Appendix 1 - Partial Review of Brighton & Hove Polling Districts and Places Consultation Paper and (Acting) Returning Officer Comment

Partial Review of Brighton & Hove Polling Districts and Places Consultation Paper and (Acting) Returning Officer Comment

1. Introduction & Strategy

Brighton & Hove City Council are conducting a partial review of its polling districts and polling places under Section 18 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 and in line with the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013. We are only conducting a partial review so that we can react to changing circumstances that are specific to certain wards. The six wards included in this partial review are:

- Central Hove
- Hangleton & Knoll
- Kemptown
- North Portslade
- Whitehawk & Marina
- Woodingdean

A comprehensive review took place in 2022 following the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's Review of the city's wards - and the passing of the Elections Act 2022. This Act brought about changes including the introduction of Voter ID.

A further partial review took place in 2023 to make further necessary changes to a limited number of wards.

The proposed scheme will follow similar design principles to 2022 and 2023. These are:

- Assign a polling place to each polling district and elector
- So far as is reasonable and practicable, ensure polling places are nearby to electors and located close to public transport routes and local amenities.
- So far as is reasonable and practicable ensure every polling place has step free access or can be provided with a ramp
- Help facilitate the safe and efficient administration and delivery of local and parliamentary elections
- Have a high proportion of double/triple stations. This will enable polling places to benefit from a higher proportion of senior staff who can resolve issues.
- Ensure most polling stations have between 1,250-1,750 polling station electors. This will ensure
 that polling stations are not too busy or quiet, staffing resources are best utilised and Electoral
 Commission ratios do not require further polling station splits.
- Where possible, limit the use of schools
- Avoid the use of temporary buildings

2. The Review and Decision-Making Process

The Council has published notice of holding the review and consulted the (Acting) Returning Officer for each Parliamentary Constituency in the Council's area. The (Acting) Returning Officer has commented on the proposals throughout. An interactive map of the proposals can be viewed here

The Council then invites comments on the proposals. The consultation paper will be published on the Council's website. It will also be sent to Councillors, Members of Parliament, local political parties, and local people and stakeholders with expertise in disability and accessibility.

All representations will be considered and responded to by the (Acting) Returning Officer. They will be published in the final report by the (Acting) Returning Officer with their final recommendations. Full Council will consider the proposals and make a final decision on 23 October. The agreed polling districts will then be passed to the Electoral Registration Officer for publication in the revised Register of Electors. This register will be published on 8 December.

3. The Review Timetable

The timetable for the review is set out below:

- Publication of notice of review, and consultation document including (Acting) Returning Officer's proposals – Tuesday 26 August 2025
- Closing date for representations Sunday 28 September 2025
- Final proposal published via Agenda papers and website Wednesday 15 October 2025
- Decision on scheme at Full Council meeting Thursday 23 October 2025
- Revised Register Published Monday 8 December 2025
- Combined County Authority Mayoral election Thursday 7 May 2026

4. Commenting on the Proposals

The Council and (Acting) Returning Officer welcome your thoughts on our proposals. When making comments or alternative proposals, please consider the principles that we have used to develop the scheme:

- Assign a polling place to each polling district and elector
- So far as is reasonable and practicable, ensure polling places are nearby to electors and located close to public transport routes and local amenities.
- So far as is reasonable and practicable ensure every polling place has step free access or can be provided with a ramp
- Help facilitate the safe and efficient administration and delivery of local and parliamentary elections
- Have a high proportion of double/triple stations. This will enable polling places to benefit from a higher proportion of senior staff who can resolve issues.
- Ensure most polling stations have between 1,250-1,750 polling station electors. This will ensure that polling stations are not too busy or quiet, staffing resources are best utilised and Electoral Commission ratios do not require further polling station splits.
- Where possible, limit the use of schools
- Avoid the use of temporary buildings

You can respond to the review in several ways:

- Online on our consultation portal 'Your Voice'
- by email to electors@brighton-hove.gov.uk
- by post to: The Returning Officer, Hove Town Hall, Norton Road, Hove BN3 3BQ

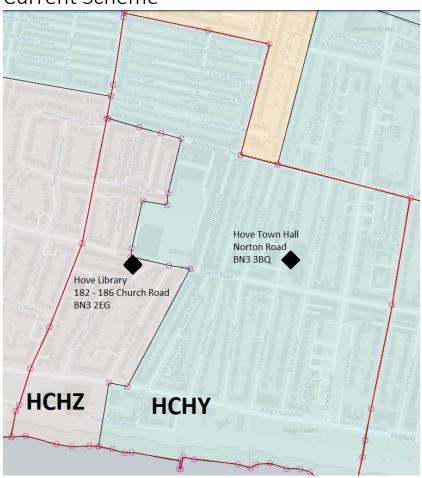
We must receive your views by Sunday 28 September 2025 for them to be considered in this review

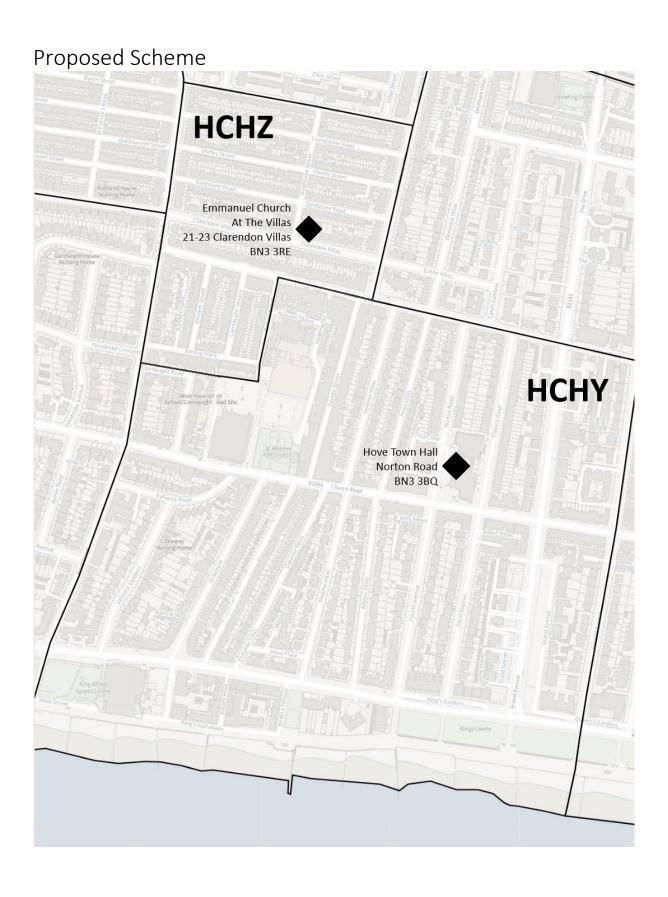
Central Hove, Hove and Portslade

The current scheme includes Hove Library as the polling place for polling district HCHZ. The library's functions have since changed to host one of the city's two Help Desks to provide in-person support to residents. To prevent interference with this function, it is proposed to remove Hove Library from the scheme.

This change provides an opportunity to revisit the polling district boundaries for this ward, to provide more locally situated polling stations for a higher number of electors. A new polling place at Emmanual Church, Clarendon Villas is therefore proposed, with amended polling district boundaries.

Constituency	Polling District	Polling District Electorate	Polling Place Electorate	Polling Place
Hove and Portslade	НСНҮ	6661	5781	Hove Town Hall, Norton Road, BN3 3BQ
Hove and Portslade	HCHZ	2178	1945	Emmanuel Church, At The Villas, 21- 23 Clarendon Villas, BN3 3RE





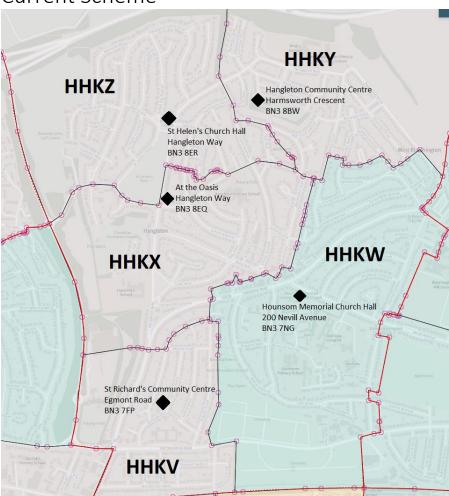
Hangleton & Knoll, Hove and Portslade

The current scheme includes St Helen's Church Hall as the polling place for polling district HHKZ. St Helen's Church Hall has limited step-free access and therefore provides reduced accessibility for some electors. It is therefore proposed to remove St Helen's Church Hall from the scheme.

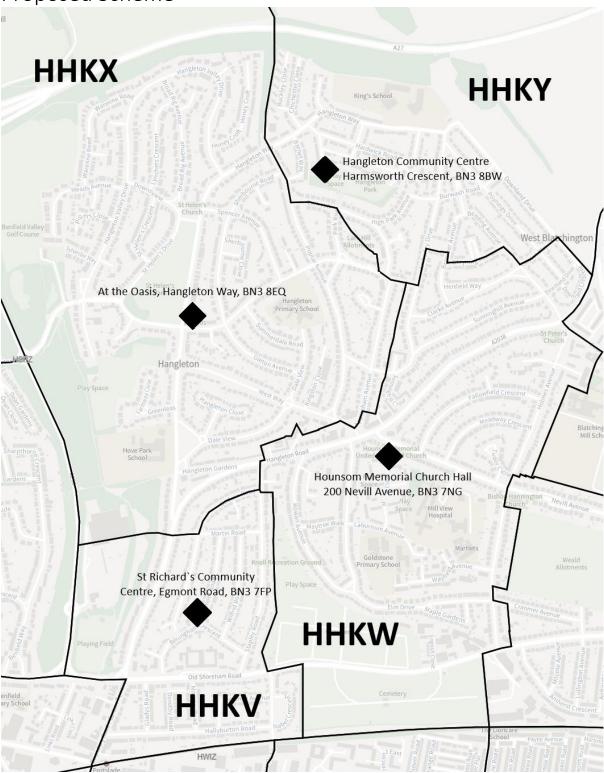
The most suitable alternative polling place for electors in this polling district has been identified as At the Oasis, Hangleton Way. This venue currently serves as a polling place for polling district HHKX, and has full level access from the street into the hall.

It is therefore proposed to merge polling districts HHKZ and HHKX to create a double station. This aligns with the review's principles of increasing accessibility for disabled voters, and creating more double polling stations to increase the number of senior staff available at each polling place.

Constituency	Polling District	Polling District Electorate	Polling Place Electorate	Polling Place
Hove and Portslade	ННКУ	2011	1658	St Richard`s Community Centre, Egmont Road, BN3 7FP
Hove and Portslade	HHKW	3547	2886	Hounsom Memorial Church Hall, 200 Nevill Avenue, BN3 7NG
Hove and Portslade	ннкх	3765	2947	At the Oasis, Hangleton Way, BN3 8EQ
Hove and Portslade	ННКҮ	1974	1601	Hangleton Community Centre, Harmsworth Crescent, BN3 8BW



Proposed Scheme



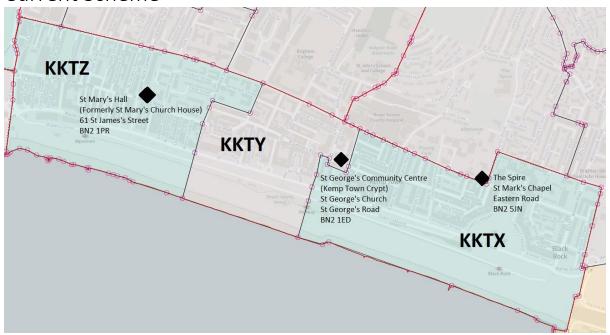
Kemptown, Brighton Kemptown and Peacehaven

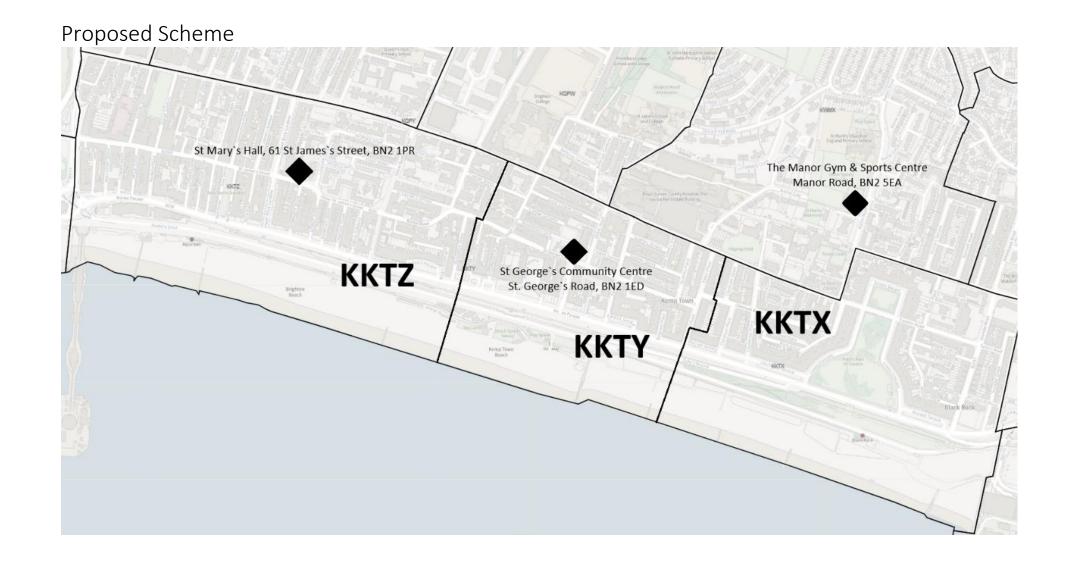
The current scheme includes The Spire as the polling place for polling district KKTX. The Spire is no longer able to serve as a polling place due to structural problems with the building. The Spire is therefore being removed from the scheme.

It is proposed to redraw the polling district boundaries in order to locate the remaining two polling places in the heart of their polling districts, resulting in a more local polling station for a higher number of electors. Polling district KKTX would therefore reduce in size, and its remaining electors be allocated to The Manor Gym & Sports Centre.

The Manor Gym currently serves as a polling place for Whitehawk & Marina. This proposal would therefore align with this review's principle of increasing the number of double polling stations.

Constituency	Polling District	Polling District Electorate	Polling Place Electorate	Polling Place
Brighton Kemptown and Peacehaven	ККТХ	2185	1835	The Manor Gym & Sports Centre, Manor Road, BN2 5EA
Brighton Kemptown and Peacehaven	ККТҮ	2302	2016	St George`s Community Centre (Kemp Town Crypt), St. George`s Church, St. George`s Road, BN2 1ED
Brighton Kemptown and Peacehaven	KKTZ	4696	4071	St Mary`s Hall, 61 St James`s Street, BN2 1PR



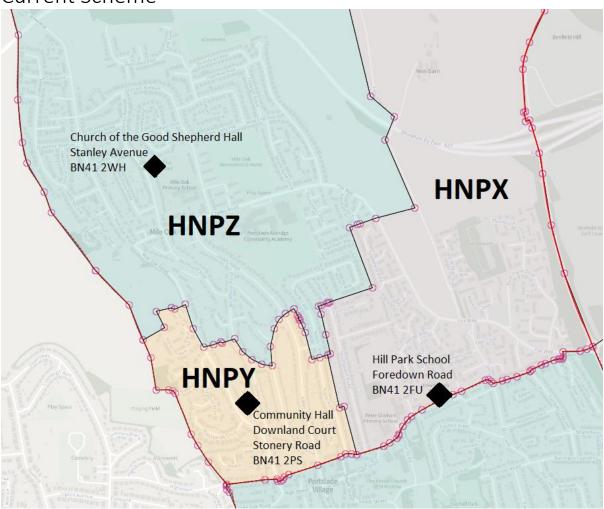


North Portslade, Hove and Portslade

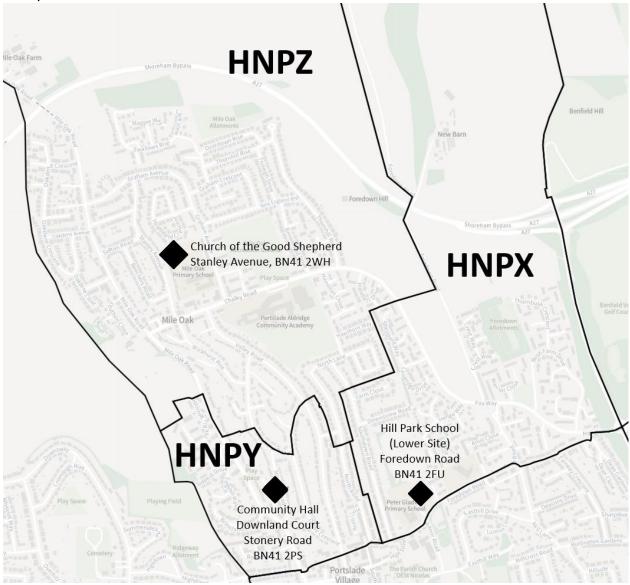
The current scheme includes the Church of the Good Shepherd Hall as the polling place for polling district HNPZ. There is a significant lip at the entrance of this hall, reducing accessibility for some electors. It is therefore proposed to change the polling place to the church itself, which has no lip on the threshold.

No polling district boundary changes are proposed for this ward.

Constituency	Polling District	Polling District Electorate	Polling Place Electorate	Polling Place
Hove and Portslade	HNPX	2003	1596	Hill Park School (Lower Site), Foredown Road, BN41 2FU
Hove and Portslade	HNPY	1536	1287	Community Hall, Downland Court, Stonery Road, BN41 2PS
Hove and Portslade	HNPZ	4243	3536	Church of the Good Shepherd, Stanley Avenue, BN41 2WH



Proposed Scheme

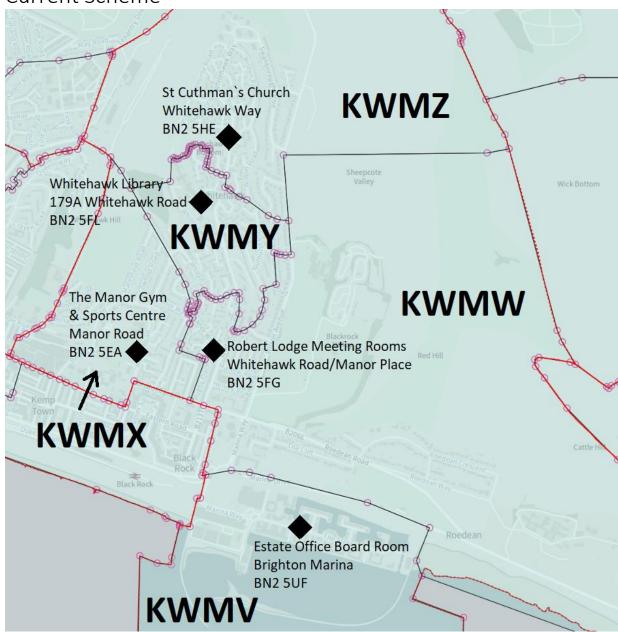


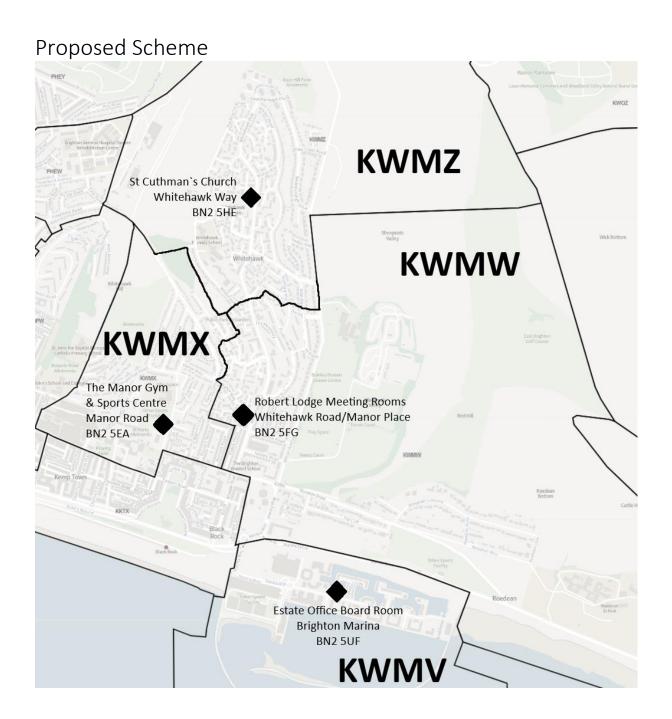
Whitehawk & Marina, Brighton Kemptown and Peacehaven

The current scheme includes Whitehawk Library as the polling place for polling district KWMY. Whitehawk Library currently serves as an access point to council services for residents who don't have access to the internet, or who require library staff support in order to self-serve. The library must close to the public on election day, resulting in reduced access to council services for some residents. It is therefore proposed to remove Whitehawk Library from the scheme.

It is proposed to split polling district KWMY, and for it to be absorbed by three neighbouring polling districts. Electors would vote at the established polling places for these districts: Robert Lodge Meeting Rooms (KWMW), The Manor Gym & Sports Centre (KWMX), and St Cuthman's Church (KWMZ).

Constituency	Polling District	Polling District Electorate	Polling Place Electorate	Polling Place
Brighton Kemptown and Peacehaven	KWMV	1140	937	Estate Office Board Room, Brighton Marina, BN2 5UF
Brighton Kemptown and Peacehaven	KWMW	2582	2119	Robert Lodge Meeting Rooms, Whitehawk Road/Manor Place, BN2 5FG
Brighton Kemptown and Peacehaven	KWMX	2169	1780	The Manor Gym & Sports Centre, Manor Road, BN2 5EA
Brighton Kemptown and Peacehaven	KWMZ	2785	2288	St Cuthman's Church, Whitehawk Way, BN2 5HE





Woodingdean, Brighton Kemptown and Peacehaven

The current scheme includes Woodingdean Library as the polling place for polling district KWOZ. Woodingdean Library currently serves as an access point to council services for residents who don't have access to the internet, or who require library staff support in order to self-serve. The library must close to the public on election day, resulting in reduced access to council services for some residents. It is therefore proposed to remove Woodingdean Library from the scheme.

The most suitable alternative polling place for electors in this polling district has been identified as the Parish Room, Church of the Holy Cross. This venue currently serves as a polling place for polling district KWOY.

It is therefore proposed to merge polling districts KWOZ and KWOY to create a double station. This aligns with the review's principle of creating more double polling stations to increase the number of senior staff available at each polling place.

Constituency	Polling District	Polling District Electorate	Polling Place Electorate	Polling Place
Brighton Kemptown and Peacehaven	KWOW	1941	1579	St Patrick`s Church Hall, Broad Green, BN2 6TB
Brighton Kemptown and Peacehaven	KWOX	2016	1625	Woodingdean Methodist Church Hall, 117 The Ridgway, BN2 6PA
Brighton Kemptown and Peacehaven	KWOY	3512	2776	Parish Room, Church of the Holy Cross, Downsway, BN2 6BD

