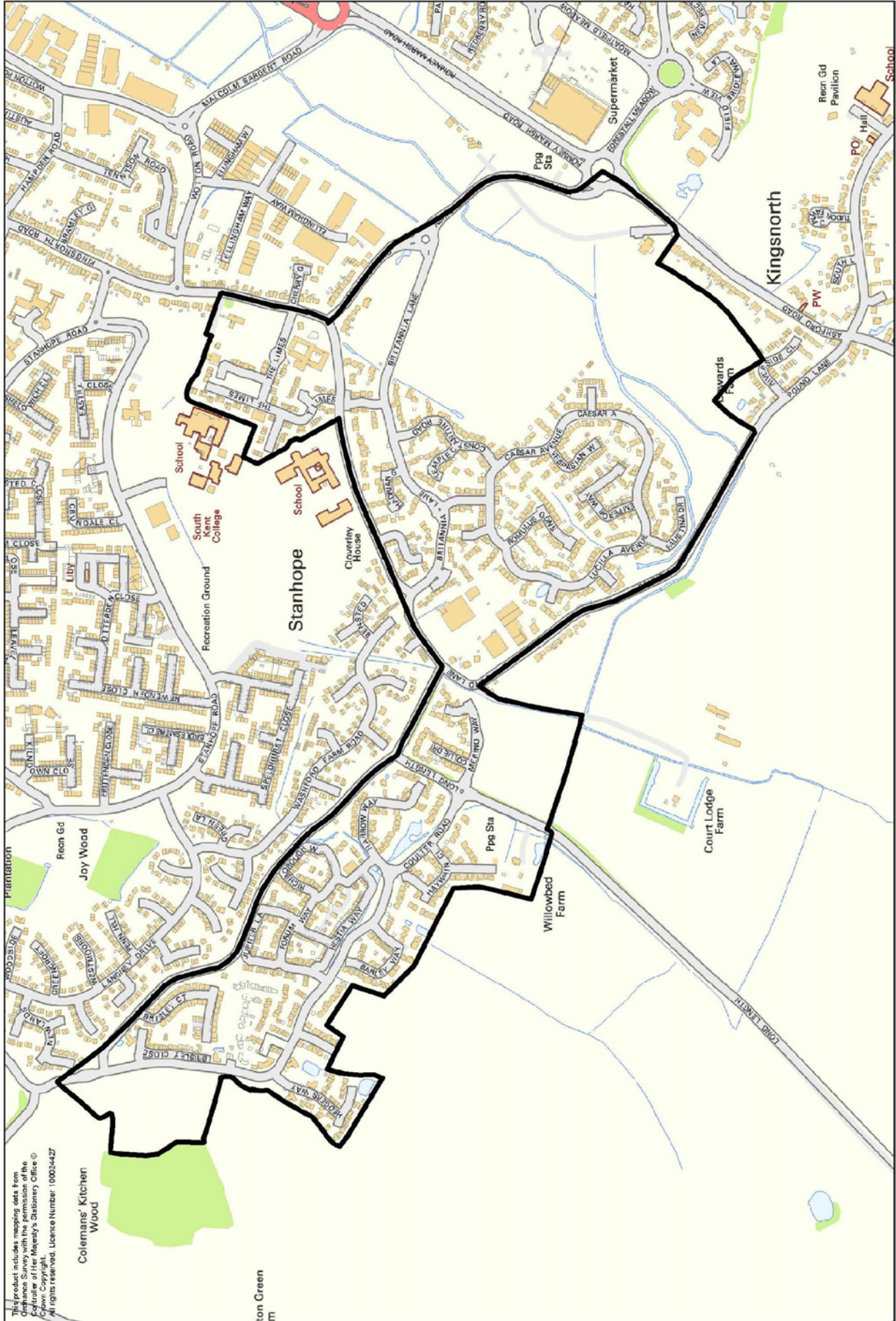
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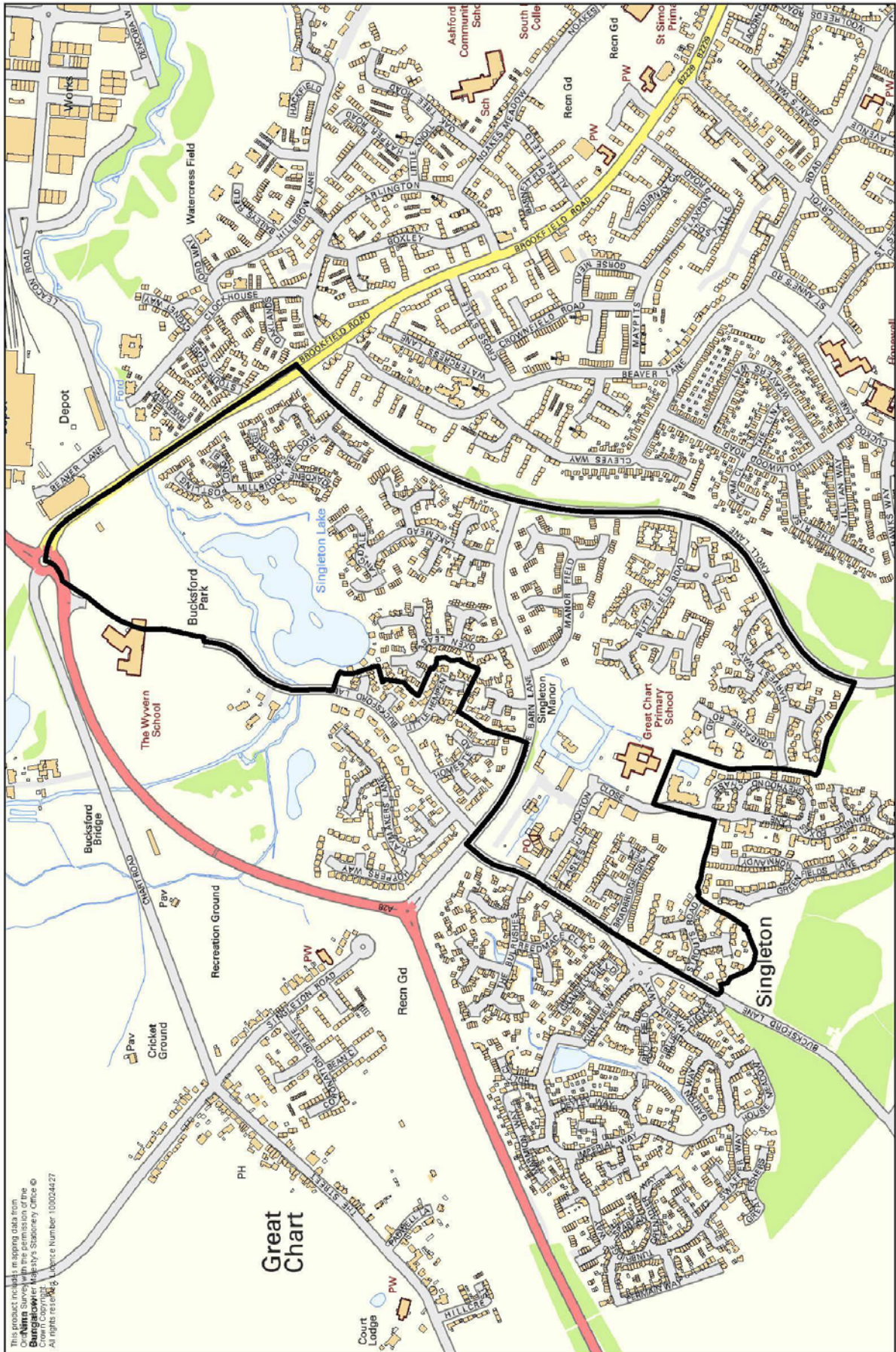
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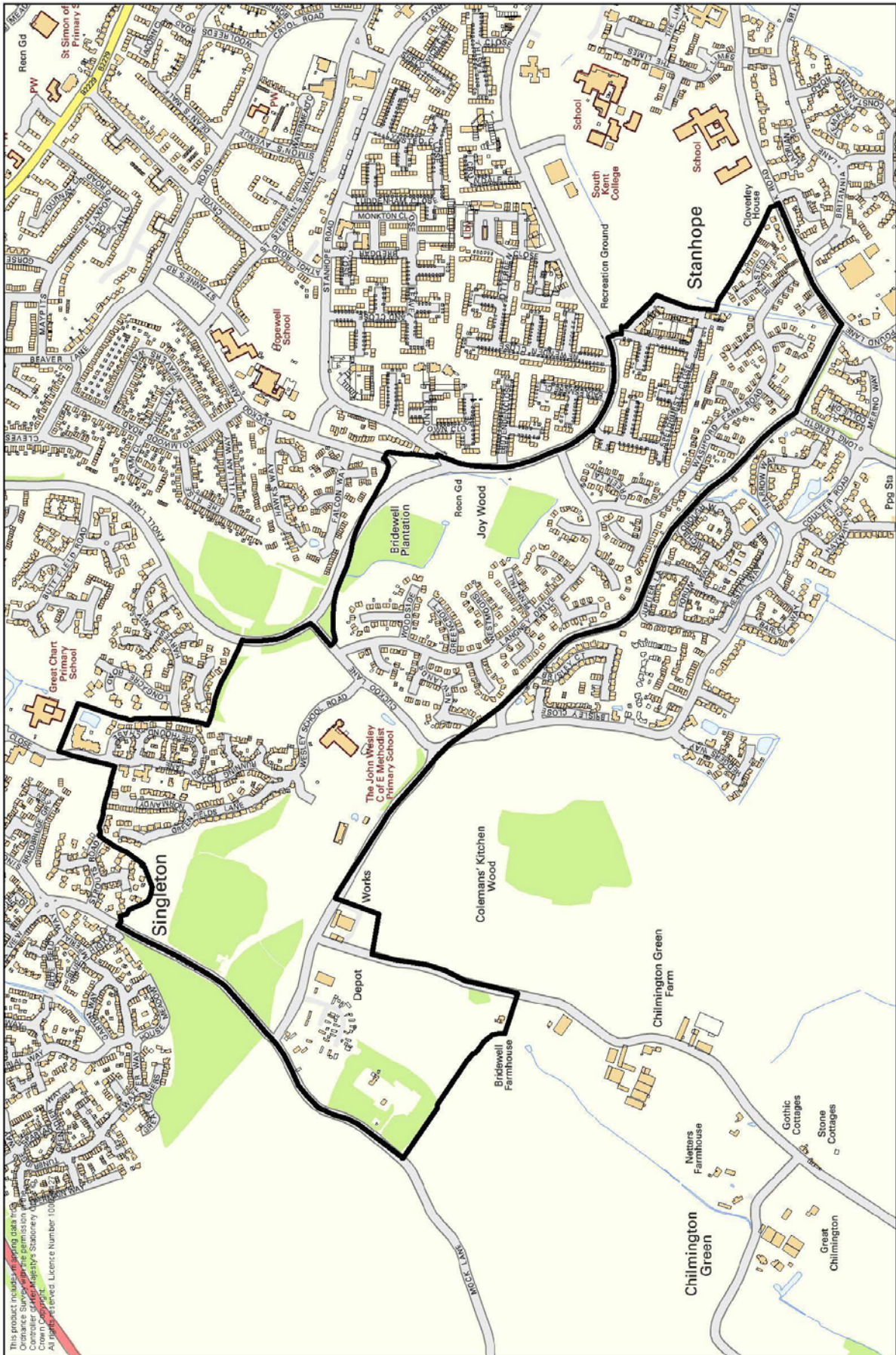
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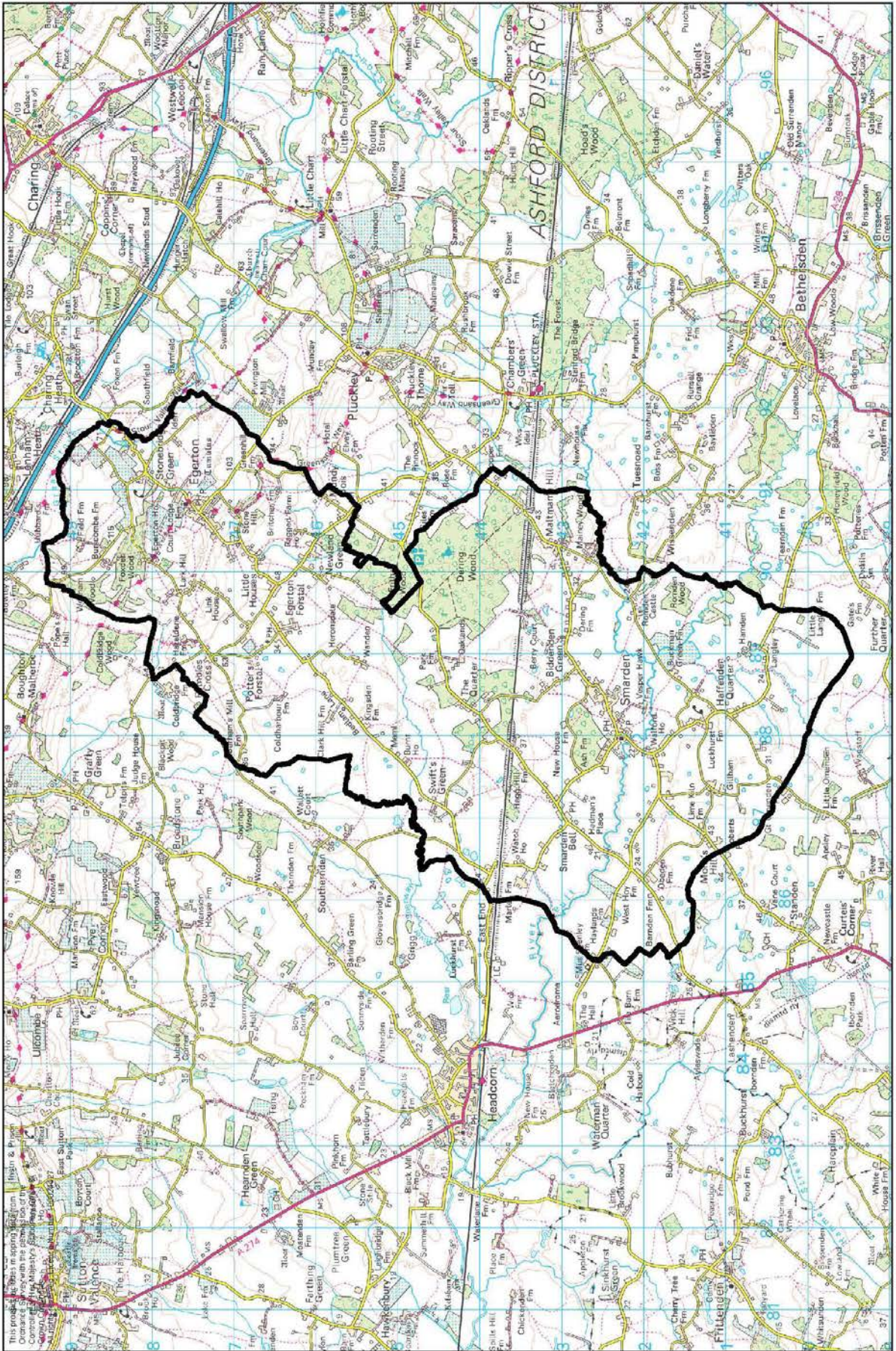
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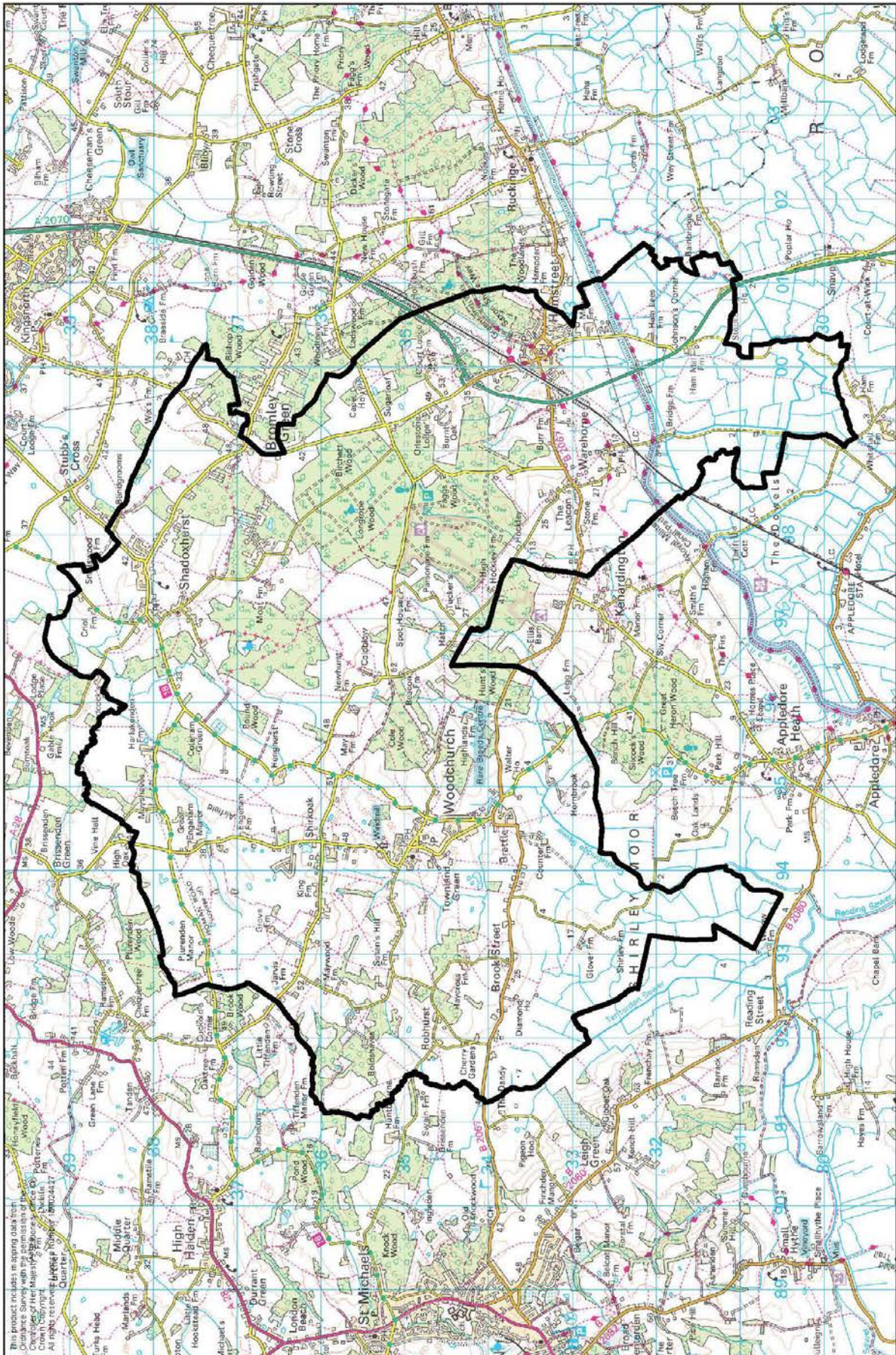
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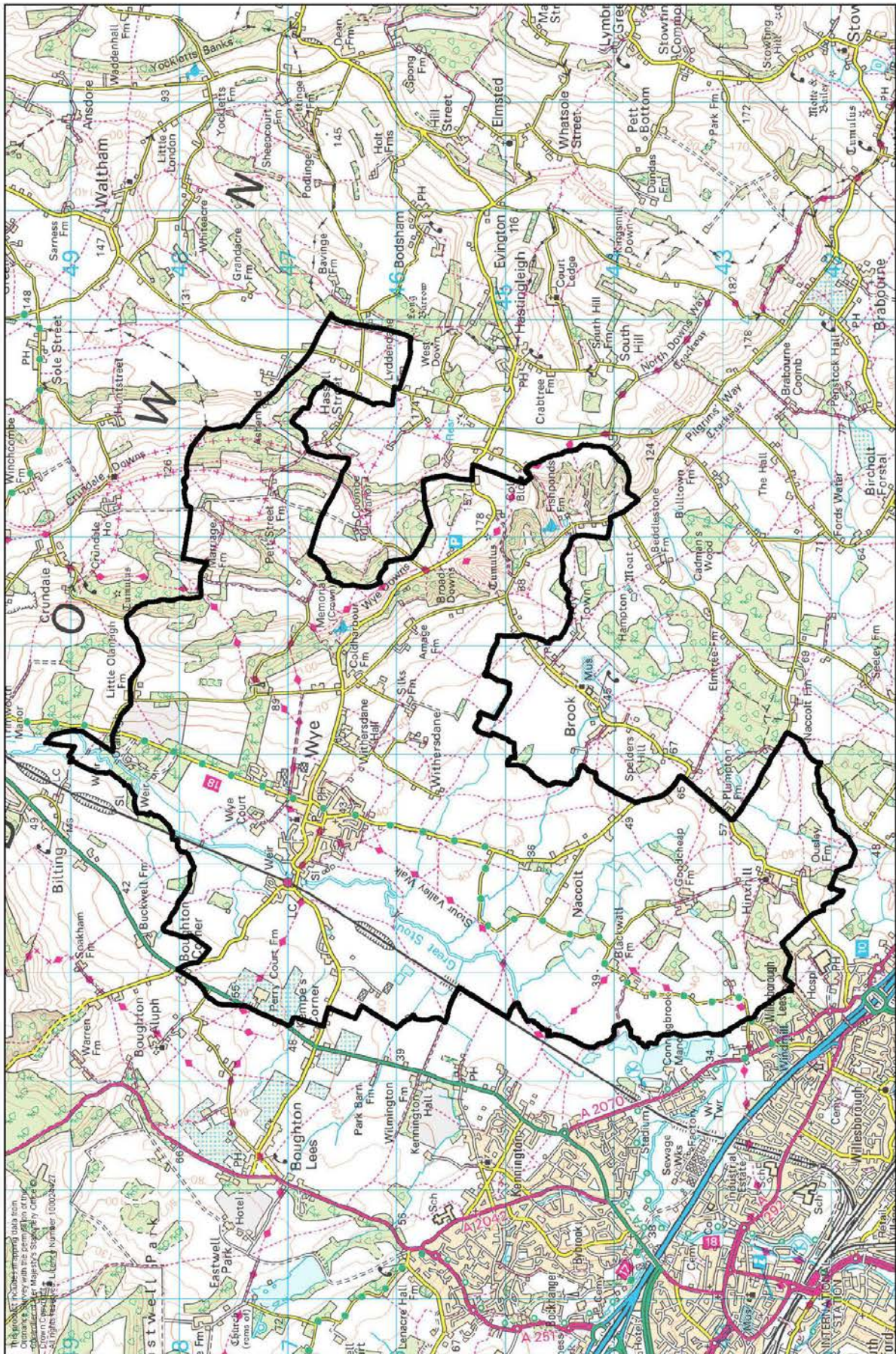
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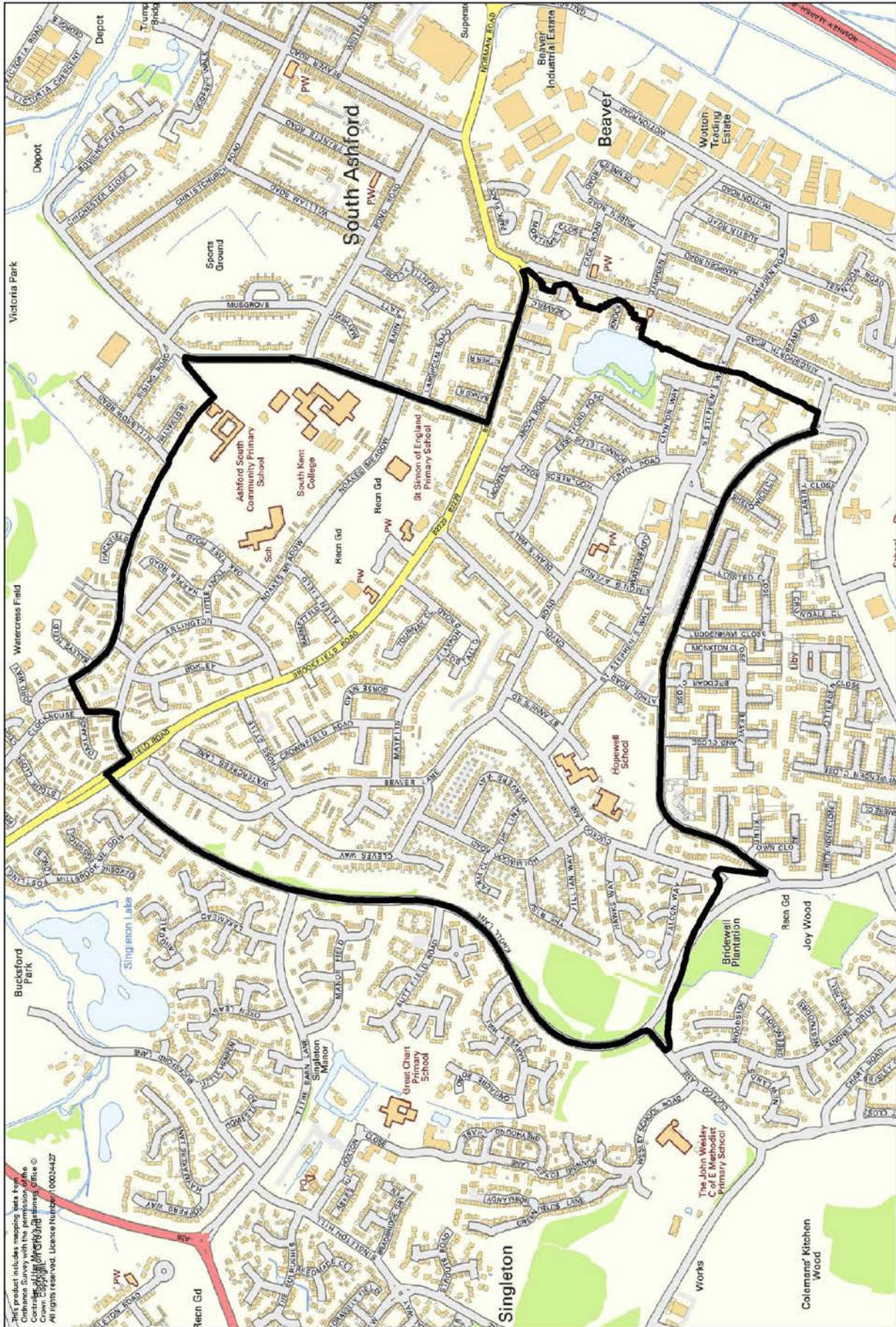
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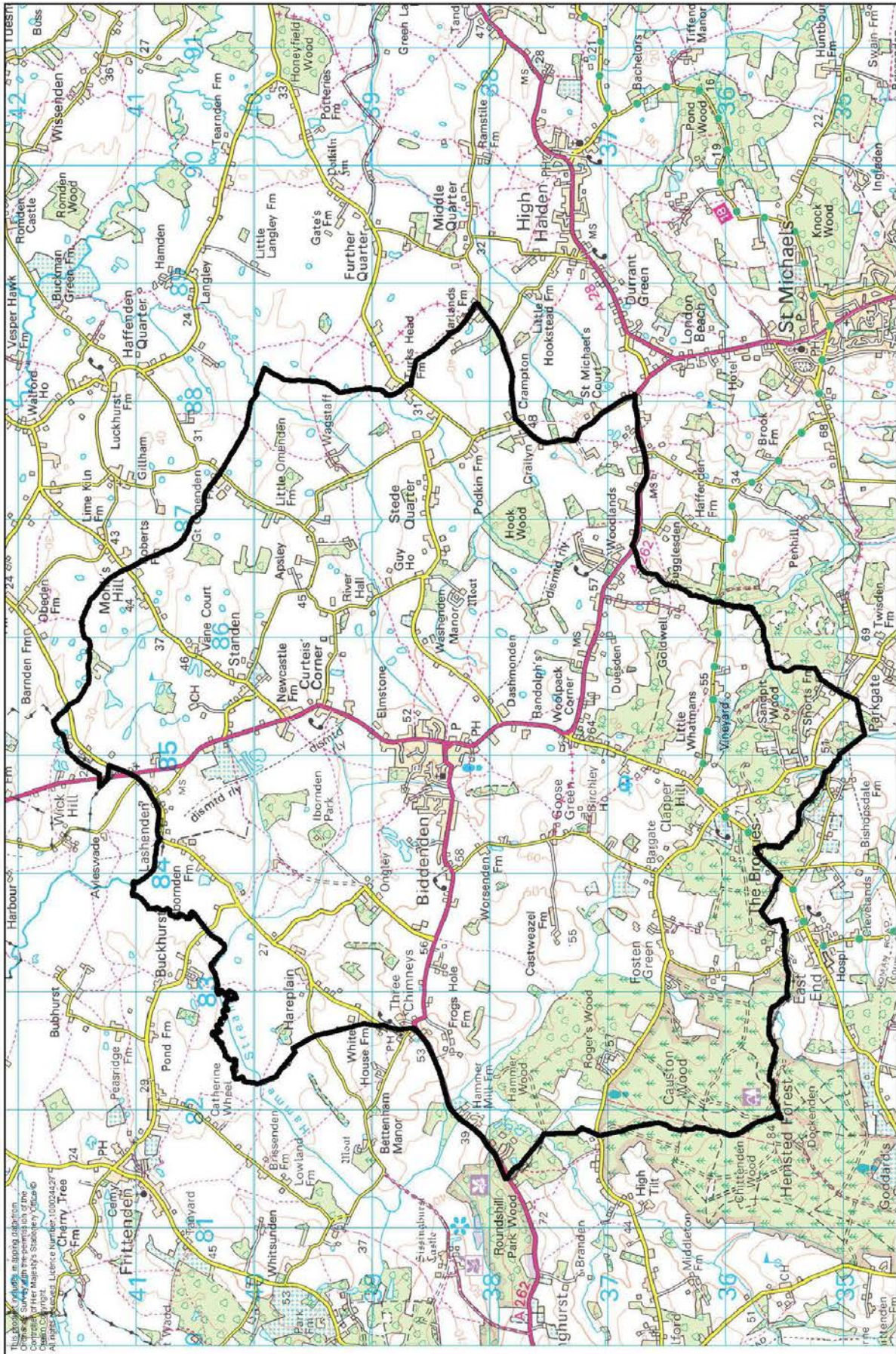
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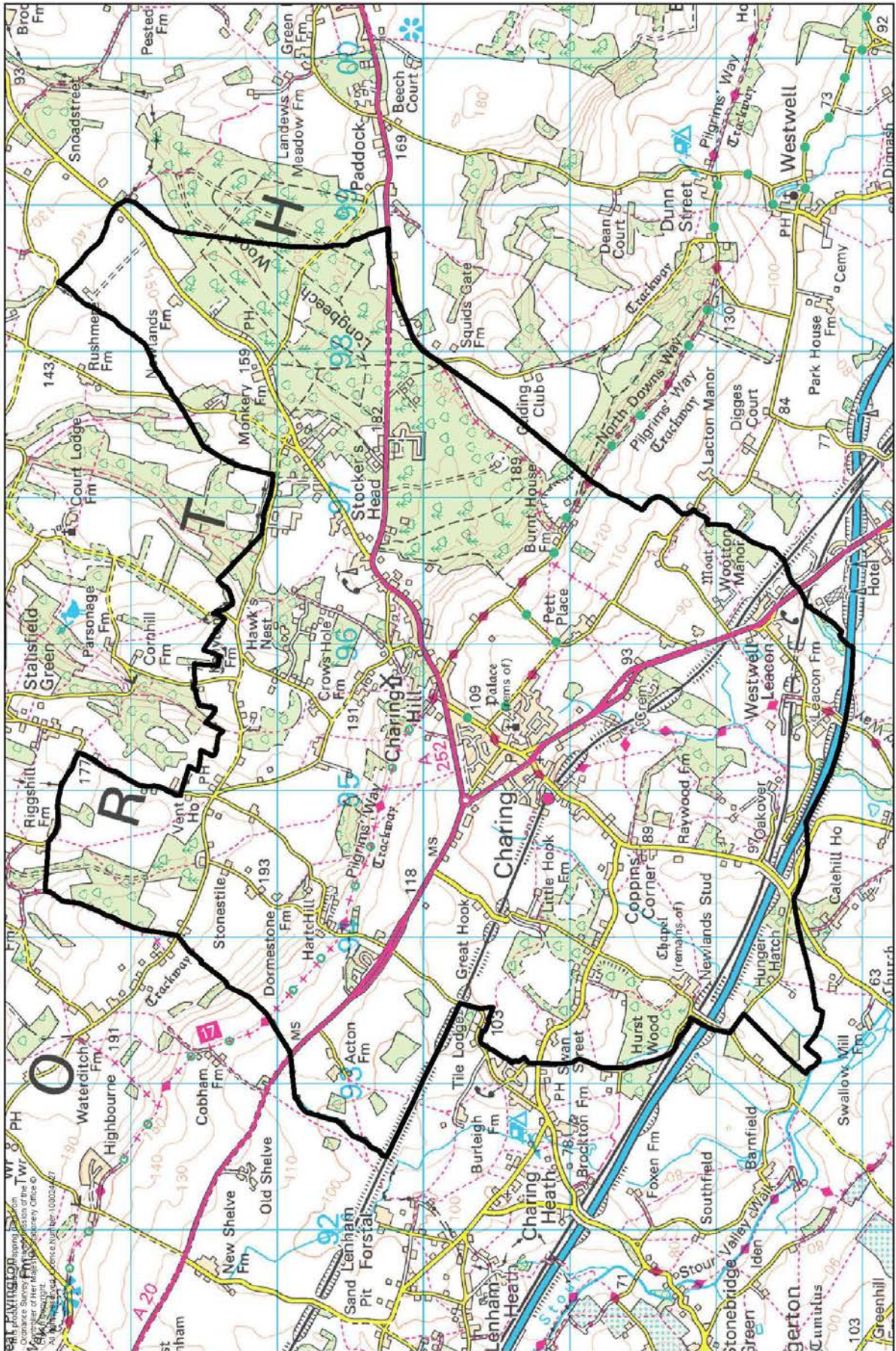
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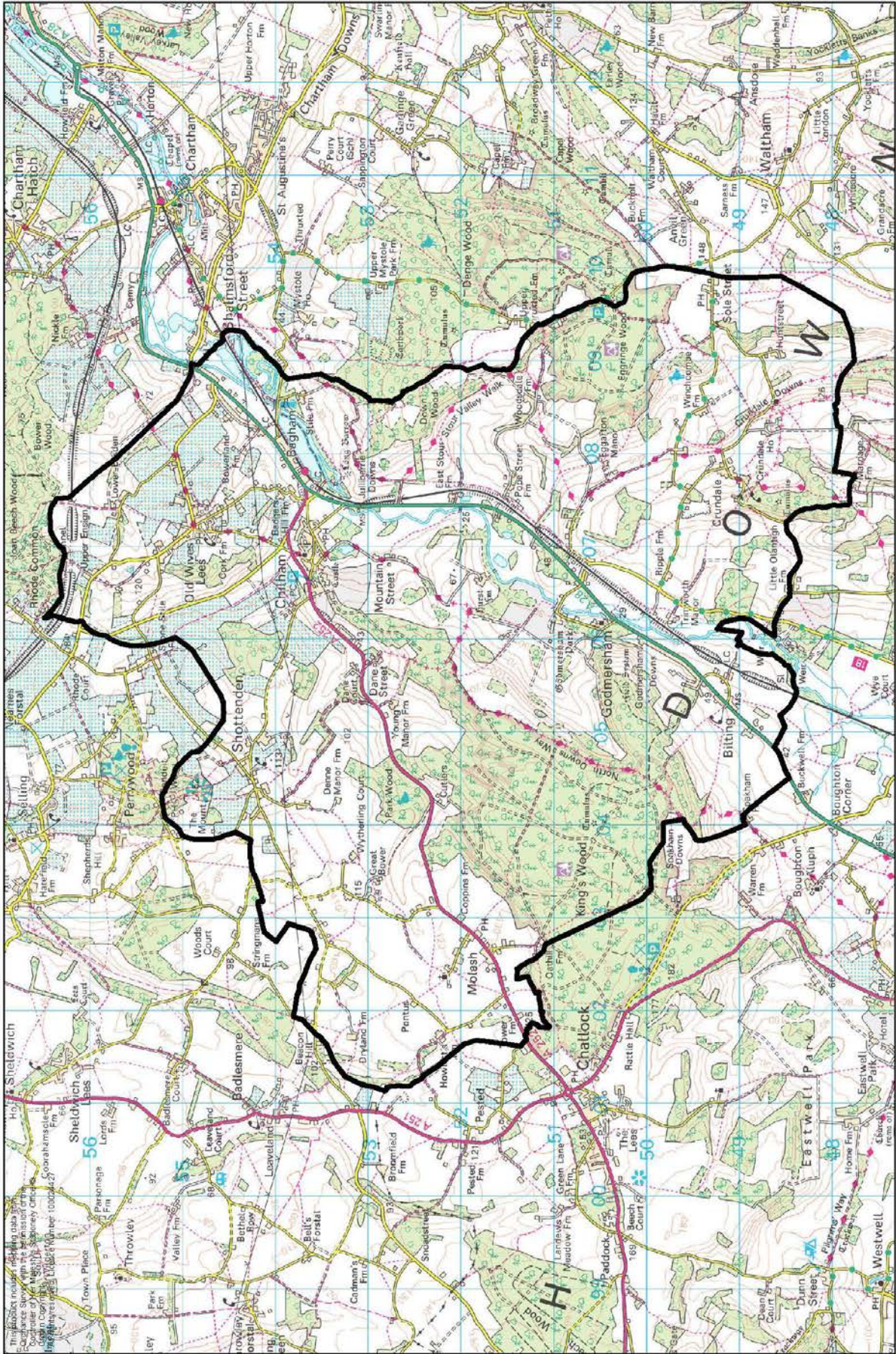
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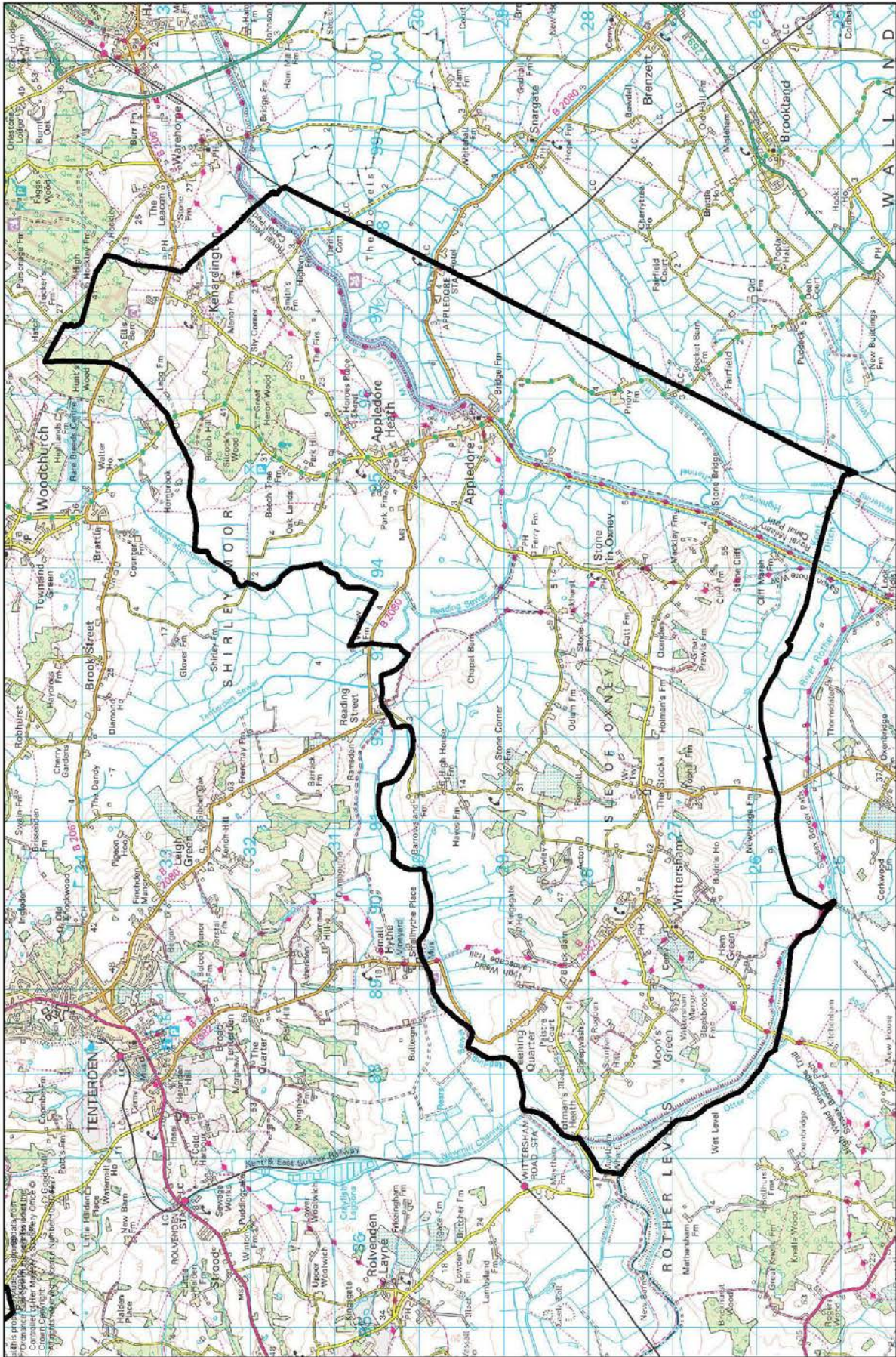
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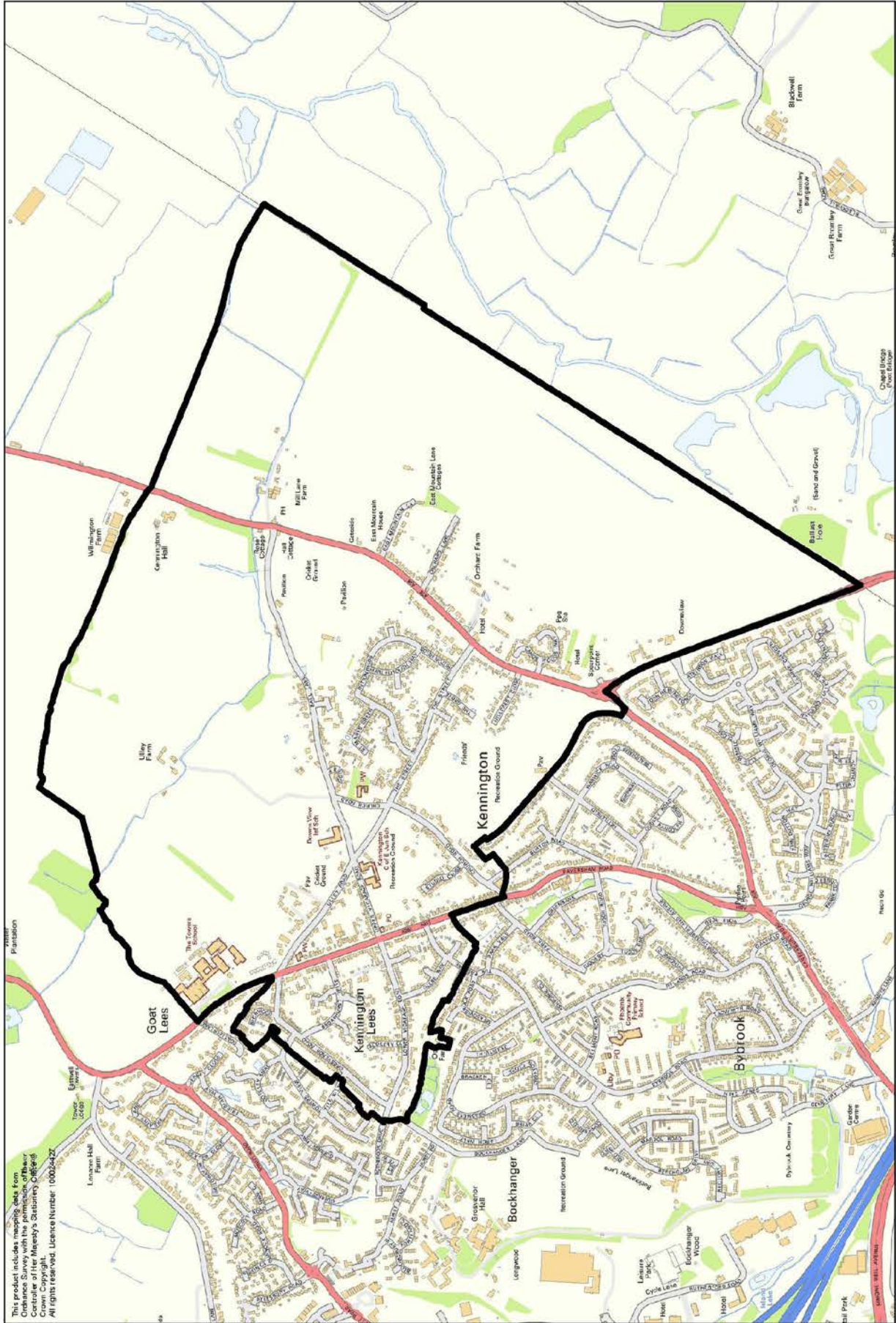
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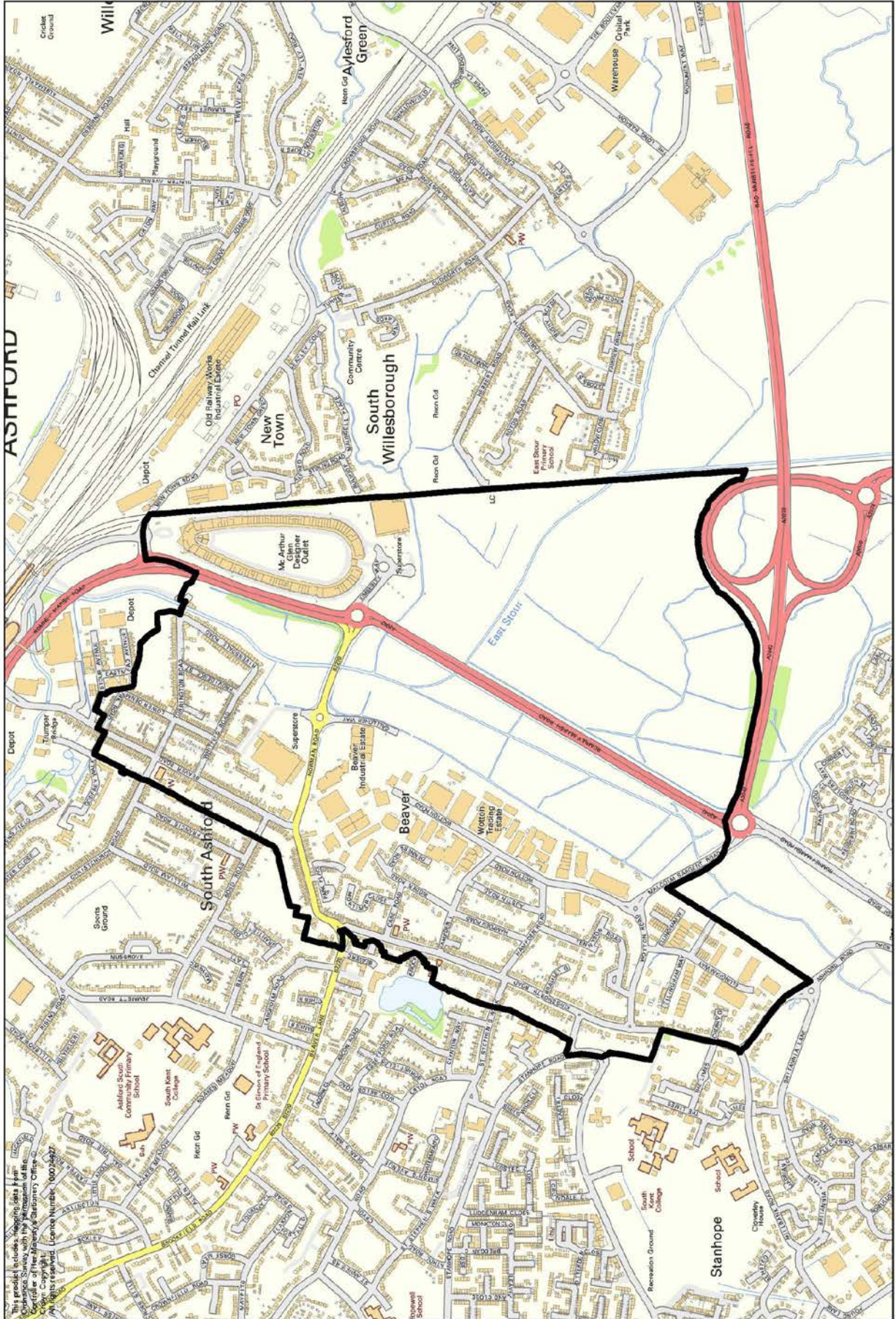
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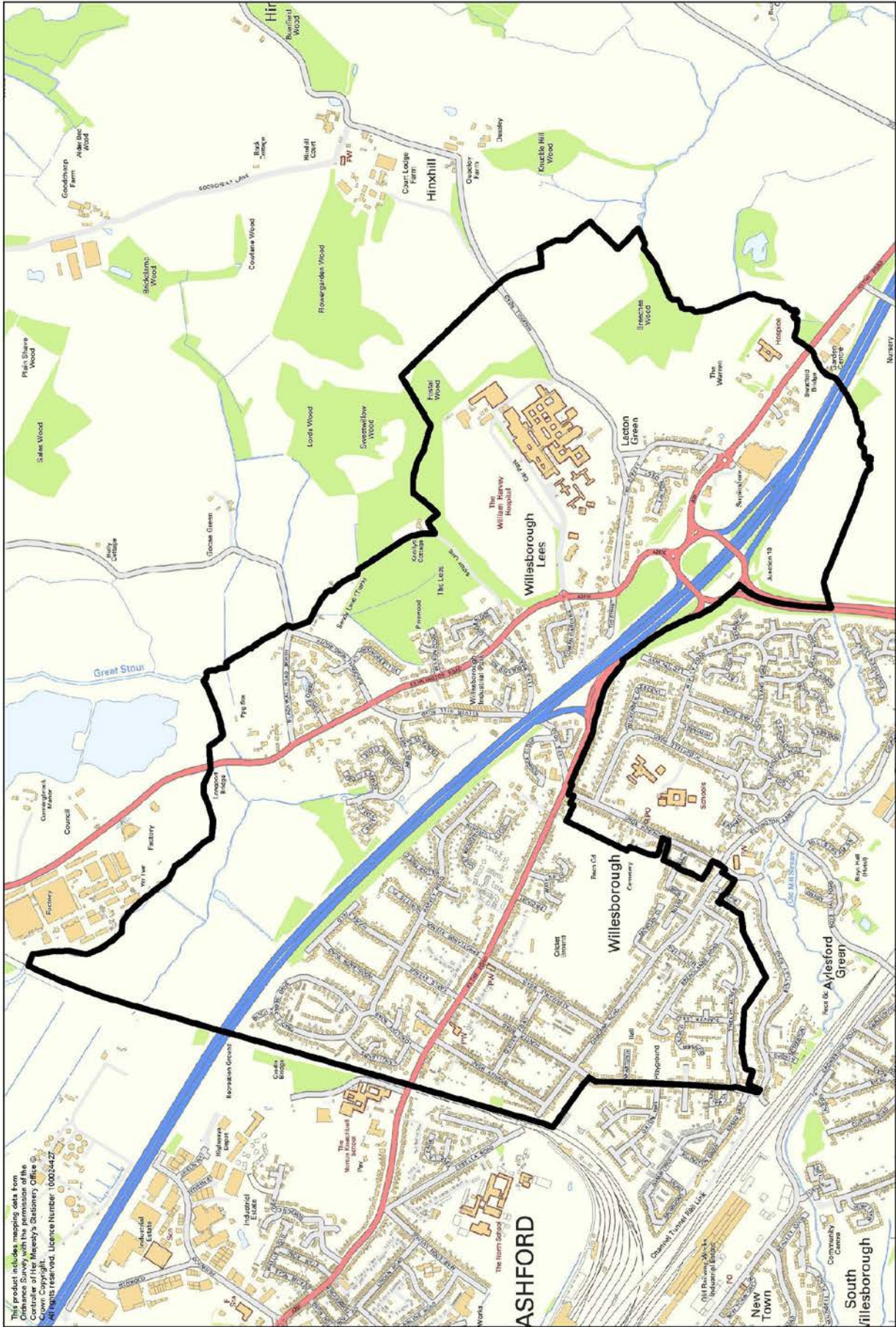
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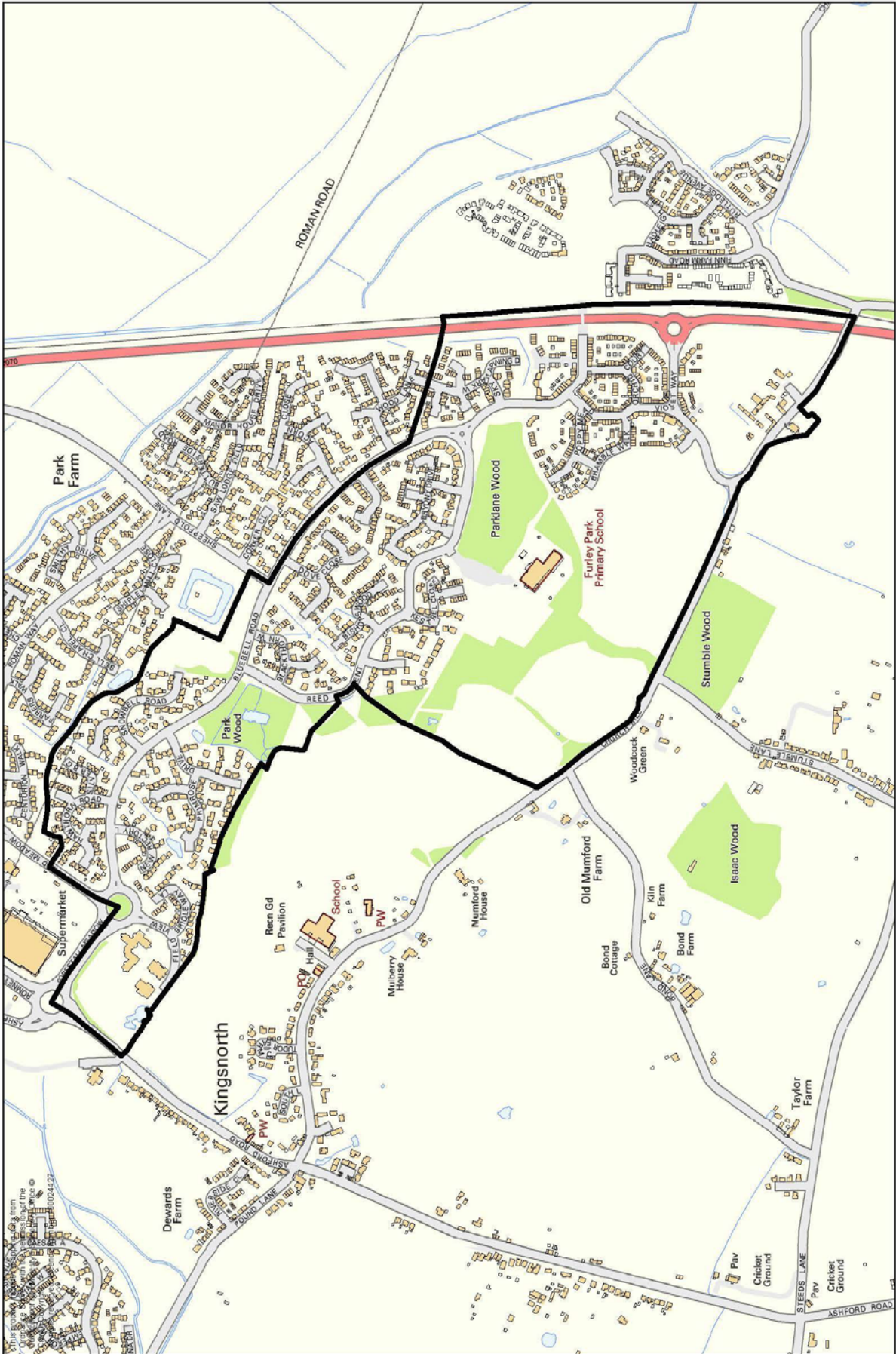
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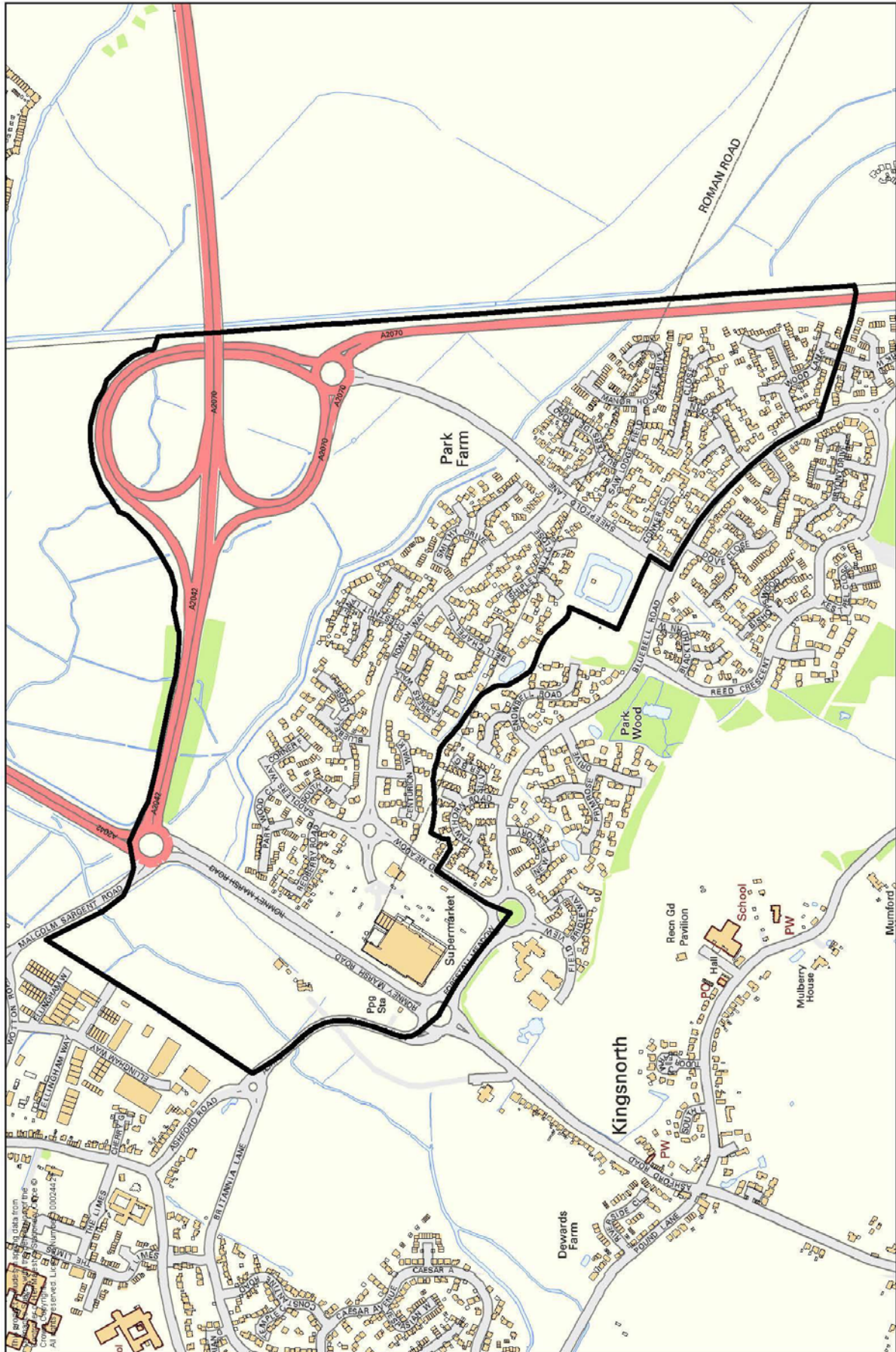
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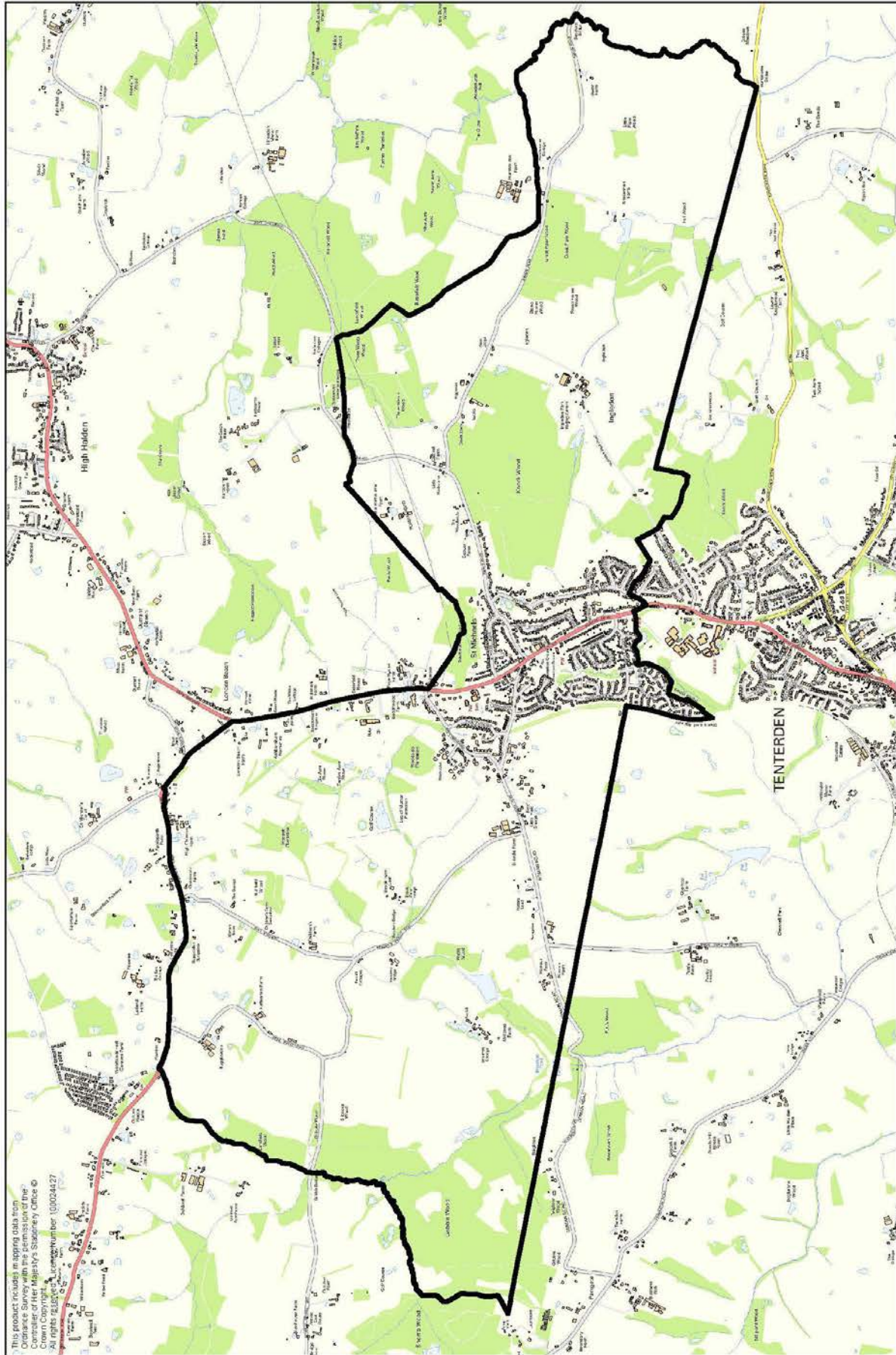
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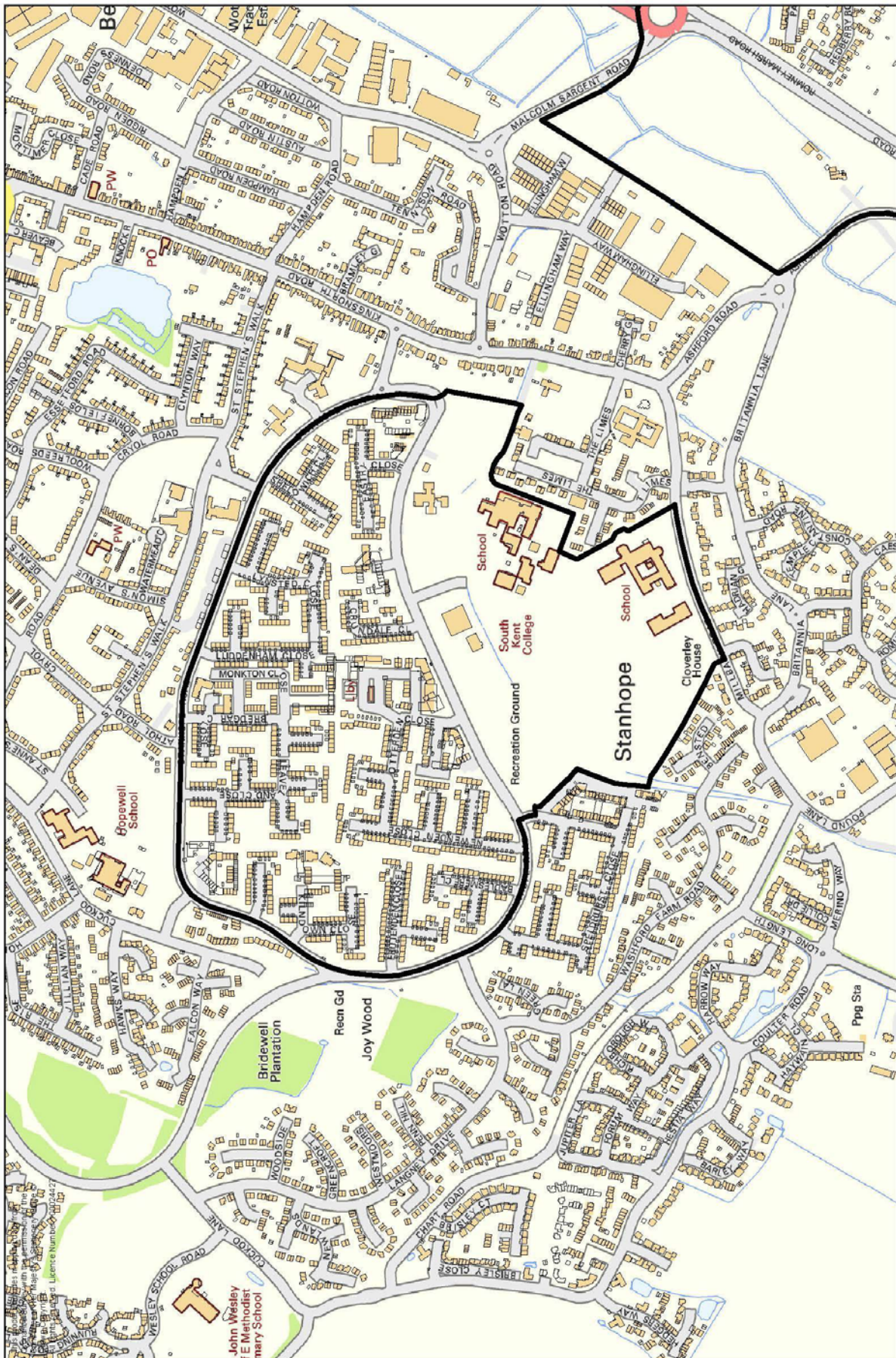
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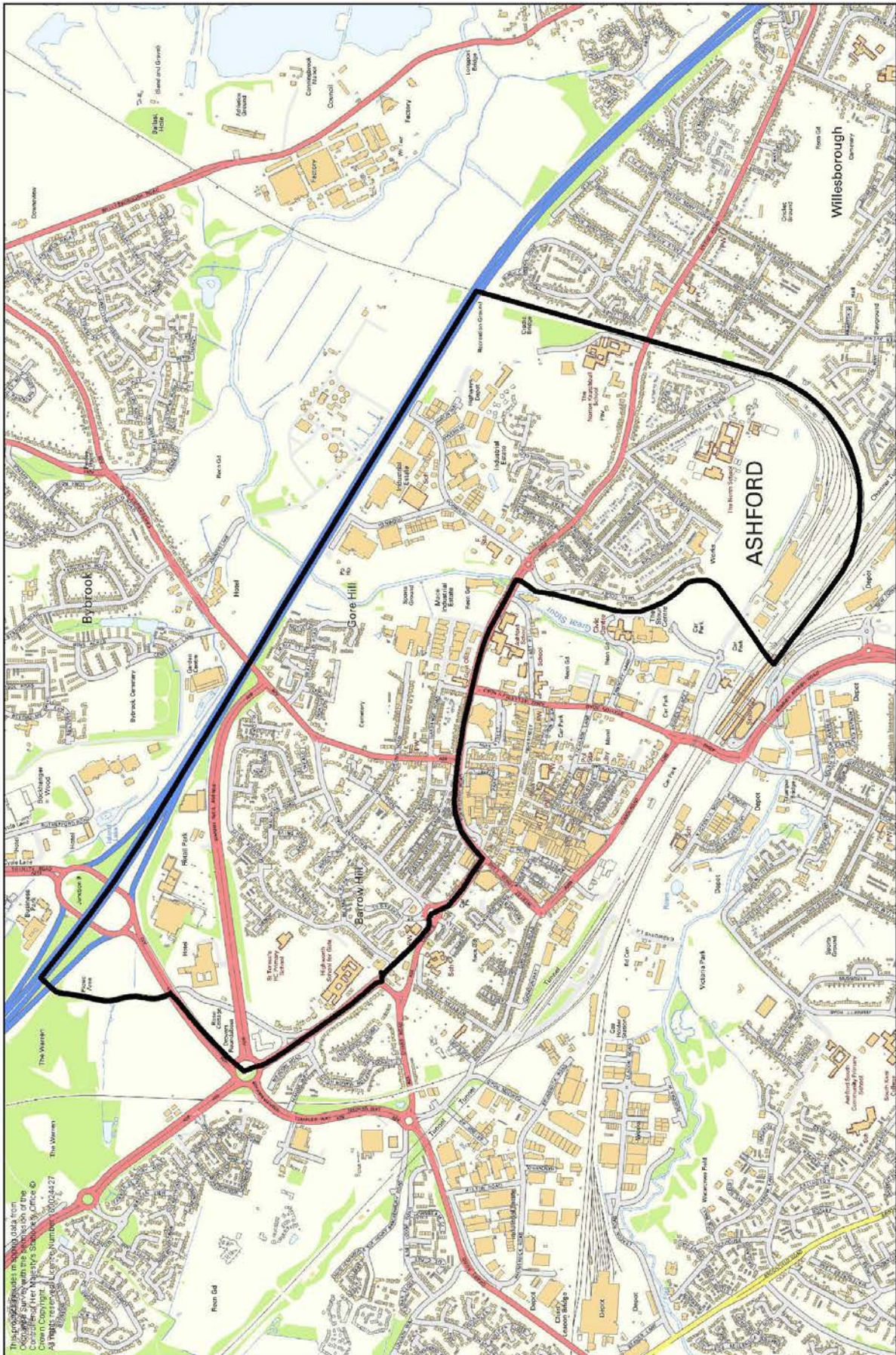
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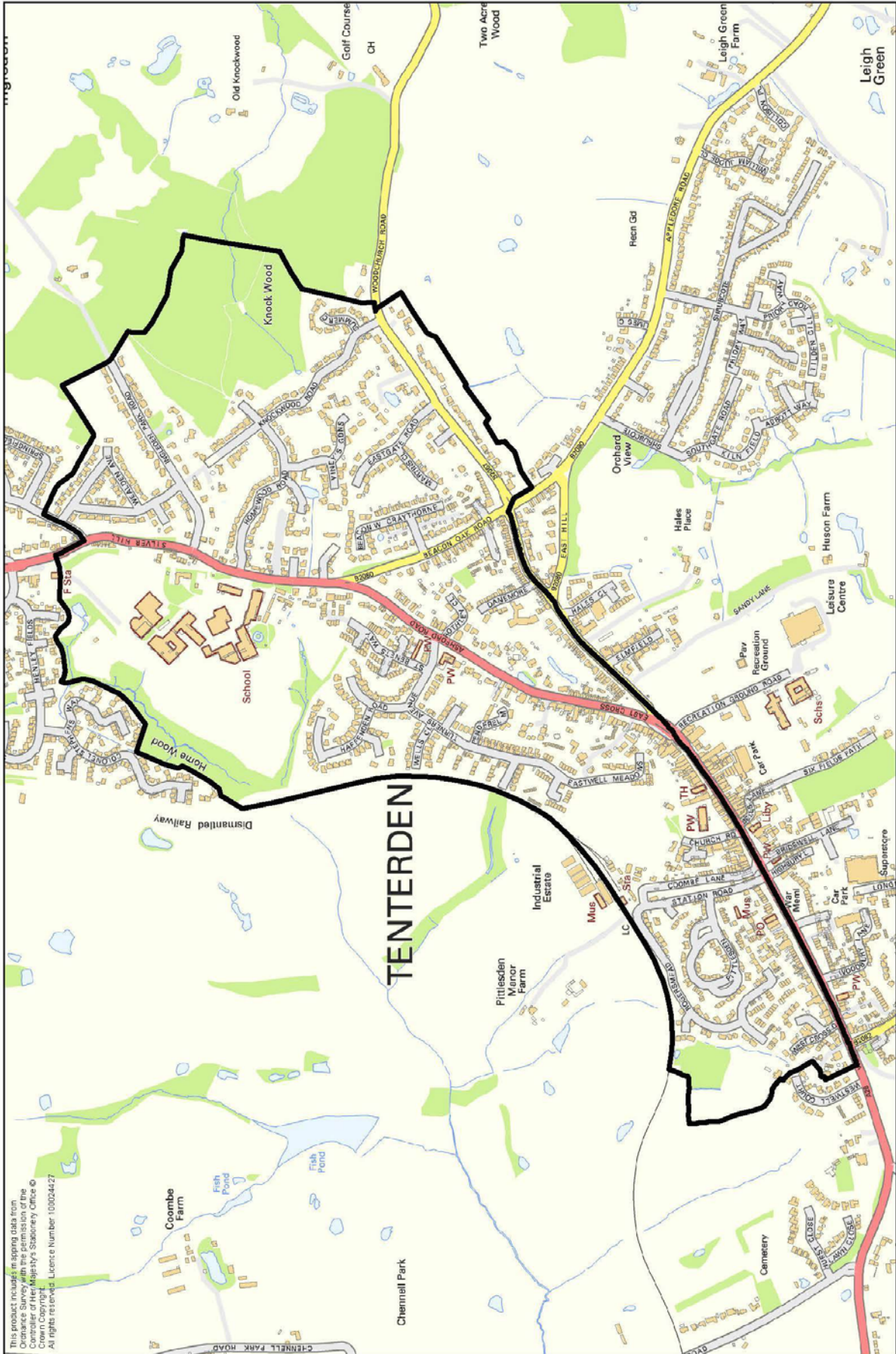
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Ward Boundary Review - Ward 34

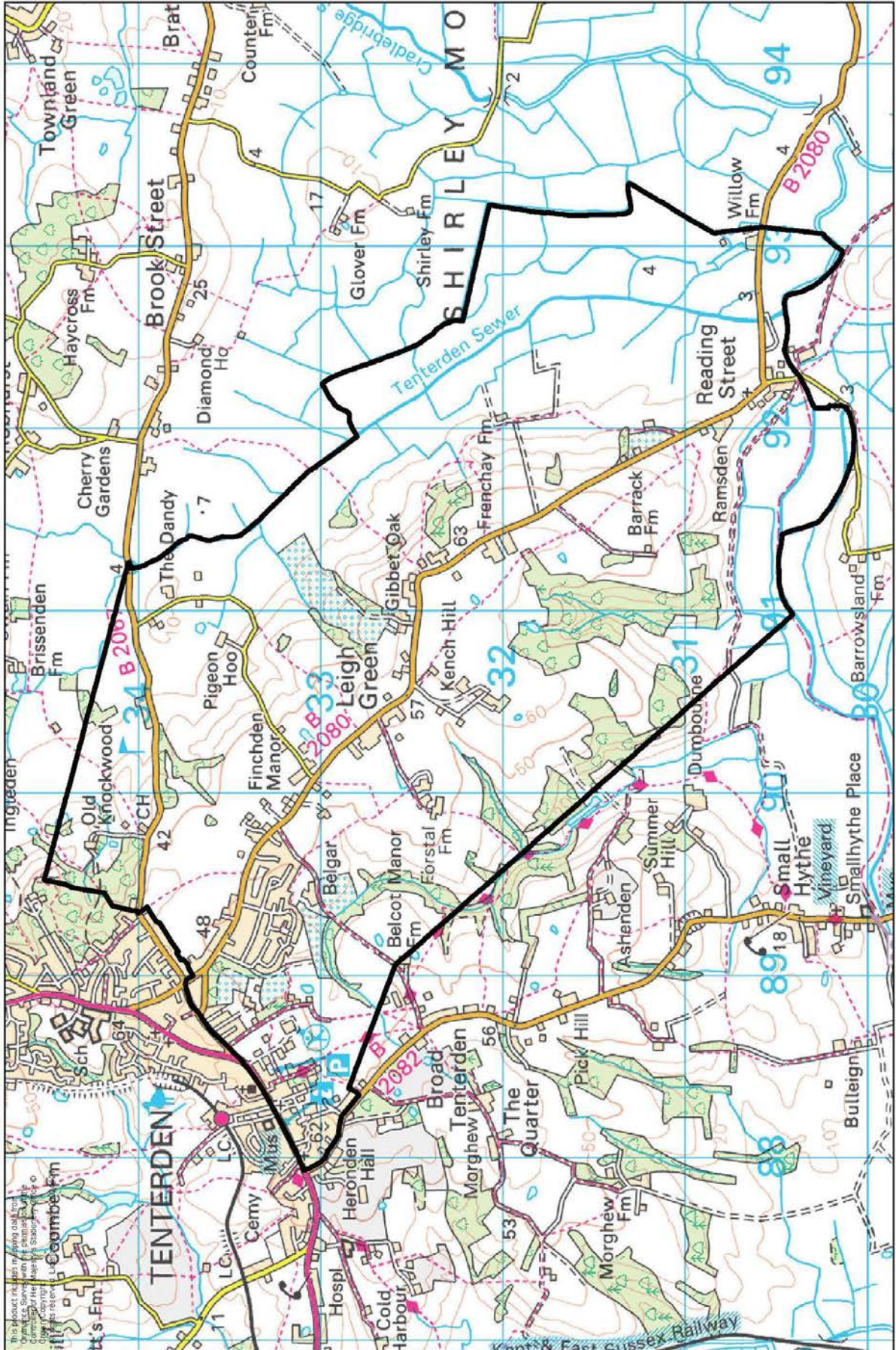


Ward Boundary Review - Ward 35

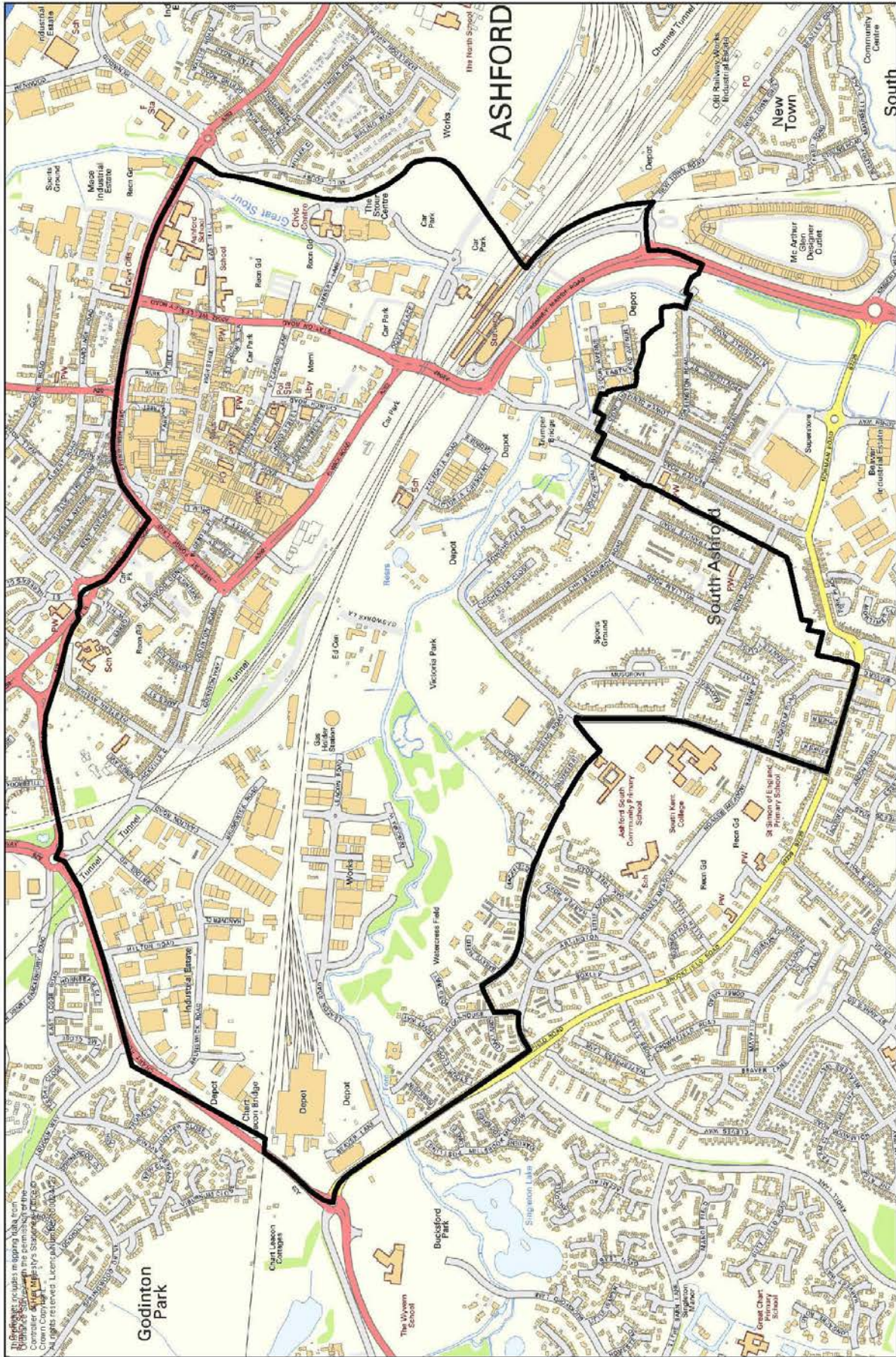


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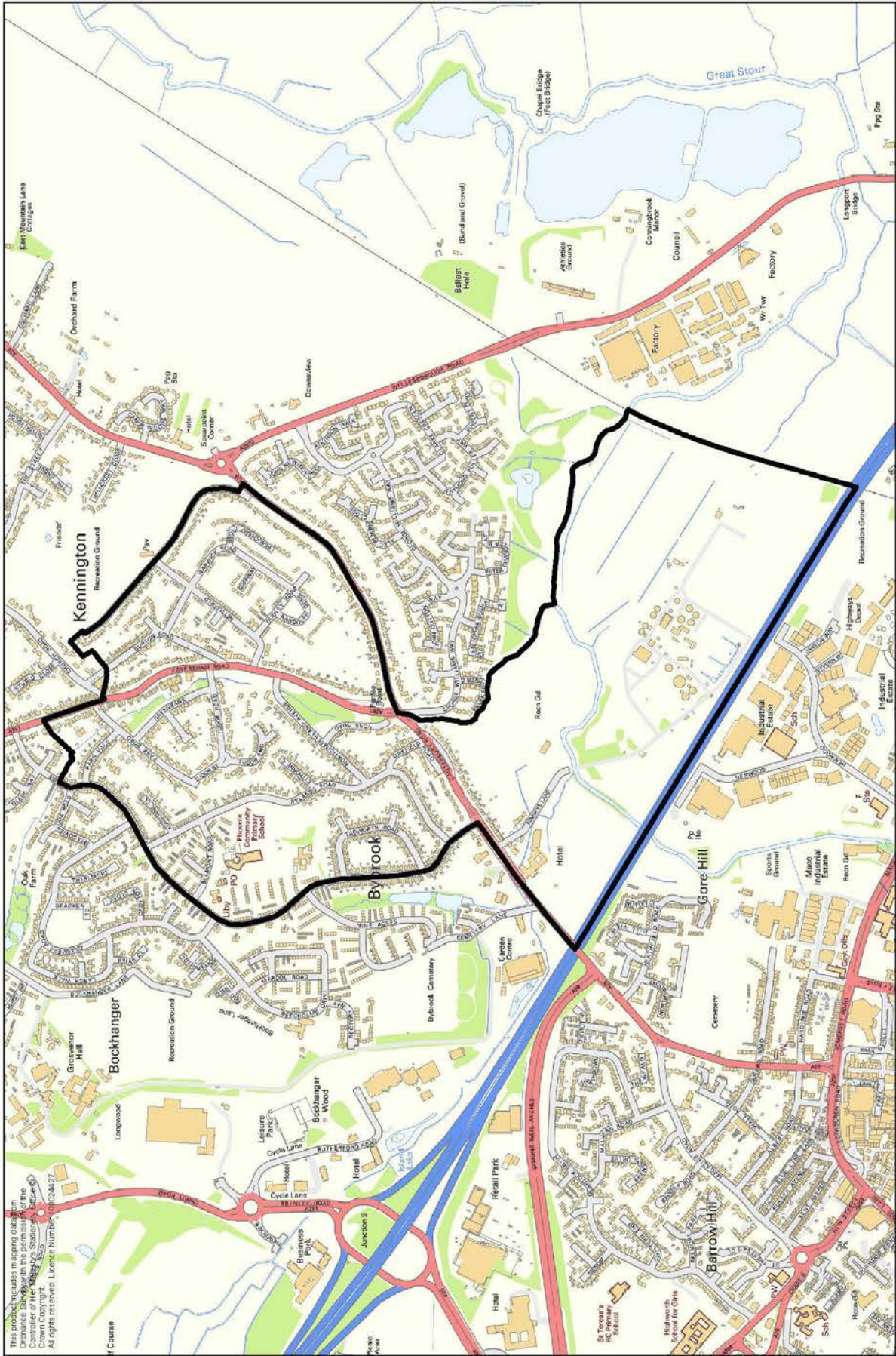
Ward Boundary Review - Ward 36



Ward Boundary Review - Ward 37



Ward Boundary Review - Ward 38



Ward Boundary Review - Ward 39