

# Should Ashford have its own Town Council?

**Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)** means in a few years' time **Ashford Borough Council will no longer exist**. Services will move to a new, larger unitary council.

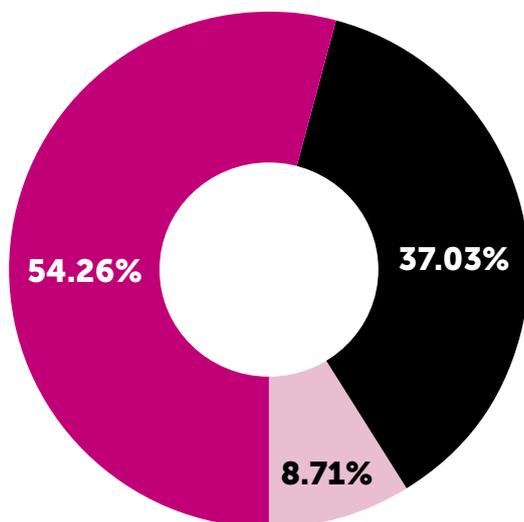
A Town Council would provide Ashford with locally elected councillors focused on the town, giving residents a strong local voice.

## Why are we asking this now?

We are carrying out this consultation as part of a Community Governance Review. This is a legal process that looks at how local areas are represented and whether any changes are needed.

At the moment, the main built-up area of Ashford does not have a town or parish council. We are now looking at whether this should change.

Late last year, we asked people living in the review area what they thought about creating a town council for Ashford. Most people said they supported the idea.



## Response rate:

**54.26%** of respondents feel that Ashford should have a town council while **37.03%** think it should not, and **8.71%** were not sure.

Based on that feedback, we have put together new proposals. These include what the new council could be called, how many councillors there would be, and how the area could be divided into wards. While we cannot provide exact details at this point, the town council would charge a precept to cover its costs which would be added to your Council Tax Bill.

No final decision has been made yet. We would now like to know what you think about these proposals, and whether a town council would help improve local democracy and community representation in Ashford.

# HAVE YOUR SAY

Our short survey only takes a few minutes to complete.

**Please give us your views by 24 April 2026.**

**To take part:** scan the QR code or visit the website

<https://www.ashford.gov.uk/your-council/local-government-reorganisation-and-devolution/community-governance-review-cgr>

If you would like a paper copy of the survey, email [corporatepolicy.team@ashford.gov.uk](mailto:corporatepolicy.team@ashford.gov.uk) or call 01233 331111.

You can also send your comments by post to:

Corporate Policy Team, Ashford Borough Council,  
International House, Dover Place,  
Ashford, Kent TN23 1HU.



## CGR Timeline



Consultation on  
town council  
proposals until  
**24 April**



Council  
decision on Town  
Council creation  
**16 July**



Shadow Town  
Council from  
**Summer  
2026**



Town Council  
elections  
**May 2027**

## Find out more

You can read more about town councils and this review on our website, including answers to frequently asked questions.

If you have any questions, please get in touch — we're happy to help.