

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW – PARISHED AREA OF MEDWAY

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF REVIEW

That a Community Governance review (CGR) is carried out by Medway Council under the provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (“the Act”) as amended by the Legislative Reform (Community Governance Review) Order 2015 in response to the Ward Boundary review undertaken by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England. The Review will consider the existing Parished area of Medway as set out in the attached map.

The review will comply with the legislative requirement, have regard to the associated statutory guidance and will be conducted in accordance with these terms of reference which were approved by Medway Council on 22 July 2021.

The review will be conducted within 12 months.

As per the 2007 Act (as amended), Medway Council will take account of the necessary criteria when conducting the review, namely:

- The identities and interests of the community in the area
- The effective and convenient governance of the area.

and the Council should take into account influential factors such as the impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion and the size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish.

In undertaking the review, Medway Council will be guided by Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (“the Act”) as amended by the Legislative Reform (Community Governance Review) Order 2015 and the guidance on CGRs published by the Department of Communities and Local Government and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England in March 2010.

The review shall be of the community governance needs and electoral arrangements of the existing Parished area of Medway and must make the following recommendations in relation to each of the existing parishes under review:

- one of the following recommendations
 - That the parish should not be abolished and that its area should not be altered
 - That the area of the parish should be altered
 - That the parish should be abolished
- As to whether or not the name of the Parish should be changed
- As to whether or not the parish should continue to have a Parish Council

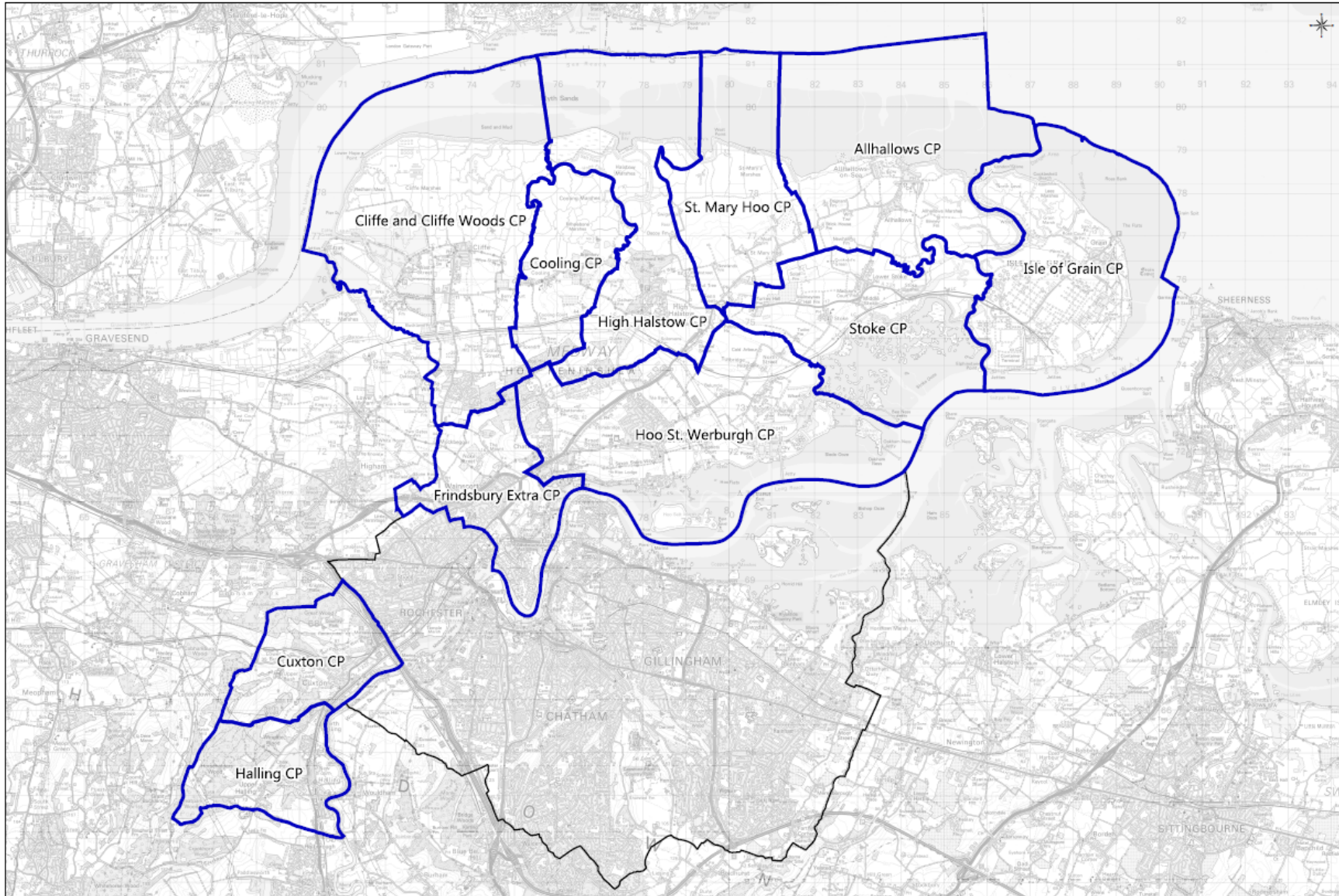
- If the Review recommends that a parish should continue to have a Parish Council, it must also consider and make recommendations as to what changes, if any, should be made to the electoral arrangements that apply to each of the Parish Councils, i.e.:
 - The number of councillors to be elected to the Parish Council
 - Whether the parish should or should not be, or continue to be, divided into wards for the purpose of electing councillors
 - And if it recommends that the parish should be divided into wards, it will also consider and make recommendations on the name of wards, the size and boundaries of the wards and the number of councillors to be elected for each ward

- whether or not the council should make a reorganisation order including such incidental, consequential, transitional or supplementary provision as may appear to be necessary for giving full effect to the order for the establishment of the parish. This may include provisions with respect to the transfer and management, or custody of property, transfer of functions, property, rights and liabilities.

The Review may not make any recommendations for any of the existing Parishes to begin to have an alternative style or cease to have an alternative style or to have a different alternative style if it already has one.

A Working Group has been established comprising of Councillors and Officers to work on the review; however, it does not have any decision making powers and so formally the authority to conduct the Review has been delegated to the Assistant Director, Legal & Governance in consultation with the working group. The final decision will be made by the full Council based on the recommendations of the working group.

In coming to its recommendations in the Review, the working group and the Council will need to take account of the views of local people. The Act requires the Council to consult the local government electors for the area under review and any other person or body who appears to have an interest in the Review and to take the representations that are received into account by judging them against the criteria in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (as amended).



Medway Parish Boundaries