

Crawley Borough Council

	Report No:LDS/8	B
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Report to General Purposes Committee

2nd February 2009

Amendments to Polling Districts

1. Key Points

- 1.1 This report proposes the creation of additional polling districts in Northgate and Three Bridges wards to reflect changes to the West Sussex County Divisions.

2. Recommendations

That full Council be RECOMMENDED to approve the designation of Polling Districts LIA, LIB, LMB and LMC as shown on the maps at appendix A

ANN-MARIA BROWN
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

3. Background

- 3.1 The Representation of the People Act 1983 places a duty on the Council to divide the Borough into polling districts and to make changes when appropriate. A complete review of the Borough was carried out and approved by Council in October 2007.
- 3.2 Changes are needed in Three Bridges and Northgate to accommodate changes to the West Sussex County Council Divisions.

4. Content

- 4.1 Changes to West Sussex County Divisions come in to force this year. The new divisions within Crawley are:

Bewbush and Ifield West
Broadfield
Gossops Green and Ifield East
Langley Green and West Green
Maidenbower
Northgate and Three Bridges
Pound Hill and Worth
Southgate and Crawley Central
Tilgate and Furnace Green

- 4.2 The new boundaries follow existing ward or polling district boundaries except in the new Southgate and Crawley Central division which includes the town centre part of Northgate and the former leisure centre development site in Three Bridges. New polling districts need to be created in these two wards so that electors in these areas vote in the correct West Sussex County Division. Although electors will still continue to vote at their existing polling stations.
- 4.3 Northgate ward will need to be divided in to two polling districts LIA and LIB as shown on the map in appendix A. Currently there are 28 properties to be transferred to polling district LIB.
- 4.4 The existing Three Bridges polling district LMB will need to be divided into LMB and LMC as shown in appendix A. The residential dwellings in polling district LMC will comprise of the 838 properties being constructed on the former leisure centre site.
- 4.5 Voters in these new polling districts would be able to vote in their existing polling stations – at Northgate this is Northgate Primary School and for LMB and LMC it is the Three Bridges Community Centre.

5. Ward Members' Views

- 5.1. The view of ward members will be reported to the meeting.

6 Staffing, Equalities, Financial and Legal Implications/Powers

- 6.1 The Council has a duty to divide the borough into appropriate polling districts and to keep the boundaries under review.

7. Risk Implications

- 7.1 None

8. Links to the Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Plan

- 8.1 The proposals contained in this report relate to the following key areas of the Sustainable Community Strategy

Community Cohesion	y	Community Safety	
Young People and Children	y	Health and Well Being	
Older People	y	The Environment	
The Local Economy	y	Social Inclusion	y

The following key principles are applicable:-

- | | |
|---|---|
| (i) Working together | y |
| (ii) Dignity, respect and opportunities for all | y |
| (iii) Involving People | y |
| (iv) Making it last | y |

The report relates to the following areas in which the Council operates to enhance the town and the quality of life of local people:-

- | | |
|--|---|
| (i) <u>Our Communities:</u> (ensuring they are safe, healthy, cohesive and enjoyable) | y |
| (ii) <u>Our Environment:</u> (ensuring that it is attractive, clean, protected and sustainable) | |
| (iii) <u>Our Economy:</u> (ensuring it is thriving, vibrant and prosperous) | |
| (iv) <u>Our Council:</u> (ensuring it is engaging, transparent, business-like with a social conscience, cost-effective and a place-shaping community leader) | y |

9 Reasons for the Recommendation

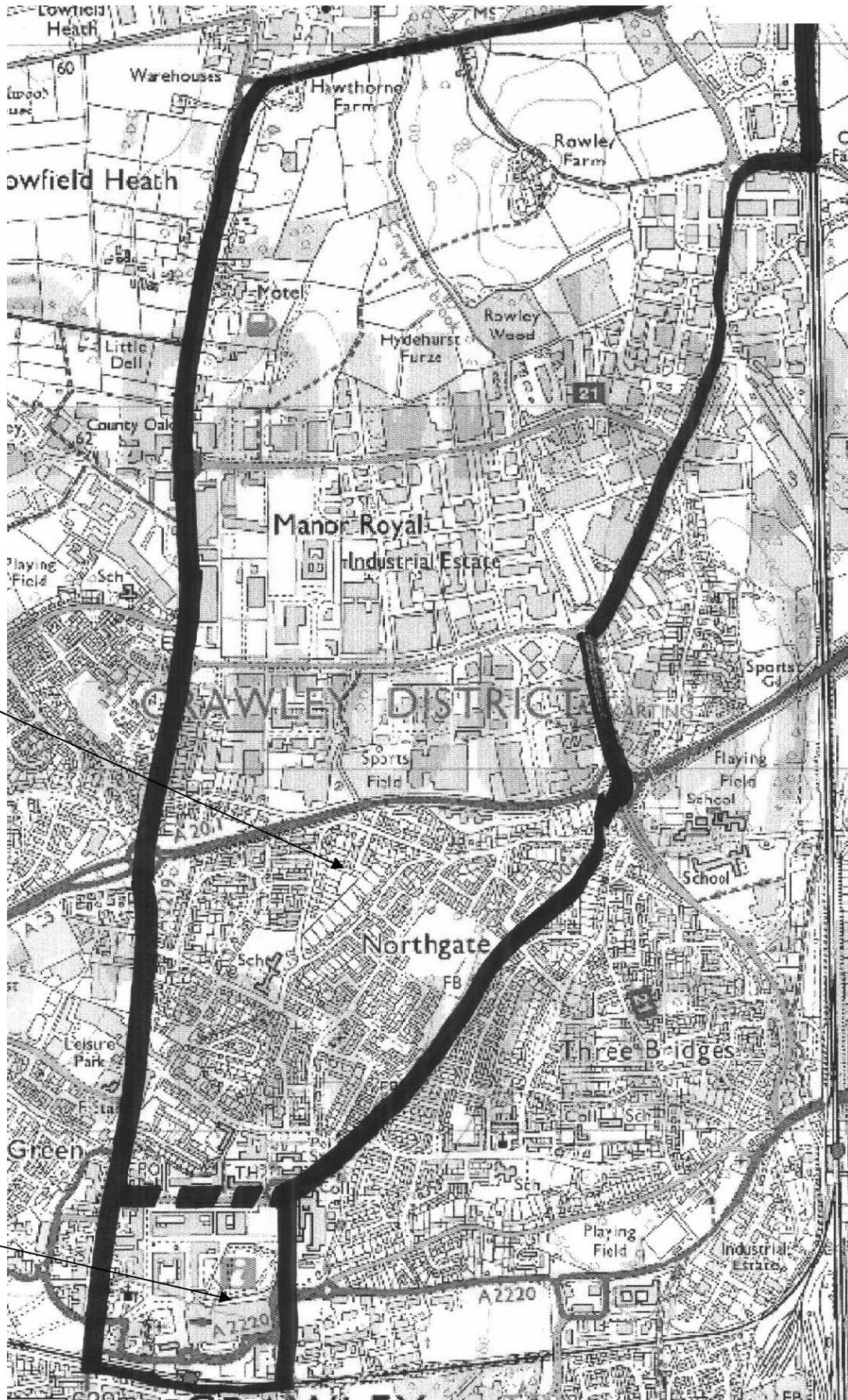
- 9.1 To ensure that polling district boundaries reflect the new West Sussex County division boundaries.

10 Background Papers

10.1 Representation of the People Act 1983

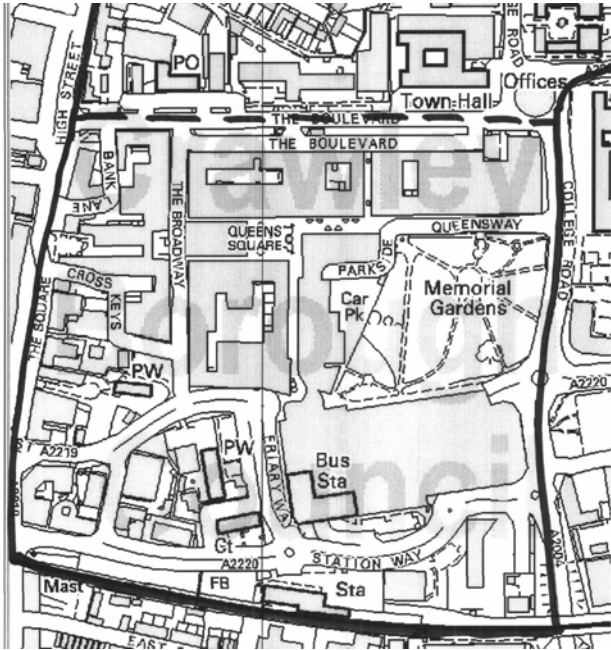
10.2 Boundary committee for England – Future electoral arrangements of West Sussex County Council

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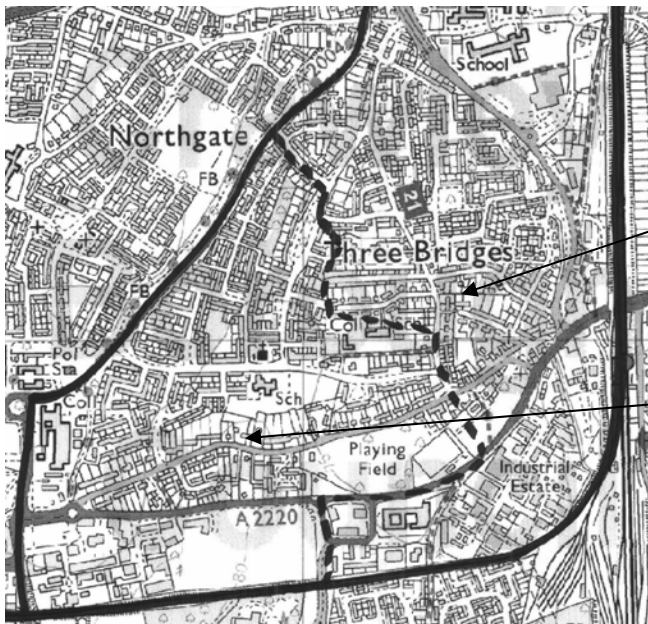


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Northgate LIB



Three Bridges LMB and LMC Polling District



Three
Bridges
LMB

Three
Bridges
LMC