

Appendix 1 - Electorate Forecast Methodology

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The below methodology outlines the steps that have been taken to produce the electoral forecast for the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames required as part of the electoral review undertaken by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE).
- 1.2. The table below shows the projected populations produced by the Greater London Authority (GLA) and the Office for National Statistics (ONS) for the borough. As the population projections will be used to calculate the electoral forecast only those aged 18 and over have been included in the projections.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
GLA Housing-led (2016 based)	140800	142300	143800	145200	146500	147600	148700
ONS SNPP	140600	141900	143100	144500	145700	147100	148500

Table 1: *The adult population projections from the GLA and ONS comparison*

- 1.3. The Greater London Authority (GLA) housing led 2016 base population projections were used to calculate the projections rather than the ONS subnational population projections (SNPP) recommended by the LGBCE. This is because the GLA projections are considered to be more representative of a London Borough demographic and are therefore deemed to be a more robust forecast of the population. Importantly, these projections are not just unconstrained population growth: they take into account the availability of homes, which has an impact on where people choose to live and therefore local population growth.

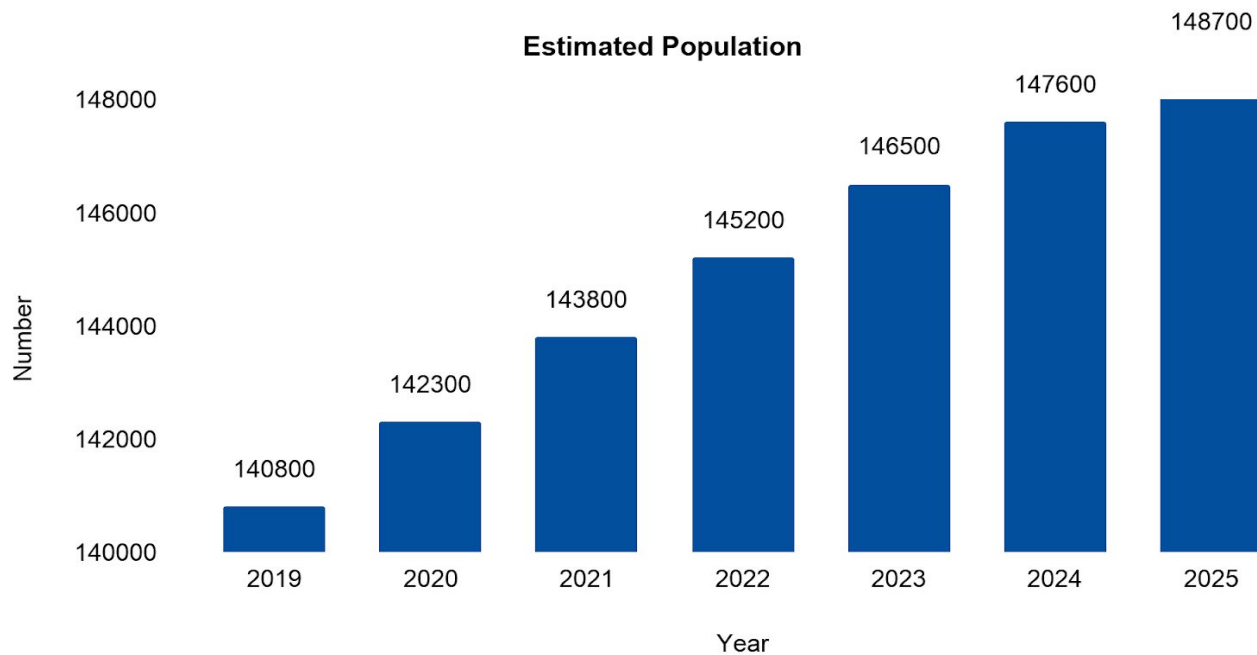


Figure 1: Chart to show GLA population projection increase from 2019 - 2025

- 1.4. The GLA housing led population projections use two sets of information to assess how many homes will come forward: for the first few years, actual completions figures are used from the [London Development Database \(LDD\)](#), a collaborative project between the Mayor of London and the London boroughs to monitor planning permissions, starts and completions. For future years to 2041, the 2016 Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) development trajectory is used. This determines the quantity and suitability of land potentially available for housing developments and therefore the likely number of new homes that are likely to come forward in an area. The SHLAA includes sites in previous SHLAAs, sites allocated for development in development plans, sites with planning permission, sites identified by land owners and other interested parties through a 'call for sites' exercise (where these have been agreed with the boroughs for inclusion) and sites identified through development capacity studies undertaken by the GLA. This includes information from the LDD. These are then assessed for their suitability for housing developments together with the boroughs, including the probability of a site coming forward and when in the future that might be. Smaller sites under 0.25 hectares are estimated by the SHLAA through a modelling exercise where housing completions are adjusted to account for changes in planning policy in the London Plan.

- 1.5. This means that the SHLAA, and therefore the housing-led population projections, already takes into account any additional housing and accounts for the likely timescales for the new homes to become available. It also translates these new homes into likely population change because the relationship between new homes and population increases (including the eligibility of people to register to vote) is not straight-forward. For example, there are a large number of hidden households such as adult children living with parents or other family. If these 'adult-children' move into their own home, this does not result in an additional registration on the electoral register, merely the move of electoral registration from one property to another (although it may be in a different ward).
- 1.6. The GLA housing led 2016 base population projection takes into account housing developments in Kingston in the time period measured. The population projections have not been adjusted further because there are no major housing developments which the Council believes will be completed in the borough over the period to 2025 that have not already been accounted for. If development sites were to be separately included, this would result in double-counting. The council has been made aware of a very small number of sites in Metropolitan Open Land/Green Belt which are not included in the SHLAA and which, if approved for release would result in significant housing numbers. However, the test for release through a planning application is "very special circumstances" and through the local plan process is "exceptional circumstances". Additionally, the draft new London Plan strengthens protections for Green Belt, and this is scheduled to replace the current London Plan at the end of 2019. In both cases these are very significant hurdles and therefore the likelihood of these sites delivering new homes at all, or if so, by 2025 is *de minimus*, and therefore these sites have not been separately included.

2. Borough Level forecast

- 2.1. To produce the electorate forecast the council has calculated the average percentage of registered electors compared to the over-18 population estimate for the last three years (2017-2019).
- 2.2. The percentage of registered electors to the over-18 population for 2017, 2018 and 2019 was calculated for the borough using the latest figures from the February 2019 electoral register (the most recent publication) and the local government electorate at the same point for 2017 and 2018. The nationwide transition to Individual Electoral Registration was only completed in December 2015. Therefore it was felt that using data from February 2016 (immediately after the end of the transition) and earlier years could distort the figures. Each year's local government electorate was compared against the over-18 population estimate for Kingston from the GLA population projections for that year.
- 2.3. Having calculated the average percentage of electors to over-18 population for the 2017, 2018 and 2019 February registers, this figure was applied to the 2025 estimated over-18 population figure to calculate the estimated electorate figure for 2025. The ratios for 2017, 2018 and 2019 were averaged to produce a final ratio that is more representative of the relationship between the electorate/population.
- 2.4. The table identifies an adult population increase of 5.6% for Kingston. This finding is similar to the London increase of 6.4%.

	2017	2018	2019	2025 estimate
Number of local government electors	117,170	116,720	115,480	123,489
Number of electors per councillor	2,441	2,432	2,406	2,573
Adult population (aged 18 and over) (approx)	139,600	140,200	140,800	148,700
Percentage of registered electors to adult population	84.0%	83.2%	82.0%	83.1% (based on three year average)

Table 2: Forecast figures for RBK at the borough level

Note: The population projection figures have been rounded to the nearest 100. Calculations were made on the exact figure.

3. Ward level forecast

- 3.1. The GLA produces ward level population projections which also incorporates the 2016 Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) development trajectory.
- 3.2. To forecast the future electorate for individual wards in the borough the same approach was taken as for the borough level forecast. The percentage of registered electors to the adult population for 2017, 2018 and 2019 was calculated for each ward in the borough using the latest figures from the February 2019 electoral register (the most recent publication) and the local government electorate at the same point for 2017 and 2018. Each year's local government electorate was compared against the adult population estimate for Kingston from the GLA housing led 2016 base population projections for that year.

Ward	2017 estimated adult population (GLA)	Electorate February 2017	2017 % of electors to adult population	2018 estimated adult population (GLA)	Electorate February 2018	2018 % of electors to adult population	2019 estimated adult population (GLA)	Electorate February 2019	2019 % of electors to adult population	Average % of electors to adult population	2025 estimated adult population (GLA)	2025 estimated electorate
Alexandra	7783	7136	91.7%	7797	7130	91.4%	7806	7038	90.2%	91.1%	9087	8278
Berrylands	8420	7119	84.5%	8439	7030	83.3%	8451	7037	83.3%	83.7%	8827	7389
Beverley	8636	7509	86.9%	8652	7425	85.8%	8657	7402	85.5%	86.1%	9374	8070
Canbury	11558	9078	78.5%	11789	9143	77.6%	12018	9120	75.9%	77.3%	12108	9363
Chessington North & Hook	7199	6809	94.6%	7206	6801	94.4%	7203	6719	93.3%	94.1%	7372	6936
Chessington South	8515	7835	92.0%	8564	7869	91.9%	8624	7819	90.7%	91.5%	8800	8054
Coombe Hill	8820	6713	76.1%	8853	6631	74.9%	8867	6551	73.9%	75.0%	8765	6571
Coombe Vale	7994	7170	89.7%	8010	7126	89.0%	8021	7071	88.2%	88.9%	8286	7369

Grove	10733	7517	70.0%	10790	7390	68.5%	10826	7276	67.2%	68.6%	12755	8747
Norbiton	8832	6992	79.2%	8860	6973	78.7%	8877	6855	77.2%	78.4%	9583	7510
Old Malden	7849	7231	92.1%	7868	7245	92.1%	7877	7187	91.2%	91.8%	8578	7876
St James	7439	6759	90.9%	7455	6798	91.2%	7467	6711	89.9%	90.6%	7872	7135
St Mark's	10433	6962	66.7%	10536	6940	65.9%	10591	6724	63.5%	65.4%	10394	6794
Surbiton Hill	9373	7844	83.7%	9387	7752	82.6%	9399	7597	80.8%	82.4%	9440	7775
Tolworth & Hook Rise	8330	7447	89.4%	8372	7412	88.5%	8398	7317	87.1%	88.4%	9758	8622
Tudor	7647	7049	92.2%	7677	7055	91.9%	7713	7056	91.5%	91.9%	7640	7018

Table 3: Ward forecast figures for RBK

Note: GLA figures are unrounded due to being used in calculations. Please note the level of precision in this table should not be mistaken for a declaration of accuracy. Totals may not sum due to rounding. (for more information [click here](#))

3.3. As per the table above, in February 2019, the lowest percentage of registered electors to the estimated adult population is in St Mark's ward (63.5%) and the highest is in Chessington North & Hook (93.3%). Across the borough the percentage of the adult population registered to vote will be impacted, not only by low registration rates in some wards, but also by the housing types and the proportion of the adult population who are eligible to register to vote. (See section 5 'Other considerations for warding' for more information)

4. Polling district level forecast

- 4.1. Having produced a projected electorate for each ward it was possible to calculate a polling district forecast using the average number of electors, as a percentage of the ward electorate, within each polling district for 2017, 2018 and 2019. The average of these three years was then used to calculate the projected ward electorate across the polling districts for that ward (see table below).

Polling District	Existing Ward	Electorate February 2017	2017 % of ward electorate	Electorate February 2018	2018 % of ward electorate	Electorate February 2019	2018 % of ward electorate	Average % of electorate at each polling station	Ward electorate prediction	Predicted electorate forecast at polling district level for 2025
A	Berrylands	1567	22.0%	1560	22.2%	1564	22.2%	22.1%	7389	1636
AA	Berrylands	2871	40.3%	2843	40.4%	2909	41.3%	40.7%		3007
AB	Berrylands	2681	37.7%	2627	37.4%	2564	36.4%	37.2%		2745
B	Beverley	1149	15.3%	1132	15.2%	1132	15.3%	15.3%	8070	1233
BA	Beverley	2003	26.7%	1981	26.7%	1984	26.8%	26.7%		2156
BB	Beverley	1555	20.7%	1551	20.9%	1554	21.0%	20.9%		1684
BC	Beverley	2802	37.3%	2761	37.2%	2732	36.9%	37.1%		2997
C	Chessington North & Hook	2774	40.7%	2760	40.6%	2708	40.3%	40.5%	6936	2812
CA	Chessington North & Hook	2601	38.2%	2617	38.5%	2613	38.9%	38.5%		2672
CB	Chessington North & Hook	1434	21.1%	1424	20.9%	1398	20.8%	20.9%		1452
D	Chessington South	2971	37.9%	2977	37.8%	3003	38.4%	38.1%	8054	3065
DA	Chessington South	2350	30.0%	2385	30.3%	2343	30.0%	30.1%		2423

DB	Chessington South	2170	27.7%	2159	27.4%	2134	27.3%	27.5%		2213
DC	Chessington South	344	4.4%	348	4.4%	339	4.3%	4.4%		353
E	Grove	1739	23.1%	1765	23.9%	1779	24.5%	23.8%	8747	2084
EA	Grove	3409	45.4%	3323	45.0%	3235	44.5%	44.9%		3930
EB	Grove	2369	31.5%	2302	31.2%	2262	31.1%	31.3%		2734
F	Alexandra	2430	34.1%	2432	34.1%	2398	34.1%	34.1%	8278	2821
FA	Alexandra	1721	24.1%	1699	23.8%	1696	24.1%	24.0%		1988
FB	Alexandra	2985	41.8%	2999	42.1%	2944	41.8%	41.9%		3469
G	Old Malden	2796	38.7%	2821	38.9%	2816	39.2%	38.9%	7876	3066
GA	Old Malden	3590	49.6%	3592	49.6%	3543	49.3%	49.5%		3899
GB	Old Malden	845	11.7%	832	11.5%	828	11.5%	11.6%		911
H	Norbiton	2394	34.2%	2359	33.8%	2331	34.0%	34.0%	7510	2555
HA	Norbiton	2657	38.0%	2684	38.5%	2631	38.4%	38.3%		2875
HB	Norbiton	1941	27.8%	1930	27.7%	1893	27.6%	27.7%		2079
J	Tolworth & Hook Rise	2231	30.0%	2230	30.1%	2167	29.6%	29.9%	8622	2577
JA	Tolworth & Hook Rise	3200	43.0%	3180	42.9%	3165	43.3%	43.0%		3711
JB	Tolworth & Hook Rise	2016	27.1%	2002	27.0%	1985	27.1%	27.1%		2334
K	St James	2496	36.9%	2514	37.0%	2483	37.0%	37.0%	7135	2638
KA	St James	1304	19.3%	1296	19.1%	1285	19.1%	19.2%		1368
KB	St James	2959	43.8%	2988	44.0%	2943	43.9%	43.9%		3130
L	St Marks	2179	31.3%	2165	31.2%	2080	30.9%	31.1%	6794	2116

LA	St Marks	2660	38.2%	2619	37.7%	2501	37.2%	37.7%		2562
LB	St Marks	2123	30.5%	2156	31.1%	2143	31.9%	31.1%		2116
M	Surbiton Hill	3053	38.9%	3007	38.8%	2903	38.2%	38.6%	7775	3004
MA	Surbiton Hill	2217	28.3%	2149	27.7%	2113	27.8%	27.9%		2172
MB	Surbiton Hill	2574	32.8%	2596	33.5%	2581	34.0%	33.4%		2599
S	Coombe Vale	2111	29.4%	2136	30.0%	2077	29.4%	29.6%	7369	2181
SA	Coombe Vale	1566	21.8%	1527	21.4%	1514	21.4%	21.6%		1589
SB	Coombe Vale	3493	48.7%	3463	48.6%	3480	49.2%	48.8%		3599
T	Canbury	2384	26.3%	2380	26.0%	2372	26.0%	26.1%	9363	2444
TA	Canbury	1831	20.2%	1822	19.9%	1811	19.9%	20.0%		1871
TB	Canbury	3475	38.3%	3539	38.7%	3566	39.1%	38.7%		3623
TC	Canbury	1388	15.3%	1402	15.3%	1371	15.0%	15.2%		1425
U	Coombe Hill	2275	33.9%	2214	33.4%	2177	33.2%	33.5%	6571	2201
UA	Coombe Hill	2157	32.1%	2145	32.3%	2164	33.0%	32.5%		2136
UB	Coombe Hill	1064	15.8%	1071	16.2%	1046	16.0%	16.0%		1051
UC	Coombe Hill	1217	18.1%	1201	18.1%	1164	17.8%	18.0%		1183
V	Tudor	1311	18.6%	1307	18.5%	1304	18.5%	18.5%	7018	1301
VA	Tudor	2044	29.0%	2053	29.1%	2067	29.3%	29.1%		2044
VB	Tudor	2262	32.1%	2250	31.9%	2266	32.1%	32.0%		2248
VC	Tudor	1432	20.3%	1445	20.5%	1419	20.1%	20.3%		1425

Table 5: Polling District forecast figures for RBK

5. Other considerations for warding

5.1. Student population and University Halls of residence

- 5.1.1. There are university halls of residence in Beverley, Grove, Norbiton, St Mark's and Coombe Hill wards. Prior to the introduction of Individual Electoral Registration (IER) in 2014 Kingston University would provide the council with details of all students living in halls of residences to allow the Electoral Registration Officer to automatically register students. Following the introduction of IER there has been a reduction in the electorate of these wards because there is now a requirement for each student to register to vote individually. The council works with Kingston University to collect contact details of students to encourage registration, however many students prefer to only register to vote at their 'home' (i.e. non-term time address). There are also a number of overseas students and are not eligible to register due to their nationality.

Polling District	Ward	Number of Rooms in student halls	2013 registration rates (Pre-IER)	Number of students registered in halls
B	Beverley	313	Not built yet	12
E	Grove	329	129	21
EA	Grove	410	156	32
EB	Grove	90	Not built yet	5
H	Norbiton	143	Not built yet	9
HA	Norbiton	130	Not built yet	20
L	St Marks	734	574	27
LB	St Marks	722	560	66
UA	Coombe Hill	491	349	46
Borough Total		3362	1,768	238

Table 6: Location and volume of Halls of Residence located within the Royal Borough of Kingston and changes in registration rates

5.1.2. There are also students living in private rented accommodation across the borough and the table below details the volume of properties in each ward receiving a student exemption for their Council Tax and how these are distributed throughout the borough.

Ward	Number of properties in ward*	Total Number of properties receiving a student exemption per Council Tax	% of total properties in ward in receipt of student council tax exemption	% of total properties across the borough in receipt of student council tax exemption
Grove	5471	594	10.86	30.18
Canbury	6194	231	3.73	11.74
Norbiton	4324	215	4.97	10.92
St Marks	4696	183	3.90	9.30
Coombe Hill	3913	148	3.78	7.52
Berrylands	4537	112	2.47	5.69
Surbiton Hill	4823	70	1.45	3.56
Alexandra	3631	66	1.82	3.35
Beverley	4456	61	1.37	3.10
Tudor	3847	59	1.53	3.00
Tolworth & Hook Rise	4046	51	1.26	2.59
Coombe Vale	3708	46	1.24	2.34
Chessington North & Hook	3503	35	1.00	1.78
Old Malden	3677	33	0.90	1.68
St James	3406	32	0.94	1.63
Chessington South	4172	32	0.77	1.63

Table 7: The location and volume of properties in each ward that are listed by the Council Tax department as receiving an exemption from Council Tax as the property is occupied by students

* Taken from property database from the electoral register in as at February 2019 - These figures exclude 'Halls of residence', but do include individual rooms in 'Houses of Multiple Occupation' properties

5.2. Privately rented accommodation

- 5.2.1. In addition to the student population mentioned in section 5.1, both Grove and St Mark's ward have a high proportion of privately rented accommodation. Both these wards contain commuters, particularly in St Mark's due to the 'fast' South Western Railway train service to London Waterloo. Grove ward has a high number of students living in privately rented accommodation (as opposed to student halls of residences). Both these groups are known to be under-registered.

Ward	% of properties rented from private landlords or letting agencies
St Marks	37.10%
Grove	35.20%
Surbiton Hill	29.60%
Canbury	26.70%
Berrylands	25.70%
Coombe Hill	24.50%
Norbiton	22.60%
Beverley	20.70%
Coombe Vale	18.50%
Tolworth & Hook Rise	15.30%
Tudor	13.30%
St James	13.20%
Alexandra	12.30%
Old Malden	11.40%
Chessington South	8.40%
Chessington North & Hook	7.50%

Table 4: *The percentage of properties rented from private landlords or letting agencies by ward*

Source: *ONS Census 2011*

5.3. Non-eligible Nationals

- 5.3.1. There is a large Korean community in the New Malden area of the borough, primarily we believe, in the Beverley, St James and Coombe Vale wards. There are no other significant communities not eligible to register to vote within the borough.