



# **Council Meeting**

**Council Offices  
White Cliffs Business Park  
Dover**

Wednesday, 29 November 2023

Summons and Agenda

**Nadeem Aziz**  
Chief Executive





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21 November 2023

To the Members of the Council,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **COUNCIL** to be held in the Council Chamber at these Offices on Wednesday 29 November 2023 at 6.00 pm for the transaction of the business set out in the Agenda.



Chief Executive

Members of the Council:

G Cowan (Chairman)	M F Hibbert	D J Parks
D G Cronk (Vice-Chairman)	S Hill	M P Porter
J S Back	N S Kenton	J L Pout
T J Bartlett	R M Knight	O C de R Richardson
M Bates	J P Loffman	M W Rose
D G Beaney	S M S Mamjan	C A Vinson
S H Beer	S C Manion	H M Williams
E A Biggs	K Mills	C F Woodgate
S B Blair	M W Moorhouse	L M Wright
P M Brivio	D P Murphy	C D Zosseder
D R Friend	M J Nee	

AGENDA

1 **APOLOGIES** (Page 6)

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (Page 7)

To receive any declarations of interest from Members in respect of business to be transacted on the agenda.

3 **ANNOUNCEMENTS** (Page 8)

To receive any announcements from the Chairman of the Council, the Leader of the

Council, Members of the Cabinet or the Head of Paid Service.

4 **APPOINTMENT OF AN EAST KENT JOINT INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL** (Pages 9 - 16)

To consider the attached report of the Head of Corporate Services and Democracy.

5 **POLLING DISTRICT REVIEW** (Pages 17 - 109)

To consider the attached report of the Electoral Services Manager.

6 **CORPORATE PLAN** (Pages 110 - 126)

To consider the attached report of the Chief Executive.

7 **URGENT BUSINESS TIME** (Page 127)

To consider any other items deemed by the Chairman of the Council to be urgent in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.

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**Large print copies of this agenda can be supplied on request.**

**APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies for absence.

Declarations of Interest

Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI)

Where a Member has a new or registered DPI in a matter under consideration they must disclose that they have an interest and, unless the Monitoring Officer has agreed in advance that the DPI is a 'Sensitive Interest', explain the nature of that interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a DPI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation permitting them to do so. If during the consideration of any item a Member becomes aware that they have a DPI in the matter they should declare the interest immediately and, subject to any dispensations, withdraw from the meeting.

Other Significant Interest (OSI)

Where a Member is declaring an OSI they must also disclose the interest and explain the nature of the interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a OSI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation to do so or the meeting is one at which members of the public are permitted to speak for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter. In the latter case, the Member may only participate on the same basis as a member of the public and cannot participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter and must withdraw from the meeting in accordance with the Council's procedure rules.

Voluntary Announcement of Other Interests (VAOI)

Where a Member does not have either a DPI or OSI but is of the opinion that for transparency reasons alone s/he should make an announcement in respect of a matter under consideration, they can make a VAOI. A Member declaring a VAOI may still remain at the meeting and vote on the matter under consideration.

Note to the Code:

Situations in which a Member may wish to make a VAOI include membership of outside bodies that have made representations on agenda items; where a Member knows a person involved, but does not have a close association with that person; or where an item would affect the well-being of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc. but not his/her financial position. It should be emphasised that an effect on the financial position of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc OR an application made by a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc would both probably constitute either an OSI or in some cases a DPI.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To receive any announcements from the Chairman of the Council, the Leader of the Council, Members of the Cabinet or the Head of Paid Service.



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<b>Subject:</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF AN EAST KENT JOINT INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL</b>
<b>Meeting and Date:</b>	<b>EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL – 29 NOVEMBER 2023</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>HEAD OF CORPORATE SERVICES AND DEMOCRACY</b>
<b>Classification:</b>	<b>UNRESTRICTED</b>

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**Purpose of the report:** To appoint an Independent Remuneration Panel as required under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended).

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- Recommendation:**
- (a) That Dover District Council's continued participation in the East Kent Joint Independent Remuneration Panel be confirmed until 30 November 2027.
  - (b) That Mr A Goodall be appointed as one of the two Dover District Council appointed representatives to the East Kent Joint Independent Remuneration Panel for a four-year term commencing 1 December 2023.
  - (c) That the Head of Corporate Services and Democracy be authorised to take all necessary steps to advertise and shortlist candidates for the vacancy for the second Dover appointee.
  - (d) That a panel comprised of the Chairman of the Governance Committee, the Head of Corporate Services and Democracy (or a nominated member of the Democratic Services team) and the Monitoring Officer be requested to shortlist and interview applicants for the vacancies and make recommendations for the appointment of an applicant to the Council meeting on 31 January 2024.
  - (e) That the Head of Corporate Services and Democracy be authorised to agree the arrangements for the administrative support of the East Kent Joint Independent Remuneration Panel.
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## 1. Summary

- 1.1 The Council is required to appoint an Independent Remuneration Panel under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 for the purpose of making recommendations to the Council in respect of its Members' Allowances Scheme.

## 2. Introduction and Background

- 2.1 Since 2002 the Council has operated a Joint Independent Remuneration Panel with neighbouring authorities. While the initial Joint Independent Remuneration Panel was with Thanet District Council this was expanded in 2007 to become the first East Kent Joint Independent Remuneration Panel (EKJIRP) with Dover District Council, (the then) Shepway District Council and Thanet District Council. Shepway District Council withdrew the following year to be replaced by Canterbury City Council. The current Panel was formed in 2008 and consists of 5 members appointed jointly by Canterbury City Council (1 member), Dover District Council (2 members) and Thanet District

Council (2 members). The term of office of the current Panel members expires on 30 November 2023.

- 2.2 Following the May 2023 elections, consultation was undertaken with each of the partner authorities in the East Kent Joint Independent Remuneration Panel about continuing with the arrangements for a shared Panel and this report seeks to confirm the Council's continuing participation.

### **Panel Arrangements**

- 2.3 The key responsibilities of the Panel as set out in the Regulations are to make recommendations as to the responsibilities or duties in respect of which the following allowances should be made available and the amount of allowance:
- Basic Allowance;
  - Special Responsibility Allowances;
  - Member Travel and Subsistence allowances;
  - Dependent Carers Allowances; and
  - Index linking arrangements for allowances.
- 2.4 The Council has a duty to have regard to the recommendations of the Panel when making a decision in respect of any of the allowances set out above but does not have to adopt the recommendations of the Panel.
- 2.5 In addition, the Panel also makes recommendations to Town and Parish Council's in respect of the level of Parish Basic Allowance and Parish Chairman's allowance.
- 2.6 The Regulations require that the Panel be composed of "at least three members none of whom... is also a member of an authority in respect of which it makes recommendations... or... is disqualified from being or becoming a member of an authority". This means that the members of the Panel may not be a member of the three district/city councils or any of the towns/parish councils in their administrative areas.
- 2.7 It is proposed that the Panel membership be reappointed on the current five member basis as follows:
- 1 member appointed by Canterbury City Council
  - 2 members appointed by Dover District Council
  - 2 members appointed by Thanet District Council
- 2.8 The quorum for the Panel is 3 members.
- 2.9 The proposed term length of the members of the Panel is for four years, running from 1 December 2023 until 30 November 2027. The Panel will be responsible for appointing its own Chairman from amongst the membership on an annual basis.
- 2.10 Dover District Council currently has one serving appointee (Mr A Goodall) on the Panel and one vacancy following the resignation of its second appointee. The vacancy was reported to Council on 1 March 2023 where it was agreed to leave the vacancy unfilled until the expiry of the Panel's term on 30 November 2023.
- 2.11 It is proposed to reappoint Mr A Goodall, a former Independent Member of the DDC Standards Committee, to the Panel for a further term on the basis of the experience he has accumulated in his time as a member of the Panel and his knowledge of the three authorities allowance schemes. In respect of the second appointment, it is proposed to advertise to fill the position.
- 2.12 The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 make provision for the members of the Panel to be paid an allowance and expenses for carrying out the Panel's functions at a level the authorities determine.

- 2.13 The current allowance arrangements for the members of the East Kent Joint Independent Remuneration Panel were set in 2007. Each Panel member receives an allowance of £300 per annum plus an attendance fee of £75 per meeting. A further allowance of £250 per annum is paid to the Panel's Chairman. The costs of the Panel members' allowances are split equally between the partner authorities. On average the Panel meets two or three times a year, though this number increases when conducting the four-yearly parish review.
- 2.14 It is not proposed to change the allowance arrangements for the members of the Panel for the duration of the term of office running until 30 November 2027.
- 2.15 The Central administrative support for the Panel is currently provided by Dover District Council's Democratic Services team and it is proposed that this will continue. However, it is recommended that the Head of Corporate Services and Democracy be given delegated authority to agree the final administrative arrangements.

### **3. Identification of Options**

- 3.1 Option 1: To confirm the Council's continued participation in the East Kent Joint Independent Remuneration Panel with Canterbury City Council and Thanet District Council.
- 3.2 Option 2: To form an Independent Remuneration Panel for Dover District Council only.
- 3.3 Option 3: To instruct the Head of Corporate Services and Democracy to investigate alternative arrangements for an Independent Remuneration Panel, accepting that the authority will have no Panel in place until such alternative arrangements are approved.

### **4. Evaluation of Options**

- 4.1 Option 1 is the preferred choice. It continues the existing arrangements that have worked successfully since 2008 and bring resilience to the Panel through the pooling of resources and the resultant economies of scale through shared costs.
- 4.2 At the time of writing this report, Canterbury City Council has already confirmed its continued membership of the Panel.
- 4.3 Options 2 and 3 are not recommended as they would take longer to implement and would lose the benefits gained through the sharing a Panel.

### **5. Resource Implications**

- 5.1 The proposal set out in Option 1 has no additional resource implications. However, if the Council were to choose Options 2 or 3 the resource implications would need to be reassessed as part of a further report.
- 5.2 The administration of the Panel generates a small income for Dover District Council through an agreed administrative fee charged to Canterbury City Council and Thanet District Council. All costs incurred by the Panel are split three ways amongst the partner authorities.

### **6. Corporate Implications**

- 6.1 Comment from the Director of Finance (linked to the MTFP): Accountancy has been consulted on the report and have no further comments to add. (SK)
- 6.2 Comment from the Solicitor to the Council: The Solicitor to the Council has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no further comments to make.
- 6.3 Comment from the Equalities Officer: This report seeking confirmation of the Council's continued participation in the East Kent Joint Independent Remuneration Panel with Canterbury City Council and Thanet District Council, does not specifically highlight any

equality implications. However, in discharging their duties members are required to comply with the public sector equality duty as set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/section/149> (KM)

7. **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Terms of Reference of the East Kent Joint Independent Remuneration Panel

8. **Background Papers**

None.

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## **CONSTITUTION OF THE EAST KENT JOINT INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANELS**

Canterbury City Council, Dover District Council and Thanet District Council (the 'partner authorities') have established a Joint District Independent Remuneration Panel and a Joint Parish Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations on remuneration levels for District and Town/Parish Councillors.

### **1. Terms of Reference**

- (a) The Terms of Reference of the Panels shall be:
- (i) to make recommendations to each District and Town/Parish authority as to the amount of basic allowance which should be payable to its elected and co-opted members;
  - (ii) to make recommendations to each District and Town/Parish authority about the roles and responsibilities for which a special allowance should be payable and as to the amount of each such allowance;
  - (iii) to make recommendations as to whether each District and Town/Parish authority's allowances scheme should include an allowance in respect of the expenses of arranging for the care of children and dependants and if it does make such a recommendation, the amount of this allowance and the means by which it is determined;
  - (iv) to make recommendations to each District and Town/Parish authority about a members' pension scheme;
  - (v) to make recommendations to each District and Town/Parish authority as to the amount of travel and subsistence allowance payable to elected and co-opted members.

### **2. Recommendations of the Panel**

- (a) In making its recommendations, the Panels be asked to include guidance on what is to be encompassed by the allowance and it will have regard to the following principles:
- (i) the Panels shall make separate recommendations to each authority if it is deemed appropriate;
  - (ii) recommendations should conform with existing legislation (and anticipate likely future legislation so far as possible);

- (iii) recognition of the principle that the work of a Councillor is undertaken for the sake of public service and not for personal gain;
- (iv) recognition that the demands placed upon Councillors by their differing roles and responsibilities within the Council
- (v) the need to fairly and equitably compensate Councillors so far as the Panels thinks appropriate for the time and effort devoted to their work as a member of the Council and/or the time and effort which they can reasonably be expected to devote;
- (vi) that individual Councillors should not be disadvantaged by virtue of the ward or party (if any) which they represent, or the geographic spread within the District of the places where Council business is conducted;
- (vii) an allowance scheme should be transparent, economic, efficient and effective to administer and easy to explain, understand and justify to the local communities within the District.

### **3. Panel Membership and Appointment**

- (a) The membership of the District Independent Remuneration Panel and the Parish Independent Remuneration Panel shall be the same.
- (b) Each partner authority shall appoint up to two representatives to serve on the panels.
- (c) The members of the Panels should receive the following allowances, to be reviewed every four years:
  - Chairman: Supplement of £250 per annum
  - Panel Member: £300 per annum
  - Meeting Fee: £75 per meeting
- (d) Wherever possible, the members of the Panels shall be treated as separate and independent consultants who are responsible for their own tax, National Insurance, etc.
- (e) The respective partner authorities should carry out recruitment of the members of the panels. Recruitment should be by either public advertisement or direct approach to appropriate individuals or business/community/voluntary sector organisations that command local respect and public confidence and would be able to nominate persons who should have the necessary skills, integrity, independence and who are recognisable members of the local business and voluntary/community sectors within their respective areas.
- (f) A person specification shall be drawn up and agreed to ensure that candidates who are appointed:
  - (i) Are able to demonstrate a high degree of personal integrity;

- (ii) Are not members of any local authority and are not disqualified from being or becoming a member of a local authority;
  - (iii) Have, if possible, the appropriate level of skill, knowledge and understanding of setting remunerations;
  - (iv) Have the necessary time and commitment for the role;
  - (v) Will disclose the extent of their connections to a political party and whether these are such as to risk the effective discharge of the panel's functions were the candidate to be appointed.
- (c) Terms of appointment shall include a provision for removal from office in circumstances where:
- (i) the member of the Panel is disqualified from being a member of an authority or guilty of any conduct which brings the office into disrepute eg being found guilty of a criminal offence, an act of dishonesty or other serious misconduct;
  - (ii) the member of the Panel is guilty of lack of diligence or incompetence;
  - (iii) the member becomes an elected or co-opted member [or an employee] of a local authority;
  - (vi) a member of the Panel shall only be removed from office by the appointing partner authority, except at the expiration of a member of the Panels term of office.

#### **4. Panel Operating Rules**

- (a) The Panel's Term of Office shall commence from 1 December 2015.
- (b) The Panel shall:
  - (i) appoint its own Chairman at the first meeting of each municipal year;
  - (ii) require a quorum of three at all meetings;
  - (iii) Meet a minimum of once per municipal year, with additional meetings convened at the request of any partner authority;
  - (iv) otherwise devise its own rules for the conduct of meetings providing that such are consistent with legislative requirements and good governance practice.

#### **5. Responsibilities of the Partner Authorities**

- (a) The partner authorities in the Panel shall:
  - (i) Share equally the cost of the above allowances and expenses of the panel.
  - (ii) Appoint Dover District Council to provide the administrative support of the Panel at a cost of £1,200 per partner authority per annum.

- (iii) In the event that a partner authority wishes to change the administrative support arrangements for the Panel, notice must be given in writing no later than three months before the end of the financial year, to take effect from the start of the next financial year.
- (iv) Dover District Council, or the member authority providing administrative support if different, will produce the final report in conjunction with the Chairman of the Panel setting out the recommendations to the member authorities.

**6. Termination of Participation in the East Kent Joint IRP by a member authority**

In the event that a partner authority wishes to end its participation in the Panel, notice must be given in writing no later than three months before the end of the financial year, to take effect from the start of the next financial year.



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<b>Subject:</b>	<b>STATUTORY REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS</b>
<b>Meeting and Date:</b>	<b>Electoral Matters Committee – 20 November 2023</b> <b>Council – 29 November 2023</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Electoral Services Manager</b>
<b>Decision Type:</b>	<b>Non-Executive</b>
<b>Classification:</b>	<b>Unrestricted</b>

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**Purpose of the report:** The Council started its statutory review of Polling Districts, Places and Stations on 02 October 2023. This report covers the recommendations in relation to the responses received during the consultation and seeks agreement to amend the current scheme to one of the options listed.

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**Recommendation:** Electoral Matters Committee:

(a) To consider the proposed Polling District, Polling Places and Polling Stations Scheme and make recommendations to Council.

Council:

(a) To approve the recommended proposals for the Polling District, Polling Places and Polling Stations Scheme

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**1. Summary**

- 1.1 Under the Representation of the People Act 1983, the Council has a duty to divide its area into polling districts and to designate a polling place for each district. The Electoral Administration Act 2006 requires the Council to undertake and complete a review of Polling Districts and Places between 1 October 2023 and 31 January 2025 (inclusive).
- 1.2 The current polling place scheme is not recommended by the Electoral Commission, so we are seeking to delegate the power to designate polling places to the relevant (Acting) Returning Officer / Returning Officer in the case of polling stations needing to be changed.
- 1.3 The Electoral Matters Committee considered the existing scheme and determined whether any changes should be proposed prior to consulting on the scheme.
- 1.4 Following the consultation process, the Electoral Matters Committee will consider the relevant responses received and make recommendations to Council.
- 1.5 Council will determine the Polling District Scheme to be used for Parliamentary and Local Government Elections and Referenda. The Electoral Registration Officer will make any changes agreed and publish the register on 1 December 2023 reflecting the changes.

## 2. Introduction and Background

### Designating Polling Districts

- 2.1 A Polling District is the geographical sub-division of an electoral area, eg UK Parliamentary constituency, a ward or an electoral division.
- 2.2 The Council is responsible for dividing its area into polling districts for UK Parliamentary elections and for keeping the polling districts under review. Please note that ward boundaries cannot be altered as part of this review, only Polling Districts.
- 2.3 Although there is no requirement to sub-divide local government electoral wards into polling districts, it is recognised good practice to do so. When doing so, every effort must be made to ensure that the polling district scheme for Local Government elections mirrors as closely as possible that agreed for Parliamentary elections.
- 2.4 When designating polling districts, the Council must seek to ensure that all the electors in the Constituency have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances.
- 2.5 In addition, and unless there are special circumstances that lead the Council to determine otherwise, each parish must be in a separate polling district.
- 2.6 The proposed Polling Districts Scheme follows the already established polling district boundaries with the exception of the polling district in Aylesham. A copy of the proposed Polling Districts Scheme including the estimated Electorate figures and local and Parliamentary turn out are attached at **Appendix 1** together with the maps depicting the proposed polling district boundary changes at **Appendix 2** and the maps of the existing polling districts at **Appendix 3**.

### Polling Place

- 2.7 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 should be designated so that it is obvious when an elector arrives at the polling place address where the polling station is located.
- 2.8 There must be a designated polling place in every polling district, unless special circumstances make it desirable to designate an area either wholly or partly outside of the polling district.
- 2.9 The polling places must be kept under review.
- 2.10 The current Scheme designates the polling place as follows:-  
  
Each Polling District to be designated as the polling place. Where no suitable Polling Station is available the Returning Officer be authorised to designate an adjoining Polling District for that polling place.
- 2.11 The Electoral Commission do not recommend a whole polling district is designated as a polling place as this does not indicate the location of the polling station. In certain situations, it might not be practicable to await formal approval from the Electoral Matters Committee and Full Council in order to designate a new polling

place – for example, where a building becomes unavailable during the run up to an election or during the election planning phase.

For a practical solution, we recommend the power to designate polling places in accordance with section 18 and 18B of the Representation of the People Act 1983 is delegated to the relevant (Acting) Returning Officer (ARO) / Returning Officer (RO). This will enable the ARO / RO to find an alternative polling station and designate a new polling place at the same time, speeding up the process and allowing the election planning to continue unimpeded.

### Polling Stations

- 2.12 A Polling Station is the room or building where the process of voting takes place and must be located within the polling place designated for the polling district. The function of appointing polling stations is the responsibility of the (Acting) Returning Officer for Parliamentary elections and the Returning Officer for local government elections.

## **3. Consultation**

- 3.1 Representations have been invited on the Polling District Scheme and current polling places / stations. The consultation was included on the Council website, sent out via Keep Me Posted, and posters sent to the town and parish clerks for display on their noticeboards.
- 3.2 In addition to consulting elected representatives, the Acting Returning Officers for the current Parliamentary Constituencies of Dover and of South Thanet, the Acting Returning Officer's for the new Dover and Deal Constituency and the new Herne Bay and Sandwich Constituency, local disability groups and local political parties were also consulted.
- 3.3 **Appendix 4** shows the responses relevant to the consultation. The only issues to come to light from the responses were the positioning of the polling stations for Buckland (South) (representation 16), Sandwich (North) (representations 9,13 & 36) and Middle Deal (Park) (representation 19), which are the responsibility of the (Acting) Returning Officer and not the Council. The ARO response to those representations is included in **Appendix 4**. There was a request to make Sandwich one ward and one polling station instead of two (representation 36), but this review cannot alter town or parish boundaries and one polling station would not be possible under the current maximum figures to attend a polling station to vote as recommended by the Electoral Commission.
- 3.4 There were no negative responses to the original proposals put forward in **Appendix 1 and 2**. The final summary of proposed changes can be found at **Appendix 5**.

## **4 Identification of Options**

### 4.1 Option 1:

- (a) That the current scheme be amended to incorporate all the recommendations of the (Acting) Returning Officer (ARO) for the Dover / Dover and Deal Parliamentary Constituency (as per the summary at Appendix 5).

- (b) That the power to designate polling places is delegated to the relevant ARO / RO. This will enable the ARO / RO to find an alternative polling station and designate a new polling place at the same time, speeding up the process and allowing the election planning to continue unimpeded.
- (c) The Parliamentary Polling Districts and Polling Places be designated as the Polling Districts and Polling Places for Local Government Elections.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

#### 4.2 Option 2:

- (a) To amend the current scheme in some way to be determined by the Committee / Council.
- (b) That the power to designate polling places is delegated to the relevant ARO / RO. This will enable the ARO / RO to find an alternative polling station and designate a new polling place at the same time, speeding up the process and allowing the election planning to continue unimpeded.
- (c) The Parliamentary Polling Districts and Polling Places be designated as the Polling Districts and Polling Places for Local Government Elections.

#### **4. Evaluation of Options**

- (a) Option 1 is the recommended option as both statutory and non-statutory consultees have had the opportunity to comment on the proposals.
- (b) Option 2 is not recommended as any changes proposed would not have been included in the consultation process and therefore would have prevented the statutory and non-statutory consultees from commenting on the changes.

#### **5. Resource Implications**

There are no financial implications in designating the Polling Districts however the cost of elections will be affected by the number of Polling Stations used.

#### **6. Appendices**

Appendix 1 – The Current and Proposed Polling District Scheme with the estimated Parliamentary electorate and local and Parliamentary turn-out figures.

Appendix 2 – Maps of the proposed changes to polling district boundaries.

Appendix 3 – Maps of the existing polling district boundaries.

Appendix 4 – Responses received to the consultation.

Appendix 5 – Summary of Proposed Changes

#### **7. Background Papers**

Representation of the People Act 1983

Electoral Administration Act 2006.  
Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (Parliamentary Elections) Regulations  
2006.

The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013

Contact Officer: Tracy Gibbs – Electoral Services Manager

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (Parliamentary Elections) Regulations 2006

Current Polling District / Polling Place Scheme					Electoral Commission guidance states there should be no more than 2,250 electors allocated to vote at each polling station	Eligible Electorate Breakdown		Total eligible electorate	Polling Station % turnout parliamentary Dec 2019	Polling Station % turnout local elections May 2023
Current Constituency	District Ward	Parish/Parish Ward	Polling District Letters	Polling District Name(s)	Polling Place / Polling Station used at last election (May 2023)	Postal Voters	Polling Station Voters			
Dover	Alkham & Capel-le-Ferne	Alkham Parish	PAK	Alkham	Alkham Village Hall, Hogbrook Hill, Alkham, Dover	107	480	587	58%	28%
Dover	Alkham & Capel-le-Ferne	Capel-le-Ferne Parish	PCF	Capel-le-Ferne	Capel-Le-Ferne Village Hall (Small Hall), Lancaster Avenue, Capel-Le-Ferne, Folkestone,	331	1,329	1,660	55%	18%
Dover	Alkham & Capel-le-Ferne	Hougham Without Parish	PHM	Hougham	Hougham Village Hall, West Hougham, Dover	67	313	380	61%	20%
Dover	Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Aylesham Parish	PAY	Aylesham	Aylesham Baptist Free Church, Dorman Avenue South, Aylesham	210	1,943	2,153	51%	20%
					St Finbar's Church, Market Place, Aylesham, Kent	272	1,879	2,151	52%	21%
Dover	Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Eythorne Parish/Eythorne Ward / Barfestone Ward	PEX1,PEX2	Eythorne, Barfestone	Eythorne Baptist Church Hall, Chapel Hill, Eythorne, Dover, Kent	251	1,000	1,251	55%	20%
Dover	Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Eythorne Parish/ Elvington Ward	PEX3	Elvington	Elvington Community Centre, St John's Road, Elvington, Dover, Kent	113	548	661	40%	18%
Dover	Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Nonington Parish	PNN	Nonington	Nonington Village Hall, Easole Street, Nonington, Dover	87	569	656	53%	24%
Dover	Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Shepherdswell with Coldred Parish/ Shepherdswell Ward / Coldred Ward	PSL1,PSL2	Shepherdswell, Coldred	Shepherdswell Village Hall, Coxhill, Shepherdswell	307	1,195	1,502	58%	24%
Dover	Buckland	Dover Town/Buckland Ward	BC1	Buckland (North)	Buckland Community Centre, Roosevelt Road, Dover	338	2,075	2,413	41%	12%
Dover	Buckland	Dover Town/Buckland Ward	BC2	Buckland (South)	The Phoenix Railway Social Club, Crabble Road, Dover	518	2,132	2,650	45%	11%
Dover	Dover Downs & River	Denton with Wootton Parish	PDD	Denton	Denton Village Hall, The Street, Denton	16	134	150	65%	32%
Dover	Dover Downs & River	Denton with Wootton Parish	PDW	Wootton	Wootton Village Hall, Wootton Lane, Wootton	10	140	150	66%	44%
Dover	Dover Downs & River	Lydden Parish	PLN	Lydden	Lydden Village Hall, 83 Canterbury Road, Lydden, Dover	96	500	596	64%	31%
Dover	Dover Downs & River	River Parish	PRV	River	River Village Hall, Common Lane, River, Dover, Kent	330	1,285	1,615	57%	25%
					River Village Hall, Common Lane, River, Dover, Kent	296	1,077	1,373	54%	22%
Dover	Dover Downs & River	Temple Ewell Parish	PTE	Temple Ewell	Temple Ewell Village Hall, 187 London Road, Temple Ewell, Dover	248	1,122	1,370	58%	23%
Dover	Eastry Rural	Eastry Parish	PEA	Eastry	Eastry Village Hall, High Street, Eastry, Sandwich, Kent	291	1,595	1,886	58%	25%
Dover	Eastry Rural	Northbourne Parish	PNR	Northbourne	Northbourne Parish Hall, The Drove, Northbourne	93	470	563	60%	31%
Dover	Eastry Rural	Sholden Parish/ Sholden Ward	PSHE	Eastry Rural (Sholden)	Scout H.Q., The Street, Sholden, Deal	118	684	802	61%	30%
Dover	Eastry Rural	Sutton Parish	PSU	Sutton	Sutton Parish Community Centre, Downs Road, East Studdal, Dover	105	503	608	60%	26%
Dover	Eastry Rural	Tilmanstone Parish	PTI	Tilmanstone	Tilmanstone Village Hall, Chapel Road, Tilmanstone, Deal	49	232	281	62%	38%
South Thanet	Eastry Rural	Worth Parish/Village Ward	TWR1	Eastry Rural (Worth Village)	Worth Parish Hall, The Street, Worth, Deal	90	564	654	Data not held by DDC	29%
Dover	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Great Mongeham Parish	PGM	Great Mongeham	Great Mongeham Parish Hall, 170 Mongeham Road, Deal	100	475	575	59%	28%
Dover	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Guston Parish	PGS	Guston	Burgoyne Heights Community Centre, Burgoyne Heights, Guston, Dover	113	518	631	53%	22%
Dover	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Langdon Parish	PLG	East Langdon	East Langdon Parish Hall, The Street, East Langdon, Dover	96	380	476	58%	25%
Dover	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Ringwould with Kingsdown Parish	PRG	Ringwould	Ringwould Village Hall, Dover Road, Ringwould, Deal	63	261	324	57%	23%
Dover	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Ringwould with Kingsdown Parish	PRK	Kingsdown	Kingsdown & Ringwould CE School, Glen Road, Kingsdown, Deal	312	985	1,297	58%	32%
Dover	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Ripple Parish	PRP	Ripple	Ripple Village Hall, Sutton Road, Ripple, Deal	41	255	296	60%	23%
Dover	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	St Margaret's-at-Cliffe Parish	PSM	St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	St Margaret's-At-Cliffe Village Hall, Reach Road, St Margaret's -At-Cliffe	480	1,640	2,120	58%	25%
Dover	Maxton & Elms Vale	Dover Town /Maxton and Elms Vale Ward	BME	Maxton & Elms Vale	St Martin's Church Hall, Church Road, Dover	286	1,221	1,507	50%	19%
					St Martin's Church Hall, Church Road, Dover	243	1,153	1,396	51%	21%

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Current Constituency	District Ward	Parish/Parish Ward	Polling District Letters	Polling District Name(s)	Polling Place / Polling Station used at last election (May 2023)	Postal Voters	Polling Station Voters			
Dover	Middle Deal	Deal Town/Middle Deal Ward	AMD1	Middle Deal (Manor)	Deal Christian Fellowship Hall, Sutherland Road, Deal	412	1,652	2,064	54%	28%
Dover	Middle Deal	Deal Town/Middle Deal Ward	AMD2	Middle Deal (Park)	Linwood Youth Centre, Victoria Park, Park Avenue, Deal	229	1,265	1,494	50%	20%
Dover	Middle Deal	Deal Town/Middle Deal Ward	AMD3	Middle Deal (Upper)	Warden House School, Birdwood Avenue, Deal	221	1,075	1,296	51%	21%
Dover	Middle Deal	Sholden Parish/Hyton Ward	PSHM	Middle Deal (Hyton)	Warden House School, Birdwood Avenue, Deal	118	554	672	52%	14%
Dover	Mill Hill	Deal Town/Mill Hill Ward	AMH1	Mill Hill (South)	Deal Pentecostal Church, 69 Mill Hill, Deal, Kent	334	1,880	2,214	50%	21%
Dover	Mill Hill	Deal Town/Mill Hill Ward	AMH2	Mill Hill (North)	The Godric Centre, Rear of St John's R C Church, St Richard's Road, Deal	272	1,134	1,406	53%	25%
Dover	Mill Hill	Deal Town/Mill Hill Ward	AMH3	Mill Hill (West)	The Sports Centre, Off Cavell Square, Deal	443	1,741	2,184	45%	19%
Dover	North Deal	Deal Town/North Deal Ward / Sholden Parish/Tenants Hill Ward	AN1,PSHN	North Deal (Sandown), North Deal (Tenants Hill)	The Golf Road Centre, 28 Golf Road, Deal, Kent	300	1,677	1,977	52%	25%
Dover	North Deal	Deal Town/North Deal Ward	AN2	North Deal (St Andrews)	Cleary Hall, Landmark Centre, 129 High Street, Deal	372	1,360	1,732	56%	29%
Dover	North Deal	Deal Town/North Deal Ward	AN3	North Deal (Victoria)	Salvation Army Hall, 56 West Street, Deal, Kent	210	934	1,144	54%	27%
Dover	North Deal	Walmer Parish/Gladstone Ward	AW4N	North Deal (Gladstone)	Walmer Sea Scout Hall, Marine Road, Walmer, Deal, Kent	146	611	757	54%	29%
Dover	St Radigund's	Dover Town/St Radigund's Ward	BR1	St Radigund's (West)	St Radigunds Community Centre, Poulton Close, Dover, Kent	185	1,443	1,628	31%	11%
Dover	St Radigund's	Dover Town/St Radigund's Ward	BR2	St Radigund's (East)	ACF Hall, London Road, Dover, Kent	261	1,248	1,509	39%	10%
Dover	St Radigund's	Dover Town/St Radigund's Ward	BR3	St Radigund's (Town)	Dover Baptist Church Hall, 27-32 Maison Dieu Road, Dover	170	948	1,118	46%	18%
Dover	Tower Hamlets	Dover Town/Tower Hamlets Ward	BTH1	Tower Hamlets (West)	One Church, Noah's Ark Road, Dover, Kent	125	974	1,099	42%	15%
Dover	Tower Hamlets	Dover Town/Tower Hamlets Ward	BTH2	Tower Hamlets (East)	Curzon Hall, Curzon Road, Dover	217	1,338	1,555	44%	13%
Dover	Town & Castle	Dover Town/Town and Castle Ward	BT1	Town & Castle (Priory)	Clarendon and Westbury Community Centre, Belgrave Road, Dover	291	1,895	2,186	44%	15%
Dover	Town & Castle	Dover Town /Town and Castle Ward	BT2	Town & Castle (Castle)	St Mary's Parish Centre, Dieu Stone Lane, Dover	323	1,369	1,692	45%	19%
Dover	Town & Castle	Dover Town/Town and Castle Ward	BT3	Town & Castle (Aycliffe)	Aycliffe Community Primary School, St Davids Avenue, Aycliffe, Dover, Kent	131	732	863	48%	15%
Dover	Town & Castle	Dover Town/Town and Castle Ward	BT4	Town & Castle (Redoubt)	Dover Unitarian Church Hall, Adrian Street, Dover, Kent	82	441	523	38%	14%
Dover	Walmer	Walmer Parish/Upper Walmer Ward	AW1	Walmer (Upper Walmer)	Walmer Chapel (Rear Hall), 30 Station Road, Walmer, Deal	445	1,690	2,135	57%	27%
Dover	Walmer	Walmer Parish/Wellington Ward	AW2	Walmer (Wellington)	Walmer Parish Hall, Dover Road, Walmer, Deal	451	1,854	2,305	57%	26%
Dover	Walmer	Walmer Parish/St Saviour's Ward	AW3	Walmer (St Saviour's)	St Saviour's Church, The Strand, Walmer, Deal	235	997	1,232	58%	33%
Dover	Whitfield	Dover Town/Buckland Ward	BCW1	Whitfield (Rokesley)	Dover Christ Church Academy, Melbourne Avenue, Whitfield, Dover, Kent	77	355	432	32%	6%
Dover	Whitfield	Whitfield Parish	PWH1	Whitfield (North)	Whitfield Village Hall, Sandwich Road, Whitfield, Dover	436	1,567	2,003	53%	18%
					Whitfield Village Hall, Sandwich Road, Whitfield, Dover	356	1,494	1,850	56%	18%
Dover	Whitfield	Whitfield Parish	PWH2	Whitfield (South)	Dover Christ Church Academy, Melbourne Avenue, Whitfield, Dover, Kent	138	705	843	43%	11%
South Thanet	Little Stour & Ashstone	Ash Parish	TAS	Ash	Ash Village Hall - Main Hall, Queens Road, Ash, Canterbury	374	2,220	2,594	Data not held by DDC	21%
South Thanet	Little Stour & Ashstone	Goodnestone Parish	TGD	Goodnestone	Goodnestone Village Hall, The Street, Goodnestone, Canterbury	45	264	309	Data not held by DDC	32%
South Thanet	Little Stour & Ashstone	Preston Parish	TPR	Preston	Preston Village Hall, Mill Lane, Preston, Canterbury	105	621	726	Data not held by DDC	24%
South Thanet	Little Stour & Ashstone	Staple Parish	TSP	Staple	Staple Village Hall, Mill Road, Staple, Canterbury	69	384	453	Data not held by DDC	34%
South Thanet	Little Stour & Ashstone	Stourmouth Parish	TST	Stourmouth	The Rising Sun Inn, The Street, East Stourmouth	23	204	227	Data not held by DDC	31%
South Thanet	Little Stour & Ashstone	Wingham Parish	TWG	Wingham	Wingham Village Hall, School Lane, Wingham, Canterbury	221	1,155	1,376	Data not held by DDC	26%

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Current Constituency	District Ward	Parish/Parish Ward	Polling District Letters	Polling District Name(s)	Polling Place / Polling Station used at last election (May 2023)	Postal Voters	Polling Station Voters			
South Thanet	Sandwich	Sandwich Town/Sandwich North Ward / Worth Parish/Sandwich Bay Ward	TSA, TWR2	Sandwich (North), Sandwich (Sandwich Bay)	Sandwich United Reformed Church, 12 Cattle Market, Sandwich, Kent	424	1,753	2,177	Data not held by DDC	30%
South Thanet	Sandwich	Sandwich Town/Sandwich South Ward	TSB	Sandwich (South)	The Jubilee Centre, Jubilee Road, Sandwich	316	1,700	2,016	Data not held by DDC	22%
South Thanet	Sandwich	Woodnesborough Parish	TWN	Woodnesborough	Woodnesborough Village Hall, Elmwood Park, Woodnesborough, Sandwich, Kent	132	876	1,008	Data not held by DDC	28%



Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (Parliamentary Elections) Regulations 2006

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Current Constituency	Future Constituency	District Ward	Parish/Parish Ward	Polling District Letters (Current)	Polling District Letters (Amended)	Polling District Name(s) (New)	Polling Place / Polling Station used at last election (May 2023)	Postal Voters	Polling Station Voters	Total eligible electorate
Dover	Dover & Deal	Alkham & Capel-le-Ferne	Alkham Parish	PAK	PAK	Alkham	Alkham Village Hall, Hogbrook Hill, Alkham, Dover	107	480	587
Dover	Dover & Deal	Alkham & Capel-le-Ferne	Capel-le-Ferne Parish	PCF	PCF	Capel-le-Ferne	Capel-Le-Ferne Village Hall (Small Hall), Lancaster Avenue, Capel-Le-Ferne, Folkestone, Kent	331	1,329	1,660
Dover	Dover & Deal	Alkham & Capel-le-Ferne	Hougham Without Parish	PHM	PHM	Hougham	Hougham Village Hall, West Hougham, Dover	67	313	380
Dover	Dover & Deal	Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Aylesham Parish	PAY	PAY1	Aylesham (West)	Aylesham Baptist Free Church, Dorman Avenue South, Aylesham (electorate numbers are likely to change once split finalised)	210	1,943	2,153
					PAY2	Aylesham (East)	St Finbarr's Church, Market Place, Aylesham, Kent (electorate numbers are likely to change once split finalised)	272	1,879	2,151
Dover	Dover & Deal	Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Eythorne Parish/Eythorne Ward / Barfestone Ward	PEX1, PEX2	PEX1,PEX2	Eythorne, Barfrestone	Eythorne Baptist Church Hall, Chapel Hill, Eythorne, Dover, Kent	251	1,000	1,251
Dover	Dover & Deal	Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Eythorne Parish/ Elvington Ward	PEX3	PEX3	Elvington	Elvington Community Centre, St John's Road, Elvington, Dover, Kent	113	548	661
Dover	Dover & Deal	Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Nonington Parish	PNN	PNN	Nonington	Nonington Village Hall, Easole Street, Nonington, Dover	87	569	656
Dover	Dover & Deal	Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Shepherdswell with Coldred Parish/Shepherdswell Ward / Coldred Ward	PSL1, PSL2	PSL1,PSL2	Shepherdswell, Coldred	Shepherdswell Village Hall, Coxhill, Shepherdswell	307	1,195	1,502
Dover	Dover & Deal	Buckland	Dover Town/Buckland Ward	BC1	BC1	Buckland (North)	Buckland Community Centre, Roosevelt Road, Dover	338	2,075	2,413
Dover	Dover & Deal	Buckland	Dover Town/Buckland Ward	BC2	BC2	Buckland (South)	The Phoenix Railway Social Club, Crabble Road, Dover	518	2,132	2,650
Dover	Dover & Deal	Dover Downs & River	Denton with Wootton Parish	PDD	PDD	Denton	Denton Village Hall, The Street, Denton	16	134	150
Dover	Dover & Deal	Dover Downs & River	Denton with Wootton Parish	PDW	PDW	Wootton	Wootton Village Hall, Wootton Lane, Wootton	10	140	150
Dover	Dover & Deal	Dover Downs & River	Lydden Parish	PLN	PLN	Lydden	Lydden Village Hall, 83 Canterbury Road, Lydden, Dover	96	500	596
Dover	Dover & Deal	Dover Downs & River	River Parish	PRV	PRV	River	River Village Hall, Common Lane, River, Dover, Kent	330	1,285	1,615
							River Village Hall, Common Lane, River, Dover, Kent	296	1,077	1,373
Dover	Dover & Deal	Dover Downs & River	Temple Ewell Parish	PTE	PTE	Temple Ewell	Temple Ewell Village Hall, 187 London Road, Temple Ewell, Dover	248	1,122	1,370
Dover	Dover & Deal	Eastry Rural	Eastry Parish	PEA	PEA	Eastry	Eastry Village Hall, High Street, Eastry, Sandwich, Kent	291	1,595	1,886
Dover	Dover & Deal	Eastry Rural	Northbourne Parish	PNR	PNR	Northbourne	Northbourne Parish Hall, The Drove, Northbourne	93	470	563
Dover	Dover & Deal	Eastry Rural	Sholden Parish/ Sholden Ward	PSHE	PSHE	Eastry Rural (Sholden)	Scout H.Q., The Street, Sholden, Deal	118	684	802
Dover	Dover & Deal	Eastry Rural	Sutton Parish	PSU	PSU	Sutton	Sutton Parish Community Centre, Downs Road, East Studdal, Dover	105	503	608
Dover	Dover & Deal	Eastry Rural	Tilmanstone Parish	PTI	PTI	Tilmanstone	Tilmanstone Village Hall, Chapel Road, Tilmanstone, Deal	49	232	281
South Thanet	Dover & Deal	Eastry Rural	Worth Parish/Village Ward	TWR1	PWR	Eastry Rural (Worth Village)	Worth Parish Hall, The Street, Worth, Deal	90	564	654
Dover	Dover & Deal	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Great Mongeham Parish	PGM	PGM	Great Mongeham	Great Mongeham Parish Hall, 170 Mongeham Road, Deal	100	475	575
Dover	Dover & Deal	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Guston Parish	PGS	PGS	Guston	Burgoyne Heights Community Centre, Burgoyne Heights, Guston, Dover	113	518	631
Dover	Dover & Deal	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Langdon Parish	PLG	PLG	East Langdon	East Langdon Parish Hall, The Street, East Langdon, Dover	96	380	476

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<b>Current Constituency</b>	<b>Future Constituency</b>	<b>District Ward</b>	<b>Parish/Parish Ward</b>	<b>Polling District Letters (Current)</b>	<b>Polling District Letters (Amended)</b>	<b>Polling District Name(s) (New)</b>	<b>Polling Place / Polling Station used at last election (May 2023)</b>	<b>Postal Voters</b>	<b>Polling Station Voters</b>	<b>Total eligible electorate</b>
Dover	Dover & Deal	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Ringwould with Kingsdown Parish	PRG	PRG	Ringwould	Ringwould Village Hall, Dover Road, Ringwould, Deal	63	261	324
Dover	Dover & Deal	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Ringwould with Kingsdown Parish	PRK	PRK	Kingsdown	Kingsdown & Ringwould CE School, Glen Road, Kingsdown, Deal	312	985	1,297
Dover	Dover & Deal	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Ripple Parish	PRP	PRP	Ripple	Ripple Village Hall, Sutton Road, Ripple, Deal	41	255	296
Dover	Dover & Deal	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	St Margaret's-at-Cliffe Parish	PSM	PSM	St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	St Margaret's-At-Cliffe Village Hall, Reach Road, St Margaret's -At-Cliffe	480	1,640	2,120
Dover	Dover & Deal	Maxton & Elms Vale	Dover Town /Maxton and Elms Vale Ward	BME	BME	Maxton & Elms Vale	St Martin's Church Hall, Church Road, Dover	286	1,221	1,507
							St Martin's Church Hall, Church Road, Dover	243	1,153	1,396
Dover	Dover & Deal	Middle Deal	Deal Town/Middle Deal Ward	AMD1	AMD1	Middle Deal (Manor)	Deal Christian Fellowship Hall, Sutherland Road, Deal	412	1,652	2,064
Dover	Dover & Deal	Middle Deal	Deal Town/Middle Deal Ward	AMD2	AMD2	Middle Deal (Park)	Linwood Youth Centre, Victoria Park, Park Avenue, Deal	229	1,265	1,494
Dover	Dover & Deal	Middle Deal	Deal Town/Middle Deal Ward	AMD3	AMD3	Middle Deal (Upper)	Warden House School, Birdwood Avenue, Deal	221	1,075	1,296
Dover	Dover & Deal	Middle Deal	Sholden Parish/Hyton Ward	PSHM	PSHM	Middle Deal (Hyton)	Warden House School, Birdwood Avenue, Deal	118	554	672
Dover	Dover & Deal	Mill Hill	Deal Town/Mill Hill Ward	AMH1	AMH1	Mill Hill (South)	Deal Pentecostal Church, 69 Mill Hill, Deal, Kent	334	1,880	2,214
Dover	Dover & Deal	Mill Hill	Deal Town/Mill Hill Ward	AMH2	AMH2	Mill Hill (North)	The Godric Centre, Rear of St John's R C Church, St Richard's Road, Deal	272	1,134	1,406
Dover	Dover & Deal	Mill Hill	Deal Town/Mill Hill Ward	AMH3	AMH3	Mill Hill (West)	The Sports Centre, Off Cavell Square, Deal	443	1,741	2,184
Dover	Dover & Deal	North Deal	Deal Town/North Deal Ward / Sholden Parish/ Tenants Hill Ward	AN1,PSHN	AN1,PSHN	North Deal (Sandown), North Deal (Tenants Hill)	The Golf Road Centre, 28 Golf Road, Deal, Kent	300	1,677	1,977
Dover	Dover & Deal	North Deal	Deal Town/North Deal Ward	AN2	AN2	North Deal (St Andrews)	Cleary Hall, Landmark Centre, 129 High Street, Deal	372	1,360	1,732
Dover	Dover & Deal	North Deal	Deal Town/North Deal Ward	AN3	AN3	North Deal (Victoria)	Salvation Army Hall, 56 West Street, Deal, Kent	210	934	1,144
Dover	Dover & Deal	North Deal	Walmer Parish/Gladstone Ward	AW4N	AW4N	North Deal (Gladstone)	Walmer Sea Scout Hall, Marine Road, Walmer, Deal, Kent	146	611	757
Dover	Dover & Deal	St Radigund's	Dover Town/St Radigund's Ward	BR1	BR1	St Radigund's (West)	St Radigunds Community Centre, Poulton Close, Dover, Kent	185	1,443	1,628
Dover	Dover & Deal	St Radigund's	Dover Town/St Radigund's Ward	BR2	BR2	St Radigund's (East)	ACF Hall, London Road, Dover, Kent	261	1,248	1,509
Dover	Dover & Deal	St Radigund's	Dover Town/St Radigund's Ward	BR3	BR3	St Radigund's (Town)	Dover Baptist Church Hall, 27-32 Maison Dieu Road, Dover	170	948	1,118
Dover	Dover & Deal	Tower Hamlets	Dover Town/Tower Hamlets Ward	BTH1	BTH1	Tower Hamlets (West)	One Church, Noah's Ark Road, Dover, Kent	125	974	1,099
Dover	Dover & Deal	Tower Hamlets	Dover Town/Tower Hamlets Ward	BTH2	BTH2	Tower Hamlets (East)	Curzon Hall, Curzon Road, Dover	217	1,338	1,555
Dover	Dover & Deal	Town & Castle	Dover Town/Town and Castle Ward	BT1	BT1	Town & Castle (Priory)	Clarendon and Westbury Community Centre, Belgrave Road, Dover	291	1,895	2,186
Dover	Dover & Deal	Town & Castle	DoverTown /Town and Castle Ward	BT2	BT2	Town & Castle (Castle)	St Mary's Parish Centre, Dieu Stone Lane, Dover	323	1,369	1,692
Dover	Dover & Deal	Town & Castle	Dover Town/Town and Castle Ward	BT3	BT3	Town & Castle (Aycliffe)	Aycliffe Community Primary School, St Davids Avenue, Aycliffe, Dover	131	732	863
Dover	Dover & Deal	Town & Castle	Dover Town/Town and Castle Ward	BT4	BT4	Town & Castle (Redoubt)	Dover Unitarian Church Hall, Adrian Street, Dover, Kent	82	441	523

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Current Constituency	Future Constituency	District Ward	Parish/Parish Ward	Polling District Letters (Current)	Polling District Letters (Amended)	Polling District Name(s) (New)	Polling Place / Polling Station used at last election (May 2023)	Postal Voters	Polling Station Voters	Total eligible electorate
Dover	Dover & Deal	Walmer	Walmer Parish/Upper Walmer Ward	AW1	AW1	Walmer (Upper Walmer)	Walmer Chapel (Rear Hall), 30 Station Road, Walmer, Deal	445	1,690	2,135
Dover	Dover & Deal	Walmer	Walmer Parish/Wellington Ward	AW2	AW2	Walmer (Wellington)	Walmer Parish Hall, Dover Road, Walmer, Deal	451	1,854	2,305
Dover	Dover & Deal	Walmer	Walmer Parish/St Saviour's Ward	AW3	AW3	Walmer (St Saviour's)	St Saviour's Church, The Strand, Walmer, Deal	235	997	1,232
Dover	Dover & Deal	Whitfield	Dover Town/Buckland Ward	BCW1	BCW1	Whitfield (Rokesley)	Dover Christ Church Academy, Melbourne Avenue, Whitfield, Dover, Kent	77	355	432
Dover	Dover & Deal	Whitfield	Whitfield Parish	PWH1	PWH1	Whitfield (North)	Whitfield Village Hall, Sandwich Road, Whitfield, Dover	436	1,567	2,003
							Whitfield Village Hall, Sandwich Road, Whitfield, Dover	356	1,494	1,850
Dover	Dover & Deal	Whitfield	Whitfield Parish	PWH2	PWH2	Whitfield (South)	Dover Christ Church Academy, Melbourne Avenue, Whitfield, Dover, Kent	138	705	843
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Little Stour & Ashstone	Ash Parish	TAS	XAS	Ash	Ash Village Hall - Main Hall, Queens Road, Ash, Canterbury	374	1,110	2,594
							Ash Village Hall - Main Hall, Queens Road, Ash, Canterbury <i>(polling station figures are estimates of the split)</i>		1,110	
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Little Stour & Ashstone	Goodnestone Parish	TGD	XGD	Goodnestone	Goodnestone Village Hall, The Street, Goodnestone, Canterbury	45	264	309
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Little Stour & Ashstone	Preston Parish	TPR	XPR	Preston	Preston Village Hall, Mill Lane, Preston, Canterbury	105	621	726
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Little Stour & Ashstone	Staple Parish	TSP	XSP	Staple	Staple Village Hall, Mill Road, Staple, Canterbury	69	384	453
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Little Stour & Ashstone	Stourmouth Parish	TST	XST	Stourmouth	The Rising Sun Inn, The Street, East Stourmouth	23	204	227
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Little Stour & Ashstone	Wingham Parish	TWG	XWG	Wingham	Wingham Village Hall, School Lane, Wingham, Canterbury	221	1,155	1,376
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Sandwich	Sandwich Town/Sandwich North Ward / Worth Parish/Sandwich Bay Ward	TSA,TWR2	XSA,XWR	Sandwich (North), Sandwich (Sandwich Bay)	Sandwich United Reformed Church, 12 Cattle Market, Sandwich, Kent	424	1,753	2,177
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Sandwich	Sandwich Town/Sandwich South Ward	TSB	XSB	Sandwich (South)	The Jubilee Centre, Jubilee Road, Sandwich	316	1,700	2,016
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Sandwich	Woodnesborough Parish	TWN	XWN	Woodnesborough	Woodnesborough Village Hall, Elmwood Park, Woodnesborough	132	876	1,008

# Dover District Council



## **Polling District and Polling Places Review 2023**

Proposed Changes to Polling District Boundaries

# Table of Contents

All existing Polling District Boundaries remain unchanged except for the following proposed changes:

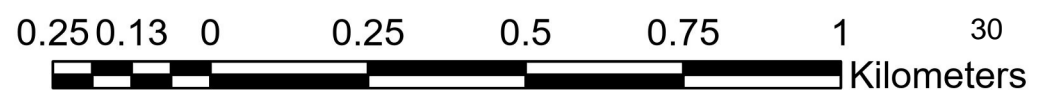
PAY1 and PAY2	Aylesham, West; and Aylesham, East	3
PAY1 and PAY2	Aylesham, West; and Aylesham, East – <i>Further Detail</i>	4

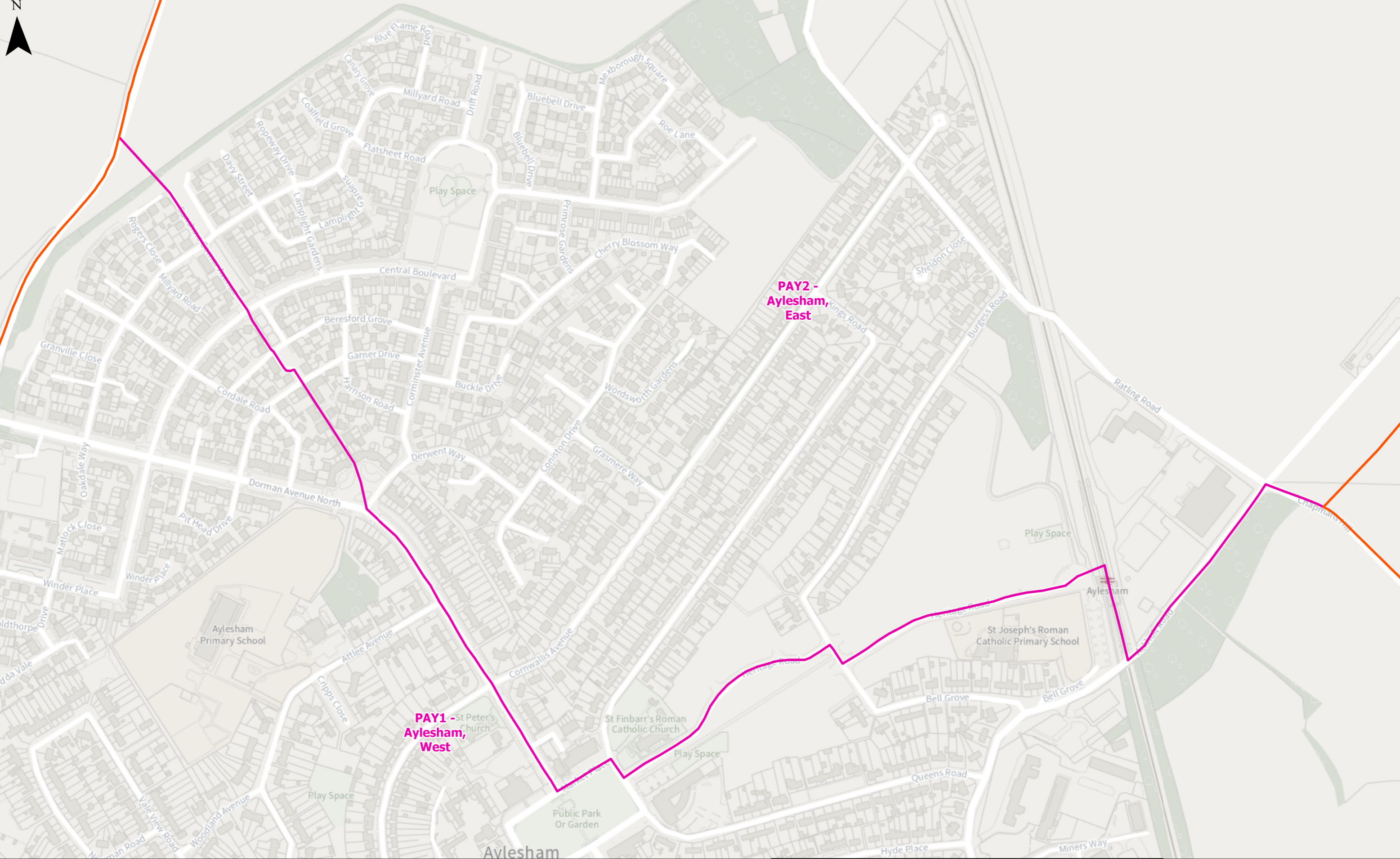


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## Proposed Polling Districts: PAY1- Aylesham, West and PAY2- Aylesham, East

Dover District Council  
Honeywood Close  
White Cliffs Business Park  
Whitfield  
DOVER  
CT16 3PJ





### Proposed Polling Districts (Further Detail): PAY1 and PAY2

- Existing Polling District Boundary (PAY)
- Proposed split, creating PAY1 and PAY2

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Dover District Council  
 White Cliffs Business Park  
 Whitfield  
 Dover  
 CT16 3PJ



# Dover District Council



## **Polling District and Polling Places Review 2023**

Existing Polling District Boundaries



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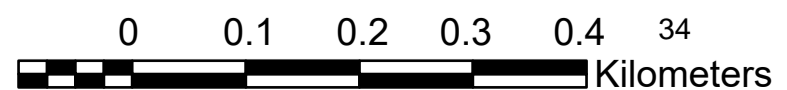
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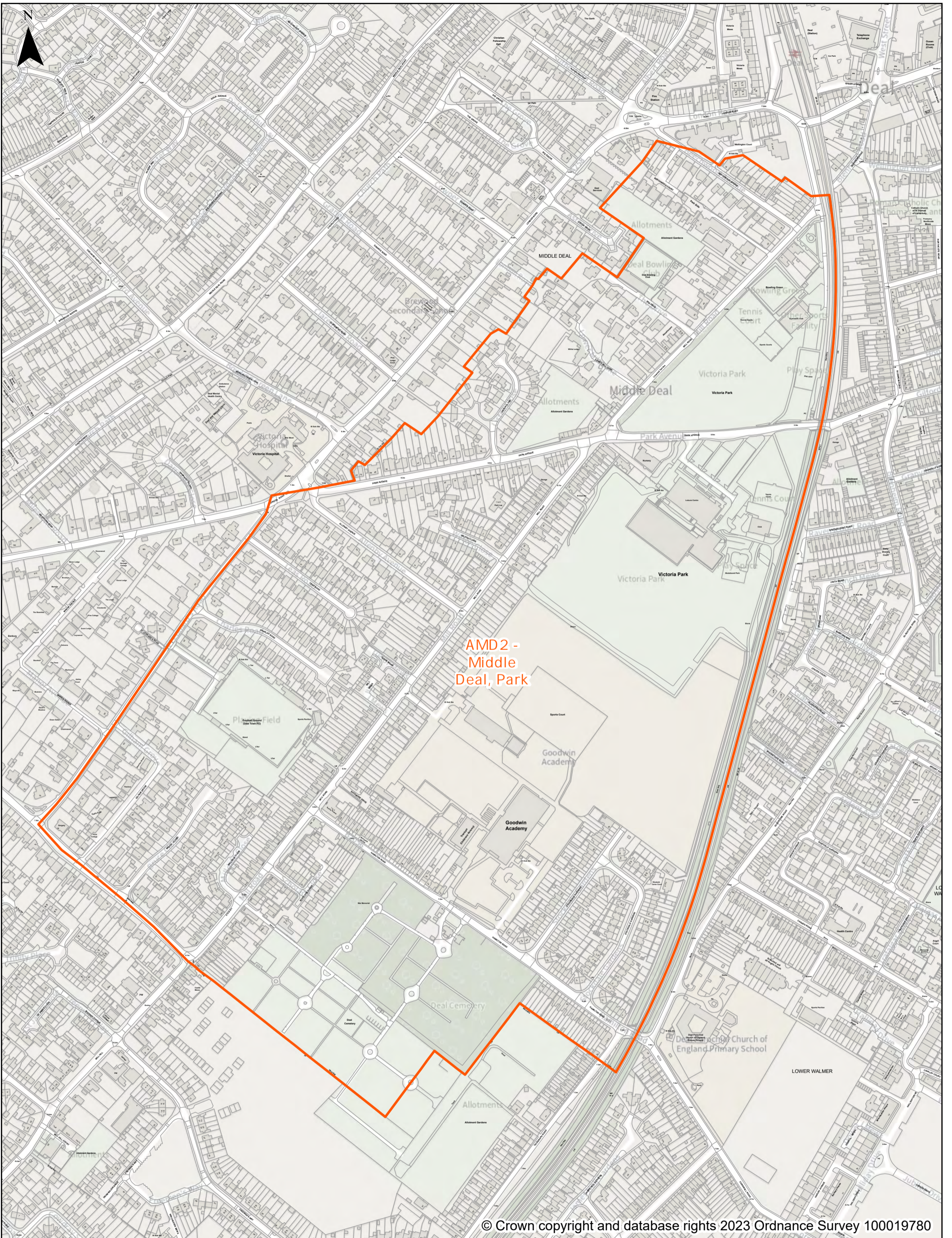


## Existing Polling District: AMD1- Middle Deal, Manor

Year of Production: 2023

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 Whitfield  
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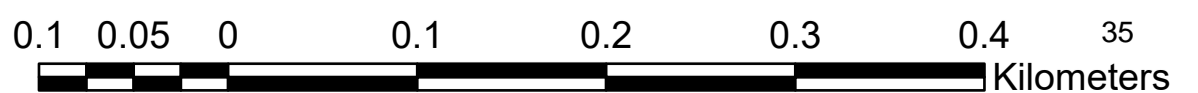


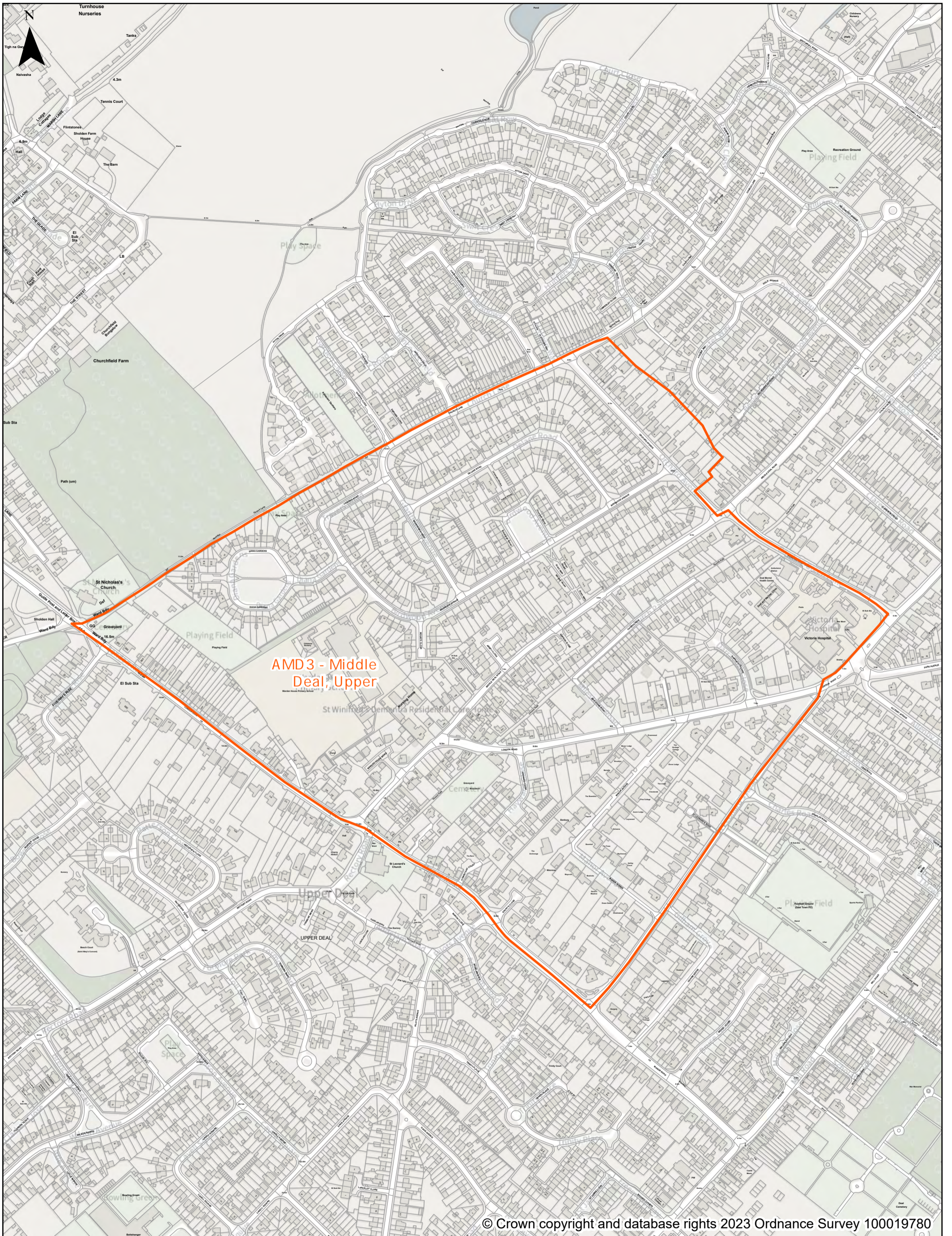


## Existing Polling District: AMD2- Middle Deal, Park

Year of Production: 2023

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 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
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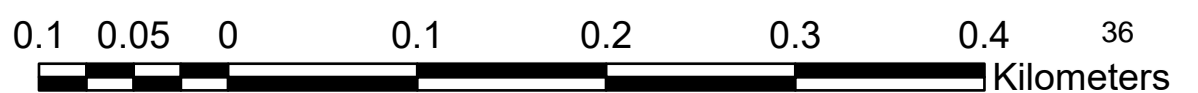


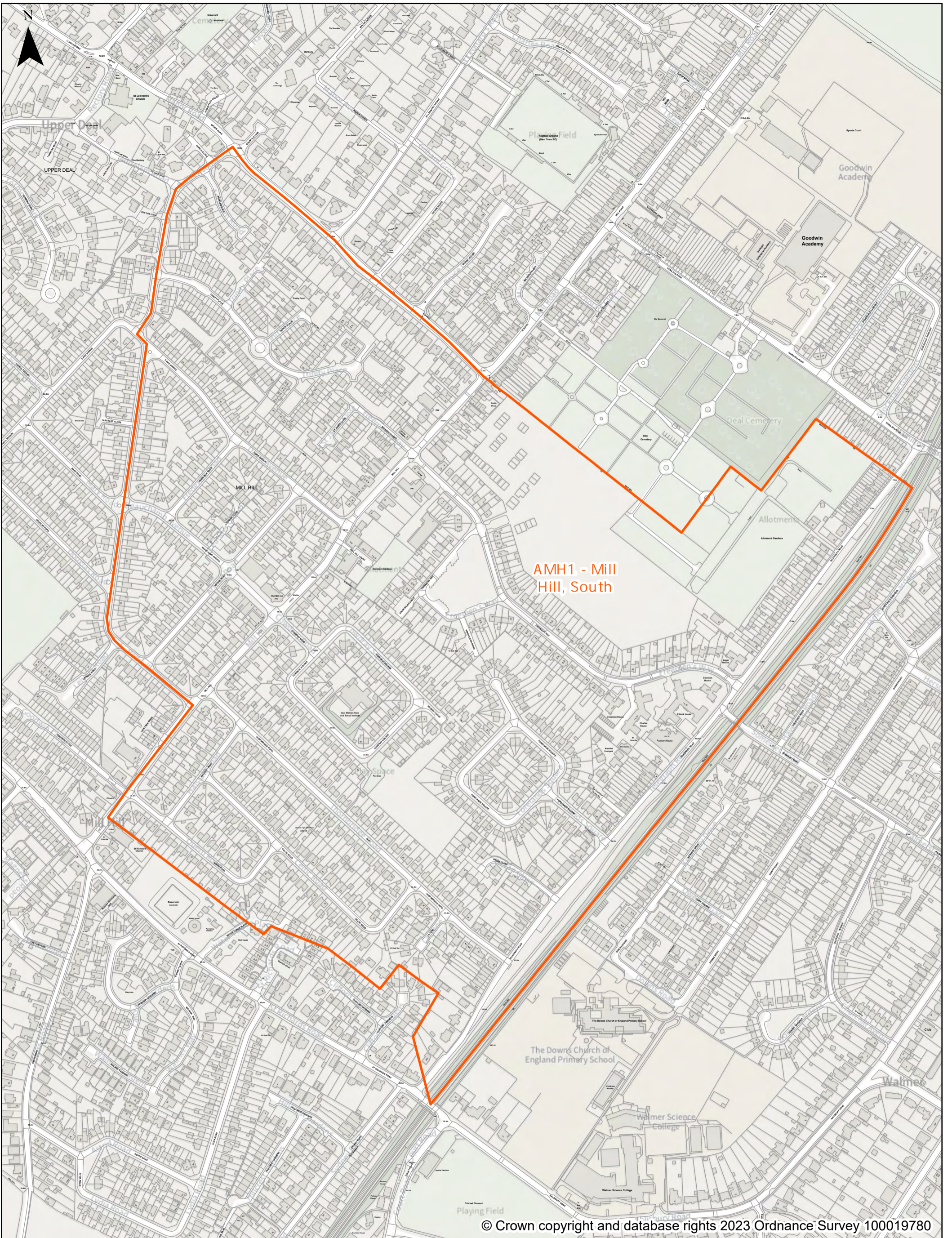


# Existing Polling District: AMD3 - Middle Deal, Upper

Year of Production: 2023

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 White Cliffs Business Park  
 Whitfield  
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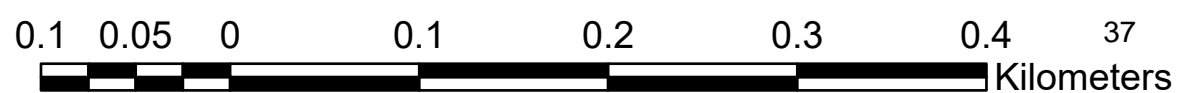


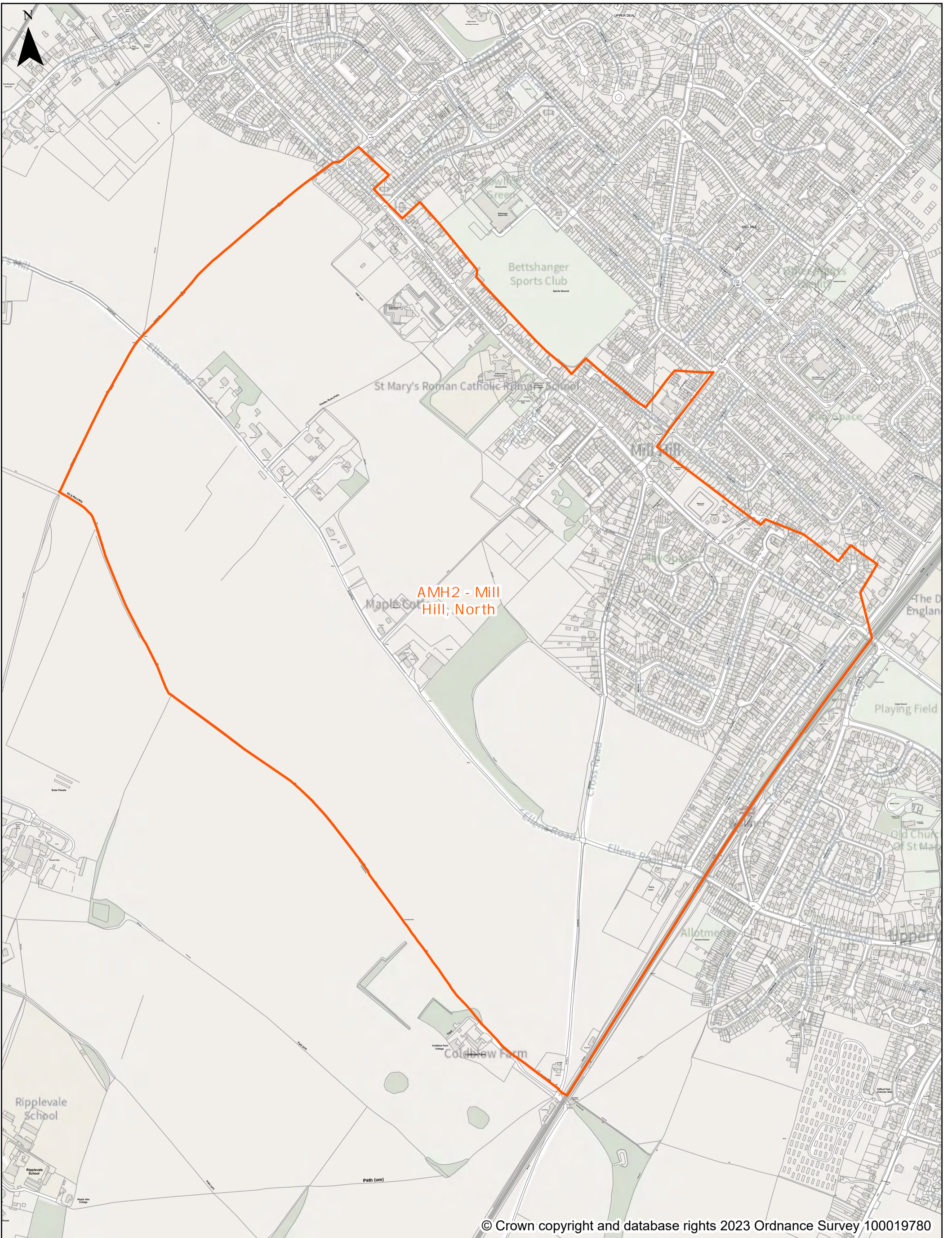


# Existing Polling District: AMH1 - Mill Hill, South

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
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 White Cliffs Business Park  
 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
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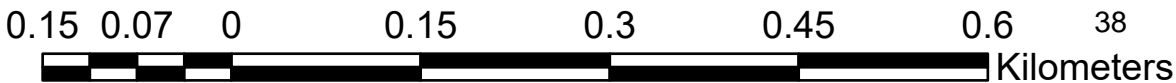


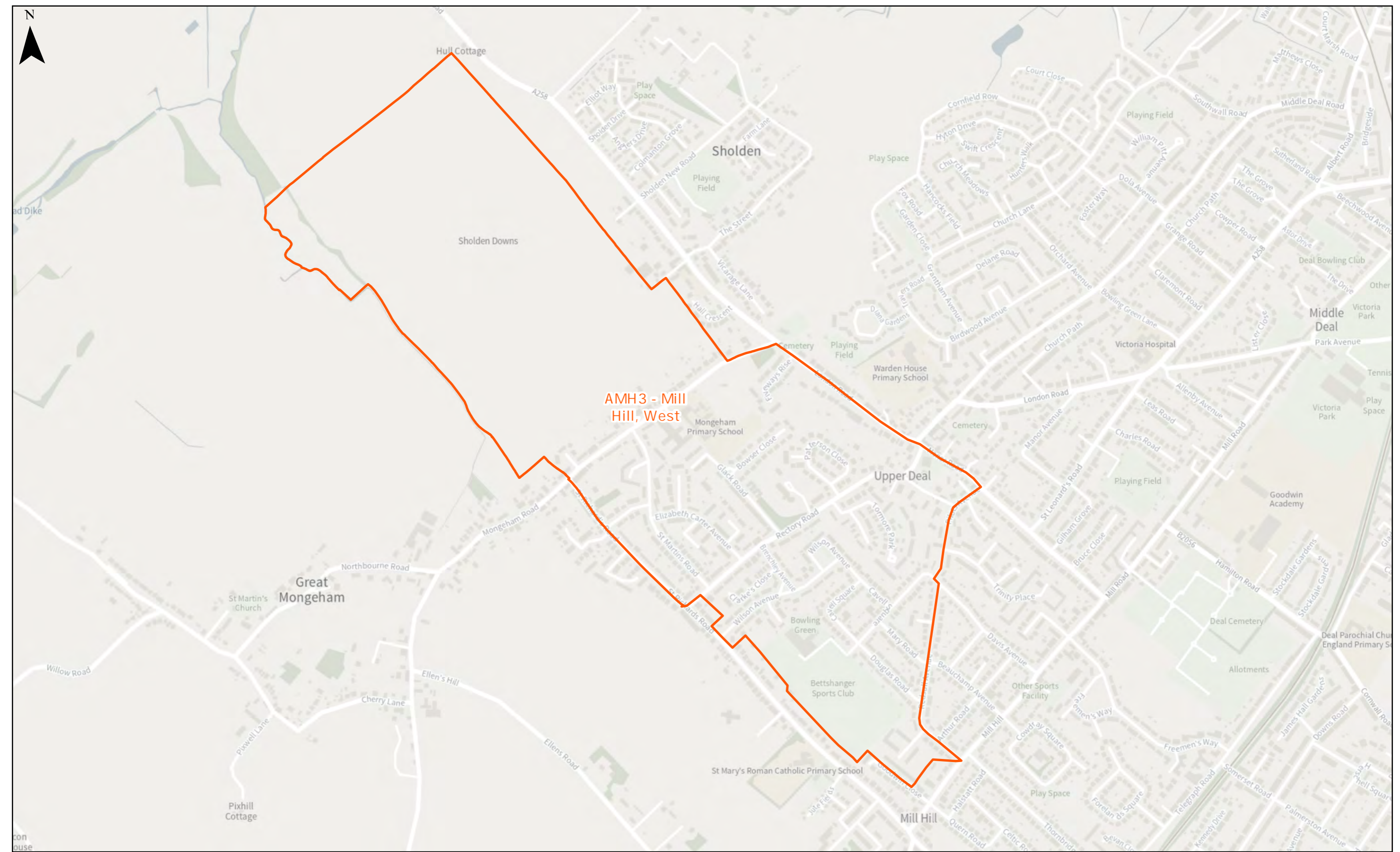
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**Existing Polling District: AMH2 - Mill Hill, North**

Year of Production: 2023

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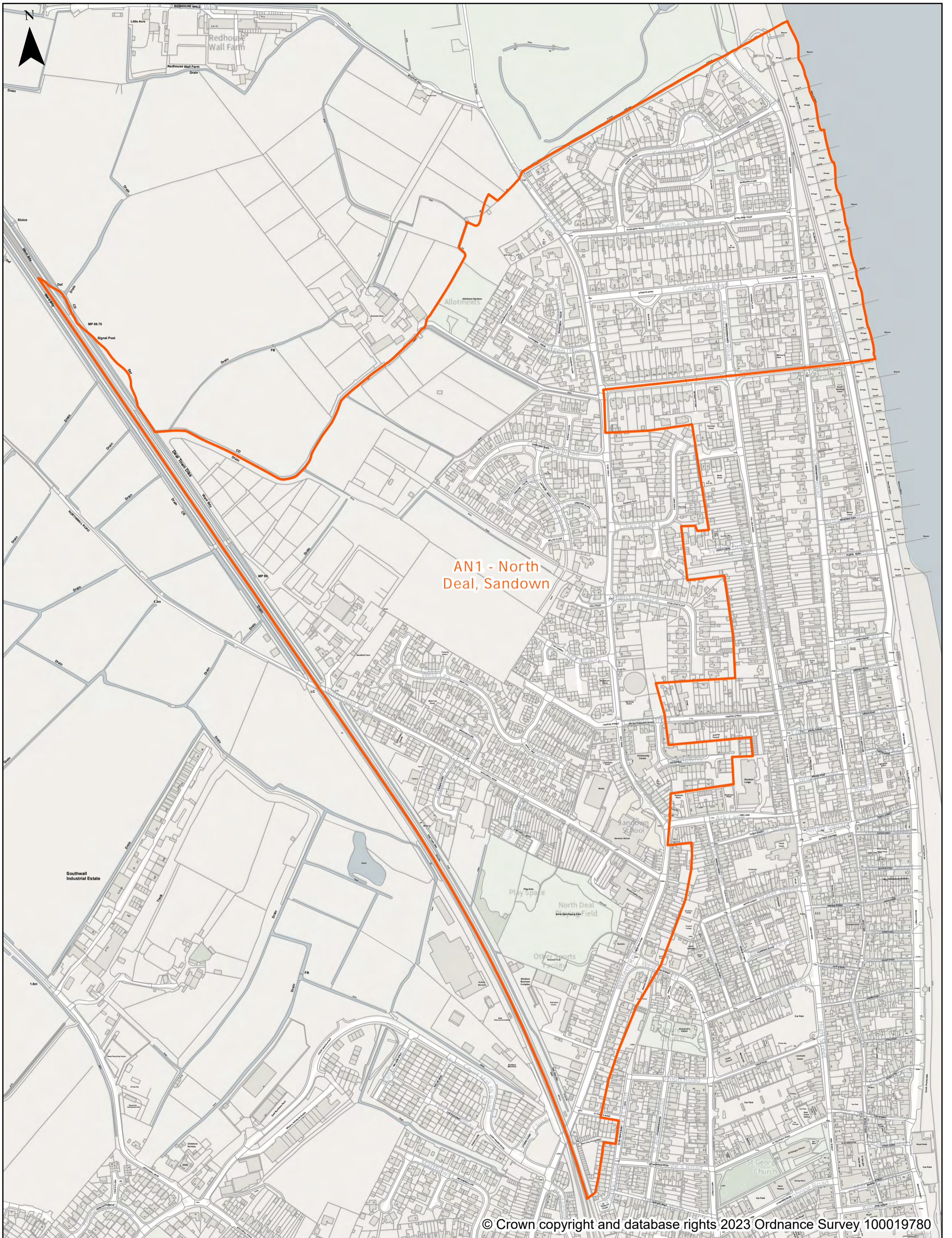




# Existing Polling District: AMH3 - Mill Hill, West

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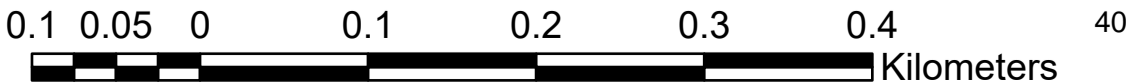


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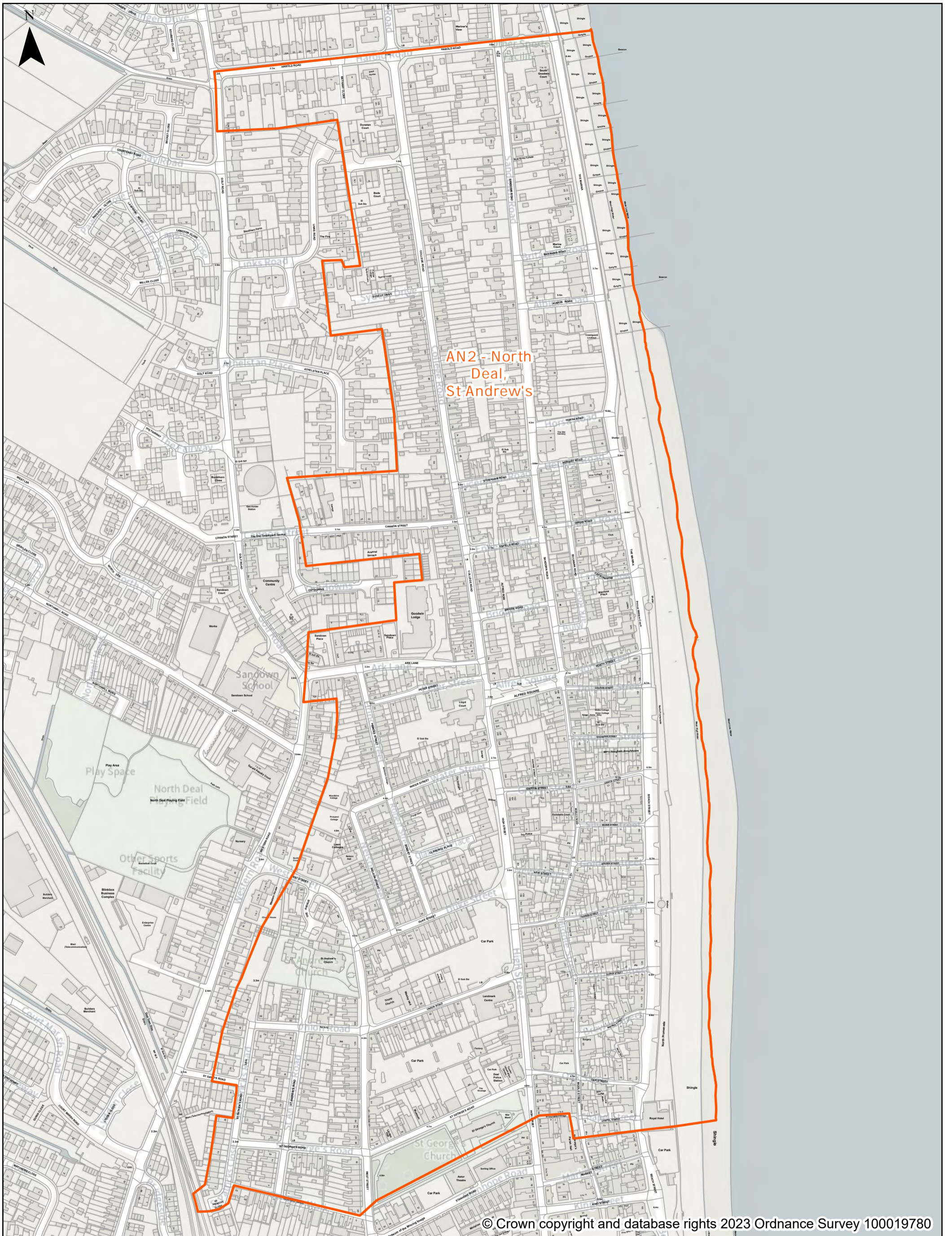
# Existing Polling District: AN1 - North Deal, Sandown

Year of Production: 2023

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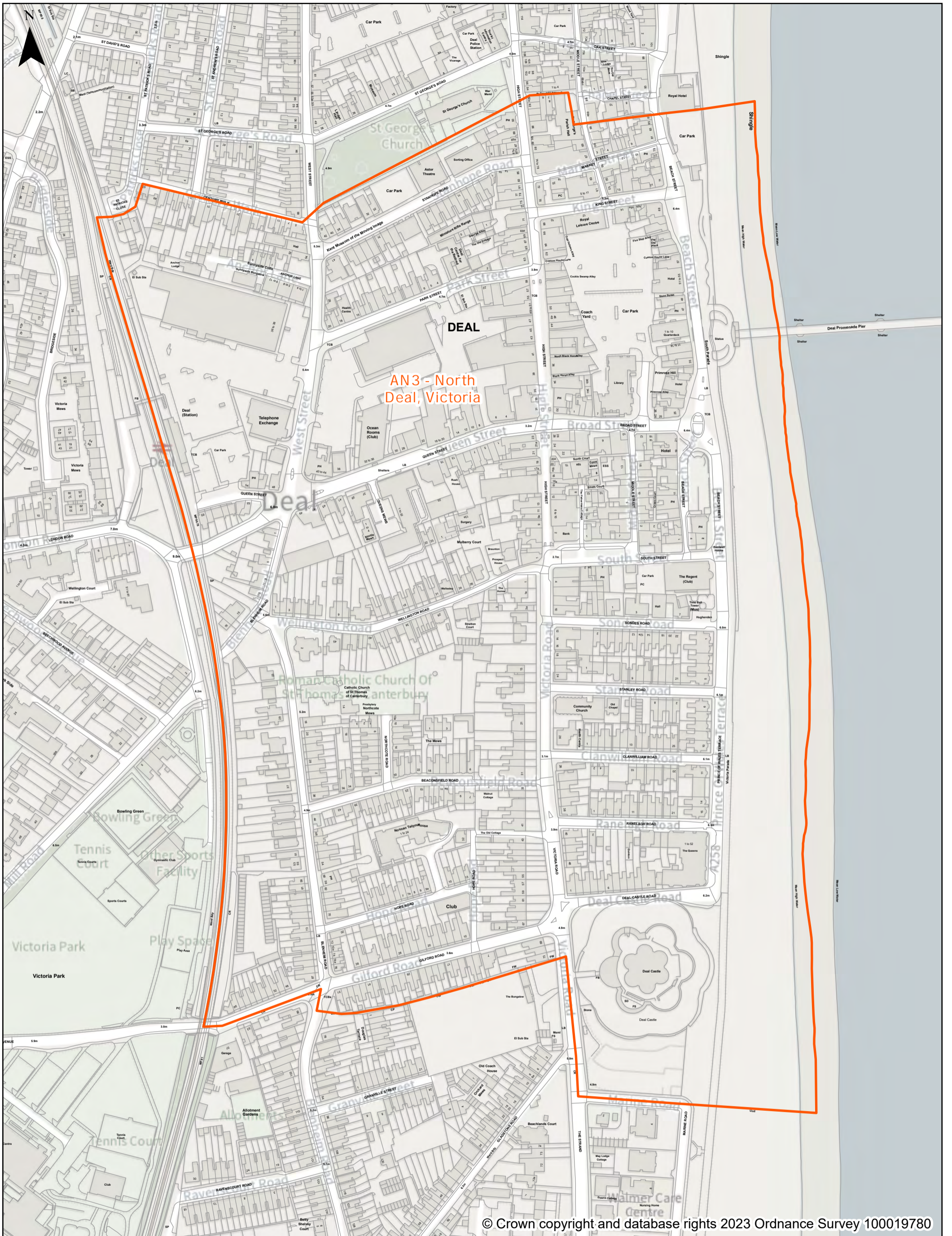


# Existing Polling District: AN2 - North Deal, St Andrew's

Year of Production: 2023

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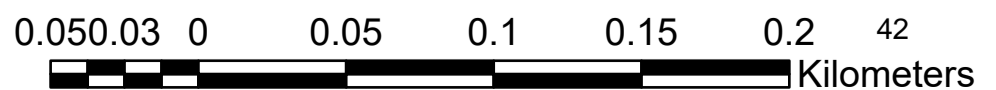


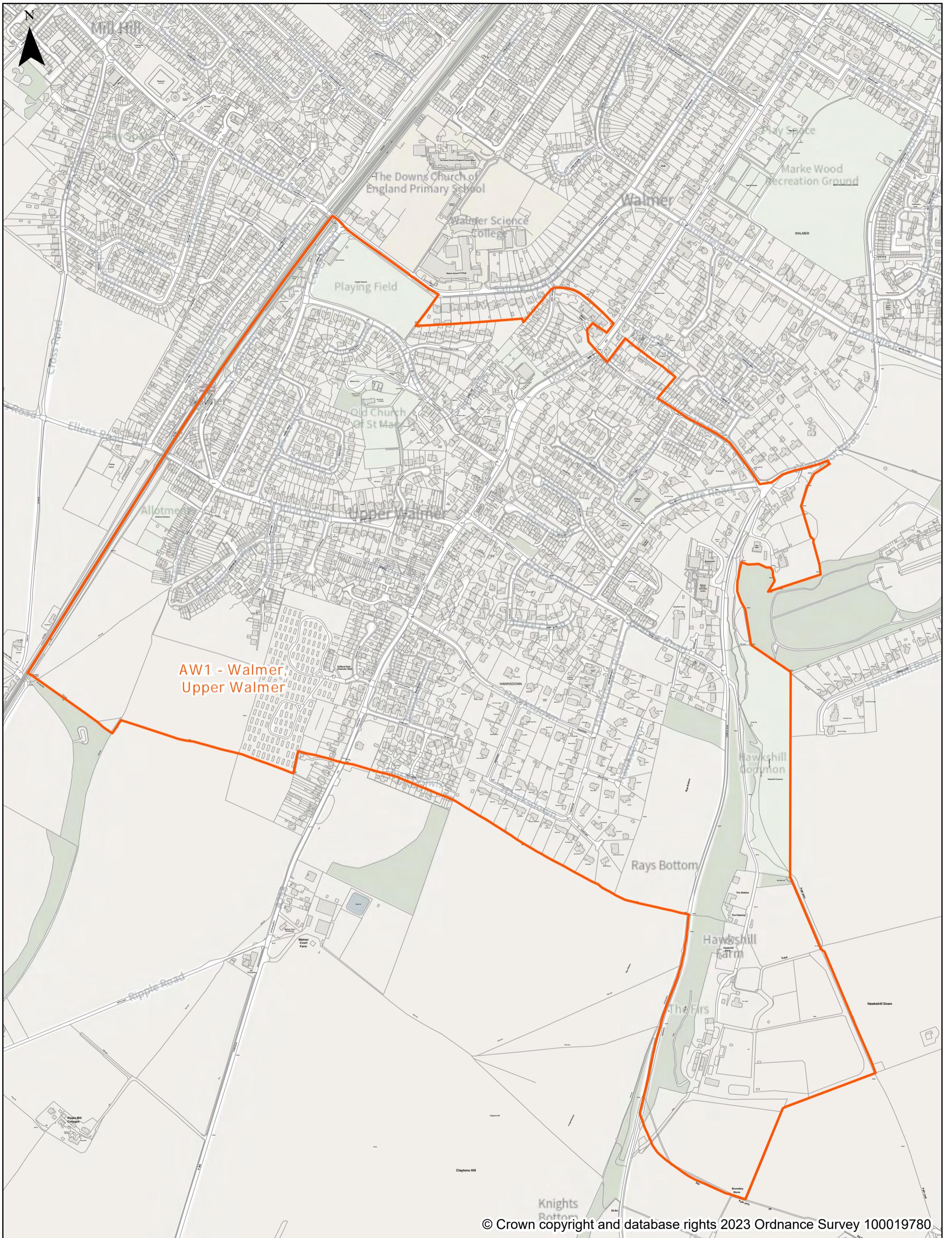


# Existing Polling District: AN3 - North Deal, Victoria

Year of Production: 2023

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## Existing Polling District: AW1 - Walmer, Upper Walmer

Year of Production: 2023

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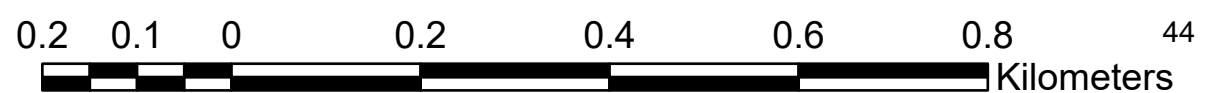


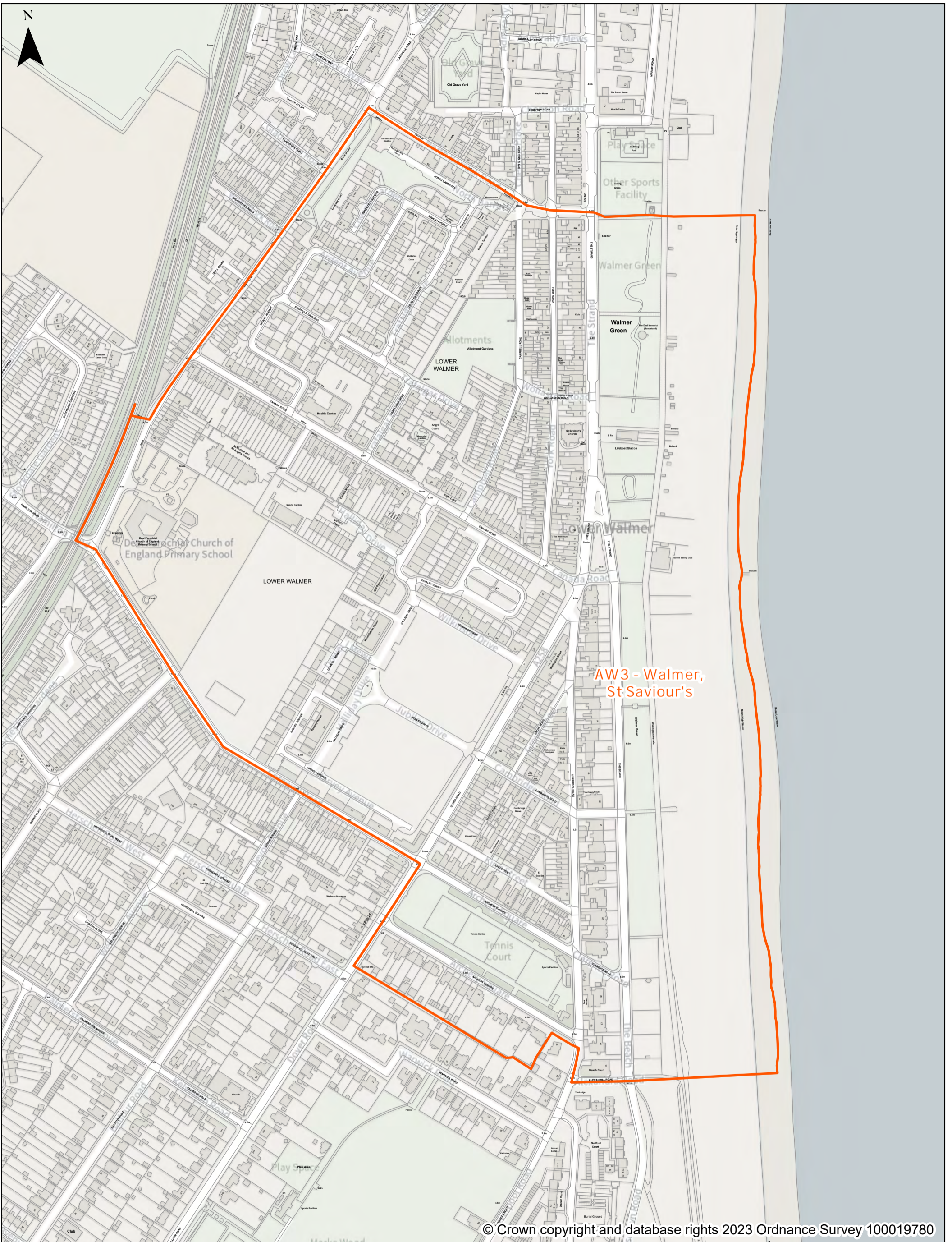


## Existing Polling District: AW2 - Walmer, Wellington

Year of Production: 2023

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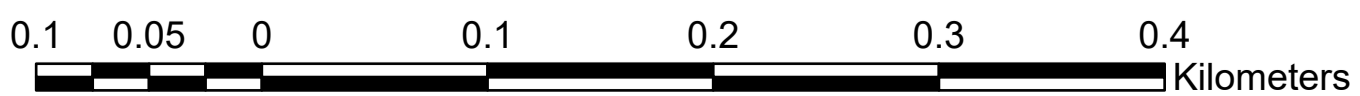


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**Existing Polling District: AW3 - Walmer, St Saviour's**

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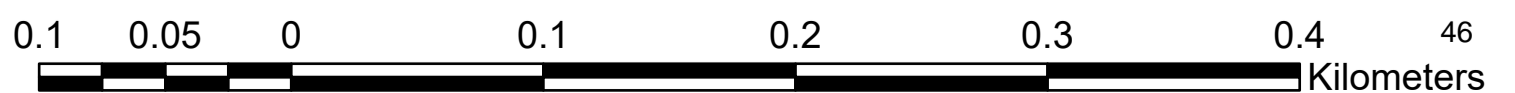


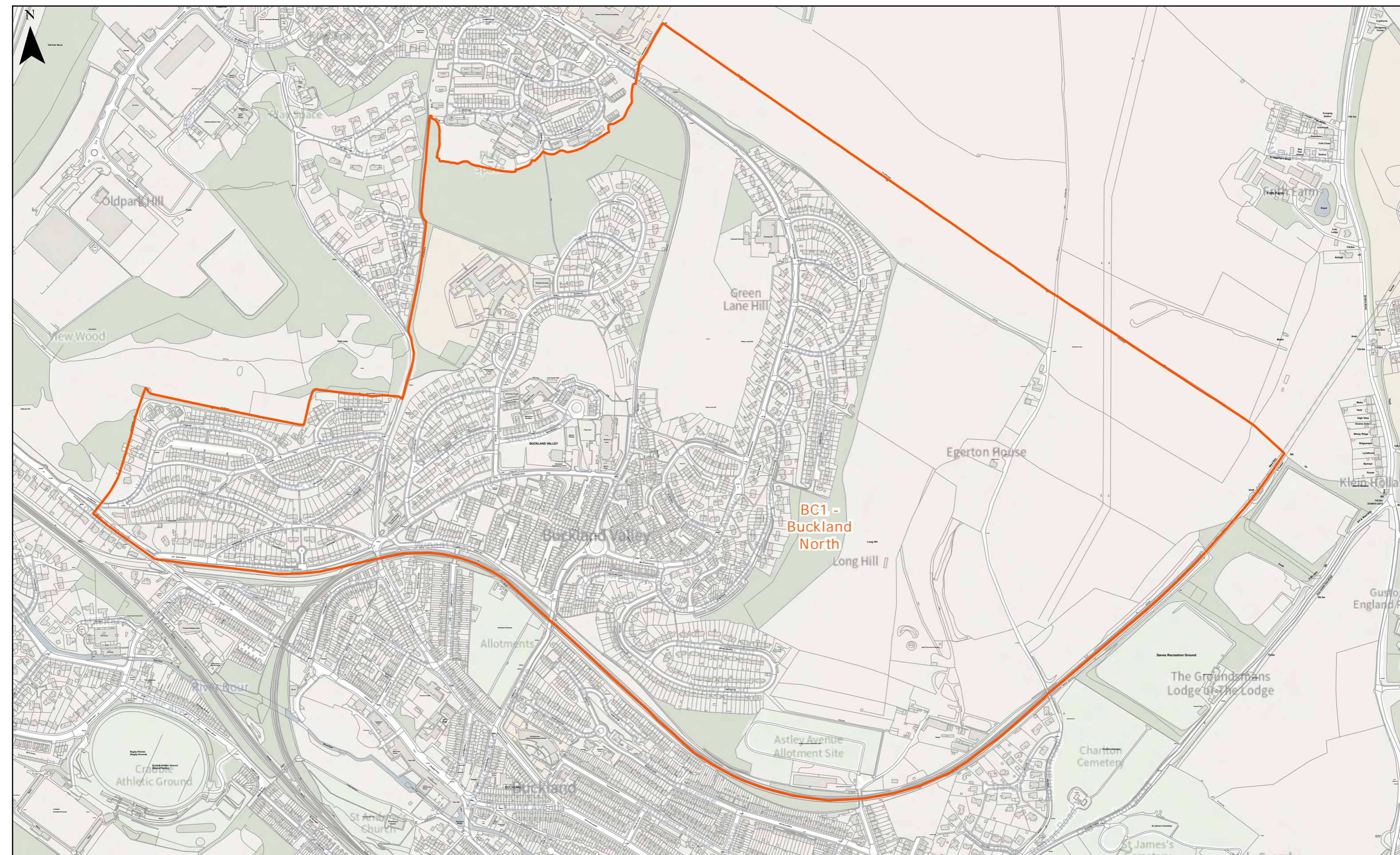


# Existing Polling District: AW4N - North Deal, Gladstone

Year of Production: 2023

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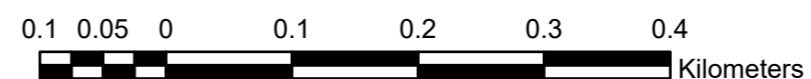


# Existing Polling District: BC1 - Buckland, North

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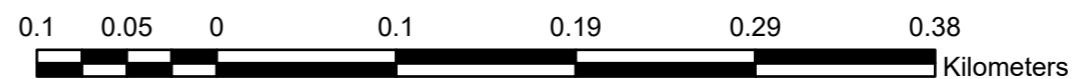


# Existing Polling District: BC2 - Buckland, South

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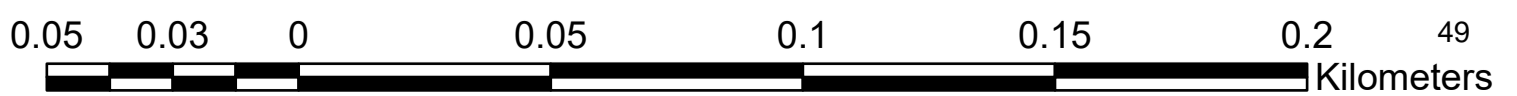


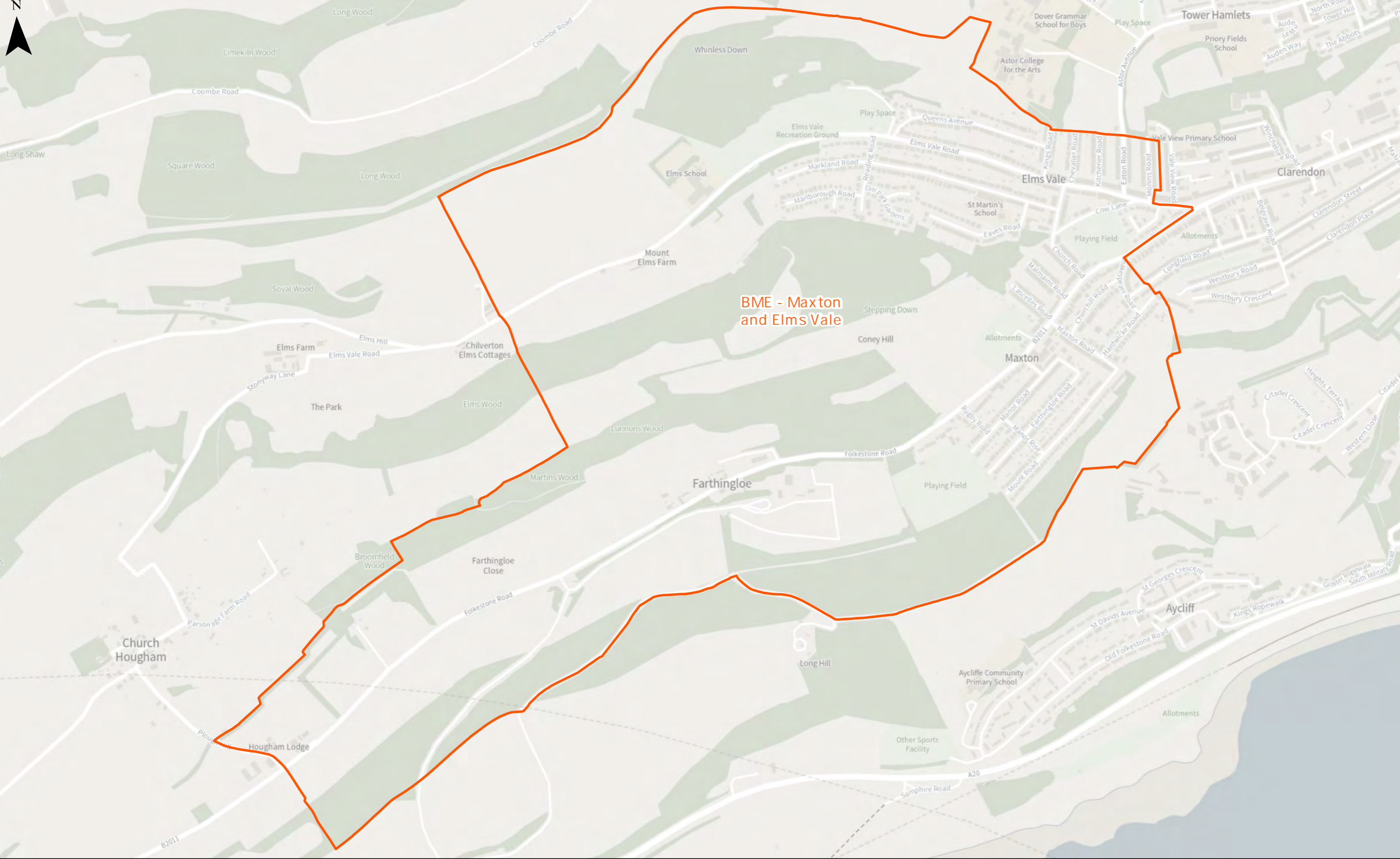
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# Existing Polling District: BCW1 - Whitfield Rokesley

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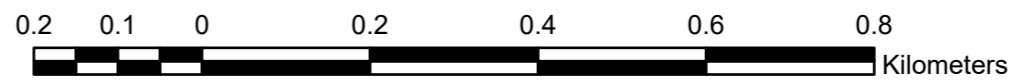
BME - Maxton  
and Elms Vale

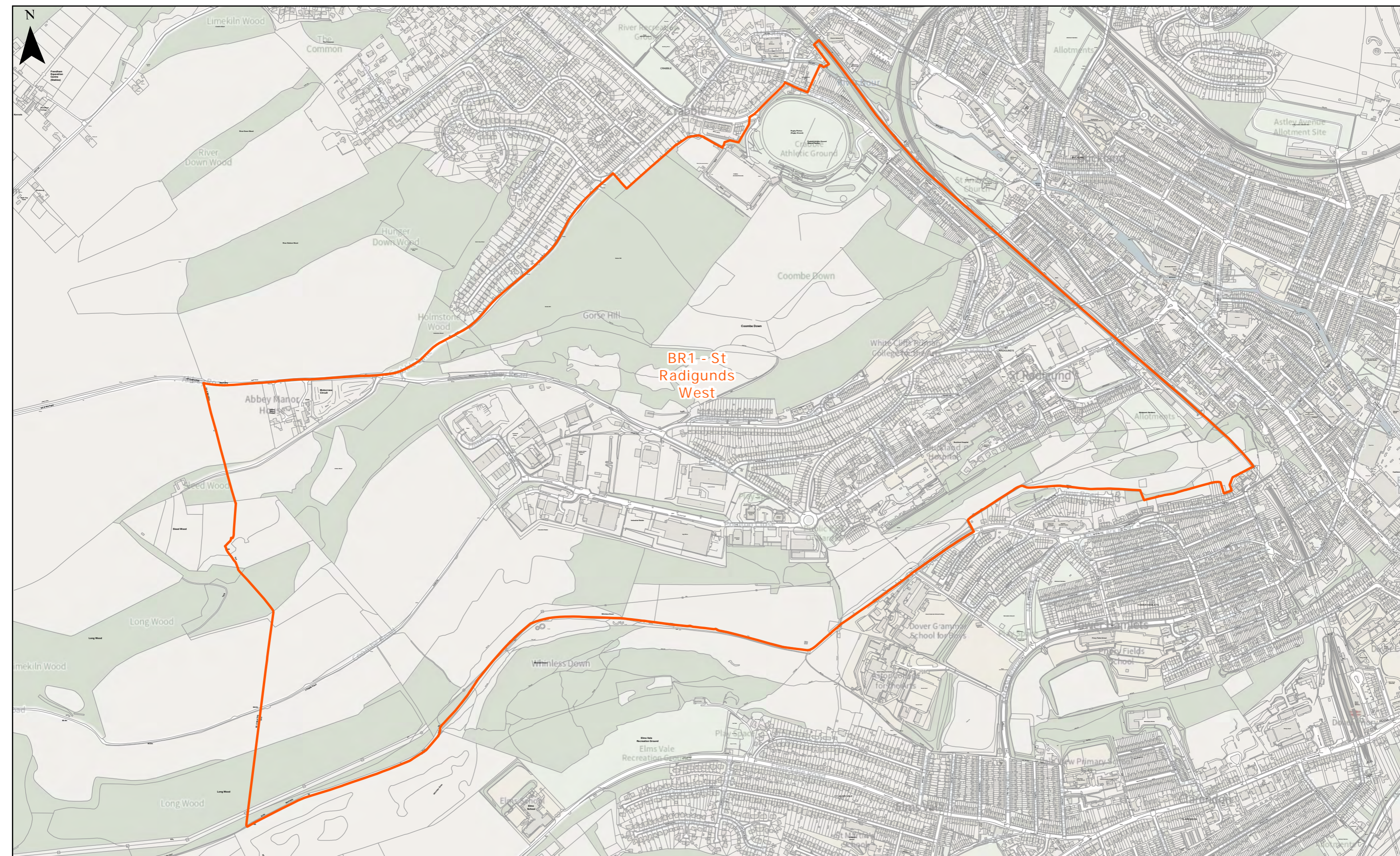
# Existing Polling District: BME - Maxton and Elms Vale

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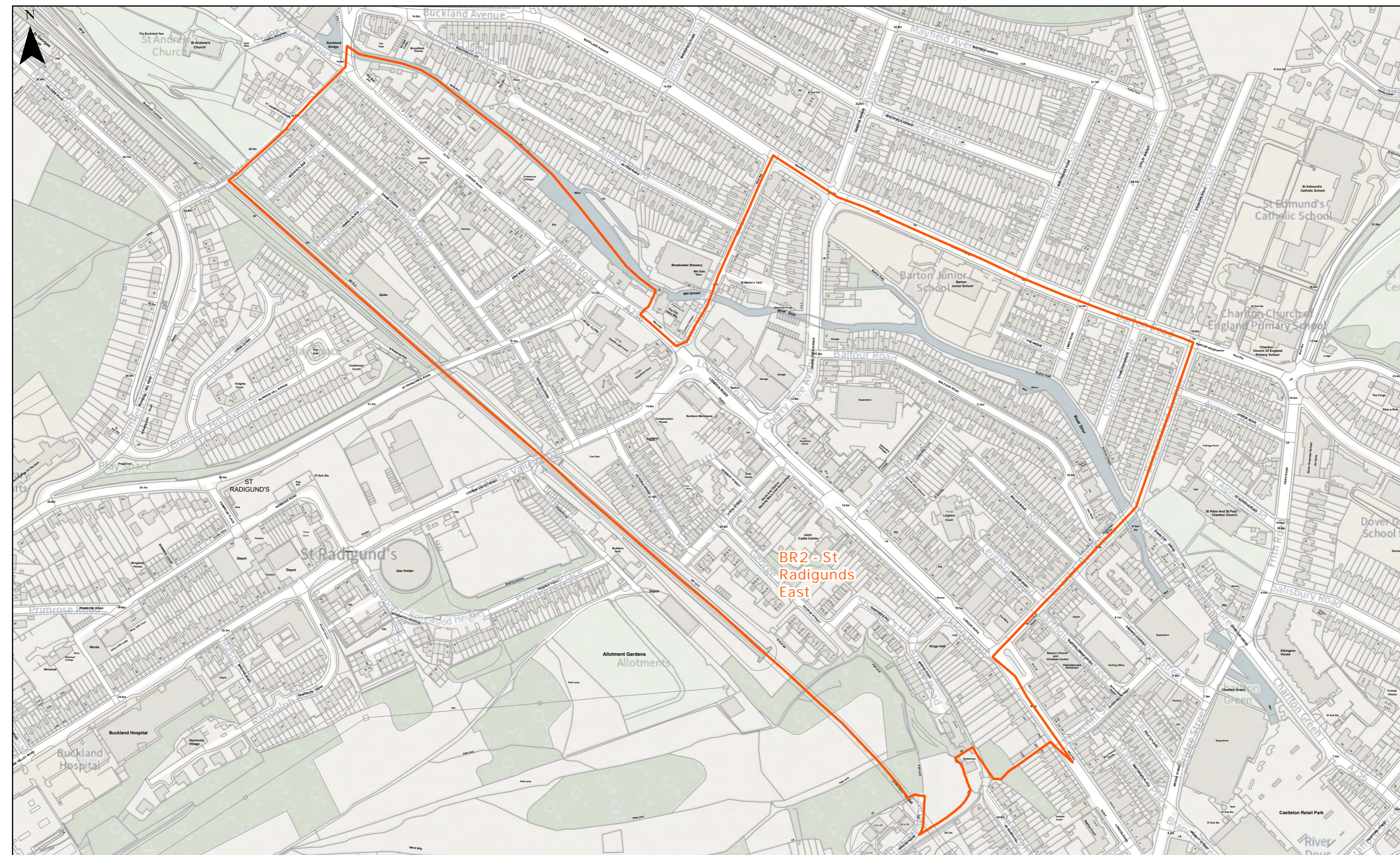




# Existing Polling District: BR1 - St Radigund's, West

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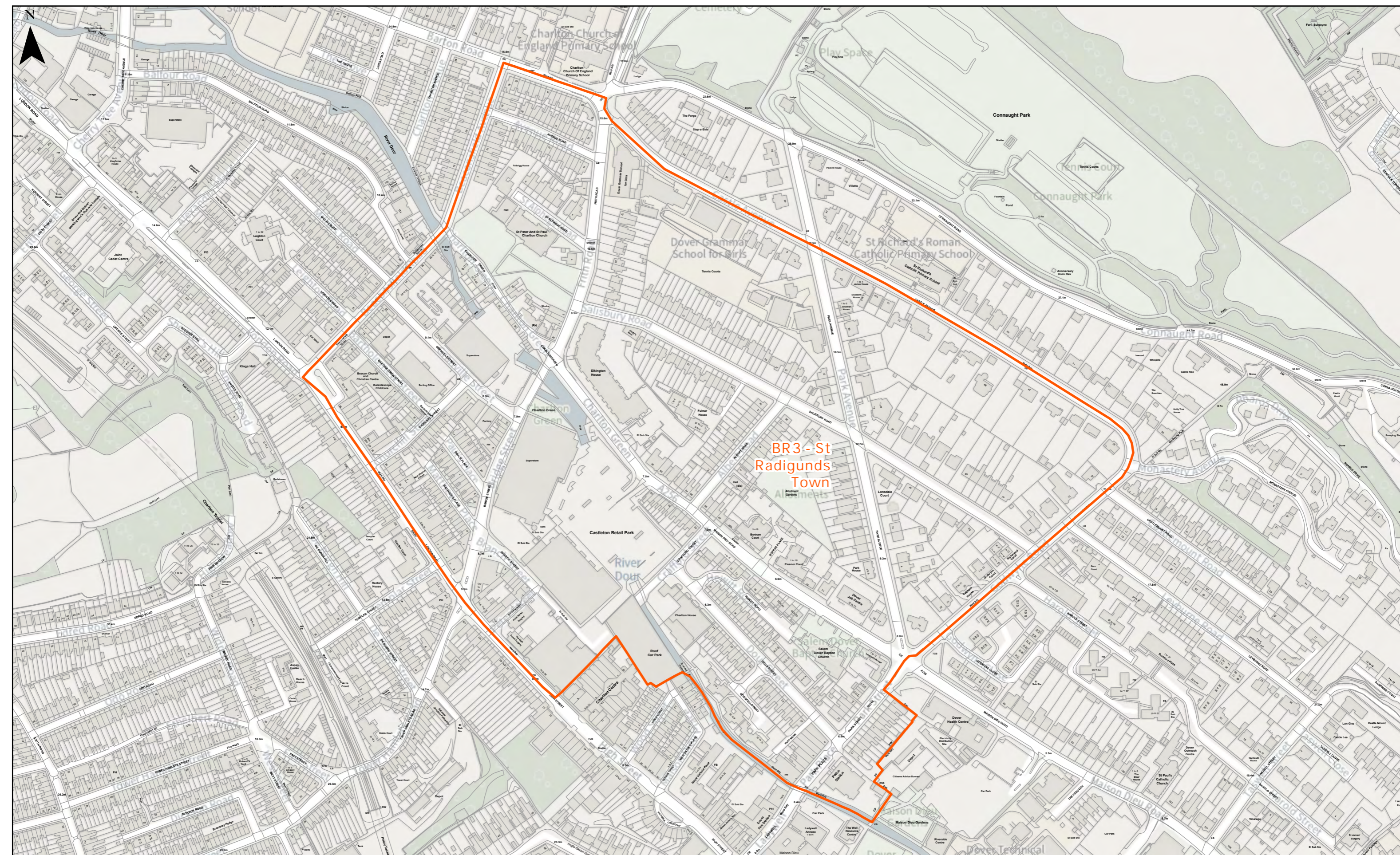




# Existing Polling District: BR2 - St Radigund's, East

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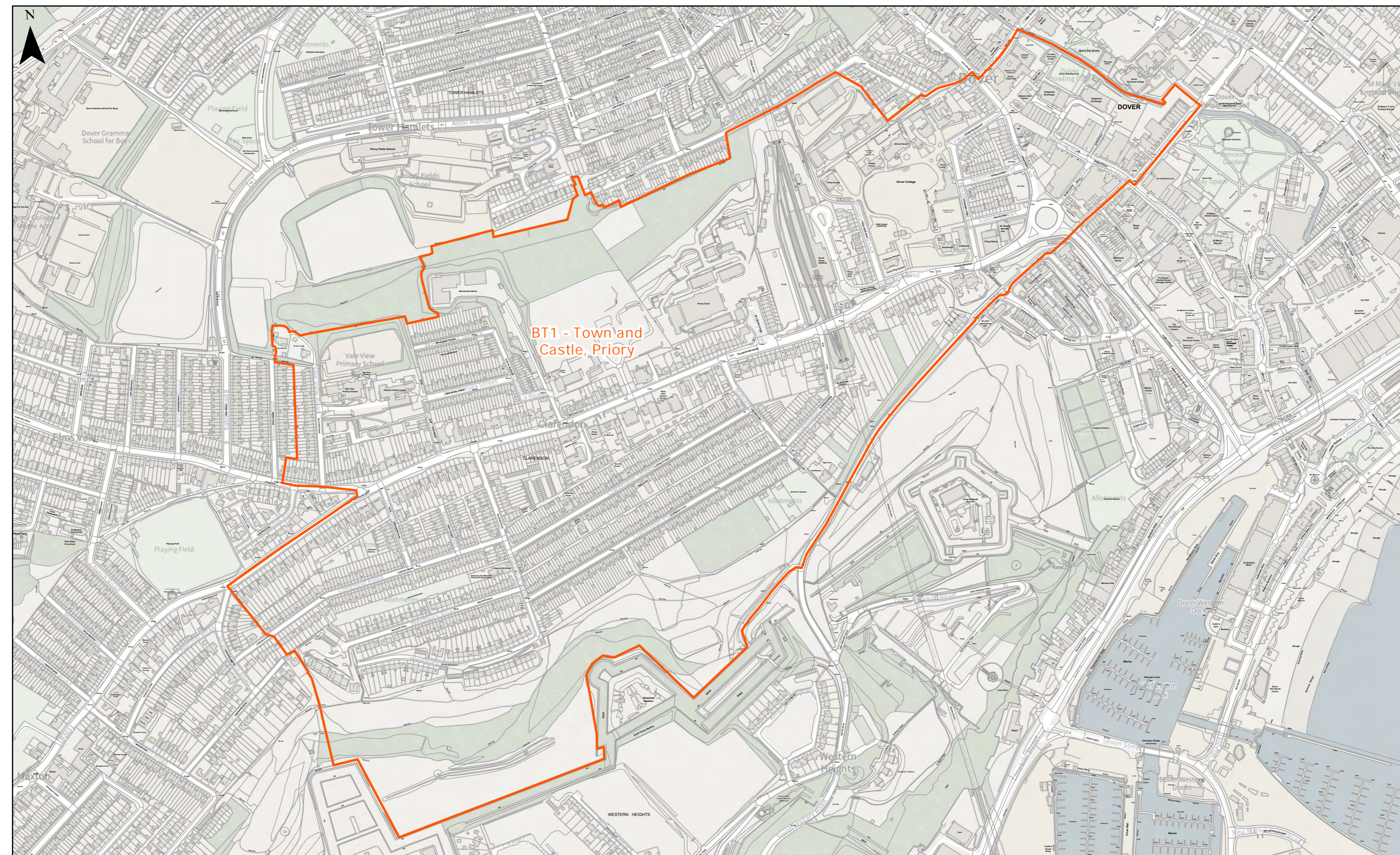


# Existing Polling District: BR3 - St Radigund's, Town

Year of Production: 2023

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# Existing Polling District: BT1 - Town and Castle, Priory

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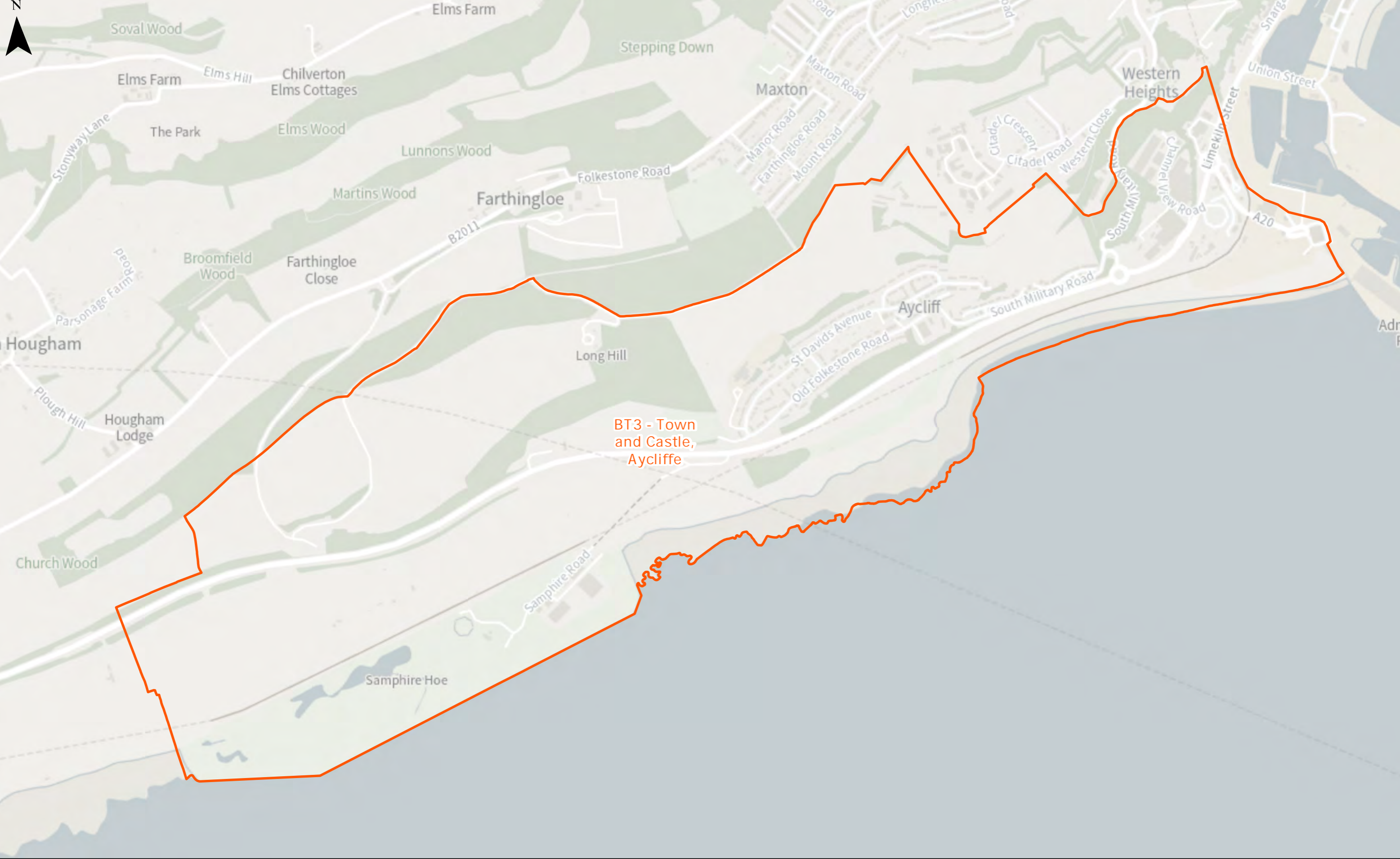


# Existing Polling District: BT2 - Town and Castle, Castle

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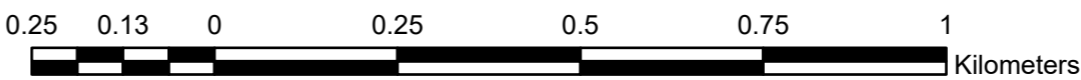


# Existing Polling District: BT3 - Town and Castle, Aycliffe

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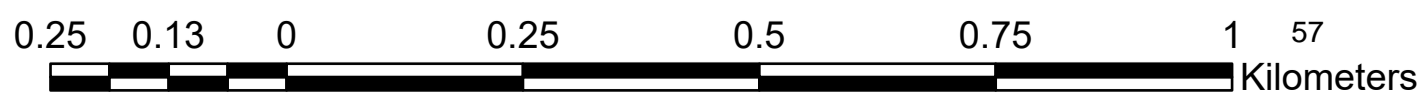


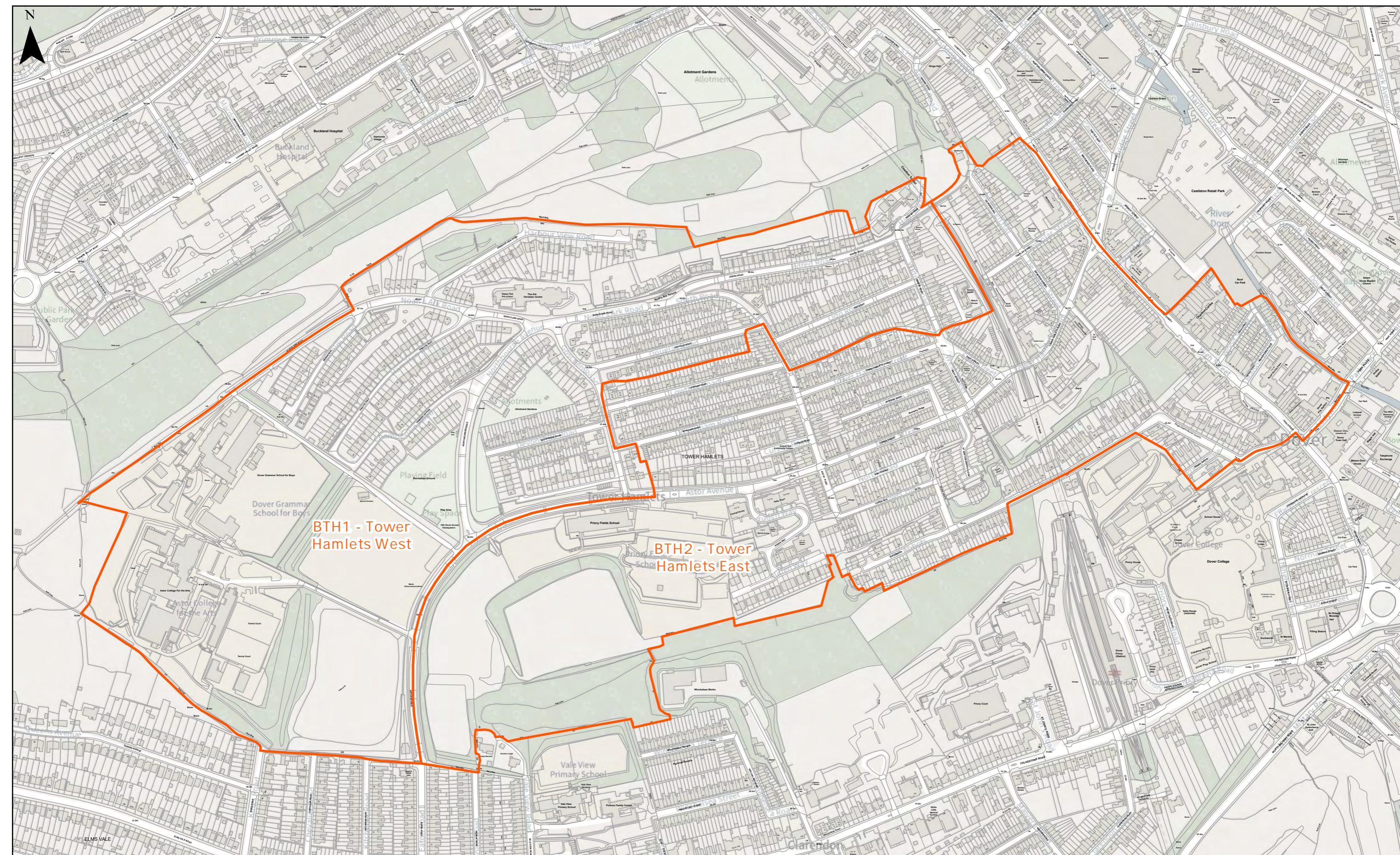


## Existing Polling District: BT4 - Town and Castle, Redoubt

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
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 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
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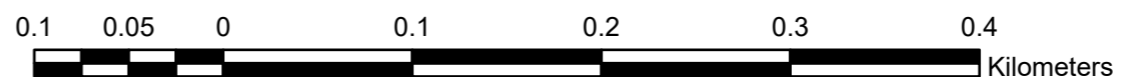


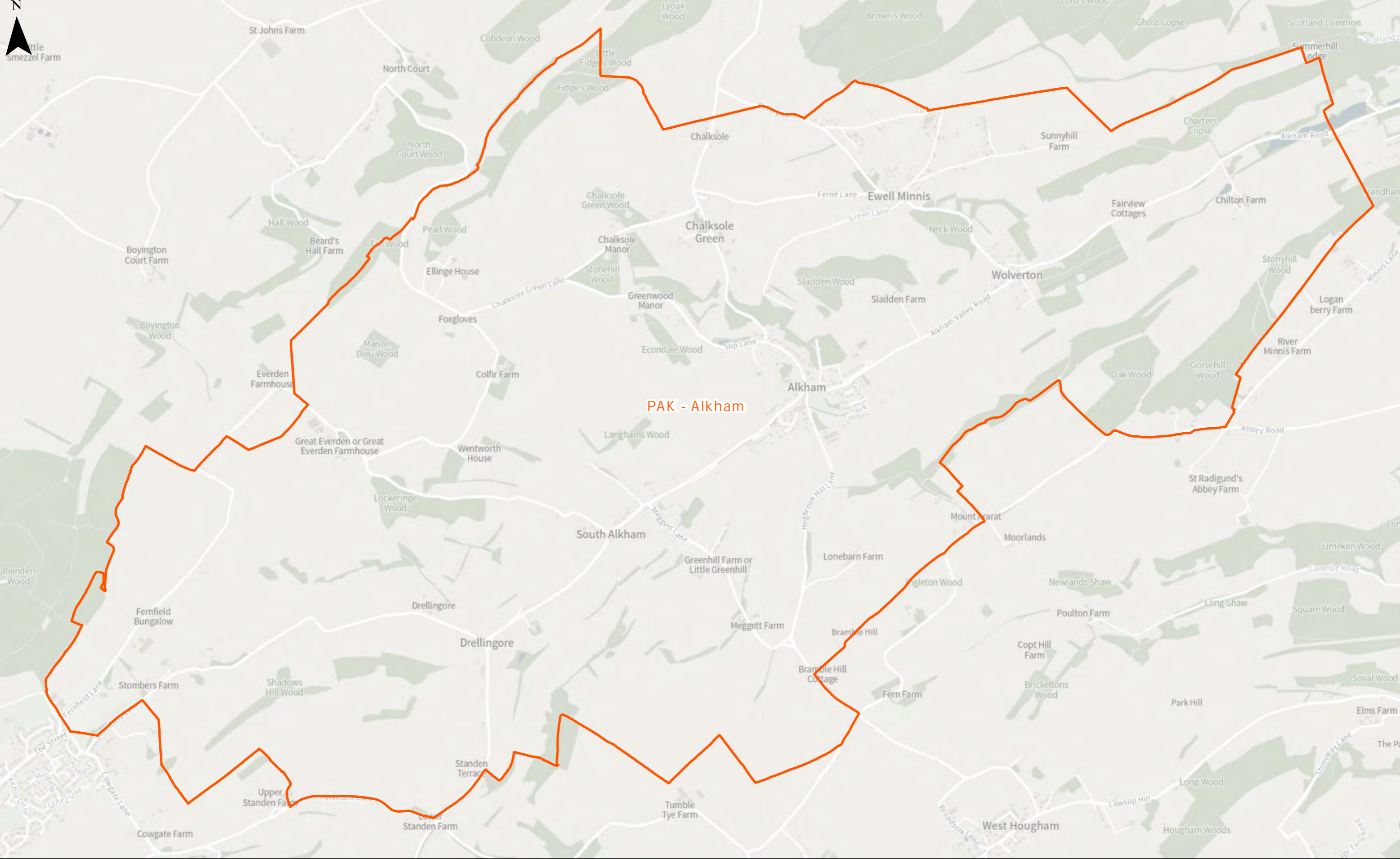
# Existing Polling Districts: BTH1 - Tower Hamlets, West & BTH2 - Tower Hamlets, East

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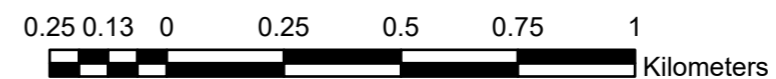


# Existing Polling District: PAK - Alkham

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 Dover  
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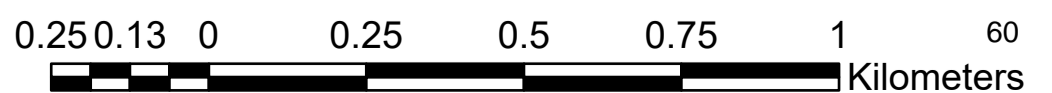


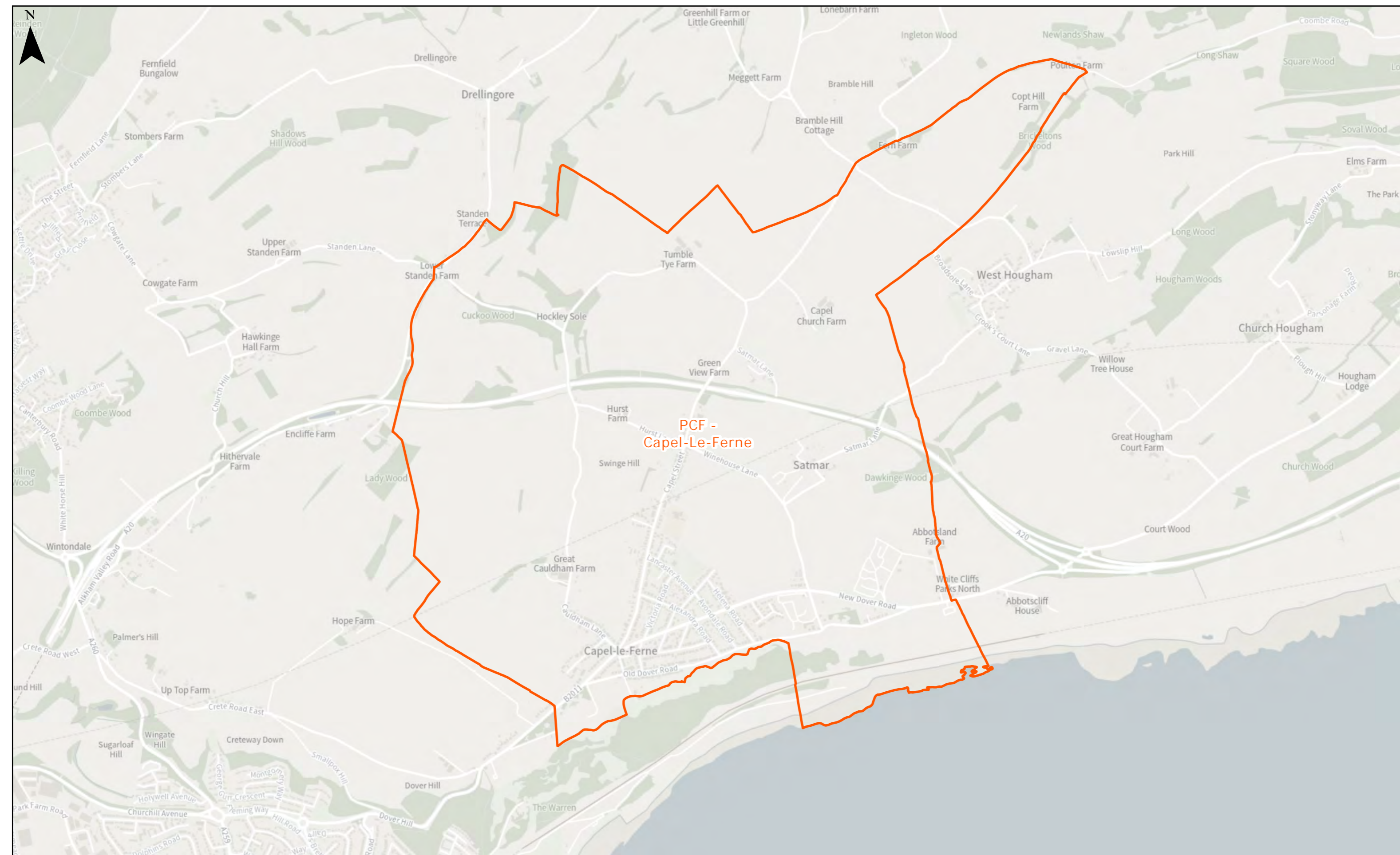


## Existing Polling District: PAY - Aylesham

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
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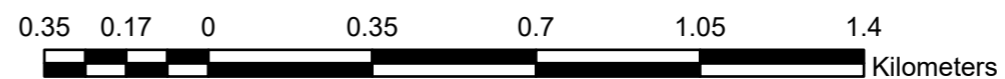


# Existing Polling District: PCF - Capel-Le-Ferne

Year of Production: 2023

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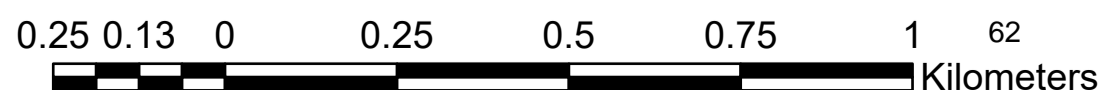


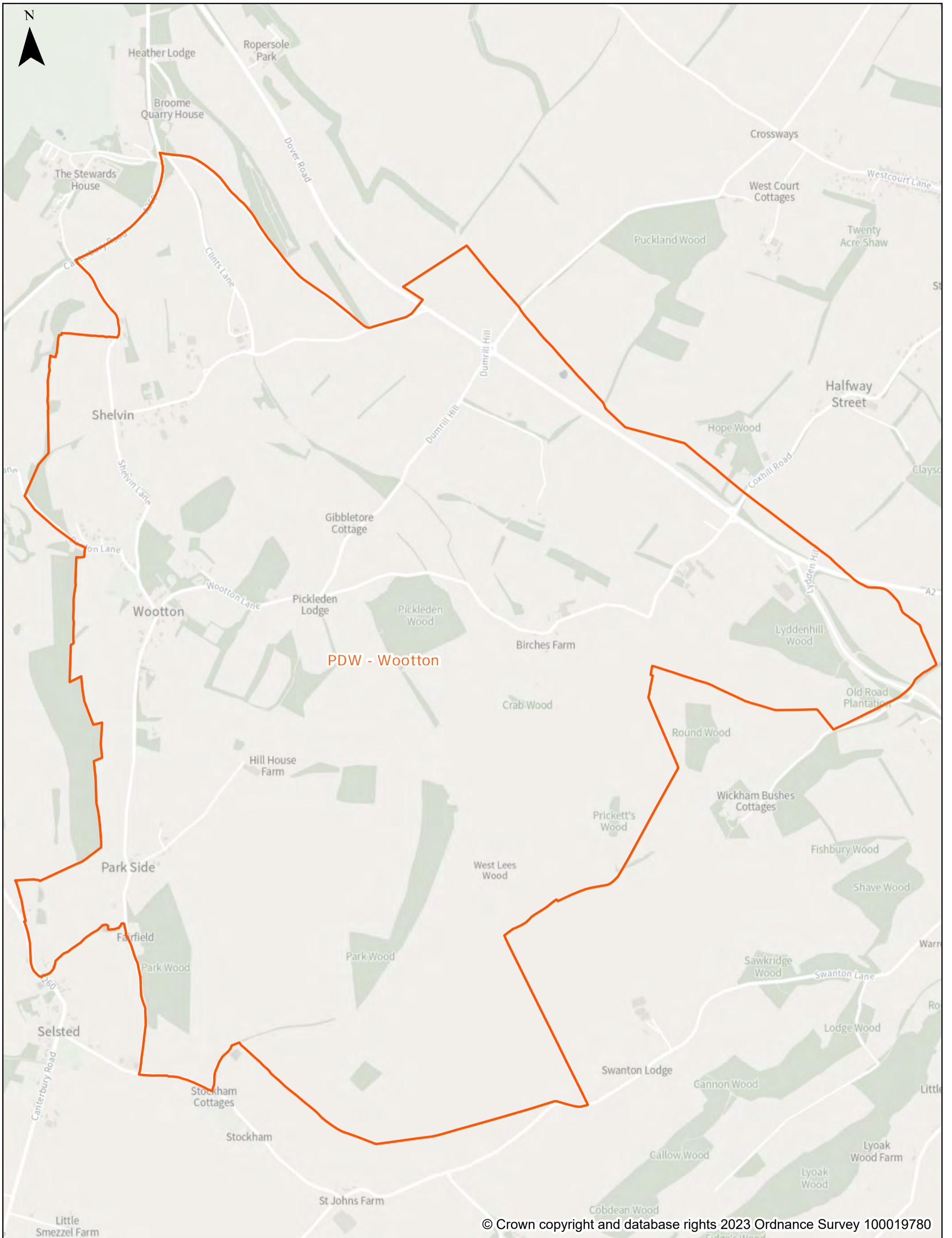
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## Existing Polling District: PDD - Denton

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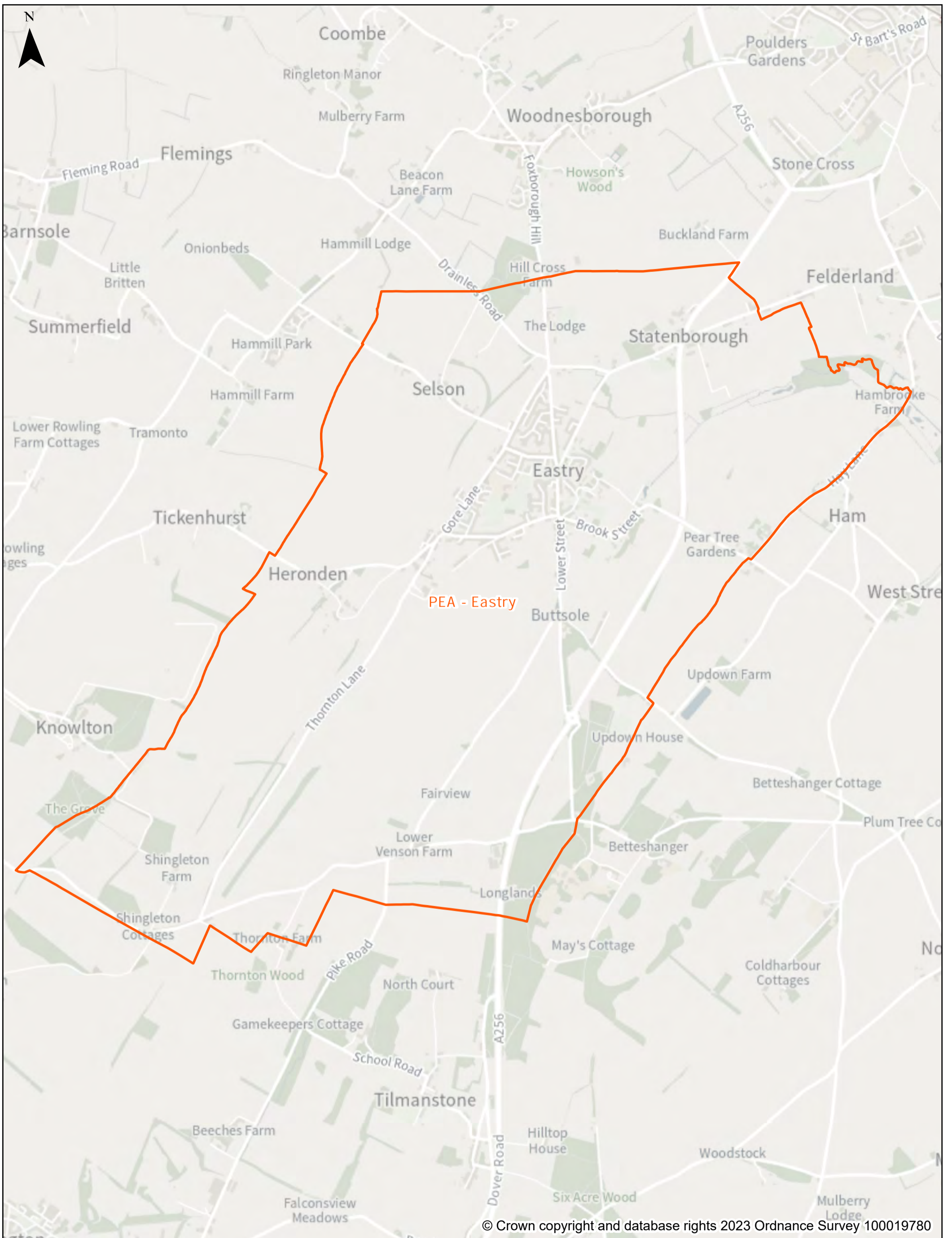


# Existing Polling District: PDW - Wootton

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### Existing Polling District: PEA - Eastry

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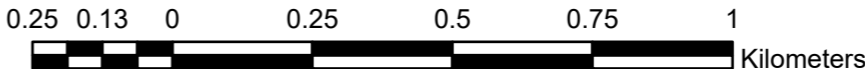


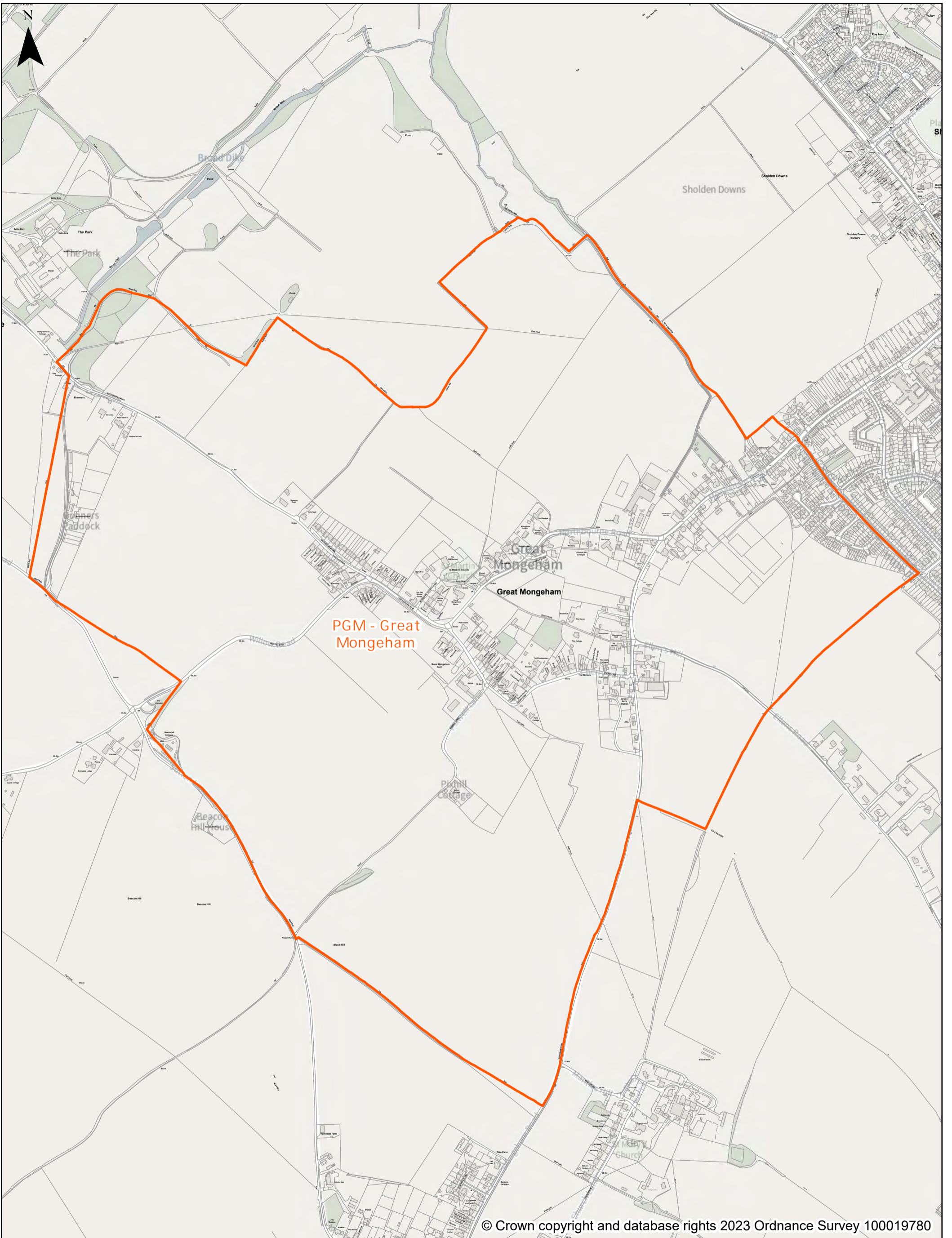
**Existing Polling Districts: PEX1 - Eythorne , PEX2 - Barfrestone & PEX3 - Elvington**

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 Dover  
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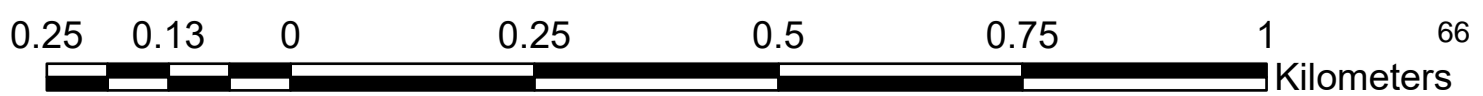


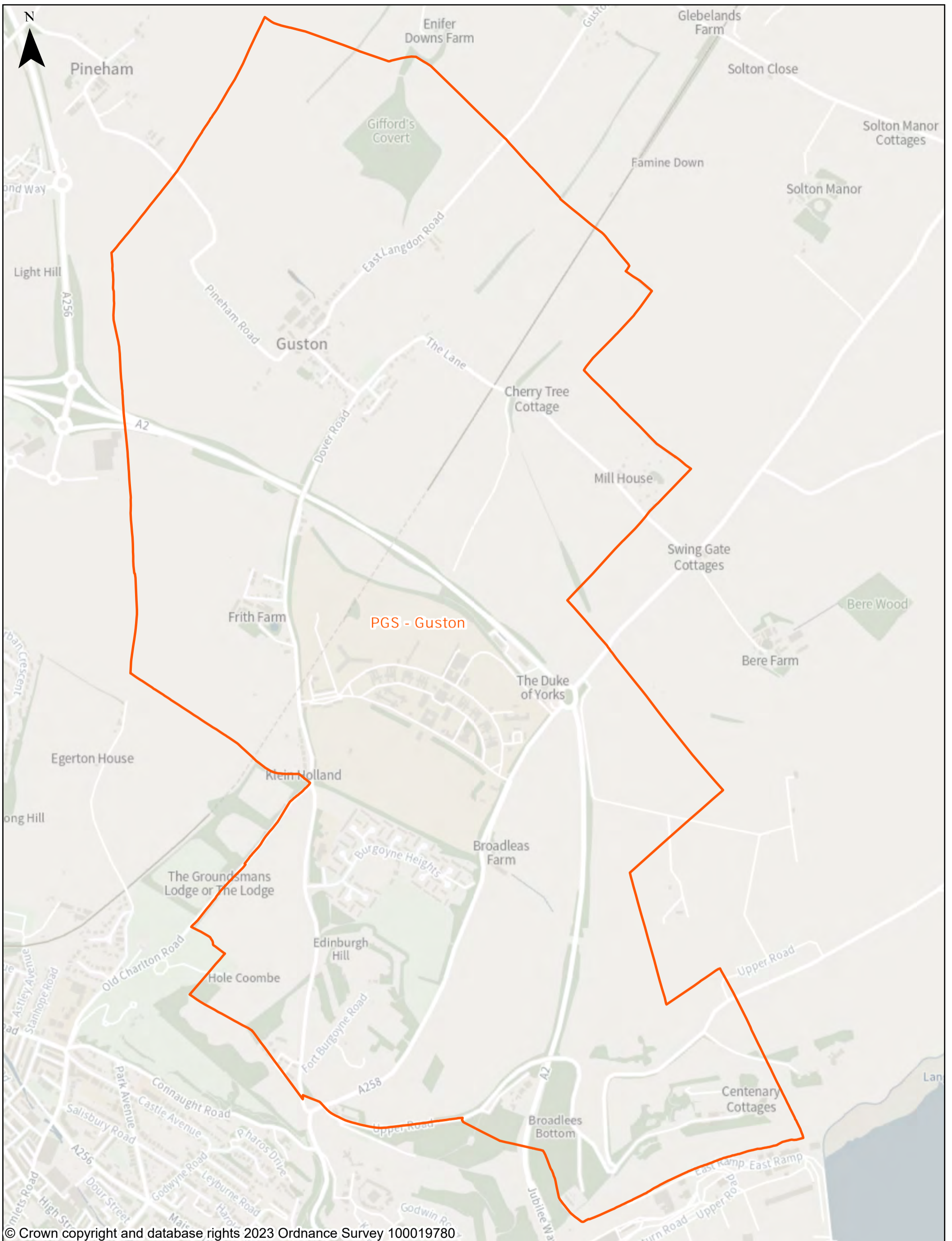


**Existing Polling District: PGM - Great Mongeham**

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
 Honeywood Close  
 White Cliffs Business Park  
 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ

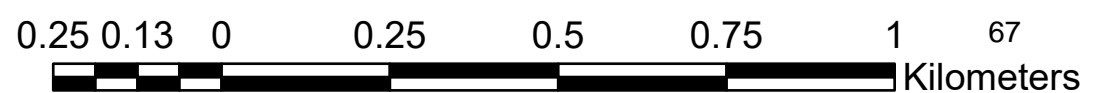




## Existing Polling District: PGS - Guston

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
 Honeywood Close  
 White Cliffs Business Park  
 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ



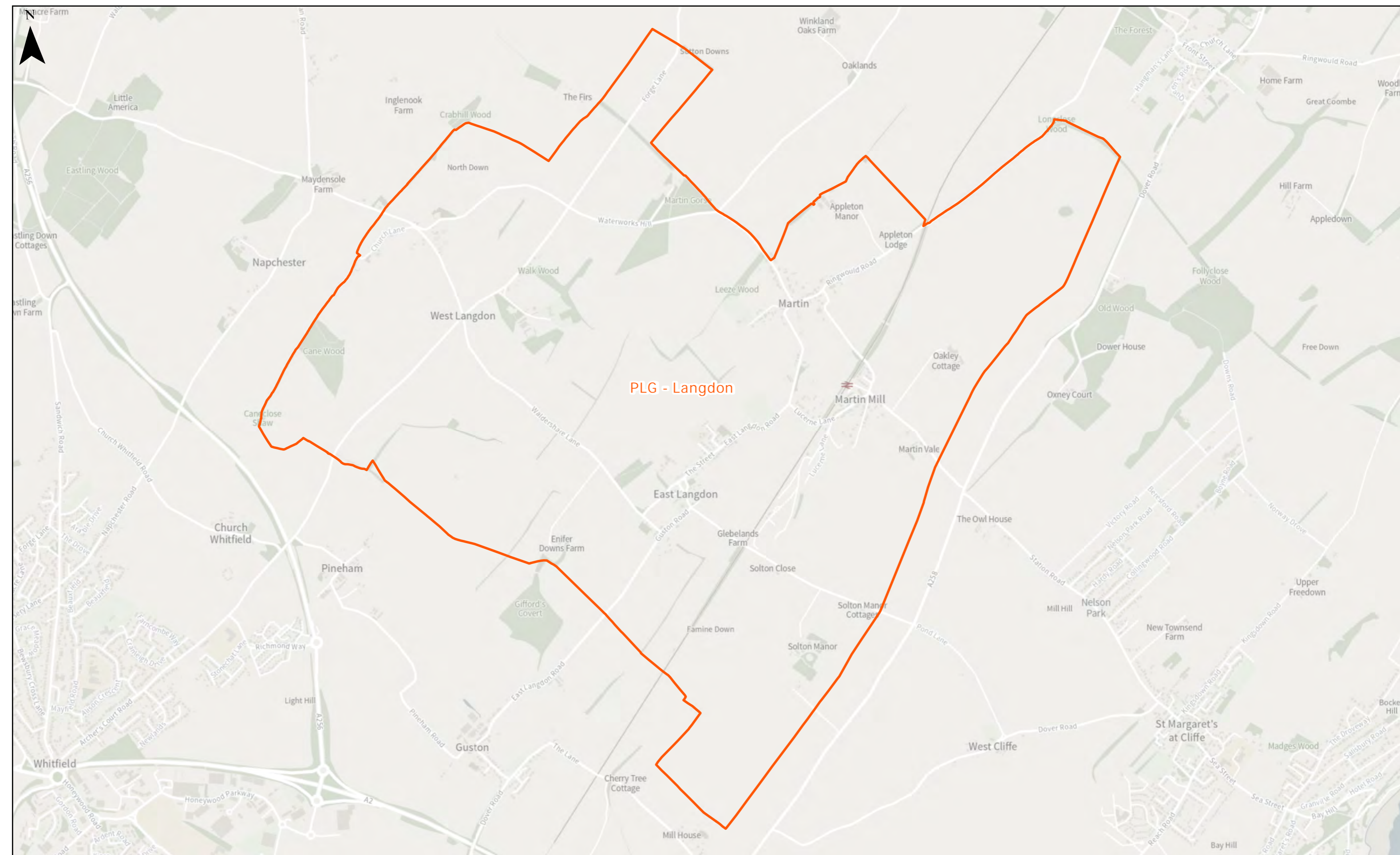


## Existing Polling District: PHM - Hougham Without

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
 Honeywood Close  
 White Cliffs Business Park  
 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ





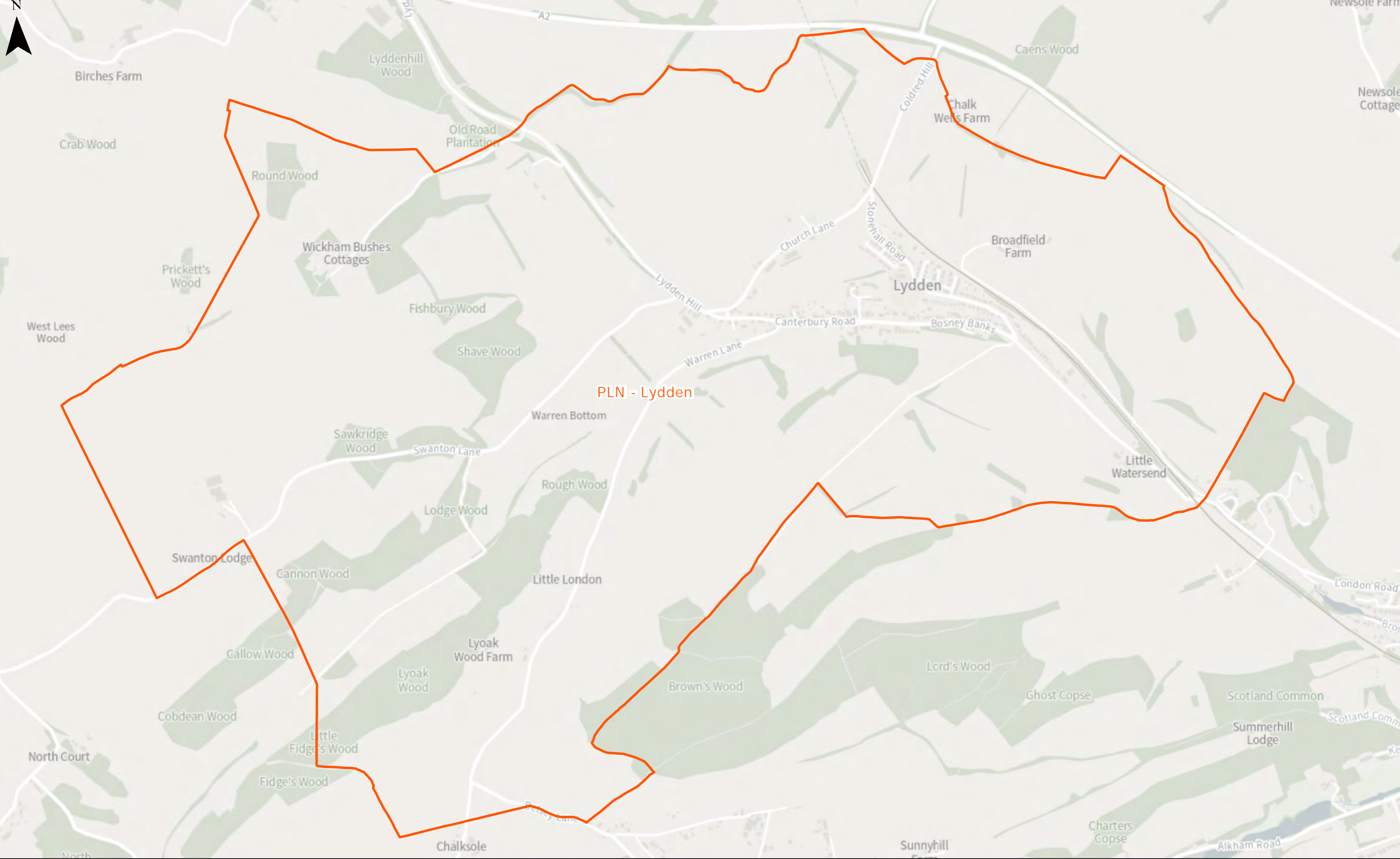
# Existing Polling District: PLG - Langdon

Year of Production: 2023

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Dover District Council  
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 Whitfield  
 Dover  
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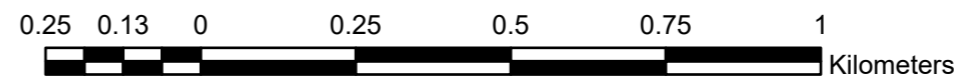


# Existing Polling District: PLN - Lydden

Year of Production: 2023

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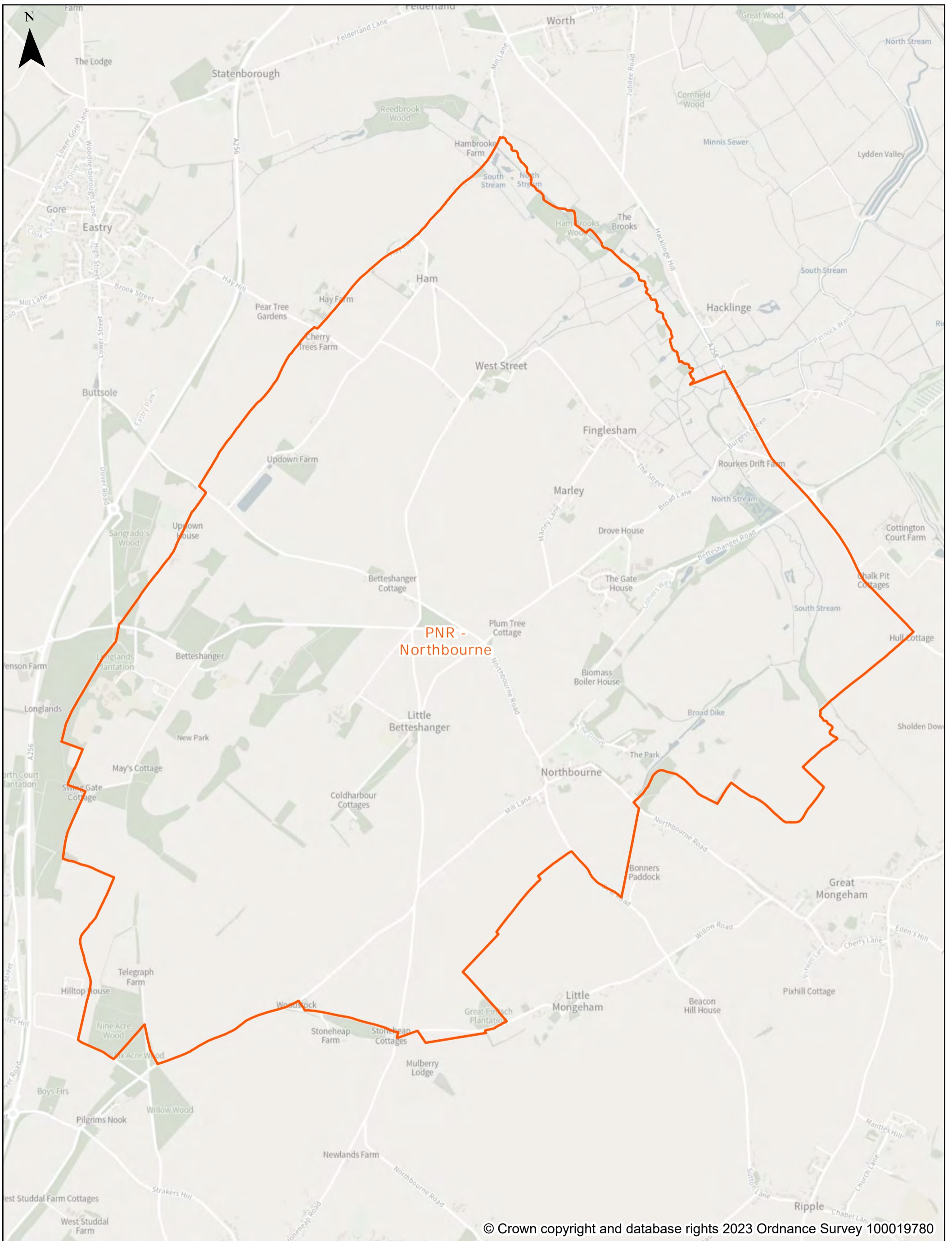
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## Existing Polling District: PNN - Nonington

Year of Production: 2023

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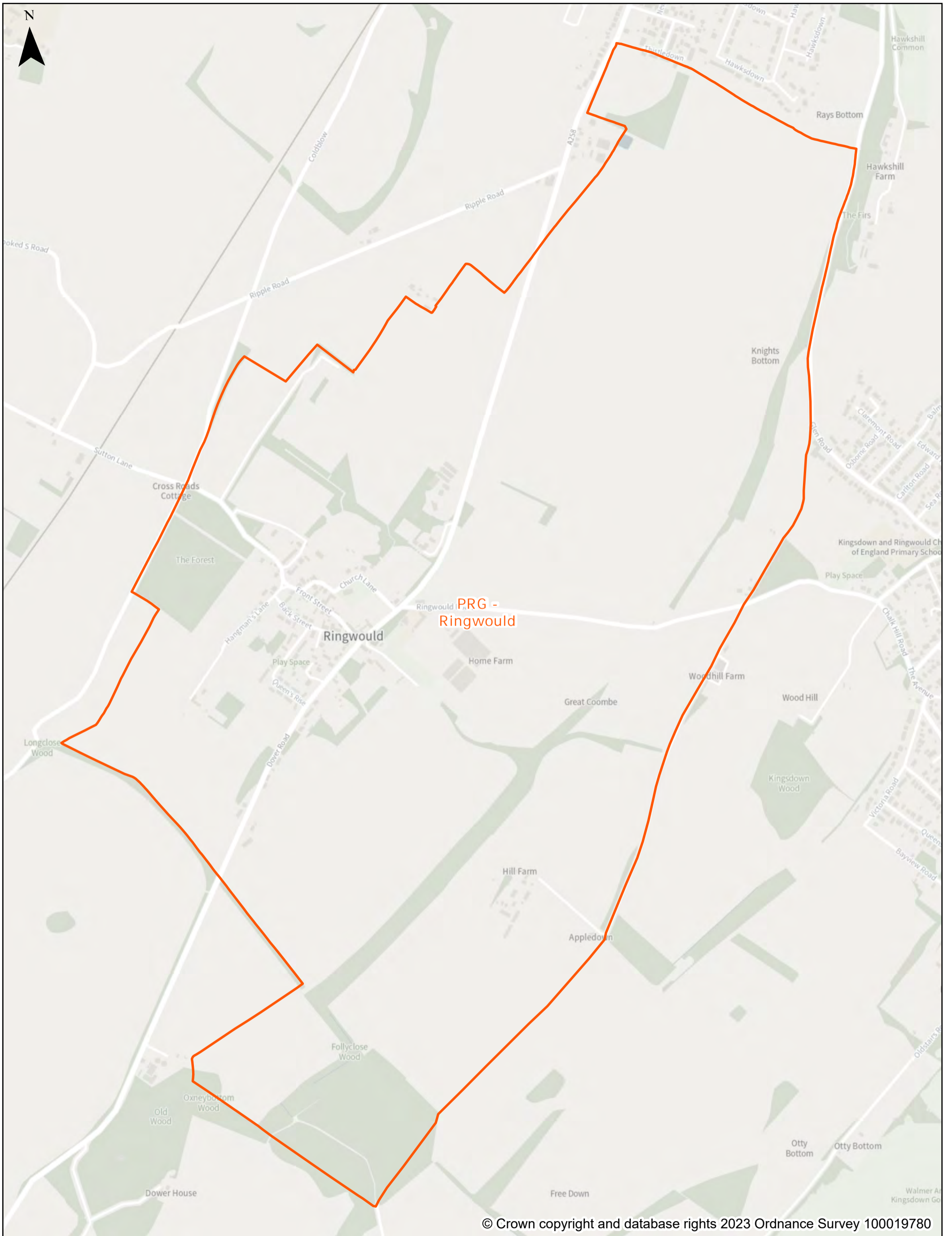
## Existing Polling District: PNR - Northbourne

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
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 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ



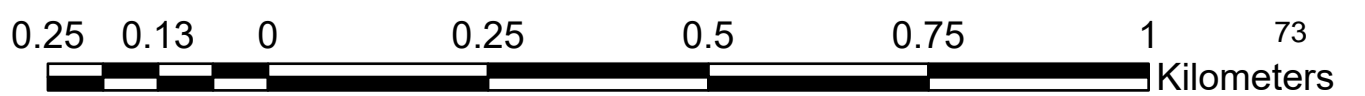




## Existing Polling District: PRG - Ringwould

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
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 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ



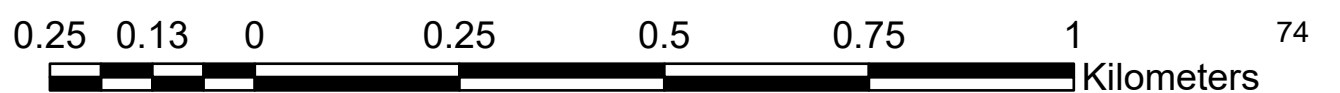


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## Existing Polling District: PRK - Kingsdown

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
 Honeywood Close  
 White Cliffs Business Park  
 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ

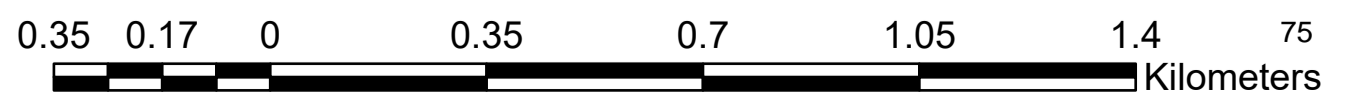




**Existing Polling District: PRP - Ripple**

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
 Honeywood Close  
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 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ





# Existing Polling District: PRV - River

Year of Production: 2023

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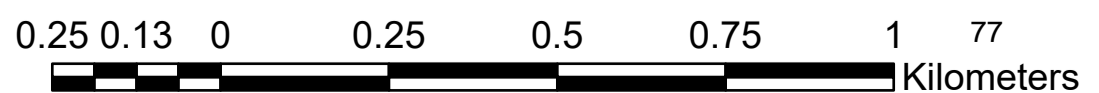


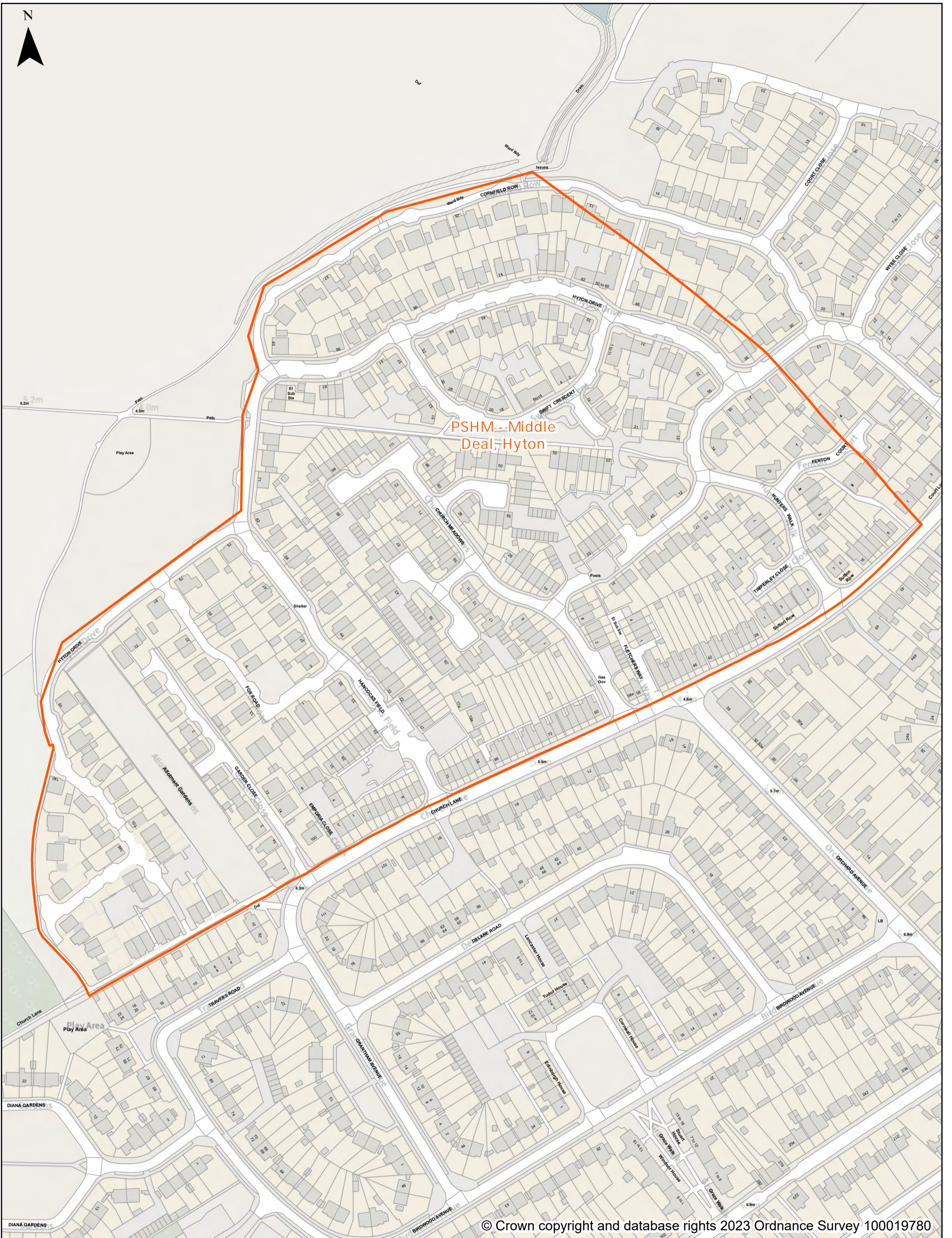


## Existing Polling District: PSHE - Eastry Rural, Sholden

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
 Honeywood Close  
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 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ



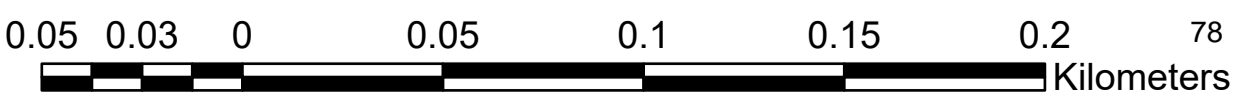


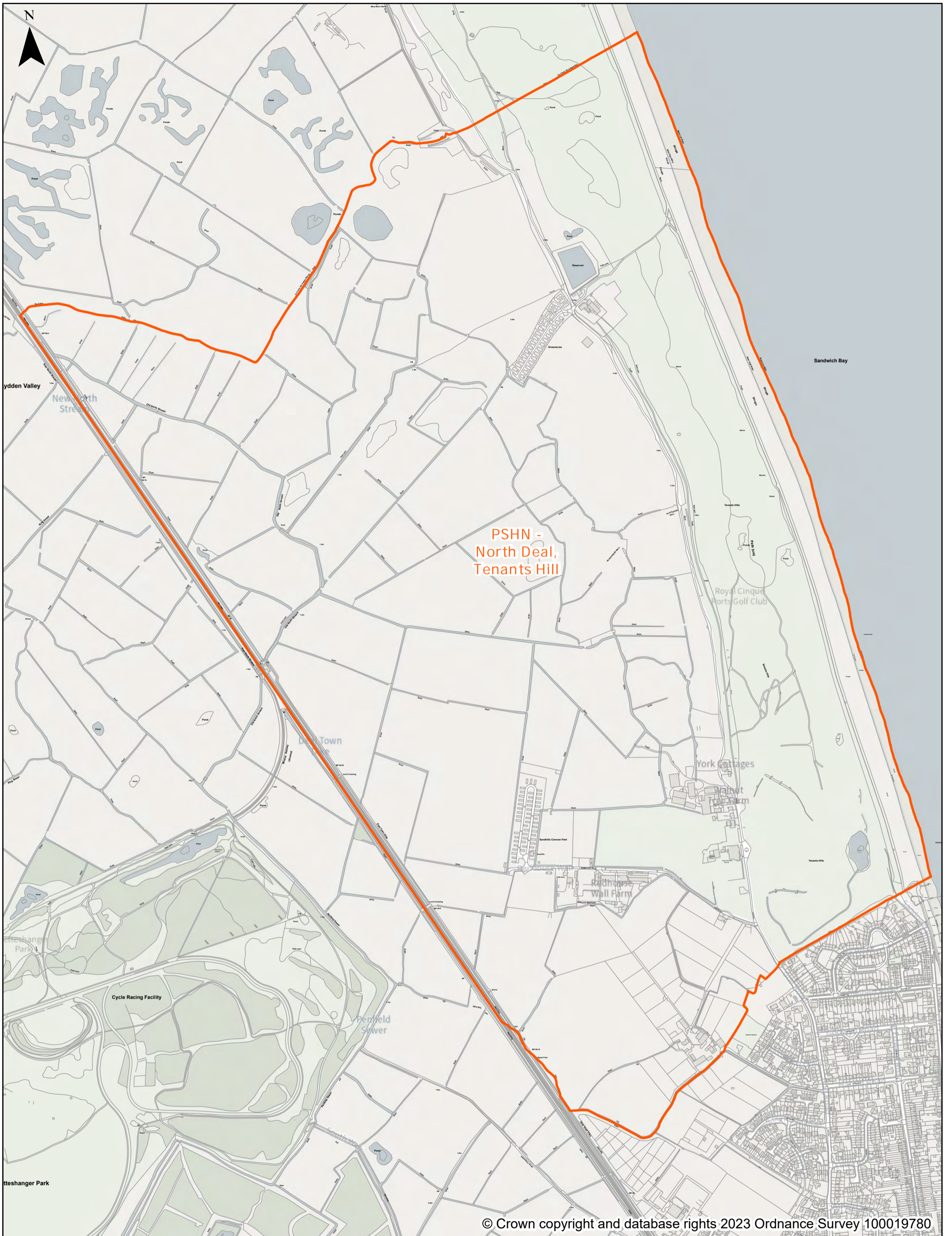
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# Existing Polling District: PSHM - Middle Deal, Hyton

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
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 DOVER  
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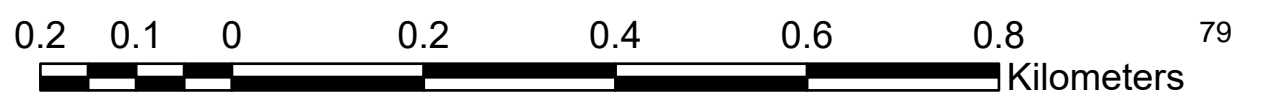


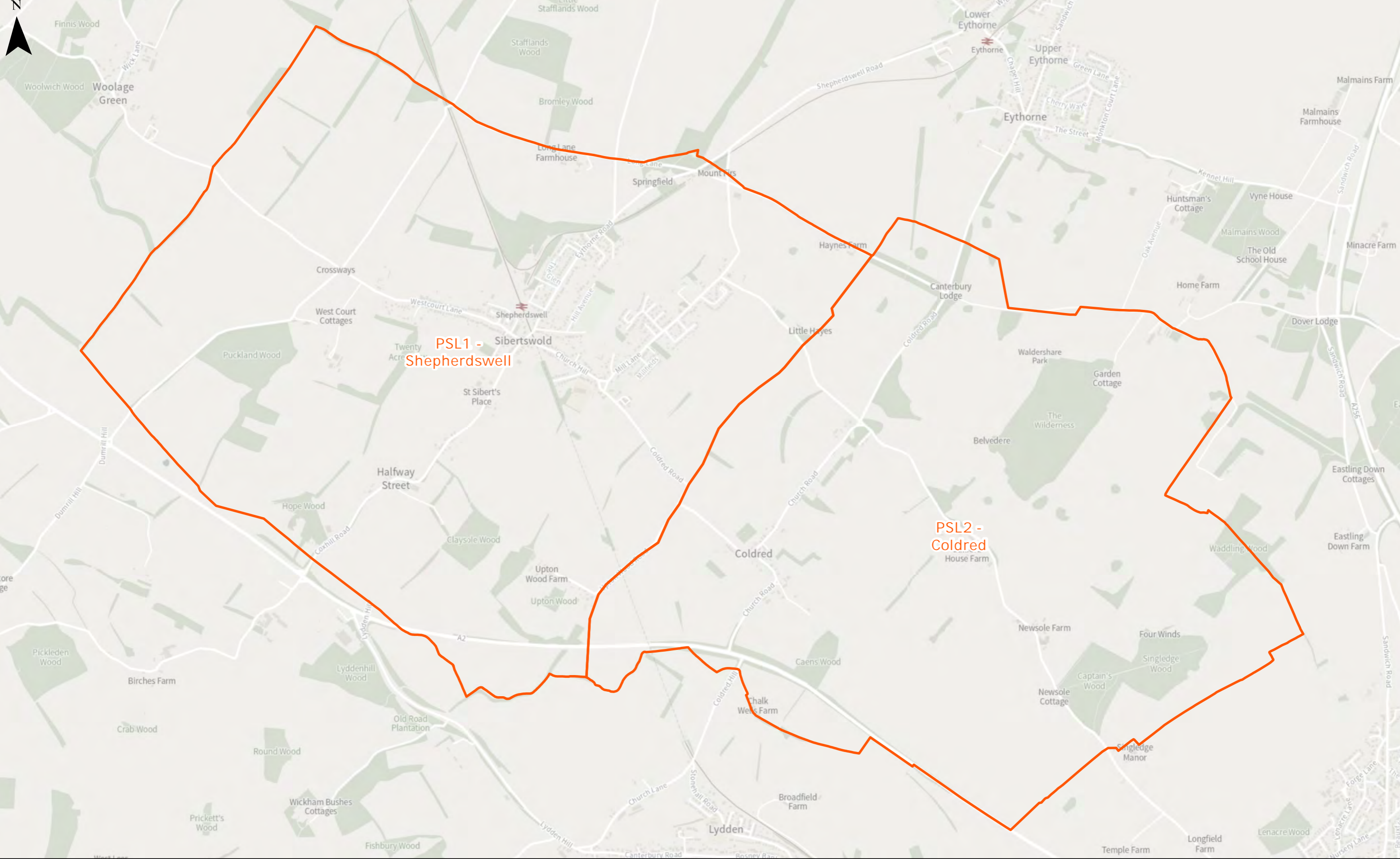


# Existing Polling District: PSHN - North Deal, Tenants Hill

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
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# Existing Polling Districts: PSL1 - Shepherdswood & PSL2 - Coldred

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Year of Production: 2023



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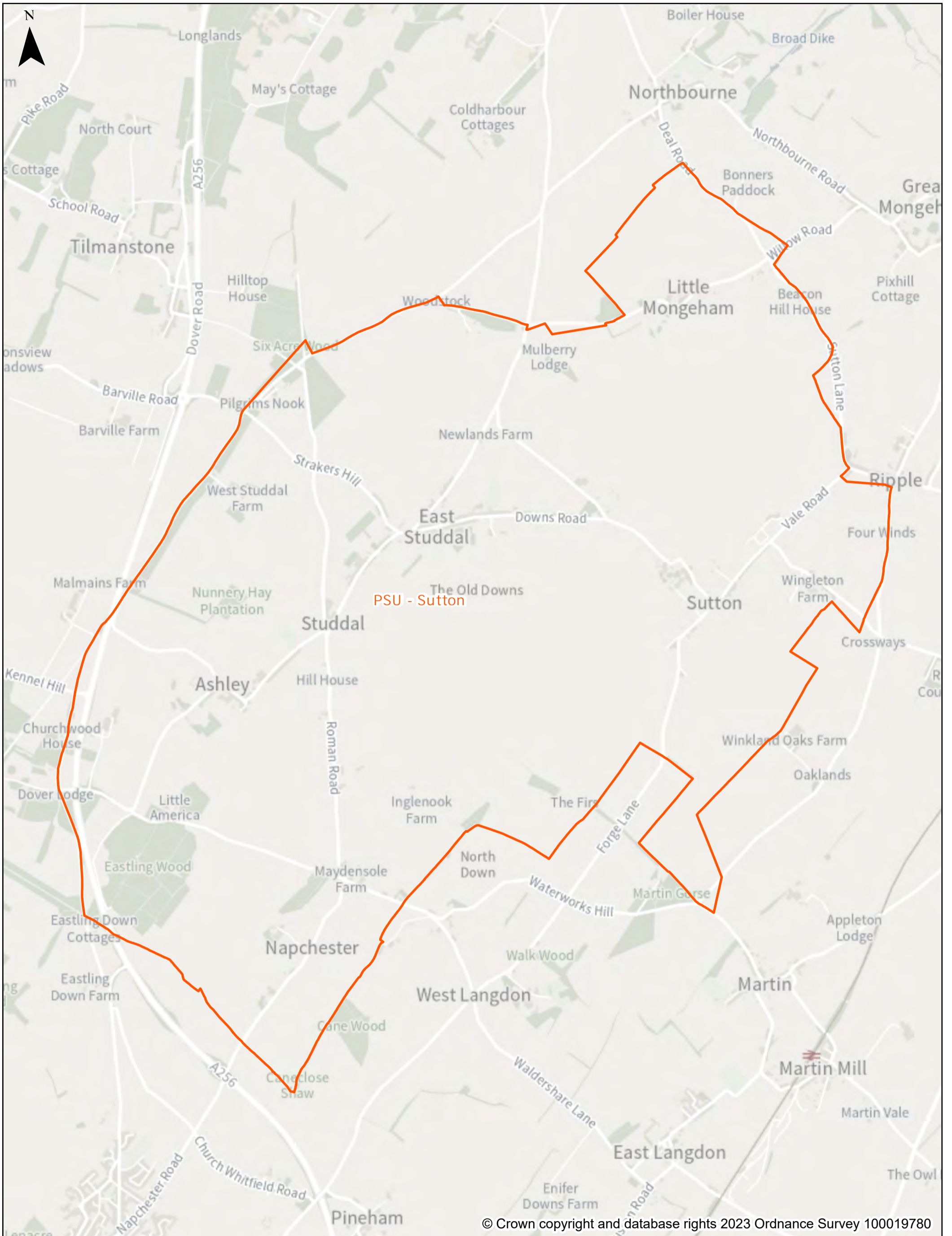


## Existing Polling District: PSM - St Margaret's-at-Cliffe

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
 Honeywood Close  
 White Cliffs Business Park  
 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ





## Existing Polling District: PSU - Sutton

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
 Honeywood Close  
 White Cliffs Business Park  
 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ

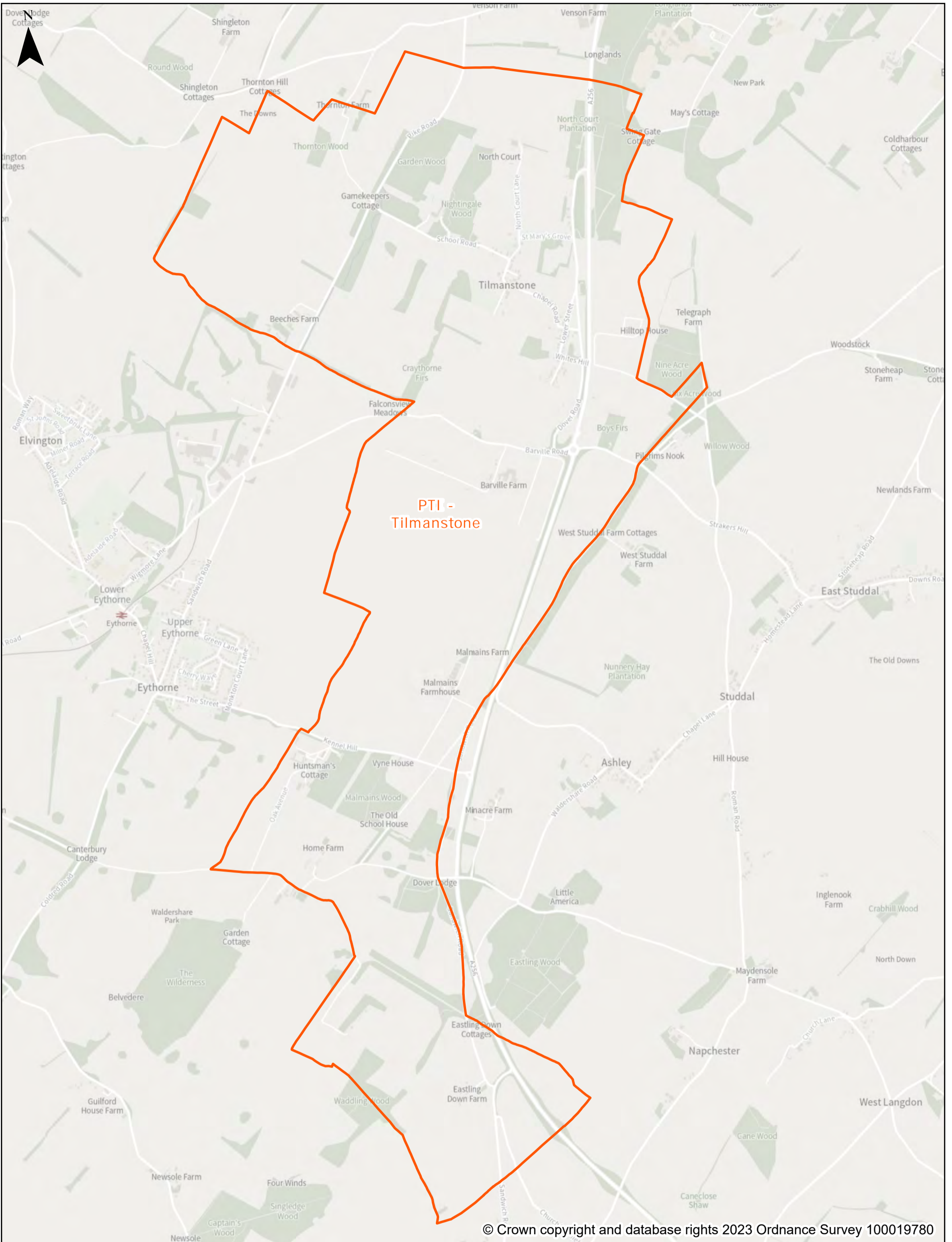




# Existing Polling District: PTE - Temple Ewell

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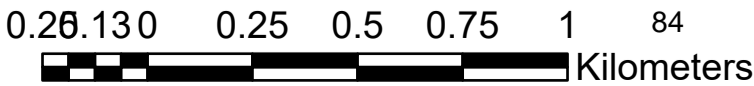


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**Existing Polling District: PTI - Tilmanstone**

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
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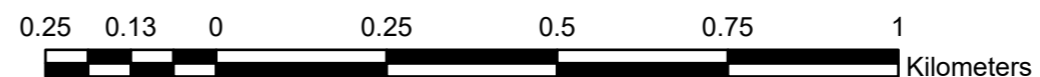


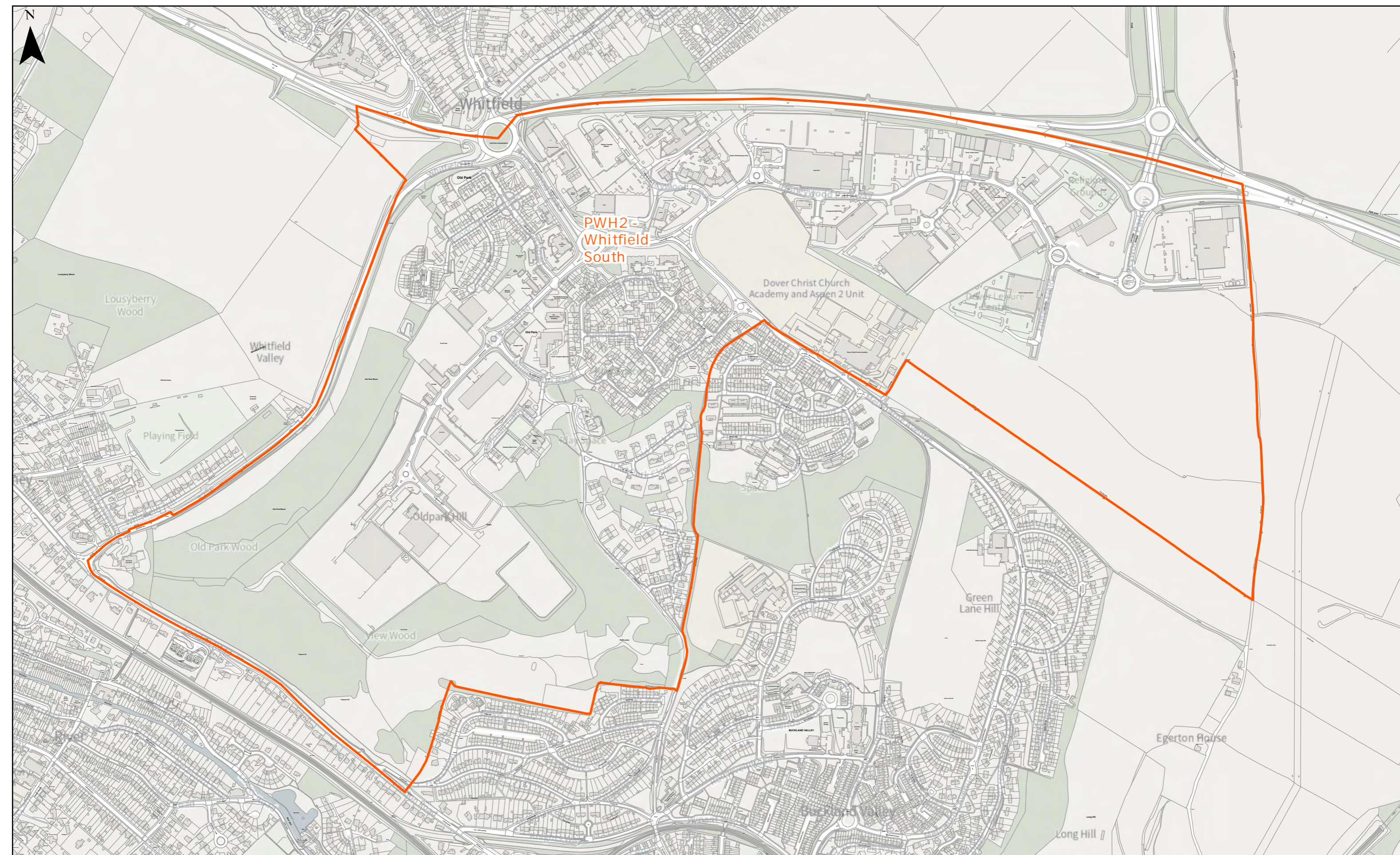
# Existing Polling District: PWH1 - Whitfield North

Year of Production: 2023

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 Whitfield  
 Dover  
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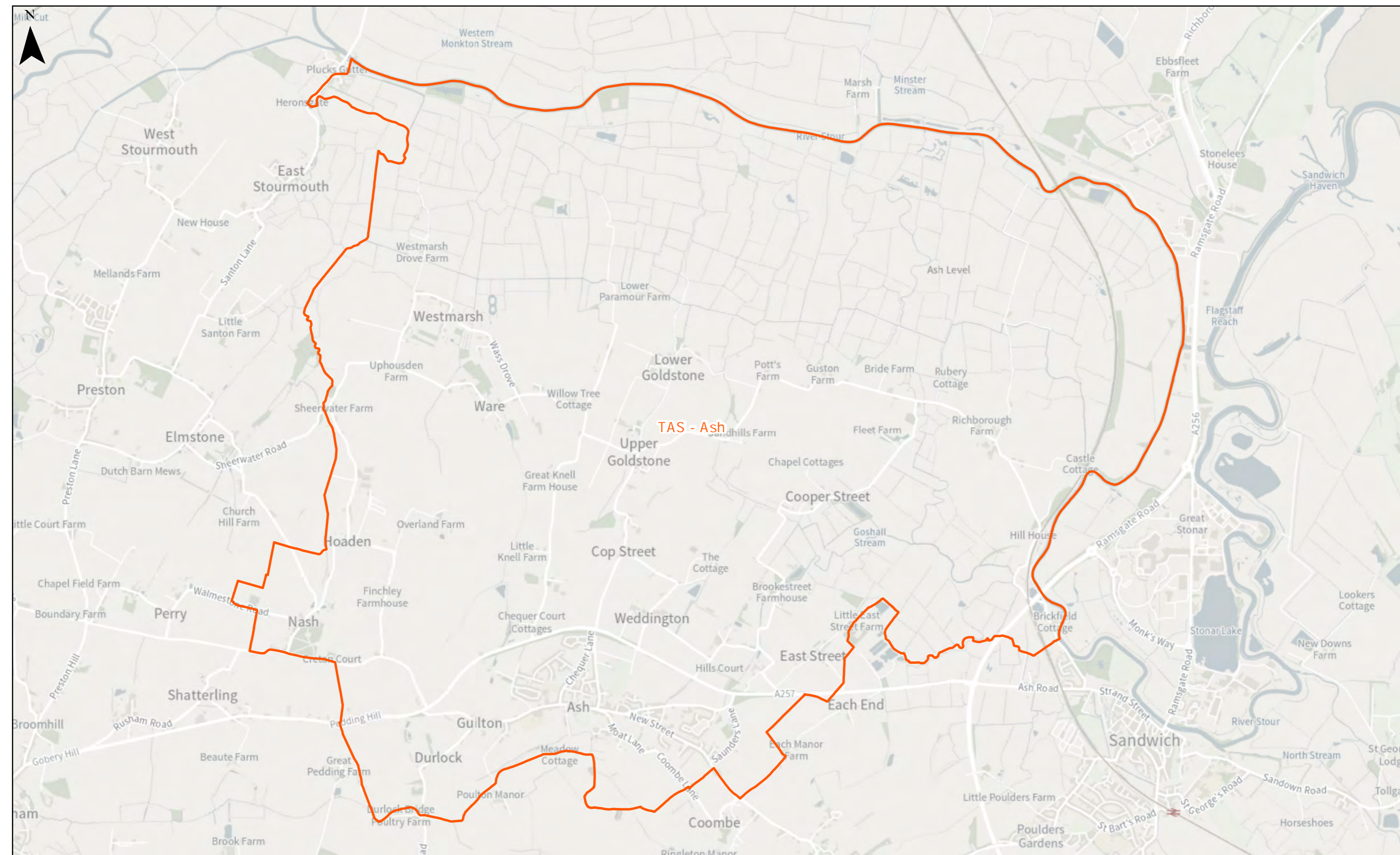
# Existing Polling District: PWH2 - Whitfield South

Year of Production: 2023

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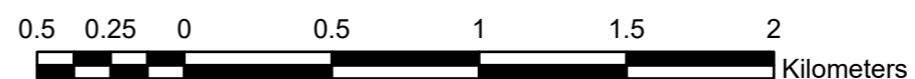


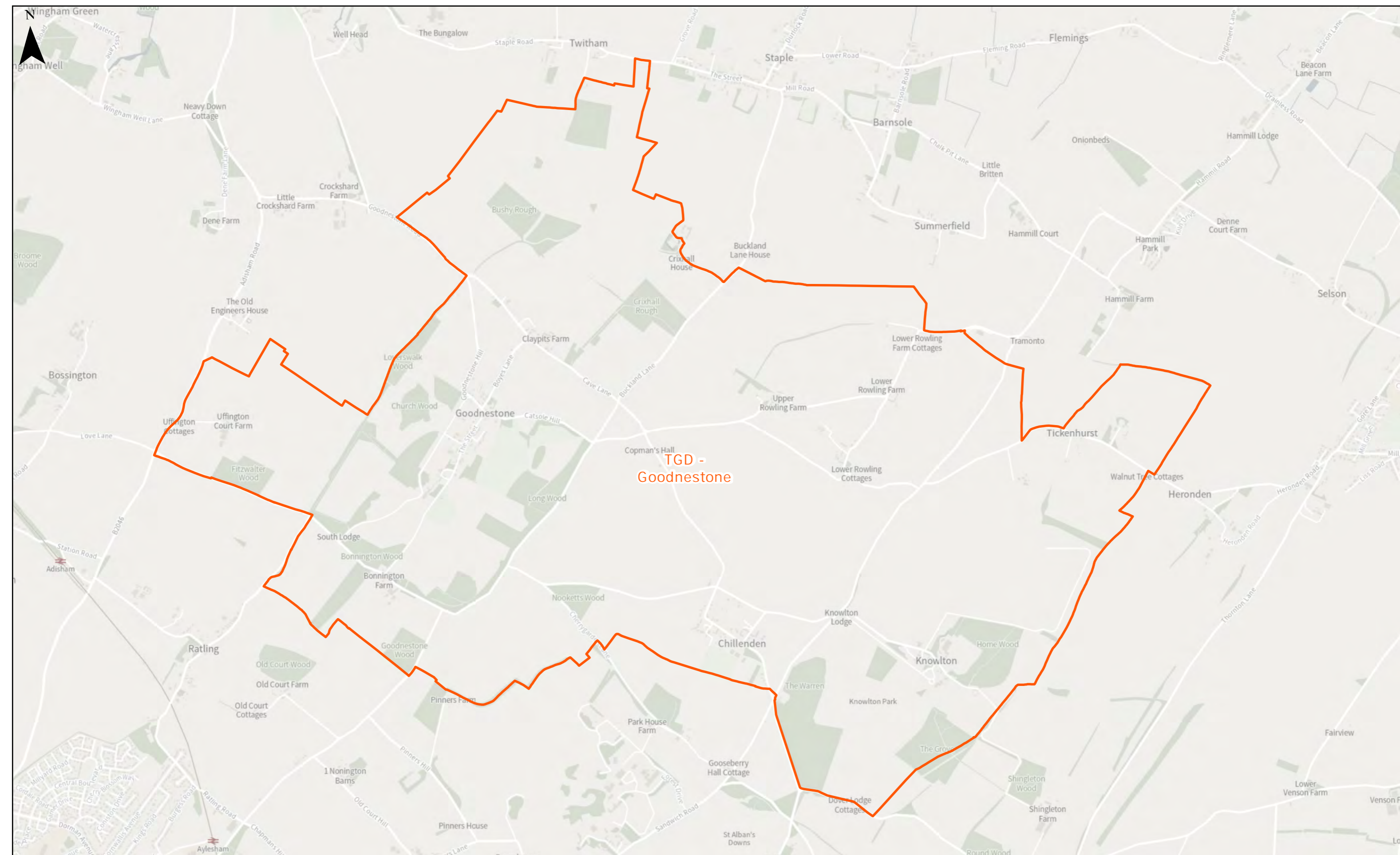
# Existing Polling District: TAS - Ash

Year of Production: 2023

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# Existing Polling District: TGD - Goodnestone

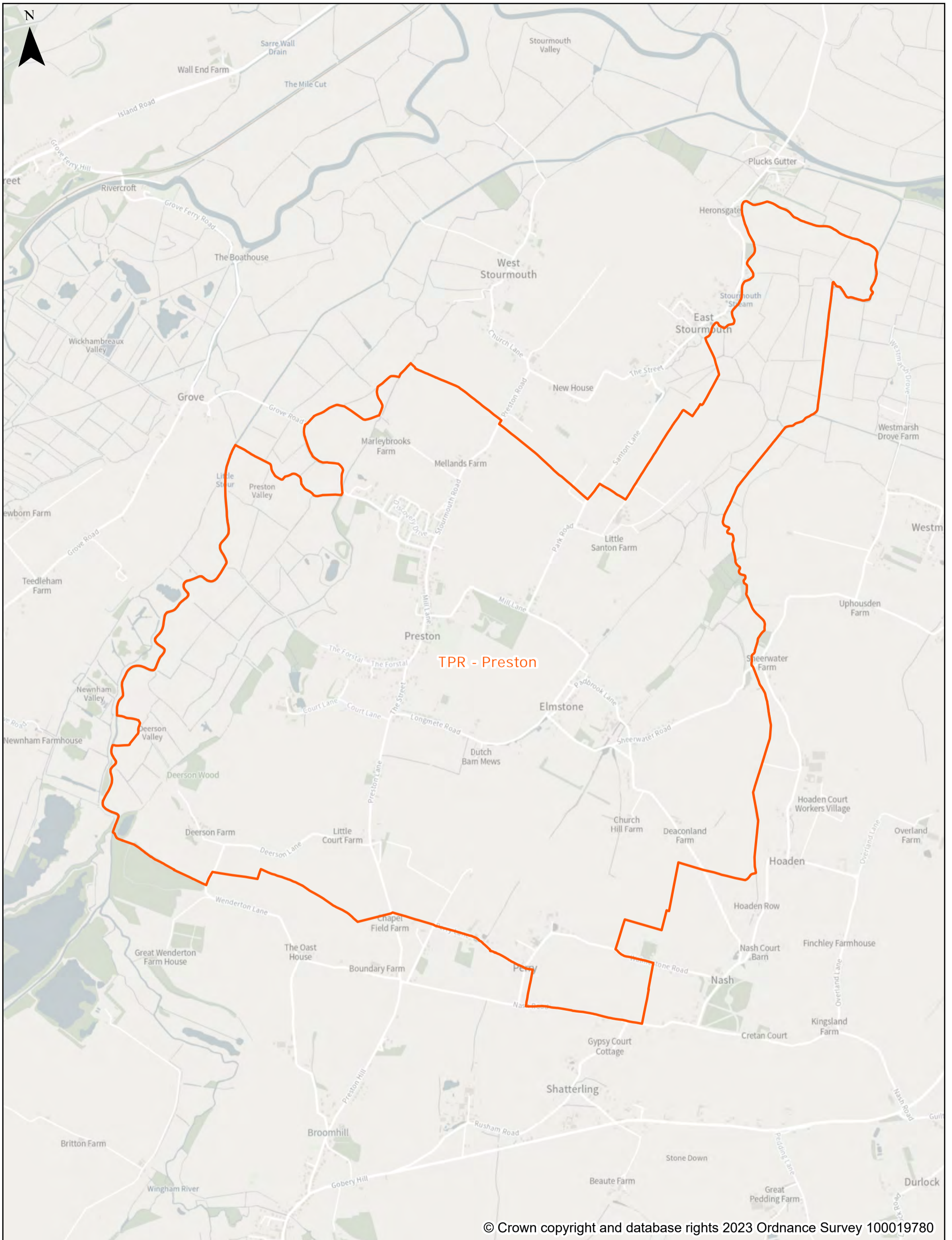
Year of Production: 2023

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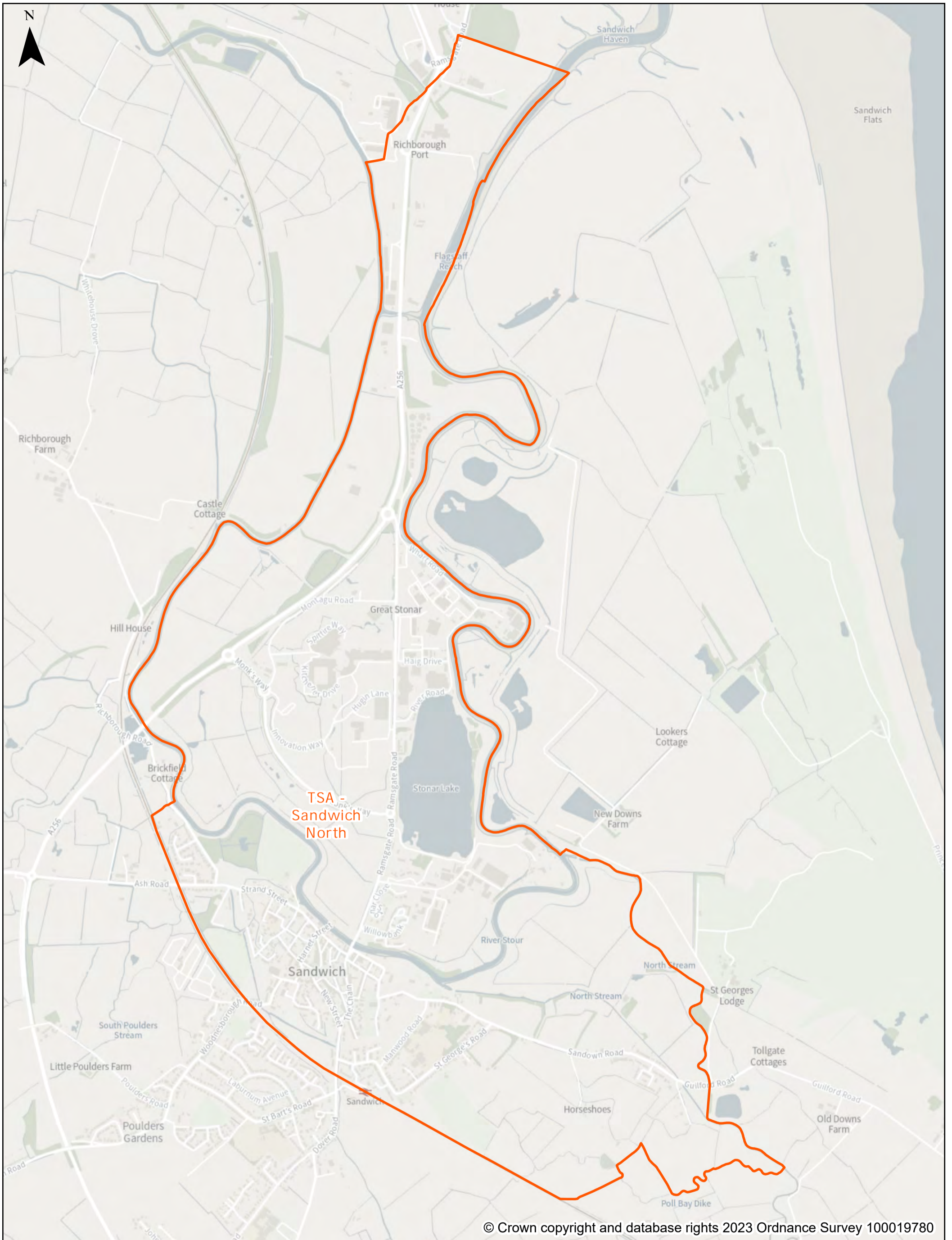


## Existing Polling District: TPR - Preston

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
 Honeywood Close  
 White Cliffs Business Park  
 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ



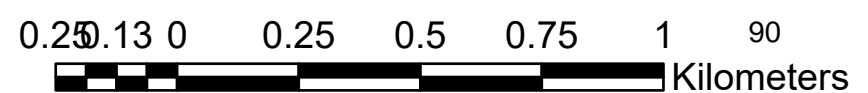


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## Existing Polling District: TSA - Sandwich North

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
 Honeywood Close  
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 DOVER  
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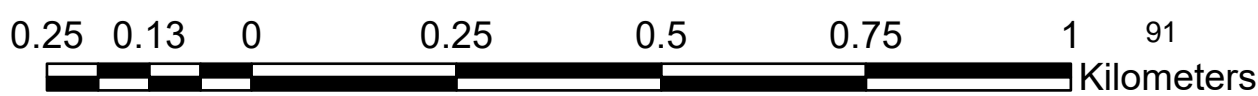


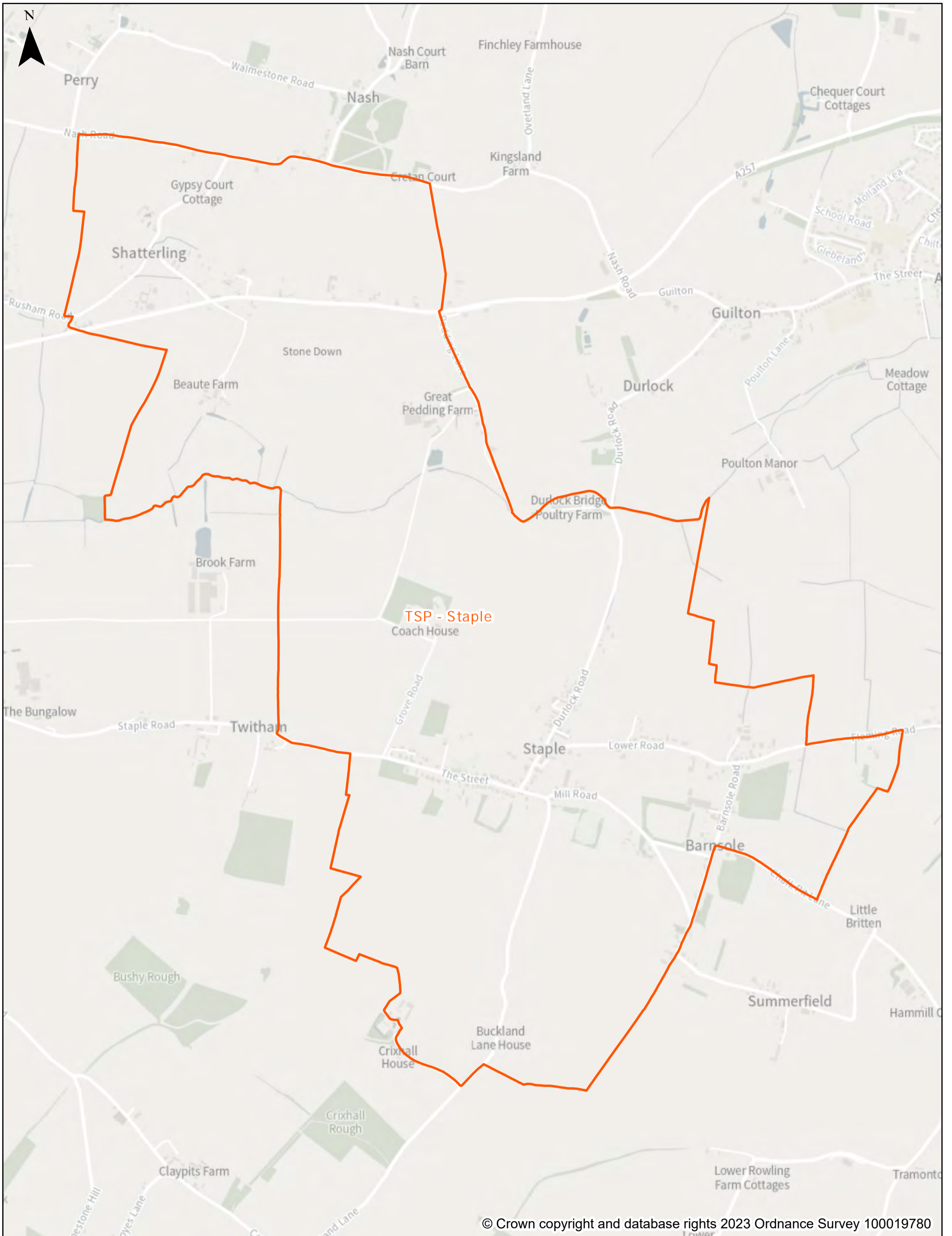
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**Existing Polling District: TSB - Sandwich South**

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
 Honeywood Close  
 White Cliffs Business Park  
 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ



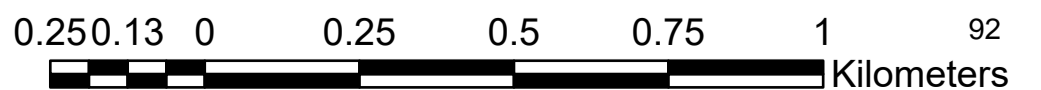


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### Existing Polling District: TSP - Staple

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
 Honeywood Close  
 White Cliffs Business Park  
 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ



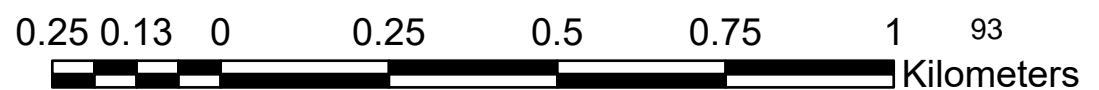


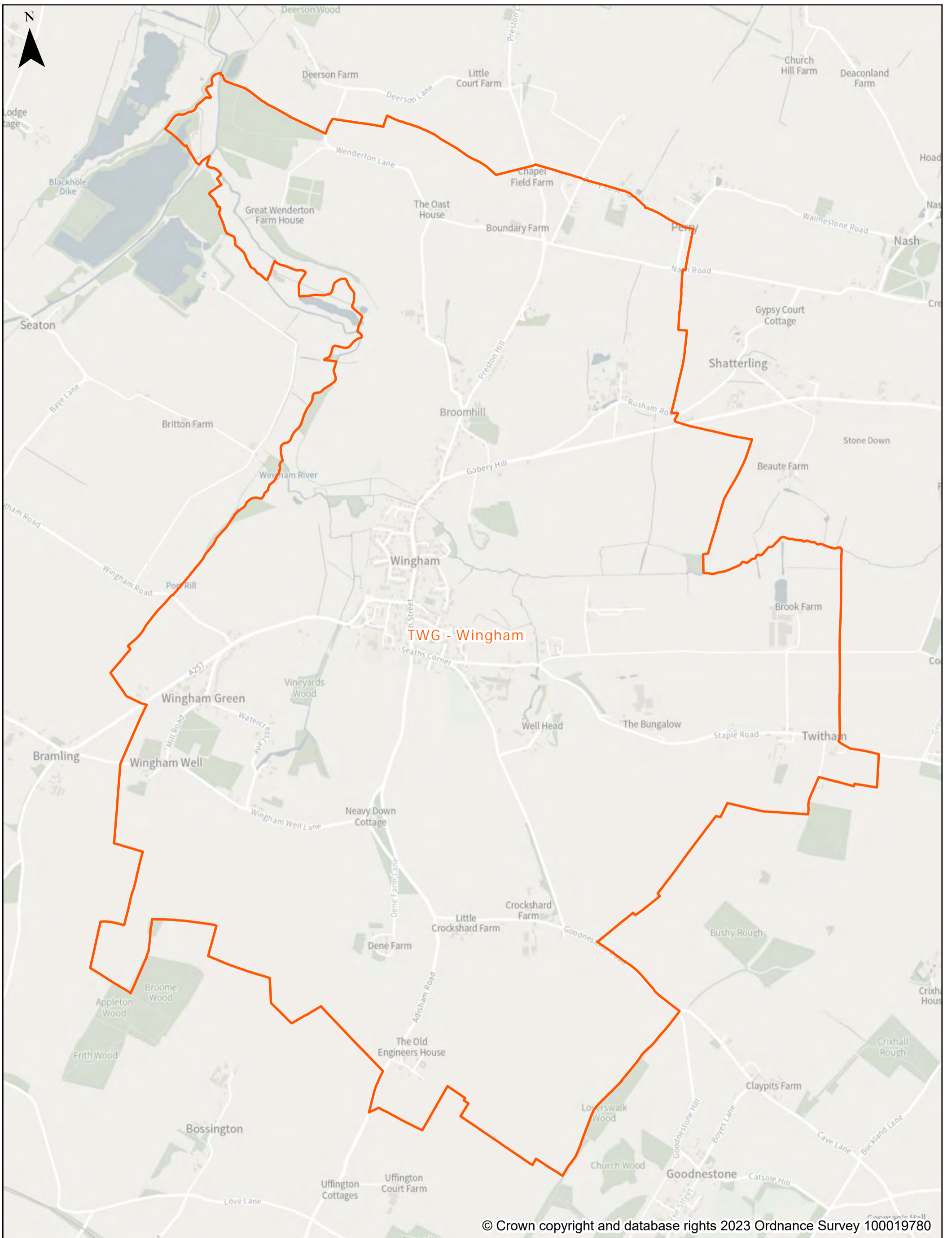
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## Existing Polling District: TST - Stourmouth

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
 Honeywood Close  
 White Cliffs Business Park  
 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ





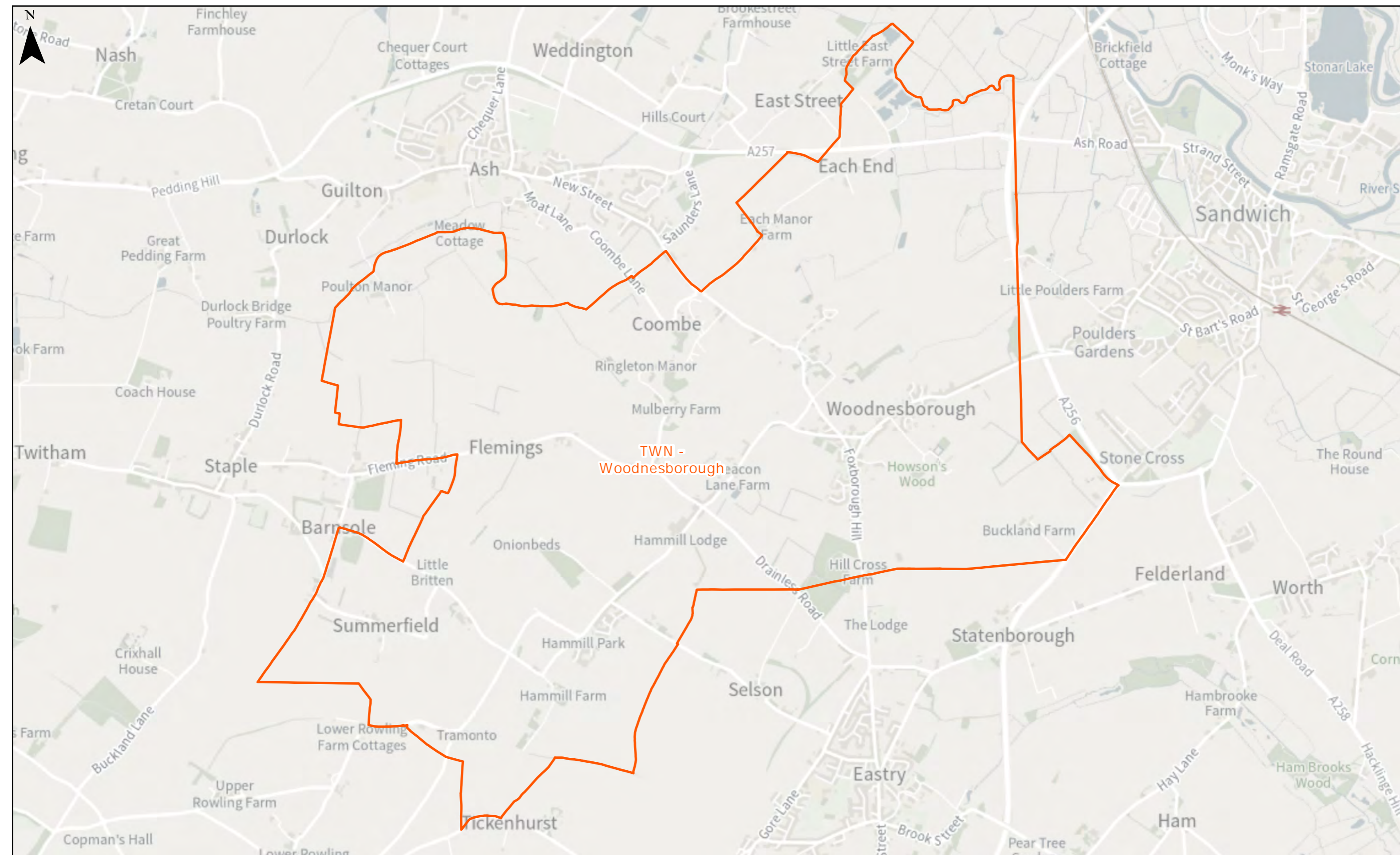
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## Existing Polling District: TWG - Wingham

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
 Honeywood Close  
 White Cliffs Business Park  
 Whitfield  
 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ





# Existing Polling District: TWN - Woodnesborough

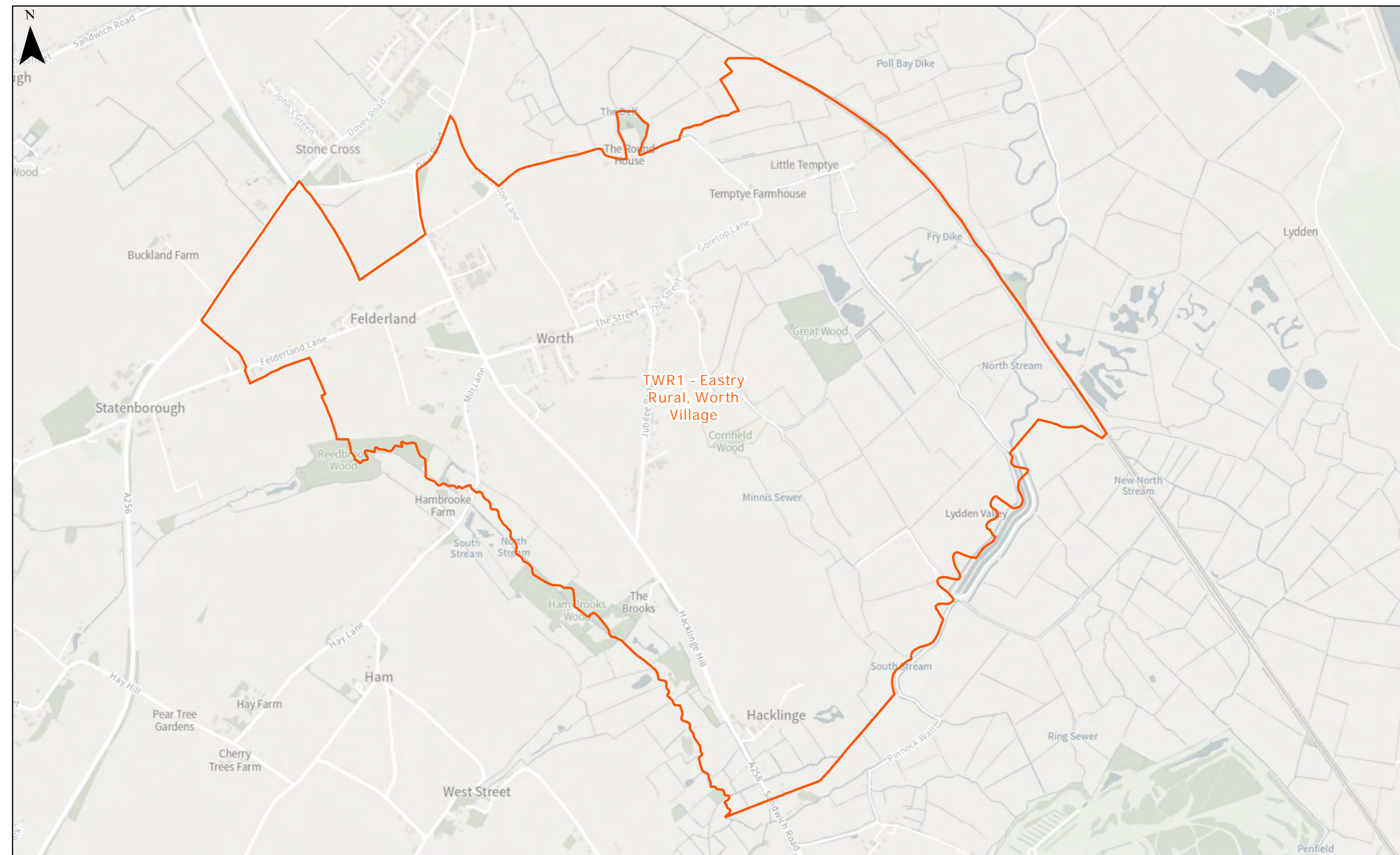
Year of Production: 2023

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# Existing Polling District: TWR1 - Eastry Rural, Worth Village

Year of Production: 2023

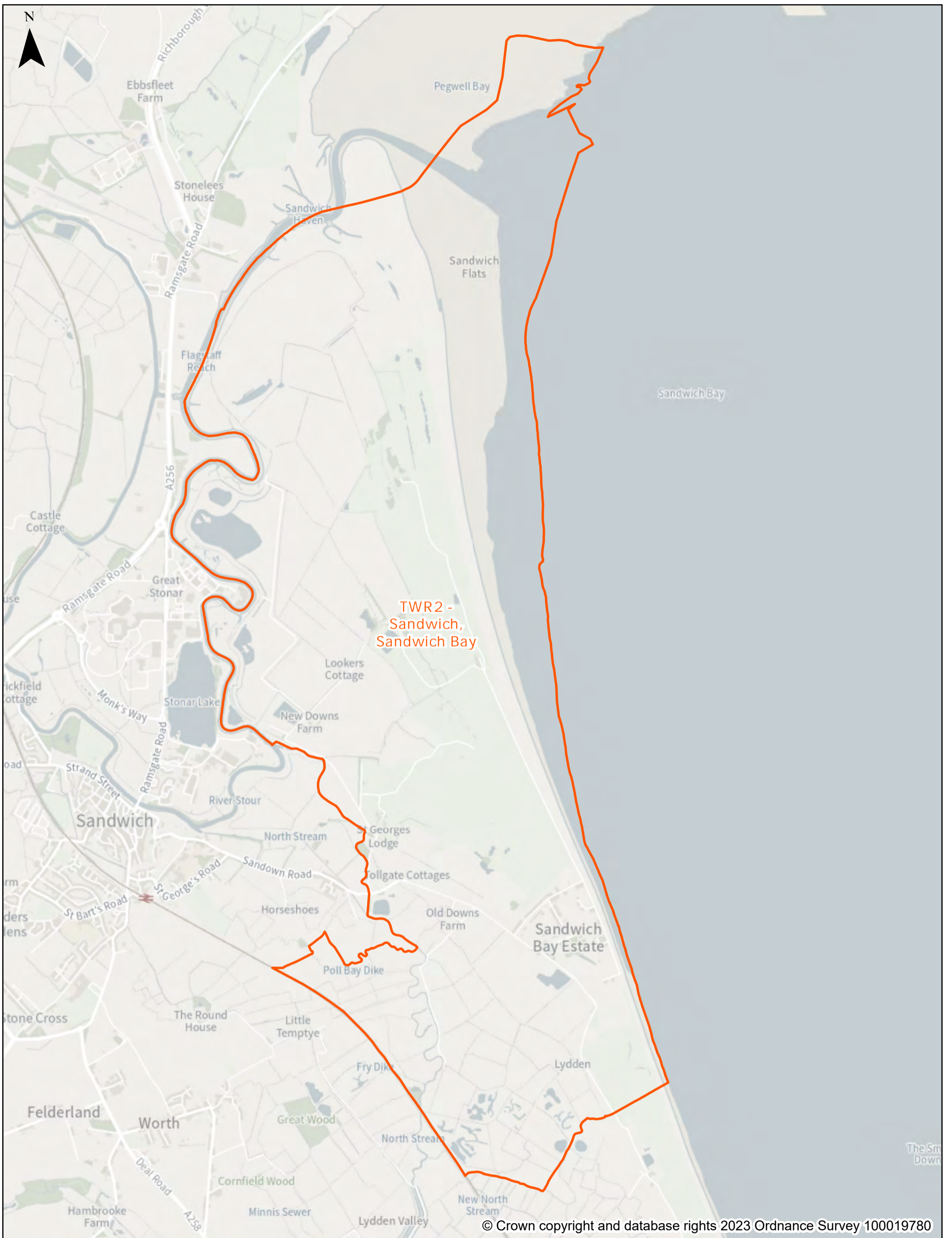
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## Existing Polling District: TWR2 - Sandwich, Sandwich Bay

Year of Production: 2023

Dover District Council  
 Honeywood Close  
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 DOVER  
 CT16 3PJ



## Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places in Dover District 2023

The online response form for Part 1 of the Review had an optional section for suggested alternatives for polling stations / districts. Where this section was not completed as part of the response, there will be no entry for 'Alternative suggestions' in the table below.

Number	Individual/Public Body making representations	Area	Representation received during Part 1 of the review	Third party responses to representations received during Part 1 of the review	ARO for the Dover / Dover & Deal Constituency & RO for Dover District – responses to representations received
1	Nadeem Aziz, (Acting) Returning Officer for the current Dover Constituency and the future Dover & Deal Constituency, and Returning Officer for the Dover District.	Dover District	<p>In response to your letter dated 2 October 2023, I would request that the following changes be considered as part of the Polling District Review. The proposed changes are in line with the Boundary Commission for England's recent Parliamentary Boundary Review and to keep the polling places/stations within the recommended electorate thresholds from the Electoral Commission; the maps for the proposed polling districts can be viewed online at <a href="https://www.dover.gov.uk/elections">https://www.dover.gov.uk/elections</a></p> <p>In the event that the changes take place, I propose to use the indicated Polling Stations.</p> <p><b><u>Aylesham, Eythorne and Shepherdswell District Ward / Aylesham Parish</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Proposed Change</u></b></p> <p>1) Splitting Aylesham Parish into two separate polling districts, Aylesham East and Aylesham West, and keeping the currently used polling places, siting one in each polling district.</p> <p><b><u>Rationale behind proposal</u></b></p> <p>1) There has been a significant amount of new housing built in Aylesham in recent years and the Local Plan forecasts more housing on the way.</p> <p>2) Aylesham already needs two polling stations in order to keep under the maximum electorate thresholds recommended by the Electoral Commission. Splitting the area into two polling districts will allow each polling place in each polling district to have the potential to be split and used as a double polling station, thereby increasing the number of electors that can be allocated to each polling place.</p> <p><b><u>Proposed Polling Stations for Aylesham Parish</u></b>  Aylesham West – Aylesham Baptist Free Church, Dorman Avenue South, Aylesham  Aylesham East – St Finbarr's Church, Market Place, Aylesham</p> <p><b><u>Eastry Rural District Ward &amp; Sandwich District Ward / Worth Parish</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Proposed Change</u></b></p> <p>1) The recent Parliamentary Boundary Review has moved the Worth Village Parish Ward / polling district part of Worth Parish into the Dover and Deal Constituency (formerly known as Dover Constituency) from the Herne Bay and Sandwich Constituency (formerly in the South Thanet Constituency). The Sandwich Bay Parish Ward / polling district part of Worth Parish will be in the newly formed Herne Bay and Sandwich Constituency (The South Thanet Constituency will be reformed and known as East Thanet. No part of the Dover district will be in East Thanet).</p> <p><b><u>Rationale behind proposal</u></b></p> <p>1) The changes are part of the recently completed Parliamentary Boundary Review by the Boundary Commission for England.</p>	<p><i>Representation by Local Resident, Maxton:</i>  All voting areas and stations should be free of any government interference (local or National) and fixed in a law that can not be changed by the government. As all changes appear to be done for the government in power's advantage.</p> <p><i>Representation by Martin Porter, DDC Councillor, Little Stour &amp; Ashstone:</i> Quality of venues are variable and as a poll clerk and presiding officer I have some experience of venues</p>	<p>Polling districts, places and stations are reviewed and consulted on every 5 years to ensure that what was relevant 5 years ago is still relevant today.</p> <p>For example,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the buildings used as polling stations haven't been demolished or changed use,</li> <li>• polling boundaries haven't changed as part of a boundary review,</li> <li>• better sited polling stations haven't been built / become available,</li> <li>• an increase in electorate hasn't rendered a current polling station ineligible for use,</li> <li>• a polling district boundary which previously ran through an empty field and now runs through several houses on a new housing estate would need adjusting.</li> </ul> <p>If polling districts, places and stations were fixed in law – and a law that cannot be altered - these things could not be changed or updated.</p> <p>The review goes to public consultation so electors have the opportunity to influence the decisions being made, should they chose to take part.</p>

Number	Individual/Public Body making representations	Area	Representation received during Part 1 of the review	Third party responses to representations received during Part 1 of the review	ARO for the Dover / Dover & Deal Constituency & RO for Dover District – responses to representations received
			<p><u>Proposed Polling Stations</u>  Worth Parish; Worth Village Parish Ward – Worth Parish Hall, The Street, Worth (no change)  Worth Parish; Sandwich Bay Parish Ward – Sandwich United Reform Church, 12 Cattle Market, Sandwich (no change)</p> <p><b><u>Little Stour and Ashstone District Ward / Ash Parish</u></b></p> <p><u>Proposed Change</u>  1) The polling station in Ash is very close to the threshold of electorate recommended by the Electoral Commission. It is proposed that we use the main hall of the village hall (instead of the library which has been used on previous occasions) and split the existing polling station into two polling stations in the same hall.</p> <p><u>Rationale behind proposal</u>  1) A new polling district is not necessary as splitting the area between two polling stations in the same polling place would ensure no confusion amongst electors who have traditionally voted at the village hall.</p> <p><u>Proposed Polling Stations</u>  Ash Parish - Ash Village Hall (Main Hall), Queens Road, Ash to be used as a double polling station</p> <p><b><u>Buckland District Ward / Dover Town Council, Buckland Ward</u></b></p> <p><u>Proposal</u>  To leave polling districts BC1 and BC2 unchanged, and if the electorate figures for polling station voters increase to above recommended levels, to make a double polling station in the same polling place.</p> <p><u>Rationale behind proposal</u>  1) A new polling district is not necessary as splitting each polling place into two polling stations would ensure no confusion amongst electors. There are also very limited choices for new polling stations in those areas, so if the polling district was split, electors could then be forced outside of their own polling district to vote in what would have been the original polling place.</p> <p><u>Proposed Polling Stations</u>  BC1 Buckland North - Buckland Community Centre, Roosevelt Road, Dover (no change)  BC2 Buckland South - The Phoenix Railway Social Club, Crabble Road, Dover (no change)</p> <p>I recommend that all other polling districts, places and stations remain unchanged as there are no current issues with them.</p>		
2	Local Resident, Tilmanstone	Tilmanstone / Tilmanstone Village Hall	<p>Reduce need for Polling Stations in rural areas by promoting postal voting.  <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> Much better promotion of Postal Voting would substantially reduce the need for expensive Polling Stations in rural</p>		There will always be a need for polling stations in rural areas because not everybody wants to vote by post and electors must be given the option of a polling station in their area.

Number	Individual/Public Body making representations	Area	Representation received during Part 1 of the review	Third party responses to representations received during Part 1 of the review	ARO for the Dover / Dover & Deal Constituency & RO for Dover District – responses to representations received
			<p>areas. The cost to parish councils is substantial and impacts council tax payers by increases to parish council precepts. I have conducted a bit of a straw poll among the elderly in Tilmanstone , many of whom are not internet savvy , and did not know how simple postal voting is ! If I had not been a subscriber to Keep me Posted I would have been unaware of this consultation.</p>		<p>Changes to postal vote applications will come into force on 31 October 2023, and anyone with an existing postal vote will need to reapply within a set timeframe. There will be a national campaign by the Electoral Commission and DLUHC and DDC will advertise locally as well. This should help to raise awareness of postal voting, although the option to choose to vote by post is given to new electors when they register to vote and existing electors on their annual canvass form, and is on every polling station poll card so the options are already made available to everyone.</p> <p>The polling district review was posted on parish noticeboards throughout the district, as well as sent out on Keep Me Posted, social media posts and a press release. More responses from the general public have been received this year than on any previous polling district reviews, so the methods of advertising the consultation have been successful.</p>
3	Local Resident, Shepherdswell	Shepherdswell with Coldred / Shepherdswell Village Hall	<p>Venue seems adequate. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b></p>	<p><i>Representation by a Local Resident, Shepherdswell:</i> The current arrangement for using the Shepherdswell Village Hall is ideal. We have several new builds here and more to come it would appear; so coupling us with Coldred is ideal and keeps Coldred within this area. Not sure why we appear to be lumped with Aylesham.</p> <p><i>Representation by a Local Resident, Shepherdswell:</i> Current arrangement for Shepherdswell polling station is ideal. Shepherdswell looks like it's being swallowed by Aylesham. Keep our villages at Coldred and Shepherdswell independent from Aylesham. So many villages and Hamlets are being lost through boundary changes. English Heritage ought to be involved.</p>	<p>The polling district review can only amend polling districts, and not parish boundaries, parish wards or district wards. Each parish must be its own polling district, so Shepherdswell could not be merged with Aylesham under this review as they are different parishes.</p> <p>Parish boundaries can only be changed as part of a Community Governance Review (CGR) run by the local authority or as part of a district wide boundary review run by the Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC). The next CGR is due to start mid 2025 and our most recent boundary review run by LGBC was completed in 2019. Parishes would only be merged as part of a CGR if enough people suggested / agreed with it. There are currently no plans to merge any parishes.</p>
4	Local Resident, Whitfield	Whitfield (North) / Whitfield Village Hall	<p>Perfect size and run well. Ideal distance to walk to. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b></p>	<p><i>Representation by a Local Resident, Whitfield:</i> No comment to make</p>	<p>No further comment.</p>
5	Local Resident, Sandwich	Sandwich (South) / Jubilee Centre	<p>Works fine, access to it is a little tight but realistically aren't many viable alternatives. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b></p>		<p>No further comment.</p>
6	Local Resident, Dover	Buckland (South) / Phoenix Railway Social Club	<p>With postal voting I haven't used a polling station for years. I didn't even realise my old one at Shatterlocks school wasn't even used anymore as it's not on above list. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> Advertise postal voting particularly to people who complain about having to produce ID at a face to face polling station, it's so much easier.</p>		<p>Shatterlocks has not been a polling station for several years; the use of schools as polling stations is avoided wherever possible as it is too disruptive to the school. Changes to postal vote applications will come into force on 31 October 2023, and anyone with an existing postal vote will need to reapply within a set timeframe. There will be a national campaign by the Electoral Commission and DLUHC and DDC will advertise locally as well. This should help to raise</p>

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					awareness of postal voting, although the option to choose to vote by post is given to new electors when they register to vote and existing electors on their annual canvass form, and is also on every polling station poll card, so the options are already made available to everyone.
7	Local Resident, Nonington	Nonington / Nonington Village Hall	Perfect location as the village hall is in the centre of the village and well accessible by everyone. There is parking available and no problems for disabled access. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> The existing village hall is perfect, there are no other suitable alternatives in the village.		No further comment.
8	Local Resident, Deal	North Deal (Victoria) / Salvation Army Hall, West Street	This venue makes a lot more sense for North Deal residents than the previous venue at Victoria Baptist/Community Church. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> No alternative to suggest.		No further comment.
9	Local Resident, Sandwich	Sandwich (North) / United Reform Church	<b>Alternatives suggested:</b> All via Guildhall.		Unfortunately, the previous room used at the Guildhall is no longer available for use as a polling station, and the alternative rooms offered were not suitable. The United Reform Church is in the same area as the original station so easy to find and meets the requirements for use as a polling station.
10	Roger Loukes, Parish Councillor, Staple Parish Council	Staple / Staple Village Hall	A good site, no changes are required. Plenty of parking and the Hall is perfectly adequate. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b>	<i>Representation by Lynne Ewart, Parish Councillor for Staple:</i> I agree the present hall is a good size, has plenty of parking and is well lit on darker evenings. Perhaps more publicity regarding postal votes would be helpful for residents without transport.	No further comment.
11	Local Resident, Deal	North Deal (Sandown) / Golf Road Centre	Easy access for disabled; spacious hall well laid out for voting and always a friendly greeting. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b>		No further comment.
12	Local Resident, Deal	All areas	<b>Alternatives suggested:</b> To increase the uptake of our younger generation to vote, maybe looking at an alternative or an additional venue where there is more footfall, such as a supermarket? A social media platform could be considered?	<i>Representation by Local Resident, Walmer:</i> Can only speak for St. Saviours church polling station. Good access, good administration. Blunt pencil.	Although these are good ideas, they are not practical right now. It is not currently legal to vote in local government or Parliamentary elections or referendums electronically, so a social media platform as a method of voting cannot be considered at this time.  Polling stations are currently run as a paper based administration, and in line with the law, people are allocated to a particular polling station within a polling district. A register of electors entitled to vote there is used to mark off electors as they vote, to ensure they only vote once. Although it is possible to use a supermarket as a polling station, only people allowed to vote at that particular polling station would be able to enter, as entry to a polling station is restricted to the Returning Officer's staff and people casting their vote. Unfortunately, portacabins in a supermarket car park do not fit the criteria for a polling station as they have no toilet facilities for staff who cannot leave the polling station during their 16 hour shift and do not fit with the new Elections Act requirements for being disabled access friendly.
13 101	Local Resident, Sandwich	Sandwich (North)/ United Reform	This is a convenient location, but it is not as accessible for disabled people as the previous polling station in the Guildhall.		As mentioned above, the previous room used at the Guildhall is no longer available for use as a

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		Church	<b>Alternatives suggested:</b> Guildhall - in the previous location.		polling station, and the alternative rooms offered were not suitable. The United Reform Church was the best alternative in the area.
14	Local Resident, Dover	St Radigund's Town (Baptist Church Hall) & Tower Hamlets West (One Church, Noah's Ark Road)	Both venues are easily accessible with sufficient parking and access for all. Facilities are good for both voters and the teams running the polling stations. Plenty of room, not overlooked or at risk of anyone feeling viewed during the process. Would recommend both for continued use. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> I don't think there are any better options than those already in use		No further comment.
15	Local Resident, Lydden	Lydden / Lydden Village Hall	This is an excellent location for a Polling Station for those with cars, it has parking and level access to the building although requires walking up from the car park which could be difficult for those with walking difficulties or in a wheelchair. For walkers the last part of Canterbury Road needed to walk along does not have a footpath on either side. Crossing from the side of the road where the path ends, cars travel notoriously "fast" despite the 30mph speed limit which starts approx. 300 yards prior to this point. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> No, only traffic calming to the area which is discussed on a regular basis but so far has not come to any suitable or successful resolution.		No further comment.
16	Local Resident, Dover	Buckland (South) / Phoenix Railway Social Club	This is far too far from my house to make voting accessible. Why can't we have a polling station at Charlton School as we used to have or at least at a venue within 15 minutes walking distance. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> Charlton School, St Edmunds School hall, St Richard's school, Charlton church hall	<i>Representation by a Local Resident, Buckland South;</i> As mentioned Phoenix Club is not user friendly for those who have to travel either on foot or by car in order to cast their vote. Parking is charged and access to site by car is dangerous due to narrow access and restricted view due to parked cars. Also same entrance/exit is used by cars and pedestrians. An accident waiting to happen. As a resident living nearer town the distance & access issues are enough to put people off voting. Charlton Primary, St Edmunds, Barton primary, Shatterlocks are ideal for access & locality or maybe the church hall off Frith road or Girls Grammar sites.	Shatterlocks School has previously been used as a polling station for Buckland, but as mentioned previously, the use of schools is avoided where possible, because the schools find it too disruptive to be used as polling stations. St Richard's School is in the Town & Castle Ward / polling district, and Barton Primary, Dover Girls Grammar School and Charlton Church Hall are in the St Radigund's Ward / polling district, rather than Buckland, so they are precluded from consideration. Unfortunately, Buckland South is a long thin polling district/ward, and there are no suitable alternative polling stations in the middle of the polling district, so with an absence of other non-school options within the polling district, the Phoenix Railway Club is the best option for a DDA compliant polling station with free parking.
17	Local Resident, Wingham	Wingham/Wingham Village Hall	Good appropriate venue. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> No		No further comment.
18	Local Resident, Dover	St Radigund's (West)/ St Radigund's Community Centre	I have a postal vote. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> Should I not have a postal vote St Radigunds School would be much more convenient for me.		As mentioned in previous responses, where possible, the use of schools is avoided to prevent disruption to children's education. St Radigund's Community Centre is the best option for a polling station within the St Radigund's (West) polling district/ward.
19	Local Resident, Deal	Middle Deal (Park) / Linwood Youth Centre	Great difficulty finding it. One website showed it somewhere along Mill Road towards Tesco. I found it after I decided to give up and go home. As Conservatives were low in the polls, I thought it was a deliberate policy. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> I am a new resident. Perhaps the name is wrong. You would have to be a long term resident to know where it is.		Victoria Park is a large site and other buildings share the space so an extra descriptive line on the poll card address could be useful for people who are new to the area. We will amend it to read 'Dover Youth Hub, Linwood Youth Centre, Nr Tides Leisure Centre, Park Avenue, Deal'. We can supply the polling staff with more polling station signs as well. You do not mention which website you tried, but there used to be a Linwood Youth Club along Mill Road, so the map

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					used may have pointed to historical data. The polling stations in the Dover local authority area are online if you follow the 'Where is my polling station?' link on the DDC website here: <a href="http://www.dover.gov.uk/elections">www.dover.gov.uk/elections</a> Another useful website showing where polling stations are situated is run by the Democracy Club - <a href="https://wheredoivote.co.uk/">https://wheredoivote.co.uk/</a>
20	Local Resident, Ash	Ash / Ash Village Hall	Keep the Polling Station where it is, do not centralise or move. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> No alternative. To move or close the Polling Station in Ash will result in inconvenience and ultimately reduce the number of votes cast.	<i>Representation by a Local Resident, Ash:</i> It is important from a village perspective that this continues to be open to support the local community	There are no plans to change from Ash Village Hall.
21	Local Resident, Shepherdswell	Shepherdswell with Coldred / Shepherdswell Village Hall	A very suitable polling station <b>Alternatives suggested:</b>		No further comment.
22	Local Resident, Dover	Tower Hamlets (East) / Curzon Hall	This polling station is needed because a lot of the local people are elderly <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> None because the next nearest one is up a steep hill		No further comment.
23	Local Resident, River	River / River Village Hall	Always well supervised and organised for voting in all elections. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> None		No further comment.
24	Local Resident, St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	St Margaret's-at-Cliffe / Village Hall	The village hall polling station has always worked well in the past and I see no reason to change the way it is run or the location. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> None needed.	<i>Representation by a Local Resident, St Margaret's-at-Cliffe:</i> I believe it essential we keep the Village Hall as a polling place because of the proportion of elderly and infirm members of the village community.  <i>Representation by a Local Resident, St Margaret's-at-Cliffe:</i> The venue is centrally located and easily accessible and is the right place for a polling station.	No further comment.
25	Local Resident, Deal	Mill Hill (South) / Deal Pentecostal Church	I think that this hall is very well suited. It is a big enough space for there to be adequate room for all the desks needed and the polling booth, good access, with a ramp for the less able at the side. The only real challenge is parking nearby. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> I think that the only realistic alternative would be the welfare club in Cowdray Square, where parking may be less of an issue.		No further comment.
26	Local Resident, Dover	Tower Hamlets (West) / One Church, Noah's Ark Road	The site is easy to reach. I use a mobility scooter and was able to get inside to cast my vote without getting off the scooter <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> I am happy with the venue		No further comment.
27	Local Resident, Finglesham	Northbourne / Northbourne Parish Hall	Very happy with Northbourne Parish Hall. I declare an interest as I am a Trustee for the Parish Hall and its use for elections generates hire income. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b>		No further comment.
28	Local Resident, Walmer	Walmer (St Saviour's) / St Saviour's Church	Good access. Good signing <b>Alternatives suggested:</b>		No further comment.
29	Local Resident, Dover	St Radigund's (West) / St Radigund's Community Centre	Good choice for venue. Old venue was St Radigunds School which meant another less day of schooling for children. venue easily accessible. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> alternative is a postal vote, which is my (and my household) preferred choice. In the past we were shift workers and voting was not always accessible to us, with a postal vote, it is not only easy but better for those with mobility problems. Though, as a negative, I can see it may be open to abuse of the system if a letter gets posted in the wrong letterbox.		No further comment.

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30	Local Resident, Sandwich (South)	Sandwich (South) / Jubilee Centre	The former Phoenix Centre is ideal for Sandwich South to use as a polling station, it has good disability access and toilets. It is big enough and has parking and easy to walk too. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> There are no other public buildings apart from the junior school in St Bart's Road that could really work.		No further comment.
31	Local Resident, Whitfield	Whitfield (North) / Whitfield Village Hall	Handy central location with good access and well known <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> There is no obvious place with the facilities and convenience of the village hall		No further comment.
32	Local Resident, Walmer	Walmer (Wellington) / Walmer Parish Hall	Very convenient for my husband who is 82. I have a postal vote. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b>		No further comment.
33	Local Resident, Eastry	Eastry / Eastry Village Hall	Perfect location <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> Parish council room if the village hall is already booked		No further comment.
34	Local Resident, Preston	Preston / Preston Village Hall	I would like Preston kept please as it has great parking...I do wonder, being a small community, that perhaps the polling hours should be reduced and that if people feel they couldn't make it during the reduced hours then perhaps they could obtain a pass e.g. within perhaps obtaining a postal vote time frame, to go to another larger polling station open for longer hours, obviously they would have to be able to commute. At present with cyber crime I am not in favour of online voting. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> See previous answer.	<i>Representation by a Local Resident, Preston;</i> The present Village Hall/Community Centre is very suitable for electoral needs, as it has off road parking for disabled and easy access for all.	Changing polling hours and online voting at local government and parliamentary elections and referendums would require a change in the law by Parliament and is not something an ARO, RO or local authority can alter. There are no plans to change Preston polling station as part of this review.
35	Aylesham Parish Council, Aylesham	Aylesham / Aylesham Baptist Free Church & St Finbarr's Church	Aylesham - Aylesham Baptist Free Church and Aylesham St Finbarr's Church Aylesham Parish Council have No further comments to make. <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> None		No further comment.
36	Paul Carter, Town Councillor, Sandwich Town Council	Sandwich (South) / The Jubilee Centre	A large number of residents have said that they would prefer one voting poll station in Sandwich and that the two ward system is not a good idea, they would prefer the voting to go back to one ward. Having two polling stations is very confusing and a lot of voters even from the Sandwich South area are unaware of the Jubilee Centre especially as it was called the Phoenix Centre recently as well. it is also difficult for parties to travel or allocate tellers and candidates to both stations adequately. I think one central polling station would work best with lots of car parking and known sign posting/address. I am wondering how many residents knew where the new, United Reform Church was in Sandwich? <b>Alternatives suggested:</b> As stated above I would have a temporary DDA compliant polling station in the Guildhall car park adequately sign posted and allowing 20 mins free parking for voting only. Everyone knows where the Guildhall is, it's the central/administrative centre and well known.	<i>Representation by a Local Resident, Sandwich (North):</i> I agree with the sound points that Councillor Paul Carter has made. In the new constituency Sandwich Guildhall is the most accessible and popular site for a polling station	This review cannot change town and parish wards, only polling districts and stations. As there are two wards, there are two polling districts and there has to be a polling station in each polling district, unless there are no suitable polling stations in the area. Both venues currently in use are suitable polling stations. Using the figures on the 'Current Polling Stations and Electorate' document, Sandwich Town currently consists of a total of 4,193 electors, 3,453 of which vote at polling stations. Each polling station can only have a maximum of 2,250 electors, so even if Sandwich were unwarded, it would need a minimum of two polling stations based on those figures.  Jubilee Road is a short residential street with the Jubilee Centre, formerly the Phoenix Centre, at the end of it. The road name had not changed and anyone travelling to Jubilee Road to find the polling station should not have had difficulties in finding it, no matter the name. However, a descriptive line can be added onto the address on the poll card of 'Formerly known as the Phoenix Centre' to ensure there is no confusion.  In answer to your question of how many of the polling station voters in Sandwich (North) ward knew where the new venue was, all polling station voters in the ward were sent a letter in January 2023 advising of the change of venue



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					<p>from the Guildhall to the United Reform Church and a map was enclosed showing the location of the new venue, as well as a postal vote application form in case they wished to vote by post instead of visiting the new station. The full address would also have appeared on the poll card, should anyone not have received the January letter so the majority, if not all, polling station voters would have had access to the information of where the new station was sited.</p> <p>A small portacabin, (large enough for one polling station) was quoted at over £3,000 for one weeks hire (the minimum hire period) when last quoted in 2018. As the cost is covered by the Town Council for their own elections, it is not a justifiable cost, especially when the two venues we already use are much more suitable – they are DDA compliant, and they have toilet facilities inside the building for the staff who cannot leave the polling station during their 16 hour shift.</p>
37	Tricia Marshall. Acting Returning Officer for the future Herne Bay and Sandwich Parliamentary Constituency	Herne Bay and Sandwich future Parliamentary Constituency	I am happy with the proposed arrangements in respect of the areas that fall within the Herne Bay and Sandwich constituency.		No further comment.

**Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (Parliamentary Elections) Regulations 2006**

<b>Proposed Polling District / Polling Places Scheme Changes marked in red</b>							Electoral Commission guidance states there should be no more than 2,250 electors allocated to vote at each polling station
<b>Current Constituency</b>	<b>Future Constituency</b>	<b>District Ward</b>	<b>Parish/Parish Ward</b>	<b>Polling District Letters (Current)</b>	<b>Polling District Letters (Amended)</b>	<b>Polling District Name(s) (New)</b>	<b>Polling Place / Polling Station used at last election (May 2023)</b>
Dover	Dover & Deal	Alkham & Capel-le-Ferne	Alkham Parish	PAK	PAK	Alkham	Alkham Village Hall, Hogbrook Hill, Alkham, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Alkham & Capel-le-Ferne	Capel-le-Ferne Parish	PCF	PCF	Capel-le-Ferne	Capel-Le-Ferne Village Hall (Small Hall), Lancaster Avenue, Capel-Le-Ferne, Folkestone, Kent
Dover	Dover & Deal	Alkham & Capel-le-Ferne	Hougham Without Parish	PHM	PHM	Hougham	Hougham Village Hall, West Hougham, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Aylesham Parish	PAY	PAY1	Aylesham (West)	Aylesham Baptist Free Church, Dorman Avenue South, Aylesham
					PAY2	Aylesham (East)	St Finbarr's Church, Market Place, Aylesham, Kent
Dover	Dover & Deal	Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Eythorne Parish/Eythorne Ward / Barfestone Ward	PEX1, PEX2	PEX1,PEX2	Eythorne, Barfestone	Eythorne Baptist Church Hall, Chapel Hill, Eythorne, Dover, Kent
Dover	Dover & Deal	Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Eythorne Parish/ Elvington Ward	PEX3	PEX3	Elvington	Elvington Community Centre, St John's Road, Elvington, Dover, Kent
Dover	Dover & Deal	Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Nonington Parish	PNN	PNN	Nonington	Nonington Village Hall, Easole Street, Nonington, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Shepherdswell with Coldred Parish/Shepherdswell Ward / Coldred Ward	PSL1, PSL2	PSL1,PSL2	Shepherdswell, Coldred	Shepherdswell Village Hall, Coxhill, Shepherdswell
Dover	Dover & Deal	Buckland	Dover Town/Buckland Ward	BC1	BC1	Buckland (North)	Buckland Community Centre, Roosevelt Road, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Buckland	Dover Town/Buckland Ward	BC2	BC2	Buckland (South)	The Phoenix Railway Social Club, Crabble Road, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Dover Downs & River	Denton with Wootton Parish	PDD	PDD	Denton	Denton Village Hall, The Street, Denton
Dover	Dover & Deal	Dover Downs & River	Denton with Wootton Parish	PDW	PDW	Wootton	Wootton Village Hall, Wootton Lane, Wootton
Dover	Dover & Deal	Dover Downs & River	Lydden Parish	PLN	PLN	Lydden	Lydden Village Hall, 83 Canterbury Road, Lydden, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Dover Downs & River	River Parish	PRV	PRV	River	River Village Hall, Common Lane, River, Dover, Kent
							River Village Hall, Common Lane, River, Dover, Kent
Dover	Dover & Deal	Dover Downs & River	Temple Ewell Parish	PTE	PTE	Temple Ewell	Temple Ewell Village Hall, 187 London Road, Temple Ewell, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Eastry Rural	Eastry Parish	PEA	PEA	Eastry	Eastry Village Hall, High Street, Eastry, Sandwich, Kent
Dover	Dover & Deal	Eastry Rural	Northbourne Parish	PNR	PNR	Northbourne	Northbourne Parish Hall, The Drove, Northbourne
Dover	Dover & Deal	Eastry Rural	Sholden Parish/ Sholden Ward	PSHE	PSHE	Eastry Rural (Sholden)	Scout H.Q., The Street, Sholden, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	Eastry Rural	Sutton Parish	PSU	PSU	Sutton	Sutton Parish Community Centre, Downs Road, East Studdal, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Eastry Rural	Tilmanstone Parish	PTI	PTI	Tilmanstone	Tilmanstone Village Hall, Chapel Road, Tilmanstone, Deal

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Proposed Polling District / Polling Places Scheme <b>Changes marked in red</b>							Electoral Commission guidance states there should be no more than 2,250 electors allocated to vote at each polling station
Current Constituency	Future Constituency	District Ward	Parish/Parish Ward	Polling District Letters (Current)	Polling District Letters (Amended)	Polling District Name(s) (New)	Polling Place / Polling Station used at last election (May 2023)
South Thanet	Dover & Deal	Eastry Rural	Worth Parish/Village Ward	TWR1	PWR	Eastry Rural (Worth Village)	Worth Parish Hall, The Street, Worth, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Great Mongeham Parish	PGM	PGM	Great Mongeham	Great Mongeham Parish Hall, 170 Mongeham Road, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Guston Parish	PGS	PGS	Guston	Burgoyne Heights Community Centre, Burgoyne Heights, Guston, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Langdon Parish	PLG	PLG	East Langdon	East Langdon Parish Hall, The Street, East Langdon, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Ringwould with Kingsdown Parish	PRG	PRG	Ringwould	Ringwould Village Hall, Dover Road, Ringwould, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Ringwould with Kingsdown Parish	PRK	PRK	Kingsdown	Kingsdown & Ringwould CE School, Glen Road, Kingsdown, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Ripple Parish	PRP	PRP	Ripple	Ripple Village Hall, Sutton Road, Ripple, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	St Margaret's-at-Cliffe Parish	PSM	PSM	St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	St Margaret's-At-Cliffe Village Hall, Reach Road, St Margaret's -At-Cliffe
Dover	Dover & Deal	Maxton & Elms Vale	Dover Town /Maxton and Elms Vale Ward	BME	BME	Maxton & Elms Vale	St Martin's Church Hall, Church Road, Dover St Martin's Church Hall, Church Road, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Middle Deal	Deal Town/Middle Deal Ward	AMD1	AMD1	Middle Deal (Manor)	Deal Christian Fellowship Hall, Sutherland Road, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	Middle Deal	Deal Town/Middle Deal Ward	AMD2	AMD2	Middle Deal (Park)	Linwood Youth Centre, Victoria Park, Park Avenue, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	Middle Deal	Deal Town/Middle Deal Ward	AMD3	AMD3	Middle Deal (Upper)	Warden House School, Birdwood Avenue, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	Middle Deal	Sholden Parish/Hyton Ward	PSHM	PSHM	Middle Deal (Hyton)	Warden House School, Birdwood Avenue, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	Mill Hill	Deal Town/Mill Hill Ward	AMH1	AMH1	Mill Hill (South)	Deal Pentecostal Church, 69 Mill Hill, Deal, Kent
Dover	Dover & Deal	Mill Hill	Deal Town/Mill Hill Ward	AMH2	AMH2	Mill Hill (North)	The Godric Centre, Rear of St John's R C Church, St Richard's Road, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	Mill Hill	Deal Town/Mill Hill Ward	AMH3	AMH3	Mill Hill (West)	The Sports Centre, Off Cavell Square, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	North Deal	Deal Town/North Deal Ward / Sholden Parish/ Tenants Hill Ward	AN1,PSHN	AN1,PSHN	North Deal (Sandown), North Deal (Tenants Hill)	The Golf Road Centre, 28 Golf Road, Deal, Kent
Dover	Dover & Deal	North Deal	Deal Town/North Deal Ward	AN2	AN2	North Deal (St Andrews)	Cleary Hall, Landmark Centre, 129 High Street, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	North Deal	Deal Town/North Deal Ward	AN3	AN3	North Deal (Victoria)	Salvation Army Hall, 56 West Street, Deal, Kent
Dover	Dover & Deal	North Deal	Walmer Parish/Gladstone Ward	AW4N	AW4N	North Deal (Gladstone)	Walmer Sea Scout Hall, Marine Road, Walmer, Deal, Kent
Dover	Dover & Deal	St Radigund's	Dover Town/St Radigund's Ward	BR1	BR1	St Radigund's (West)	St Radigunds Community Centre, Poulton Close, Dover, Kent

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<b>Current Constituency</b>	<b>Future Constituency</b>	<b>District Ward</b>	<b>Parish/Parish Ward</b>	<b>Polling District Letters (Current)</b>	<b>Polling District Letters (Amended)</b>	<b>Polling District Name(s) (New)</b>	<b>Polling Place / Polling Station used at last election (May 2023)</b>
Dover	Dover & Deal	St Radigund's	Dover Town/St Radigund's Ward	BR2	BR2	St Radigund's (East)	ACF Hall, London Road, Dover, Kent
Dover	Dover & Deal	St Radigund's	Dover Town/St Radigund's Ward	BR3	BR3	St Radigund's (Town)	Dover Baptist Church Hall, 27-32 Maison Dieu Road, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Tower Hamlets	Dover Town/Tower Hamlets Ward	BTH1	BTH1	Tower Hamlets (West)	One Church, Noah`s Ark Road, Dover, Kent
Dover	Dover & Deal	Tower Hamlets	Dover Town/Tower Hamlets Ward	BTH2	BTH2	Tower Hamlets (East)	Curzon Hall, Curzon Road, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Town & Castle	Dover Town/Town and Castle Ward	BT1	BT1	Town & Castle (Priory)	Clarendon and Westbury Community Centre, Belgrave Road, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Town & Castle	DoverTown /Town and Castle Ward	BT2	BT2	Town & Castle (Castle)	St Mary`s Parish Centre, Dieu Stone Lane, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Town & Castle	Dover Town/Town and Castle Ward	BT3	BT3	Town & Castle (Aycliffe)	Aycliffe Community Primary School, St Davids Avenue, Aycliffe, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Town & Castle	Dover Town/Town and Castle Ward	BT4	BT4	Town & Castle (Redoubt)	Dover Unitarian Church Hall, Adrian Street, Dover, Kent
Dover	Dover & Deal	Walmer	Walmer Parish/Upper Walmer Ward	AW1	AW1	Walmer (Upper Walmer)	Walmer Chapel (Rear Hall), 30 Station Road, Walmer, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	Walmer	Walmer Parish/Wellington Ward	AW2	AW2	Walmer (Wellington)	Walmer Parish Hall, Dover Road, Walmer, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	Walmer	Walmer Parish/St Saviour's Ward	AW3	AW3	Walmer (St Saviour's)	St Saviour`s Church, The Strand, Walmer, Deal
Dover	Dover & Deal	Whitfield	Dover Town/Buckland Ward	BCW1	BCW1	Whitfield (Rokesley)	Dover Christ Church Academy, Melbourne Avenue, Whitfield, Dover, Kent
Dover	Dover & Deal	Whitfield	Whitfield Parish	PWH1	PWH1	Whitfield (North)	Whitfield Village Hall, Sandwich Road, Whitfield, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Whitfield	Whitfield Parish	PWH2	PWH2	Whitfield (South)	Whitfield Village Hall, Sandwich Road, Whitfield, Dover
Dover	Dover & Deal	Whitfield	Whitfield Parish	PWH2	PWH2	Whitfield (South)	Dover Christ Church Academy, Melbourne Avenue, Whitfield, Dover, Kent
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Little Stour & Ashstone	Ash Parish	TAS	XAS	Ash	Ash Village Hall - Main Hall, Queens Road, Ash, Canterbury
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Little Stour & Ashstone	Ash Parish	TAS	XAS	Ash	Ash Village Hall - Main Hall, Queens Road, Ash, Canterbury
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Little Stour & Ashstone	Goodnestone Parish	TGD	XGD	Goodnestone	Goodnestone Village Hall, The Street, Goodnestone, Canterbury
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Little Stour & Ashstone	Preston Parish	TPR	XPR	Preston	Preston Village Hall, Mill Lane, Preston, Canterbury
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Little Stour & Ashstone	Staple Parish	TSP	XSP	Staple	Staple Village Hall, Mill Road, Staple, Canterbury
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Little Stour & Ashstone	Stourmouth Parish	TST	XST	Stourmouth	The Rising Sun Inn, The Street, East Stourmouth
South Thanet	Herne Bay & Sandwich	Little Stour & Ashstone	Wingham Parish	TWG	XWG	Wingham	Wingham Village Hall, School Lane, Wingham, Canterbury

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (Parliamentary Elections) Regulations 2006

Proposed Polling District / Polling Places Scheme <b>Changes marked in red</b>							Electoral Commission guidance states there should be no more than 2,250 electors allocated to vote at each polling station
Current Constituency	<b>Future Constituency</b>	District Ward	Parish/Parish Ward	Polling District Letters (Current)	<b>Polling District Letters (Amended)</b>	Polling District Name(s) (New)	Polling Place / Polling Station used at last election (May 2023)
South Thanet	<b>Herne Bay &amp; Sandwich</b>	Sandwich	Sandwich Town/Sandwich North Ward / Worth Parish/Sandwich Bay Ward	TSA,TWR2	<b>XSA,XWR</b>	Sandwich (North), Sandwich (Sandwich Bay)	Sandwich United Reformed Church, 12 Cattle Market, Sandwich, Kent
South Thanet	<b>Herne Bay &amp; Sandwich</b>	Sandwich	Sandwich Town/Sandwich South Ward	TSB	<b>XSB</b>	Sandwich (South)	The Jubilee Centre, Jubilee Road, Sandwich
South Thanet	<b>Herne Bay &amp; Sandwich</b>	Sandwich	Woodnesborough Parish	TWN	<b>XWN</b>	Woodnesborough	Woodnesborough Village Hall, Elmwood Park, Woodnesborough

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**Subject:** CORPORATE PLAN 2023 to 2027

**Meeting and Date:** Council - 29 November 2023

**Report of:** Nadeem Aziz, Chief Executive

**Classification:** UNRESTRICTED

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**Purpose of the report:** To present the Council's revised Corporate Plan 2023 to 2027.

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**Recommendation:**

- (a) That Council approve and adopt the Council's revised Corporate Plan 2023 to 2027.
- (b) That Council authorise the Head of Corporate Services and Democracy, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make any necessary minor textual changes following full Council.
- (c) That Council authorise the Head of Corporate Services and Democracy, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to agree final design and artwork before publication.

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## 1. Summary

- 1.1 Following the local elections, which saw a change in administration, a new Corporate Plan has been prepared, setting out the Council's revised vision and priorities for the next four years. This has been developed based on the aspirations of the new administration for the district.
- 1.2 The Corporate Plan 2023 to 2027 replaces the Corporate Plan 2020 to 2024.

## 2. Introduction and Background

- 2.1 The Corporate Plan (Plan) sets out the vision, aims and priorities for the district and the Council over the next four years. The Plan is the Council's main strategic document, providing a framework for the delivery of services, and provides the context for all other strategies and plans that may be produced.
- 2.2 The Plan directs and guides the development of service plans, the budget, and the direction of the Council and is a key component of good governance. Ensuring that efforts and resources are directed to the right areas is particularly important given the scale of financial challenge and resource restraint the Council is experiencing and the challenges facing the district.
- 2.3 The Council's vision is "**Building a better and fairer future**". To deliver this, four strategic themes are needed, summed up as follows:

- 1. **Improving our housing.**
- 2. **Growing our economy.**
- 3. **Protecting our environment.**
- 4. **Supporting our communities.**

A fifth ambition for the Council underpins these strategic themes: **Modernising our Council**.

- 2.4 The strategic themes are interdependent, allowing for alignment across the themes and ensuring that no theme operates in isolation. Under each strategic theme are actions that will be the focus over the term of the Plan.
- 2.5 The Council will review its Performance Management Framework (PMF) to track delivery against the new Corporate Priorities. The first set of reports on these will be from the start of the next financial year (i.e., from April 2024 onwards). The PMF provides the Executive (the Cabinet), Corporate Management Team, Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and the public with the necessary assurance that performance management is being undertaken rigorously and transparently, with appropriate oversight and reporting of performance in place.
- 2.6 Activities within the Corporate Plan are subject to individual risk and equality impact assessments where applicable.
- 2.7 The priorities outlined in this Plan deliver on the issues and challenges facing the district highlighted in the Dover District Profile report and cover the manifesto commitments made by the new administration.
- 2.8 The Plan will be kept under review, particularly in circumstances where the Council is facing new challenges or opportunities, whether these are local, regional, or national.
- 2.9 At the time of drafting the Plan, there are several external unknowns that could have a significant impact on local government. These unknowns include, but are not limited to, economic uncertainty, demand and cost pressures, review of local government finance, devolution, exit from the EU and measures being introduced through the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill.

### **3 Identification of Options**

- 3.1 Approve and adopt the Corporate Plan 2023 to 2027, as is, and communicate the priorities and actions contained.
- 3.2 Approve and adopt the Corporate Plan 2023 to 2027, with minor changes, and communicate the priorities and actions contained.
- 3.3 Not approve the Corporate Plan 2023 to 2027, leaving the Corporate Plan 2020 to 2024, as the main Plan guiding the Council. As the Corporate Plan is an identified document in the Council's Policy Framework, a new Corporate Plan would need to be adopted prior to the end of 2024. If Members choose not to approve the new Corporate Plan, it would be helpful to officers for Members to identify areas of concern that can be addressed.

## **4 Evaluation of Options**

- 4.1 The recommended option is to approve the Corporate Plan 2023 to 2027 (as is or with minor changes). The Corporate Plan is important in setting out the Council's priorities for the next four years and focusing our resources and energies on the right priorities. With the change in political leadership, there is a desire to set a new vision and priorities for the next four years and deliver on the pledges made to residents and the community in the election manifesto.
- 4.2 Failure to approve a revised Corporate Plan would not allow clarity of priorities, nor would it address the current Plan being approved under the previous administration. The existing Corporate Plan expires in 2024, and a new Plan will be required to bring together the Council's priorities and activities.

## **5 Resource Implications**

- 5.1 The Corporate Plan is aligned with the forthcoming budget and the objectives and goals set out in the Plan will help to guide future resource allocation decisions, over the next four years. All financial implications of the Council's priorities and approach will be considered as part of Budget discussions and decision-making.

## **6 Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

- 6.1 The Corporate Plan is aligned with achieving net zero for council operations by 2030. The objectives and aims set out in the Plan will support the overall district to decarbonise for the 2050 net zero target. Over the next four years the plan will provide opportunities for collaborations to support the district moving towards a circular economy with higher reuse and recycling rates.

## **7 Corporate Implications**

- 7.1 Comment from the Section 151 Officer: "As recognised in the Corporate Plan, all local authorities are under significant financial pressures with unprecedented numbers of s114 reports being written or considered. This is due to a combination of factors. In some cases, councils have made imprudent decisions. However, for the great majority of councils the underlying causes include inflation, increasing demand for services and a system of local government finance that is now volatile, incoherent, no longer functional and transfers the bulk of the risk onto individual councils rather than spreading the risks across the sector. Dover District Council is not immune to these pressures. The Council continues to manage its budgets and reserves prudently but will have to adjust the services that it provides from the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account, and the capital programme in accordance with the limitations of its financial resources. This will be reflected in the 2024/25 budget and the Medium-Term Financial Plan" (MD).
- 7.1 Comment from the Solicitor to the Council: "The Solicitor to the Council has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no further comments to make" (HR).



7.3 Comment from the Equalities Officer: “This report seeking approval to adopt the Corporate Plan 2023 to 2027 does not specifically highlight any equality implications, however in discharging their duties members are required to comply with the public sector equality duty as set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/section/149>” (KM).

## **8 Appendices**

Appendix 1: Corporate Plan 2023 to 2027.

## **9 Background Papers**

None

Contact Officer: Caroline Hargreaves, Leadership Support Officer.

# **Dover District Council Corporate Plan 2023 to 2027: Building a better and fairer future.**

## **A. Welcome.**

Welcome to our new Corporate Plan 2023 to 2027: 'Building a better and fairer future'.

Following the local elections, which saw the Labour Party take majority control over the Council for the first time since 1995, we have prepared a new Corporate Plan setting out our revised priorities for the next four years.

We want to improve the quality of our housing and build new council houses for rent. We want to stimulate investment in the district, with vibrant town centres, enhanced green spaces and an inclusive local economy that delivers jobs and opportunities for everyone. We want to see our communities flourish, with a focus on improving health and well-being, raising skill levels, and supporting our most vulnerable residents. We are also responsible for future generations of the district's residents, so we will reduce our carbon footprint whilst working towards becoming carbon neutral in our operations. We also want to make the Council more open, transparent, and inclusive.

This Corporate Plan will run until 2027 and has four strategic themes, with a fifth ambition for our Council underpinning them. These are:

1. Improving our housing.
2. Growing our economy.
3. Protecting our environment.
4. Supporting our communities.
5. Modernising our Council.

Collectively, these themes add up to building a more environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable district. You can learn more about these themes and the actions supporting them in the following pages.

Our ambitions go beyond what we can deliver on our own, and we will, therefore, collaborate with our partners and communities to bring greater and lasting benefits to the district.

Like many councils across the country, after a decade of underfunding by Central government, we face significant financial constraints and uncertainties from the wider economic climate and the impact of local government finance reforms. In addition, we know that our businesses and communities are also facing pressures, such as the cost-of-living crisis, the local health, social and economic consequences of the pandemic and deep-rooted inequalities across the district.

Notwithstanding the tremendous challenges ahead, we remain committed to our values and to working to ensure the future prosperity of the district. We recognise that we have a crucial community leadership role in enabling our communities' long-term sustainability and resilience.

Your new Labour administration is ambitious for the district's future, and we look forward to delivering the best services we can to our communities and businesses and building a better and fairer future for us all.

Cllr Kevin Mills, Leader of the Council.

## **B. About our corporate plan.**

**Our corporate plan sets the direction for Dover District Council.  
It will help us turn ambition into action and work towards our  
vision of building a better and fairer future.**

### **1. Our vision, aims, and priority activities.**

- a) The corporate plan sets out our vision for the district and the Council over the next four years. It describes our aims and the priority activities we will focus on delivering.
- b) The corporate plan does not try to capture everything we do – instead, it provides a framework for our decisions – how we prioritise and allocate the resources we have available to achieve these priorities. It is the key strategy from which our budget, service plans, and individual objectives cascade.
- c) We have centred this corporate plan around our vision of ‘building a better and fairer future’. This vision recognises the many and varied strengths of the district but also that we, and our partners, have a role in intervening where particular challenges exist to ensure that individuals, businesses, and communities can reach their full potential.
- d) The strategic themes are interdependent, allowing for alignment across the themes and ensuring that no theme operates in isolation.
- e) By defining a clear set of ambitions and commitments, our corporate plan also helps residents hold us accountable for our performance and challenge us to improve. By aligning our resources and activities to the corporate plan, we can focus on turning public money into results for our communities.
- f) The corporate plan informs other key strategies and plans, whether Council documents or those of our partners. These documents vary widely in purpose, scope, and timescale. The corporate plan does not replace these other documents but should shape them whenever they are updated.
- g) We are committed to ensuring sound governance principles and management practices across all business activities to ensure we do the right things openly, honestly, and transparently.
- h) Although our aims will likely remain constant over the medium term, the rapidly changing environment within which we operate means we will review the plan annually. This review allows us to respond to new emerging issues and take advantage of new funding opportunities with new projects and programmes of work.
- i) Whilst this corporate plan focuses primarily on the next four years, we also look ahead to the longer term, ensuring our vision remains fit for future generations.
- j) You can find details of all our services on our website: [www.dover.gov.uk](http://www.dover.gov.uk).

### **2. A sense of place.**

- a) In addition to the aims and ambitions you would expect to see in a corporate plan, we are keen to extend our role as a ‘leader of place’.

- b) We aspire to promote the district as a distinct location; a leading destination to live, work, visit, learn, and invest - with excellent services that meet local needs.
- c) We will also advocate on behalf of the district and public service provision generally, using our influence as a Council for the broader good of the district, its residents, visitors, businesses, and communities.
- d) Building a better and fairer future is the focus of our vision – one that is greener and healthier, where people are actively engaged in their communities and can benefit from opportunities that arise.
- e) All of this contributes towards the sense of place that makes the district distinct and gives people the confidence to say they are proud to live here, that we provide good quality services, offer value for money and that they are satisfied with how we run things.

### **3. Our commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion for all residents.**

- a) This corporate plan is inclusive, and we want to help improve the quality of life and life chances for everyone in the district. We are committed to being a fair, compassionate, and inclusive Council that genuinely values difference and makes everyone feel safe and belong.
- b) We will demonstrate this commitment by delivering accessible, fair services as an employer, provider of services and community leader. By showing we value all aspects of the community, we are strengthening it.
- c) We celebrate diversity and the contribution different groups make to the district. This commitment is about everything we do and every decision we make. We do not discriminate against someone because of perceived differences. It also means that we take an active role as a leader in the community and remove barriers to participation and access for all members of the community.
- d) We can do this by implementing robust policies. For example:
  - Taking appropriate action when we identify unlawful discrimination.
  - Countering misinformation and rumours linked to immigration and particular groups that feed negative stereotypes and prejudices and reinforce hostile attitudes.
  - Consulting with community groups, such as disability awareness groups.
  - Supporting and promoting events such as Pride Month.

## **C. Our strategic priorities.**

### **1. Improving our housing.**

#### **Access to a range of decent homes that meet local needs.**

Access to affordable housing remains a challenge across this district and the country. We will facilitate quality, choice, and diversity in the housing market, assist in meeting housing needs and demand and deliver high-quality housing-related services.

#### **Providing decent, safe, and affordable homes for local people.**

- a) Providing at least an average of 200 additional council homes (new build and acquisitions) each year (800 in total over the term of this plan). We will use these homes for either general needs or temporary accommodation purposes.
- b) Creating a long-term strategy to support the provision of affordable housing and more housing choice that meets the needs of our residents.
- c) Maximising external capital funding opportunities and developer contributions for affordable housing or social rented schemes.
- d) Promoting and enabling the Community-Led Housing Programme.
- e) Working to improve the standards in privately rented accommodation.
- f) Collaborating with partners to reduce the number of empty homes, buildings, and properties in the district, especially within our Town Centres (Dover, Deal and Sandwich).

#### **Supporting our tenants through a high-quality, well-managed service.**

- g) Driving continuous improvement of our housing services in line with legislative reform.
- h) Undertaking refurbishments and improving the energy efficiency of our existing Council housing to at least decent home standard, as resources allow.
- i) Carrying out a stock condition survey and developing a new Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan framework for long-term strategic planning, maintenance, maximising rental income, and investment in and increasing our housing stock.
- j) Proactively managing our neighbourhoods and supporting our tenants through community engagement, community safety initiatives, regulation, and enforcement.

#### **Supporting responsible development in the district.**

- k) Using brownfield sites, such as council-owned garages and parking sites, to provide strategic housing developments, mixed-use and/or affordable homes.
- l) Identifying opportunities for low-emission and green developments.
- m) Seeking low-cost construction solutions to support the provision of housing and affordable homes.

#### **Preventing homelessness and use of temporary accommodation.**

- n) Making the best use of government homelessness and rough sleeper grant funding opportunities.
- o) Increasing our number of homes for temporary accommodation to alleviate homelessness (as part of our overall ambition set out in a) above)
- p) Working collaboratively with other statutory and voluntary sector agencies to support homeless people and those facing homelessness.

## 2. Growing our economy.

### **Dover District to be a leading destination to live, work, visit, learn, and invest.**

We are passionate about growing an inclusive, sustainable economy that works for all, leaving no one behind. Placing economic opportunity at the centre of the district's renewal and prosperity, we will nurture diverse, distinctive, and vibrant places – especially within our town centres - which widen opportunity and unlock talent.

Building on the district's strengths, we will work to stimulate new development, funding, and investment, bringing better, well-paid jobs and accommodation (employment space, learning space and housing) to the area while also upskilling the local workforce to meet the future needs of employers. Seeking to capitalise on innovation, digital, creative, tourism, maritime, and green growth potential, we will become a place of opportunity where young people can thrive, helping us to retain and attract young talent to the district.

### **Promoting the district as 'open for business' and encouraging growth, visitors, and inward investment.**

- a) Developing an economic identity for the district capitalising on our high-speed rail connections to London, proximity to Europe, and gateway location.
- b) Continuing to develop the “Invest in Dover” and “White Cliffs Country” brands/websites/social media as critical tools for highlighting opportunities for businesses and visitors.
- c) Delivering a Local Plan that supports high-quality employment, housing, and tourism sites to secure investment and support infrastructure.
- d) Delivering our adopted Economic Growth Strategy and Tourism and Visitor Economy Strategy to directly support place, tourism, economic development, and inward investment.
- e) Focusing on regenerating Dover Town through delivering the Dover Beacon (Bench Street) catalyst project, a mixed-use development with a further education (digital and creative) campus, business, and creative centres, as well as improvements to the underpass and public realm.
- f) Revitalising our high streets to meet the changing needs of the communities and visitors they serve, including through new cultural, visitor, housing, and leisure opportunities.
- g) Providing safe, clean, well-managed town centres with appropriate facilities and maintenance.
- h) Working with partners to deliver a range of business support initiatives, advice, and funding opportunities.
- i) Maximising the social and economic impact of our procurement and spending to benefit local businesses, local jobs, and community development.
- j) Reviewing car parking assets and policies to enable our regeneration aspirations and be fit for purpose to support residents, businesses, and visitor needs.
- k) Working to secure the success of current employment sites, such as Discovery Park, Port of Dover, and White Cliffs Business Park, ensuring a mixed economic base, including life sciences, pharmaceuticals, manufacturing, digital, maritime, logistics, and green growth.
- l) Collaborating with key partners to align strategic plans to encourage further investment by enabling the district to be an innovation hub, delivering new initiatives and a green agenda.
- m) Supporting the rollout and take-up of new technologies, such as superfast broadband and 5G.
- n) Working with local partners, including EKC Group, to develop skills and training programmes linked to existing and new sectors and investments in the district.

- o) Keep the district moving by lobbying for significant infrastructure improvements and transport links such as the A2/M2/ A258, Lower Thames Crossing and parts of the A256, strategic HGV facilities and last-mile solutions.



### **3. Protecting our environment.**

#### **A cleaner and greener district for everyone to enjoy.**

The environment remains a national priority, and our commitment to protecting the space we live in, use, visit, and enjoy has never been greater. Raising awareness and reducing our environmental impact will play an essential role in everything we do in the future. At the latest, the Council aims to become a net zero carbon emitter by 2030.

#### **Recognising the importance of the environment in the decisions we make.**

- a) Delivering the targets in our climate emergency action plan.
- b) Ensuring all our policies, including the Local Plan, protect and enhance our heritage and environment.
- c) Having robust policies to tackle environmental crimes and breaches of planning control.
- d) Making our buildings, vehicles, and other assets low-carbon or carbon-neutral and minimising our footprint of pollution and other emissions.
- e) Promoting and supporting the development and adoption of renewable energy sources within the Council and with partners, businesses, and residents.
- f) Supporting the installation of electric vehicle charging points across the district.

#### **Encouraging a clean, green, and safe place to live, work, visit, learn and invest.**

- g) Seeking to introduce carbon offset schemes.
- h) Working with communities, visitors, and residents to ensure our parks and open spaces are vibrant, clean, easy to access, safe, and welcoming places to visit for all local people.
- i) Supporting biodiversity in our greenspaces, parkland and wider countryside and protect wildlife and their natural habitats.
- j) Implementing measures to improve air quality across the district, including cleaner transport and planting more trees.
- k) Working with partners, including Kent County Council, to develop walking and cycling infrastructure, secure active travel options and lobby for improvements to public transport.
- l) Working with partners to encourage greater resident and visitor use of public transport, bus and train, and lobby for related promotional support.

#### **Improving and enhancing our waste management services.**

- m) Promoting a circular economy by designing out waste in our services.
- n) Encouraging residents to reduce the residual waste they produce, improve recycling rates, and tackle contamination through targeted campaigns.
- o) Reducing incidents of fly-tipping through proactive enforcement and resident education.

#### **Supporting and engaging the community to protect their environment.**

- p) Encouraging residents, visitors, and businesses to be energy efficient and minimise pollution and carbon emissions.
- q) Addressing the incidence and effects of environmental crimes and air, land, and water pollution through enforcement and educational activities.
- r) Working to reduce the risks to communities and places from climate change through proactively strengthening flood and other defences and working with businesses and communities to improve resilience and mitigation.

## **4. Supporting our communities.**

### **Safe and strong communities where residents live happy, healthy, and independent lives.**

We want the district to be a place where everyone can play a positive role in their community and be proud to call the district home. We will help our residents lead long, happy, and productive lives by improving their health and economic and social well-being.

#### **Encouraging residents to lead active, healthy, and fulfilling lifestyles.**

- a) Working with partners, residents, and other stakeholders to reduce health inequalities by tackling the wider determinants of health (such as built and natural environment, education, income, work, crime, and social capital).
- b) Continue investing in and enhancing the district's leisure, well-being, cultural and visitor facilities, and services, such as local parks, open spaces, museums, information centres and pier.
- c) Increasing participation in sports and physical activity by making it accessible for all.
- d) Maximising green spaces to promote health and well-being, such as installing outdoor gyms.
- e) Supporting healthy living initiatives and programmes that reduce social isolation and help people to stay active and independent.

#### **Supporting, strengthening, and sustaining communities.**

- f) Working collaboratively across sectors to develop a district solution to address the rising cost-of-living and reduce poverty, specifically focusing on food, fuel, housing, and digital inclusion.
- g) Continuing to help the voluntary and community sector organisations through the grant process and other support to provide vital services to residents.
- h) Seeking new ways of bringing community funding into the district.
- i) Supporting local groups in delivering a range of events and activities that celebrate the district's diversity, encourage cohesion, and reconnect people with their wider community.
- j) Encouraging and supporting self-help and community action.
- k) Encouraging individual and corporate volunteers to help strengthen communities.
- l) Continuing our best practice model for refugee resettlement in the district, warmly welcoming families and supporting integration and cohesion.
- m) Strategically enhancing the district's public toilet provision, focusing on our town centres and seafronts first.

#### **Keeping the district safe.**

- n) Designing out crime as part of all new developments within the district.
- o) Providing a CCTV service 24/7 to reduce the real and perceived levels of crime.
- p) Continuing to drive the Community Safety Partnership with enforcement initiatives to reduce anti-social behaviour, environmental crime, and fly-tipping.
- q) Protecting people, especially the most vulnerable, through initiatives to reduce domestic abuse, exploitation, and misuse of drugs.
- r) Improving the health, safety and welfare of people living, working, and visiting the district through our port health and environmental services and licensing activities.
- s) Responding early and effectively to public health risks from disease, pandemics, and other emergencies.

## **5. Modernising our Council.**

**A modern, innovative, and financially sustainable council that delivers efficient and quality services.**

Like all councils, we face complex financial challenges when delivering our services. We will be a modern, agile, and proactive council that focuses on meeting the needs of our residents. We will be more open and transparent so residents can hold us accountable for spending their money and making decisions that affect their lives. We will deliver quality services that are accessible and easy to use.

### **Providing quality customer service.**

- a) Developing our self-service options so customers can do business with us 24/7 to enable the most efficient transactions and smoother customer journeys.
- b) Collating and using data analytics to improve our services continually.
- c) Providing support for all residents, focussing on equality, understanding and respect.
- d) Improving communication with residents through all communication channels.
- e) Listening and responding to the needs and experiences of our residents.
- f) Wherever possible, resolve issues/queries the first time a customer contacts us.

### **Delivering effective and efficient services.**

- g) Managing our finances and contracts robustly to ensure the best value for money and social value.
- h) Developing an ongoing approach to self-evaluation and continuous improvement of our services to deliver year-on-year improvements focusing on our residents.
- i) Continuing to invest in technology to support digital working and service for staff, including mobile teams.
- j) Continuing to develop the “Dover District Council” brand, website, and social media to support the provision of information and quality customer service.
- k) Ensuring all our communications and publications are clear and accessible.
- l) Ensuring our decision-making is robust and led by sound data and intelligence.
- m) Improving access to council meetings, ensuring increased transparency, meaningful consultation, and better visibility.

### **Maintaining financial stability.**

- n) Providing a sound financial governance and control system and aligning the medium-term financial plan with our work plans, strategies, and major projects.
- o) Exploring opportunities to work further with stakeholders and partner organisations.

## **D. Measuring our success.**

A 'golden thread' runs through all our policies and strategies, service planning, financial decision-making, programmes and projects, and business-as-usual activity - with the corporate plan as the central thread. Every staff member has a part to play in its successful delivery and will be able to recognise their contribution to the core themes. We have designed our corporate plan to meet the needs of the whole district, and our elected members place the core aims and objectives at the heart of their decision-making.

We are committed to open and transparent monitoring of progress against the delivery of the objectives set, and we will track progress in the following ways:

**a) Strategic and operational performance management.**

We will measure and monitor our progress in delivering our priorities, flex our resources, and approach accordingly. Our Performance Management Framework drives the what and the how of measuring success. Our performance monitoring is also aligned with our financial reporting and risk management. We will report quarterly strategic performance indicators, aligned to each corporate priority, to our Corporate Management Team, Cabinet, and Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Each service also has operational performance indicators managed by the Heads of Service in conjunction with the Corporate Management Team and their Portfolio Holders. All council employees will have performance and development reviews, connecting them to delivering our corporate priorities and service plans.

Strategic reviews of service areas may occasionally lead to changes in key performance indicators during the year. Where this is the case, we will report these as part of the regular quarterly reporting process and reflect them in the next refresh of the performance management framework.

**b) Outcome-based approach.**

We are committed to improving outcomes for residents, businesses, the environment, as well as the health and state of our district. In addition to strategic performance indicators that we will report progress against through our performance reports, we will seek to design and develop additional outcome measures over the first and second years of the plan. We will also explore how far we can benchmark against nationally produced indicators and data and supplement these with various community engagement techniques to assess community wellbeing.

**c) Review.**

We will keep our corporate plan under review, particularly when the Council faces new challenges or opportunities, whether nationally, regionally or within the district.

**d) The Medium-Term Financial Plan.**

Each year, we must produce a medium-term financial plan (MTFP) for approval by elected members. The MTFP sets out our spending plans in support of delivering the Corporate Plan objectives, presenting a balanced budget, and striving for value for money and financial stability and sustainability.

**e) Business and Service Plans.**

Every year, each service area across the council produces a business plan incorporated into an overall service plan for that area. These plans serve two purposes. Firstly, to set out proposed business activity in support of delivering the Corporate Plan, informed by policy developments, and encompassing short-, medium-, and long-term proposals. Secondly, business plans have an operational purpose, setting out business as usual activity and the resources required to deliver this. This element informs the day-to-day running of our services and informs individual objectives. Our Corporate Management Team is accountable to members for service and business plans, monitored through various aspects of our governance framework.

**f) Individual Objectives.**

For council staff, the 'golden thread' shows how individual work objectives contribute to the overall delivery of the corporate plan. Whether delivering a large and complex project like the Levelling Up - Dover Beacon Project, ensuring the streets are clean, carrying out our regulatory functions, or processing planning applications – all our staff are valued equally.

**g) Dover District Profile.**

This profile is our key evidence base and is available on our website. It allows us to monitor the effectiveness of Corporate Plan interventions designed to address issues and challenges identified across the district. The profile also enables us to identify emerging issues and plan appropriate interventions.

## E. How we work - our principles.

### Ensuring fairness and opportunity for all are at the core of our work.

The principles guiding all our plans and actions are:

- **Customers first:** Putting our customers at the heart of service design and delivery, we will seek regular feedback through consultations and resident surveys.
- **Digital transformation:** We are modernising services and harnessing new digital technology to make it easier for residents to interact with us. We are improving our website, streamlining processes, and making more services available online.
- **Building self-reliance:** We work with others to build the ability of individuals and communities to solve their problems and withstand the shocks that come their way. We will support those who need it – but our priority is always to help people live independently for as long as possible.
- **Getting the best value:** We strive for value for money in everything we do, and we are focused on financial stability and delivering our Medium-Term Financial Plan. However, we acknowledge that the best deal is not always the cheapest – it protects people, jobs, the environment, and the budget. So, we are also evolving our procurement practices to enhance the social value in all we do.
- **Collaborating with others:** We work closely with partners and other bodies within and beyond our district, increasing our collective ability to achieve our vision and improve our residents' quality of life and well-being. We are building on the work done during the pandemic to consolidate partnerships and ensure a more robust network to support the most vulnerable.
- **Respect for democracy and ensuring inclusivity:** Our councillors, elected by local people, understand the needs and expectations of their communities. This understanding informs our actions and helps us make balanced decisions. We will practice genuine engagement with those affected by our work or decisions.
- **Integrity and Good Governance:** As community leaders, honesty, accountability, and transparency are at the core of everything we do. We recognise our responsibility to serve all the communities of our district to the best of our ability. We will treat the people we work with and serve with integrity, respect, and decency. We will use data and research to drive improvement, listening to our residents, communities, and businesses to underpin informed decisions.
- **Valuing our staff:** Our staff are our biggest asset, and through their dedication and expertise, we can deliver the services that people rely on. Therefore, we promote our employees' health, safety, and wellbeing. We support our staff in gaining new skills and qualifications throughout their careers, and empower them to innovate, collaborate and achieve our shared goals.

**URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any other items deemed by the Chairman of the Council to be urgent in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.