

Denge and Walland Marsh

This area is locally considered the western end of the Romney Marsh and is composed of six parishes and communities.

Lydd Town, Dungeness and Lydd-on-Sea

Lydd Town is an established community which traditionally included Dungeness and Lydd-on-Sea. As a corporate member of the Cinque Ports it acted as a source of wealth through both legal and illegal activities derived from its proximity to the coast, as did the requirement to provide ships for the sovereign's military excursions. Today it acts as a "hub for the community" in Shepway District Council's core strategy, i.e. it provides daily shopping facilities, a medical centre, two dental practices and has various commercial and industrial undertakings that provide local employment. To the east of the town is Lydd Airport which is presently subject to planning application for extension of its services. Should a positive decision be reached Lydd Town Council believes that the Lydd Airport expansion proposals will create the catalyst for economic regeneration: this in turn will provide a positive platform for improvements to public transport, the local infrastructure and create an increase in local employment thus increasing the population level. The outcome of this may well mean that the variance will positively increase in future years.

The number 11 bus service operates from Lydd Town to Lydd-on-Sea and Dungeness before serving the Marsh villages on its route to Ashford. The parishes of Snargate, Brookland and Brenzett are being organised as a living together with All Saints' Church (Lydd) and St.Peter's at Greatstone.

The parish and town councils of the designated area of Denge Marsh and Walland Marsh have regular consultative meetings and undertaken some activities together and have made common cause with the higher local government tiers.

	2013	2018
Lydd Town, Lydd-on-Sea, Dungeness and Greatstone	4780	4979
Old Romney	175	175
Brookland	367	395
Brenzett	281	302
Snargate	103	103
Ivychurch	214	214
Total (b)	1140	1189
Grand total	5920	6168

Should the area be considered as a viable unit then it would allow for two councillors serving a ward of 6,168, a 3.9% variance.

Addendum: At the meeting of Lydd Town Council held on 08/04/13, Councillors expressed their concerns regarding the impact that the reduction in the number of District Councillors from 3 to 2 would have on the effective representation due to the increased travel times to reach all their constituents.