



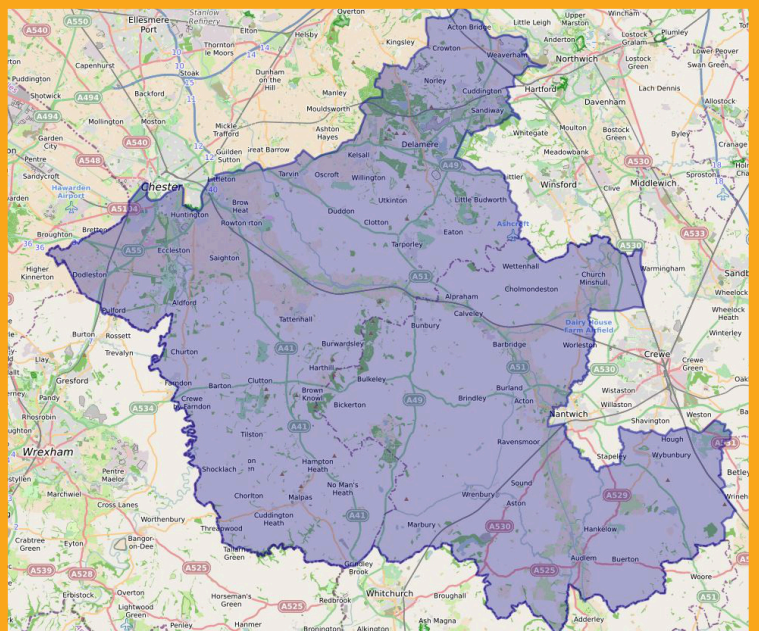
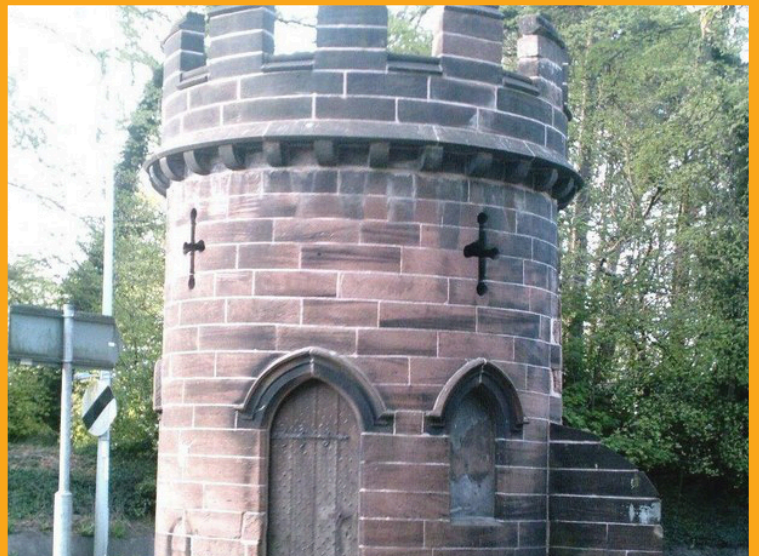
CHESTER SOUTH & EDDISBURY



Chester South & Eddisbury CC covers the rural parts of south and west Cheshire. Except for the southern suburbs of Chester, there are no large settlements in the seat. Covering two wards of Chester (Handbridge Park and Lache), the constituency extends to England's border with Wales, the county's southern border, and across to Church Minishull in the east and Acton Bridge in the north.

Chester Business Park, home to major employers, is in the Christleton & Huntingdon ward. Delamere Forest, which sees over 750,000 visitors each year, is within the constituency, as is Oulton Park race track and a number of stately homes. Large villages of Cuddington, Sandiway and Weaverham, act as satellite commuter settlements in the Northwich Urban Area, with Northwich in the Mid Cheshire CC. The villages in the Bunbury, Wrenbury, Wybunbury and Audlem wards, are close to Crewe and Nantwich. The service centres of Kelsall and Tarporley are in the centre of the constituency, but served by major A Roads.

Major roads, such as A55, A49, A51 and A556 traverse the constituency, but they are generally slow with poor safety records. There are stations on the mid-Cheshire rail line in Delamere and Cuddington, and at Acton Bridge on the Crewe-to-Liverpool line. There is an active campaign to reopen the Tarporley station on the Crewe-to-Chester line. All the stations between Crewe and Chester, including those in Waverton, Tattenhall, Calveley and Worleston, were closed in 1960, leaving much of the constituency a considerable distance from the rail network. Buses are infrequent.





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Chester South and Eddisbury CC is the successor to Eddisbury, with some key differences.

Firstly, the major town of Winsford (electorate 25000) - a Labour stronghold - is now in the Mid Cheshire seat. In addition, Davenham, Moulton and Kingsmead has also been reassigned - with its high Conservative vote. The constituency has also lost Sandstone, Gowy Rural, Brereton Rural and Leighton.

Eddisbury in 2019

Candidate	Votes	%age
Edward TIMPSON (Con)	30095	56.80%
Terry SAVAGE (Lab)	11652	22.00%
Antoinette SANDBACH (LD)	9582	18.10%
Louise JEWKES (Green)	1191	2.20%
Andrea ALLEN (UKIP)	451	0.90%

However, the new boundaries include the southern wards of Chester and the rural ward of Wybunbury. The other key difference is that the Boundary Commission has drawn CC boundaries on ward boundaries, so there are no split wards, although the constituency crosses Cheshire West and Chester Council and Cheshire East Council unitary authorities.

The loss of Winsford places Labour at a disadvantage in this new constituency, as evidenced by the local elections in May 2023, which puts the Liberal Democrats in second place, ahead of Labour.

Ward	CON Votes	LAB Votes	LD Votes	GRN Votes	OTH Votes
Audlem	1023		570		
Bunbury	912		846		
Wrenbury	806		575	241	
Wybunbury	1170	336	153		
Christleton & Huntington	976	794	667	749	
Farndon	852	89	828	27	
Handbridge Park	1712	1811	199	308	
Lache	368	807	43	76	
Malpas	839	100	534		
Tarporley	861	136		64	810
Tarvin & Kelsall	1226	420	1332	393	
Tattenhall	797	605	115	194	
Weaver & Cuddington	1515	1434	1091		2931
Total	13057	6532	6953	2052	3741
	40.38%	20.20%	21.50%	6.35%	11.57%

The current MP is not seeking re-election. The local Conservative Party selection procedure has descended into farce, with allegations and counter-allegations from Dr Kieran Mullan MP (Crewe and Nantwich) and local party favourite (Adam Wordsworth), forcing CCHQ to intervene, to the anger of the local party. There has been local resignations.

This mostly rural constituency borders North Shropshire, home to a spectacular by-election win, and the Cheshire South and Eddisbury CC has similar demographics. With the local Conservative Party squabbling, and the redrawn boundaries not favouring the Labour Party, there is an opportunity to build a promising base for the Liberal Democrats.

Chester South and Eddisbury is a large constituency, that contains a wide variety of settlements, full of character.