



Meeting of
East Sussex County Council
on Tuesday, 1 December 2015
at 10.00 am

NOTE: As part of the County Council's drive to increase accessibility to its public meetings, this meeting will be broadcast live on its website and the record archived for future viewing. The broadcast / record is accessible at:
www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/webcasts/default.htm



EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

To the Members of the County Council

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the East Sussex County Council to be held at Council Chamber, County Hall, Lewes, **on Tuesday, 1 December 2015 at 10.00 am** to transact the following business

- 1 **Minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2015** (Pages 5 - 22)
- 2 **Apologies for absence**
- 3 **Chairman's business**
- 4 **Questions from members of the public**
- 5 **Report of the Governance Committee (to follow)** (Pages 23 - 42)
- 6 **Report of the Lead Member for Resources (to follow)** (Pages 43 - 46)
- 7 **Questions from County Councillors**
 - (a) Oral questions to Cabinet Members
 - (b) Written Questions of which notice has been given pursuant to Standing Order 44

Note: There will be a period for collective prayers and quiet reflection in the Council Chamber from 9.30 am to 9.45 am. The prayers will be led by the Reverend Judith Egar, Assistant Priest at St Anne's Church, Lewes. The Chairman would be delighted to be joined by any members of staff and Councillors who wish to attend.

County Hall
St Anne's Crescent
LEWES
East Sussex BN7 1UE

PHILIP BAKER
Assistant Chief Executive

23 November 2015

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MINUTES

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of the EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL held at County Hall, Lewes on 20 OCTOBER 2015 at 10.00 am

Present Councillors John Barnes, Colin Belsey (Chairman), Nick Bennett, Bill Bentley, Ian Buchanan, Carla Butler, Frank Carstairs, Tania Charman, Charles Clark, Godfrey Daniel, Angharad Davies, Chris Dowling, Claire Dowling, Stuart Earl, David Elkin, Michael Ensor (Vice Chairman), Kathryn Field, Kim Forward, Roy Galley, Keith Glazier, John Hodges, Laurence Keeley, Carolyn Lambert, Carl Maynard, Ruth O'Keeffe, Michael Phillips, Mike Pursglove, Phil Scott, Jim Sheppard, Daniel Shing, Stephen Shing, Alan Shuttleworth, Rupert Simmons, Rosalyn St. Pierre, Bob Standley, Richard Stogdon, Barry Taylor, Sylvia Tidy, David Tutt, John Ungar, Steve Wallis, Trevor Webb, Francis Whetstone and Michael Wincott

30 Minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 2015

30.1 RESOLVED – to confirm the minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 14 July 2015 as a correct record

31 Apologies for absence

31.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mike Blanch, Peter Charlton, Philip Howson and Peter Pragnell

32 Chairman's business

NORMAN WILCOCK AND NOEL MACKILLIGIN

32.1 The Chairman paid tribute to 2 former colleagues, Norman Wilcock and Noel Mackilligin. Noel was a County Councillor from 1974 to 1989 and served as Chairman from 1987 to 1989. Norman served a County Councillor from 1993 to 1999 and was a former Headteacher at The Grove School. On behalf of the County Council, the Chairman offered condolences to Noel and Norman's family and friends.

32.2 The Council stood in silence as a mark of respect for their former colleagues Noel Mackilligin and Norman Wilcock.

HERO AWARD

32.3 On behalf of the County Council the Chairman congratulated Louise Baxter from the Trading Standards Service who was honoured at the Chartered Trading Standards Institute Conference with a 'Hero Award'. The award was for the significant contribution Louise had made to consumer protection. Louise set up the National Trading Standards Scams Team 2 years ago. The Team works to protect residents, usually those that are vulnerable from scammers. The Team was established after Louise discovered that those who had already fallen prey to scams were put on a 'suckers' list and being scammed out of thousands of

pounds. Since then she has worked to provide a fundamental support system for residents, run campaigns and encouraged others such as banks and postal services to join the cause.

GARY WALSH

32.4 On behalf of the Council the Chairman welcomed Gary Walsh to his first meeting as Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive. The Chairman also congratulated him on being awarded the Queen's Fire Service Medal which he received on 16 October

CHAIRMAN'S ACTIVITIES

32.5 The Chairman reported that he had attended a number of engagements since the last meeting of the County Council including: the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service for Children with Cancer Trust, East Sussex Youth Orchestra events, the Queen's Award Investiture for the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association, the Families for Autism Charity Gala, the Rugby World Cup Welcome Ceremony and the Royal Air Force Association Battle of Britain 75th Anniversary. The Vice Chairman also attended a number of events.

PRAYERS

32.6 The Chairman thanked Reverend Vicky Martin, Seaford Baptist Church for leading the prayers before the Council meeting

PETITIONS

32.7 The Chairman informed the Council that immediately before the meeting he had received the following petition from members as follows:

Councillor Webb	- calling on the County Council to implement parking regulations in the form of a residents parking permit zone in Silchester Road, St Leonards on Sea Hastings
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33 Declarations of Interest

33.1 The following members declared personal interests in items on the agenda as follows:

<i>Member</i>	<i>Position giving rise to interest</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Whether interest was prejudicial</i>
Councillor Hodges	Director of Let's Do Business	Cabinet report, paragraph 1	No
Councillor Stogdon	Partner in a commercial fruit farm	Lead Member for Transport and Environment report, paragraph 1	No

34 Reports

34.1 The Chairman of the County Council, having called over the reports set out in the agenda, reserved the following paragraphs for discussion:

Cabinet	-	paragraph 1
Lead Member for Resources	-	paragraph 1
Lead Member for Transport and Environment	-	paragraph 1
East Sussex Fire Authority	-	paragraph 1

NON-RESERVED PARAGRAPHS

34.2 On the motion of the Chairman of the County Council, the Council ADOPTED the paragraphs in the reports of the Committees that had not been reserved for discussion.

35 Questions from members of the public

35.1 There were no questions from the public

36 Report of the Cabinet - 22 September 2015

36.1 Councillor Glazier moved the reserved paragraph of the Cabinet's report

36.2 The motion was CARRIED after debate

37 Report of the Lead Member for Resources

37.1 Councillor Elkin moved the reserved paragraph of the Lead Member for Resources report

37.2 The motion was CARRIED after debate

38 Report of the Lead Member for Transport and Environment

38.1 Following the withdrawal of the motion set out in paragraph 1.13 the report of the Lead Member for Transport and Environment the Chairman stated that the County Council would be voting on the motion set out in paragraph 1.1 of the report as follows:

East Sussex County Council (ESCC) opposes the introduction of neonicotinoid pesticides when the 2 year ban, introduced in 2013, comes to an end and supports a continuation of the ban to support the numbers of bee keepers and farmers dependent on a healthy bee population.

Further, ESCC undertakes to ban any use of neonicotinoid pesticides in the ESCC owned or managed sites such as the Ashdown Forest, the country sites such as Seven Sisters Country Park, Ditchling and Chailey Commons and gardens associated with ESCC offices and properties throughout the county should the ban be overturned in the UK

38.2 After debate, a recorded vote was requested and taken. The Motion was CARRIED, the votes being cast as follows:

FOR THE MOTION

Councillors Belsey, Bennett, Bentley, Buchanan, Butler, Carstairs, Charman, Clark, Daniel, Davies, Chris Dowling, Claire Dowling, Earl, Elkin, Ensor, Field, Forward, Glazier, Hodges,

Keeley, Lambert, Maynard, O’Keeffe, Pursglove, Scott, D Shing, S Shing, Shuttleworth, Simmons, Standley, St Pierre, Tutt, Ungar, Wallis, Webb and Wincott

AGAINST THE MOTION

None

ABSTENTIONS

Councillors Barnes, Galley, Phillips, Sheppard, Stogdon, Taylor, Tidy and Whetstone

39 Questions from County Councillors

ORAL QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

39.1 The following members asked questions of the Lead Cabinet Members indicated and they responded:

Questioner	Respondent	Subject
Councillor St Pierre	Councillor Elkin	Total cost of the Bexhill to Hastings Link Road archaeology sub contract
Councillor Tutt	Councillor Maynard	Funding of grit for grit bins not on main routes
Councillor Butler	Councillor Glazier	County Council’s response to consultation on apprenticeship levy
Councillor Scott	Councillor Maynard	Opening of the Bexhill to Hastings Link Road
Councillor Daniel	Councillor Maynard	16 week time limit for dealing with planning applications requiring an environmental impact assessment such as applications for fracking
Councillor Ungar	Councillor Bentley	Impact of savings proposals on adult social care services
Councillor Hodges	Councillor Simmons	Department of Business Innovation and Skills scheme to assist small businesses
Councillor S Shing	Councillor Maynard	Removal of material after gulley emptying on A22 between Polegate and Hailsham
Councillor Field	Councillor Glazier	Reaction to unreasonable constraints from Government in relation to consideration of planning applications

WRITTEN QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 44

39.2 Five written questions were received from Councillors Ungar, Tutt (2), Davies and Lambert for the Lead Member for Adult Social Care, the Lead Member for Learning and School Effectiveness, the Lead Member for Transport and Environment, the Lead Member for Economy and the Lead Member for Resources. The questions and answers are attached to these minutes.

39.3 The Lead Members responded to supplementary questions.

40 Report of the East Sussex Fire Authority

40.1 Members commented on paragraph 1 of the East Sussex Fire Authority's report.

THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11.56 am

The reports referred to are included in the minute book

WRITTEN QUESTION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 44

1. Question by Councillor Ungar to the Lead Member for Adult Social Care

Following the announcement of the Secretary of State for Health that the plan to limit care bills from next year with a cap of £72,000 for the over 65s and for younger adults with disabilities over 25 years of age has been delayed until 2020.

a) How much has the County Council spent in preparation for the cap on care costs which was to start from April 2016? The costs; including training of front line staff and managers, developing IT systems (software and hard-ware), finance systems, policy development and any other associated costs in relation to the care cap reforms; and

b) Is this money now lost as a result of the recent Government decisions?

Answer by the Lead Member for Adult Social Care

a) The total costs incurred to date (August 2015) that can be attributed wholly to the Cap on Care costs are in the region of £118,000, representing:

- Development of a financial model to inform service and financial planning: £15,000.
- Staffing: engagement of staff to deliver to planned assessment and review timetable: £70,000 (total budget allocation being £1,595,000)
- Training and development requirements: £16,600 (total budget allocation being £164,800)
- Communications strategy: £16,500 (total budget allocation being £55,000)

The deferment of the elements of the Care Act and Cap on Care Costs until 2020 has meant that development of the Care Account will now not take place. The Care Account was being developed by external IT providers and as such no costs have been incurred.

b) The Department of Health Director General of Social Care has informed the Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee that the department will not be seeking the return of the grant. We are currently awaiting written confirmation of this from the department and a ministerial statement is expected. The grants are being paid by monthly instalments; we have received funding to August 2015 of £1,724,214 from the total indicative allocation of £4,249,829.

2. Question by Councillor Tutt to the Lead Member for Learning and School Effectiveness

Please can the Lead Member inform Council whether any officer has suggested to any East Sussex school that they should apply for Academy status and if so, whether they have suggested any particular chain they should consider joining?

Answer by the Lead Member for Learning and School Effectiveness

We are regularly in discussion with schools about their performance and academy solutions and constantly on the lookout for sponsors. Where schools are considering

becoming an academy we suggest chains they may want to consider but it is ultimately for the governing body and Regional Schools Commissioner to agree on an appropriate sponsor.

3. Question by Councillor Tutt to the Lead Member for Transport and Environment

Please can you inform the Council of the number and value of claims against the Council by those drivers who have suffered damage from potholes in each of the past four years and also how these figures compare with other Councils within the South East Region?

Answer by the Lead Member for Transport and Environment

The number of pothole claims received in the following years is as follows:

2014/15 = 895
2013/14 = 1571
2012/13 = 1287
2011/12 = 353

The value of payments made in respect of pothole claims is as follows:

2014/15 = £264712
2013/14 = £357731
2012/13 = £114999
2011/12 = £138726

It should be noted that these payments were made in the above financial years but do not necessarily relate to claims received in those years. Indeed some of the above claims are still open and have not yet been determined. The payments above include claims for personal injury as a result of potholes and third party solicitor costs (which can be substantial).

The majority of pothole claims are repudiated with repudiation rates rising from just under 60% in 2011/12 to 71% in 2014/15

ESCC does not have comparative data for other areas in the South East, but given the differences in size, population density and number of miles of road in each County or Unitary Authority, it would be very difficult to draw meaningful comparisons. However, the RAC have created a table (attached) which does show the information.

4. Question by Councillor Davies to the Lead Member for Economy

Would the lead member agree that:

- 1) BT are acting as a monopoly provider in relation to our rural broadband service, in that non- BT providers have to pay to install their own equipment in the BT exchange?
- 2) BT should be broken up into a utility provider (Openreach) and a separate consumer arm?
- 3) Openreach should be forced to offer free access to the network, cabinets, ducts and poles, so as to allow other providers to compete to provide FTTdp (fibre to the distribution point) at reasonable prices?

4) What can ESCC do to ensure that the Rural Broadband programme is fair for rural as well as urban residents?

Answer by the Lead Member for Economy

1) It is important to be clear that the County Council's project, which is presumably what Councillor Davies means by "our rural broadband service", is to bring better, faster broadband infrastructure to communities and it is not to provide internet packages. BT Openreach owns and manages the infrastructure network, and its customers are Retail Service Providers (also known as ISPs, for example TalkTalk, Sky PlusNet etc). These ISP customers, which include BT Retail, must pay to use the network in order to sell their internet services, from which they will make a profit, to the end customer. ISPs can buy a wholesale product or they can install their own equipment in the exchange; either way they have to pay to use infrastructure that has been paid for by someone else. BT is not acting as a monopoly provider – it is a commercial arrangement exactly like renting office space.

2) Should Openreach, the BT division that owns and manages the copper-and-fibre-network and sells its services not only to BT Retail but also to rivals such as TalkTalk, be run as a separate entity? That is an interesting question and one that is engendering much debate nationally. Many people are tempted to answer strongly in the affirmative, given that Ofcom itself says that Openreach's performance on behalf of phone and broadband providers has too often been poor. An independent business might be more inclined to invest more, and faster, in new broadband services, and possibly negotiate more joint ventures. Competition might well be enhanced if Openreach was accountable to many masters, not just the one.

However, ESCC has seen no compelling arguments that separation would improve Openreach's service – which has been as poor for BT Retail as it has for rival providers. Also, Openreach's record for investing in infrastructure is not bad. Broadband coverage in the UK is high and prices are low, by comparison with the rest of the European Union. The case for separation boosting competition is also weak. Only Virgin Media's cable network comes close to national coverage, although here in this part of the world, it is very poor indeed.

At this stage, ESCC can only await with interest the decision by Ofcom.

3) As has been explained, Openreach's customers are ISPs, who make their money by selling internet services to individuals and businesses. Openreach makes its money by selling use of the network to ISPs. If it did not charge, it could not afford to run and maintain the network. There would, therefore, be no network. In addition, what Openreach charges is benchmarked and regulated by Ofcom and it is not allowed to discriminate between ISPs who are all treated equally.

4) Again, presumably Councillor Davies means the infrastructure project that ESCC are funding. If this is so, then Councillor Davies can be reassured that coverage is spread widely over rural areas and is not just restricted to more urban areas, as the rollout table on the website ably demonstrates.

If Councillor Davies is however referring to the supply of Internet Services, ie internet packages, these are provided by ISPs who make commercial decisions about where they wish to sell them. ESCC has no influence over the commercial decisions of private sector companies in this regard.

5. Question by Councillor Lambert to the Lead Member for Resources

The County Council is aware of the pressure to provide housing across the county and in particular, of the need for affordable housing.

Seaford has recently lost out on two opportunities to provide affordable housing in the town and this is a growing concern.

Will the County Council seek as a priority to sell surplus assets in Seaford which include the Elm Court site in Blatchington Road and Homefield Place to an affordable housing provider to help meet this need?

Answer by the Lead Member for Resources

Having reviewed both sites I can advise that both sites are likely residential development opportunities. Elm Court will be going through the planning process in due course, with Homefield Place likely to follow in the new year. The Lewes Core Strategy stipulates 40% affordable housing. It would therefore be the intention of the Council to obtain outline consents for residential development before selling on the open market to a developer who will be required to provide the affordable housing.

England		2014/15				2013/14				2012/13			
Local Authority	Rank based on 2014/15 number of claims	Number of claims	Value of Successful Claims*	Successful Claims	% successful claims**	Number of claims	Value of Successful Claims*	Number of Successful Claims	% successful claims**	Number of claims	Value of Successful Claims*	Successful Claims	% successful claims**
Hampshire	1	1,760	£285,685	843	48%	1,899	£211,015	716	38%	844	£82,787	260	31%
Surrey	2	1,395	£131,241	299	28%	3,912	£250,289	842	22%	2,289	£468,474	385	17%
Essex	3	1,359	£23,386	65	5%	2,548	£156,008	98	4%	2,578	£120,896	195	8%
Kent	4	1,263	£17,841	102	8%	2,321	£42,575	224	10%	1,206	£45,147	197	16%
Hertfordshire	5	992	£49,419	133	13%	1,564	£93,212	248	16%	1,553	£201,388	373	24%
Devon	6	927	£141,385	662	71%	899	£108,415	359	40%	633	£100,344	253	40%
Cornwall	7	782	£12,928	41	7%	735	£11,275	40	5%	410	£9,778	35	9%
Staffordshire	8	641	£17,616	66	29%	875	£58,314	227	26%	1,040	£94,866	310	30%
East Sussex	9	600	£23,649	86	15%	1,540	£124,567	395	26%	1,289	£131,715	504	39%
Derbyshire	10	595	£80,447	300	50%	614	£66,832	271	44%	707	£23,658	99	14%
Wiltshire	11	585	£98,025	394	67%	780	£124,409	433	56%	596	£72,138	117	20%
Gloucestershire	12	575	£3,070	7	1%	576	£21,722	80	14%	736	£16,938	71	10%
Lincolnshire	13	568	£42,784	313	55%	917	£94,725	697	76%	1,127	£161,199	1,021	91%
Oxfordshire	13	568	£28,237	115	20%	884	£67,899	266	30%	703	£32,223	131	19%
Plymouth	15	518	£123,603	447	86%	427	£89,420	329	77%	129	£29,940	77	60%
West Sussex	16	482	£19,779	80	17%	1,727	£78,818	242	20%	1,386	£83,732	241	18%
Buckinghamshire	17	461	£3,747	12	5%	1,063	£3,745	11	1%	1,110	£13,213	44	4%

Lancashire	18	378	£35,958	101	27%	512	£61,950	240	48%	525	£88,322	272	52%
Northamptonshire	19	361	£15,493	50	14%	536	£31,130	110	22%	782	£14,758	47	6%
Somerset	20	359	£3,965	13	4%	508	£17,193	44	9%	516	£22,415	72	14%
Cambridgeshire	21	324	£24,319	71	22%	485	£104,264	242	50%	175	£55,080	37	21%
Cumbria	22	311	£19,321	52	26%	272	£16,801	41	15%	251	£11,136	51	20%
Suffolk	23	278	£7,591	27	12%	302	£14,059	51	17%	279	£8,554	40	14%
Isle of Wight	24	260	£6,700	38	15%	354	£4,000	21	6%	176	£5,669	25	16%
North Yorkshire	25	253	£5,713	22	9%	318	£12,344	43	14%	571	£32,743	104	18%
Leicestershire	26	252	£12,255	16	6%	251	£27,582	48	19%	302	£17,080	56	19%
Herefordshire	27	241	£21,559	57	24%	1,575	£111,022	387	25%	391	£18,549	36	9%
North Somerset	28	236	£11,595	55	23%	384	£17,908	84	22%	438	£29,803	140	32%
Norfolk	29	224	£19,237	49	22%	295	£12,641	48	16%	482	£24,599	80	17%
Nottinghamshire	30	208	£13,111	50	24%	279	£23,562	75	27%	284	£28,600	75	26%
Sheffield	30	208	£23,478	76	37%	255	£21,163	93	37%	156	£7,430	45	29%
Barnet	32	207	£40,333	90	43%	160	£32,253	77	48%	169	£27,910	69	41%
Liverpool	33	190	£9,524	33	17%	811	£5,335	15	2%	Information Not Held	Information Not Held	Information Not Held	Information Not Held
Birmingham	34	186	£4,217	19	10%	412	£8,412	26	6%	196	£380	1	1%
Dorset	35	185	£73	1	1%	458	£972	3	1%	511	£4,854	15	3%
Northumberland	36	181	£24,049	95	52%	353	£81,788	235	67%	579	£53,417	290	50%
Cheshire West and Chester	37	180	£2,885	25	18%	229	£5,514	17	7%	322	£22,695	40	12%
Manchester	38	170	£12,427	56	33%	281	£15,580	80	29%	212	£8,490	37	18%

TfL	39	164	£21,291	54	33%	456	£84,726	136	30%	464	£125,137	145	31%
Rotherham	40	163	£925	3	2%	138	£3,645	7	5%	183	£8,786	9	5%
Worcestershire	41	162	£13,982	32	20%	337	£13,183	58	17%	417	£19,762	73	18%
Solihull	42	161	£7,373	13	8%	290	£18,148	32	11%	115	£23,250	10	9%
Cheshire East	43	154	£1,477	2	1%	260	£7,799	15	6%	1,199	£133,434	308	26%
Warwickshire	44	143	£8,041	30	21%	266	£24,418	72	27%	340	£40,053	106	31%
Shropshire	45	141	£353	2	1%	207	£1,338	6	3%	292	£12,023	24	8%
Leeds	46	136	£11,575	44	32%	332	£29,709	96	29%	785	£99,419	294	38%
Kirklees	47	135	£8,547	21	16%	235	£5,075	24	10%	300	£20,233	50	17%
Bradford	48	131	£2,665	6	16%	144	£10,992	21	15%	150	£34,165	13	9%
Milton Keynes	49	124	£6,232	19	15%	174	£7,794	330	190%	248	£26,137	88	36%
Bath and North East Somerset	50	111	£13,525	52	47%	133	£1,087	53	40%	113	£7,820	22	20%
Bury	51	110	£21,466	97	88%	177	£35,280	119	69%	185	£33,806	132	73%
Medway	52	107	£4,660	2	2%	66	£3,498	4	6%	5	£5,201	1	20%
Havering	53	106	£84	1	1%								
Croydon	54	104	£84,453	18	17%	236	£14,201	46	20%	191	£18,458	53	28%
South Gloucestershire	55	99	£1,404	9	9%	164	£788	6	4%	261	£13,436	21	8%
Wokingham***	56	98	£5,023	10	10%	83	£2,186	8	10%	43	£513	2	5%
Dudley	57	97	£12,390	41	42%	148	£15,552	67	45%	154	£21,323	79	51%
Brent	58	95	£7,968	30	32%	179	£5,281	24	16%	119	£29,317	23	20%
Central Bedfordshire	59	94	£13,626	12	13%	252	£10,246	34	14%	263	£14,313	48	18%

Trafford	60	91	£4,628	24	26%	76	£9,444	31	41%	176	£12,580	42	24%
West Berkshire	61	90	£2,098	7	8%	409	£241	1	0%	377	£427	3	1%
Southampton	62	87	£0	0	0%	104	£376	2	2%	62	£0	0	0%
Barnsley	63	86	£5,799	32	37%	113	£6,226	23	20%	115	£6,451	20	17%
Bolton	64	84	£19,063	68	81%	90	£20,523	77	86%	76	£24,093	57	75%
Stoke-on-Trent	64	84	£8,776	25	58%	264	£24,345	101	50%	236	£22,349	78	34%
Greenwich	66	82	£1,775	8	14%	34	£3,387	15	44%	39	£8,869	18	46%
Oldham	67	77	£6,168	26	34%	144	£13,878	65	45%	272	£41,287	156	57%
Wakefield	67	77	£3,132	11	14%	86	£2,982	10	12%	194	£10,039	27	14%
Walsall	69	76	£10,000	31	47%	140	£15,267	81	58%	200	£37,595	116	58%
Warrington	69	76	£788	3	4%	101	£1,016	7	7%	202	£12,829	17	8%
Bristol	71	75	£336	1	1%	119	£6,112	17	14%	121	£2,161	6	5%
Bromley	72	72	£770	3	6%	109	£9,264	43	39%	113	£12,673	53	47%
East Riding of Yorkshire	72	72	£865	4	6%	103	£2,342	6	6%	225	£3,296	6	3%
Sunderland	74	69	£1,175	4	6%	70	£1,110	6	9%	101	£754	4	4%
South Tyneside	75	68	£3,614	12	18%	72	£2,796	10	14%	163	£4,378	20	12%
Wolverhampton	76	67	£2,275	10	15%	60	£2,963	12	20%	71	£5,377	21	30%
Derby	77	66	£599	2	10%	211	£8,136	8	6%	242	£12,455	12	7%
Hounslow	77	66	£919	2	3%	115	£1,848	10	9%	30	£3,347	8	27%
Stockport	79	63	£6,094	31	49%	68	£6,620	37	54%	156	£38,356	104	67%
North Lincolnshire	80	61	£1,225	7	11%								
Gateshead	81	59	£1,164	6	13%	46	£551	5	11%	70	£3,814	17	24%

Rochdale	82	58	£7,257	30	52%	39	£5,845	20	51%	114	£15,815	74	65%
Tameside	82	58	£3,563	11	19%	47	£3,956	13	28%	69	£5,688	18	26%
Doncaster	84	56	£4,054	12	21%	72	£11,907	23	32%	135	£21,644	53	39%
Swindon	85	55	£1,844	19	35%	110	£10,658	48	44%	69	£17,242	17	25%
Lambeth	86	54	£17,339	13	24%	123	£11,106	22	18%	82	£22,160	13	16%
Coventry	87	53	£7,906	11	21%	108	£9,333	43	40%	150	£16,518	63	42%
Kingston upon Hull	88	52	£6,790	34	65%	59	£15,076	35	59%	127	£63,908	70	55%
Sandwell	89	50	£1,613	10	20%	66	£8,725	27	41%	109	£25,306	65	60%
Bedford	90	49	£1,789	5	17%	93	£7,256	10	15%	74	£1,932	3	4%
Wirral	90	49	£321	1	2%	74	£1,147	3	4%	97	£4,916	9	9%
Calderdale	92	48	£4,737	8	38%	54	£3,849	4	7%	51	£150	2	4%
Nottingham	93	47	£290	2	4%	44	£2,076	7	16%	75	£6,683	18	24%
Luton	94	46	£1,419	4	25%	21	£0	0	0%	29	£233	1	3%
Brighton and Hove	95	40	£2,140	8	30%	76	£3,383	5	7%	48	£3,050	3	6%
Harrow	95	40	£4,387	8	20%								
Southend-on-Sea	95	40	£740	2	5%	84	£2,443	4	5%	49	£1,253	4	8%
Westminster	95	40	£8,915	9	23%	69	£2,892	8	12%	65	£6,908	9	14%
County Durham	99	38	£367	2	5%	201	£2,497	14	7%	415	£7,116	21	5%
Wandsworth	99	38	£7,289	24	63%	81	£24,498	51	63%	63	£10,220	25	40%
Windsor and Maidenhead	101	37	£740	4	11%	77	£1,778	7	9%	83	£542	3	4%
Salford	102	36	£3,409	7	19%	39	£956	7	18%	60	£3,954	12	20%
North Tyneside	103	35	£0	0	0%	83	£4,255	14	17%	105	£2,327	10	10%

Lewisham	104	34	£1,113	6	18%	63	£1,319	7	11%	103	£12,116	25	24%
Telford and Wrekin	104	34	£1,545	9	26%	100	£13,934	45	45%	154	£28,900	85	55%
Bracknell Forest	106	32	£0	0	0%	16	£232	1	6%	13	£0	0	0%
Haringey	107	30	£2,799	7	23%	75	£6,944	24	32%	49	£6,183	13	27%
Wigan	107	30	£1,811	9	30%	42	£1,427	7	17%	55	£4,094	13	24%
Blackburn with Darwen	109	29	£744	6	21%	37	£5,815	11	30%	32	£6,313	17	53%
Bournemouth	110	28	£1,550	6	150%	63	£3,862	12	19%	63	£5,612	22	35%
Newham	111	27	£0	0	0%	39	£1,654	3	8%	69	£15,744	18	26%
Richmond upon Thames	111	27	£1,632	10	37%	40	£4,016	10	25%	27	£3,507	9	33%
Middlesbrough	113	26	£259	1	4%	20	£85	1	5%	23	£1,396	7	30%
North East Lincolnshire	113	26	£0	0	0%	42	£4,255	1	2%	71	£2,327	13	18%
Tower Hamlets	113	26	£3,999	8	31%	64	£4,591	21	33%	87	£13,199	32	37%
Enfield	116	25	£4,349	6	24%	47	£5,290	13	28%	69	£3,020	13	19%
Hackney	116	25	£0	0	0%	15	£625	1	7%	32	£22,662	7	22%
Hillingdon	116	25	£1,476	7	28%	53	£2,248	12	23%	75	£7,314	20	27%
Sutton	116	25	£0	0	0%	57	£1,498	2	4%	27	£466	2	7%
Darlington	120	24	£72	1	4%	32	£0	0	0%	84	£0	0	0%
York	120	24	£0	0	0%	33	£312	2	6%	71	£880	7	10%
Waltham Forest	122	23	£115	1	33%	17	£1,608	7	47%	23	£1,568	6	26%
Kingston upon Thames	123	22	£1,393	5	23%	28	£6,498	9	32%	20	£810	5	25%

Poole	124	21	£544	4	19%	25	£0	0	0%	18	£0	0	0%
Merton	125	20	£3,787	7	35%	35	£2,394	12	34%	25	£1,557	5	20%
Stockton-On-Tees	125	20	£323	2	10%	35	£909	6	17%	55	£297	3	6%
Torbay	125	20	£2,400	5	25%	49	£2,498	9	18%	35	£827	6	17%
Leicester	128	19	£1,505	5	26%	26	£4,852	11	42%	76	£11,570	19	25%
Ealing	129	17	£832	5	29%	10	£1,665	1	10%	11	£1,975	2	18%
Newcastle upon Tyne	129	17	£2,580	5	29%	76	£4,603	15	20%	104	£4,214	16	15%
Hammersmith and Fulham	131	16	£2,389	4	25%	16	£15,561	12	75%	24	£9,892	9	38%
Peterborough	131	16	£0	0	0%	52	£609	1	2%	22	£0	0	0%
Redbridge	131	16	£734	1	6%	15	£145	1	7%	13	£0	0	0%
Camden	134	15	£956	5	33%	21	£3,139	3	14%	24	£4,106	4	17%
Redcar and Cleveland	134	15	£72	1	7%	38	£0	0	0%	70	£3,359	11	16%
St. Helens	134	15	£3,617	3	43%	22	£384	2	9%	27	£342	3	11%
Rutland	137	14	£220	2	14%	17	£331	2	12%	8	£0	0	0%
Sefton	138	11	£201	1	9%	10	£240	1	10%	16	£2,161	5	31%
Thurrock	139	10	£152	5	50%	113	£6,532	19	17%	88	£7,214	22	25%
Hartlepool	139	10	£92	1	10%	13	£406	3	23%	43	£4,690	16	37%
Barking and Dagenham	141	9	£500	2	22%	15	£1,609	3	20%	23	£1,290	6	26%
Halton	142	8	£225	1	13%	21	£741	3	14%	23	£273	2	9%
Islington	142	8	£3,534	4	50%	5	£0	0	0%	4	£0	0	0%
Knowsley	142	8	£84	2	25%	24	£1,898	9	38%	49	£3,939	15	31%

Southwark	142	8	£400	3	38%	48	£2,541	7	15%	29	£2,541	7	24%
Kensington and Chelsea	146	7	£0	0	0%	10	£100	1	10%	6	£0	0	0%
Slough	146	7	£110	1	14%	10	£0	0	0%	13	£3,623	4	31%
Reading	148	6	£0	0	0%								
Blackpool	149	3	£1,089	2	67%	19	£2,107	9	47%	20	£2,038	6	30%
City of London	150	2	£0	0	0%	3	£0	0	0%	0	£0	0	0%
Isles of Scilly	151	1	£0	0	0%	0	£0	0	0%	0	£0	0	0%
Bexley	152	0	£0	0	-	90	£6,165	5	7%	76	£498	2	3%
Portsmouth													

*Value rounded to the nearest £.

**Please note that the percentage of successful claims refers to completed claims. There may have been ongoing claims at the time of the Local Authority's response. Rounded to the nearest %

***Data for calendar year 2014 rather than the financial year 2014/15

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REPORT OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

The Governance Committee met on 19 November 2015. Attendance:

Councillor Glazier (Chair)
Councillors Daniel, Elkin, Howson and Tutt

1. County Council submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England on county electoral division boundaries

1.1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body whose main activity is to carry out electoral reviews of principal local authorities in England. The Commission is carrying out a review of East Sussex County Council in a coordinated process alongside simultaneous reviews of all five districts and boroughs within East Sussex. The detailed information about the review is available on the LGBCE website here: <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/south-east/east-sussex>

1.2 The first stage of this review (decision on council size) is complete. The Council's submission for stage 1 was considered at Governance Committee on 29 June 2015 and agreed by the County Council on 14 July 2015. The LGBCE has determined that East Sussex County Council shall have 50 councillors (an increase of one) which will take effect from the next county council elections in May 2017. This is in accordance with the County Council's submission. The Council also included the following recommendations in its stage 1 submission:

- There should be a consistent picture of single-member county electoral divisions across the county (with no multi-member divisions).
- There should be coterminosity between county electoral division and district/borough ward boundaries; under no circumstances should any county electoral division straddle a district or borough boundary.

1.3 The next stage, and the subject of this report, is to make proposals on the pattern of county electoral division (CED) boundaries for submission to the LGBCE. The LGBCE has published a guide on how to propose electoral division and ward patterns. In summary, the main criteria are:

- Delivering electoral equality for local voters – this means ensuring that each councillor represents roughly the same number of people.
- Reflecting the interests and identities of local communities – this means establishing electoral arrangements which, as far as possible, maintain local ties and where boundaries are easily identifiable.
- Promoting effective and convenient local government – this means ensuring that the new wards or electoral divisions can be represented effectively by their elected representative(s) and that the new electoral arrangements as a whole allow the local authority to conduct its business effectively.

1.4 The LGBCE recognises that perfect electoral equality is unlikely to be achieved across the county. If the Council proposes a boundary that has many more, or fewer, voters in it than the county average of 8,651, such a variance will need to be justified on the grounds of other statutory criteria. The more any proposal causes councillors to represent many more, or fewer, voters than the average, the more persuasive the supporting evidence will need to be. A variance from this figure of up to 10% appears to be an acceptable

threshold to the LGBCE; so the target number of electors per county councillor therefore lies in the range 7,786 – 9,516.

1.5 The Governance Committee has considered a draft County Council submission which is attached as Appendix A.

Consultation and timetable

1.6 In order to encourage participation and awareness, details of how to contribute to the electoral review process were posted on the Council's website with a link to the relevant LGBCE page, and via a press release. Organisations, groups and individuals could all submit proposals either to the Council for consideration when compiling its response or directly to the LGBCE. The Boundary Commission will shortly publish all proposals received.

1.7 The districts and boroughs have undertaken a great deal of detailed work in providing draft ward patterns. These have been considered carefully when constructing the CED pattern in order to achieve maximum coterminosity and to comply with the criteria outlined above.

1.9 All county councillors have been alerted to the boundary review and to the ways in which comments can be submitted either directly to the LGBCE or via the County Council's submission.

1.10 The LGBCE is expected to publish its draft recommendations in March 2016 which will be followed by a further period of public consultation lasting until June 2016. The LGBCE is expected to publish its final recommendations in September 2016. The new electoral arrangements will come into effect at the next scheduled elections following the completion of the review ie. May 2017 for the County Council.

1.11 The Committee **recommends** the County Council to:

- ✧ 1) agree the document circulated as Appendix A as the Council's submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England on the county electoral division patterns for each of the district and borough areas in East Sussex

19 November 2015

KEITH GLAZIER
(Chair)

East Sussex electoral review

Submission by East Sussex County Council (Stage 2) **DRAFT**

1 BACKGROUND

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body whose main activity is to carry out electoral reviews of principal local authorities in England. The Commission is carrying out a review of East Sussex County Council in a coordinated process alongside simultaneous reviews of all five districts and boroughs within East Sussex.

The Commission will ultimately make recommendations to Parliament on the electoral arrangements of the six local authorities in East Sussex, namely:

- Council size: the total number of councillors elected to each authority.
- The boundaries of all wards (for district and borough councils) and divisions (for the county council) – but not the external boundary of any of the authorities.
- The number of councillors elected to each ward and division.
- The name of each ward and division.

The new electoral arrangements will come into effect from the next County Council elections in May 2017; Hastings Borough Council elections in 2018 and other district and borough council elections in 2019.

Reason for the review

A review has been triggered because East Sussex County Council meets the Commission's intervention criteria due to electoral inequality. The Commission has found significant levels of electoral inequality between county electoral divisions. Since the last review, through development and movement of people, some county councillors now represent more, or many fewer, electors than other councillors. In addition, the Commission considers that two district/borough councils in East Sussex also meet the criteria for review. Even though only three councils have triggered a review, this review will include the county and the five districts and boroughs.

Council size

The first stage of this review (decision on Council size) is complete. The Council's submission for stage 1 was considered at Governance Committee on 29 June 2015 and agreed at Full Council on 14 July 2015. The LGBCE has determined that East Sussex County Council shall have 50 councillors (an increase of

one to be allocated to Wealden) which will take effect from the next county council elections in May 2017; this is in accordance with the County Council's previous submission. The Council has also included the following recommendations in its stage 1 submission:

- There should be a consistent picture of single-member county electoral divisions across the county (with no multi-member divisions).
- There should be coterminosity between county electoral division and district/borough ward boundaries; under no circumstances should any county electoral division straddle a district or borough boundary.

2. COUNTY ELECTORAL DIVISION PATTERN

This document contains the County Council's proposals on the pattern of CED boundaries for submission to the LGBCE. The principles that have been applied in order to arrive at our submission are:

- Delivering electoral equality for local voters – ensuring that each councillor represents roughly the same number of people.
- Reflecting the interests and identities of local communities – establishing electoral arrangements which, as far as possible, maintain local ties and where boundaries are easily identifiable.
- Promoting effective and convenient local government – ensuring that the new electoral divisions can be represented effectively by their elected representatives and that the new electoral arrangements as a whole allow the local authority to conduct its business effectively.

The County Council considers that effective and convenient local government is best achieved where district ward and county division boundaries are coterminous; and parish and town councils are not split between county divisions or district wards. East Sussex district and county councillors agree that split electoral areas and split parishes increase the challenges involved in creating and maintaining effective local relationships.

County councillors have highlighted strong concerns and challenges in managing in the existing two-member divisions. Particular problems have occurred in case load management in two-member divisions with casework being unfairly distributed and confusion with liaison with parish/town councils. We consider that the boundary review should seek to eliminate two-member divisions whilst retaining the same total number of county councillors.

The key elements of the profile of East Sussex relevant to this review are contained in the authority's submission in respect of Stage 1 of the process.

Developing this submission

A 'Reference Group' of Members representing each of the political groups on East Sussex County Council met on 10 November 2015 to collate evidence and their experience to formulate an initial draft Council submission on CED patterns.

A draft submission was agreed by Governance Committee on 19 November 2015 and submitted to Full Council on 1 December 2015 which considered a number of amendments.

3. SUBMISSION

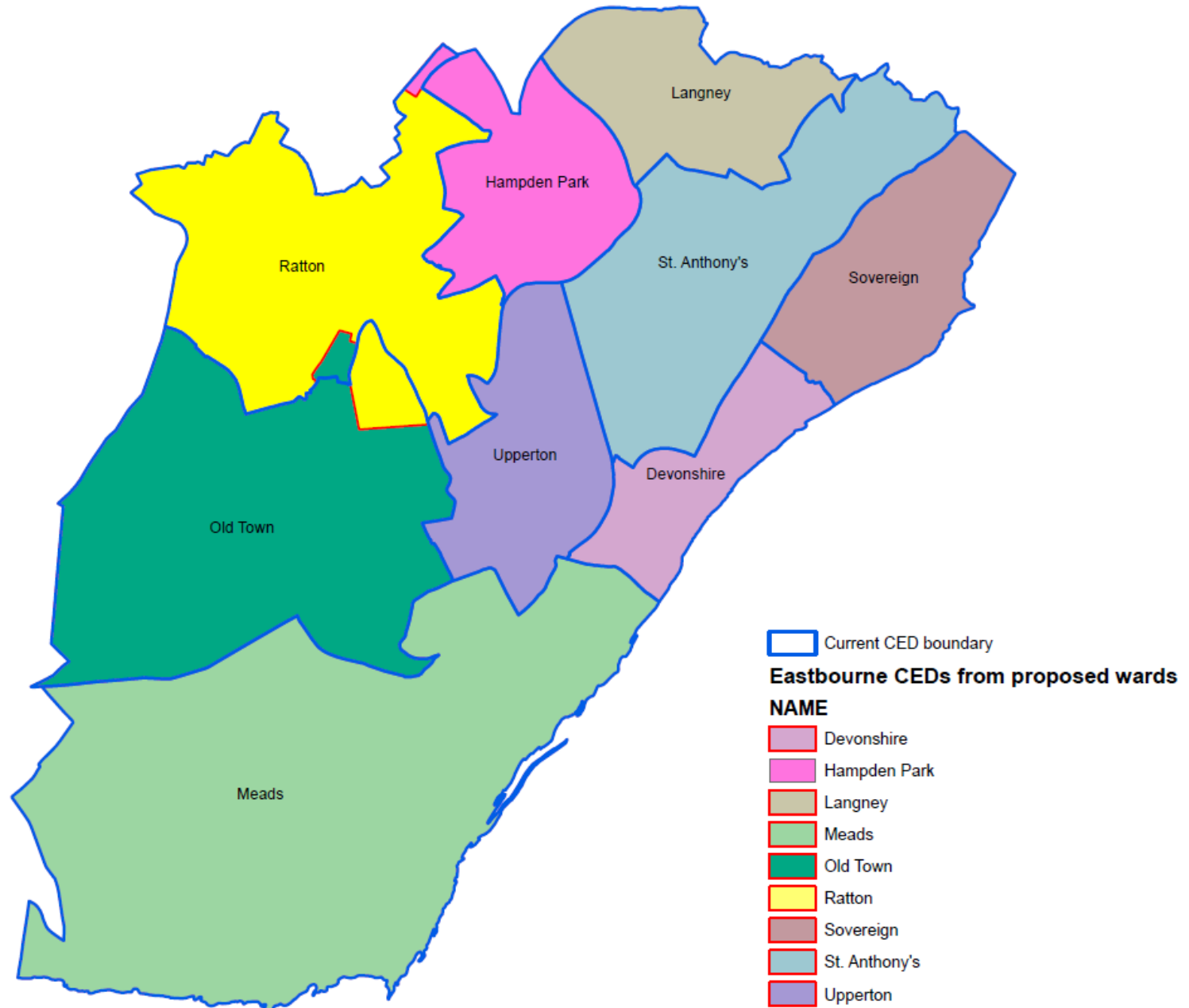
The submissions with recommended CED patterns in respect of each borough and district of East Sussex are as follows:

EASTBOURNE

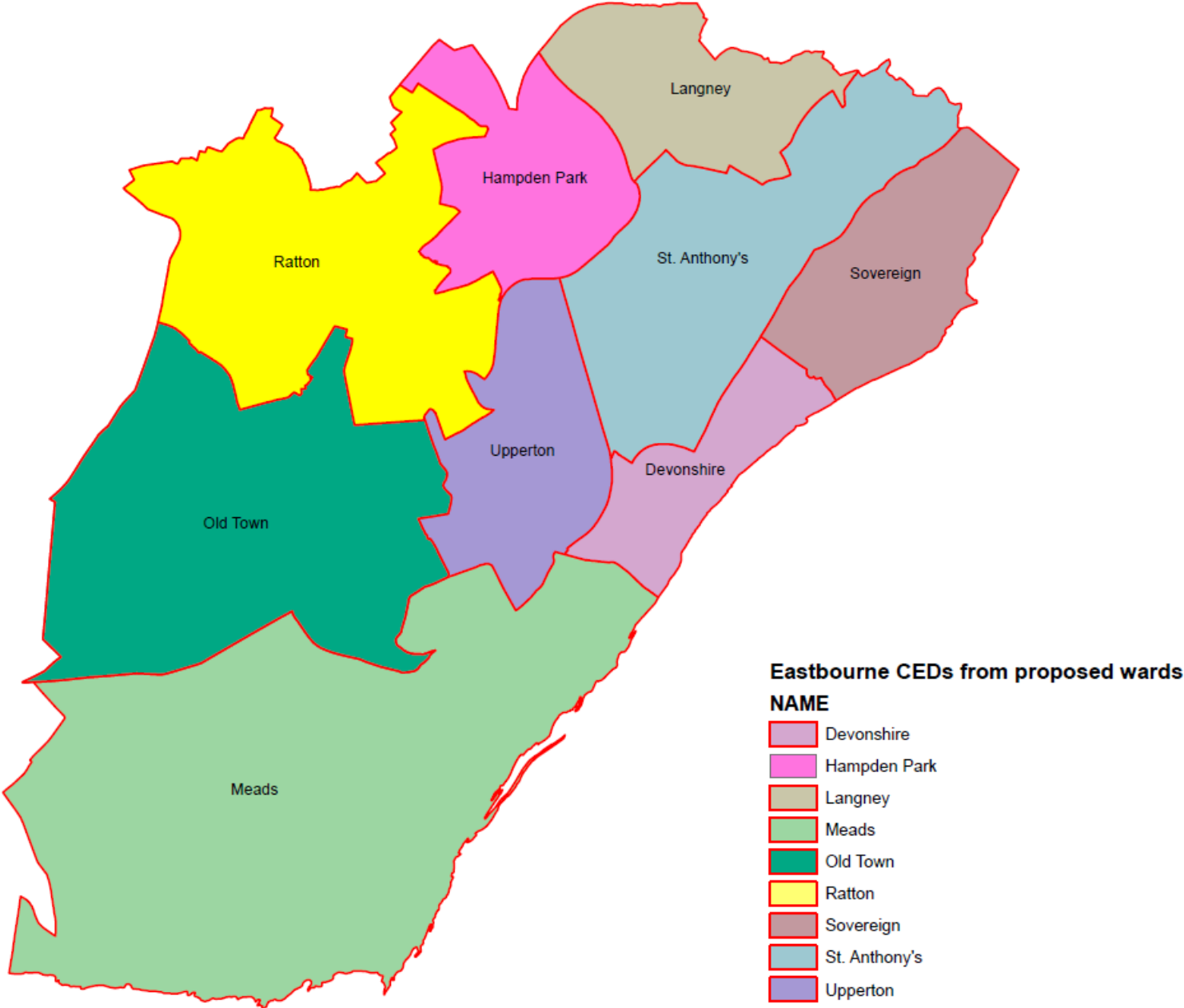
Currently wards and CEDs are coterminous in Eastbourne and we would wish to see this principle preserved in future. The Council endorses the minor changes to ward boundaries proposed by Eastbourne Borough Council at its meeting on 18 November 2015 as reflected in the following table and charts.

Eastbourne					
CED	CED name (proposed)	Building blocks	Electorate 2021	Variance from 8,651	Notes
	Devonshire	Existing ward/CED	9,006	4.1%	
	Hampden Park	Existing ward/CED plus north-east strip of Ratton	7,865	-9.1%	
	Langney	Existing ward/CED	8,197	-5.2%	
	Meads	Existing ward/CED	8,566	-1.0%	
	Old Town	Existing ward/CED plus southern section of Ratton less northern section (to Ratton)	8,494	-1.8%	
	Ratton	Existing ward/CED less north-east strip (to Hampden Park); less section in south (to Old Town) plus northern section of Old Town	8,052	-6.9%	
	St Anthony's	Existing ward/CED	8,715	0.7%	
	Sovereign	Existing ward/CED	9,517	10.0%	
	Upperton	Existing ward/CED	8,420	-2.7%	
	No. of county councillors	TOTAL ELECTORS (EASTBOURNE)	76,832		
	9	Average electorate per County Councillor	8,537	-1.3%	

Eastbourne BC – Proposed CEDs mapped with existing CEDs



Eastbourne BC – Proposed CEDs mapped with proposed wards



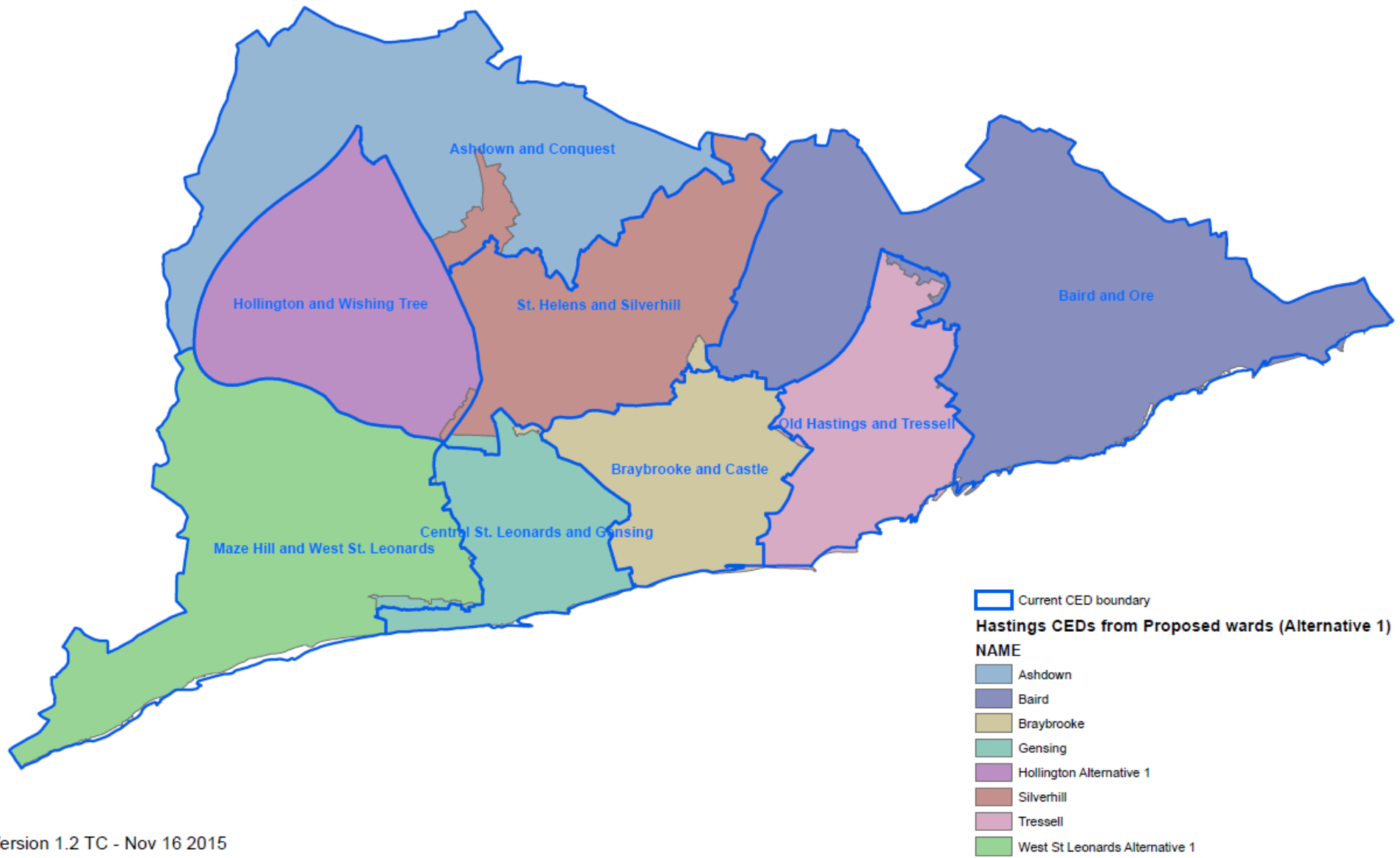
HASTINGS

Currently each CED encompasses 2 wards and we would wish to see this pattern preserved in future. The Council endorses the changes to ward boundaries being considered by Hastings Borough Council at its meeting on 25 November 2015 as reflected in the following table and charts. The detailed boundary proposals are available from the Hastings Borough Council website.

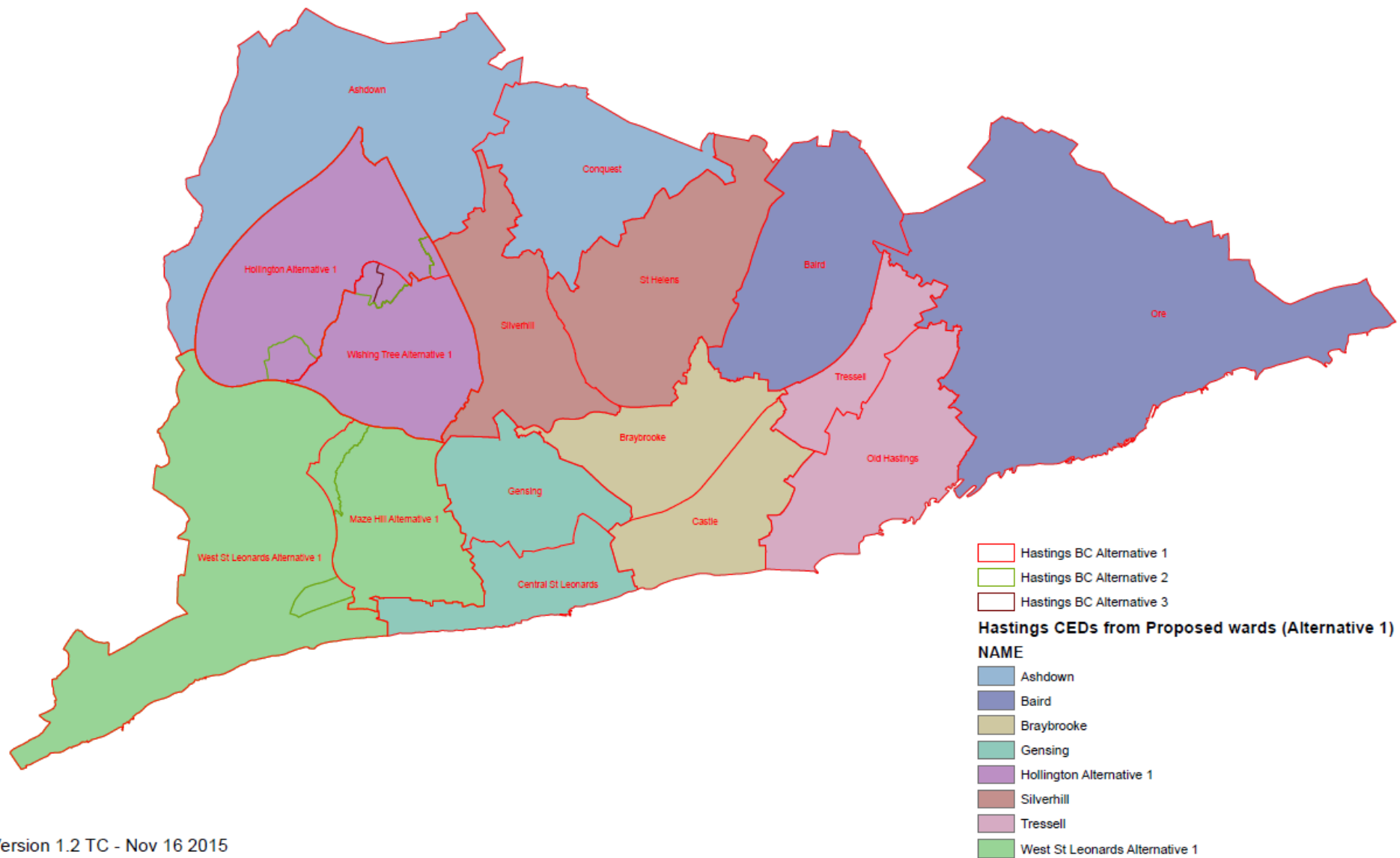
Hastings					
CED	CED name (proposed)	Building blocks	Electorate 2021	Variance from 8,651	Notes
	Ashdown and Conquest	Existing Ashdown ward / Conquest ward	8,705	0.6%	
	Baird and Ore	Existing Baird ward / Ore ward	7,949	-8.1%	
	Braybrooke and Castle	Existing Braybrooke ward / Castle ward	7,726	-10.7%	
	Central St Leonards and Gensing	Existing Central St Leonards ward / Gensing ward	8,050	-6.9%	
Page 30	Hollington and Wishing Tree	Hollington ward / Wishing Tree ward	8,775	1.4%	Alternative proposals for the Hollington/Wishing Tree boundary are to be submitted to the LGBCE by Hastings Borough Council. There is no impact on proposed CED boundary.
	Maze Hill and West St Leonards	Maze Hill ward / West St Leonards ward	8,597	-0.6%	Alternative proposals for the Maze Hill/West St Leonards boundary are to be submitted to the LGBCE by Hastings Borough Council. There is no impact on proposed CED boundary.
	St Helens and Silverhill	Existing St Helens ward / Silverhill ward	8,221	-5.0%	
	Old Hastings and Tressell	Old Hastings ward / Tressell ward	8,065	-6.8%	
	No. of county councillors	TOTAL ELECTORS (HASTINGS)	66,088		
	8	Average electorate per County Councillor	8,261	-4.5%	

Hastings BC – Proposed CEDs mapped with existing CEDs

Page 31



Hastings BC – Proposed CEDs mapped with proposed wards



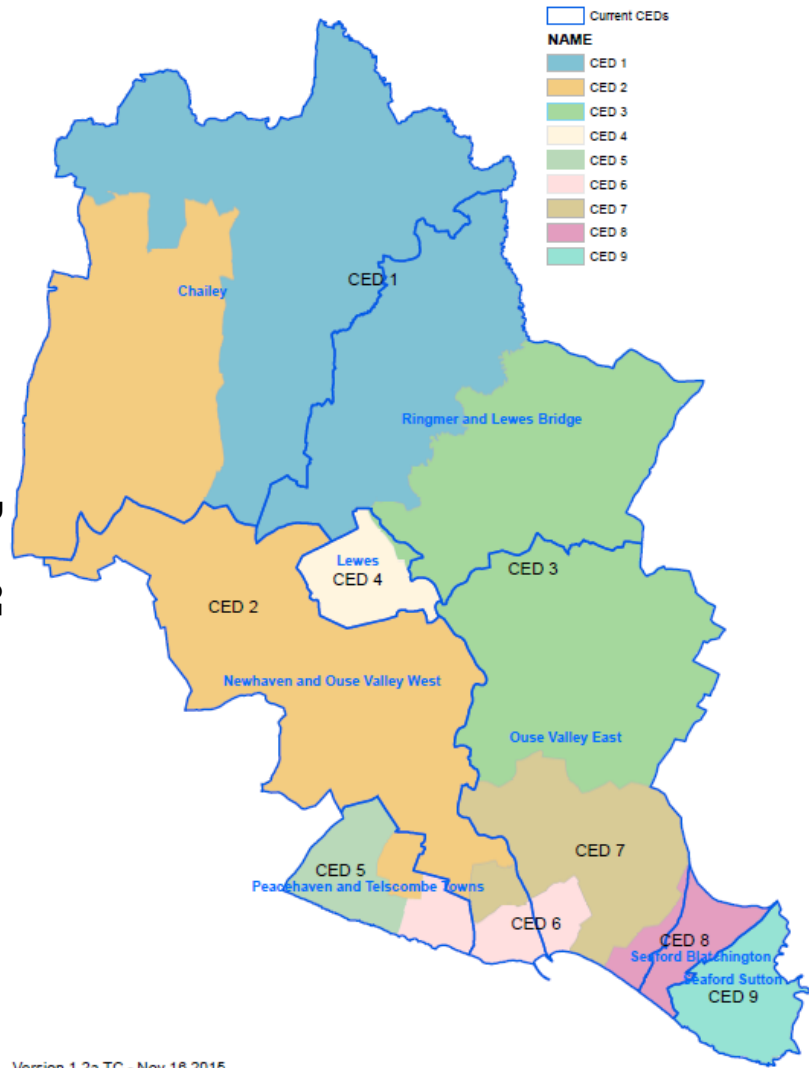
LEWES

Attempts have been made to identify a logical pattern of CEDs that aligns with the ward boundary pattern proposed by Lewes District Council. However, it has proved impossible to achieve 100% coterminosity. Attempts have been made to use parish boundaries as an alternative but some parish boundaries have had to be split also. The pattern reflected in the following table and maps achieves an electorally balanced set of divisions.

CED	CED name (proposed)	Building blocks	Electorate	Variance	Notes
CED1		Chailey Parish	2,755		
		Wivelsfield Parish	2,037		
		Newick Parish	2,142		
		East Chiltington Parish	392		
		St John (without) Parish	59		
		Barcombe Parish	1,235		
		Hamsey Parish	518		
		CED1 Total	9,137	5.6%	
CED2		Ditchling Parish	1,913		
		Westmeston Parish	261		
		Plumpton Parish	1,422		
		Streat Parish	157		
		Falmer Parish	154		
		Iford Parish	172		
		Kingston Parish	776		
		Piddinghoe Parish	224		
		Rodmell Parish	371		
		St Ann (without) Parish	83		
		Southease Parish	42		
		Peacehaven North proposed new ward	3,723		
		CED2 total	9,298	7.5%	
	CED3		Beddingham Parish	203	
		Firle Parish	270		
		Glynde Parish	192		
		Lewes Bridge proposed new ward	3,939		
		Ringmer Parish	3,970		

CED	CED name (proposed)	Building blocks	Electorate	Variance	Notes
		Part of Lewes Castle proposed new ward	820		Lewes Castle 4,044
		CED3 total	9,394	8.6%	
CED4		Lewes Priory proposed new ward	6,090		
		Part of Lewes Castle proposed new ward	3,224		Lewes Castle 4,044 less 820
		CED4 total	9,314	7.7%	
CED5		East Saltdean & Telscombe Cliffs proposed new	5,840		
		Peacehaven West proposed new ward	3,760		
		CED5 total	9,600	11.0%	
CED6		Peacehaven East proposed new ward	4,126		
		Newhaven South proposed new ward	5,695		
		CED6 total	9,821	13.5%	
CED7		Newhaven North proposed new ward	5,277		
		Seaford West proposed new wards (part of)	2,927		Seaford West 3,903 (75%)
		CED7 total	8,204	-5.2%	
CED8		Seaford East proposed new ward	4,019		
		Seaford North proposed new ward	4,150		
		CED8 total	8,169	-5.6%	
CED9		Seaford Central proposed new ward	4,075		
		Seaford South proposed new ward	3,735		
		Seaford West proposed new wards (part of)	976		Seaford West 3,903 (25%)
		CED9 total	8,786	1.6%	
	No. of county councillors	TOTAL ELECTORS (LEWES)	81,724		
	9	Average electorate per County councillor	9,080	5.0%	

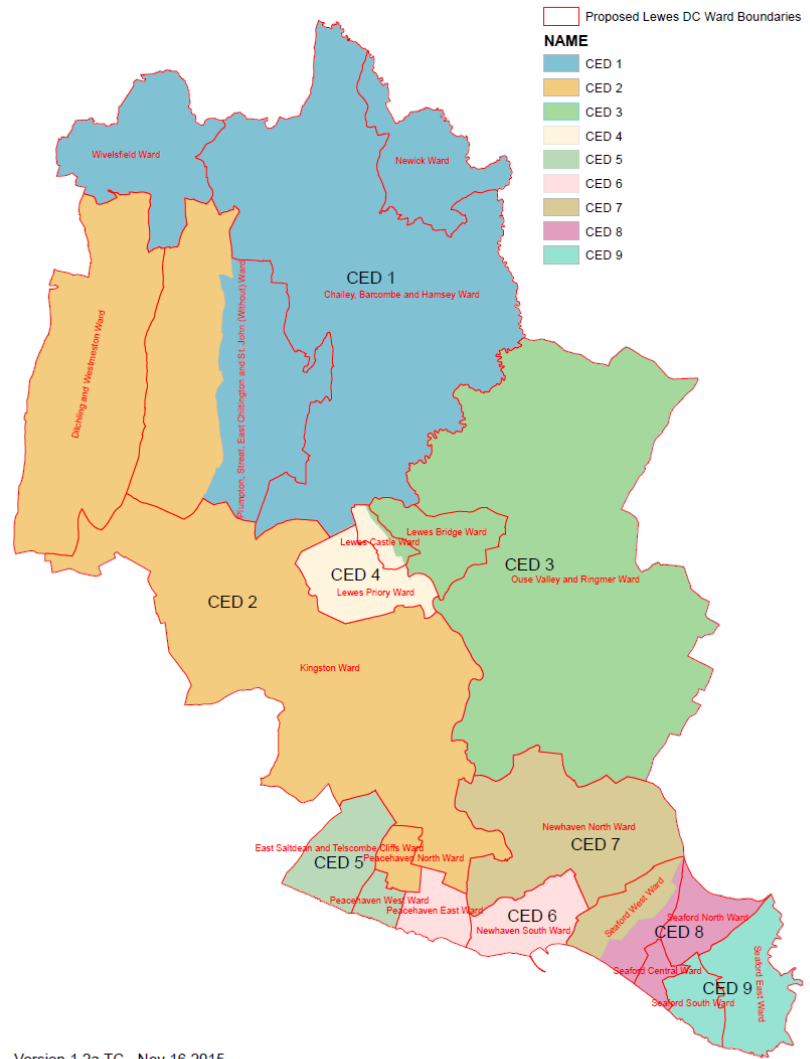
Lewes DC – Proposed CEDs mapped with existing CEDs



Version 1.2a TC - Nov 16 2015

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Lewes DC – Proposed CEDs mapped with proposed wards



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ROTHER

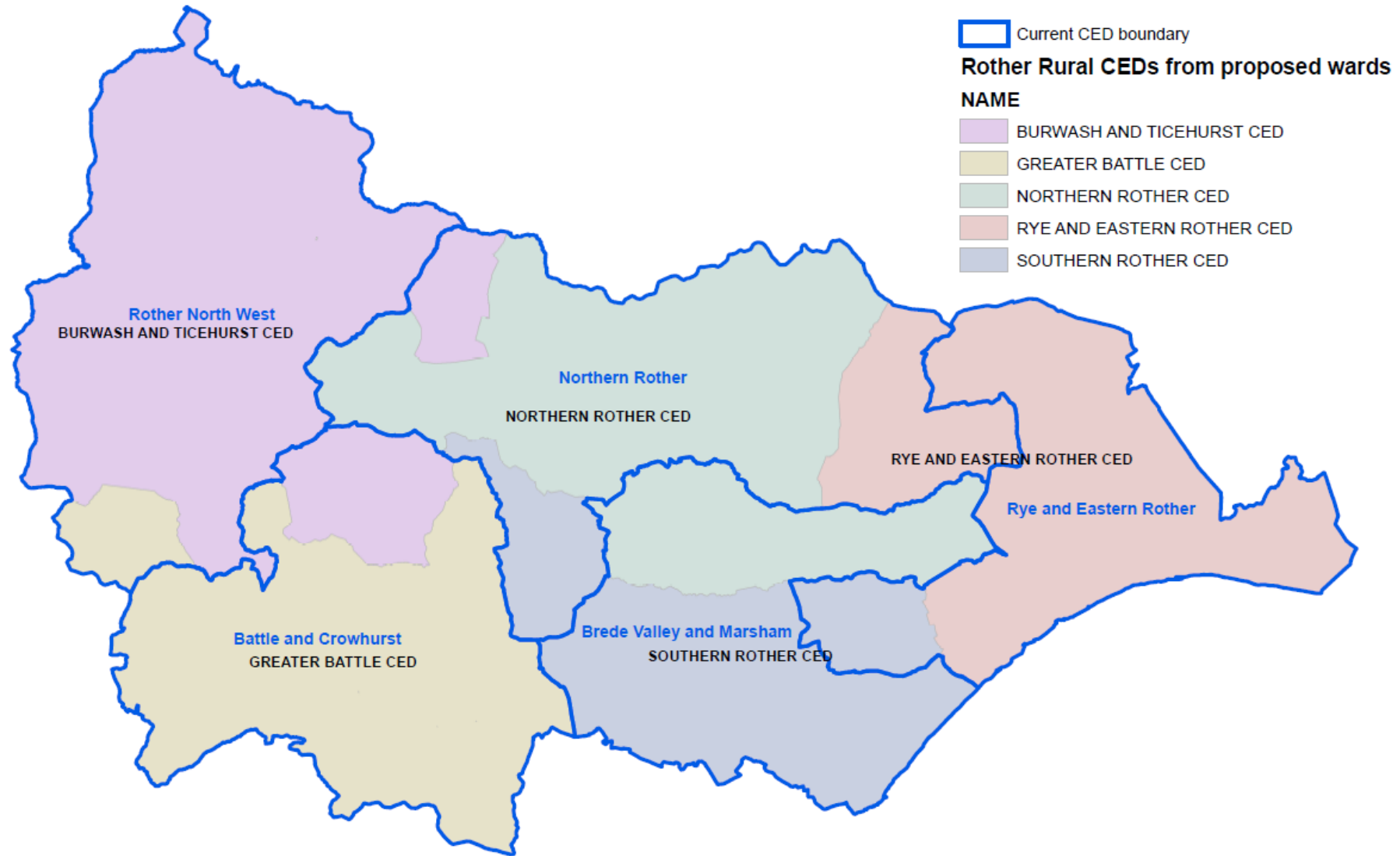
Rother District Council has agreed its submission in respect of district ward boundaries at its Council meeting on 16 November 2015. Based on that pattern, the County council is proposing a CED pattern as reflected in the following table and maps.

It was not possible to achieve coterminosity between CED and ward boundaries in the Bexhill area. The proposed split (reflected in the close up map below) was considered the best of a number of options because it creates positive focal points for the future development of each of the four proposed CEDs.

CED	CED name (proposed)	Building blocks	Electorate 2021	Variance from 8,651	Notes
CED1		5. Burwash Weald + 9. Hurst Green & Ticehurst proposed new wards	8,133	-6.0%	
CED2		2. Battle & Telham + 3. Battle, Netherfield and Whatlington + 4. Catsfield & Crowhurst proposed new wards	8,061	-6.8%	
CED3		6. Northern Rother + 7. Brede & Udimore + 8. Robertsbridge proposed new wards	8,392	-3.0%	
CED4		10. Sedlescombe + 11. Southern Rother proposed new wards	8,061	-6.8%	
CED5	Rye and Eastern Rother	1. Eastern Rother + 12. Rye & Winchelsea proposed new wards	8,064	-6.8%	
	Bexhill North	BJ001+BJ002+BI001+KEW02	8,554	-1.1%	See close up map detailing 'option 2'.
	Bexhill East	BI002+BE001+BH001+BH002+BE002	9,067	4.8%	
	Bexhill South	BF+BC001+BC002+BD001	9,287	7.4%	
	Bexhill West	BD003+BD002+KEW01+KEW03+BG001+BG002+BG003	9,412	8.8%	
	No. of county councillors	TOTAL ELECTORS (ROTHER)	77,031		
	9	Average electorate per County councillor	8,559	-1.1%	

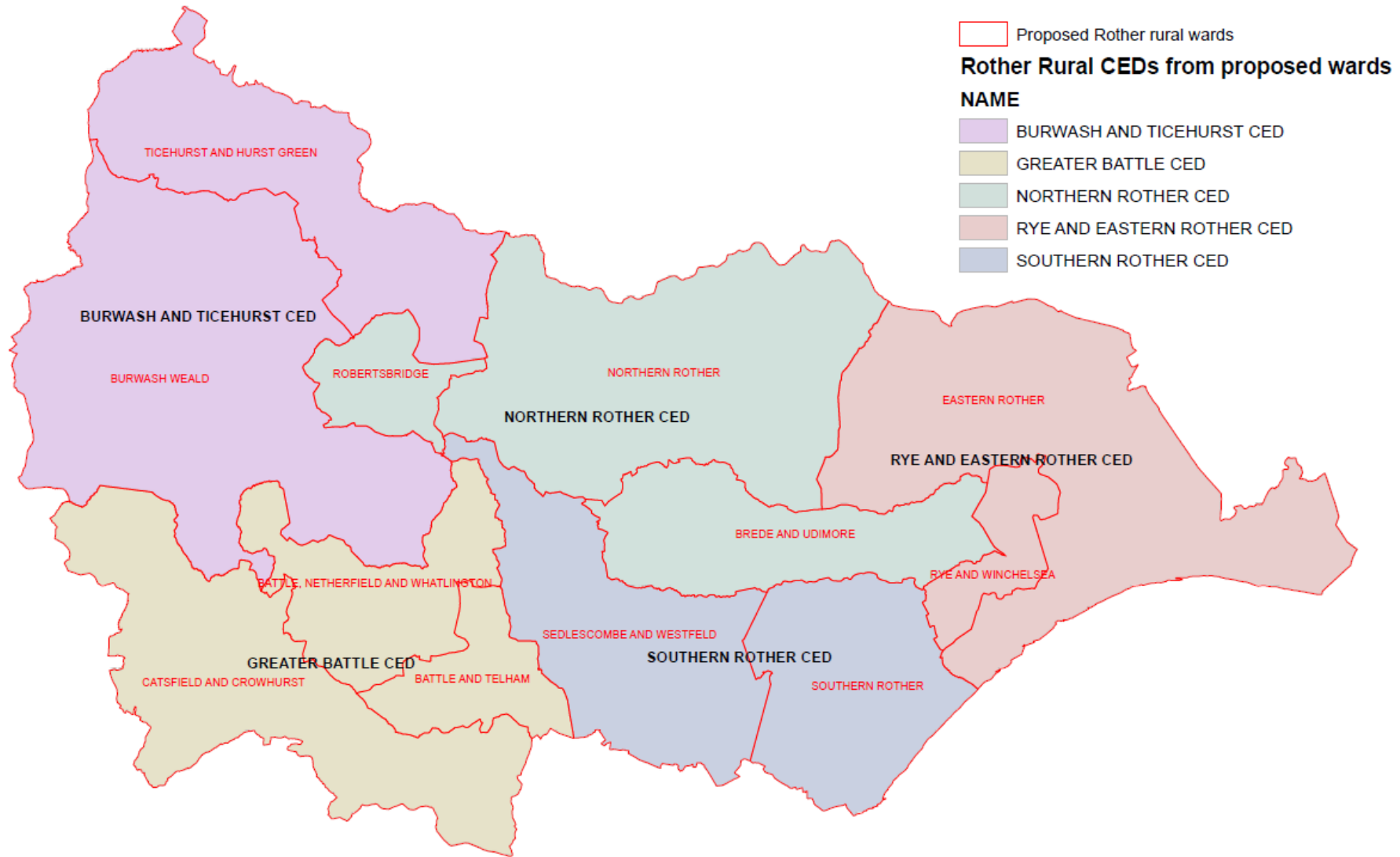
Rother DC – Proposed CEDs mapped with existing CEDs

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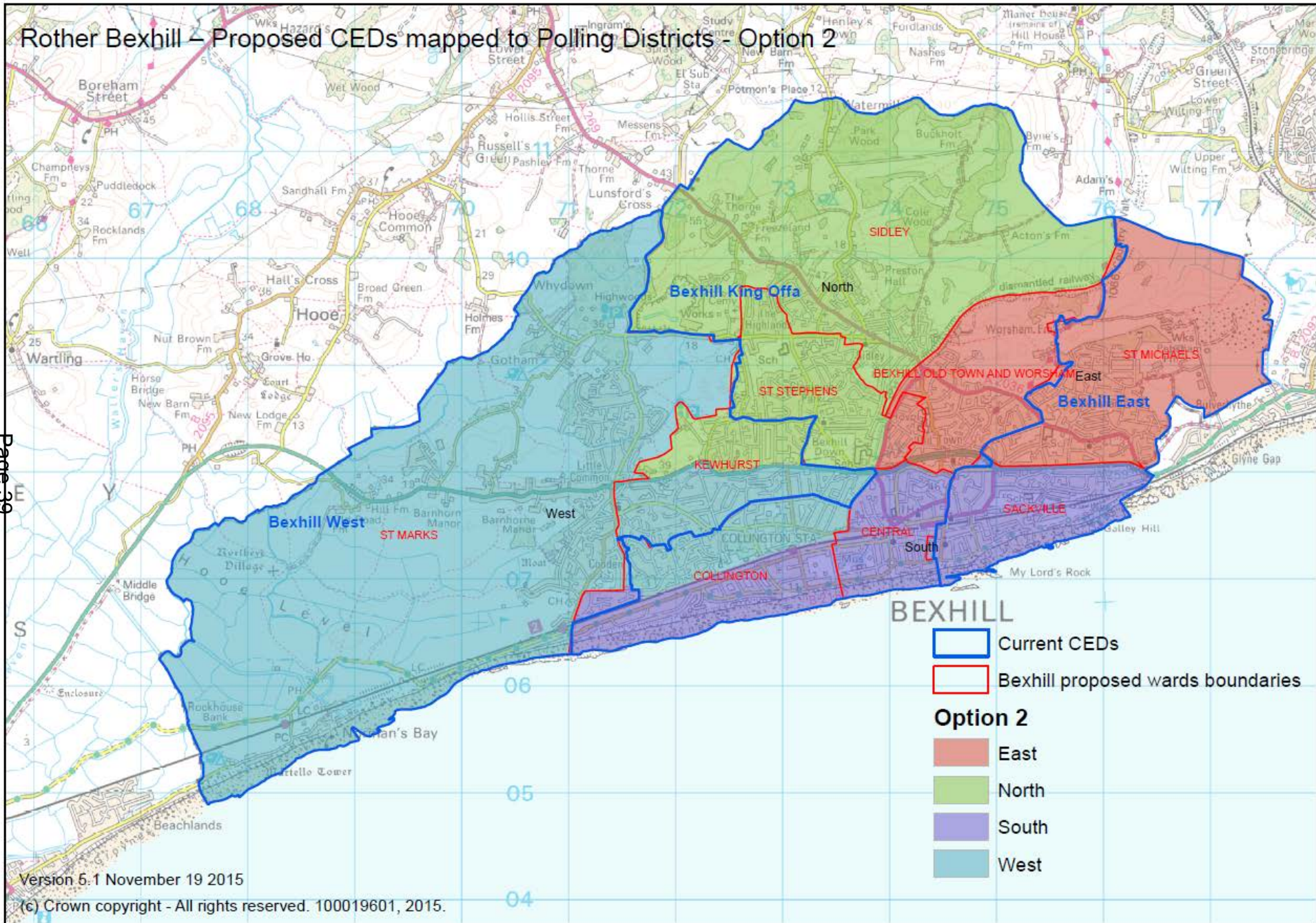


Rother DC – Proposed CEDs mapped with proposed wards

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Rother Bexhill - Proposed CEDs mapped to Polling Districts - Option 2



WEALDEN

Under this review, Wealden District Council will see a reduction in the number of its councillors from 55 to 45. The County Council will see an increase of one councillor to 15 for the Wealden district area. Wealden District Council is proposing a complete revision of the district ward pattern. Based on that pattern, the County Council proposes a coterminous division pattern as reflected on the following table and maps:

CED	CED name (proposed)	Building blocks	Electorate 2021	Variance from 8,651	Notes
W-CED1	Hartfield	ABC/ Withyham, Forest Row, Hartfield	8,595	-0.6%	
W-CED2	Maresfield and Buxted	DEF/ Danehill and Fletching, Maresfield, Buxted	8,558	-1.1%	
W-CED3	Wadhurst	GHI/ Wadhurst Central and South, Frant and Wadhurst North, Hadlow Down and Rotherfield	8,157	-5.7%	
W-CED4	Crowborough North and Jarvis Brook	C1-3 / Crowborough North, Crowborough Central, Crowborough Jarvis Brook	9,110	5.3%	
W-CED5	Crowborough South and St Johns	C4-6/ Crowborough South East, Crowborough South West and Crowborough St Johns	8,846	2.3%	
Page 40 W-CED6	Heathfield and Mayfield	JKL/ Mayfield and Five Ashes, Heathfield North, Heathfield South	8,774	1.4%	
W-CED7	Uckfield South with Framfield	U1U2 + N/ Uckfield New Town, Uckfield Ridgewood with Little Horsted, Framfield and Cross-in-Hand	8,680	0.3%	
W-CED8	Uckfield North with Isfield	U345/ Uckfield North, Uckfield East, Uckfield West with Isfield	8,093	-6.5%	
W-CED9	Horam and Eastern Villages	MQR/ Horam and Old Heathfield, Punnetts Town and Rushlake Green, Ninfield and Herstmonceux (Eastern Villages)	9,297	7.5%	
W-CED10	Arlington, East Hoathly and Hellingly	OVX/ Hellingly, Arlington, Chiddingly East Hoathly and Waldron	8,431	-2.5%	
W-CED11	Pevensey and Stone Cross	STP3/ Stone Cross, Pevensey Bay, Pevensey and Westham	8,292	-4.1%	
W-CED12	Polegate and Watermill	P1P2P4/ Polegate North, Polegate Central, Polegate South (Willingdon Watermill and Polegate South)	8,711	0.7%	

CED	CED name (proposed)	Building blocks	Electorate 2021	Variance from 8,651	Notes
W-CED13	Willingdon and South Downs	W+W1+W2/ South Downs, Lower Willingdon, Upper Willingdon	8,463	-2.2%	
W-CED14	Hailsham Market	Hailsham North, Hailsham Central, Hailsham East	9,268	7.1%	
W-CED15	Hailsham New Town	Hailsham South, Hailsham West, Hailsham North West	9,088	5.1%	
Total					
	No. of county councillors	TOTAL ELECTORS (WEALDEN)	130,363		
	15	Average electorate per County Councillor	8,691	0.5%	

REPORT OF THE LEAD CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES

The Lead Cabinet Member for Resources, Councillor Elkin, met on 24 November 2015.

Attendance: Councillor Elkin (Lead Cabinet Member for Resources)

Also present: Councillors Pursglove and Webb

Notice of Motion: Opposition to the Trade Union Bill (“the Bill”)

1.1 The following Notice of Motion has been submitted by Councillors Webb and Charman:

“As a major employer in the area, this Council welcomes the positive benefits that arise from the relationship that we have with recognised trade unions, and seeks to encourage trade union membership in its own workforce, as well as promoting the benefits of trade union membership in the county as a whole. However, the County Council notes that the Trade Union Bill 2015 and associated secondary legislation, if enacted, would:

- *Allow agency labour to be used to substitute for striking workers (currently outlawed);*
- *Introduce very high thresholds for industrial ballots, with an extra threshold in certain public services, without doing anything to improve the ability of workers to participate in ballots;*
- *Severely restrict the right to picket and peacefully protest, including organising campaigns through social media;*
- *Potentially reduce trade union facility time and withdraw check off union contributions in the council and other employers in East Sussex;*
- *Require union members to ‘contract in’ to their union’s Political Fund every 5 years.*

This Council believes that the relationship between employers and their employees in East Sussex through their collective representatives would be damaged by the above proposals and calls on the Government to scrap the Trade Union Bill and all associated secondary legislation.

We request that the Leader of the Council writes to the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills stating the Council’s opposition to the Bill and requesting that Government scrap the proposed legislation.”

1.2 In line with the County Council’s practice, the matter has been referred by the Chairman to the Lead Cabinet Member for Resources for consideration to provide information and inform debate on the Motion.

1.3 The Bill was announced during the Queen’s Speech on 27 May 2015, described as “legislation to reform trade unions and to protect essential public services against strikes”. The announcement followed commitments in the Conservative Party manifesto 2015, which set out many of the proposals which feature in the Bill.

1.4 A summary of the Bill was set out in Appendix A of the report to the Lead Member, previously circulated to all Members.

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1.5 The Trade Union Bill includes new restrictions on the right to strike, with the introduction of a 50% voting threshold for union ballot turnouts and a new requirement that 40% of those entitled to vote must vote in favour of industrial action in certain essential public services including fire, education, health and transport. Currently a strike is valid if it achieves a majority of those voting. Whilst the definition of essential public services will be the subject of a separate consultation, it is likely to include some services within the County Council such as parts of Adult Social Care and Children's Services.

1.6 Alongside the Bill, the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills is also consulting on measures which do not currently feature in the Bill that may be achieved by secondary legislation using powers from the Bill:

- repealing the existing prohibition on hiring agency staff to replace workers participating in industrial action; and
- changes to the law on picketing, including the possible creation of a new criminal offence of "intimidation on the picket line"

1.7 In addition to the Bill's current provisions, the Government has indicated it intends to amend the Bill to abolish check-off in the public sector. Check-off is a system whereby union membership payments are deducted from union members' salaries by their employers and paid over to unions.

Passage of the Bill through Parliament

1.8 The Bill has passed through all the House of Commons Stages and is now in the House of Lords Stages. The first reading in the House of Lords took place on 11 November 2015. The second reading, which will give the opportunity for a general debate on all aspects of the Bill, is yet to be scheduled.

1.9 There are a number of organisations in both the public and private sector that either support or object to the Bill. A number of written submissions from these outside bodies and individuals have been circulated to MPs appointed to examine the Bill during the committee stage in a Public Bill Committee. Written submissions have been made from organisations including Unison, GMB, NUT and the Taxpayers' Alliance. Details of these can be found via the links at the bottom of this report.

Local Context

1.10 To date, the County Council has enjoyed a positive relationship with local trades unions which has resulted in the effective management of a number of large scale change programmes such as whole service restructures, the implementation of the local East Sussex Single Status pay and grading arrangements, as well as changes to contractual terms and conditions. Putting aside the impact from national related industrial action, such as annual pay awards negotiated nationally, over the course of the last 18 months, minimal reference to industrial action has been made by the unions in East Sussex.

1.11 Set against the above background and recognising our responsibilities as an employer of a large, complex, people based organisation, the Lead Member recommends an amended Motion as follows:

"As a major employer in the area, this Council welcomes the positive benefits that arise from the relationship that we have with recognised trade unions, and seeks to encourage trade union membership in its own workforce, as well as promoting the benefits of trade union membership in the county as a whole.

This Council believes that the relationship between employers and their employees in East Sussex through their collective representatives would be damaged by the

RESOURCES

proposals and calls on the Government to scrap the Trade Union Bill and all associated secondary legislation.

We request that the Leader of the Council writes to the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills stating the Council's opposition to the Bill and requesting that Government scrap the proposed legislation."

1.12 The Lead Cabinet Member **recommends** the County Council to –

✧ (1) note the contents of the report: and

(2) agree the amended Notice of Motion as set out in paragraph 1.11.

24 November 2015

DAVID ELKIN
Lead Cabinet Member
for Resources

Links:

(i) The Trade Union Bill (<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2015-2016/0058/16058.pdf>)

(ii) Written submissions from outside bodies (<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2015-16/tradeunion/documents.html>)

(iii) House of Commons briefing paper
(<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-7295/CBP-7295.pdf>)

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