

Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No. 633

Parish Review

DISTRICT OF
WEALDEN

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT
BOUNDARY COMMISSION**

FOR ENGLAND

REPORT NO. 633

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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Mrs H R V Sarkany

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THE RT HON MICHAEL HESELTINE MP
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

DISTRICT OF WEALDEN IN THE COUNTY OF EAST SUSSEX: SUPPLEMENTARY
PARISH REVIEW ON DIRECTION BY SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER SECTION
49(1) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

COMMISSION'S FINAL REPORT AND PROPOSAL

INTRODUCTION

1. On 11 November 1988 we wrote to your predecessor endorsing, with five modifications, the proposals made by Wealden District Council in a review of its parish pattern conducted under Section 48(8) of the Local Government Act 1972. Your predecessor accepted our recommendations on 11 January 1990.

2. One of the modifications we proposed related to the transfer of that part of the parish of Arlington, in the vicinity of Welbury Farm and Hempstead Lane to the east of the A22, to the parish of Hailsham. (In its review report, the District Council had proposed the transfer of this area to the parish of Hellingly). Unfortunately, the Wealden (Parishes) Order 1990 provided erroneously for the area in question to be transferred to Hellingly, not Hailsham. As Section 69 of the Act precludes you from varying or rescinding a boundary change Order, except for supplementary provisions, you concluded that the Commission should review the area concerned again. On 10 June 1991, you therefore directed us, under Section 49(1) of the Act, to conduct a review of the former part of the parish of Arlington east of the A22, which had been transferred in error to Hellingly. This area is marked as A47 on Map 14 of the boundary maps, as defined in the Wealden (Parishes) Order 1990.

PUBLICATION OF OUR DRAFT PROPOSAL

3. On 21 August 1991 we wrote to Wealden District Council announcing that we had been directed to undertake a review of the area concerned and, at the same time, publishing our draft proposal to transfer the area from the parish of Hellingly to the parish of Hailsham. Copies of our letter were sent to East Sussex County Council, to the parish councils of Hailsham and Hellingly, to the Members of Parliament for the Lewes and Wealden constituencies and to other interested parties. The District Council was asked to assist us in publicising the review by advertising the issue of our letter by means of notices displayed at places where public notices are customarily displayed. A notice was placed for two successive weeks in the local press. In addition the District Council was asked to place a copy of the letter and accompanying maps on deposit for inspection at its main offices for a period of six weeks. Representations were invited by 16 October 1991.

RESPONSE TO OUR DRAFT PROPOSAL

4. We received three comments. East Sussex County Council reiterated the view it had expressed during the earlier full review, that the area to be transferred from Hellingly to Hailsham should remain in the Hellingly district ward and Hellingly county electoral division (this is indeed what was being proposed). Wealden District Council supported our draft proposal. Hellingly Parish Council opposed our draft proposal and argued that the area transferred from Arlington should remain in Hellingly. However, its main argument centred on the Commission's conduct of the parish review of the whole district. It claimed that the Commission had imposed change which no other person or body sought, and which had caused an excessive financial burden to fall upon the remaining residents in the parish of Hellingly; that the change had confused electors, as those transferred to the parish of Hailsham still vote in the Hellingly district ward and county electoral division; and that

it had produced an arbitrary and illogical parish boundary. The Parish Council expressed the opinion that the Commission was not restricted legally to review only the area transferred from Arlington and requested an extension to cover the whole area transferred from Hellingly to Hailsham as a consequence of the previous review.

OUR CONCLUSION AND FINAL PROPOSAL

5. The Commission considered that Paragraph 6 of your direction on 10 June 1991 made it clear that the review was to be confined to the former part of Arlington transferred in error to Hellingly and therefore that Hellingly Parish Council's request for extension of the scope of the review could not be entertained. Furthermore, we considered that our reasons for recommending the transfer of the North Hailsham area from Hellingly to Hailsham and our conduct of the previous review continue to be justified. Hellingly Parish Council's comments about electoral matters derive from our draft modifications issued on 28 March 1988 under which we proposed the creation of two single-member district wards for Hailsham and Hellingly, a recommendation which was withdrawn in our final proposals.

6. We therefore confirm our draft proposal as final.

PUBLICATION

7. A separate letter, enclosing copies of this report, is being sent to Wealden District Council asking them to deposit copies of the report at their main offices for inspection for six months, and to put notices to this effect on public notice boards. The Commission will itself insert a notice in the local press. The text of the notice will explain that the Commission has fulfilled its statutory role in the matter and that it now falls to you to make an Order implementing the proposal, if you see fit, though not before six weeks from the date it is submitted to you. Copies of this report, with small-scale maps

of our recommendation, are also being sent to East Sussex County Council, the parish councils of Hailsham and Hellingly, to the Members of Parliament for Lewes and for Wealden, and to other interested bodies.

Signed: G J ELLERTON (Chairman)

K F J ENNALS

G R PRENTICE

HELEN SARKANY

C W SMITH

K YOUNG

R D COMPTON
Commission Secretary

6 February 1992

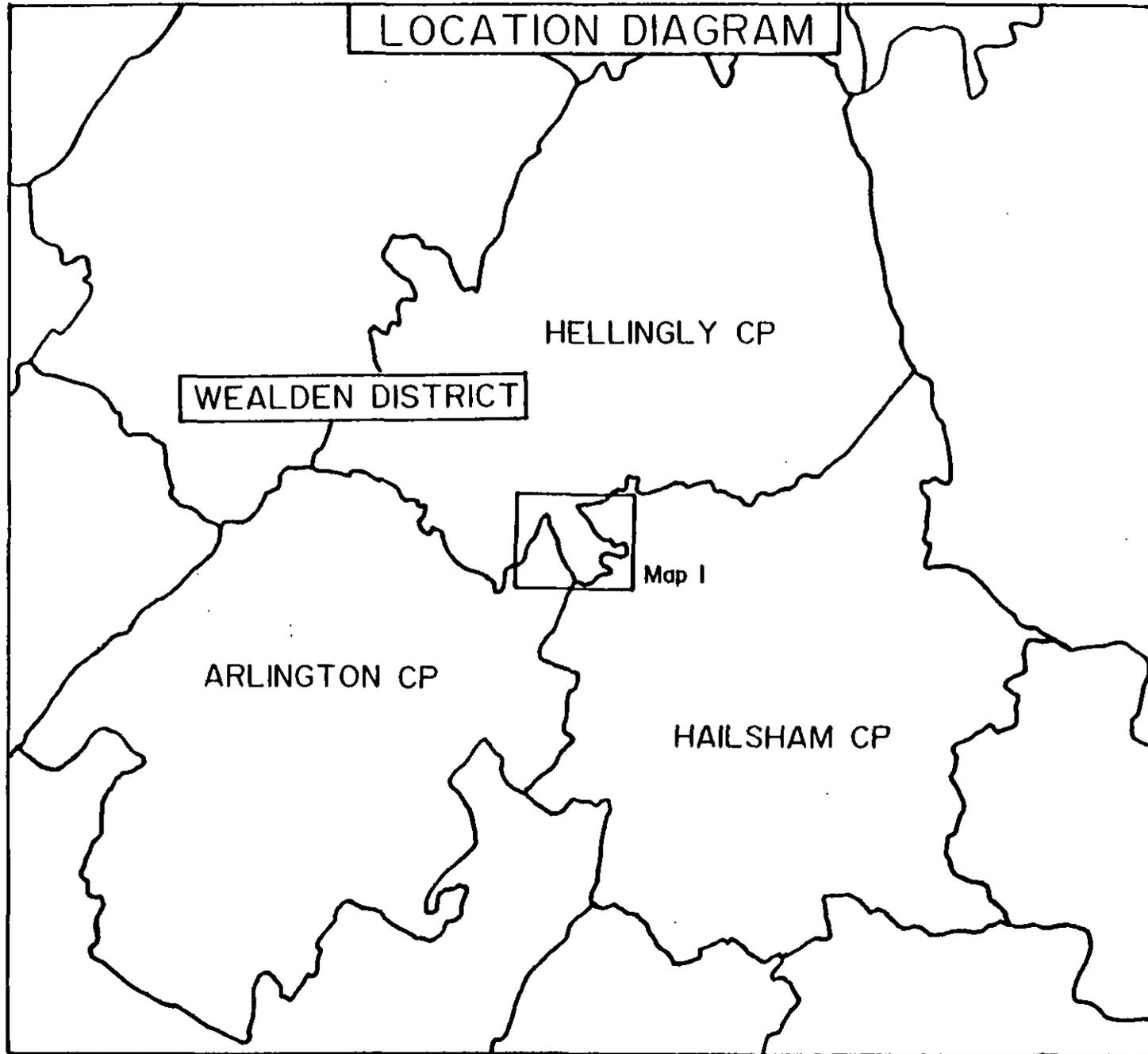
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WEALDEN DISTRICT

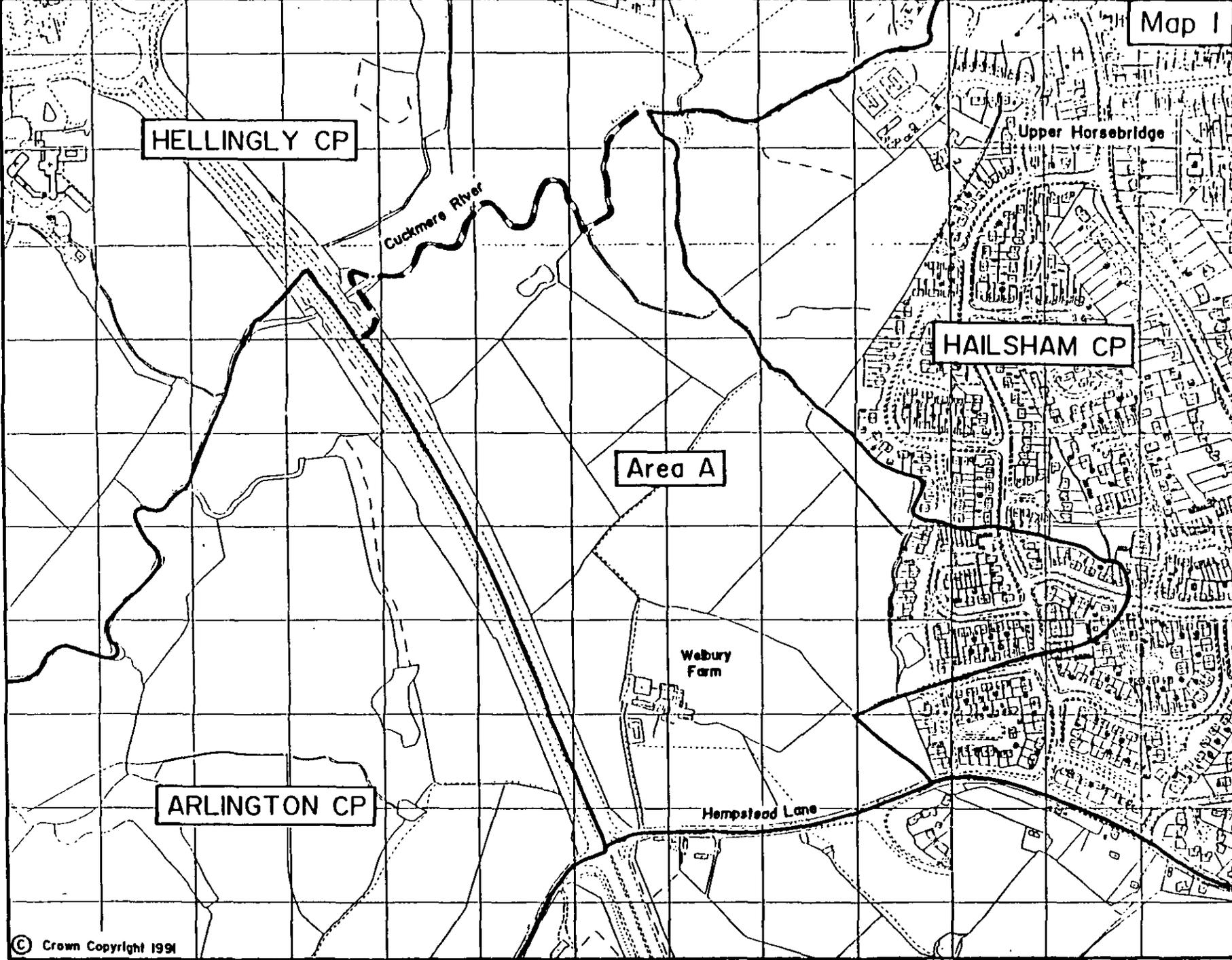
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

FINAL PROPOSAL

Existing Parish Boundary	—————
Proposed Parish Boundary	- - - - -

Produced by Ordnance Survey for the
Local Government Boundary Commission for England





HELLINGLY CP

Cuckmere River

Area A

Webury Farm

Hempstead Lane

Upper Horsebridge

HAILSHAM CP

ARLINGTON CP

CONSEQUENTIAL CHANGES

MAP NO.	AREA REF.	Existing Local Government Area	Local Authority's Final Proposal
I	A	Hellingly CP Hellingly Ward Hellingly ED	Hailsham CP No Change No Change