

New electoral arrangements for Thanet District Council Final Recommendations

April 2025

Translations and other formats:

To get this report in another language or in a large-print or Braille version, please contact the Local Government Boundary Commission for England at:

Tel: 0330 500 1525

Email: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

Licensing:

The mapping in this report is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Keeper of Public Records © Crown copyright and database right. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and database right.

Licence Number: AC 0000807452 2025

A note on our mapping:

The maps shown in this report are for illustrative purposes only. Whilst best efforts have been made by our staff to ensure that the maps included in this report are representative of the boundaries described by the text, there may be slight variations between these maps and the large PDF map that accompanies this report, or the digital mapping supplied on our consultation portal. This is due to the way in which the final mapped products are produced. The reader should therefore refer to either the large PDF supplied with this report or the digital mapping for the true likeness of the boundaries intended. The boundaries as shown on either the large PDF map or the digital mapping should always appear identical.

Contents

Introduction	1
Who we are and what we do	1
What is an electoral review?	1
Why Thanet?	2
Our proposals for Thanet	2
How will the recommendations affect you?	2
Review timetable	3
Analysis and final recommendations	5
Submissions received	5
Electorate figures	5
Number of councillors	6
Ward boundaries consultation	6
Draft recommendations consultation	7
Final recommendations	7
West Thanet	9
Margate	12
Broadstairs & St Peter's	14
Ramsgate	16
Conclusions	19
Summary of electoral arrangements	19
Parish electoral arrangements	19
What happens next?	23
Equalities	25
Appendices	27
Appendix A	27
Final recommendations for Thanet	27
Appendix B	29
Outline map	29
Appendix C	31
Submissions received	31
Appendix D	32
Glossary and abbreviations	32

Introduction

Who we are and what we do

1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament.¹ We are not part of government or any political party. We are accountable to Parliament through a committee of MPs chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons. Our main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

2 The members of the Commission are:

- Professor Colin Mellors OBE (Chair)
- Andrew Scallan CBE (Deputy Chair)
- Amanda Nobbs OBE
- Steve Robinson
- Wallace Sampson OBE
- Liz Treacy
- Ailsa Irvine (Chief Executive)

What is an electoral review?

3 An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority. A local authority's electoral arrangements decide:

- How many councillors are needed.
- How many wards or electoral divisions there should be, where their boundaries are and what they should be called.
- How many councillors should represent each ward or division.

4 When carrying out an electoral review the Commission has three main considerations:

- Improving electoral equality by equalising the number of electors that each councillor represents.
- Ensuring that the recommendations reflect community identity.
- Providing arrangements that support effective and convenient local government.

5 Our task is to strike the best balance between these three considerations when making our recommendations.

¹ Under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

6 More detail regarding the powers that we have, as well as further guidance and information about electoral reviews and the review process in general, can be found on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Why Thanet?

7 We are conducting a review of Thanet District Council ('the Council') as its last review was completed in 2001, and we are required to review the electoral arrangements of every council in England 'from time to time'.² Additionally, some councillors currently represent many more or fewer electors than others. We describe this as 'electoral inequality.' Our aim is to create 'electoral equality,' where the number of electors per councillor is as even as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal.

8 This electoral review is being carried out to ensure that:

- The wards in Thanet are in the best possible places to help the Council carry out its responsibilities effectively.
- The number of electors represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the district.

Our proposals for Thanet

9 Thanet should be represented by 42 councillors, 14 fewer than there are now.

10 Thanet should have 21 wards, two fewer than there are now.

11 The boundaries of all but three wards should change.

12 We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for Thanet.

How will the recommendations affect you?

13 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which ward you vote in, which other communities are in that ward, and, in some cases, which parish council ward you vote in. Your ward name may also change.

14 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the district or result in changes to postcodes. They do not take into account parliamentary constituency boundaries. The recommendations will not have an effect on local

² Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 paragraph 56(1).

taxes, house prices or car and house insurance premiums, and we are not able to consider any representations which are based on these issues.

Review timetable

15 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for Thanet. We then held a period of consultation with the public on warding patterns for the district. The submissions received during consultation have informed our draft recommendations.

16 The review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
12 March 2024	Number of councillors decided
19 March 2024	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
27 May 2024	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
8 October 2024	Publication of draft recommendations; start of second consultation
16 December 2024	End of consultation; we began analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
29 April 2025	Publication of final recommendations

Analysis and final recommendations

17 Legislation³ states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors⁴ there are now, but also on how many there are likely to be in the five years after the publication of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for our wards.

18 In reality, we are unlikely to be able to create wards with exactly the same number of electors in each; we have to be flexible. However, we try to keep the number of electors represented by each councillor as close to the average for the council as possible.

19 We work out the average number of electors per councillor for each individual local authority by dividing the electorate by the number of councillors, as shown on the table below.

	2024	2030
Electorate of Thanet	108,000	117,821
Number of councillors	42	42
Average number of electors per councillor	2,571	2,805

20 When the number of electors per councillor in a ward is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the ward as having 'good electoral equality'. All of our proposed wards for Thanet are forecast to have good electoral equality by 2030.

Submissions received

21 See Appendix C for details of the submissions received. All submissions may be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Electorate figures

22 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2030, a period five years from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2025. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 9% by 2030.

23 We considered the information provided by the Council and are satisfied that the projected figures are the best available at the present time. We have used these figures to produce our final recommendations.

³ Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

⁴ Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

24 Our mapping tool uses geocoded electoral registers supplied by the Council to locate electors, by associating addresses with specific geographic coordinates. It considers each elector's location to produce precise elector counts for each ward. There can be very slight differences between the electorate figures published on our website at the beginning of the review and the electorate figures published in this report. However, these are very minor and do not impact on our recommendations.

Number of councillors

25 Thanet District Council currently has 56 councillors. We looked at the evidence provided by the Council and concluded that decreasing this number by 14 will ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

26 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 42 councillors: for example, 42 one-councillor wards, 21 two-councillor wards, 14 three-councillor wards or a mix of one-, two- and three-councillor wards.

27 We received five submissions about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on ward patterns. Two submissions were broadly in favour of a decrease in the number of councillors, while three were opposed. However, we did not consider these submissions made a compelling case for maintaining or increasing the number of councillors and therefore based our draft recommendations on a 42-councillor council.

28 We received no submissions about the number of councillors in response to the consultation on our draft recommendations. We have therefore maintained 42 councillors in our final recommendations.

Ward boundaries consultation

29 We received 43 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included two district-wide proposals, from the Conservative Group on Thanet District Council ('the Conservatives') and Thanet Labour Party ('Labour'). The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for warding arrangements in particular areas of the district.

30 The two district-wide schemes provided mixed patterns of one- and two-councillor wards for the area. This was consistent with the Council's request that no three-councillor wards be proposed. We carefully considered the proposals received and were of the view that, although both schemes included several wards with high levels of electoral inequality, both generally used clearly identifiable boundaries.

31 Our draft recommendations were based on the Labour scheme. However, we incorporated elements of the Conservative scheme into our draft recommendations in the Ramsgate area, as we considered that these proposals provided for clearer ward boundaries than those put forward by Labour.

32 Our draft recommendations also took into account local evidence that we received, which provided further evidence of community links and locally recognised boundaries. In some areas where we considered that the proposals did not provide the best balance between our statutory criteria, we identified alternative boundaries.

33 We visited the area in order to look at the various different proposals on the ground. This tour of Thanet helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.

34 Our draft recommendations were for three three-councillor wards, 16 two-councillor wards and one single-councillor ward.

Draft recommendations consultation

35 We received 29 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included a district-wide response from the Thanet Council Labour Group ('the Labour Group'), which provided further community identity evidence in the Ramsgate area and comments on wards across the district. We also received a submission from Councillor Kup (Birchington North) regarding the wards in Birchington. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for warding arrangements in particular areas of the district.

Final recommendations

36 Our final recommendations are for two three-councillor wards, 17 two-councillor wards and two single-councillor wards. We consider that our recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we received such evidence during consultation.

37 Our final recommendations are based on the draft recommendations with a modification to wards in the Ramsgate area based on the evidence received during consultation on our draft recommendations. We also propose to make changes to St Peter's ward and the two Birchington wards. We also propose to make a number of name changes.

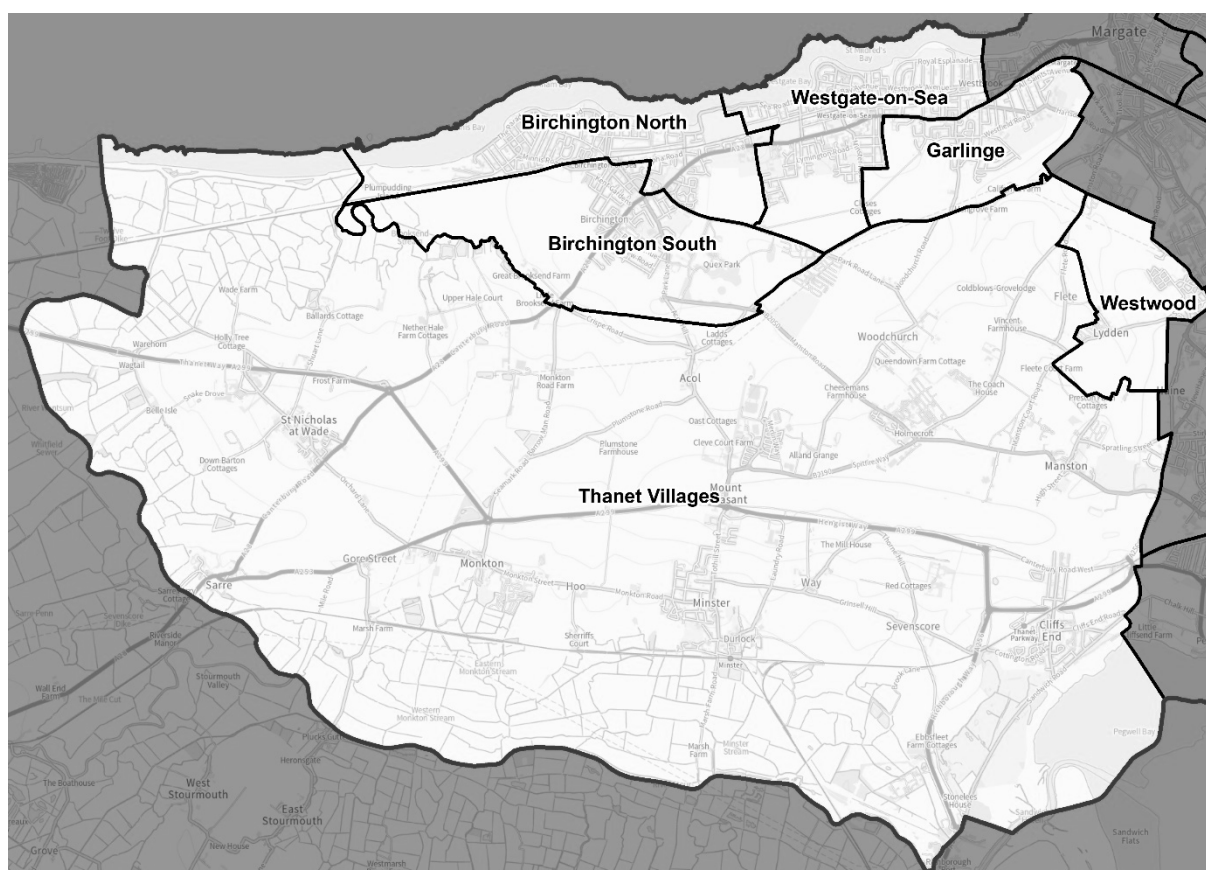
38 The tables and maps on pages 9–18 detail our final recommendations for each area of Thanet. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory⁵ criteria of:

⁵ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

- Equality of representation.
- Reflecting community interests and identities.
- Providing for effective and convenient local government.

39 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table starting on page 27 and on the large map accompanying this report.

West Thanet



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Birchington North	2	-8%
Birchington South	2	-7%
Garlinge	2	-8%
Thanet Villages	3	3%
Westgate-on-Sea	3	0%
Westwood	1	6%

Birchington North and Birchington South

40 The draft recommendations in this area were our own proposals as we could not identify a warding pattern from the schemes submitted that effectively balanced our three statutory criteria. Our proposed draft recommendations were based on information we gathered during our tour of Thanet.

41 We proposed the two wards of Birchington East and Birchington West using a boundary that followed Acol Hill, Park Lane, Station Road, the railway line and Minnis Road. This differed significantly from the existing warding pattern of Birchington North and Birchington South which uses the railway line as a ward boundary.

42 Our draft recommendations for this area were supported by the Labour Group. We received a submission from Councillor Kup who represents Birchington North ward on the Council. This submission stated that our proposed boundary divided the Minnis Bay community with Minnis Road acting as a uniting characteristic of the area. They proposed that the boundary should follow Minnis Road until the railway line so that the whole of Minnis Bay is included in a single ward. Councillor Kup also suggested that a revised boundary could follow the rest of Minnis Road, Station Road and Canterbury Road to the parish boundary. This change was proposed so that electors added to this ward could be accommodated in the context of reducing electoral inequality.

43 We examined this proposal to see if it was possible to provide a revised warding pattern that retained more of the existing boundaries of Birchington North and Birchington South wards. We considered that the suggested boundary would not provide for good electoral equality with Birchington North ward having 12% fewer electors per councillor than the average for the district by 2030. However, we did consider that the proposals would better reflect the community identity of the Minnis Bay area. We therefore propose a Birchington North ward and Birchington South ward. Our recommended boundary between these wards will follow the railway line to Birchington-on-Sea station then follow Alpha Road, Albion Road, Canterbury Road and Park Road. We consider that our final recommendations for this area will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting the identities and interests of the Minnis Bay community.

44 Our final recommendations are for a two-councillor Birchington North ward and a two-councillor Birchington South ward with electoral variances of -8% and -7%, respectively, by 2030.

Garlinge and Westgate-on-Sea

45 We received three submissions that mentioned these two wards. The Labour Group supported both wards but suggested that Westgate-on-Sea & Westbrook West ward be renamed Westgate-on-Sea, which it considered to be more concise. Of the other two submissions we received, one was concerned with the external boundaries of Westgate-on-Sea parish and the other with the parish precepts paid by local residents. Neither of these issues are within the remit of this electoral review. We received no other submissions regarding Garlinge ward.

46 Having considered the evidence received, we have adopted the ward name of Westgate-on-Sea as part of our final recommendations. We consider this to be a simpler and more appropriate name for this ward.

47 Our final recommendations are for a two-councillor Garlinge ward with an electoral variance of -8% by 2030, and a three-councillor ward of Westgate-on-Sea with a variance of 0% by 2030.

Thanet Villages and Westwood

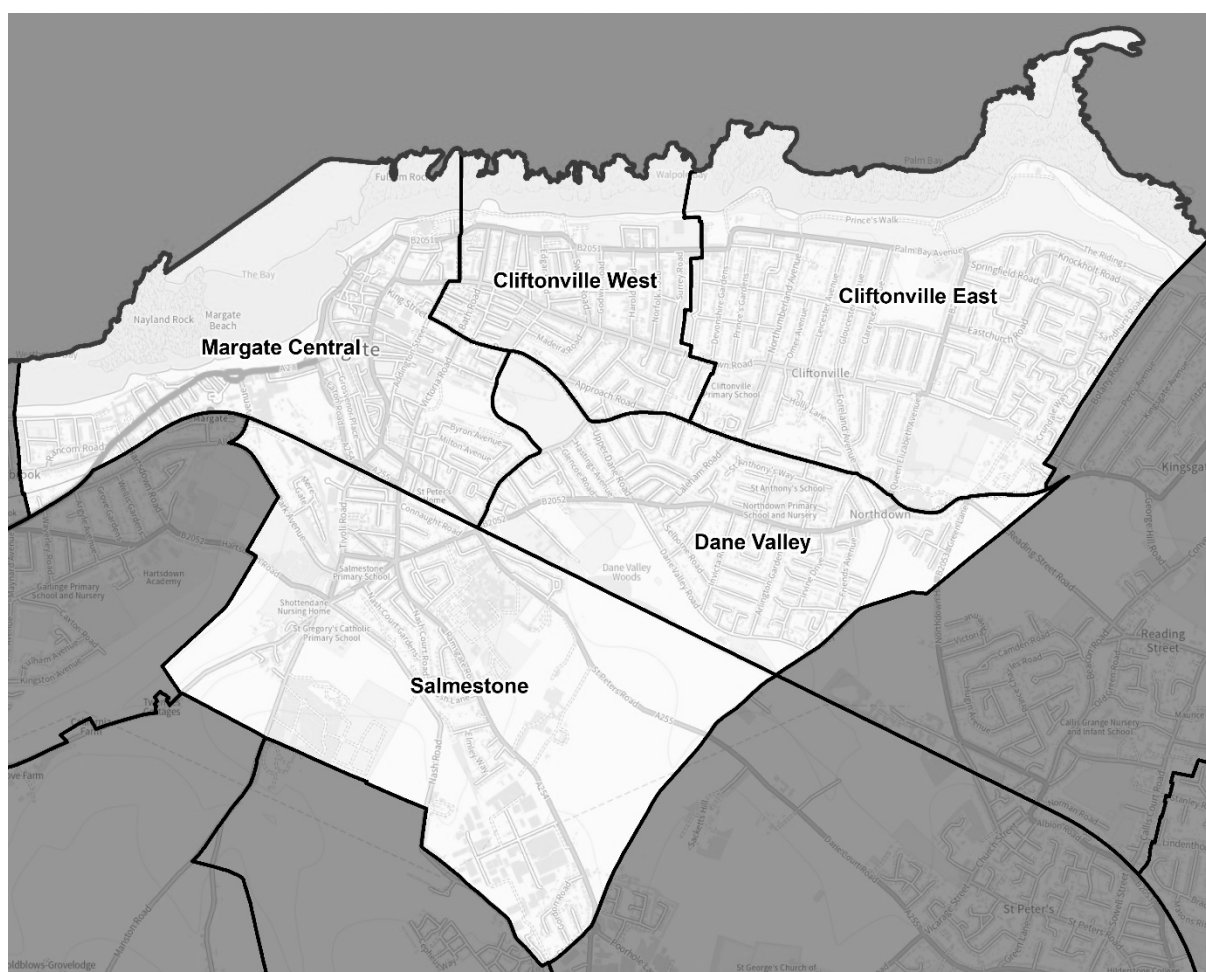
48 Our draft recommendations for this area were to maintain the three-councillor Thanet Villages ward, with the new housing development around Westwood Cross forming a single-councillor Westwood Cross ward. This provided for good electoral equality in both areas.

49 In response to the draft recommendations, the Labour Group supported our proposed Thanet Villages ward. While initially unpersuaded by three-member wards, the group considered the proposed ward was the best way to reflect the rural communities of Thanet. It also wrote in support of Westwood Cross ward but proposed that it be re-named Westwood as the former was the name of the retail area in the ward and Westwood would be more reflective of the wider community. A local resident also wrote in support of the Westwood name, as well as suggesting that Thanet Villages be reduced to a two-councillor ward. Another local resident suggested that the Westwood Cross/St Peter's ward boundary should follow Margate Road.

50 Having carefully considered the evidence received, we have decided to adopt the ward name of Westwood, as put forward by the Labour Group. We agree that it is a more appropriate name for the area covered by the ward. We are not persuaded that Thanet Villages ward should be represented by two councillors as this would result in an electoral variance of 51% by 2030. We cannot use Margate Road as the boundary between Westwood and St Peter's ward. This is because our proposed ward boundary follows the existing parish boundary and to move away from this would require the creation of parish ward that would contain no electors. This would not provide for effective and convenient local government.

51 We have therefore confirmed our draft recommendations for these wards as final, subject to the name change for Westwood ward. Our single-councillor Westwood ward will have an electoral variance of 6% by 2030 and our three-councillor Thanet Villages ward will have a variance of 3%.

Margate



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Cliftonville East	2	0%
Cliftonville West	2	-1%
Dane Valley	2	1%
Margate Central	2	4%
Salmestone	2	-3%

Cliftonville East, Cliftonville West, Dane Valley, Margate Central and Salmestone

52 The draft recommendations for this area were supported by the Labour Group. We received two other submissions that mentioned these wards.

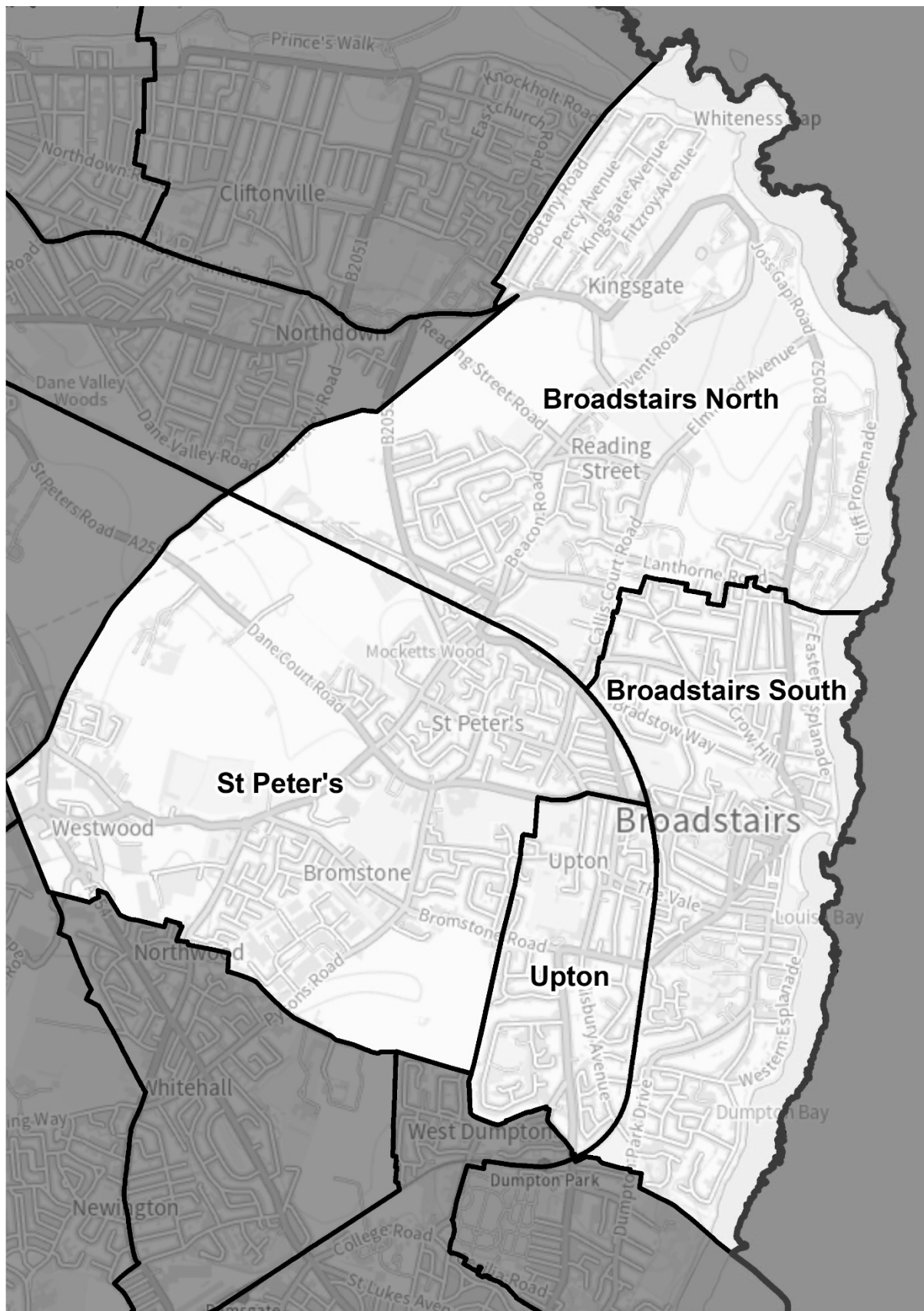
53 A local resident was supportive of the Cliftonville East ward and the reduction of councillors from 56 to 42. Another local resident suggested that Margate Central ward should have three councillors instead of two.

54 Having considered the submissions received, we are proposing to confirm our draft recommendations for this area as final. Increasing the number of councillors representing Margate Central to three would mean that this ward would have an

electoral variance of 29%. We are not persuaded that the evidence received justifies such electoral inequality. We propose that our recommended Margate Central & Westbrook East ward be renamed Margate Central on the basis that we have removed 'Westbrook West' from the name of our Westgate-on-Sea ward. We consider that these two simplified ward names are more appropriate than those used in our draft recommendations.

55 Our final recommendations are for the two-councillor wards of Cliftonville East, Cliftonville West, Dane Valley, Margate Central and Salmestone. These wards will have good electoral equality with variances of 0%, -1%, 1%, 4% and -3%, respectively, by 2030.

Broadstairs & St Peter's



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Broadstairs North	2	4%
Broadstairs South	2	10%
St Peter's	2	5%
Upton	1	2%

Broadstairs North, Broadstairs South, St Peter's and Upton

56 The Labour Group supported the proposed Broadstairs North and Broadstairs South wards but did not support a three-councillor St Peter's ward which it considered to be a 'catch-all' ward. The group suggested that the ward was made up of the three distinct areas of Bromstone, St Peter's and Upton and that it was possible to provide a warding pattern that contained a single-councillor ward and a two-councillor ward. It proposed the retention of the existing boundaries of St Peter's ward, but that it be represented by two councillors. It also proposed that the remaining part of the existing Viking ward becoming a single-councillor Upton ward.

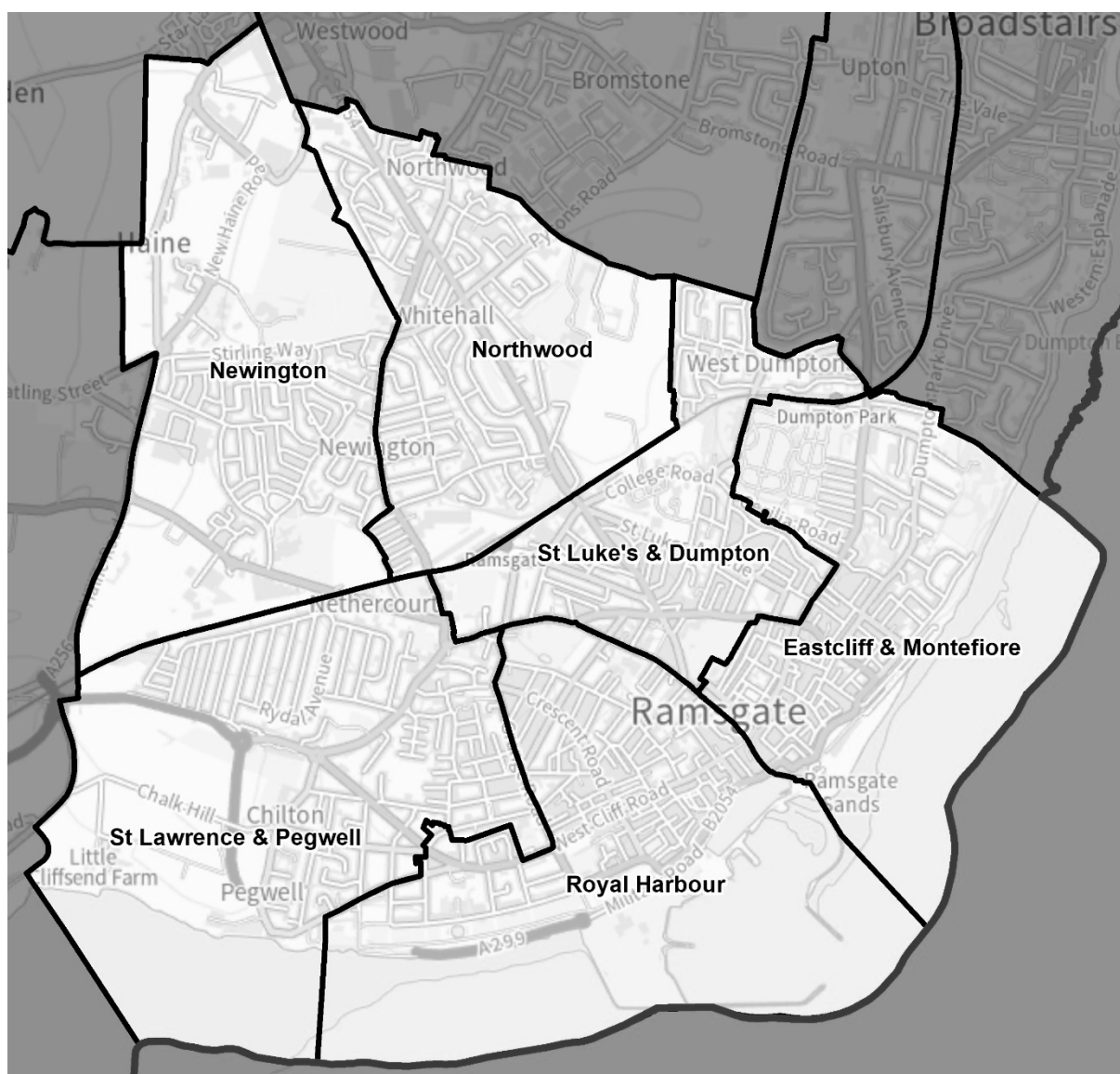
57 We received two other submissions that mentioned wards in this area. A local resident suggested that St Peter's ward be renamed Broadstairs West or St Peter's & Broadstairs West. They also did not support a warding pattern that included the Lanthorne Road area in Broadstairs North ward. Another local resident objected to their home being included in St Peter's ward given its closer proximity to the centre of Broadstairs.

58 Having considered the submissions received, we have decided to confirm our draft recommendations for Broadstairs North and Broadstairs South wards as final. While we noted the objection from a local resident to the inclusion of the Lanthorne Road area in Broadstairs North ward, we considered our recommendations to be the only way to ensure good electoral equality for both wards.

59 In respect of St Peter's ward, we have decided to move away from our draft recommendations and adopt the Labour Group's proposal to divide it into two as detailed in paragraph 56. Having considered its reasoning and having visited the area on our tour of Thanet, we concluded that a two-councillor ward of St Peter's and a single-councillor ward of Upton would better reflect the communities in this area. This change would also mean that the local resident who objected to their inclusion in St Peter's ward would now be located in Upton ward. We propose to keep the St Peter's ward name as we consider it still reflects the constituent communities of this ward.

60 Our final recommendations are for the two-councillor wards of Broadstairs North, Broadstairs South and St Peter's, and the single-councillor ward of Upton. These four wards will have good electoral equality, with variances of 4%, 10%, 5% and 2%, respectively, by 2030.

Ramsgate



Ward name	Number of councillors	Variance 2030
Eastcliff & Montefiore	2	-2%
Newington	2	-9%
Northwood	2	-3%
Royal Harbour	2	1%
St Lawrence & Pegwell	2	7%
St Luke's & Dumpton	2	-3%

61 We received 11 submissions that related to this area. Eight respondents, including the Labour Group, supported renaming Ramsgate Harbour ward to Royal Harbour. The Labour Group also proposed changes to the boundaries of Newington, Northwood, Ramsgate Harbour and St Lawrence & Pegwell wards, as well as the

name of Granville ward. Two submissions mentioned the names of Granville and St Luke's & Dumpton wards.

Newington and Northwood

62 The Labour Group stated that the proposed boundary between Newington and Northwood divided the Newington community with Chichester Road, Lancaster Close and Windmill Walk being part of the Newington community. It proposed that the boundary should remain on Newington Road and that Cheriton, Fairlight, Marden and Telham Avenues be moved to Northwood ward to ensure good electoral equality for both wards. The group stated that these streets are not part of the Newington estate and that moving them would allow the Newington community to remain together in the same ward.

63 Having considered the submission from the Labour Group, we propose to adopt its proposals for this area as part of our final recommendations. We consider that Newington Road is a stronger and more identifiable boundary than the boundary used in our draft recommendations. Using Newington Road as the boundary ensures that the Newington estate is not divided between wards. We concluded that this proposal provided the best balance of our statutory criteria by reflecting the community identities in the area while also providing for reasonable electoral equality.

64 Our final recommendations are for the two-councillor wards of Newington and Northwood with electoral variances of -9% and -3%, respectively, by 2030.

Royal Harbour and St Lawrence & Pegwell

65 On the basis of the evidence received, we propose that Ramsgate Harbour ward be renamed Royal Harbour. As well as proposing this ward name change, the Labour Group put forward an amendment to the boundaries between the two wards. The group proposed that the boundary should follow Grange Road – a current ward boundary – and not the boundary proposed under the draft recommendations. The group argued that our draft recommendations would divide the Southwood estate between wards. To provide for electoral equality for both wards it suggested that the Royal Esplanade plus Stancomb Avenue, Watchester Avenue, Warre Avenue, Doric Court, Durlock Avenue, and parts of St Lawrence Avenue and St Mildred's Avenue, be included in Royal Harbour ward.

66 Having carefully considered the evidence submitted and having visited the area as part of our tour of Thanet, we concluded that Grange Road is a stronger and more identifiable ward boundary than a boundary running through the Southwood estate. We looked at the Labour Group's suggested amendments and concluded that there are areas around the Royal Esplanade that will have community ties to the Royal Harbour ward. We examined the Labour Group's list of suggested streets and propose a boundary that runs along London Road and to the rear of St Augustine's

Park, Homestead Village and St Mildred's Avenue. The boundary would then follow Pegwell Road until it reaches Pegwell Bay Caravan Park. Properties to the south of this boundary will move from St Lawrence & Pegwell ward to Royal Harbour ward. We are persuaded that these changes will recognise the identities and interests of the Southwood estate community by ensuring it is not divided between wards. This change will also ensure good forecast electoral equality for both wards.

67 Our final recommendations are for the two-councillor wards of Royal Harbour and St Lawrence & Pegwell with electoral variances of 1% and 7%, respectively, by 2030.

Eastcliff & Montefiore and St Luke's & Dumpton

68 The Labour Group supported the boundaries of these two wards but suggested that Granville ward be renamed Sir Moses Montefiore as the proposed ward contained a significant portion of the existing ward of that name. We received five other submissions regarding the names of these two wards, three of which supported an alternative name of Eastcliff & Montefiore ward. Another submission expressed concern at the removal of 'Sir Moses Montefiore' from a ward name and the last submission suggested that St Luke's & Dumpton ward be renamed St Luke's & Hereson. The respondent argued that most of Dumpton was not contained in the proposed ward.

69 As part of our final recommendations, we do not propose to make any changes to the boundaries of these two wards. However, we do propose that Granville ward be renamed Eastcliff & Montefiore as we consider that this better reflects the communities of this ward. We do not propose to rename St Luke's & Dumpton ward as we consider that the ward does contain significant parts of the Dumpton community.

70 Our final recommendations are for the two-councillor wards of Eastcliff & Montefiore and St Luke's & Dumpton with electoral variances of -2% and -3%, respectively, by 2030.

Conclusions

71 The table below provides a summary as to the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality in Thanet, referencing the 2024 and 2030 electorate figures against the proposed number of councillors and wards. A full list of wards, names and their corresponding electoral variances can be found in Appendix A to the back of this report. An outline map of the wards is provided in Appendix B.

Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2024	2030
Number of councillors	42	42
Number of electoral wards	20	20
Average number of electors per councillor	2,571	2,805
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	11	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	4	0

Final recommendations

Thanet District Council should be made up of 42 councillors serving 21 wards: two single-councillor wards, 17 two-councillor wards and two three-councillor wards. The details and names are shown in Appendix A and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

Mapping

Sheet 1, Map 1 shows the proposed wards for Thanet District Council. You can also view our final recommendations for Thanet District Council on our interactive maps at www.lgbce.org.uk

Parish electoral arrangements

72 As part of an electoral review, we are required to have regard to the statutory criteria set out in Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (the 2009 Act). The Schedule provides that if a parish is to be divided between different wards it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single ward. We cannot recommend changes to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

73 Under the 2009 Act we only have the power to make changes to parish electoral arrangements where these are as a direct consequence of our recommendations for principal authority warding arrangements. However, Thanet District Council has powers under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to conduct community governance reviews to effect changes to parish electoral arrangements.

74 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Birchington, Broadstairs & St Peter's, Manston and Ramsgate.

75 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Birchington parish.

Final recommendations

Birchington Parish Council should comprise 10 councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Birchington North	5
Birchington South	5

76 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Broadstairs & St Peter's parish.

Final recommendations

Broadstairs & St Peter's Town Council should comprise 15 councillors, as at present, representing five wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Broadstairs North	4
Broadstairs South	4
Lanthorpe Road	1
St Peter's	4
Upton	2

77 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Manston parish.

Final recommendations

Manston Parish Council should comprise seven councillors, as at present, representing two wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Manston Rural	2
Westwood	5

78 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Ramsgate parish.

Final recommendations

Ramsgate Town Council should comprise 16 councillors, as at present, representing six wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Eastcliff & Montefiore	3
Newington	2
Northwood	2
Royal Harbour	3
St Lawrence & Pegwell	3
St Luke's & Dumpton	3

What happens next?

79 We have now completed our review of Thanet District Council, and our recommendations are approved by Parliament. A draft Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – was scheduled to be laid in Parliament this year, and the new electoral arrangements were to come into force at local elections in 2027. However, we are aware that the Government's White Paper on English Devolution may have an impact on local government structure in Kent. Therefore, at this stage, we do not intend to lay a draft Order in Parliament.

Equalities

80 The Commission is satisfied that it complies with its legal obligations under the Equality Act and that no adverse equality impacts will arise as a result of the outcome of the review.

Appendices

Appendix A

Final recommendations for Thanet

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Birchington North	2	4,994	2,497	-3%	5,155	2,578	-8%
2	Birchington South	2	3,787	1,894	-26%	5,192	2,596	-7%
3	Broadstairs North	2	5,660	2,830	10%	5,832	2,916	4%
4	Broadstairs South	2	6,128	3,064	19%	6,179	3,090	10%
5	Cliftonville East	2	5,415	2,708	5%	5,594	2,797	0%
6	Cliftonville West	2	5,920	2,960	15%	5,560	2,780	-1%
7	Dane Valley	2	5,607	2,804	9%	5,639	2,820	1%
8	Eastcliff & Montefiore	2	5,843	2,922	14%	5,745	2,873	2%
9	Garlinge	2	3,922	1,961	-24%	5,175	2,588	-8%
10	Margate Central	2	6,128	3,064	19%	5,840	2,920	4%
11	Newington	2	3,260	1,630	-37%	5,126	2,563	-9%
12	Northwood	2	5,547	2,774	8%	5,431	2,715	-3%

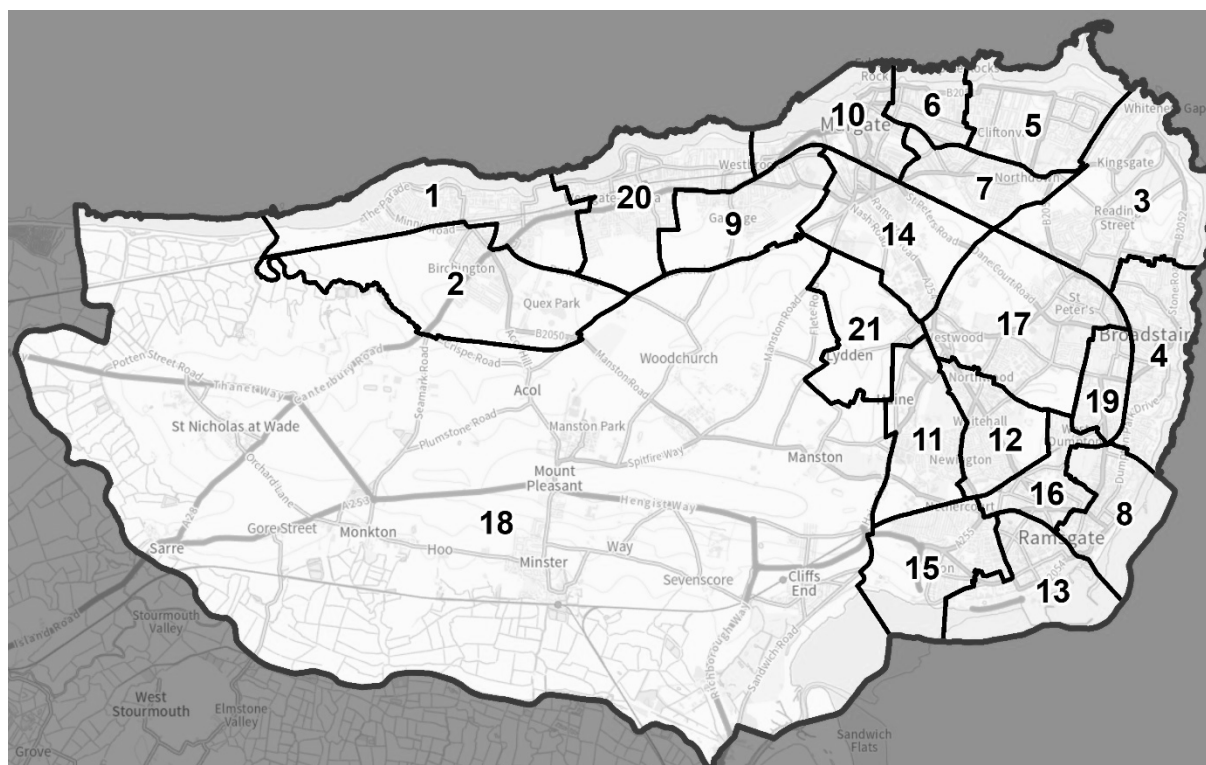
	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2024)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2030)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
13	Royal Harbour	2	5,787	2,894	13%	5,669	2,835	1%
14	Salmestone	2	4,277	2,139	-17%	5,439	2,720	-3%
15	St Lawrence & Pegwell	2	5,891	2,946	15%	6,006	3,003	7%
16	St Luke's & Dumpton	2	5,428	2,714	6%	5,423	2,712	-3%
17	St Peter's	2	5,735	2,868	12%	5,866	2,933	5%
18	Thanet Villages	3	7,260	2,420	-6%	8,684	2,895	3%
19	Upton	1	2,755	2,755	7%	2,858	2,858	2%
20	Westgate-on-Sea	3	7,928	2,643	3%	8,423	2,808	0%
21	Westwood	1	728	728	-72%	2,983	2,983	6%
Totals		42	108,000	–	–	117,821	–	–
Averages		–	–	2,571	–	–	2,805	–

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Thanet District Council

Note: The 'variance from average' column shows by how far, in percentage terms, the number of electors per councillor in each electoral ward varies from the average for the district. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Appendix B

Outline map



Number	Ward name
1	Birchington North
2	Birchington South
3	Broadstairs North
4	Broadstairs South
5	Cliftonville East
6	Cliftonville West
7	Dane Valley
8	Eastcliff & Montefiore
9	Garlinge
10	Margate Central
11	Newington
12	Northwood
13	Royal Harbour
14	Salvestone
15	St Lawrence & Pegwell
16	St Luke's & Dumpton
17	St Peter's
18	Thanet Villages
19	Upton
20	Westgate-on-Sea
21	Westwood

A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/thanet

Appendix C

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at:

www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/thanet

Political Groups

- Thanet Labour Group

Councillors

- Councillor M. Garner (Thanet District Council)
- Councillor G. Kup (Thanet District Council)

Local organisations

- Friends of Spencer Square
- Ramsgate Society Ramsgate Heritage Harbour Working Group
- Royal Temple Yacht Club (two submissions)

Local residents

- 22 local residents

Appendix D

Glossary and abbreviations

Council size	The number of councillors elected to serve on a council
Electoral Changes Order (or Order)	A legal document which implements changes to the electoral arrangements of a local authority
Division	A specific area of a county, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever division they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the county council
Electoral inequality	Where there is a difference between the number of electors represented by a councillor and the average for the local authority.
Electorate	People in the authority who are registered to vote in elections. We only take account of electors registered specifically for local elections during our reviews.
Number of electors per councillor	The total number of electors in a local authority divided by the number of councillors
Over-represented	Where there are fewer electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Parish	A specific and defined area of land within a single local authority enclosed within a parish boundary. There are over 10,000 parishes in England, which provide the first tier of representation to their local residents

Parish council	A body elected by electors in the parish which serves and represents the area defined by the parish boundaries. See also 'Town council'
Parish (or town) council electoral arrangements	The total number of councillors on any one parish or town council; the number, names and boundaries of parish wards; and the number of councillors for each ward
Parish ward	A particular area of a parish, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever parish ward they live for candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the parish council
Town council	A parish council which has been given ceremonial 'town' status. More information on achieving such status can be found at www.nalc.gov.uk
Under-represented	Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Variance (or electoral variance)	How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward or division varies in percentage terms from the average
Ward	A specific area of a district or borough, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever ward they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the district or borough council

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) was set up by Parliament, independent of Government and political parties. It is directly accountable to Parliament through a committee chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons. It is responsible for conducting boundary, electoral and structural reviews of local government.

Local Government Boundary Commission for
England
7th Floor, 3 Bunhill Row,
London,
EC1Y 8YZ

Telephone: 0330 500 1525

Email: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

Online: www.lgbce.org.uk

www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk

X: @LGBCE