

The Folkestone and Hythe Labour Party supports the Shepway District Council submission to the LGBCE with the following exceptions:

1. The proposed ward of Romney Marsh East should be a single member ward and there should be a new ward covering the Dymchurch parish area. Dymchurch is totally separate from St Mary's Bay as a distinct community of its own and should not be merged with the neighbouring parish areas.
2. Hythe ward should also include the area of Saltwood parish as these communities are not really different or separate. People from Saltwood shop in Hythe and use Hythe's facilities and the two areas are geographically central. It would be farcical to include the area of Saltwood parish into Hythe Rural ward as they have no real links with the people of Palmarsh and other communities in West Hythe.
3. Newington parish should be included within the proposed ward of Cheriton and Morehall. The rural part of the ward in the north is closely linked together because of the Channel Tunnel and the boundary would currently go through the middle of this vast complex. The area is also joined via main roads including the M20 and Hill Lane, Danton Lane and Crete Road West and residents from Newington will use the shopping facilities such as the large Tesco at Cheriton for fuel and shopping.

4. Folkestone Park ward should be renamed Broadmead Village. The ward has lost a large part of the old Folkestone Park ward to the east around Radnor Park and Park Farm Road. It is now centred around Broadmead Village and as such should be called so as road signs and bus routes are also called by this name.
  
5. The proposed Folkestone Harbour ward should also include properties in Dallas Brett Crescent, Keyes Place, Hill Road and Dover Road, Tyson Road and Ingoldsby Road as they form part of the same community. The Folkestone Baptist Church is located on Dover Road and serves both sides of the Dover Road whereas the proposal seeks to divide a community.
  
6. We do not support the continued warding of Sandgate Parish Council as this is divisive to a whole community of Sandgate.
  
7. We support the warding of Lydd Town Council with a ward for the town and a ward for Dungeness and a ward for Greatstone. These are different communities and this is shown by the evidence gathered during an extensive community governance review by Shepway in 2010.
  
8. We do not support the continued warding arrangements for Lyminge Parish Council.
  
9. We do not support the continued warding of St Mary in the Marsh parish Council as this divides the community.
  
10. We support the original proposal from Shepway which the council did not agree to of warding Hythe Town Council based on existing ward with the new electorate taken into account.

Hythe East with 5 Councillors and 3,749 electors

Hythe South with 3 councillors and 2,467 electors

Hythe North with 3 councillors and 2,632 electors

Hythe West with 5 councillors and 4,041 electors

11. We support the original proposal from Shepway which the council did not agree to of warding arrangements of 4 wards for Folkestone Town Council. These are that Folkestone Town Council currently has coterminous ward boundaries with the existing district ward boundaries and the new arrangements make it impossible for this to continue. The new arrangements should be:

Folkestone North East Ward made up of the area north of the Cheriton Road should have 3 councillors and 5,962 electors

Folkestone North East ward made up of Broadmead Village, Folkestone North, Foord and the polling district FE2 north of the railway line from Folkestone Harbour Ward with 4 councillors and 7,740 electors.

Folkestone South East ward with the rest of the new Folkestone Harbour ward with four councillors and 7,740 electors.

Folkestone South West ward made up from Areas south of the railway line up to the existing border between polling districts FHC1 and 3 and FHC2 with 5 councillors and 10,237 electors.

Regards

Arran Harvey

