

# Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

For General Purposes Committee on Tuesday 18 July 2023

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18 July 2023

## Summary

**Lead Member:** Cllr Rob Wormington – Chairman of General Purposes Committee

**Lead Director:** William Benson – Chief Executive and Returning Officer

**Head of Service (Interim):** Andy Sturtivant – Interim Elections Manager

**Report author:** Richard Beesley – AEA Consultant

**Classification:** Public document (non-exempt)

**Wards affected:** All

| Approval timetable         | Date         |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| General Purposes Committee | 18 July 2023 |

## Recommendations

1. That the General Purposes Committee agrees to launch the public consultation on polling districts and polling places as set out in the report.
2. That the General Purposes Committee agrees that, following completion of the Review, Full Council shall receive and determine the final report for decision on 4 October 2023; Members of the General Purposes Committee shall receive the draft report and have the opportunity to respond prior to Council.

# 1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 requires the Council to conduct a review of the Borough's polling districts and polling places every five years. The Council is also required to keep polling arrangements under review. The last full review went to Full Council on 18 December 2019, and the next full review must be conducted between 1 October 2023 and 28 February 2025.
- 1.3 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) has recently published its final recommendations for warding arrangements for the Borough. If approved by Parliament, these will take effect from the May 2024 elections. At this stage it is considered highly unlikely that the recommendations will not be approved by Parliament (they may only be accepted or rejected in full, and not amended). Given the need to ensure new polling arrangements are in place ahead of the election, this review of polling districts and polling places needs to start now.
- 1.4 In addition, the new Parliamentary Constituency boundaries have been developed by the Boundary Commission for England and published here - <https://www.bcereviews.org.uk> The new Constituencies will use the current (not new) wards as building blocks. Once published, it is the responsibility of the Government to prepare an order to implement the new Constituencies; they would then take effect from the next Parliamentary General Election thereafter.

## 2. Definitions

- 2.1 A **polling district** is a geographical area created by the sub-division of a UK Parliamentary constituency for the purposes of a UK Parliamentary election. Each parish is to be a separate polling district unless there are special circumstances. This means that a parish must not be in a polling district which has a part of either a different parish within it, or any un-parished part of the local authority area within it, unless special circumstances apply.
- 2.2 A **polling place** is the building or area in which polling stations will be selected by the (Acting) Returning Officer. A polling place within a polling district must be designated so that polling stations are within easy reach of all electors from across the polling district.
- 2.3 A **polling station** is the room or area within the polling place where voting takes place. Unlike polling districts and polling places which are fixed by the local authority, polling stations are chosen by the (Acting) Returning Officer for the election.

### **3. Requirements of the review**

3.1 In conducting the statutory review, local authorities must follow the rules set out in the legislation, which are:

- The authority must publish a notice of the holding of a review.
- The authority must consult the (Acting) Returning Officer in a constituency which is wholly or partly in its area.
- The (Acting) Returning Officer must make representations to the authority which must include information as to the location of polling stations (existing or proposed).
- The local authority must publish the (Acting) Returning Officer's representations within 30 calendar days of receipt, in such manner as is prescribed.
- The authority must seek representations from such persons as it thinks have particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for persons who have different forms of disability. Such persons must have an opportunity to make representations and to comment on the (Acting) Returning Officer's representations.
- Any elector in a constituency situated in whole or in part in the authority's area may make representations.
- Representations made by any person in connection with a review of polling places may include proposals for specified alternative polling places.
- On completion of a review, the authority must give reasons for its decisions in the review and publish such other information as is prescribed.

3.2 As part of the review process, local authorities must:

- Seek to ensure that all electors in the constituency have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances.
- Seek to ensure that so far as is reasonable and practicable the polling places are accessible to those who are disabled.
- When considering or reviewing the designation of a polling place, have regard to the accessibility needs of disabled persons.

### **4. Review process**

4.1 The timetable for this review is as follows:

- Report and notice of review published – 18 July 2023
- Consultation period (six weeks) – 19 July to 1 September 2023
- Updated recommendations circulated to Members of the General Purposes Committee by mid-September
- Final recommendations presented to Full Council – 4 October 2023

4.2 Members of the General Purposes Committee are invited to note and agree the following important points:

- (1) The new Register of Electors will be published on 1 December 2023. The Register will usually be built upon the new polling districts, so the Register structure is finalised and is in place ahead of the May 2024 elections that will be using new ward boundaries. As such, final agreement on the new polling districts must be reached before that date.
- (2) Timing of scheduled meetings means that Full Council can discuss and agree the outcome of this Review at their meeting on 4 October 2023. By so doing, Members of the General Purposes Committee will be provided with a draft copy of the report for consideration outside of the formal meeting process only.
- (3) If the LGBCE Ward Review is terminated, noting this is highly unlikely, then any proposed polling district boundary and naming changes will be deferred for further refinement with the end date of this Review being extended as required.
- (4) This Review, necessitated by the new warding arrangements, shall also be the review required for Parliamentary election polling arrangements; a separate review will not be undertaken, hence involving a broad range of consultees in this review.

4.3 A notice to formally commence the review is included at [Appendix A](#). Following approval by this meeting, the Notice shall be published, and the review starts. At the same time, the following shall be contacted and invited to respond to the consultation:

- All members of the Council
- Members of Parliament for Tunbridge Wells and Maidstone and the Weald
- The Police and Crime Commissioner for Kent
- Parish/Town Councils
- Members of the County Council
- All political groups who fielded candidates in the most recent Borough Council elections
- The local Access Group

## 5. Preliminary review

5.1 An initial review has been undertaken by officers, in order to highlight specific issues ahead of the public consultation. There is no presumption that every polling district will be changed, although any 'no change' decision must be fully justified as part of the overall proposals.

## Polling districts

- 5.2 To accommodate the new parish wards created by the LGBCE review of wards (in Southborough and Paddock Wood), new polling districts have been proposed. This ensures each parish ward is a separate and distinct polling district. Large parishes, parish wards and unparished areas in the town centre remain split into more than one polling district, to ensure convenience for electors.
- 5.3 Where polling districts no longer serve a purpose, the proposal is to merge them as appropriate.
- 5.4 Every polling district has a unique code, used in the Register of Electors to uniquely identify individual electors. There are many different options for how letter codes can be determined. Previously, Tunbridge Wells has used letters A-Z, then AA onwards. However, there is the opportunity for letter codes to link directly to the areas they serve – this can make it easier to support electors and political parties, noting that every code will need to change through this review in any case. The preliminary review therefore highlighted that each polling district should have a two-letter code:
- The first letter determines the new Borough Ward, starting at A (Cranbrook, Sissinghurst and Frittenden) through to P (St John's); letters I and O are excluded to avoid confusion with numbers.
  - The second letter determines the polling district within the ward, starting with A for each ward.

## Polling places

- 5.5 There are a number of factors which were considered when reviewing the existing polling places or when new polling places were assessed, these include:
- **Location:** is it reasonably accessible within the polling district? Does it avoid barriers for the voter such as steep hills, major roads, rivers, etc.? Are there any convenient transport links?
  - **Size:** can it accommodate more than one polling station if required? If multiple polling stations are required, is the polling place large enough to accommodate all voters going into and out of the polling stations, even where there is a high turnout?
  - **Suitability:** is the building readily available in the event of any unscheduled elections? Is there any possibility that the building may be demolished as part of a new development? Is the building accessible to all those entitled to attend the polling place?
- 5.6 The choice of polling places will often be a balance between the quality of a building (access, facilities etc.) and the proximity of the building to the electors. All factors have been taken into consideration during the preliminary review.

- 5.7 The schedule of delegated authority sets out that Council is able to determine the location of polling places, that this is also delegated to General Purposes, and that the Returning Officer may also use delegated authority to make changes. Legislation sets out that the Returning Officer may decide to locate a polling station somewhere other than the agreed polling place, without consultation, if necessary and there is insufficient time to consult. For the avoidance of future doubt, the final schedule of polling district and polling place arrangements is proposed to be taken to Full Council on 4 October 2023. However, to ensure flexibility when required, given the change in availability of venues often at short notice, each polling place is proposed to be prefixed with 'At or near...' as is usual practice in other authorities. Thus, the Returning Officer shall place a polling station in the venue identified a polling place, when possible, but is not required to complete a full review if that venue is not available at short notice but another suitable venue is available nearby.

## **6. Draft proposals for consultation**

- 6.1 The draft proposals for consultation are shown below (pages 7 to 15). Members are invited to note that this includes merging of some polling districts, splitting polling districts, renaming polling districts, and otherwise altering them to ensure the new boundaries reflect the governance arrangements taking effect. Maps of the proposed polling districts by Ward are included at [Appendix B](#).
- 6.2 The consultation will ask for views on the proposed polling stations for these polling districts and ask if there are any other sites that may be suitable.
- 6.3 When establishing a new polling station, it is important to consider the access needs for different types of electors, including those with visible and invisible disabilities. Therefore, a review of any potential venues submitted will be conducted prior to implementation.

| Ward                                   | Parish / area  | Polling district  | Polling place                              |
|--|--|---|--|
| Cranbrook, Sissinghurst and Frittenden | Cranbrook and Sissinghurst   | <b>AA: Cranbrook</b><br>Whilst Cranbrook and Sissinghurst are not separate parish wards, and will be within the same Borough Ward from 2024, it appears prudent to keep the two as separate polling districts. This is because the parish as a whole is quite large and dividing into two polling districts makes accessibility easier for electors. As such, this polling district is unchanged from the current polling district. | At or near Vestry Hall, Stone Street       |
|  |  | <b>AB: Sissinghurst</b><br>This polling district is unchanged from the current polling district.  | At or near Sissinghurst Village Hall       |
|  | Frittenden   | <b>AC: Frittenden</b><br>The entire parish of Frittenden.   | At or near Frittenden Memorial Hall        |
| Culverden                              | <b>Notes:</b> The new Culverden ward is significantly different from the existing ward, taking on parts of Broadwater and St John's wards. |   |  |
|  | N/A  | <b>BA: Culverden North</b><br>This is the northern-most part of the new Culverden ward, which is currently in St John's old ward. The boundary remains unchanged. The polling district is to the west of St John's Road and north of Culverden Down.  | At or near St John's Bowls Pavilion        |
|  |  | <b>BB: Bishops Down</b><br>This is unchanged from the current polling district.   | At or near Bishops Down Primary School     |
|  |  | <b>BC: Culverden</b><br>This is unchanged from the current polling district.  | At or near 3 Culverden Park                |
|  |  | <b>BD: Holy Trinity</b><br>This is unchanged from the current polling district.   | At or near Trinity Theatre and Arts Centre |

| Ward | Parish / area | Polling district   | Polling place  |
|------|---------------|--|--|
|      |               | <p><b>BE: Jubilee</b><br/> This is a new polling district, necessary as it is part of the new Culverden Ward but also part of Tunbridge Wells South County division. It is bordered on the east and south by the High Street, and west by the A26 then Vale Road.</p> <p>Care will be taken during a county election, with additional staff training, due to two divisions voting in the same venue. This happens in other local authority areas, and processes are put in place to minimise confusion, limit disruption, and ensure the voting process is easy, clear, transparent, and without any issues.</p> | <p>This is a small polling district, required only due to the interface between different layers of local government. There are no suitable premises in the area to host a polling place. The nearest current polling place, and the venue to which electors here will be most accustomed to attending is Christ Church on the High Street. However, given the most frequent election to take place will be Borough Council elections, and Christ Church is in a different Borough ward, it would be prudent for the electors from this new polling district to vote instead at Trinity Theatre along with <b>BD</b> voters. Care will be required during a County Council election, to ensure voters are issued with the correct ballot papers in this station.</p> <p>At or near Trinity Theatre and Arts Centre</p> |



| Ward                                  | Parish / area  | Polling district  | Polling place  |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|
|                                       |  | <p><b>BF: Commons</b><br/>This is a new polling district, taking in the Tunbridge Wells Common, and the Nevill Park area; north of Eridge Road and The Spa Valley Railway, and south of Bishop's Down Road and Langton Road.</p>  | <p>There are few venues in the polling district that could be suitable for use as a polling place. However, one building has been identified as potentially suitable – Linden Park Cricket Club Pavilion on Fir Tree Road. Enquiries are ongoing with the cricket club.</p> <p>At or near Linden Park Cricket Club</p> |
| Goudhurst, Lamberhurst and Horsmonden | Brenchley and Matfield parish  | <p><b>CA: Brenchley</b><br/>Brenchley and Matfield parish has two distinct communities, and these have been served by separate polling districts and polling places. To maintain effective and convenient arrangements for electors, the two polling places should remain in place. This polling district is unchanged.</p> | At or near Brenchley Memorial Hall   |
|                                       |  | <p><b>CB: Matfield</b><br/>This polling district is unchanged from the current polling district.</p>  | At or near Matfield Village Hall   |
|                                       | Goudhurst parish   | <p><b>CC: Curtisden Green</b><br/>This is the parish ward of the same name and is unchanged from the current polling district.</p>  | At or near Goudhurst Village Hall  |
|                                       | <p><b>CD: Goudhurst</b><br/>This is the parish ward of the same name and is unchanged from the current polling district.</p> | At or near Goudhurst Village Hall   |  |
|                                       | <p><b>CE: Kilndown</b><br/>This is the parish ward of the same name and is unchanged from the current polling district.</p>  | At or near Kilndown Village Hall  |  |

| Ward                              | Parish / area   | Polling district   | Polling place   |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|
|                                   | Horsmonden parish   | <b>CF: Horsmonden</b><br>This is the parish of Horsmonden and is unchanged from the current polling district.  | At or near Horsmonden Village Hall                      |
|                                   | Lamberhurst parish  | <b>CG: Lamberhurst</b><br>This is the parish of Lamberhurst and is unchanged from the current polling district.  | At or near Lamberhurst Memorial Hall                    |
| Hawkhurst, Sandhurst and Benenden | <b>Notes:</b> Whilst the new ward will be split by the proposed Parliamentary Constituency, the existing parish boundaries remain unaffected. |  |   |
|                                   | Benenden parish   | <b>DA: Benenden</b><br>This polling district contains the current 'Benenden' polling district (which had ballot box 21 in the 2023 elections) as well as the north-eastern tip of the parish (box 21-1). As the north-eastern edge has no suitable polling places and a small electorate, and they currently already vote in the same venue as the rest of Benenden, maintaining a separate polling district is unnecessary. | At or near Benenden Village Hall                        |
|                                   |   | <b>DB: Iden Green</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.   | At or near Iden Green Pavilion                          |
|                                   | Hawkhurst parish  | <b>DC: Hawkhurst</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.  | At or near Royal British Legion, High Street, Hawkhurst |
|                                   |   | <b>DD: Hawkhurst Moor</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.   | At or near King George V Field Sports Pavilion          |
|                                   | Sandhurst parish  | <b>DE: Sandhurst</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.  | At or near Sandhurst Village Hall                       |
| High Brooms                       | Southborough parish   | <b>EA: High Brooms</b><br>This is a new polling district, comprising the whole of the new High Brooms borough ward.  | At or near St Matthew's Church                          |

| Ward         | Parish / area  | Polling district   | Polling place  |
|--------------|--|--|--|
| Paddock Wood | <b>Notes:</b> Paddock Wood is a large community, and too big to be served by a single polling district. It also has two parish wards (which will become three at the next scheduled elections), each of which must have its own polling district and electoral arrangements. |  |  |
|              | Paddock Wood parish  | <b>FA: Paddock Wood East</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.  | At or near Day Centre, Dowding House                   |
|              |  | <b>FB: Paddock Wood West</b><br>This is the revised Paddock Wood West parish ward, formed from the existing parish ward excluding the new Paddock Wood South parish ward.  | At or near St Andrew's Church Hall                     |
| Pantiles     | N/A  | <b>GA: Christ Church</b><br>Due to the reconfiguration of borough wards in this area, the new Christ Church polling district is significantly different from the previous polling district of similar name. Now, everything to the east of the railway is in a new ward and so excluded from this polling district. Instead, residents to the south (around The Nevill Ground) are now included in this area, with the southern boundary following Warwick Park. This makes the polling station more accessible for these residents, who previously voted the other side of the railway. | At or near Christ Church, High Street, Tunbridge Wells |
|              |  | <b>GB: Ramslye</b><br>This is the remainder of the existing polling district, south of The Spa Valley Railway line, which is in the new Pantiles ward.   | At or near St Mark's C of E Primary School             |
|              |  | <b>GC: Showfields</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.   | At or near Number One Community Centre                 |
|              |  | <b>GD: St Marks</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.   | At or near St Mark's Hall, Bayham Road                 |

| Ward              | Parish / area  | Polling district   | Polling place   |
|-------------------|--|--|---|
| Park              | <b>Notes:</b> There is considerable change in Park ward, due to the reconfiguration of borough wards. New polling district names are proposed, based on the major parks and open spaces within each polling district, in keeping with the ward name. |  |   |
|                   | N/A  | <b>HA: Calverley</b><br>This is mainly the current 'Town Hall' polling district, but removes the confusion associated with the name as the polling place; the northern most edge is now part of a different ward, and the southern edge is adjusted so all of Grove Hill Road is in the new Grove polling district.                          | The current polling place for this area is now in a different ward and is therefore not ideal. The Amelia Scott has been identified as potentially suitable and discussions are ongoing to confirm this.<br><br>At or near The Amelia Scott |
|                   |  | <b>HB: Dunorlan</b><br>This is unchanged from the current 'St Peters' polling district but links the name of the polling district to the new ward name.  | At or near Salvation Army Hall  |
|                   |  | <b>HC: Grove</b><br>This new polling district comprises the southern part of the ward, including what was Christ Church polling district and St Marks polling district, which are now part of this ward. In addition, the boundary is moved so is no longer south of Grove Hill Road but instead follows the southern edge of Calverley Park | At or near Claremont Primary School   |
|                   |  | <b>HD: Hawkenbury</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.   | At or near Hawkenbury United Reformed Church  |
| Pembury and Capel | Capel parish   | <b>JA: Capel</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.  | At or near Capel Community Centre   |
|                   |  | <b>JB: Tudeley</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.  | At or near Arnold Cooke Hall, All Saints' Church  |

| Ward                    | Parish / area       | Polling district  | Polling place                                      |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---|--|
|                         | Pembury parish      | <b>JC: Pembury High Street</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.   | At or near Pembury Village Hall                    |
|                         |                     | <b>JD: Pembury Lower Green</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.   | At or near Pembury Baptist Church                  |
|                         | Paddock Wood parish | <b>JE: Paddock Wood South</b><br>This is the new parish ward of Paddock Wood South.   | At or near the Marketing Suite at Foal Hurst Green |
| Rusthall and Speldhurst | Speldhurst parish   | <b>KA: Langton Green</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.   | At or near Langton Green Village Hall              |
|                         |                     | <b>KB: Speldhurst</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.  | At or near Speldhurst Village Hall                 |
|                         | Rusthall parish     | <b>KC: Rusthall East</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.   | At or near The Rackliff Centre                     |
|                         |                     | <b>KD: Rusthall West</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.   | At or near St Paul's Church Centre                 |
| Sherwood                | N/A                 | <b>LA: Oak Road</b><br>This is the existing polling district of the same name, with the addition of Addison Road and Douglas Close from the old St James' ward that will now be part of Sherwood. | At or near St Philip's Day Centre                  |
|                         |                     | <b>LB: Knights Park</b><br>This polling district is unchanged and serves the otherwise separated community in Knights Park.   | At or near Skinners' Kent Primary School           |

| Ward                        | Parish / area       | Polling district  | Polling place                               |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---|---|
|                             |                     | <p><b>LC: Sherwood</b><br/> This polling district merges the existing Sherwood North and Sherwood South polling districts (plus the small area moving from Park Ward – Willicombe Park, Quantock Close, Grampion Close and The Beeches). Both existing polling districts vote in the same venue (TN2). By merging the two polling districts, we anticipate there will continue to be two polling stations within the venue, but this gives greater flexibility to balance the number of electors between the two polling stations by the (A)RO.</p> | At or near TN2 Community Centre             |
| Southborough and Bidborough | Bidborough parish   | <p><b>MA: Bidborough</b><br/> This polling district is unchanged.</p>   | At or near Bidborough Village Hall          |
|                             | Southborough parish | <p><b>MB: Southborough North</b><br/> This polling district is unchanged.</p>   | At or near St Thomas Church Hall            |
|                             |                     | <p><b>MC: Southborough South</b><br/> This is the existing Southborough West polling district, plus the northern half of the High Brooms polling district (which is now in Southborough South parish ward, and Southborough and Bidborough borough ward). Although for a few electors this will mean a longer journey to the polling station (compared to the current venue in High Brooms), for most the journey is no further.</p>  | At or near Community Centre, Crundwell Road |

| Ward      | Parish / area | Polling district   | Polling place   |
|-----------|---------------|--|---|
| St James' | N/A           | <b>NA: Ferndale</b><br>This is a new polling district and is necessary as this small part of St James' ward is bisected by the existing county division boundary. With no suitable polling place within the polling district, electors here will vote at St James Church. This venue is close and convenient for voters. | At or near St James Church Hall   |
|           |               | <b>NB: Grosvenor</b><br>This polling district is unchanged, moving from Culverden ward to the revised St James' ward, ensuring the line follows the county division between this and Camden polling district.  | At or near St John's Church Centre  |
|           |               | <b>NC: Camden</b><br>This polling district is unchanged.   | At or near St Barnabas Church Hall  |
|           |               | <b>ND: St James</b><br>This polling district is unchanged, other than the area moving to Sherwood in the north.  | At or near The Hub, Grosvenor and Hilbert Park  |
| St John's | N/A           | <b>PA: St Johns</b><br>This is unchanged but was previously known as St Johns East.  | At or near St John's Church Centre<br><br>This polling place is currently used by two different wards, and this arrangement is proposed to continue due to a lack of suitable alternatives in the area. |
|           |               | <b>PB: St Lukes</b><br>This is unchanged.  | At or near St Luke's Church Hall  |

## 7. Implementation

- 7.1 Following the conclusion of the consultation, the results will be reviewed, and a final report presented to Full Council on 4 October 2023. Once approved, the final polling districts and polling place arrangements will take effect at the republication of the Register of Electors on 1 December 2023, ahead of the May 2024 elections and new ward boundaries.
- 7.2 Members should note that, if the new ward boundaries do not go ahead, then Council will be presented with a revised set of proposals that reflect the current warding arrangements along with any updated polling place arrangements.

## 8. Cross cutting issues

### 8.1 Legal (including the Human Rights Act)

The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 requires the Council to conduct a review of the Borough's polling districts and polling places every five years.

### 8.2 Finance and other resources

Establishing new polling stations will incur an increased cost with regards to hall hire. However, merging polling districts and using the same venue for more than one polling district will minimise this.

### 8.3 Staffing

No implications.

### 8.4 Risk management

Failure to conduct the review would result in a breach of legislation and fail to provide appropriate voting arrangements for electors at future polls.

### 8.5 Environment (inc. Biodiversity) and Sustainability

Not relevant to this review.

### 8.6 Community safety

Not relevant to this review.

### 8.7 Equalities

Polling places have been determined based on their accessibility for people with visible and invisible disabilities. Staff are trained to support electors as appropriate.

### 8.8 Data protection

Not relevant, as no personal data is involved in this review.



### 8.9 **Health and safety**

All venues are reviewed periodically, and all Presiding Officers are trained in relevant health and safety matters to ensure the ongoing safety of all staff and voters in their venues.

### 8.10 **Health and wellbeing**

Not relevant to this review.

# Appendix A: Notice of review

## NOTICE OF REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council is conducting a review of polling districts and polling places. We must, by law, do this every five years. New wards for the Borough will take effect for the May 2024 elections, and new Parliamentary Constituency boundaries have been published for use at future General Parliamentary Elections. This review takes these changes into account.

Electors within the Borough of Tunbridge Wells and Maidstone and the Weald Constituency (Part) may make representations and the Returning Officer will make comments on existing and proposed polling stations.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council would welcome any person or body with expertise in access for persons with any type of disability to make a representation.

Any persons or bodies making representations should, if possible, give alternative places that may be used as polling places.

Representations should be made in writing to:

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places  
Electoral Services  
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council  
Town Hall  
Mount Pleasant Road  
Tunbridge Wells  
TN1 1RS

[polling.review@tunbridgewells.gov.uk](mailto:polling.review@tunbridgewells.gov.uk)

Information will be made available throughout the review for public inspection on our website [www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk/polling-review](http://www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk/polling-review)

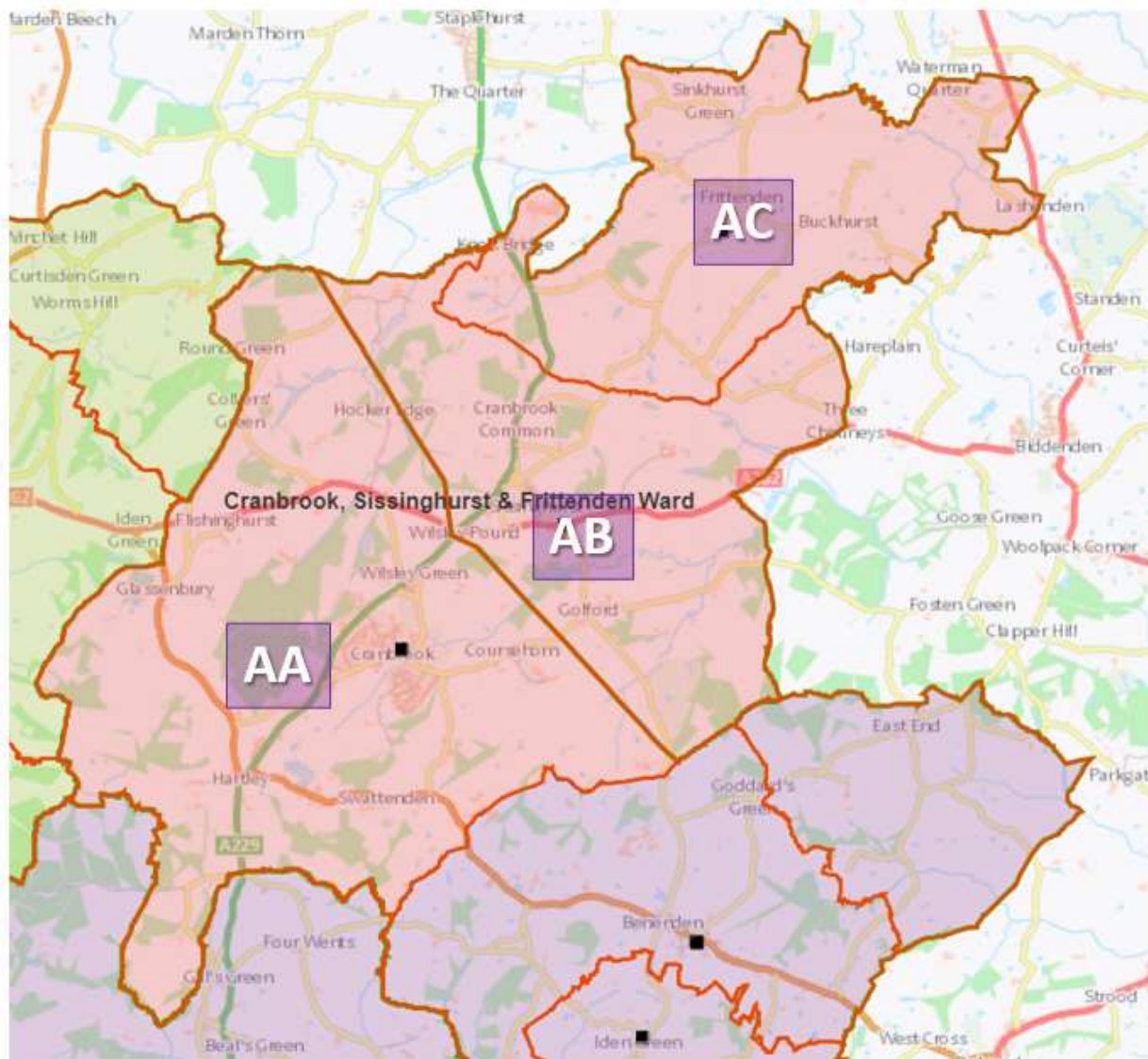
Timetable for this review:

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Notice of start of review               | 19 July 2023     |
| Publication of the draft proposals      | 19 July 2023     |
| Deadline for comments from consultation | 1 September 2023 |
| Report to Full Council                  | 4 October 2023   |
| Arrangements come into force            | 1 December 2023  |

**Dated:** 19 July 2023

# Appendix B: Proposed Polling District maps by Ward

## Cranbrook, Sissinghurst and Frittenden



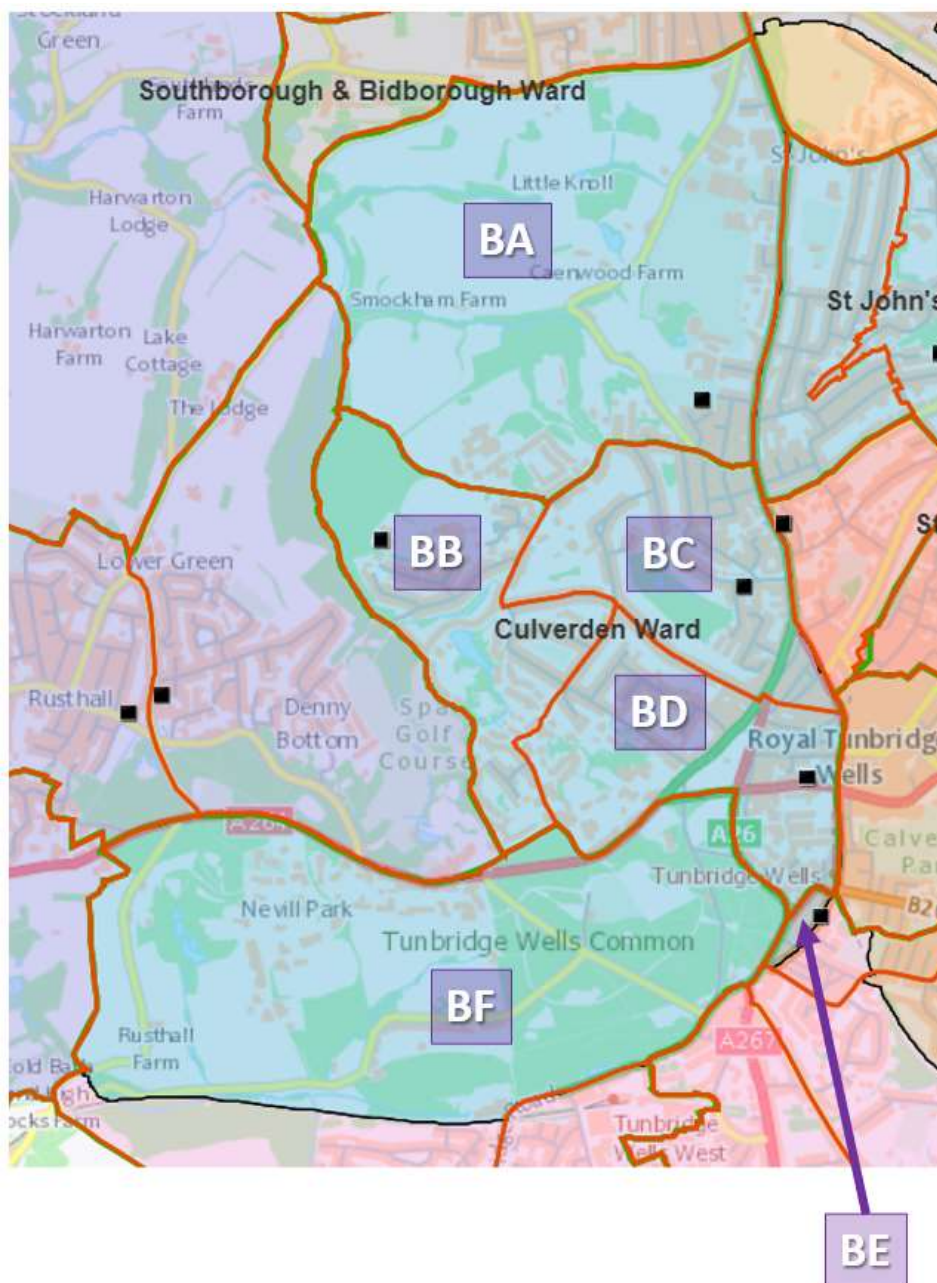
### Polling districts

**AA** – Cranbrook

**AB** – Sissinghurst

**AC** – Frittenden

# Culverden



## Polling districts

**BA** – Culverden North

**BB** – Bishops Down

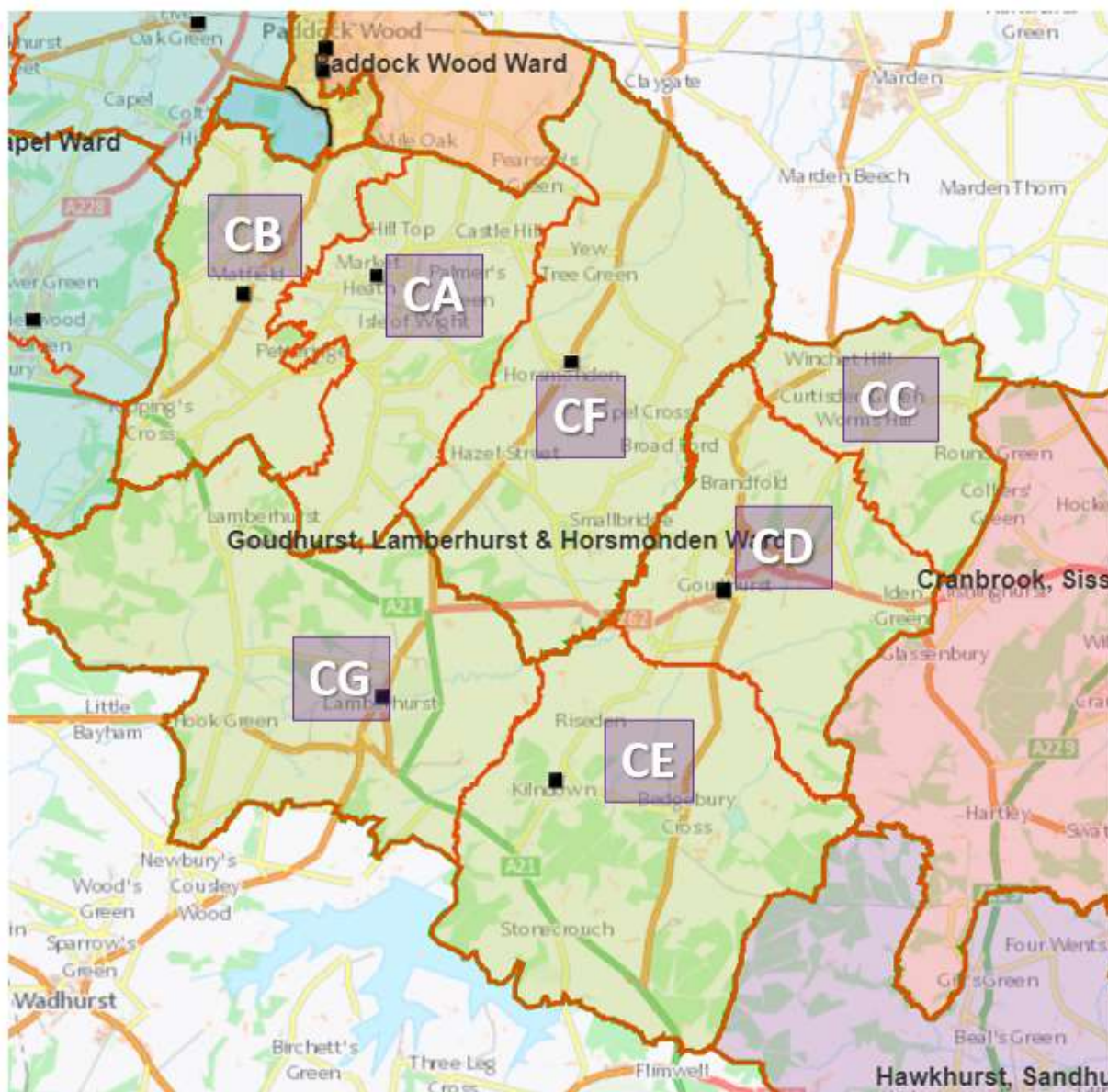
**BC** – Culverden

**BD** – Holy Trinity

**BE** – Jubilee

**BF** – Commons

## Goudhurst, Lamberhurst and Horsmonden



### Polling districts

**CA** – Brenchley

**CB** – Matfield

**CC** – Curtisden Green

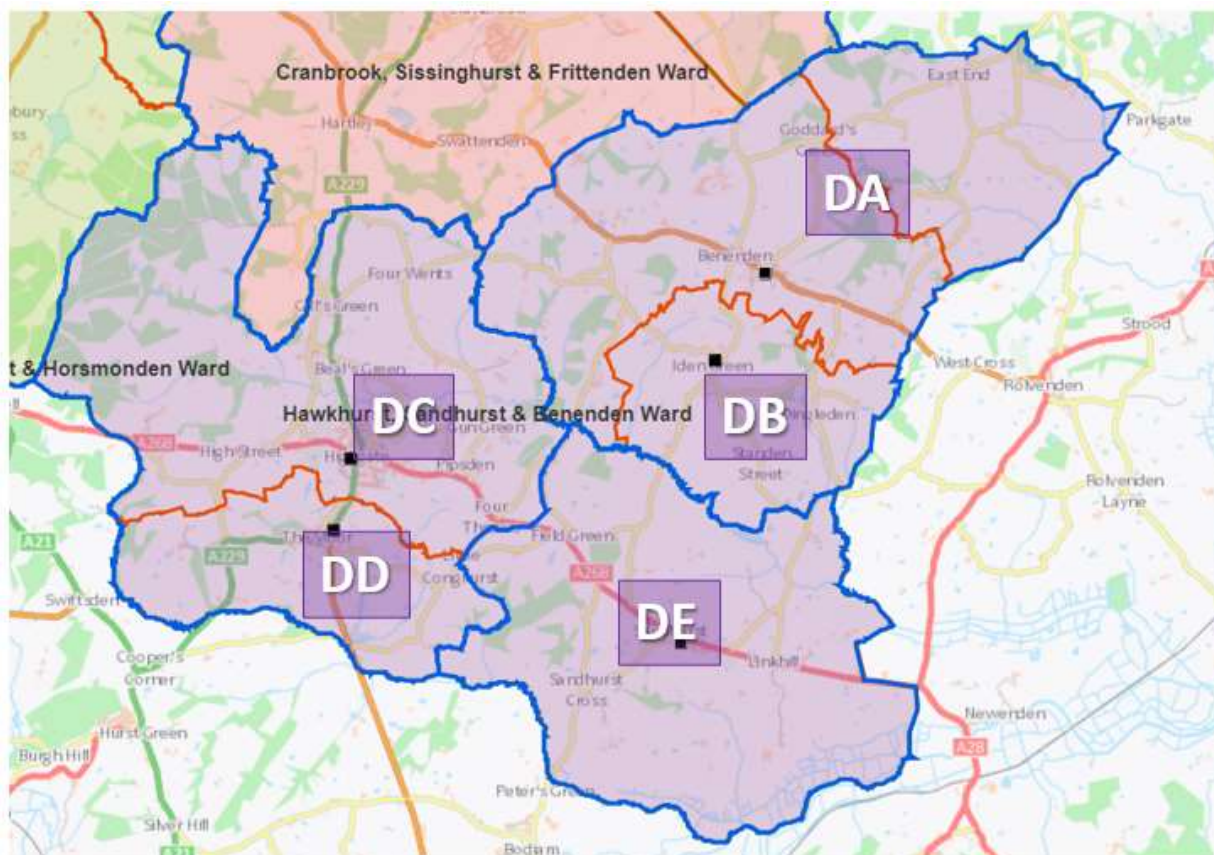
**CD** – Goudhurst

**CE** – Kilndown

**CF** – Horsmonden

**CG** – Lamberhurst

## Hawkhurst, Sandhurst and Benenden



### Polling districts

**DA** – Benenden

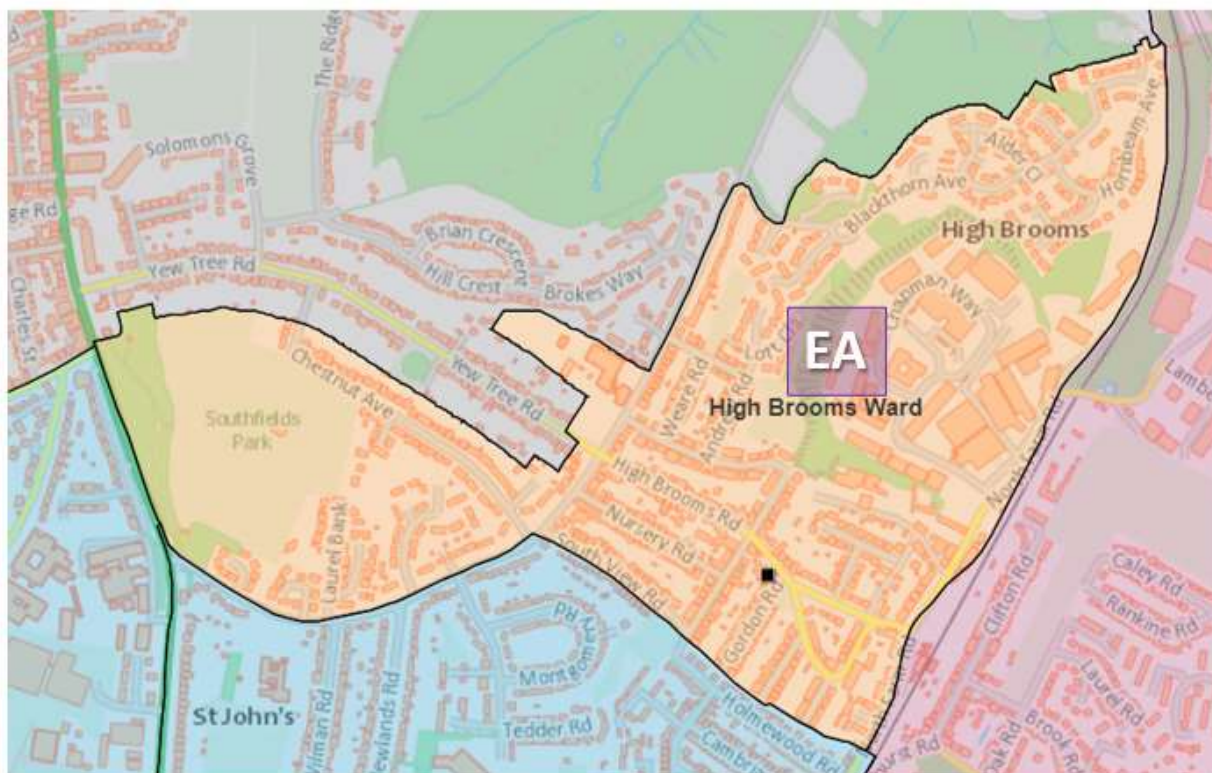
**DB** – Iden Green

**DC** – Hawkhurst

**DD** – Hawkhurst Moor

**DE** – Sandhurst

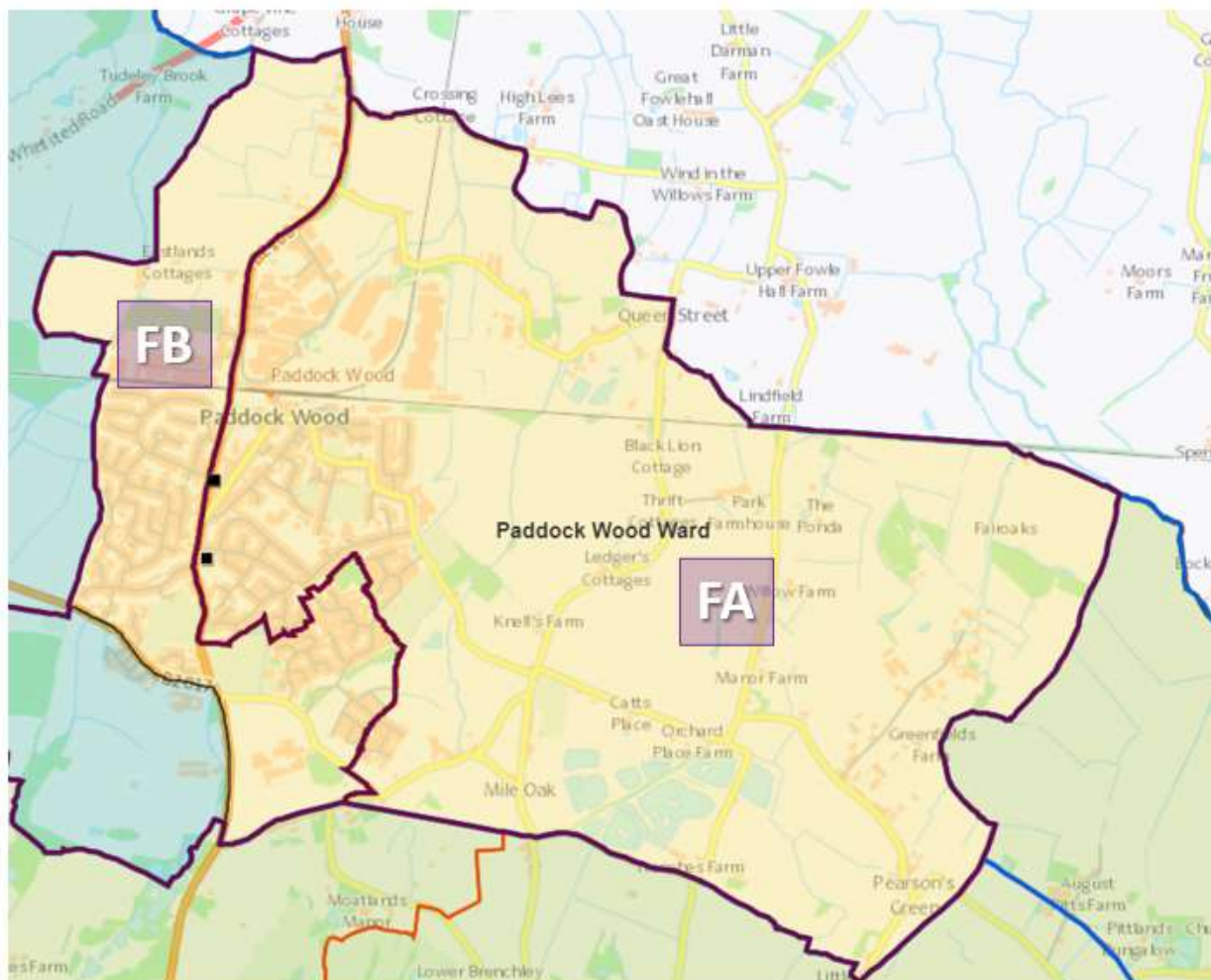
# High Brooms



## Polling districts

EA – High Brooms

# Paddock Wood



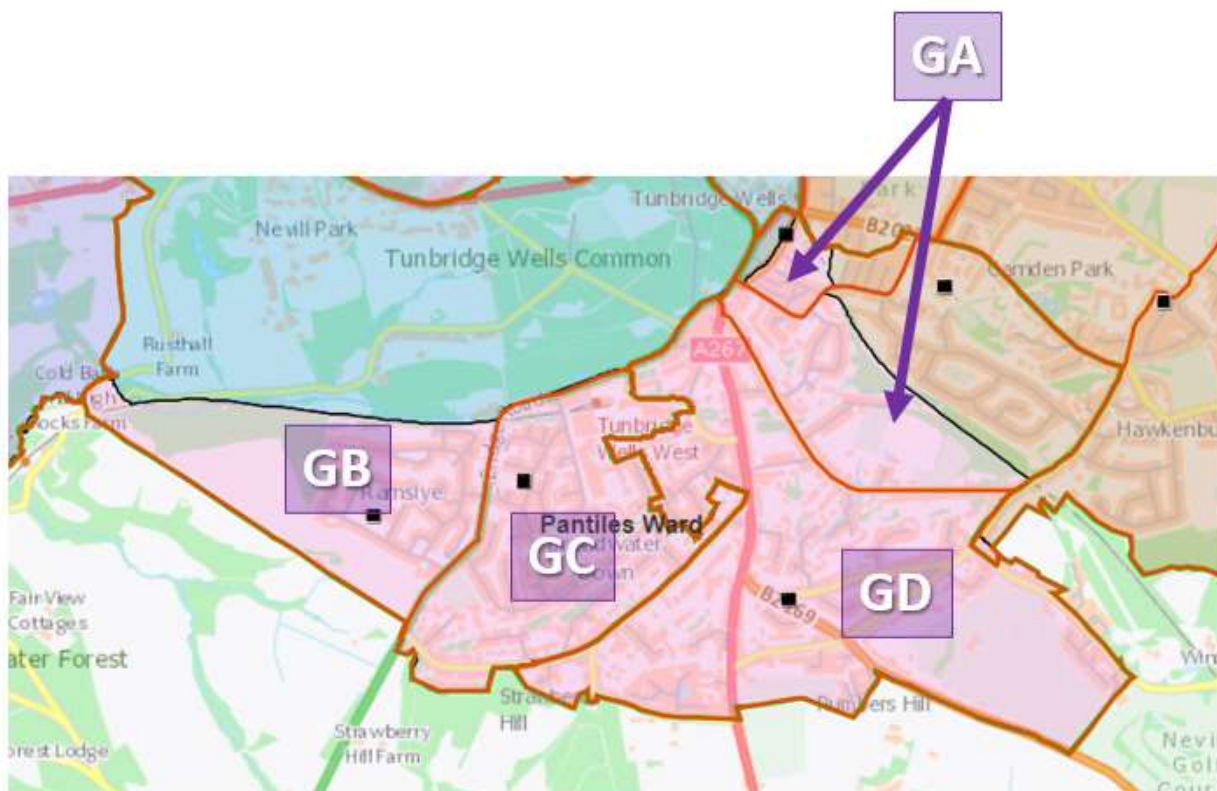
## Polling districts

**FA** – Paddock Wood East

**FB** – Paddock Wood West



# Pantiles



## Polling districts

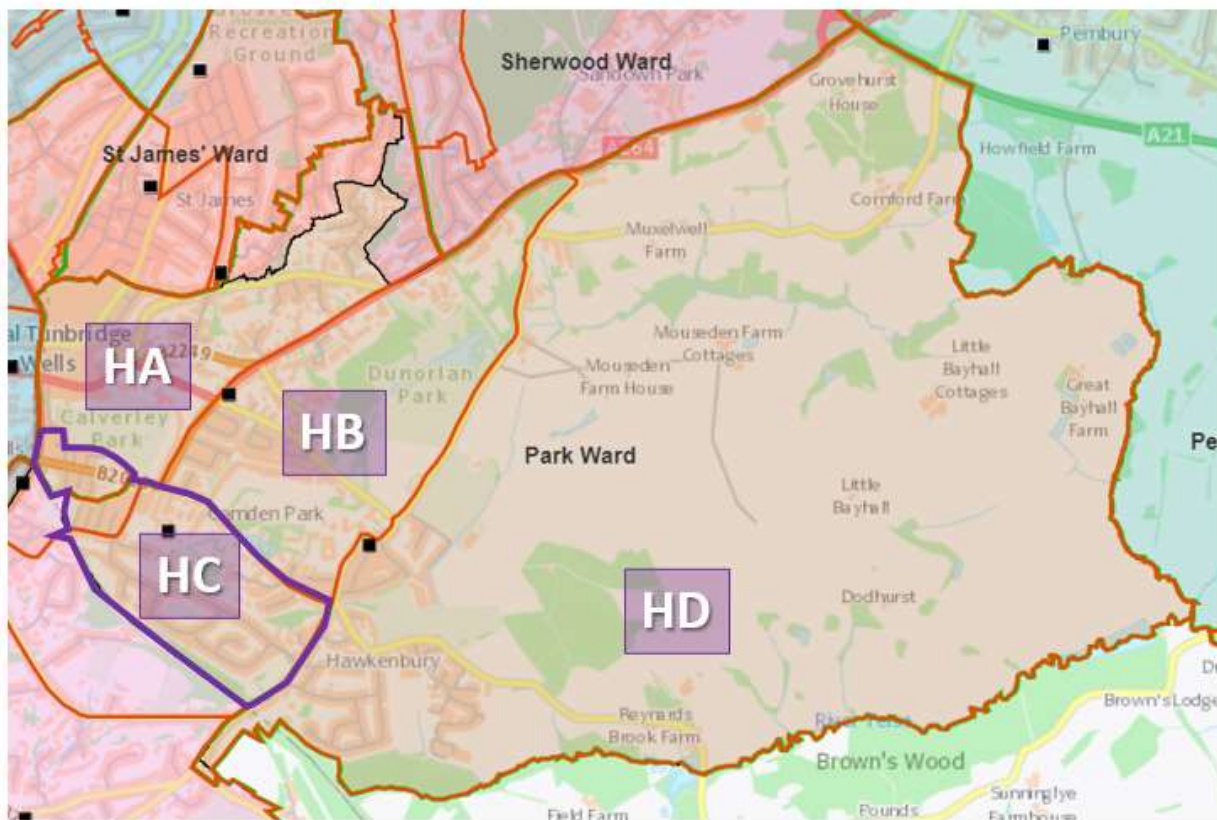
**GA** – Christ Church

**GB** – Ramslye

**GC** – Showfields

**GD** – St Marks

## Park



### Polling districts

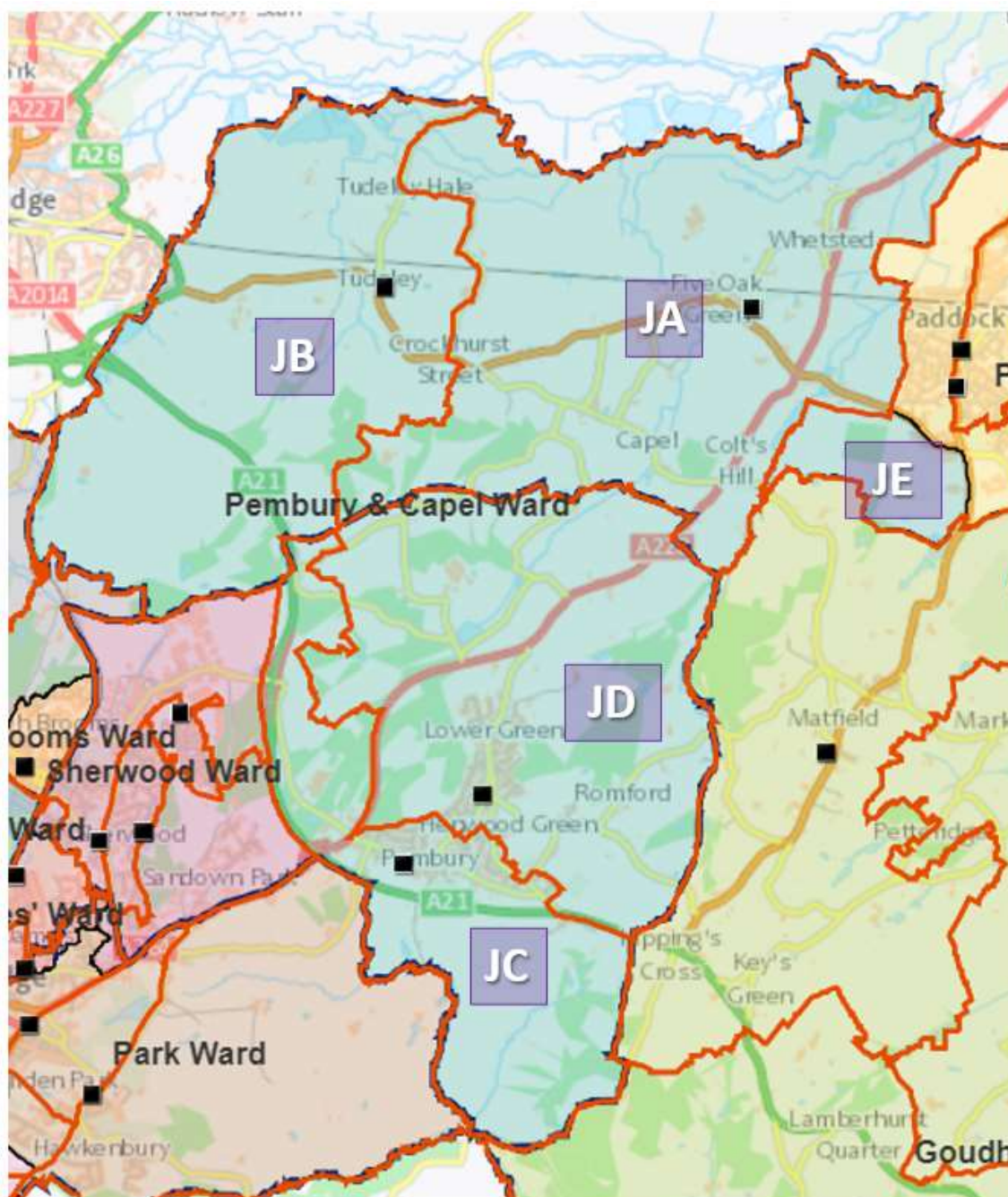
**HA** – Calverley

**HB** – Dunorlan

**HC** – Grove

**HD** – Hawkenbury

## Pembury and Capel



### Polling districts

JA – Capel

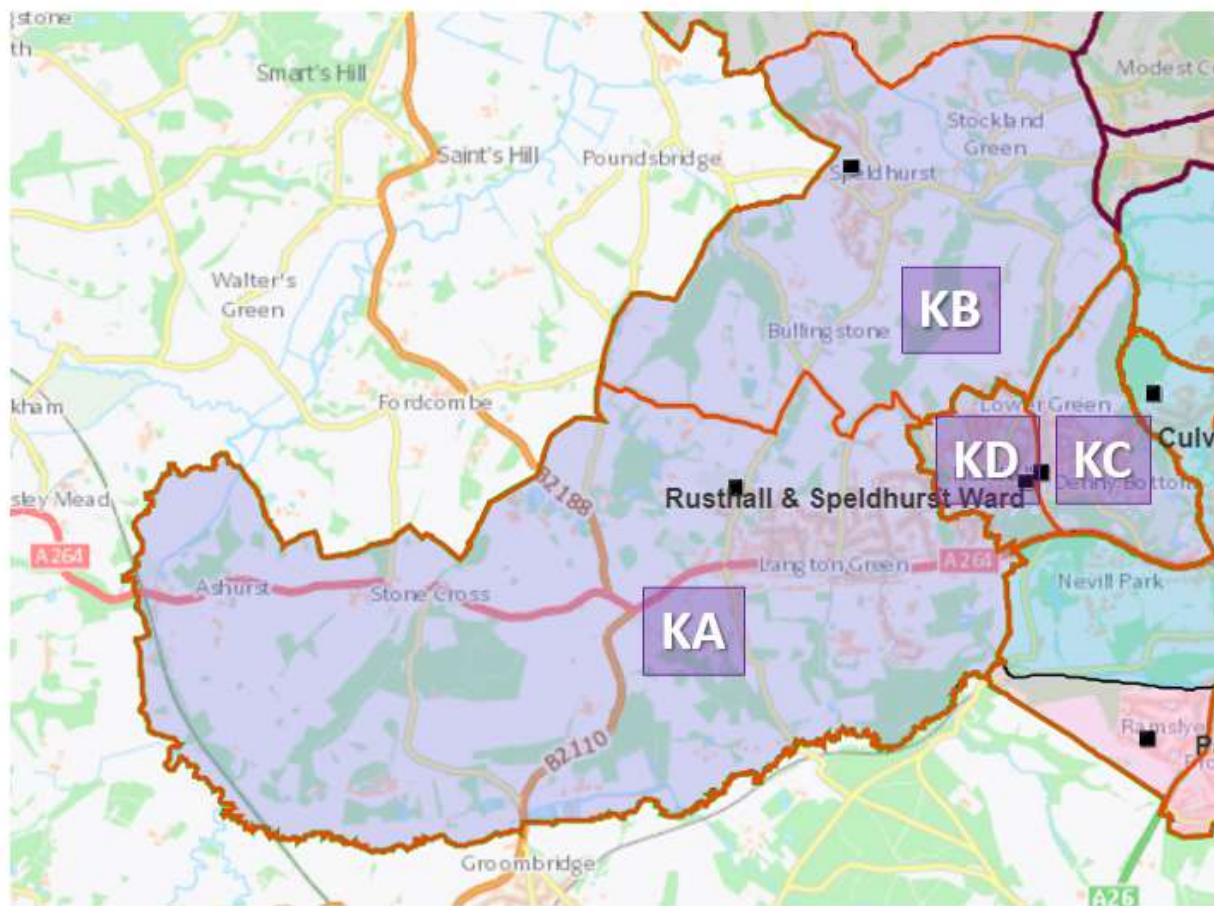
JB – Tudley

JC – Pembury High Street

JD – Pembury Lower Green

JE – Paddock Wood South

## Rusthall and Speldhurst



### Polling districts

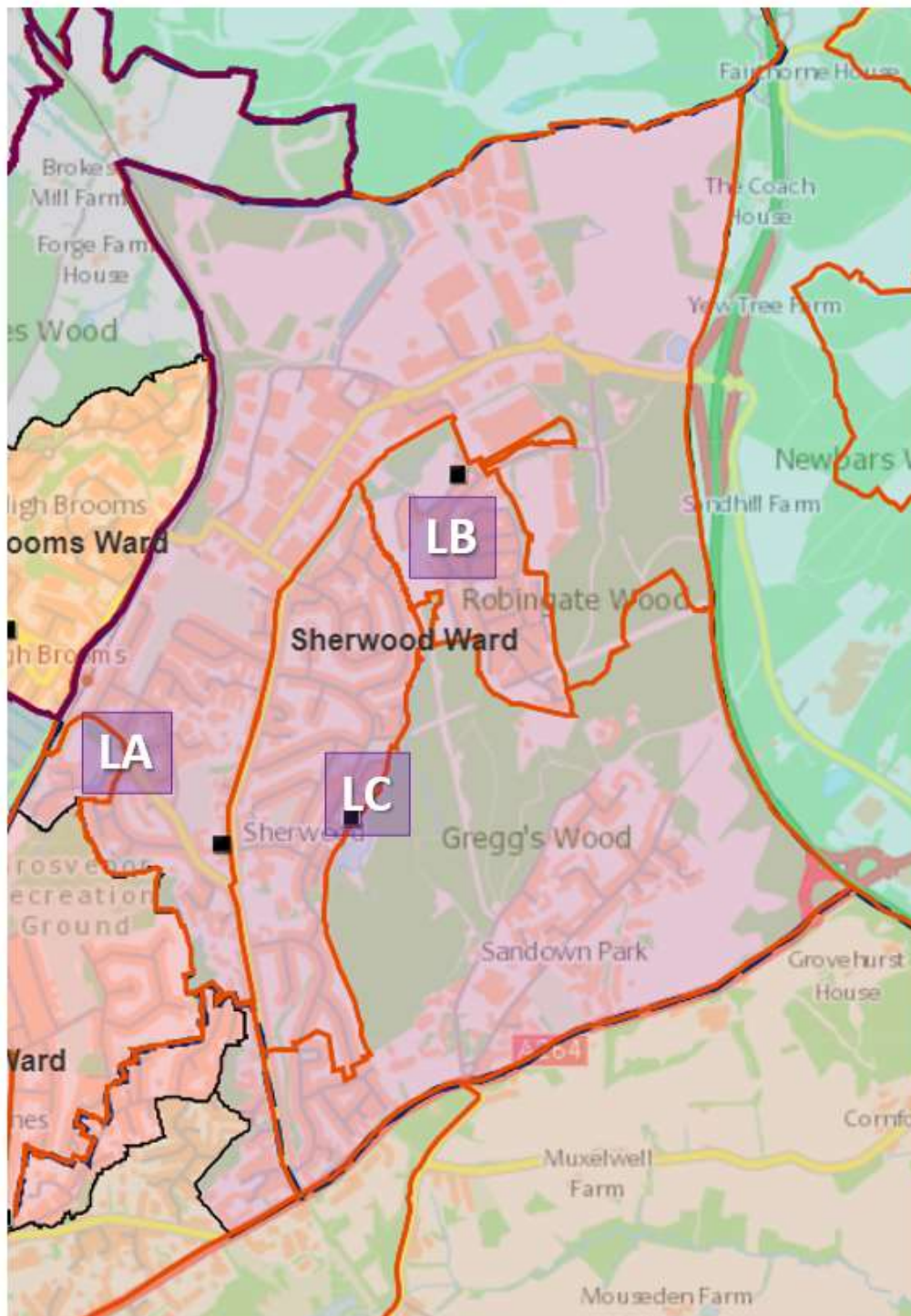
**KA** – Langton Green

**KB** – Speldhurst

**KC** – Rusthall East

**KD** – Rusthall West

# Sherwood



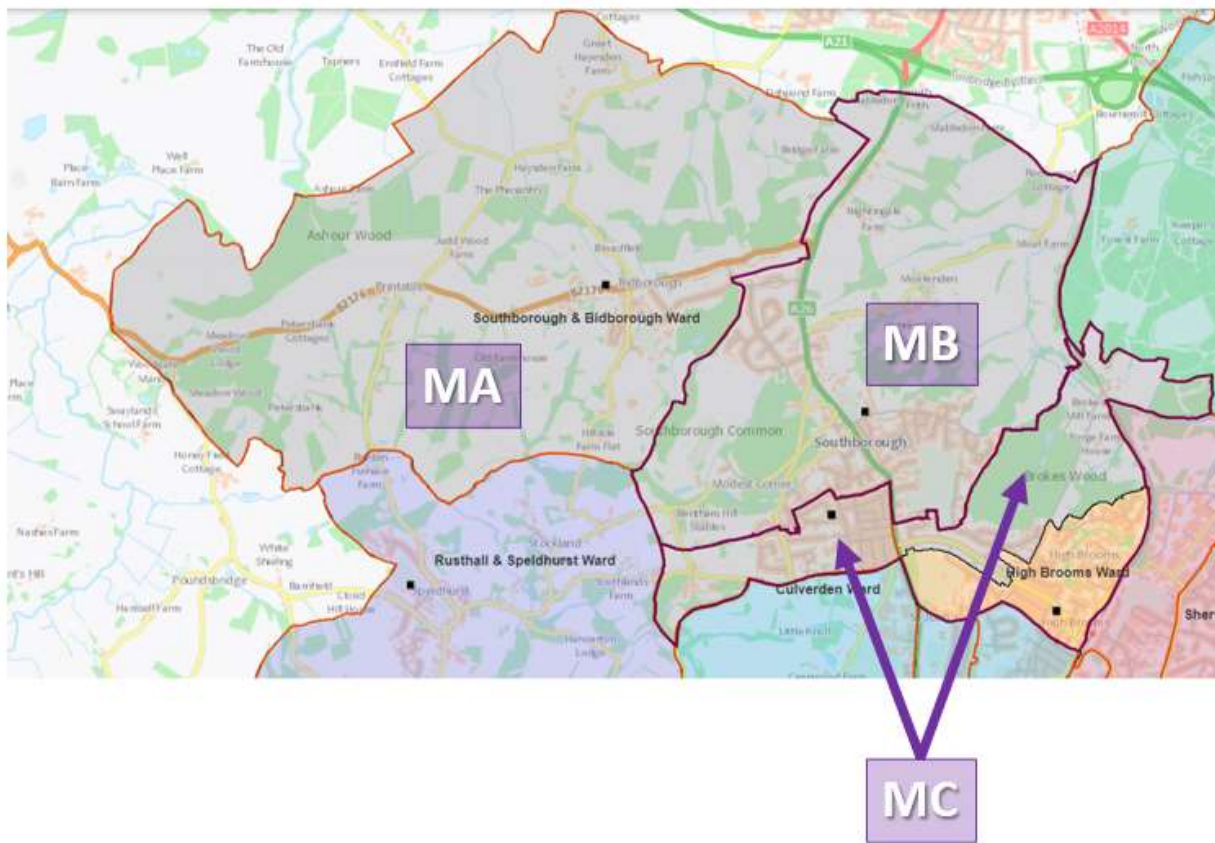
## Polling districts

LA – Oak Road

LB – Knights Park

LC – Sherwood

# Southborough and Bidborough



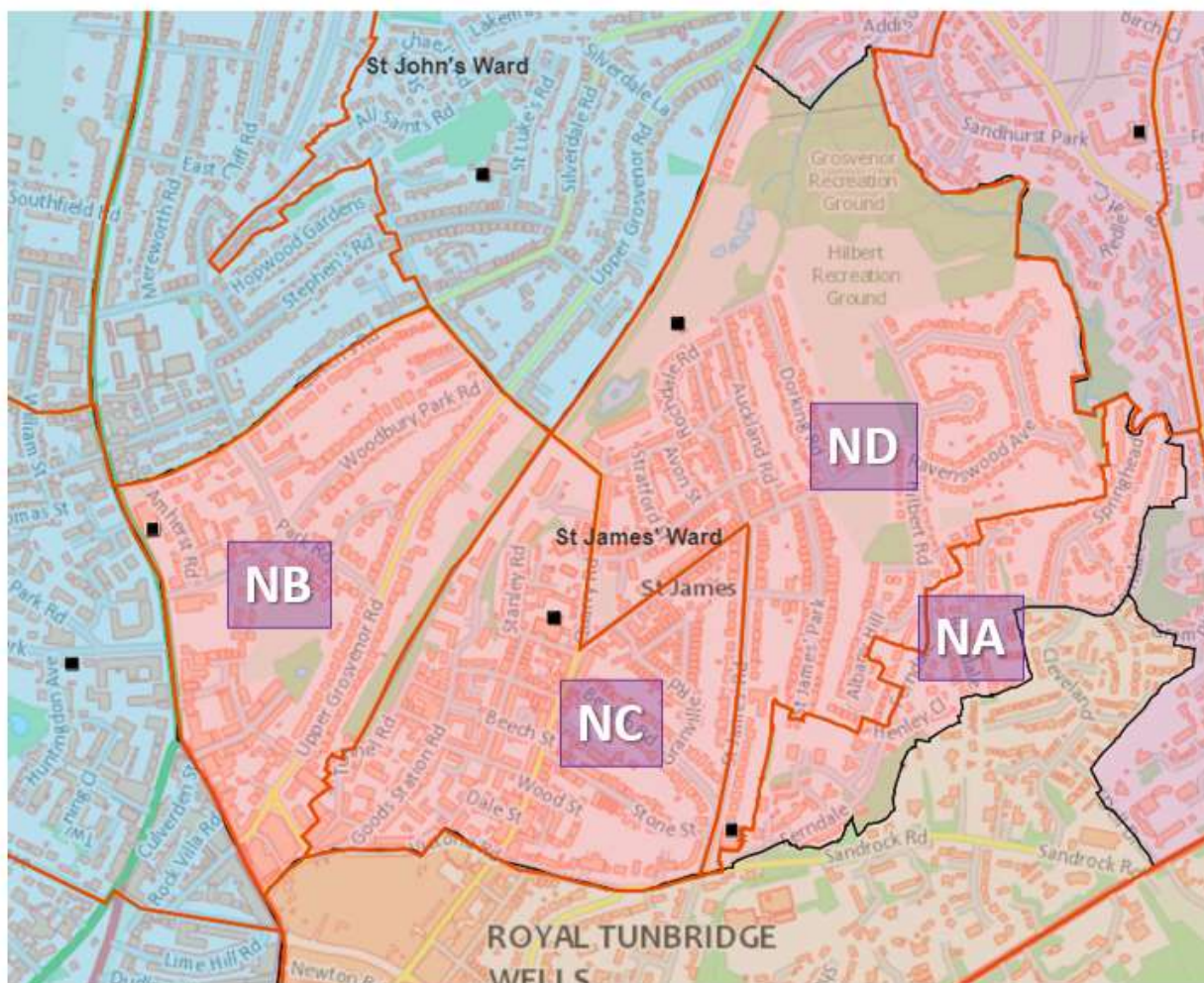
## Polling districts

**MA** – Bidborough

**MB** – Southborough North

**MC** – Southborough South

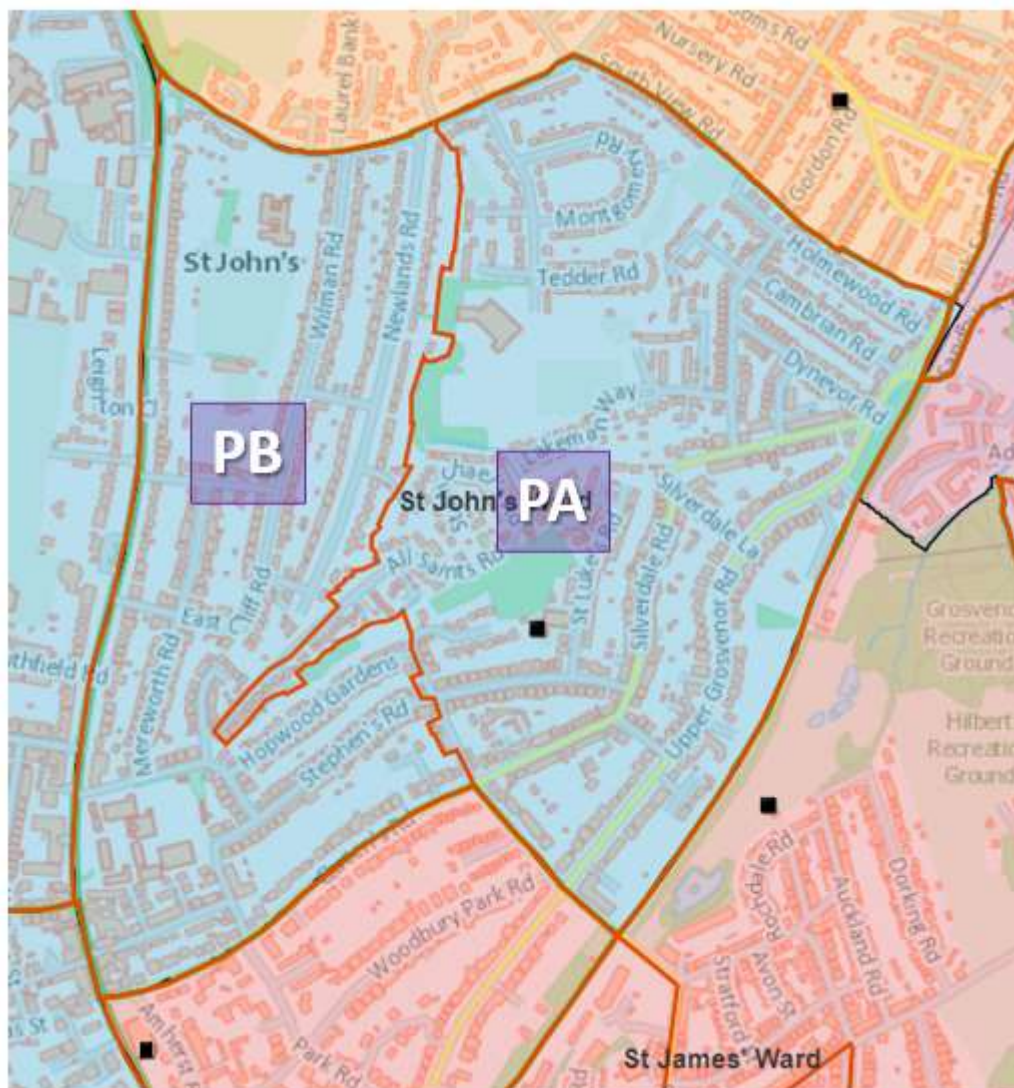
# St James'



## Polling districts

- NA** – Ferndale
- NB** – Grosvenor
- NC** – Camden
- ND** – St James

# St John's



## Polling districts

PA – St Johns

PB – St Lukes