

Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No.402

LOCAL GOVERNMENT
BOUNDARY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND
REPORT NO. 402.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

CHAIRMAN

Sir Nicholas Morrison KCB

MEMBERS

Lady Bowden

Mr J T Brockbank DL

Mr R R Thornton CBE DL

Mr D P Harrison

Professor G E Cherry

To the Rt Hon William Whitelaw, CH MC MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department

PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT

1. The last Order under Section 51 of the Local Government Act 1972 in relation to electoral arrangements for districts in the county of Kent was made on 14 December 1978. As required by Section 63 and Schedule 9 of the Act we have now reviewed the electoral arrangements for that county, using the procedures we had set out in our Report No 6.
2. We informed the Kent County Council in a consultation letter dated 15 May 1979 that we proposed to conduct the review, and sent copies of the letter to all local authorities and parish meetings in the county, to the MPs representing the constituencies concerned, to the headquarters of the main political parties and to the editors both of local newspapers circulating in the county and of the local government press. Notices in the local press announced the start of the review and invited comments from members of the public and from interested bodies.
3. On 27 November 1979 the County Council submitted to us a draft scheme in which they suggested 99 electoral divisions for the county, each returning 1 member in accordance with Section 6(2)(a) of the Act.
4. We considered this scheme together with the views expressed by local interests. On 8 April 1980 we issued draft proposals which we sent to all those who had received our consultation letter, or commented on the County Council's draft scheme. Notices were inserted in the local press announcing that the draft proposals had been issued and could be inspected at the County Council's offices.
5. We based our draft proposals on the County Council's draft scheme, though we made certain modifications, designed to improve the electoral balance between divisions within certain districts, or to take account of comments on the scheme,

including some relating to local ties where these could be met without significant detriment to the electoral balance.

6. The modifications we made were as follows:

(a) Canterbury City

We replaced 4 of the 8 electoral divisions proposed by the County Council by an alternative scheme for 4 divisions proposed by Adisham Parish Council.

(b) Dover District

We replaced 4 of the 7 electoral divisions proposed by the County Council by 3 divisions proposed by Dover District Council (which we named 'Dover West', 'Dover Central', and 'Dover South') and 1 division devised by ourselves (which we named 'Dover Rural').

(c) Gravesham Borough

We replaced 5 of the 6 electoral divisions proposed by the County Council by an alternative scheme for 5 divisions proposed by the Gravesend Division Conservative Association.

(d) Maidstone Borough

We replaced the 9 electoral divisions proposed by the County Council in their draft scheme by an alternative 9 division scheme which had been provisionally adopted by the County Council during their own consultation process which had preceded the submission of the draft scheme.

(e) Sevenoaks District

We replaced 4 of the 8 electoral divisions proposed by the County Council by an alternative scheme for 4 divisions proposed by Sevenoaks District Council. Of the County Council's proposed divisions that we accepted, we renamed the Sevenoaks Rural North East division 'Sevenoaks North East', and altered the name of the Darent Valley division to 'Darent Valley'; both these changes had been suggested by the District Council.

(f) Shepway District

We renamed the County Council's proposed Elham Valley division 'Elham' as suggested by Shepway District Council and Elham Parish Council.

(g) Thanet District

We replaced 8 of the 9 electoral divisions proposed by the County Council by an alternative scheme for 8 divisions proposed by the Thanet East Constituency Labour Party.

(h) Tonbridge and Malling District

We replaced 5 of the 6 electoral divisions proposed by the County Council by an alternative scheme for 5 divisions proposed by the Tonbridge and Malling Liberal Association.

7. We received comments in response to our draft proposals from the County Council, 9 district councils, 20 parish councils, 2 town councils, 7 county councillors, 2 district councillors, 18 political associations, one association of parish councils, one country protection society, and 8 individuals or groups of individuals. A list of those who wrote to us is given at Appendix 1 to this Report.

8. Kent County Council accepted our draft proposals for 7 of the 14 districts in the county (Ashford, Dartford, Gillingham, Rochester upon Medway, Sevenoaks, Swale, and Tonbridge and Malling). In 2 other districts (Shepway and Tunbridge Wells) they accepted our proposed arrangement of electoral divisions but recommended the alteration of two division names, ie they wished the 'Elham' and 'Tunbridge Wells South and West' divisions to be named 'Elham Valley' and 'Tunbridge Wells South' respectively. In the other 5 districts (Canterbury, Dover, Gravesham, Maidstone, and Thanet), they objected to our proposals and called for the reinstatement of their draft scheme without alteration, except in Canterbury where they now proposed that the North Nailbourne district ward should be included in their proposed Canterbury South division, rather than in their proposed Canterbury East division as earlier recommended. The main grounds of their objections to our draft proposals were that they broke local ties and created some artificial linkages of wards.

9. The other comments we received can be summarised as follows:-

(a) The Kent County Liberal Group and the Dover District Labour Group supported our draft proposals as a whole.

(b) Ashford Borough

Ashford Borough Council and the Ashford Divisional Liberal Association wished the Ashford Eastmead ward to be transferred from the Ashford South East to the Ashford South electoral division.

(c) Canterbury City

The Canterbury Constituency Labour Party put forward their own alternative to our proposed Canterbury East, Canterbury South, and Canterbury West electoral divisions. The Canterbury Constituency Conservative Association wished the Canterbury East and Canterbury West divisions to be named respectively Canterbury Rural East and Canterbury Rural West, or preferably Bridge Blean East and Bridge Blean West. The Wincheap Ward Branch of the Canterbury Constituency Conservative Association put forward their own alternative to the Canterbury North, Canterbury East, Canterbury South, and Canterbury West divisions. Barham Parish Council and Lower Hardres Parish Council supported the County Council's revised draft scheme. Adisham Parish Council supported our draft proposals. The Parish Council of Thanington Without stated they had no comments to make on our draft proposals. We subsequently ascertained that Canterbury City Council supported the County Council's revised draft scheme.

(d) Dartford Borough

Stone Parish Council supported our draft proposals.

(e) Dover District

Dover District Council, Hythorne Parish Council, Shepherdswell with Coldred Parish Council, and the Dover Constituency Labour Party supported our draft proposals. Aylesham Parish Council wished the Dover Rural electoral division to be split into 2 divisions, represented by 2 councillors each.

(f) Gillingham Borough

The Gillingham Conservative Association supported our draft proposals.

(g) Gravesham Borough

Gravesham Borough Council suggested that the Cobham and Luddesdown district ward be transferred from the Gravesend South to the Gravesham Rural electoral division. Meopham Parish Council put forward their own alternative to the Gravesend North, Gravesend South, and Tollgate divisions, and suggested that our proposed Gravesham Rural division be named 'Gravesham North East'.

Higham Parish Council opposed our draft proposals on the grounds that they linked urban and rural areas and destroyed the existing link between the borough's 5 parishes. The Cobham and Luddesdown Branch of the Gravesend Division Conservative Association stated they would prefer a scheme in which as many as possible of the 5 parishes were in the same electoral division. Luddesdown Parish Council, Cobham Parish Council, Shorne Parish Council, the Gravesend Constituency Labour Party, the Shorne Branch of the Gravesend Division Conservative Association, the Gravesham Area Committee of the Kent Association of Parish Councils, the Dickens Country Protection Society, one county councillor and 4 private individuals or groups of individuals objected to our draft proposals on similar grounds, and supported the County Council's draft scheme. The Gravesend Division Conservative Association as a whole, 4 county councillors, and a borough councillor, together with a group of 8 other persons, supported our draft proposals.

(h) Maidstone Borough

Maidstone Borough Council, the Maidstone Division Conservative Association, Thurnham Parish Council, and one county councillor objected to our draft proposals and supported the county council's draft scheme or something similar to it. The Maidstone Constituency Labour Party, the Maidstone Division Liberal Association, and Bearsted Parish Council supported our draft proposals.

(i) Rochester upon Medway Borough

The Chairman of the Rochester and Chatham Liberal Association had doubts about certain aspects of the proposals, but considered it most important that

we should make a final decision without delay.

(j) Sevenoaks District

Sevenoaks District Council and 2 private individuals supported our draft proposals. Swanley Town Council wished the whole of Swanley to be included in one electoral division; if our draft proposals were to be confirmed, however, they wished the name 'Swanley South East' to be used.

(k) Shepway District

County Councillor L J Roberts supported the view of the County Council as a whole that the Elham division should be renamed 'Elham Valley'. Shepway District Council, on the other hand, preferred the name 'Elham', and supported completely our draft proposals for the district. Hythe Town Council expressed approval of the proposal for the town of Hythe to constitute a separate electoral division.

(l) Swale Borough

Swale Borough Council supported our draft proposals. The Faversham Constituency Labour Party submitted their own alternative to our proposed Swale Central, Swale East, Swale North, and Swale West divisions.

(m) Thanet District

Thanet District Council as a whole supported the County Council's draft scheme; whilst one of the district councillors, **Mr Tree**, put forward his own alternative arrangement of wards in the Margate area. A group of 8 residents of the Northwood ward of Ramsgate saw no need for any alteration to the existing boundaries, but put forward their own alternative grouping of Ramsgate wards in case it was decided that change of some kind was necessary. A group of 11 residents of the Central Eastcliff ward of Ramsgate wished their ward to be combined with the Northwood ward, as it currently was. The Thanet East Constituency Labour Party, the Thanet West Labour Party, and the Thanet East Liberal Association supported our draft proposals.

(n) Tonbridge and Malling District

Tonbridge and Malling District Council put forward an alternative to our proposed Malling Rural Central, Malling Rural North, Malling Rural West,

Tonbridge East, and Tonbridge West divisions. West Malling Parish Council and Birling Parish Council favoured the same scheme as that suggested by the District Council. East Peckham Parish Council supported our draft proposals insofar as they affected that particular parish. Ditton Parish Council stated they had no alternative suggestions to offer to our draft proposals.

(o) Tunbridge Wells Borough

The Tunbridge Wells Constituency Labour Party favoured their own alternative to the Tunbridge Wells Central, Tunbridge Wells East, Tunbridge Wells Rural East, Tunbridge Wells Rural West, Tunbridge Wells South and West, and Cranbrook divisions.

10. When we came to reassess our draft proposals in the light of all the comments we had received we found that we needed further information before we could reach final conclusions on some issues. We therefore decided to appoint one of our members, Mr Tyrrell Brockbank, DL., to hold a local meeting to hear representations and local views on the proposed electoral arrangements. The meeting was to deal primarily with the districts of Canterbury, Dover, Gravesham, Maidstone and Thanet, although comments regarding other districts would not be excluded if they were deemed relevant.
11. The meeting was held on 1 October 1980 at Maidstone and a list of people who attended is attached as Appendix 2 to this report. Mr Brockbank heard all those who wished to speak and inspected certain areas which were in question, both before and after the meeting.
12. He reported his findings to us and these are embodied in the conclusions we reached, which also took account of all the written comments we received. Our conclusions are set out below, district by district:-

(a) Ashford Borough

Kent County Council supported our draft proposals which were identical to their draft scheme. Ashford Borough Council and the Ashford Divisional Liberal Association argued strongly that the Ashford Eastmead District Ward should be included in the Ashford South Division rather than in the Ashford South East Division. The grounds for their claim were that the Ashford Eastmead District Ward formed part of the same built up area as South Ashford and was separated from the Ashford South East Division by $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of open space, a railway line, railway sidings and the East Stour River. The only link between the 2 areas was a footpath and a road.

A physical examination on the ground showed that this was quite true but it also showed that the road and footpath did provide an adequate link between the two areas and the boundary included in the draft proposals was clear and easily recognisable. There was no doubt that the boundary preferred by the objectors was a better boundary geographically than the one we had chosen; but the objectors were unable to produce any evidence to show that the local government of the area would in any way be more effectively or conveniently carried out by changing from the draft proposals, which provided a very much better electoral balance. In the circumstances we decided to confirm our draft proposals as our final proposals.

(b) Canterbury City

Kent County Council's revised draft scheme was supported at the local meeting by Canterbury City Council. The only objection at the local meeting to this revised scheme was from the Canterbury Divisional Liberal Association who nevertheless were now prepared to accept everything else in the County Council's draft scheme apart from the revision which affected the North Nailbourne District Ward. In view of the extent of the support for the County Council's revised draft scheme and, having regard to the fact that numerically it was acceptable, we decided to adopt it as our final proposals.

(c) Dartford Borough

We received support for our draft proposals and having regard to the fact that there were no objections to them we decided to confirm them as our final proposals.

(d) Dover District

At the local meeting there had been no other support for the Kent County Council's draft scheme or for an amended scheme which they suggested and which moved Shepherdswell-with-Coldred from Dover North to Dover Rural. As our draft proposals seemed to be generally accepted we decided to confirm them as our final proposals.

(e) Gillingham Borough

There were no objections to the draft proposals which appeared to be generally acceptable and we decided to confirm them as our final proposals.

(f) Gravesham Borough

Only the Gravesham Divisional Conservative Association supported our draft proposals at the local meeting and towards the end they were prepared to see them replaced by the scheme put forward by Gravesham Borough Council. It was this scheme and the County Council's draft scheme which were discussed at considerable length. Both were acceptable numerically.

Gravesham Borough Council agreed that there were strong local ties in the rural areas, particularly between the 5 parishes which survived the 1974 reorganisation of local government. Nevertheless they felt that the rural areas could not be kept entirely separate and there must be links between town and country, and put forward arguments in favour of their own scheme.

The County Council's draft scheme was supported by the 5 parishes and the Gravesend Labour Party. Originally Meopham Parish Council had put forward their own alternative scheme but they withdrew it at the meeting and supported the County Council's draft scheme. The Meopham Parish Council scheme had seemed to them to be the best for their own parish but it had been put forward before they had discussed the position with the other 4 parishes. After those discussions had taken place the 5 parishes united to support the Kent County Council draft scheme as the best possible answer to the rural parishes.

A great many of the arguments for and against these two alternative schemes concerned the way in which the 5 rural parishes could best be represented on the County Council. The Borough Council supported by a number of spokesmen felt that several county councillors each representing a mixed urban and rural area would be more likely to provide effective and convenient local government for the rural areas than one county councillor covering the rural areas alone. A county councillor with both urban and rural responsibilities would learn to balance any conflicting interests between them and this would lead to that harmony between the two which was in the interests of good local government. If this mixture was not achieved then the purely urban county councillors would outvote the rural county councillor whose area would then be at a disadvantage. In addition, the rural area was so large, about 12 miles long, that it would be better for several county councillors to cover it rather than one, and several county councillors, being members of more committees than only one county councillor could possibly be, would be able to deal more effectively with the various problems concerning the area. The Borough Council's arguments in favour of this solution were augmented by evidence that the parishes did indeed have strong links with the neighbouring urban areas as well as among themselves.

The County Council's draft scheme was supported not only by the 5 parishes, but by a number of individuals, and by the Kent Association of Parish Councils. They were in no doubt about what they wanted and that was one county councillor to represent them on the County Council, someone whom they knew had the interests of the parishes at heart and someone whom they could rely upon to put forward their point of view. They gave numerous instances of the links between the parishes and a spokesman for each of the 5 parishes in turn was able to emphasise some aspect of the common interest binding them together. The county councillor at present representing the area explained that although he might not be a member of a particular committee of the County Council that did not stop him dealing with matters concerning that committee which affected his constituents.

The arguments on both sides were genuinely held and strongly expressed.

We have never found it necessary or possible to reach any general decision about the extent to which town and country should be combined in electoral divisions because

so often what may be best for the effective and convenient local government of one area may not necessarily be right for another.

In the case of Gravesham Borough either alternative could provide a solution. The demonstration of local feeling in the 5 parishes however was striking and there was a good deal of evidence to show that in those parishes, although there might be some links with the urban areas, there were very much stronger links binding them together. On balance we decided that we would accept the Kent County Council's scheme as our final proposals.

(g) Maidstone Borough

The County Council wanted us to accept their draft scheme instead of our draft proposals and the Maidstone Borough Council had been in favour of a modified version of that draft scheme which changed the placing of two wards. The Maidstone Liberal Association, the Kent Liberal Group, and the Maidstone Labour Party agreed with the draft proposals. The Maidstone Conservative Association who had originally supported a modified version of the draft scheme decided at the local meeting to support the County Council's.

The main issue again concerned the extent to which town and country should be combined. It was claimed that a scheme on the lines put forward by the Borough Council and the County Council would achieve the correct blend but the draft proposals would separate town and country to a degree which was unacceptable.

At the local meeting the two opposing points of view were strenuously argued. There could be no doubt that the links which were described in the rural areas were real and did in fact exist. But we found that the arguments were inconclusive and no case had been made out which made either alternative clearly superior to the other. The draft proposals had one over-riding advantage in that the electoral balance they provided between the divisions was better than either the Borough Council's or the County Council's draft scheme, and for this reason we decided to confirm our draft proposals as our final proposals.

(h) Rochester upon Medway Borough

No points were raised at the meeting and we decided to confirm our draft proposals as our final proposals.

(i) Sevenoaks District

There was one lone criticism at the local meeting about the suggested boundaries of the Sevenoaks electoral divisions but otherwise, apart from the objections in writing made by Swanley Town Council, there was general agreement with our proposals for this area. In the circumstances we decided to confirm our draft proposals as our final proposals.

(j) Shepway District

The only point at issue in this district was the naming of the proposed Elham division. The County Council had originally suggested that the division should be called "Elham Valley" and we had renamed it "Elham" in the draft proposals at the request both of the Shepway District Council and the Elham Parish Council.

The County Council had been concerned about confusion between the division and the Elham ward of the Shepway District. The County Councillor for the division had found that the shared name had caused misunderstanding during the 13 years he had represented the area and the suggestion that the division should be called Elham Valley had been made because that valley ran through the middle of most of the division.

The Parish Council and the District Council disagreed with the choice of name because the Elham Valley only covered a small part of the division. The valley ran north to south through the middle of the division but it had no links with either the east or west. The river and the valley continued northwards outside the division altogether. "Elham" on the other hand was a name with historical associations with the area.

Attempts at the local meeting to find some acceptable compromise were unsuccessful. We decided to revert to the name "Elham Valley" because it was undesirable to allow the same name to be applied to both a district ward and a county electoral division in a case where there was evidence that the practice

had in the past caused confusion.

(k) Swale Borough

There were no objections at the local meeting to our draft proposals which received general support and we decided to confirm them as our final proposals.

(l) Thanet District

There were basic and strongly expressed disagreements about this District.

The three areas of Ramsgate, Broadstairs and Margate could be treated separately because each was self-contained and any changes within one area would have no knock-on effect in the others. There was no disagreement about the remaining division outside these areas.

The scheme originally put forward by a group of residents from the Northwood Ward of Ramsgate received some support at the local meeting and the County Council, who still preferred their own draft scheme for this area, were prepared to accept it if their own draft scheme was not adopted.

There was however considerable opposition to it particularly from the Thanet East Constituency Labour Party and the Thanet East Liberal Association who both supported our draft proposals.

The main difficulty about the Northwood scheme was that it split one of the divisions into two separate parts but convincing evidence was given at the local meeting that the two areas had very much in common, with strong parochial links through St Luke's Church. The balance of electorate provided by the scheme was better than that in either our draft proposals or in the County Council's draft scheme, and we decided therefore to adopt it as our final proposals. We also decided to call the three divisions Northwood and Eastcliff, Ramsgate North and Ramsgate South.

The draft proposals for Broadstairs were opposed by both the County Council and the Thanet District Council but were supported by the Thanet East Constituency Labour Party and the Thanet East Liberal Association. There were conflicting arguments about which areas had the strongest links but it seemed that our draft

proposals probably best reflected the way in which these links existed on the ground. In addition the electoral balance provided by our draft proposals was better than the alternative. We therefore decided to confirm our draft proposals for this area as our final proposals.

The Thanet District Council supported by the County Council gave detailed reasons why our draft proposals failed to meet the requirements for Margate, and Thanet West Labour Party gave equally detailed reasons why our draft proposals satisfied all the requirements of physical boundaries and affinity of interests.

The disagreement stemmed from the County Council's attempt in their draft scheme to collect the commercial areas together in one division and the residential areas in another. There was evidence that the internal links which this produced were in some cases not particularly strong. After careful consideration we concluded that we should confirm our draft proposals as our final proposals.

(m) Tonbridge and Malling District

The Tonbridge and Malling District Council gave reasons at the local meeting why they felt that although the draft proposals were better than the County Council's draft scheme, they were not as good as their own scheme. They argued that their own scheme more effectively dealt with the parishes than our draft proposals and claimed that we had not properly appreciated the extent of the links between West Malling Parish and the other parishes to its north and west. They also felt that we had not included the parish of Wrotham with the parishes with which it had the closest ties.

None of the parishes concerned came to the local meeting to object to our draft proposals, and one parish directly affected wrote to support them. No one at the local meeting agreed with the District Council's views, and the County Council confirmed that they were now of the opinion that the draft proposals were an improvement on their own draft scheme and should be supported. We decided to confirm our draft proposals as our final proposals.

(n) Tunbridge Wells Borough

At the local meeting, apart from a request from Kent County Council that the words "and West" should be deleted from the name of the proposed Tunbridge Wells South and West division, there were no objections to the draft proposals which with this alteration we decided to confirm as our final proposals.

13. Accordingly, we confirmed our draft proposals as our final proposals, subject to the modifications to the proposals for Canterbury City, Gravesham Borough and Thanet District described in paragraphs 12(b), 12(f) and 12(1) above and the name changes in Shepway District and Tunbridge Wells Borough referred to in paragraphs 12 (j) and 12 (n).

14. Details of these final proposals are set out in Schedules 1 and 2 to this report and on the attached map. Schedule 1 gives the names of the electoral divisions. A detailed description of the boundaries of the proposed electoral divisions, as defined on the map, is set out in Schedule 2.

PUBLICATION

15. In accordance with Section 60(5)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, a copy of this report and a copy of the map are being sent to Kent County Council and will be available for inspection at the Council's main offices. Copies of this report (without map) are being sent to those who received the consultation letter and to those who made comment.

L.S.

Signed: NICHOLAS MORRISON (CHAIRMAN)

PHYLLIS BOWDEN

TYRRELL BROCKBANK

G E CHERRY

D P HARRISON

R R THORNTON

LESLIE GRIMSHAW (SECRETARY)

16 October 1980

LIST OF THOSE WHO COMMENTED ON DRAFT PROPOSALS

	<u>AREA CONCERNED</u>
Kent County Council	Whole county
Kent County Liberal Group	Whole county
Kent Association of Parish Councils	Whole county
Dover District Labour Group	Whole county
ASHFORD BOROUGH	
Ashford Borough Council	(Ashford South (Ashford South East
Ashford Divisional Liberal Association	(Ashford South (Ashford South East
CITY OF CANTERBURY	
Canterbury Constituency Labour Party	(Canterbury South (Canterbury East (Canterbury West
Canterbury Constituency Conservative Association	(Canterbury East (Canterbury West
Canterbury Constituency Conservative Association (Wincheap Ward Branch)	(Canterbury North (Canterbury South (Canterbury East (Canterbury West
Barham Parish Council	Canterbury East
Lower Hardres Parish Council	Canterbury West
Adisham Parish Council	Whole district
Parish Council of Thanington Without	Whole district
DARTFORD BOROUGH	
Stone Parish Council	Whole borough
DOVER DISTRICT	
Dover District Council	Whole district
Dover Constituency Labour Party	Whole district
Eythorne Parish Council	Dover Rural
Shepherdswell with Coldred Parish Council	Dover Rural
Aylesham Parish Council	Dover Rural
GILLINGHAM BOROUGH	
Gillingham Conservative Association	Whole borough

	<u>AREA CONCERNED</u>
GRAVESHAM BOROUGH	
Gravesham Borough Council	(Gravesend South (Gravesham Rural
County Councillor J G Booker	Whole borough
Gravesend Constituency Labour Party	Whole borough
Gravesend Division Conservative Association (Cobham and Luddesdown Branch)	(Gravesend South (Gravesham Rural (Tollgate
Gravesend Division Conservative Association (Shorne Branch)	Whole borough
Kent Association of Parish Councils (Gravesham Area Committee)	Whole borough
Meopham Parish Council	(Gravesend North (Gravesend South (Gravesham Rural (Tollgate
Higham Parish Council	(Gravesend South (Gravesham Rural (Tollgate
Luddesdown Parish Council	Whole borough
Cobham Parish Council	" "
Shorne Parish Council	" "
Dickens Country Protection Society	" "
4 private individuals or groups of individuals	" "
Gravesend Division Conservative Association	" "
County Councillors Hart, Wetherell, Liley and Skellorn	" "
Borough Councillor J Bradley and 8 other persons	" "
MAIDSTONE BOROUGH	
Maidstone Borough Council	Whole borough
Maidstone Division Conservative Association	" "
County Councillor Dr Felicity Simpson	" "
Thurnham Parish Council	" "
Maidstone Constituency Labour Party	" "
Maidstone Division Liberal Association	" "
Bearsted Parish Council	Maidstone Rural North
ROCHESTER UPON MEDWAY BOROUGH	
Rochester and Chatham Liberal Association	Whole county
SEVENOAKS DISTRICT	
Sevenoaks District Council	Whole district
2 private individuals	(Swanley (Darent Valley
Swanley Town Council	(Swanley (Darent Valley

SHEPWAY DISTRICT

Shepway District Council
Hythe Town Council
County Councillor L J Roberts

AREA CONCERNED

Whole district
Hythe
Elham

SWALE BOROUGH

Swale Borough Council
Faversham Constituency Labour Party

Whole borough
(Swale Central
(Swale East
(Swale North
(Swale West

THANET DISTRICT

Thanet District Council
District Councillor Bert Tree

Whole district
(Margate West
(Margate Central
(Margate East

8 residents of the Northwood ward of Ramsgate

(Ramsgate Central
(Ramsgate North

11 residents of the Central Eastcliff ward of Ramsgate

(Ramsgate Central
(Ramsgate North

Thanet East Constituency Labour Party

Whole district

Thanet West Labour Party

Whole district

Thanet East Liberal Association

(Ramsgate North
(Ramsgate Central
(Ramsgate South
(Broadstairs North
(Broadstairs South

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING DISTRICT

Tonbridge and Malling District Council
West Malling Parish Council
Birling Parish Council
East Peckham Parish Council
Ditton Parish Council

Whole district

" "

" "

Malling Rural West

Whole district

TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH

Tunbridge Wells Constituency Labour Party

Whole borough.

HILL ALISON ROBERTS

Mrs ROBERTS

NAME	DISTRICT	REPRESENTING
Clive Dennis	Northwood	Northwood Divisional Liberal Association
W. Macintosh	DOVER	St. Philip's Church (Old) Parish Council
John E. Roberts	Thurst East	Northwood K.A.P.C.
G. Jones & Roberts	Thurst W.	"
A. Goodwin	"	"
R. J. Johnson	THANET	REPRESENTING NORTHWOOD CON. ASSN.
Felix Simps.	MAIDSTONE	C.C. Maidstone No. 5.
Franklin	GRAVESEND	GRAVESEND B.C.
M. Bradley	Gravesend	K.C.C. Member Northfleet No 2 Ward
F.C. Walker	Gravesend	Liberal Parish Council
J. C. Parker	Thurst	Thurst West Labour Party
Reg. J. W. J.	Thurst	Thurst West Labour Party
G. Jones	Thurst West	K.C.C.
G. W. J.	Maidstone	Maidstone Liberal Assoc
John Bennett	Gravesend	Cobham
Mrs. Haig	GRAVESEND	K.C.C.
Peter Hart	Gravesend	Maidstone Conservatives
John. Jones	"	"
A. E. B. J.	"	"
Shirley D. Shown	Maidstone	Allington (Exec. member) Homeless
Shirley	MAIDSTONE	THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
T. Palmer	Shepway	Shepway
John Cox	THANET	Thurst East Labour Association
Kenneth Graham	Maidstone	Maidstone LP (local c/c member)
W. M. Smith	Thurst	Thurst East CONSUMERS ASSN.
W. M. Smith	Thurst	Thurst East K.C.
John. Jones	Gravesend	B.N.C. Rain 10 Maidway.
ROBERT HART	Gravesend	ROBERTS.
Barclay Dennis	Gravesend	K.C.C.
P. Thomas	Shepway, DC	Dept. Sec. and Clerk
L.B. HOLMAN	MAIDSTONE	Sec. Main Lab. Party

COUNTY OF KENT

NAMES OF PROPOSED ELECTORAL DIVISIONS
(EACH RETURNING ONE COUNTY COUNCILLOR)

PROPOSED COUNTY ELECTORAL DIVISIONS WITHIN DISTRICTS

BOROUGH OF ASHFORD

Ashford North
Ashford Rural East
Ashford Rural West
Ashford South
Ashford South East
Tenterden

CITY OF CANTERBURY

Canterbury Central
Canterbury East
Canterbury North
Canterbury South
Herne Bay East
Herne Bay West
Whitstable East
Whitstable West

BOROUGH OF DARTFORD

Dartford North
Dartford South East
Dartford South West
Dartford West
Swanscombe and Stone

DISTRICT OF DOVER

Deal East
Deal West
Dover Central
Dover Rural
Dover South
Dover West
Sandwich

BOROUGH OF GILLINGHAM

Gillingham North Central
Gillingham North East
Gillingham North West
Gillingham South Central
Gillingham South East
Gillingham South West

BOROUGH OF GRAVESHAM

Gravesend East
Gravesend North
Gravesend South
Gravesham Rural
Northfleet
Tollgate

BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE

Maidstone Central
Maidstone North East
Maidstone Rural East
Maidstone Rural North
Maidstone Rural South
Maidstone Rural West
Maidstone South East
Maidstone South West
Maidstone West

BOROUGH OF ROCHESTER UPON MEDWAY

Medway North
Medway North Central
Medway North East
Medway North West
Medway Rural
Medway South
Medway South Central
Medway South East
Medway South West

DISTRICT OF SEVENOAKS

Darent Valley
Sevenoaks Central
Sevenoaks East
Sevenoaks North
Sevenoaks North East
Sevenoaks South
Sevenoaks West
Swanley

DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY

Elham Valley
Folkestone North
Folkestone South
Folkestone West
Hythe
Romney Marsh

BOROUGH OF SWALE

Faversham
Sheerness
Sheppey
Swale Central
Swale East
Swale North
Swale West

DISTRICT OF THANET

Birchington and Parishes
Broadstairs North
Broadstairs South
Margate Central
Margate East
Margate West
Northwood and Eastcliff
Ramsgate North
Ramsgate South

DISTRICT OF TONBRIDGE AND MALLING

Malling Rural Central
Malling Rural North
Malling Rural North East
Malling Rural West
Tonbridge East
Tonbridge West

BOROUGH OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Cranbrook
Southborough
Tunbridge Wells Central
Tunbridge Wells East
Tunbridge Wells Rural East
Tunbridge Wells Rural West
Tunbridge Wells South

The proposed electoral divisions are shown on a map which can be inspected at the county council's offices. A description of the boundaries of the proposed electoral divisions shown on the map is attached at Schedule 2.

COUNTY OF KENT

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED COUNTY
ELECTORAL DIVISION BOUNDARIES

ASHFORD BOROUGH

ASHFORD NORTH ED

Ashford Borough Wards of:

Ashford Bockhanger

Ashford Bybrook

Ashford Central

Ashford Kennington Lees

Ashford Queens

Ashford Spearpoint

Ashford Warren

ASHFORD RURAL EAST ED

Ashford Borough Wards of:

Aldington

Boughton Aluph

Brabourne

Chilham

Hamstreet

Mersham

Wye

ASHFORD RURAL WEST ED

Ashford Borough Wards of:

Bethersden

Charing

Great Chart

Hothfield

Kingsnorth

Pluckley

Smarden

ASHFORD SOUTH ED

Ashford Borough Wards of:

Ashford Brookfield

Ashford Hampden

Ashford Musgrove

Ashford Singleton

Ashford Victoria Park

Ashford Woolreeds

Stanhope

ASHFORD SOUTH EAST ED

Ashford Borough Wards of:

Ashford Eastmead

Ashford Henwood

Ashford South Willesborough

Ashford Twelve Acres

Ashford Waterside

Ashford Windmill

Ashford Willesborough Lees

TENTERDEN ED

Ashford Borough Wards of:

Appledore

Biddenden

High Halden

Rolvenden

Tenterden East

Tenterden South East

Tenterden St Michaels

Tenterden West

Wittersham

Woodchurch

CITY OF CANTERBURY

CANTERBURY CENTRAL ED

Canterbury City Wards of:

St Stephens

Westgate

CANTERBURY EAST ED

Canterbury City Wards of:

Barton

Northgate

CANTERBURY NORTH ED

Canterbury City Wards of:

Blean Forest

Harbledown

Little Stour

Marshside

Sturry North

Sturry South

CANTERBURY SOUTH ED

Canterbury City Wards of:

Barham Downs

Chartham

North Nailbourne

Stone Street

Wincheap

HERNE BAY EAST ED

Canterbury City Wards of:

Heron

Reculver

HERNE BAY WEST ED

Canterbury City Wards of:

Herne

West Bay

WHITSTABLE EAST ED

Canterbury City Wards of:

Chestfield

Swalecliffe

Tankerton

WHITSTABLE WEST ED

Canterbury City Wards of:

Gorrell

Harbour

Seasalter

DARTFORD BOROUGH

DARTFORD NORTH ED

Dartford Borough Wards of:

Joyce Green

Littlebrook

Newtown

Priory

DARTFORD SOUTH EAST ED

Dartford Borough Wards of:

Brent

Darenth

Southfleet

Sutton-at-Hone and Hawley

DARTFORD SOUTH WEST ED

Dartford Borough Wards of:

Maypole

Princes

Wilmington Central

Wilmington East

Wilmington West

DARTFORD WEST ED

Dartford Borough Wards of:

Gundulf

Heath

Miskin

SWANSCOMBE AND STONE ED

Dartford Borough Wards of:

Bean

Galley Hill

Greenhithe

Horns Cross

Stone

Swanscombe

DOVER DISTRICT

DEAL EAST ED

Dover District Wards of:

Lower Walmer

North Deal

Upper Walmer

DEAL WEST ED

Dover District Wards of:

Middle Deal

Mill Hill

Mongeham

DOVER CENTRAL ED

Dover District Wards of:

Barton

Buckland

Castle

St Radigunds

DOVER RURAL ED

Dover District Wards of:

Aylesham

Cornilo

Eythorne

Noninstone

Ringwould

Shepherdswell with Coldred

St Margaret's at Cliffe

DOVER SOUTH ED

Dover District Wards of:

Maxton and Elms Vale

Priory

Tower Hamlets

Town and Pier

DOVER WEST ED

Dover District Wards of:

Capel-le-Ferne

Lydden and Temple Ewell

Pineham

River

SANDWICH ED

Dover District Wards of:

Ash

Eastry

Little Stour

Sandwich

Woodnesborough with Staple

Worth

GILLINGHAM BOROUGH

GILLINGHAM NORTH CENTRAL ED

Gillingham Borough Wards of:

Beechings

Twydall

GILLINGHAM NORTH EAST ED

Gillingham Borough Wards of:

Medway

North

Riverside

GILLINGHAM NORTH WEST ED

Gillingham Borough Wards of:

Brompton

Priestfield

South

GILLINGHAM SOUTH CENTRAL ED

Gillingham Borough Wards of:

Rainham

Rainham Mark

GILLINGHAM SOUTH EAST ED

Gillingham Borough Wards of:

Park Wood

St Margaret's

GILLINGHAM SOUTH WEST ED

Gillingham Borough Wards of:

Hempstead and Wigmore

Watling Street

GRAVESHAM BOROUGH

GRAVESEND EAST ED

Gravesham Borough Wards of:

Chalk

Riverview

Westcourt

GRAVESEND NORTH ED

Gravesham Borough Wards of:

Central

Pelham

Riverside

GRAVESEND SOUTH ED

Gravesham Borough Wards of:

Singlewell

Whitehill

GRAVESHAM RURAL ED

Gravesham Borough Wards of:

Cobham and Luddesdown

Higham

Meopham North

Meopham South

Shorne

NORTHFLEET ED

Gravesham Borough Wards of:

Northfleet East

Northfleet West

Painters Ash

TOLLGATE ED

Gravesham Borough Wards of:

Coldharbour

Istead

Woodlands

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH

MAIDSTONE CENTRAL ED

Maidstone Borough Wards of:

Bridge

High Street

MAIDSTONE NORTH EAST ED

Maidstone Borough Wards of:

East

North

MAIDSTONE RURAL EAST ED

Maidstone Borough Wards of:

Harrietsham and Lenham

Headcorn

Leeds

Sutton Valence

MAIDSTONE RURAL NORTH ED

Maidstone Borough Wards of:

Bearsted

Boxley

Detling

Hollingbourne

Thurnham

MAIDSTONE RURAL SOUTH ED

Maidstone Borough Wards of:

Boughton Monchelsea

Langley

Marden

Staplehurst

MAIDSTONE RURAL WEST ED

Maidstone Borough Wards of:

Barming

Coxheath

Farleigh

Loose

Yalding

MAIDSTONE SOUTH EAST ED

Maidstone Borough Wards of:

Shepway East

Park Wood

MAIDSTONE SOUTH WEST ED

Maidstone Borough Wards of:

Shepway West

South

MAIDSTONE WEST ED

Maidstone Borough Wards of:

Allington

Heath

ROCHESTER UPON MEDWAY BOROUGH

MEDWAY NORTH ED

Rochester, upon Medway Borough Wards of:

Holcombe

Town

MEDWAY NORTH CENTRAL ED

Rochester upon Medway Borough Wards of:

Frindsbury

Troy Town

MEDWAY NORTH EAST ED

Rochester upon Medway Borough Wards of:

Luton

Wayfield

MEDWAY NORTH WEST ED

Rochester upon Medway Borough Wards of:

Earl

Frindsbury Extra

Rede Court

MEDWAY RURAL ED

Rochester upon Medway Borough Wards of:

All Saints

Hoo St Werburgh

Thames Side

MEDWAY SOUTH ED

Rochester upon Medway Borough Wards of:

Horsted

Weedswood

MEDWAY SOUTH CENTRAL ED

Rochester upon Medway Borough Wards of:

St Margarets and Borstal

Warren Wood

MEDWAY SOUTH EAST ED

Rochester upon Medway Borough Wards of:

Lordswood

Walderslade

MEDWAY SOUTH WEST ED

Rochester upon Medway Borough Wards of:

Cuxton and Halling

Temple Farm

SEVENOAKS DISTRICT**DARENT VALLEY ED**

Sevenoaks District Wards of:

Crockenhill and Lullingstone

Eynsford

Farningham

Horton Kirby

Swanley Christchurch

SEVENOAKS CENTRAL ED

Sevenoaks District Wards of:

Dunton Green

Riverhead

Sevenoaks Kippington

Sevenoaks Town and St John's

SEVENOAKS EAST ED

Sevenoaks District Wards of:

Seal

Sevenoaks Northern

Sevenoaks Weald and Underriver

Sevenoaks Wildernesse

SEVENOAKS NORTH ED

Sevenoaks District Wards of:

Kemsing

Otford

Shoreham

West Kingsdown

SEVENOAKS NORTH EAST ED

Sevenoaks District Wards of:

Ash-cum-Ridley

Fawkham and Hartley

Longfield

SEVENOAKS SOUTH ED

Sevenoaks District Wards of:

Edenbridge North

Edenbridge South

Leigh

Penshurst and Fordcombe

Somerden

SEVENOAKS WEST ED

Sevenoaks District Wards of:

Brasted

Chevening

Halstead, Knockholt and Badgers Mount

Sundridge and Ide Hill

Westerham and Crockham Hill

SWANLEY ED

Sevenoaks District Wards of:

Hextable and Swanley Village

Swanley St Mary's

Swanley White Oak

SHEPWAY DISTRICT

ELHAM VALLEY ED

Shepway District Wards of:

Elham

Hawkinge and Paddlesworth

Lympne and Stanford

Saltwood and Newington

Sellindge

Stone Street

Swingfield and Acrise

FOLKESTONE NORTH ED

Shepway District Wards of:

Folkestone East

Folkestone Foord

Folkestone Park

FOLKESTONE SOUTH ED

Shepway District Wards of:

Folkestone Central

Folkestone Harbour

Folkestone Harvey

FOLKESTONE WEST ED

Shepway District Wards of:

Folkestone Cheriton
 Folkestone Morehall
 Folkestone Sandgate

HYTHE ED

Shepway District Wards of:

Hythe East
 Hythe North
 Hythe South
 Hythe West

ROMNEY MARSH ED

Shepway District Wards of:

Dymchurch and Burmarsh
 Lydd
 Marsh
 New Romney
 St Mary in the Marsh

SWALE BOROUGH

FAVERSHAM ED

Swale Borough Wards of:

Abbey
 Davington Priory
 St Ann's
 Watling

SHEERNESS ED

Swale Borough Wards of:

Queenborough and Halfway

Sheerness East

Sheerness West

SHEPPEY ED

Swale Borough Wards of:

Eastern

Minster Cliffs

Sheppey Central

SWALE CENTRAL ED

Swale Borough Wards of:

Grove

Woodstock

SWALE EAST ED

Swale Borough Wards of:

Boughton

Courtenay

East Downs

Teynham and Lynsted

SWALE NORTH ED

Swale Borough Wards of:

Iwade and Lower Halstow

Kemsley

Milton Regis

Murston

SWALE WEST ED

Swale Borough Wards of:

Borden

Hartlip and Upchurch

Newington

Roman

West Downs

THANET DISTRICT

BIRCHINGTON AND PARISHES ED

Thanet District Wards of:

Birchington East

Birchington West

Minster Parish

Thanet Parishes

BROADSTAIRS NORTH ED

Thanet District Wards of:

Beacon Road

Kingsgate

St Peter's

BROADSTAIRS SOUTH ED

Thanet District Wards of:

Bradstowe

Pierremont

Upton

MARGATE CENTRAL ED

Thanet District Wards of:

Cecil

Dane Park

Pier

Salmestone

MARGATE EAST ED

Thanet District Wards of:

Cliftonville

Ethelbert

Northdown Park

MARGATE WEST ED

Thanet District Wards of:

Margate West

Marine

Westgate-on-Sea

NORTHWOOD AND EASTCLIFF ED

Thanet District Wards of:

Central Eastcliff

Northwood

RAMSGATE NORTH ED

Thanet District Wards of:

Newington

Sir Moses Montefiore

St Lawrence

RAMSGATE SOUTH ED

Thanet District Wards of:

Central Westcliff

Southwood

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING DISTRICT

MALLING RURAL CENTRAL ED

Tonbridge and Malling District Wards of:

East Malling

Larkfield

Wateringbury

West Malling

MALLING RURAL NORTH ED

Tonbridge and Malling District Wards of:

Birking, Ryarsh and Leybourne

Oast

Snodland

Wrotham

MALLING RURAL NORTH EAST ED

Tonbridge and Malling District Wards of:

Aylesford and Eccles

Blue Bell Hill

Burham and Wouldham

Ditton

MALLING RURAL WEST ED

Tonbridge and Malling District Wards of:

Borough Green

East Peckham

Hadlow

Ightham

Mereworth and West Peckham

Platt

Plaxtol and Shipbourne

TONBRIDGE EAST ED

Tonbridge and Malling District Wards of:

Cage Green

Higham

Medway

Vauxhall

TONBRIDGE WEST ED

Tonbridge and Malling District Wards of:

Castle

Hildenborough

Judd

Trench

TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH

CRANBROOK ED

Tunbridge Wells Borough Wards of:

Bencnden

Cranbrook

Frittenden and Sissinghurst

Hawkhurst

Sandhurst

SOUTHBOROUGH ED

Tunbridge Wells Borough Wards of:

Southborough East
Southborough North
Southborough West
Speldhurst and Bidborough

TUNBRIDGE WELLS CENTRAL ED

Tunbridge Wells Borough Wards of:

Culverden
St John's

TUNBRIDGE WELLS EAST ED

Tunbridge Wells Borough Wards of:

Park
St James'

TUNBRIDGE WELLS RURAL EAST ED

Tunbridge Wells Borough Wards of:

Brenchley
Goudhurst
Horsmonden
Lamberhurst
Paddock Wood

TUNBRIDGE WELLS RURAL WEST ED

Tunbridge Wells Borough Wards of:

Capel
Pembury
Sherwood

TUNBRIDGE WELLS SOUTH ED

Tunbridge Wells Borough Wards of:

Parishes:

Rusthall

St Mark's