



twelve two-councillor wards, and four single councillor wards. One ward will remain the same, the rest will have different boundaries.

Proposed changes include:

- Following strong evidence received, Lenham Parish will not be split between wards and will instead be placed in Harrietsham, Lenham & North Downs ward containing the parishes of Harrietsham, Lenham, Hollingbourne, Huckling, Bicknor, Stockbury, Wormshill, Frinsted, Wichling and Otterden.
- North Loose, Loose Parish and Linton Parish will be combined in Loose & Linton ward, following persuasive evidence regarding community links in this area.

Launching the consultation Professor Colin Mellors, Chair of the Commission, said:

“We want people in Maidstone to help us.

“We have drawn up proposals for new wards in Maidstone. We want to make sure these new electoral arrangements reflect communities. We also want them to be easy to understand and convenient for local people.

“Residents and local organisations can help us do that. We would like them to let us know whether they agree with our proposals before we take final decisions.

“It’s easy to get involved. Go to our website. Or you can e-mail or write to us.

“Just tell us what you think and give us some details why you think that. It’s really simple, so do get involved”

The Commission has a dedicated section on its website where people can see the detail of the proposals and comment on the names of wards and their boundaries:

<https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/32722>

People can also give their views by e-mail at [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk), and by post:

Review Officer (Maidstone)  
LGBCE  
PO Box 133  
Blyth  
NE24 9FE

**Ends/**

**Notes to editors:**

This consultation relates to the arrangements for local government elections. It is separate from consultations that are currently taking place across England on arrangements for parliamentary elections.

For further information contact the Commission’s press office on 0330 500 1525 / 1250 or email [press@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:press@lgbce.org.uk)

An interactive map is available at <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/32722>

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body accountable to Parliament. It recommends fair electoral and boundary arrangements for local authorities in England. In doing so, it aims to:

- Make sure that, within an authority, each councillor represents a similar number of electors
- Create boundaries that are appropriate, and reflect community ties and identities
- Deliver reviews informed by local needs, views and circumstances