



# **Consultation document**

## **Review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations**

July/August 2022



## Introduction

In May 2022, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) published its final recommendations setting out new electoral arrangements for Gravesham. The recommended changes are due to be laid before Parliament shortly and once they have received Parliamentary approval, they will become law and come into effect for local elections in 2023.

The recommendations from the LGBCE set out new electoral arrangements for the borough, resulting in a reduction of councillors to 39 councillors, representing 17 wards. As a result of the recommendation, it is necessary for the council to conduct a review of all polling districts and therefore polling places, to ensure that the changes are in place for the next elections in May 2023.

This consultation document contains an assessment of the new warding arrangements for the borough and the proposals for the polling districts and polling places for Gravesham.

In addition to this consultation pack, a set of interactive maps are also available on [the council's website](#) which can be interrogated in further detail.

## Commenting on the proposed recommendations

We welcome views from all interested parties including all residents, parish councils and other representative bodies. Anyone making representations should, if relevant, give alternative places that may be used as polling places if it is felt that the suggested sites are not suitable.

Any comments or contributions must be made in writing by **19 August 2022** and may be submitted as follows:

By post: Electoral Services, Gravesham Borough Council, Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent. DA12 1AU

By email: [elections@gravesham.gov.uk](mailto:elections@gravesham.gov.uk)

## Process following consultation

Once the consultation process has been completed, all responses will be analysed and where appropriate, the proposed polling districts and polling places updated accordingly.

The proposals will be presented to Full Council in October 2022 for approval and subject to this approval, will be implemented ahead of the elections in May 2023.

## Glossary of definitions

Term	Definition
<i>Polling Districts</i>	A polling district is a geographical area created by the sub-division of a ward for purposes of a council election. Each parish council area (including parish wards) has to be grouped separately, whether that be by a single polling district for the entire area or by multiple districts in one area.
<i>Polling Place</i>	A polling place is the building or area in which polling stations will be selected by the Returning Officer. A polling place within a polling district must be designated so that polling stations are within easy reach of all electors from across the polling district.
<i>Polling Station</i>	A polling station is the room or area within the polling place where voting takes place. Unlike polling districts and polling places which are fixed by the local authority, polling stations are chosen by the relevant Returning Officer for the election.
<i>Electorate</i>	The number of people within the polling district that are



	registered to vote. This is broken down into total electorate and the number of postal voters within this total
<i>Returning Officer</i>	The Returning officer (RO) is the person who has overall responsibility for the conduct of any elections held within the borough. They are an officer of the council who is appointed under the Representation of the People Act 1983.

## How these proposals have been developed

Following the review of the electoral boundaries, a review of the current polling districts has taken place to assess whether they remain relevant and appropriate for the new wards. This includes assessing their effectiveness in the administration of Parish elections, which form a large part of the borough area. As part of the review, consideration has also been given to ensuring any changes do not negatively affect the ability of electors to attend the polling station.

Officers from the Electoral Services Team have visited all newly proposed polling stations to ensure they are fit for purpose and meet required accessibility standards. In addition, all other existing stations have been visited within the last two years. A desktop exercise was also undertaken to ensure that any recent accessibility issues and feedback from Presiding Officers and Polling Station Inspectors from previous elections was reviewed.

## Draft proposals

Following the review, there have been a number of changes to the Polling Districts across the borough. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure continuity for electors, this has not always been possible due to the revised boundaries recommended by the LGBCE.

The following pages of the consultation pack provide the details of the proposed polling districts, places and stations by ward along with maps to provide a pictorial representation of the proposals set out.



Polling District	Polling name	Reference	Map	Location	Polling Station name	Electorate (Including postal voters)	Existing or new	Review
Chalk	Gravesend-Chalk	CH1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Chalk Church Hall, Lower Higham Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 2NQ	Chalk Church Parish Hall	2,143	Existing	Additional electors from Thong Lane and Rochester Road to use this facility.
Coldharbour and Perry Street	Northfleet-Coldharbour-Dover Road	CP1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Copperfield Academy, Dover Road East, Gravesend, DA11 0RB	Copperfield Academy	2,288	Existing	Minor amendments to polling district boundary but no significant changes for electors. Review of Polling Station undertaken June 2022; no issues.
Coldharbour and Perry Street	Northfleet-Coldharbour-Cecil Road	CP2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Cecil Road Primary School, Cecil Road, Gravesend DA11 7BT	Cecil Road Primary School	1,081	Existing	Minor amendments to polling district boundary but no significant changes for electors.
Coldharbour and Perry Street	Northfleet-Coldharbour-All Saints	CP3	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near All Saints Parish Centre, Perry Street, Northfleet, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 8RD	All Saints Parish Centre	2,258	Existing	Minor amendments to polling district boundary but no significant changes for electors.
Coldharbour and Perry Street	Northfleet-Coldharbour-Shears Green	CP4	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Shears Green Community Centre, Westcott Avenue, Northfleet, Kent, DA11 7HP	Shears Green Community Centre	885	Existing	Minor amendments to polling district boundary but no significant changes for electors.
Denton	Gravesend-Denton-Milton	DT1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near St Peter and Paul's Church, East Milton Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 2JL	St Peter and Paul's Church	1,361	Existing	Removal of previous Polling Station at St John's nursery therefore additional electors will be using this facility.
Denton	Gravesend-Denton-Northcourt	DT2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Riverside Family Learning Centre, Dickens Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 2JY	Riverside Family Learning Centre	2,266	Existing	Removal of previous Polling Station at St John's nursery therefore additional electors will be using this facility.



Higham and Shorne	Higham-Lower Higham	HS1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Higham Memorial Hall, School Lane, Higham, Kent, ME3 7JL	Higham Memorial Hall	1,568	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Higham and Shorne	Higham-Gadshill	HS2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Merston Court, Hermitage Road, Higham, Kent, ME3 7DE	Merston Court	1,603	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Higham and Shorne	Shorne-Shorne Central	HS3	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Shorne Village Hall, 16 The Street, Shorne, Kent, DA12 3EA	Shorne Village Hall	1,269	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Higham and Shorne	Shorne-Shorne West	HS4	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Riverview Library, The Alma, Leander Drive, DA12 4NG	Riverview Library	734	New	Electors who previously were part of the Shorne West Polling District will now use this facility.
Istead Rise, Cobham & Luddesdown	Northfleet-Istead Rise	ICL1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Istead Rise Community Centre, Worcester Close, Istead Rise, Gravesend, Kent, DA13 9LB	Istead Rise Community Centre,	2,724	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Istead Rise, Cobham & Luddesdown	Cobham-Cobham Village	ICL2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Meadow Rooms, The Street, Cobham, Kent, DA12 3BZ	Meadow Rooms	427	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Istead Rise, Cobham & Luddesdown	Cobham-Sole Street	ICL3	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near St Mary's Church Rooms, Manor Road, Sole Street, Cobham, Kent, DA12 3AX	St Mary's Church Rooms	698	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Istead Rise, Cobham & Luddesdown	Luddesdown	ICL4	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Meadow Rooms, The Street, Cobham, Kent, DA12 3BZ	Meadow Rooms	158	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Meopham North	Meopham North-Nurstead	MN1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Meopham Scout Hall, Judson's Recreation Ground, Hook Green, Wrotham	Meopham Scout Hall	1,602	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.



				Road, Meopham, Kent, DA13 0HX				
Meopham North	Meopham North-Camer	MN2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Chinnery Court, Wrotham Rd, Meopham, Gravesend DA13 0JT	Chinnery Court	684	Existing	Amendments to polling district at the south end of ward to create a new polling district
Meopham North	Meopham North-Steeles Lane	MN3	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Meopham Village Hall, Wrotham Rd, Meopham, Gravesend DA13 0AT	Meopham Village Hall	448	New	Due to the change to the ward boundary between Meopham North and Meopham South, the new Poll Station provides better access for the electorate in the lower half of the new Meopham North ward.  Will be a double-station shared with MS1 – Meopham South
Meopham South and Vigo	Meopham South-The Street	MS1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Meopham Village Hall, Wrotham Rd, Meopham, Gravesend DA13 0AT	Meopham Village Hall	686	New	Due to the change in boundary between Meopham North and Meopham South, the new Poll Station provides better access for the electorate in the lower half of the new Meopham South and Vigo ward.  Will be a double-station shared with MN1 – Meopham North
Meopham South and Vigo	Meopham South-Harvel	MS2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Harvel Village Hall, Harvel Street, Harvel, Meopham, Kent, DA13 0DE	Harvel Village Hall	336	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Meopham South and Vigo	Meopham South-Culverstone	MS3	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Culverstone Community Centre, Whitepost Lane, Culverstone Green, Meopham, Kent, DA13 0TN	Culverstone Community Centre	1,589	Existing	Inclusion of dwellings in Southfield Shaw changing the polling station for those electors



Meopham South and Vigo	Meopham South-Vigo	MS4	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Vigo Village Hall, The Bay, Vigo Village, Kent, DA13 0TD	Vigo Village Hall	1,531	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Northfleet and Springhead		NS1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near The Hive Library, Hive House, 10-11 The Hive, Northfleet, Kent, DA11 9DE	The Hive Library	1,458	New	Polling station to replace that previously used at Station Road. Review of Polling Station undertaken June 2022; no issues.
Northfleet and Springhead	Northfleet-Northfleet Springhead-The Hill	NS2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Northfleet Veterans Club, The Hill, Northfleet, Kent, DA11 9ES	Northfleet Veterans Club	1,338	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Northfleet and Springhead	Northfleet-Northfleet Springhead-Springhead	NS3	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Eastgate Centre, 141 Springhead Parkway, Northfleet, Kent. DA11 8AD	Eastgate Centre	1,208	Existing	Previously part of one polling district but split for administrative purposes. No changes for electors.
Northfleet and Springhead	Northfleet-Northfleet Springhead-Hall Road	NS4	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Cygnet Leisure Centre, Old Perry Street, Northfleet, Kent. DA11 8BU.	Cygnet Leisure Centre	1,592	Existing	Previously part of one polling district but split for administrative purposes. No changes for electors.
Painters Ash	Northfleet-Painters Ash-Deneholm	PA1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Methodist Church Hall, Dene Holm Road, Northfleet, Kent, DA11 8LG	Methodist Church Hall	2,509	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Painters Ash	Northfleet-Painters Ash-Nightingale	PA2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Nightingale Close Community Room, Nightingale Close, Northfleet, Kent, DA11 8PW	Nightingale Close Community Room	1,781	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Pelham	Gravesend-Pelham-Grange Road	PL1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Army Cadet Hall, Grange Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0EU	Army Cadet Hall	1,262	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Pelham	Gravesend-Pelham-Wrotham Road	PL2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Claremont Place, Claremont Place, 47 Cutmore Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA11	Claremont Place	1,591	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.



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Pelham	Gravesend-Pelham-St Thomas	PL3	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near St Thomas's Almshouses, Old Road West, Gravesend, Kent. DA11 7LA	St Thomas's Almshouses	1,359	New	Due to boundary changes, this polling station was previously within a different ward. Therefore this will be a new poll station for a number of electors.
Riverview	Gravesend-Riverview-Riverview West	RV1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Riverview Junior School, Cimba Wood, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 4SD	Riverview Junior School	1,357	Existing	Minor amendments to polling district boundary but no significant changes for electors
Riverview	Gravesend-Riverview-Riverview East	RV2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Riverview Junior School, Cimba Wood, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 4SD	Riverview Junior School	1,004	Existing	Minor amendments to polling district boundary but no significant changes for electors
Riverview	Gravesend-Riverview-Riverview South	RV3	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Riverview Junior School, Cimba Wood, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 4SD	Riverview Junior School	1,731	Existing	Minor amendments to polling district boundary but no significant changes for electors
Rosherville	Northfleet-Rosherville-St Marks	RS1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near St Marks Church, 123 London Road, Northfleet, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 9NH	St Marks Church	2,593	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Rosherville	Northfleet-Rosherville-Maritime	RS2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near St Botolphs School, Dover Road, Northfleet, Kent, DA11 9PL	St Botolphs School	654	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Singlewell	Gravesend-Singlewell-Hawthorne Close	SW1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Smile Centre, Ifield School, Cedar Avenue, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 5JT	Smile Centre	92	Existing	(Polling district implemented to consider that county electoral division boundary does not run coterminous with ward)
Singlewell	Gravesend-Singlewell-Cedar Avenue	SW2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Smile Centre, Ifield School, Cedar Avenue, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 5JT	Smile Centre	1,911	Existing	Removal of previous Polling Station at Mike Spring Court therefore additional electors will be using this facility.





Singlewell	Gravesend- Singlewell- Mackenzie Way	SW3	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Marling Cross Library, 266 Mackenzie Way, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 5TY	Marling Cross Library	2,351	Existing	Removal of previous Polling Station at Mike Spring Court therefore additional electors will be using this facility.
Town	Gravesend- Town-St George	TW1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near St George's Church Hall, Church Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 0DJ	St George's Church Hall	809	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Town	Gravesend- Town-Wilfred St	TW2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Wesley Methodist Hall, 4 Wilfred Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 2HA	Wesley Methodist Hall	635	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Town	Gravesend- Town-Gordon	TW3	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Chantry Academy, Ordnance Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 2RL	Chantry Academy	1,811	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Town	Gravesend- Town-Peacock St	TW4	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Salvation Army Citadel, The Grove, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1DX	Salvation Army Citadel	2,178	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Westcourt	Gravesend- Westcourt- Lorton Close	WC1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Westcourt School, Jubilee Crescent, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 4JG	Westcourt School Hall	1,091	Existing	Minor amendments to polling district boundary but no significant changes for electors
Westcourt	Gravesend- Westcourt- Thong	WC2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near St Aidans Church, St Gregorys Way, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 4AG	St Aidans Church Hall	1,363	New	Minor changes to polling district boundary but station moved from Westcourt School
Westcourt	Gravesend- Westcourt-St Aidan	WC3	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near St Aidans Church, St Gregorys Way, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 4AG	St Aidans Church Hall	1,747	Existing	Polling district boundary extended to incorporate the area around St Hilda's Way
Whitehill & Windmill Hill	Gravesend- Whitehill Windmill Hill- Clarence Place	WH1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Veteran's Club, Clarence Place, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1LB	Veteran's Club	1,140	Existing	Changes to polling district boundary around Bronte View.



Whitehill & Windmill Hill	Gravesend-Whitehill Windmill Hill-Christchurch	WH2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Christchurch, 48 Old Road East, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1NR	Christchurch	1,735	Existing	Minor change to polling district boundary at Church Walk.
Whitehill & Windmill Hill	Gravesend-Whitehill Windmill Hill-Valley Drive	WH3	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	Mobile Unit, at or near Wye Road, Gravesend, Kent. DA12	Mobile Unit (Wye)	907	Existing	No changes to polling district boundaries.
Whitehill & Windmill Hill	Gravesend-Whitehill Windmill Hill-Truro Road	WH4	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Pegasus Court, Sun Lane, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 5QA	Pegasus Court	1,427	Existing	Changes to polling district boundary around Cornwell Avenue and Sun Lane.
Whitehill & Windmill Hill	Gravesend-Whitehill Windmill Hill-Central Avenue	WH5	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Kings Farm Library, Sun Lane, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 5HR	Kings Farm Library	1,235	Existing	Changes to polling district boundary around Northridge Road, Ridgeway Avenue and Central Avenue.
Whitehill & Windmill Hill	Gravesend-Whitehill Windmill Hill-Elm Road	WH6	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Kings Farm Library, Sun Lane, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 5HR	Kings Farm Library	44	Existing	(Polling district implemented to consider that county electoral division boundary does not run coterminous with ward)
Woodlands	Gravesend-Woodlands-Woodlands	WL1	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near Dashwood Library, Dashwood Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 7LY	Dashwood Library	1,539	New	New polling district encompassing dwellings around Woodlands Park.
Woodlands	Gravesend-Woodlands-Smarts Road	WL2	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near St Pauls Church, Singlewell Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 7RE	St Paul's Church	503	Existing	Minor amendments to polling district boundary at Hawthorn Close but no significant changes for the majority of electors  (Polling district implemented to consider that county electoral division boundary does not run coterminous with ward)
Woodlands	Gravesend-Woodlands-St Pauls	WL3	<a href="#">Map Link</a>	At or near St Pauls Church, Singlewell Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 7RE	St Paul's Church	1,485	Existing	No significant changes for the majority of electors



Woodlands	Gravesend-Woodlands-Woodlands West	WL4	<a href="#">Map</a> <a href="#">Link</a>	At or near Shears Green Community Centre, Westcott Avenue, Northfleet, Kent, DA11 7HP	Shears Green Community Centre	315	New	<p>New polling district created to encompass new Watermans Park development. This development is still underway so the electors allocated to this building will increase.</p> <p>Also used for CP4 (Coldharbour &amp; Perry Street) but large enough for a double station which can be clearly segregated.</p>
Woodlands	Gravesend-Woodlands-Hever Court	WL5	<a href="#">Map</a> <a href="#">Link</a>	At or near Gerald Miskin Hall, 61 Hever Ct Rd, Gravesend DA12 5EG	Gerald Miskin Hall	1,938	Existing	Minor amendments to polling district boundary but no significant changes for electors