

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 March 2021 11:31
To: reviews
Subject: Electoral Review of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council
Categories: Submissions

Dear Sir/Madam, 20 March, 2021

1. Electoral Review of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council

I am writing in a personal capacity in connection with the above.

[REDACTED]

Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Electoral Review of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council

1. Introduction

1.1. In December 2011, there were 89,894 electors in Tonbridge and Malling. In its last Review, published in October, 2012, the Boundary Commission noted that a figure of 8.5% for the electoral population increase in the Borough “represented substantial growth over the period” to 2018 and recommended an increase in the number of councillors from 53 to 54. Borough officers have advised that the number of electors by the end of 2027 will be 110,000, which is an 11.9% increase over the 98,820 in December 2019. This is an even more substantial growth than at the previous Boundary Review and the analysis which follows suggests an increase in the number of councillors from 54 to 55 (an increase of 1.9%).

1.2. A Council size of 55 councillors would result in the number of electors per councillor increasing from 1,820 to 2,000 (9.9%). The Borough Council have proposed a decrease to 43 councillors ; this would result in 2,558 electors per councillor - an increase of 40.5% - and a poorer service to residents.

1.3. The previous Review stated that throughout the review process, the primary consideration has been to achieve good electoral equality, while seeking to reflect community identities and securing effective and convenient local government.

1.4. The Borough currently has 24 wards, including seven in the urban area of Tonbridge to the south with its population of 37,550 which is unparished, where services are directly run by the Borough Council. The remainder is more rural and each ward has a close relationship with Parish Council Areas (or the Town Council in the case of Snodland), with many having a 1:1 relationship where councillors relate to a single Parish Council. This enables councillors to forge extremely strong relationships with local communities and create vital links with the Borough Council. I therefore feel that it is imperative that parish boundaries continue to be the building blocks of future wards since they represent the strongest community identity. Indeed, at least as far as Tonbridge and Malling is concerned, I show that it is not possible to come up with a figure of the number of councillors that there should be in the Council without, at the same time, considering the definition of ward boundaries and their consequent relationship with local communities.

1.5. The Boundary Commission's Briefing paper seeks views on ward boundaries during the Stage One consultation. This appears in Para 6.3.

1.6. The Commission states that council size should be determined with reference to governance arrangements, scrutiny functions and the representational role of councillors in the local community. I consider each in turn.

2. Governance Arrangements

2.1. The effectiveness of the Borough Council is dependent on the skills, knowledge and experience of its councillors. Whilst as a corporate body, the Borough needs to undertake its responsibilities as efficiently as possible, which might suggest that the size of the Council should be as small as possible, the Borough is composed of urban and rural areas, and councillors are expected to have regard to the separate community identity of the parishes they represent. The geography of the Borough means that issues in various parts of the Borough are diverse and whatever governance arrangements are agreed, they need to reflect this, otherwise the needs of all residents cannot be properly recognised and the Borough Council cannot effectively operate across the broad range of its responsibilities.

2.2. For example, planning applications (unless delegated to Officers) are currently determined by one of three member Area Committees. - Area 1 (Tonbridge, Hildenborough and Hadlow), Area 2 (Kings Hill, West Malling, Leybourne, Birling and areas to the west and Area 3 (East Malling, Larkfield, Snodland and areas to the east). These are heavily dependent on the councillors' local knowledge of potential sites, infrastructure implications, and the nature of the surrounding area. It is also a major function of councillors to advertise forthcoming planning applications and encourage community responses to them. Any reduction in the number of councillors, or any suggestion that the three Area committees be merged into one, would lose this vitally important local input - to the detriment of the quality of decision making.

2.3. It should be recognised that the responsibilities of the Borough Council need to take account of the changing demands of the increased number of residents through the ongoing house building programme, changes in methods of delivery, increase in casework, etc. Tonbridge and Malling has, for many years, been amongst the most rapidly growing Boroughs in Kent.

2.4. In addition, it should be recognised that the fact that TMBC Councillors directly provide "parish services" such as allotments, cemeteries, churchyards, playing fields and playing equipment, and street lighting for residents in the unparished area of Tonbridge needs to be taken into account as this increases the responsibilities of councillors and the number needed to fulfil them.

2.5. Any reduction in Council size would reduce opposition representation and make it more likely that the smaller sub committees have only a single opposition member. Since issues are usually supported on party lines, this runs the real risk that they receive no seconder for any proposal they make, which are not then even discussed. This would be a diminution of responsiveness on behalf of the Council and would greatly reduce the scrutiny function of the Council to hold officers, Cabinet members and outside bodies to account.

3. Scrutiny

3.1. Effective scrutiny requires the controlling administration to be held to account and depends upon the ability of opposition councillors (and backbenchers from the ruling administration) to familiarise themselves with issues over the whole range of the Borough Council's responsibilities. The composition of the Council is currently 39 Conservatives, 9 Liberal Democrats, 3 Independents, 2 Green Party and 1 Labour Party members. Any reduction in the council size, and any concomitant reduction in the number of councillors, will undoubtedly dilute the extent to which effective scrutiny can be undertaken, to the detriment of Council services as it would spread the workload across a smaller number of councillors.

3.2. Indeed, the removal of a body of expertise and experience would tend to reduce the quality of decision making and be likely to require more issues to be called in for scrutiny, thereby being counterproductive.

3.3. The Scrutiny Committee comprises 14 Conservatives, 2 Liberal Democrats , 1 Green and 1 Independent member. A reduction in Council size will almost inevitably reduce opposition representation and render scrutiny less effective.

4. Representational role

4.1. TMBC's Parish Charter states that :

4.2. "This Parish Charter sets out a series of principles which we hope will characterise and underpin working relationships between the Borough and Town/Parish Councils in Tonbridge and Malling. Effective joint working between all tiers of local government, including County, District and local (Town and Parish) Councils is recognised as a fundamental part of local democracy. In particular, Town/Parish Councils have a key role to play in representing the views, and promoting the needs, of our local communities and neighbourhoods. Every opportunity will therefore be afforded to them to express such views to the Borough Council, prior to any decisions being taken which might affect local circumstances. Whilst there may be differences of view, the commitment to work together will ensure that all parties serve, to the best of their abilities, the interests of the respective local communities. "

4.3. As stated above, except for the unparished Tonbridge area, which only covers 28.4% of residents, I feel that the key relationship between Borough Councillors and the community which it serves is between Borough councillors and their Parish /Town Council, as well as their good relationships and communications with community groups and residents of the parish. Parish Councils are the bedrock of local government. The boundaries of parishes generally represent defined communities and a close link with Borough Councillors enables them to represent the interests of their communities most effectively. This can be diluted if a ward area contains too many parishes as that makes it more difficult and time-consuming for a councillor to maintain effective contact with them.

4.4. The Borough is particularly diverse, with the main town of Tonbridge being in the south of the Borough, with areas of the Borough in the north being more influenced by neighbouring towns. Thus, Borough Green has strong connections with Sevenoaks, Aylesford looks to Maidstone; Blue Bell Hill and Walderslade Woods (part of Aylesford

parish) are actually part of the conurbation of the Medway Towns. Each area has its own particular problems which differ across the Borough.

4.5. When considering the role of TMBC councillors, I draw on my own experience of the activities of my local councillors. It is necessary to make a distinction between the 15 councillors who represent Tonbridge (where there is no Town Council, but “ parish” services are directly run by the Borough Council, and the remaining 39. The latter attend usually monthly Parish Council meetings and the statutory Annual Parish meeting. Public meetings are organised to consult with residents on major issues such as the Local Plan or controversial housing applications, of which there are disproportionately more in the north east of the Borough where there is no Green Belt protection. In the last 18 months, they have attended and contributed to two planning Appeals, each lasting over a week, and briefed barristers, as well as attending and contributing to the Examination in Public of the Local Plan. My local councillors also produce and deliver paper leaflets every quarter and produce a non-political digest of local news for residents by email, on average every fortnight, often seeking residents views on issues of current interest and translating that into action to solve problems so identified. Examples are litter collections and the restoration of Clare Park Lake in East Malling.

4.6. My local councillors are also involved in liaison with a number of statutory and voluntary organisations and events which are normally organised on a Village or parish basis. Increasing the number of parishes which a councillor represents increases not only the casework, but also the time spent on liaison with, and attending events arranged by schools and attendance at school events, churches and their special services, youth clubs, sports organisations, residents’ associations, GP practices, and attendance at Police and Community Together meetings, WI, and many more, and dealing with the many issues which they raise. Examples of this are the creation of the Volunteer Schemes set up to assist people in need during the recent pandemic, food banks, and liaison with police, involving such issues as ASB, local crime, fly tipping, planning, youth activities and parking.

4.7. A key part of their role is in casework, where residents appear to have particular problems which they are unable to deal with themselves. This can often require physically inspecting things which have been reported. My local councillors have monthly surgeries with residents in each community (currently virtually). In short, councillors are a focus in their communities for engaging with their residents, explaining Council policy, and receiving comments, suggestions and complaints and liaising as necessary with the appropriate Council Officer. In this way, they are the eyes and ears of the Council and help to make the Council’s services more responsive and effective, and a source of information and advice to residents.

5. Council Size

5.1. The link with Parish Councils being crucial, I do not believe that it is possible to determine the number of councillors without also identifying the extent to which the close relationship with Parish Councils is maintained and the extent to which electoral balance can be achieved. This is demonstrated by the calculations of Council size which follow.

5.2. In its last Review, the Boundary Commission noted that a figure of 8.5% for the electoral population increase in the Borough “represented substantial growth over the period” to 2018 and recommended an increase in the number of councillors from 53 to 54. Given the expected 11.9% increase in the number of electors by 2027, I therefore examine options of Council size similar to that at present.

5.3. Despite the fact that the Boundary Commission's Briefing Paper on Page 14 sought views on ward boundaries during Stage One, TMBC has refused to supply the necessary 2027 forecast of electors. However, the Borough Council has provided a forecast of the number of electors for each existing ward by 2027, five years after the completion of the present Review, and that there will be an increase of 5,952 electors by 2027 resulting from

housing developments with more than 29 electors. In the absence of any other information, I have produced an illustrative calculation of Council size by assuming a uniform distribution of the remaining electors across wards in the Borough. This calculation is displayed in Appendix 1.

6. Sensitivity Analysis

6.1. The Appendix shows the effect of considering between 52-57 councillors on the existing ward configuration (with some limited changes in order to produce good electoral equality as shown in the Notes at para 6.4 below). The quantum and distribution of ward sizes in TMBC results in the calculation showing that 55 councillors were required in all six calculations. Note that calculations starting with more than 56 councillors or fewer than 53 gave variances which would be unacceptable to the Boundary Commission. Had 52, 53, 54 or 56 councillors been chosen as the starting point, this would not have resulted in the those numbers of councillors being calculated when ward boundaries were considered. This demonstrates that Council size can only be determined when the ward distribution of councillors is considered at the same time as the other factors involved. I therefore feel it essential that any proposal for Council size in TMBC should be accompanied by evidence demonstrating that it is practicable and provides good electoral equality.

6.2. Adding the variances for each option (ignoring whether positive or negative) showed that the “best fit” and hence the best electoral equality was obtained for 55 councillors. The next section demonstrates that this can be achieved in practice.

6.3. The preferred option (based on 55 councillors and 110,000 electors)

Mean for one-member Ward = 2,000 electors

Mean for two- member ward = 4,000 electors

Mean for three- member ward = 6,000 electors

<u>Existing Ward Name</u>	<u>Number of Electors</u>	<u>Number of Councillors</u>	<u>Variance.</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Aylesford North & Walderslade	5,750.	3.	-4.3%	
Aylesford South.	5,582.	3	-7.5%	1.
Borough Green & Long Mill	6,096.	3	+1.6%.	2
Burham & Wouldham.	4,033.	2.	+0.8%	
Cage Green.	3,827.	2.	-4.5%	
Castle.	3,806	2.	-5.1%	
Ditton.	4,436	2.	+10.9%	
Downs	4,035.	2	+0.9%.	3
East Malling.	4,104.	2.	+2.6%.	4
Hadlow & East Peckham	5,810	3.	-3.3%	
Higham.	3,873.	2	-3.3%	
Hildenborough.	3,995	2.	-0.1%.	5
Judd.	4,187.	2	+4.7%	
Kings Hill.	4,276.	2	+6.9%.	6
Kings Hill	4,277.	2.	+6.9%	6
Larkfield North.	4,043.	2	+1.1%.	7
Larkfield South.	3,850.	2.	-3.9%.	8
Medway.	5,693.	3.	-5.4%	
Snodland East & Ham Hill	3,872	2.	-3.3%	
Snodland West & Holborough Lakes.	6,317.	3.	+5.3%.	9
Trench.	3,740.	2.	-7.0%	

Vauxhall.	4,259	2.	+6.5%	
West Malling & Leybourne	6,174.	3	+2.9%	
Wrotham, Ightham & Stansted	4,133	<u>2.</u>	+3.3%.	10
		55		

The above calculation keeps every parish boundary unchanged and retains the same ward structure in Tonbridge. It would increase the ratio of electors to councillors from 1,820 to 2,000 (+9.9%).

1.

6.4. Notes

1. Includes the 106 houses in Castor Park (173 electors), for which planning permission was approved in January, 2021.
2. Excludes the parishes of Plaxtol and Shipbourne.
3. Contains the parishes of Addington, Mereworth, Offham, West Peckham and Wateringbury.
4. Excludes the Bradbourne Park Estate of 540 electors (transferred to the Larkfield South Ward of the same parish - ie East Malling & Larkfield).
5. Includes the parishes of Plaxtol and Shipbourne.
6. Kings Hill becomes two two-member wards with an average variance as shown.
7. Includes all 289 electors in the parish to the north of the motorway (transferred from Larkfield South).
8. Excludes all electors in the parish to the south of the motorway, but includes those on the Bradbourne Park Estate (see above). A map illustrating this is in Appendix 3.
9. Includes the parishes of Birling and Ryarsh
10. Includes parish of Trottiscliffe.

7. TMBC Submission

7.1. At its meeting [on 18th March](#), the Council decided on a 32-13 vote (all 13 against being opposition or independent councillors) to submit a proposal that the Council size should be in the region of 43 members. In the debate, reference was made to the effect of recent national reviews which had resulted in reductions in the number of councillors, giving the perception that TMBC were expected to follow suit. However, their submission does not include the impact of the substantial increase in population, despite the fact that it stated in para 1.21 that they had looked at "trends and changes over recent years, and specifically since the last review was undertaken in 2011/12". Nor does it mention the fact that the projected increase in the number of electors in the Borough from 2011 to 2027 is 22.2% (89,894 to 110,000)

7.2. The Council's submission did not consider one of the three criteria set by the Boundary Commission, namely the representative role of councillors in the local community. Indeed, at the previous Boundary Review, TMBC successfully persuaded the Boundary Commission to increase the number of councillors from their original proposal of 53 councillors to 54 as the only practical way to achieve electoral equality across the Borough by examining warding arrangements.

7.3. TMBC's submission was primarily concerned with the number of meetings attended by councillors and celebrated the reduction in the number of officers serving the Council. This has been particularly evident in planning, where this has partly been the cause of the Council's current land bank being only 2.93 years, which has meant that the Council has little protection against housing developments - a serious defect, which underlines the fact that the Council's submission concentrates on inputs, and not on the consequent outcomes or the diminution of services provided to residents.

7.4. The Council’s submission also drew attention to the number of cancelled meetings, but failed to point out that this often resulted in additional work for councillors as often they then have to negotiate with individual officers behind the scenes to achieve progress.

7.5. TMBC has given no details of the effect of their Council size on the ability of councillors to represent their communities. As stated above, the mean number of councillors for a single member ward with a Council size of 43 is 2,558, that for a two-member ward being 5,116 and that for a three member ward being 7,674. The projected distribution of the sizes of existing wards in para 6.3 are as follows :

<u>Electoral Size of ward</u>	<u>Number of wards within the variance</u>
2,302 to 2,814 (a 10% variance for a single- member ward).	0
4,605 to 5,630 (a 10% variance for a two-member ward).	1
6,907 to 8,442 (a 10% variance for a three-member ward).	0

7.6. Only Aylesford South comes within the 10% variance, with the remaining wards needing to join together (or be divided) to reach the numbers required for electoral equality.

7.7. Therefore, new relationships will have to be forged between councillors and the prospective new ward electors, with many councillors representing double the number of wards as now. This is bound to make it more difficult for councillors to adequately represent them. The larger wards that will be produced will result in more travelling for councillors, more casework, and more Local Council meetings to attend (for those wards outside Tonbridge). Existing parishes are based on defined communities. Combining them will make it difficult for councillors to represent communities with different interests and dilute the effect of local representation and not serve residents as well.

7.8. The effect of reducing to 43 councillors would result in many councillors representing double the number of wards as now. This will result in councillors having less time to concentrate on issues arising from a single parish. It would result in councillors increasingly not being resident in the parish(es) they are seeking to represent and a diminished strong local association with the parish and hence poorer representation. As an example, West Malling & Leybourne is an existing ward comprising two parishes. Only one of the three councillors representing the area comes from West Malling; only one attends regularly, yet all three vote at Borough on local matters. This reduction in democracy would be replicated in most of the (larger) wards that would result from the reduction in councillors to 43.

7.9. Needing to be responsive to electors over a larger ward area would result, not only in less time devoted to each community, but also an increase in workload as described above, which can be during the day, evenings or at weekends. This must have an effect on the ability to attract people who have families or are full time workers to stand for election as councillors. It would also risk the reputation of the Council if councillors cannot meet their residents expectations because the workload is too great.

7.10. The Council have provided no evidence that a council size of 43 will provide a pattern of wards which provide a good electoral balance.

8. Benchmarking

8.1. The Evidence Base accompanying TMBC's submission quotes the ten near neighbours as defined by CIPFA. I would argue that Council size itself should not be the comparator, since Councils are of different size, but instead the ratio of electors to councillors should be used. The following information has been obtained from the Boundary Commission website, which shows that the recommended number of 43 councillors would give a higher ratio of electors per councillor of all but Vale of White Horse. It would increase the number of electors per councillor from 1,820 to 2,558, which is a 40.5% increase. This would surely give a poorer service to the Borough's residents.

	<u>No of.</u> Electors.	No of Members	Ratio
TMBC (existing)	98,280.	54.	1,820.0
Test Valley.	98,538.	43.	2,291.6
Ashford.	97,342.	47.	2,071.1
East Hertfordshire	110,104.	50.	2,202.1
Mid Sussex.	114,159.	54.	2,114.1
Winchester.	90,243.	45.	2,005.4
Vale of White Horse.	101,632.	38.	2,674.5
North Hertfordshire	101,791.	49.	2,077.4
Tewkesbury	71,783.	38.	1,889.0
Horsham	112,024.	48.	2,333.8
Chelmsford.	135,909.	57.	<u>2,384.4</u>
Average of the ten.			2,204.3
TMBC submission.	110,000	43.	2,558.1

9. Conclusion

9.1. My illustrative calculation suggests that, in the light of the expected 11.9% increase in the number of electors to 2027, the Council size of TMBC should be 55 councillors (an increase of 1.9%) in order to maintain good links with Local Councils, achieve good electoral equality, and provide an effective link with local residents.

9.2. TMBC's forecast of the number of electors uses a formula based on ONS and previous electoral roll trends, which will only be available later, and may alter the detailed calculation. For that reason, the Boundary Commission may wish as its starting point to maintain the status quo - ie 54 councillors.

JRD/20 March, 2021

Appendix 1 - Calculation of forecast electors by ward

	<u>Electors.</u> <u>at 4/1/21.</u>	<u>Scaled up</u> <u>to 2027.</u>	<u>TMBC.</u> <u>data</u>	<u>Total</u>
Aylesford North	5,125.	5,382	368	5,750
Aylesford South.	3,885	4,080	1,329.	5,409
Borough Green & LM	5,805.	6,096		6,096
Burham & Wouldham.	2,841.	2,983	1,050.	4,033
Cage Green.	3,646.	3,827		3,827
Castle.	3,556.	3,734.	72.	3,806
Ditton.	3,869.	4,063.	373.	4,436

Downs & Merewth.	3,606.	3,787.		3,787
East Malling.	3,886.	4,081.	563.	4,644
Hadlow & East Peck.	5,533.	5,810.		5,810
Higham.	3,688.	3,873.		3,873
Hildenborough.	3,804.	3,995		3,995
Judd.	3,951.	4,149.	38.	4,187
Kings Hill.	6,554.	6,882.	1,671.	8,553
Larkfield North.	3,575.	3,754.		3,754
Larkfield South.	3,427.	3,599		3,599
Medway.	5,421.	5,693.		5,693
Snodland East & HH.	3,687.	3,872		3,872
Snodland West & HL.	4,953.	5,201.	77.	5,278
Trench.	3,562.	3,740.		3,740
Vauxhall.	3,929.	4,125.	134.	4,259
Watlingbury.	1,571.	1,648		1,648
West Malling & Ley.	5,677.	5,961.	213.	6,174
Wrotham, I & S.	<u>3,533.</u>	<u>3,710.</u>	<u>64.</u>	<u>3,774</u>

Total. 99,084. 104,045. 5,952. 109,997
(Totals vary slightly due to rounding)

Note

The figures in Para 6.3 and Appendix 2 have been derived by applying the amendments shown in the Notes in Para 6.4 to achieve good electoral equality.

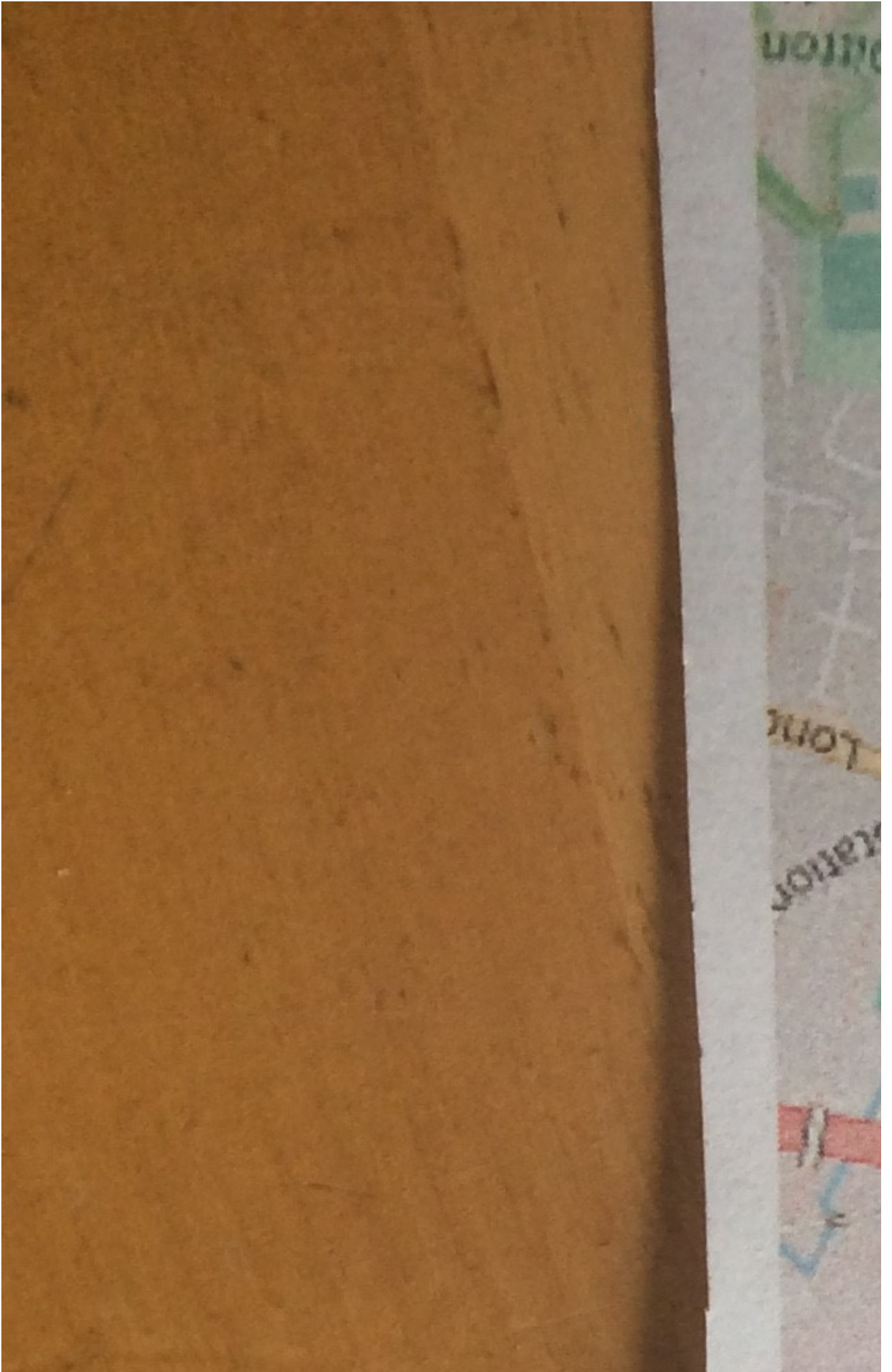
Appendix 2 - Sensitivity Analysis

No of members	52.	53.	54.	55.	56.	57		
Mean 1 member ward.	2,115.	2,075.	2,037.	2,000.	1,964.	1,930		
Man 2 member ward.	4,231.	4,151.	4,074.	4,000.	3,929.	3,860		
Mean 3 member ward	6,346	6,226	6,111	6,000.	5,893.	5,789		
Ayl. N	5,750.	3.	-10.4%	-8.8%	-6.3%	-4.3%.	-2.5%.	-0.7%
Ayl. S	5,582.	3.	-13.7%.	-11.5%.	-9.5%.	-7.5%.	-5.8%.	-3.7%
B Green	6,096.	3.	-4.1%.	-2.1%.	-0.2%.	+1.6%.	+3.4%.	+5.3%
B&W.	4,033.	2.	-4.9%.	-2.9%.	-1.0%.	+0.8%.	+2.6%.	+4.5%
C. Green	3,827.	2.	-10.6%.	-8.5%.	-6.5%.	-4.5%.	-2.7%.	-0.9%
Castle	3,806.	2.	-11.2%.	-9.1%.	-7.0%.	-5.1%.	-3.2%.	-1.4%
Ditton.	4,436.	2.	+4.8%.	+6.9%.	+9.2%.	+10.9%.	+12.9%.	+14.9%
Downs.	4,035.	2.	-4.9%	-2.9%.	-1.0%.	+0.9%.	+2.7%.	+4.5%
E Mall.	4,104.	2.	-3.1%.	-1.1%.	+0.7%.	+2.6%.	+4.5%.	+6.3%
Hadlow.	5,810.	3.	-9.2%.	-7.2%.	-5.2%.	-3.3%.	-1.4%.	+0.4%
Higham.	3,873.	2.	-9.2%.	-7.2%.	-5.2%.	-3.3%.	-1.4%.	+0.3%
Hild.	3,995.	2.	-5.9%.	-3.9%.	-2.0%.	-0.1%.	+1.7%.	+3.5%
Judd.	4,187.	2.	-1.1%.	+0.9%.	+2.8%.	+4.7%.	+6.6%.	+8.5%
K Hill.	4,276.	2.	+1.1%.	+3.0%.	+5.0%.	+6.9%.	+8.8%.	+10.8%
K Hill.	4,277.	2.	+1.1%.	+3.0%.	+5.0%.	+6.9%.	+8.9%.	+10.8%
Lark N.	4,043.	2.	-4.7%.	-2.7%.	-0.8%.	+1.1%.	+2.9%.	+4.7%
Lark S.	3,850.	2.	-9.9%.	-7.8%.	-5.8%.	-3.9%.	-1.8%.	-0.3%

Medway.	5,693.	3.	-11.5%	-9.4%.	-7.3%.	-5.4%.	-3.5%.	-1.7%
Snod. E.	3,872.	2.	-9.3%.	-7.2%.	-5.2%.	-3.3%.	-1.5%.	+0.3%
Snod. W.	6,317.	3.	-0.5%.	+1.5%.	+3.4%.	+5.3%.	+7.2%.	+9.1%
Trench.	3,740.	2.	-13.1%.	-11.0%.	-8.9%.	-7.0%.	-5.1%.	-3.2%
Vauxhall.	4,259.	2.	+0.7%.	+2.6%.	+4.5%.	+6.5%.	+8.4%.	+10.3%
WM & Ley.	6,174.	3.	-2.8%.	-0.8%.	+1.0%.	+2.9%.	+4.8%.	+6.7%
Wrotham.	4,133.	<u>2.</u>	-2.4%.	-0.4%.	+1.4%.	+3.3%.	+5.2%.	+7.1%
	55.		150.2.	122.4.	104.9.	102.1.	109.5.	119.9

Note - the last five columns show the total variance, irrespective of whether positive or negative.

Appendix 3 - Larkfield South Ward



Sent from my iPad

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Submission on Council Size for Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council
Date: 25 March 2021 12:46:02

Thank you, [REDACTED] - that's fine.

I realise I may be too late to correct it, but Note 8 in Para 6.4 should read:

"8. Excludes all electors in the parish to the **north** of the motorway, but includes those on the Bradbourne Park Estate (see above). A map illustrating this is in Appendix 3".

This makes it consistent with Note 7 and with the map in Appendix 3.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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