

FHDC EX057

Core Strategy Review - Inspectors' Action Points

**Matter 4-4, Point 1 – District Settlement
Hierarchy**

15 January 2021

Matter 4-4, Point 1 – District Settlement Hierarchy

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Core Strategy Review – District Settlement Hierarchy

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Core Strategy Review Policy SS3: Place-Shaping and Sustainable Settlements Strategy states that development within the district will be directed towards settlements in the settlement hierarchy. The settlement hierarchy is set out in Table 4.4 of the Core Strategy Review.
- 1.2. There are six tiers in the settlement hierarchy:
 - **Sub-regional town** – Folkestone (incorporating Cheriton and Sandgate);
 - **Strategic towns** – Hythe, New Romney (incorporating Littlestone-on-Sea) and the new garden settlement;
 - **Service centres** – Lydd, Hawkinge;
 - **Rural centres** – Dymchurch, Elham, Lyminge and Sellindge;
 - **Primary villages** – St Mary’s Bay, Greatstone-on-Sea, Brookland, Brenzett, Lympne and Saltwood; and
 - **Secondary villages** – Ivychurch, Newchurch, Burmarsh, Stelling Minnis, Densole, Etchinghill and Stanford.
- 1.3. The broad distribution of these settlements across the district is shown in the attached plan (Appendix 1: District Settlement Hierarchy).
- 1.4. The settlement hierarchy arose from work undertaken for the adopted 2013 Core Strategy, set out in the Shepway Rural Services Study 2011 (EB 03.90) and the Strategic Distribution Report 2011 (EB 03.91).

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- 1.5. A pyramid structure is put forward in the Strategic Distribution Report (EB 03.91, page 91) with a focus on the upper tiers of the pyramid. The settlement hierarchy is intended to distribute development in selected locations across the district, to maximise use of existing infrastructure and support business and community facilities, as well as respecting the role and character of individual settlements having regard also to the level of services provided.
- 1.6. An analysis of services by parish is provided for the Romney Marsh area in the Strategic Distribution Report (EB 03.91, pages 94-5) and for the district as a whole in the Rural Services Study (EB 03.90, Appendix 2).

2. Update to Settlement Hierarchy

- 2.1. As a result of proposals within the Core Strategy Review two revisions have been proposed to the original settlement hierarchy:
 - First, that the new garden town is included as a Strategic Town alongside Hythe and New Romney Town; and
 - Second, that the village of Stanford is reclassified as a Secondary Village from a Primary Village, as it is no longer grouped together with Westenhanger, which now forms part of the proposed new garden town.
- 2.2. The Parish Service list from the 2011 Study is provided with this note (Appendix 2: Parish Service List, Shepway Rural Services Study 2011). This shows the district's parishes by population (from the 2001 census) and illustrates the main services that were identified within the parishes' settlements.
- 2.3. The service list has been updated for this note (Appendix 3: Parish Service List, 2021 Update). Population figures for this update are provided from the 2011 census (see Appendix 4: 2011 Census - Parish Population, Kent County Council, Business Intelligence Statistical Bulletin, March 2013). More recent figures are given for council tax registered properties within each parish as of 31 March 2020 to provide a further comparison. Planned growth is shown for

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each settlement in the hierarchy through reference to Core Strategy, Core Strategy Review and Places and Policies Local Plan allocations.

- 2.4. The services within each parish have been updated from council officers’ local knowledge and specific investigation. For financial services, access to Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) has been recorded, rather than bank branches, given the widespread closure of banks across the country over recent years.
- 2.5. For the most part, settlements in the hierarchy fall within separate parishes, however, two exceptions should be noted:
 - Greatstone-on-Sea (a Primary Village in the hierarchy) is divided between New Romney and Lydd parishes; and
 - Etchinghill (a Secondary Village) is within Lyminge parish which includes Lyminge Rural Centre.
- 2.6. The relationship between settlements in the hierarchy and the parishes they form part of is set out in Table 1 below.

Parish/Town Council area	Settlements in the Hierarchy (Policy SS3)
New Romney	New Romney Town (incorporating Littlestone-on-Sea) – Strategic Town Greatstone-on-Sea (part) – Primary Village
Lydd	Lydd – Service Centre Greatstone-on-Sea (part) – Primary Village
Hawkinge	Hawkinge – Service Centre
Dymchurch	Dymchurch – Rural Centre
Elham	Elham – Rural Centre
Lyminge	Lyminge – Rural Centre Etchinghill – Secondary Village
Sellindge	Sellindge – Rural Centre
St Mary in the Marsh	St Mary’s Bay – Primary Village

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Parish/Town Council area	Settlements in the Hierarchy (Policy SS3)
Brookland	Brookland – Primary Village
Brenzett	Brenzett – Primary Village
Lympne	Lympne – Primary Village
Saltwood	Saltwood – Primary Village
Ivychurch	Ivychurch – Secondary Village
Newchurch	Newchurch – Secondary Village
Burmarsh	Burmarsh – Secondary Village
Stelling Minnis	Stelling Minnis – Secondary Village
Swingfield	Densole – Secondary Village
Stanford	Stanford – Secondary Village

Table 1: Parishes and Settlements in the Hierarchy

Changes in parish population

- 2.7. The changes in parish population between the 2011 Rural Services Study (using the 2001 census population figures) and 2021 update (using the 2011 census) are shown in Appendix 4 and are outlined in Table 2 below.

Parish/Town Council Area	2001 Census population	2011 Census population	Change in population
New Romney	6,953	6,996	0.62%
Lydd	5,782	6,567	13.58%
Hawkinge (with Paddlesworth parish)	4,443	8,002	80.10%
Dymchurch	3,605	3,725	3.33%
Elham	1,465	1,509	3.00%
Lyminge	2,688	2,717	1.08%

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Parish/Town Council Area	2001 Census population	2011 Census population	Change in population
Sellindge	1,356	1,601	18.07%
St Mary in the Marsh	2,797	2,819	0.79%
Brookland	453	479	5.74%
Brenzett	377	379	0.53%
Lympne	1,516	1,575	3.89%
Saltwood	852	850	-0.23%
Ivychurch	245	253	3.27%
Newchurch	314	315	0.32%
Burmarsh	358	330	-7.82%
Stelling Minnis	562	578	2.85%
Swingfield	1,171	1,227	4.78%
Stanford	428	429	0.23%

Table 2: Parishes – changes in population between 2001 and 2011

2.8. For the most part, parish populations have increased slightly, or for some of the smaller parishes fallen, between 2001 and 2011. Exceptions are the parishes with settlements within the middle tiers of the hierarchy, the Service Centres and Rural Centres, with the greatest growth being in Hawkinge, followed by Sellindge and Lydd. This reflects the constraints of settlements elsewhere in the hierarchy and allocations in previous plans which have sought to direct development to towns and villages with the widest range of services.

Changes in service provision

2.9. A comparison between the services identified in the 2011 study (Appendix 2) and 2021 update (Appendix 3) shows that the level of service provision has remained relatively constant over the period.

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- 2.10. Where services have been lost, this has tended to be in the smaller centres in the hierarchy (notably Brookland, a Primary Village, where a public house and healthcare facility have been lost).
- 2.11. Petrol stations have also been lost in middle order centres, at Dymchurch and Lyminge (Rural Centres), as well as in Saltwood (Primary Village).
- 2.12. There have been some gains in services, such as an additional food shop at Brenzett (Primary Village).

3. Conclusions

- 3.1. The following points should be noted about the settlement hierarchy in the Core Strategy Review.

Sub-Regional Town

- 3.2. The sub-regional town, Folkestone (incorporating Cheriton and Sandgate) is substantially larger than any other settlement in the hierarchy, with a population of approximately 51,300. The next largest settlement in the hierarchy, Hythe, is approximately 28 per cent the size of Folkestone. (See Appendix 4.)
- 3.3. Folkestone will be the focus of further growth in the plan period, through strategic allocations at Folkestone Seafront and Shorncliffe Garrison (FHDC EX055) and a large number of allocations in the recently adopted Places and Policies Local Plan (Appendix 3). While the council is undertaking a masterplan for Folkestone town centre, beyond these allocations, opportunities for growth are likely to be limited, given that Folkestone is tightly constrained on all sides (FHDC EX051).
- 3.4. Folkestone continues to provide the major role in the settlement hierarchy for the district and adjoining districts, and the council considers that its identification in the hierarchy remains appropriate.

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Strategic Towns

- 3.5. Hythe and New Romney (incorporating Littlestone-on-Sea) form the next tier in the hierarchy, as strategic towns. These are towns of approximately 14,500 people (Hythe) and 7,000 people (New Romney).
- 3.6. Both towns are identified for strategic growth, through the Hythe Strategy (Policy CSD7) and New Romney Strategy (Policy CSD8) broad locations. Development on both of these broad locations is well advanced; however, additional site allocations are identified in the Places and Policies Local Plan (Appendix 3). Beyond these broad locations and local plan allocations, the council considers that opportunities for growth are likely to be extremely limited given the constraints of the two towns (see FHDC EX051).
- 3.7. Both these towns continue to operate as service centres for their wider hinterlands, and the council considers that their identification as strategic towns remains appropriate.
- 3.8. The new garden settlement was introduced as an additional strategic town in this tier, through revisions to the hierarchy in the Core Strategy Review. Policy SS6 allocates the site for approximately 6,000 new homes within the plan period, which would create a new town larger than New Romney (3,407 council tax properties within the parish as of 31 March 2020) but smaller than Hythe (7,693 council tax properties).
- 3.9. While the new garden settlement will provide some services to its wider hinterland, the Core Strategy Review stresses that the settlement should not compete with other settlements in the hierarchy or settlements in neighbouring districts and policy requirements have been drafted to ensure this (see for example, the council's Statement of Common Ground with Ashford Borough Council, EB 13.20).
- 3.10. The council considers that the new garden settlement fits appropriately within this tier of the hierarchy, albeit that it will not reach its full role until later in the plan period.

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- 3.11. While the description of the strategic towns – “*to accommodate significant development*” – remains appropriate, this description will need to be reviewed in a future plan review, when the broad locations in Policies CSD7 and CSD8 have been built out.

Service Centres

- 3.12. Lydd and Hawkinge are identified as service centres which will grow and consolidate their positions serving their hinterlands with shops and services.
- 3.13. As noted in paragraph 2.8, Hawkinge has grown significantly in recent years, and is now only slightly smaller than the next largest settlement (New Romney) in the strategic towns hierarchy (Hawkinge Parish having 3,323 council tax properties and New Romney Parish having 3,407 council tax properties). However, although some additional development sites are identified in the Places and Policies Local Plan (see Appendix 3), the council considers that its position in the hierarchy as a rural centre remains appropriate.
- 3.14. Hawkinge is not identified for further strategic growth, and its location, entirely within the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, is likely to severely constrain future development, other than on small windfall sites. As the National Planning Policy Framework states, that the scale and extent of development within designated areas, such as the AONB, should be limited and major development should be refused other than in exceptional circumstances.
- 3.15. Lydd has also grown over recent years (3,103 council tax properties within the parish), but to a smaller degree than Hawkinge. There are some limited allocations for Lydd in the Places and Policies Local Plan, but given the constraints of the town, being surrounded by areas of high flood risk and sites protected for their biodiversity, opportunities for further growth are extremely limited (see FHDC EX051).
- 3.16. Services have remained largely unchanged in the two service centres since the 2011 Rural Services Study and the council considers that the description

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of the centres, as providing services to their local hinterlands, remains appropriate.

Rural Centres

- 3.17. The settlement hierarchy identifies four rural centres: Dymchurch, Elham, Lyminge and Sellindge.
- 3.18. These centres serve parishes of sizes ranging from 652 council tax properties (Lyminge) to 1,737 council tax properties (Dymchurch). They are significantly smaller than the settlements in the Service Centre tier of the hierarchy (serving parishes of more than 3,000 council tax properties).
- 3.19. Despite recent growth in Sellindge, and the future growth identified through Policy CSD9, the council considers that its identification within this tier of the hierarchy remains appropriate. It would take considerable additional growth for Sellindge to reach the size of the towns of Lydd and Hawkinge; the council considers that, beyond the sites identified through the Core Strategy Review and additional allocations in the Places and Policies Local Plan, further growth is likely to be severely constrained by Sellindge's location adjoining the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (as highlighted in the Growth Options Study Phase Two, EB 04.21).
- 3.20. Settlements within this tier of the hierarchy generally offer a fuller range of services than those in the village hierarchies, particularly with healthcare facilities, food shopping and post offices, and the council considers that it remains appropriate to describe these centres as providing shops and services for a significant number of residents, visitors and smaller villages.

Primary Villages

- 3.21. The Core Strategy Review identifies six primary villages: St Mary's Bay, Greatstone-on-Sea, Brookland, Brenzett, Lypne and Saltwood. The 2013 Core Strategy identified an additional settlement of Stanford/Westenhanger within this tier.

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- 3.22. The parishes that these settlements serve are generally much smaller than those of the Rural Centres tier. The exception is the parish of St Mary in the Marsh, principally served by St Mary's Bay; however, as set out in Appendix 3, services are more limited than those offered by Dymchurch, Elham, Lyminge and Sellindge.
- 3.23. Potential for growth in the Primary Villages is severely limited, as several of the settlements are entirely surrounded by, or in places overlain by, areas of high flood risk (St Mary's Bay, Greatstone-on-Sea, Brookland and Brenzett) and adjoin areas are protected for their biodiversity value.
- 3.24. Lympe is partially overlain by the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty designation. The indicative strategy for the new garden settlement seeks to preserve Lympe's identity as a distinctive settlement in its own right. Saltwood is surrounded by, and in parts overlain by, AONB designated land and is considered to be similarly constrained. The majority of the settlements in the Primary Villages hierarchy either have no allocated sites in the development plan or relatively small allocations.
- 3.25. Any potential for further development is likely to be limited to small infill sites; however, while some of the Places and Policies Local Plan allocations remain to be built-out, the council considers that their description as settlements with some potential to grow remains appropriate. Services are, however, more limited than those of the Rural Centres hierarchy and, as noted, some services have been lost, notably in Brookland; the council therefore considers that it is still accurate to describe these settlements as meeting the needs of local neighbourhoods rather than the wider area.
- 3.26. Stanford and Westenhanger were identified together as one centre for the purposes of the settlement hierarchy in the adopted 2013 Core Strategy, albeit that the settlements are separated by the major infrastructure corridors of the M20 and Channel Tunnel Rail Link.
- 3.27. As the proposals for the new garden settlement (Policies SS6-9) focus on the creation of a new centre near Westenhanger station to serve the town, the

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council considers that Westenhanger should be removed from the hierarchy as a primary village.

- 3.28. Stanford is a small parish (166 council tax properties as of 31 March 2020) with very limited facilities, of a similar size to Ivychurch, Newchurch and Burmarsh. While Stanford village will in time benefit from the facilities and services provided by the new garden settlement, the council considers that, given its physical separation by the M20 and Channel Tunnel rail corridors, it is now appropriate to identify it as a centre in its own right, within the smaller Secondary Villages tier.

Secondary Villages

- 3.29. There are seven villages identified within the secondary villages tier: Ivychurch, Newchurch, Burmarsh, Stelling Minnis, Densole, Etchinghill and Stanford.
- 3.30. These are mainly smaller settlements within parishes of around 200 to 600 people. The exceptions are Swingfield parish, served by Densole, with around 1,230 people and Etchinghill, within Lyminge parish, which is also served by Lyminge (Rural Centre).
- 3.31. All the secondary villages, however, have very limited facilities, lacking healthcare, food shopping, post offices, financial services and chemists. There is very limited potential for further growth given constraints of high flood risk entirely covering the villages (Ivychurch, Newchurch and Burmarsh) or landscape constraints of the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty overlaying the settlements (Stelling Minnis, Densole and Etchinghill). Some small allocations are identified in the Places and Policies Local Plan in Stelling Minnis, Densole and Etchinghill, but the National Planning Policy Framework states that the scale and extent of development within designated areas, such as the AONB, should be limited and major development should be refused other than in exceptional circumstances.

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- 3.32. Stanford lies outside the AONB but within its setting; as set out within the Growth Options Study Phase Two (EB 04.21) the village is considered to be highly constrained by this setting.
- 3.33. Given the constraints to growth and limited services and facilities available within these settlements, the council considers that Ivychurch, Newchurch, Burmarsh, Densole and Etchinghill are appropriately identified as Secondary Villages within the hierarchy, as small country settlements serving local needs. Changes relating to Stanford are described in paragraph 3.27 above.
- 3.34. In summary, the council considers that the Core Strategy Review settlement hierarchy set out in Table 4.4 and operated through Policy SS3 is appropriate. Several of the tiers have settlements identified for further growth; it is likely that the descriptions of these tiers will need to be reviewed through a future plan review as Core Strategy and Core Strategy Review broad locations and Places and Policies Local Plan allocations are built out and the focus becomes more one of consolidating the position of the various different settlements in the hierarchy.
- 3.35. Evidence to the examination has highlighted the district's constraints beyond the opportunities identified through the broad locations and allocated sites (see EB 04.20, EB 04.21 and EX051) and further development opportunities are likely to be limited to windfall and infill sites.

Appendix 1: District Settlement Hierarchy

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The District Settlement Hierarchy



**Appendix 2: Parish Service List, Shepway
Rural Services Study 2011**

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Appendix Two - Parish Service List

Parish	Population	Public House	Village Hall	Primary School	Post Office	Food Shop	Health Care	Petrol Station	Public Toilets	Chemist	Banks	Static Library	Dentist	Secondary School
New Romney	6953	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lydd	5782	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-
Hawkinge	4405	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	-	Y	Y	-	Y	-
Dymchurch	3605	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	-	-	-
Lyminge	2688	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y ‡	Y	Y	-	Y	-	-
St Mary in the Marsh	3112*	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lympne	1516	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elham	1465	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-
Sellindge	1356	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swingfield	1171	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saltwood	852	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	Y
Stelling Minnis	562	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brookland	453	Y	Y	Y	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stanford	428	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brenzett	377	-	Y	Y	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-
Burmarsh	358	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Newington	341	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Newchurch	314	-	Y	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elmsted	292	Y	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ivychurch	245	Y	Y	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stowting	238	Y	Y	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Old Romney	206	Y	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Postling	179	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acrise	176	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snargate	112	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Monks Horton	105*	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paddlesworth	46*	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Notes to table:

Parish populations are based upon the Census, 2001 headcounts. The star () symbol indicates parishes created in 2003, and as such no census figures exist. In these parishes the Elector Control Summary Register 2008 for each parish ward was used to determine the population levels. Although not consistent with the headcount figures, they provide the most accurate population figure for this level of statistical research.

- Health Care includes doctor's surgeries and/or health clinics provided by the National Health Service (NHS).
- Libraries include only stationary buildings provided by Kent County Council.
- Banks only include branches not ATMs (this excludes Post Offices which can also be used for some banking functions)
- ‡ Six mile Garage, which lies on the parish border with Elmsted, Stelling Minnis and Stowting but lies within the Lyminge Parish boundary

Appendix 3: Parish Service List, 2021 Update

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Settlement Hierarchy Review

Appendix 3: Settlement Hierarchy (CSR Submission Draft (Regulation 19))

Status and Strategic Role	Identified Settlements (with Parish)	Size of Parish ¹ Number of Council Tax properties (parish) as of 31 st March 2020	Main Services (as at 2020)														Planned Growth	Allocated Dwellings	
			Primary School	Health Care	Food Shop	Public House	Static Library	Post Office	Bank (ATM)	Community Building	Public Toilets	Secondary School	Petrol Station	Dentist	Chemist	Bus/Train Service			
The Sub-Regional Town <i>To accommodate substantial residential, commercial and social development. To provide improved (inter) national transport links, and a good choice of employment, retail, cultural/leisure and public services for the whole of the district, adjoining districts and visitors.</i>	Folkestone (incorporating Cheriton and Sandgate)	Folkestone – population 46,698	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	SS10: Folkestone Seafront	1,000	
		Sandgate – population 4,639																SS11: Shorncliffe Garrison	1,200
		Council Tax Properties – 22,332																UA01: East Station Goods Yard	40
																		UA02: Rotunda and Marine Parade Car Parks	115
																		UA03: Royal Victoria Hospital	42
																		UA04: Shorncliffe Road	20
																		UA05: Ingles Manor	46
																		UA06: Shepway Close	35
																		UA07: Ship Street	100
																		UA08: Highview School	27
																		UA09: Brockman Family Centre	26
																		UA10: Cherry Pickers Public House	10
																		UA11: Affinity Water	70
																		UA12: Encombe House	36
																Total Allocations Folkestone	2,767		
Strategic Towns <i>To accommodate significant development – in so far as consistent with maintaining historic character – appropriate to the needs of their wider hinterlands, and</i>	Hythe (Hythe Parish)	Parish population 14,516	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y	Y	Y	CSD7: Hythe [Nickolls Quarry]	1,050	
		Council Tax Properties - 7,693																UA13: Smiths Medical Campus	80
																		UA14: Station Road	30
																		UA15: Saltwood Care Centre	84
																		UA16: St Saviour's Hospital	50

¹ Parish populations taken from Kent County Council, Business Intelligence Statistical Bulletin, March 2013 using data from 2011 Census.

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Status and Strategic Role	Identified Settlements (with Parish)	Size of Parish ¹ Number of Council Tax properties (parish) as of 31 st March 2020	Main Services (as at 2020)														Planned Growth	Allocated Dwellings		
			Primary School	Health Care	Food Shop	Public House	Static Library	Post Office	Bank (ATM)	Community Building	Public Toilets	Secondary School	Petrol Station	Dentist	Chemist	Bus/Train Service				
<i>maintaining the viability of their local transport hubs, Town Centres and higher-order tourism, employment and public services.</i>																	UA17: Foxwood School	150		
																	UA18: Princes Parade	150		
																	UA19: Hythe Swimming Pool	50		
																	Total Allocations Hythe	1,644		
		New Romney Town (incorporating Littlestone-on-Sea) (New Romney Parish)	Parish population - 6,996 Council Tax Properties - 3,407	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	CSD8: New Romney Strategy	300	
																		RM01: Land off Cherry Gardens, Littlestone	10	
																		RM02: Land off Victoria Road West, Littlestone	70	
																		RM03: Land rear of the Old School House, New Romney	20	
																		RM04: Land west of Ashford Road, New Romney	60	
																		Total allocations New Romney / Littlestone	460	
	New Garden Settlement																	8,000 – 10,000		
Service Centres <i>To accommodate development appropriate to the district and the centre's own needs, in order to grow and consolidate their position as centres serving the local hinterland with shops, employment and public services.</i>	Lydd Town (Lydd Parish)	Parish population - 6,567 Council Tax Properties - 3,103	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	RM06: Kitewell Lane	8		
																		RM07: Land South of Kitewell Lane	9	
																			RM08: Station Yard, Station Road	30
																			Total allocations Lydd	47
	Hawkinge (Hawkinge Parish)	Parish population - 8,002 Council Tax Properties - 3,323	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	-	-	-	Y	Y	Y		ND01: Former Officers' Mess	70	
																		ND02: Mill Lane to rear of Mill Farm	14	
																		ND03: Adjacent Kent Battle of Britain Museum	100	
																			Total allocations Hawkinge	184

Settlement Hierarchy Review

Status and Strategic Role	Identified Settlements (with Parish)	Size of Parish ¹ Number of Council Tax properties (parish) as of 31 st March 2020	Main Services (as at 2020)														Planned Growth	Allocated Dwellings
			Primary School	Health Care	Food Shop	Public House	Static Library	Post Office	Bank (ATM)	Community Building	Public Toilets	Secondary School	Petrol Station	Dentist	Chemist	Bus/Train Service		
Rural Centres <i>To develop – consistent with enhancing the natural and historic environment – in a manner that supports their role as integrated tourist and local centres providing shops and services for a significant number of residents, visitors, and also for other villages in the North Downs or Romney Marsh.</i>	Dymchurch (Dymchurch Parish)	Parish population - 3,725 Council Tax Properties - 1,737	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	-	-	Y	Y		
	Elham (Elham Parish)	Parish population - 1,509 Council Tax Properties - 688	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	-	Y	Y	-	-	-	-	Y	-	
	Lyminge (Lyminge Parish)	Parish population - 2,717 Council Tax Properties - 652	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y	-	Y*	-	Y	Y	ND04: Land East of Broad Street	30
																	Total allocations Lyminge	30
	Sellindge (Sellindge Parish)	Parish population - 1,601 Council Tax Properties - 757	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	-	-	-	-	-	Y	CSD9: Sellindge Strategy	600
														ND05: General Sellindge Policy	40			
														Total allocations Sellindge	640			
Primary Villages <i>To contribute to strategic aims and local needs; and as settlements with the potential to grow and serve residents, visitors and neighbourhoods in the locality with rural business and community facilities.</i>	St Mary's Bay (St Mary in the Marsh Parish)	Parish population - 2,819 Council Tax Properties – 1,462	-	-	Y	Y	-	Y	-	Y	Y*	-	-	-	-	Y	RM09: Former Sands Motel	85
																	Total allocations St Mary's Bay	85
	Greatstone-on-Sea	Within Lydd and New	Y	-	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	-	Y	-	-	-	-	Y	RM10: Land rear of Varne Boat Club	5
																	RM11: Car Park, Coast Drive	15

Settlement Hierarchy Review

Status and Strategic Role	Identified Settlements (with Parish)	Size of Parish ¹ Number of Council Tax properties (parish) as of 31 st March 2020	Main Services (as at 2020)														Planned Growth	Allocated Dwellings
			Primary School	Health Care	Food Shop	Public House	Static Library	Post Office	Bank (ATM)	Community Building	Public Toilets	Secondary School	Petrol Station	Dentist	Chemist	Bus/Train Service		
	(Within Lydd and New Romney Parishes)	Romney Parishes															Total allocations Greatstone	20
	Brookland (Brookland Parish)	Parish population - 479	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	Y	RM12: Rosemary Corner	5
Council Tax Properties - 206																	RM13: North and South of Rye Road	29
																		Total allocations Brookland
	Brenzett (Brenzett Parish)	Parish population - 379	Y	-	Y	-	-	Y*	Y	Y	-	-	Y	-	-	Y	RM14: Adjacent Moore Close	26
Council Tax Properties - 179																	Total allocations Brenzett	26
	Lympne (Lympne Parish)	Parish population - 1,575 Council Tax Properties - 652	Y	-	Y	Y	-	Y	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	Y	[New garden settlement] ND06: Former Lympne Airfield	125
	Saltwood (Saltwood Parish)	Parish population - 850 Council Tax Properties - 392	Y	-	Y	Y	-	-	-	Y	-	Y	-	-	-	Y	-	
Secondary Villages <i>To continue to provide crucial rural facilities to</i>	Ivychurch (Ivychurch Parish)	Parish population - 253	-	-	-	Y	-	Y*	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	Y*	-	

Settlement Hierarchy Review

Status and Strategic Role	Identified Settlements (with Parish)	Size of Parish ¹ Number of Council Tax properties (parish) as of 31 st March 2020	Main Services (as at 2020)														Planned Growth	Allocated Dwellings
			Primary School	Health Care	Food Shop	Public House	Static Library	Post Office	Bank (ATM)	Community Building	Public Toilets	Secondary School	Petrol Station	Dentist	Chemist	Bus/Train Service		
<i>visitors and their own residents and workforce, in line with local needs, their environment, and role as relatively small country settlements.</i>		Council Tax Properties - 102																
	Newchurch (Newchurch Parish)	Parish population - 315 Council Tax Properties - 138	-	-	-	-	-	Y*	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	Y*	-	
	Burmarsh (Burmarsh Parish)	Parish population - 330 Council Tax Properties - 133	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	Y*	-	
	Stelling Minnis (Stelling Minnis Parish)	Parish population - 578 Council Tax Properties - 253	Y	-	Y	Y	-	Y	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	Y	ND07: Camping and Caravan Site	11
																	Total allocations Stelling Minnis	11
	Densole (Swingfield Parish)	Parish population - 1,227 Council Tax Properties - 532	- *	-	-	Y	-	Y	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	Y	ND08: Canterbury Road	25
																	Total allocations Densole	25
Etchinghill		-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	Y	ND09: Etchinghill Nursery	30	

Settlement Hierarchy Review

Status and Strategic Role	Identified Settlements (with Parish)	Size of Parish ¹ Number of Council Tax properties (parish) as of 31 st March 2020	Main Services (as at 2020)													Planned Growth	Allocated Dwellings	
			Primary School	Health Care	Food Shop	Public House	Static Library	Post Office	Bank (ATM)	Community Building	Public Toilets	Secondary School	Petrol Station	Dentist	Chemist			Bus/Train Service
	(Lyminge Parish)	See Lyminge															ND10: Golf Course, Etchinghill	8
	Stanford (Stanford Parish)	Parish population - 429 Council Tax Properties - 166	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	-	Total allocations Etchinghill	38

* Post Office - Mobile Post Office Service only, on Tuesdays for 2 hours at each village.

* Bank (ATM) - Lyminge ATM is not free to use.

* Toilets - St Marys Bay toilets are seasonal only.

* Secondary Schools - Brockhill services Hythe and Saltwood, so it has been recorded under both.

* Petrol Station - Six mile Garage, which lies on the parish border with Elmsted, Stelling Minnis and Stowting but lies within the Lyminge Parish boundary

* Bus Service - Limited service

* Primary School within Swingfield Parish is located at Selsted (Selsted Church of England Primary School)

**Appendix 4: 2011 Census - Parish
Population, Kent County Council,
Business Intelligence Statistical Bulletin,
March 2013 (Extracts)**

Matter 4-4, Point 1 – District Settlement Hierarchy

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2011 Census: Parish population

Related documents



The [Population and Census](#) web page contains more information which you may find useful.

- [Area profiles](#)
- [Kent Geography](#)
- [The Office for National Statistics](#)

Further information

Business Intelligence Research & Evaluation

Kent County Council
Sessions House
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XQ

Email:
research@kent.gov.uk

Tel: 03000 417444

This bulletin presents the 2011 Census total population for parishes in Kent as published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on 30 January 2013. Change in population since the 2001 Census is also presented. Data is also provided for the Non Civil Parished areas and the Kent local authority districts and Medway Unitary authority.

Summary of findings

- There are currently 320 parishes in the county of Kent. 309 parishes are in the Kent County Council (KCC) area and 11 parishes are within the Medway Unitary authority area.
- In 2011 the average population of a parish in the KCC area was 2,962 people. Folkestone parish in Shepway has the largest population with 46,698 people whilst Leaveland parish in Swale has the smallest population with 100 people.
- Between 2001 and 2011 Kingsnorth parish in Ashford saw the highest growth in population in real terms with an increase of +4,534 people. This is equal to an increase of +67.6%. However Boughton Aluph parish in Ashford saw the highest percentage increase in population with +126.6% which equates to an extra 1,391 people.
- The most densely populated parish in the KCC area is Stanhope in Ashford where there are 71.09 persons per hectare. Old Romney parish in Shepway is the smallest density with 0.09 persons per hectare.

Introduction

A parish (also known as a 'civil parish'), is the smallest unit of local government in England. Parishes were once significant local government areas but now have very limited functions. Modern parish councils (which may choose to call themselves a town council) can provide facilities such as village halls, war memorials, cemeteries, leisure facilities and playgrounds. They have duties concerning maintenance of public footpaths and may also spend money on cultural projects, community transport initiatives and crime prevention equipment. In addition they must be notified of all planning applications and consulted on the making of certain byelaws.

However, not all parishes have a council - if there are fewer than 200 parishioners, or if the parishioners do not want one, decisions can instead be taken at parish meetings. Also, several smaller parishes may come together to elect a joint council.

There is a long history of parishes in England but parishes as we know them today were first established in 1894. At that time parish councils were elected mainly in rural areas although a small number of urban parishes continued to exist (left over from the days when they were originally developed as ecclesiastical parishes by the Church of England). However, the Local Government Act of 1972 retained civil parishes in rural areas and small urban areas but abolished them in larger urban areas. Urban areas were considered too large to be a single parish and therefore became un-parished.

Twenty-five years on, and the Local Government and Rating Act 1997 created a procedure which gave local residents the right to demand that new parish councils be created in un-parished areas. Whilst 6 new parish councils have since been established in Kent's urban areas between 2001 and 2011 there are still several areas which remain un-parished.

Although parishes are affected by the boundary changes of the county districts or unitary authorities in which they fall, they are not contiguous with electoral wards. Many parishes are a similar size to wards, some are much smaller than wards and some can contain several wards, and ward boundaries need not be followed.

In consequence, the huge range in population size between parishes; the frequent change to the number of parishes and the fact that some areas of the country have parishes and others not make them an unsatisfactory unit for national statistical production on an annual basis. However, the national census does provide data at parish level.

2011 Census Parishes and Non Civil Parished areas in Kent

There are currently 320 parishes in the county of Kent. 309 parishes are in the KCC area and 11 parishes are within the Medway Unitary authority area. Dover, Sevenoaks and Shepway are the only KCC local authority areas to have no un-parished areas.

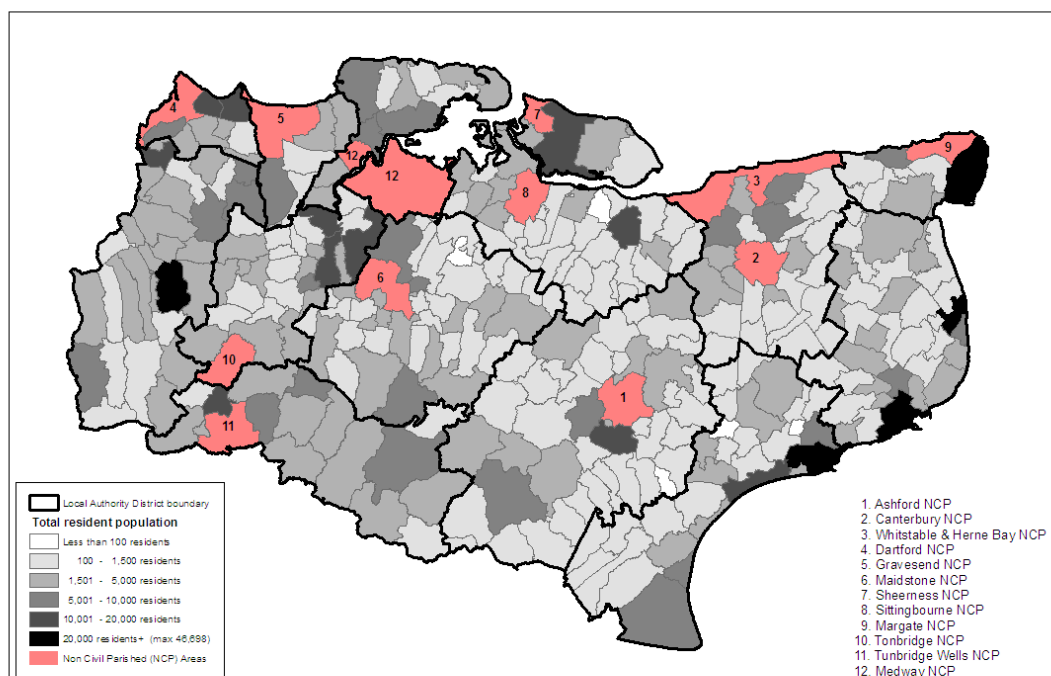
In 2011 the average population of a parish in the KCC area was 2,962 people. Folkestone parish in Shepway has the largest population with 46,698 people Leaveland parish in Swale is credited with having the smallest population with 100 people. However, there are five parishes in the KCC area with population of less than 100 people.

The ONS operate a Disclosure Control Policy which is designed to protect against any possible identification of an individual through the publication of any data. This means that any information for a parish with a population of less than 100 people will not be published. Instead the information of the smaller parish will be merged with a neighbouring parish.

Further details of the five combined parishes in the KCC area are available in the individual local authority districts tables on pages 5 to 15.

Map 1 presents the 2011 Census parish population and location of non-civil parished areas in the KCC area and Medway.

Map 1: 2011 Census: Total resident population in parishes in Kent and Medway

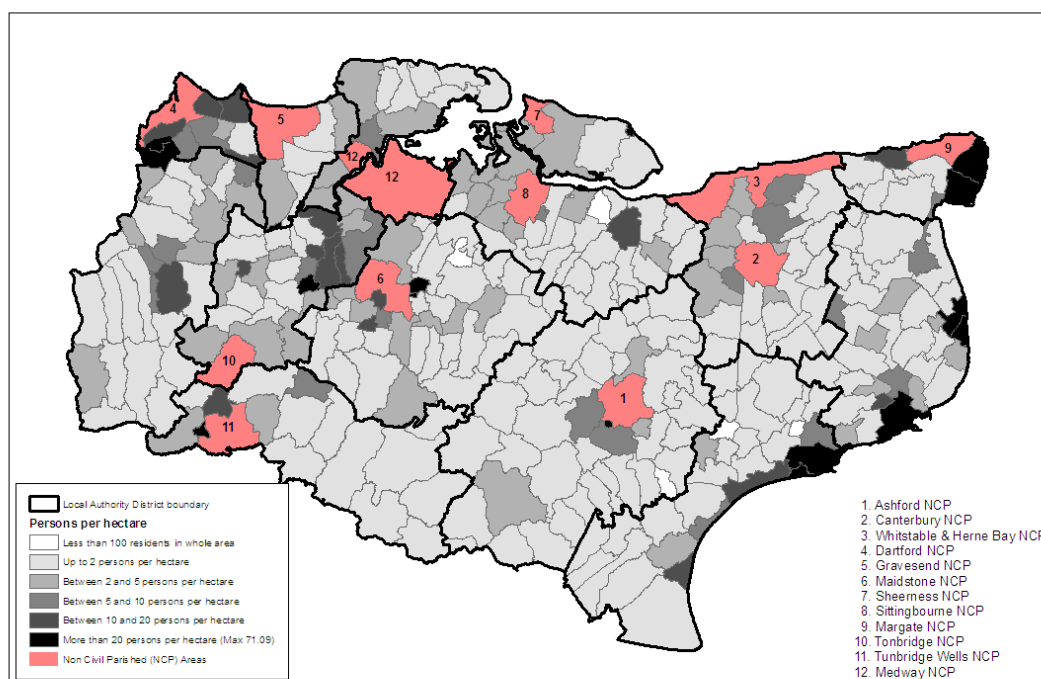


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Map 2 presents the 2011 Census parish population in the KCC area and Medway.

Map 2: 2011 Census: Population density in parishes in Kent and Medway



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In 2011 there were 900,336 people living in parishes across the KCC area. This accounts for 61.5% of the total population. The remaining 563,404 people (38.5%) of the population were living in un-parished areas.

In Medway Unitary Authority 32,909 people live in parishes. This accounts for 12.5% of the total population. The remaining 231,016 people (87.5%) of the population were living in un-parished areas. See tables 1 and 2 for details.

Table 1: Distribution of population within parishes and non parished areas in Kent

	2001		2011		2001-11 Change	
	Population	% of Kent	Population	% of Kent	number	%
Total Parish Population	733,561	55.2%	900,336	61.5%	166,775	22.7%
Total Non Parished Population	596,157	44.8%	563,404	38.5%	-32,753	-5.5%
Kent County Council Area	1,329,718		1,463,740		134,022	10.1%

Source: 2001 Census Table KS001 and 2011 Census Table KS101, The Office for national Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright
Presented by Business Intelligence: Research & Evaluation, Kent County Council

Table 2: Distribution of population within parishes and non parished areas in Medway

	2001		2011		2001-11 Change	
	Population	% of Kent	Population	% of Kent	number	%
Total Parish Population	30,057	12.0%	32,909	12.5%	2,852	9.5%
Total Non Parished Population	219,431	88.0%	231,016	87.5%	11,585	5.3%
Medway Unitary Authority	249,488		263,925		14,437	5.8%

Source: 2001 Census Table KS001 and 2011 Census Table KS101, The Office for national Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright
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2001 to 2011 change

In the KCC area there were 6 new parishes created between the 2001 Census and the 2011 Census. These are:

- Thanet - Cliffsend parish in 2003 and Ramsgate parish in 2004
- Shepway - Folkestone parish in 2004 and Sandgate parish in 2004
- Sevenoaks - Hextable parish in 2008
- Tunbridge Wells - Rusthall parish in 2011.

All of these new parishes were once part of the urban non-parished areas and this explains the marked increase in parish population of 22.7% between 2001 and 2011, and the -5.5% decrease in non parished population.

The total number of parishes in each of the local authority areas in 2001 and 2011 is presented in table 3

Table 3: Change in number of Kent parishes between 2001 and 2011

	Number of parishes		
	2001	2011	2001-11 Change
KCC Total	303	309	6
Ashford	42	42	0
Canterbury	26	26	0
Dartford	8	8	0
Dover	35	35	0
Gravesham	6	6	0
Maidstone	41	41	0
Sevenoaks	29	30	1
Shepway	28	30	2
Swale	38	38	0
Thanet	8	10	2
Tonbridge & Malling	27	27	0
Tunbridge Wells	15	16	1
Medway Unitary Authority	11	11	0

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Individual tables for each local authority are presented on pages 5 to 15. Each table presents the total population for 2001 and 2011, the population change and percentage change, the area and density for each parish and non parished area.

More detailed information about the characteristics of the population at parish level is available in the 2011 Census Summary Profile on the [area profiles](#) page on the Kent County Council website.

2011 Census Parish level population

Shepway District Council	2001	2011	2001-11 Change		Area	2011 density
			number	%		
Total population of civil parishes	96,238	107,969	11,731	12.19%	35,670	3.03
Acrise	176	172	-4	-2.27%	543	0.32
Brenzett	377	379	2	0.53%	1,091	0.35
Brookland	453	479	26	5.74%	972	0.49
Burmarsh	358	330	-28	-7.82%	1,724	0.19
Dymchurch	3,605	3,725	120	3.33%	580	6.42
Elham	1,465	1,509	44	3.00%	2,552	0.59
Elmsted	292	319	27	9.25%	1,044	0.31
Hawkinge/Paddlesworth*	4,443	8,002	3,559	80.10%	1,123	7.13
Hythe	14,170	14,516	346	2.44%	1,227	11.83
Iychurch	245	253	8	3.27%	1,926	0.13
Lydd	5,782	6,567	785	13.58%	4,824	1.36
Lyminge	2,688	2,717	29	1.08%	1,632	1.67
Lympne	1,516	1,575	59	3.89%	1,060	1.49
Newchurch	314	315	1	0.32%	1,580	0.20
Newington	341	368	27	7.92%	958	0.38
New Romney	6,953	6,996	43	0.62%	641	10.91
Old Romney	206	215	9	4.37%	2,326	0.09
Postling	179	206	27	15.08%	633	0.33
St.Mary in the Marsh	2,797	2,819	22	0.79%	1,396	2.02
Saltwood	852	850	-2	-0.23%	935	0.91
Sellindge	1,356	1,601	245	18.07%	724	2.21
Snargate	112	134	22	19.64%	1,227	0.11
Stanford	428	429	1	0.23%	481	0.89
Stelling Minnis	562	578	16	2.85%	873	0.66
Stowting/Monks Horton*	333	351	18	5.41%	1,096	0.32
Swingfield	1,171	1,227	56	4.78%	888	1.38
*Folkestone	40,839	46,698	5,859	14.35%	1,409	33.13
*Sandgate	4,225	4,639	414	9.80%	207	22.39

Source: 2001 Census Table KS001 and 2011 Census Table KS101, The Office for national Statistics (ONS) © Crown Copyright

Presented by Business Intelligence: Research & Evaluation, Kent County Council

Note: Area = square Hectares, Density = persons per Hectare

The population of the Parish of Monks Horton and the Parish of Paddlesworth is below the minimum population threshold of 100. The information for Monks Horton parish has been merged with the neighbouring parish of Stowting. The information for Paddlesworth parish has been merged with the neighbouring parish of Hawkinge.

The Parish of Folkestone and the Parish of Sandgate came into existence in 2004. The 2001 Census data was released to these new parish areas therefore the population between 2001 and 2011 is comparable. Both of these areas were previously part of the Shepway non-Civil Parished area. The creation of these new parishes means that Shepway no longer has any non-parished areas.