

Policy and Resources Committee – 3rd November 2025

1. Purpose of the Report

To consider proposed changes to Faversham Town Council’s electoral arrangements and parish boundaries as part of the current Community Governance Review (CGR), and to agree recommendations for submission to Swale Borough Council.

2. Background

Swale Borough Council is undertaking a Community Governance Review to ensure that parish governance arrangements across the Borough reflect local identities and interests, and are effective and convenient.

Faversham Town Council should review the current electoral arrangements and boundaries in light of recent development, growth in housing and population, and anticipated future changes through local government reorganisation.

3. Potential Changes to Councillor Representation

Based on population growth and planned housing developments, particularly in the south and west of the town, it is suggested that the number of councillors for the following wards could be amended:

Ward	Current Councillors	Proposed Councillors	Rationale
Watling 4		Increase to 5 or 6	Reflects additional population growth south of the A2
Priory 2		3	Reflects new housing developments

These adjustments would ensure a fairer distribution of electors per councillor across wards.

4. Boundary Amendments

Some potential boundary amendments for discussion:

1. Southern Boundary (M2 Corridor)

- The town boundary follow the M2 motorway, transferring the land south of the M2 to Ospringe Parish Council, but incorporating land north of the M2 currently within Selling and Boughton and Courtenay Parish Councils, particularly the Duchy of Cornwall land, into Faversham Town Council’s boundary.
- This aligns boundaries with logical physical features and with the pattern of future development.

2. Brogdale Road Boundary

- The boundary be realigned along Brogdale Road, following the ownership of the Perry Court land, to ensure that all of this development falls within Faversham Town Council's boundary.

These changes could create more coherent administrative boundaries and ensure communities are represented by the council that would more likely serve that area.

5. Further Considerations: Local Government Reorganisation

In light of ongoing discussions regarding local government reorganisation and potential changes to district and parish structures, Faversham Town Council should also consider the broader relationship with smaller neighbouring parishes.

- Luddenham currently operates only as a Parish Meeting. Consideration could be given to its future representation within Faversham's boundary, should reorganisation proceed.
- Oare Parish Council borders Faversham closely and may be appropriate to approach for an initial discussion regarding shared boundaries and community interests.
- As part of the review, discussions and contact should be initiated with Ospringe, Selling, and Boughton and Courtenay Parish Councils regarding the proposed amendments that affect their boundaries.

6. Financial and Governance Implications

Any increase in councillor numbers would have a minor financial impact on any future members' allowances and election costs but would ensure more equitable representation.

Boundary adjustments will require formal consultation and agreement through Swale Borough Council as part of the CGR process.

7. Recommendations

The Policy and Resources Committee to make recommendations to Full Council on possible changes:

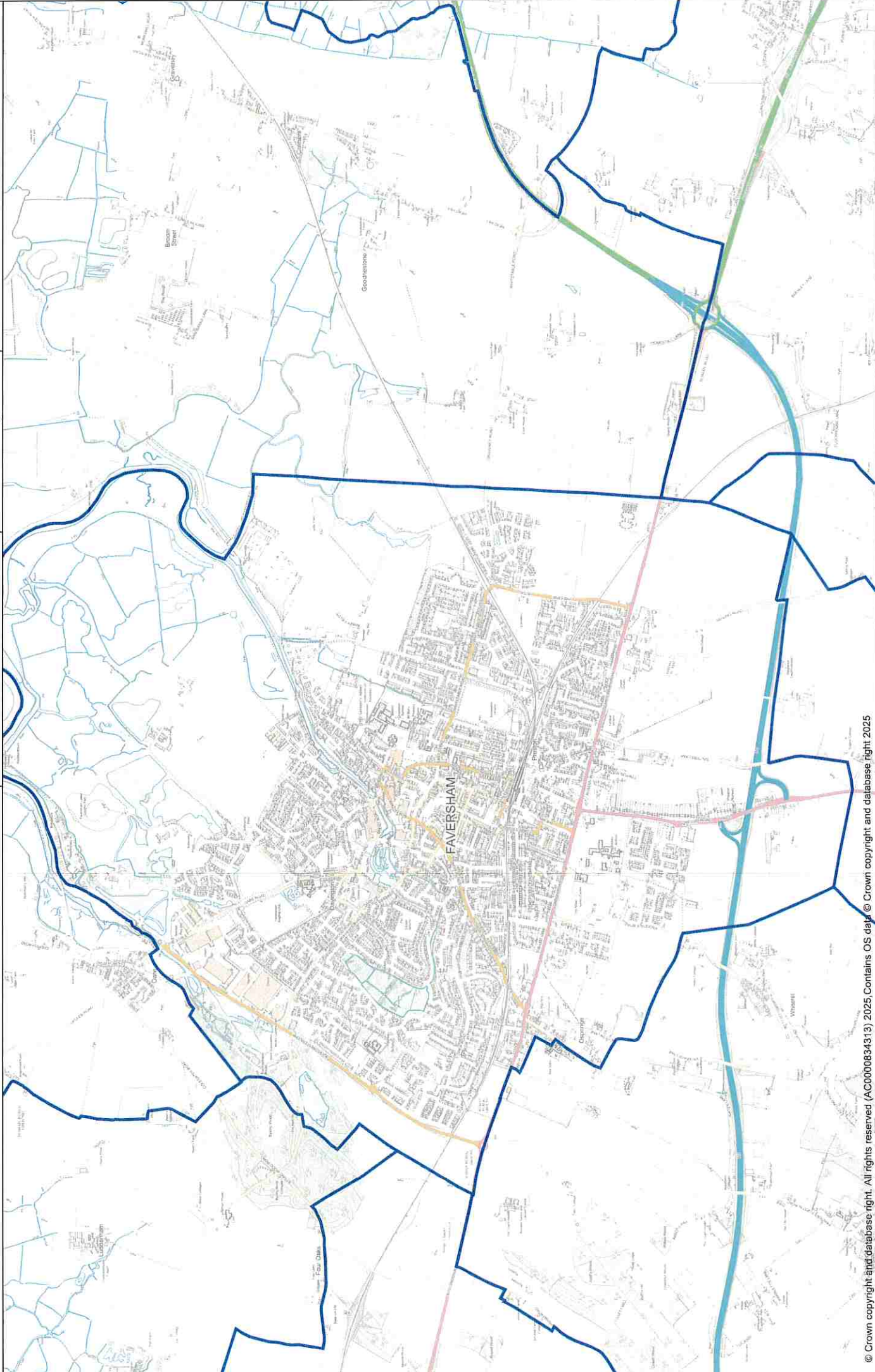
1. **Considers in principle** an increase in councillor representation for:
 - Watling Ward (from 4 to 5 or more councillors – to be confirmed following electorate projections)
 - Priory Ward (from 2 to 3 councillors)
2. **Considers the proposed boundary changes** to:

- Move the southern boundary to align with the M2 motorway, transferring land south of the M2 to Ospringe Parish and incorporating Duchy land from Selling and Boughton and Courtenay Parishes into Faversham.
 - Adjust the Brogdale Road boundary in line with Perry Court land ownership.
 - Any other identified boundary change.
3. Considers whether to initiate contact and discussions with Ospringe, Selling, Boughton and Courtenay, and any other affected parish councils.
 4. Notes the potential future consideration of Luddenham and Oare parishes in the context of local government reorganisation.
 5. Recommends to Full Council that these proposals be submitted to Swale Borough Council as part of Faversham Town Council's response to the Community Governance Review.

Any proposals are to be submitted to Swale Borough council no later than 24th November 2025.



Scale: 1:25000 @ A4





Scale: 1:15000 @ A4

