

**Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No. 430**

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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Professor G E Cherry

The Rt. Hon. Michael Heseltine MP
Secretary of State for the Environment

1. In a letter dated 30 October 1980, Swale Borough Council requested us to review the boundary between the boroughs of Swale and Maidstone, with a view to the transfer of a small area of land in the vicinity of the M2 motorway north-east of Stockbury from the borough of Swale to the borough of Maidstone and from the parish of Newington to the parish of Stockbury, in order to create a more satisfactory administrative boundary. Swale Borough Council proposed that the boundary should follow the centre of the motorway for a short distance, where at present it passes through fields just south of the motorway. Maidstone Borough Council and the parish councils of Newington and Stockbury all agreed to Swale Borough Council's proposal.
2. We considered Swale Borough Council's request, as required by Section 48(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, having regard to DOE Circular 33/78 and to our own Report No. 287.
3. We noted that the proposed change was minor and that the proposals met the criteria set out in paragraph 14 of DOE Circular 33/78.
4. As a result we decided that we should undertake a review, and that the circumstances were sufficiently exceptional to enable us to shorten our normal procedure by publishing draft proposals at the same time that we formally announced our intention to carry out a review.
5. We based our draft proposals on Swale Borough Council's proposal. The revised boundary was to run due east from the point on the existing boundary at National Grid reference point TQ 8434062995 to the centre of the M2 motorway at point TQ8439062995, thence southeastwards along the centre of the motorway to rejoin the existing boundary at point TQ 8524062527.
6. On 14 August 1981 we issued a consultation letter announcing the start of the review and giving details of our draft proposals. The letter was addressed jointly to Swale Borough Council and Maidstone Borough Council. Copies were sent to Kent County Council, the parish councils of Newington and Stockbury, the Members of Parliament for the constituencies concerned, the headquarters of the main political parties, and the editors of local newspapers circulating in the area and of the local government press. Again in view of the minor nature of the proposed change, we dispensed with our normal practice of asking the councils concerned to arrange for the publication of notices in the local press; instead we sent a copy of the consultation letter direct to the owner of the land which would be affected by the change. The two district authorities were asked to place copies of the draft

proposals on deposit at their main offices for a period of six weeks. Comments on the draft proposals were invited by 25 September 1981.

7. Swale Borough Council were also invited in a further, informal letter, to consider the possibility of an additional technical improvement to the district boundary, which involved continuing it further along the M2 motorway in both directions, so that, from the aforementioned point on the existing district boundary at National Grid reference point TQ 8434062995, it would run northwards along the Hartlip/Newington parish boundary to the centre of the M2 motorway at point TQ 8433863025, thence southeastwards along the centre of the motorway to meet the Newington/Borden parish boundary at point TQ 8581862207, thence southwestwards along the Newington/Borden boundary to rejoin the existing district boundary at point TQ 8578562136. Copies of the informal letter were sent to Maidstone Borough Council and Kent County Council.

8. No specific objections were made to the formal draft proposals. Swale Borough Council and Maidstone Borough Council both supported the technical improvement suggested in the informal letter; they consulted the parish councils of Newington and Stockbury respectively, who also agreed to the technical improvement, as did Kent County Council. Borden Parish Council (who were also consulted, because it was considered that they might have an interest in the matter as a result of possible forthcoming parish boundary changes) had no comments to make.

9. In considering the response to our draft proposals and to the additional informal suggestion, we were mindful of the fact that a change in the boundary between the parishes of Newington and Borden might result from the proposals which we had already made to you for revised parish arrangements in the borough of Swale. We therefore concluded that, on the assumption that you accept the relevant part of those earlier proposals, the new district boundary should run northwards along the existing Hartlip/Newington parish boundary from the existing district boundary at National Grid reference point TQ 8434062995 to the centre of the M2 motorway at point TQ 8433863025, thence southeastwards along the centre of the motorway to rejoin the existing district boundary at point TQ 8569062278. This is illustrated on Plan number 1 at the back of this report. If, however, you are unable to accept the relevant part of our earlier proposals, and consequently make no alteration to the section of the Newington/Borden boundary in question, then we consider that the new district boundary should continue further southeastwards along the motorway to the existing Newington/Borden parish boundary at point TQ 8581862207, thence southwestwards along the said parish boundary to rejoin the existing district boundary at point TQ 8578562136. This is illustrated on Plan number 2 at the back of this report.

10. Details of these final proposals are set out in Schedules 1-4 to this report. Schedule 1 gives a written description of the revised district boundary proposed; the boundary is also illustrated on the attached map. Schedule 2 describes the areas proposed for transfer. Schedules 3 and 4 specify the consequential adjustments to the existing electoral arrangements at district and county level respectively.

11. Copies of this report and of the map are being sent to Swale Borough Council, Maidstone Borough Council, and Kent County Council, and will be made available for public inspection at the Borough Councils' main offices. Copies of this report, which includes the sketch plans referred to in paragraph 9, are being sent, without the map, to those who received the consultation letter.

L.S.

Signed: R R THORNTON (Deputy Chairman)

J. M. ACKNER

TYRRELL BROCKBANK

G E CHERRY

D P HARRISON

LESLIE GRIMSHAW (Secretary)

25 March 1982

SCHEDULES

A. PROPOSALS TO BE ADOPTED IF NEWINGTON/BORDEN PARISH BOUNDARY PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTED. PLAN NO. 1 REFERS.

NOTE: Where the boundary is described as following a road, railway, river, canal or similar feature, it should be deemed to follow the centre line of the feature, unless otherwise stated.

Schedule 1

It is proposed that the boundary between the Borough of Swale and the Borough of Maidstone shall be realigned as described below.

Commencing at the point where the existing boundary between the Borough of Swale and the Borough of Maidstone meets the western boundary of Newington CP at NG Reference: 8434062995, as shown on OS 1:2500 Microfilm (A) TQ 8462, date of publication 1967, thence northwards along said CP boundary to the M2 Motorway, thence southeastwards along said Motorway to rejoin the existing Borough boundary at NG Reference: 8569062278, as shown on OS 1:2500 Microfilm (A) TQ 8562, date of publication 1967.

Schedule 2

Area 1: description of area of land proposed to be transferred from Newington CP in the Borough of Swale to Stockbury CP in the Borough of Maidstone.

That area bounded by a line commencing at the point where the existing boundary between the Borough of Swale and the Borough of Maidstone meets the proposed Borough boundary described in Schedule 1 at NG Reference: 8434062995, thence northwards and southeastwards along said proposed Borough boundary to the existing Borough boundary at NG Reference: 8524062527, as shown on OS 1:2500 Microfilm (A) TQ 8562, date of publication 1967, thence westwards, northwestwards and northwards along said existing Borough boundary to the point of commencement.

Area 2: description of area of land proposed to be transferred from Stockbury CP in the Borough of Maidstone to Borden CP in the Borough of Swale.

That area bounded by a line commencing at the point where the existing boundary between the Borough of Swale and the Borough of Maidstone meets the proposed Borough boundary described in Schedule 1, at NG Reference: 8569062278, thence northwestwards along said proposed Borough boundary to the existing Borough boundary at NG Reference: 8524062527, thence eastwards and southeastwards along said existing Borough boundary to the point of commencement.

Schedule 3

Revised District electoral arrangements, consequent upon the proposals described in Schedules 1 and 2.

It is proposed that the District Wards, as defined in the District of Swale (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1976 (as modified by the proposed Parishes Order) and the Borough of Maidstone (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1976, shall be altered as described below.

Area 1, as described in Schedule 2, shall be transferred from the Newington Ward of the Borough of Swale to the Detling Ward of the Borough of Maidstone.

Area 2, as described in Schedule 2, shall be transferred from the Detling Ward of the Borough of Maidstone to the Borden Ward of the Borough of Swale.

Schedule 4

Revised County electoral arrangements, consequent upon the proposals described in Schedules 1 and 2.

It is proposed that the County Electoral Divisions, as defined in the County of Kent (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1981, shall be altered as described below.

Area 1, as described in Schedule 2, shall be transferred from Swale West ED to Maidstone Rural North ED.

Area 2, as described in Schedule 2, shall be transferred from Maidstone Rural North ED to Swale West ED.

B. PROPOSALS TO BE ADOPTED IF NEWINGTON/BORDEN PARISH BOUNDARY PROPOSAL IS REJECTED. PLAN NO.2 REFERS

NOTE: Where the boundary is described as following a road, railway, river, canal or similar feature, it should be deemed to follow the centre line of the feature, unless otherwise stated.

Schedule 1

It is proposed that the boundary between the Borough of Swale and the Borough of Maidstone shall be realigned as described below.

Commencing at the point where the existing boundary between the Borough of Swale and the Borough of Maidstone meets the western boundary of Newington CP at NG Reference: 8434062995, as shown on OS 1:2500 Microfilm (A) TQ 8462, date of publication 1967, thence northwards along said CP boundary to the M2 Motorway, thence southeastwards along said Motorway to the southeastern boundary of Newington CP, thence southwestwards along said CP boundary to rejoin the existing Borough boundary at NG Reference: 8578562136, as shown on OS 1:2500 Microfilm (A) TQ 8562, date of publication 1967.

Schedule 2

Area 1: description of area of land proposed to be transferred from Newington CP in the Borough of Swale to Stockbury CP in the Borough of Maidstone.

That area bounded by a line commencing at the point where the existing boundary between the Borough of Swale and the Borough of Maidstone meets the proposed Borough boundary described in Schedule 1 at NG Reference: 8434062995, thence northwards and southeastwards along said proposed Borough boundary to the existing Borough boundary at NG Reference: 8524062527, as shown on OS 1:2500 Microfilm (A) TQ 8562, date of publication 1967, thence westwards, northwestwards and northwards along said existing Borough boundary to the point of commencement.

Area 2: description of area of land proposed to be transferred from Stockbury CP in the Borough of Maidstone to Newington CP in the Borough of Swale.

That area bounded by a line commencing at the point where the existing boundary between the Borough of Swale and the Borough of Maidstone meets the proposed Borough boundary described in Schedule 1, at NG Reference: 8569062278, thence northwestwards along said proposed Borough boundary to the existing Borough boundary at NG Reference: 8524062527, thence eastwards and southeastwards along said existing Borough boundary to the point of commencement.

Area 3: description of area of land proposed to be transferred from Newington CP in the Borough of Swale to Stockbury CP in the Borough of Maidstone.

That area bounded by a line commencing at the point where the existing boundary between the Borough of Swale and the Borough of Maidstone meets the proposed Borough boundary described in Schedule 1, at NG Reference: 8569062278, thence southeastwards and southwestwards along said proposed Borough boundary to the existing Borough boundary at NG Reference: 8578562136, thence northwestwards along said existing Borough boundary to the point of commencement.

Schedule 3

Revised District electoral arrangements, consequent upon the proposals described in Schedules 1 and 2.

It is proposed that the District Wards, as defined in the District of Swale (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1976 and the Borough of Maidstone (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1976, shall be altered as described below.

Area 1 and Area 3, as described in Schedule 2, shall be transferred from the Newington Ward of the Borough of Swale to the Detling Ward of the Borough of Maidstone.

Area 2, as described in Schedule 2, shall be transferred from the Detling Ward of the Borough of Maidstone to the Newington Ward of the Borough of Swale.

Schedule 4

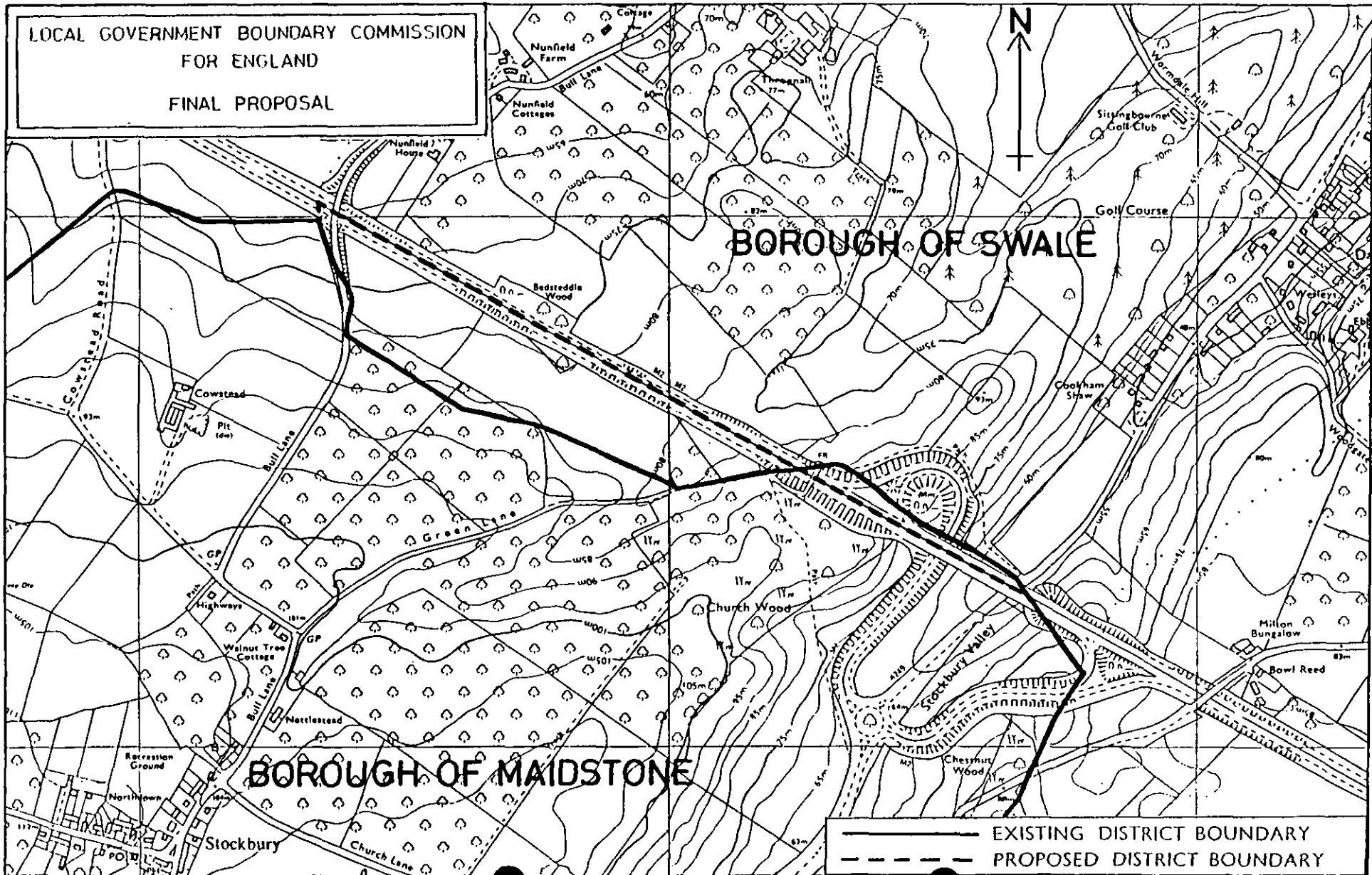
Revised County electoral arrangements, consequent upon the proposals described in Schedules 1 and 2.

It is proposed that the County Electoral Divisions, as defined in the County of Kent (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1981, shall be altered as described below.

Area 1 and Area 3, as described in Schedule 2, shall be transferred from Swale West ED to Maidstone Rural North ED.

Area 2, as described in Schedule 2, shall be transferred from Maidstone Rural North ED to Swale West ED.

PRINCIPAL AREA REVIEW



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