

Appendix A

Lewisham Council suggested amendments to the Local Government Boundary Commission proposed warding pattern for Lewisham

Despite our clear and sustained preference for a three member warding pattern that would enable us to continue with the strong effective governance approach we have in Lewisham, we have reviewed the proposed warding pattern of the Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC) and broadly accept the rationale put forward. However, through careful consideration, we have identified a few areas in the borough where we think that the community and governance factors are not well met by the LGBC proposals. In these specific areas, we feel that stronger alternative boundaries could be put forward to much better meet the community identity and effective governance needs of the area without negatively impacting the electoral equality already secured by the commission.

The table below sets out the impact that our proposals would have in terms of the numbers of electors added/removed from each proposed ward and the total number of electors per ward.

Table of LGBC Proposals with Lewisham Council Submission Amendments							
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate 2025	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Minus	Plus	Result
Bellingham	2	7,592	3,796	-1%			7,592
Blackheath	3	10,960	3,653	-5%	12		10,948
Brockley	3	12,412	4,137	8%	789	658	12,281
Catford South	3	11,848	3,949	3%	149	361	12,060
Crofton Park	3	10,881	3,627	-5%			10,881
Downham	3	12,181	4,060	6%	7		12,174
Evelyn	3	11,415	3,805	-1%			11,415
Forest Hill	3	10,820	3,607	-6%			10,820
Grove Park	3	10,486	3,495	-9%		7	10,493
Hither Green	3	11,629	3,876	1%	88	612	12,153
Ladywell	3	10,636	3,545	-7%		789	11,425
Lee Green	3	10,685	3,562	-7%	17		10,668
Lewisham Central	2	7,864	3,932	3%		29	7,893
New Cross (Deptford)	3	11,901	3,967	4%	658		11,243
New Cross Gate	2	7,084	3,542	-7%			7,084
Perry Vale	3	12,556	4,185	9%			12,556
Rushey Green	3	12,408	4,136	8%	824	88	11,672
Sydenham	3	11,562	3,854	1%			11,562
Telegraph Hill	3	11,657	3,886	2%			11,657

Per Cllr/Ward	3,826	1 member
	7,651	2 members
	11,477	3 members

Range low	10,330
Range high	12,624

The LGBC grouped its recommendations for the wards as follows in its report:

- Evelyn, New Cross, New Cross Gate and Telegraph Hill
- Blackheath, Brockley, Ladywell and Lewisham Central
- Bellingham, Catford South and Rushey Green
- Downham, Grove Park, Hither Green and Lee Green
- Crofton Park, Forest Hill, Perry Vale and Sydenham

For ease, we have outlined our proposed alternatives for LGBC consideration and the reasons for our suggestions in the same groupings. We have also proposed an alternative ward name for one of the wards which we feel better reflects the area the ward covers and creates a clearer distinction with a neighbouring ward.

Evelyn, New Cross, New Cross Gate and Telegraph Hill

We have accepted the LGBC's proposals for the north of the borough with the exception of one area where we feel the proposed boundary change divides communities and impacts negatively on effective governance. The Tanners Hill estate (to the south of the A2 existing boundary with New Cross) is a strong local community which is divided between two wards in the LGBC proposals. We strongly feel that this community needs to be kept united in one ward for effective governance purposes, not least because the Council and members work closely with the Tanners Hill Tenants and Residents Association which would be split over two wards in the LGBC proposals. We have proposed therefore that Tanners Hill is returned in its entirety to Brockley ward. This would mean the return of 658 electors to Brockley, taking it over the range for electoral equality. Local informal discussions have identified a compensating area to the south of the ward that can be identified with both Ladywell and Crofton Park and we suggest that this area is added to Ladywell ward to achieve electoral equality, and enable the re-joining of the community split by the proposed changes around Tanners Hill to the north of Brockley ward.

We also propose that New Cross ward should be renamed Deptford, in recognition of the fact that the majority of the ward is in fact in Deptford rather than New Cross and to help minimise any confusion between New Cross and New Cross Gate.

Blackheath, Brockley, Ladywell and Lewisham Central

As noted above, we have proposed a small change of boundary between Brockley and Ladywell wards to facilitate a warding pattern that enables the Tanners Hill estate and surrounding community to be kept in one ward together. This compensatory change we suggest is the addition of Comerford, Kneller, Arabin and Braxfield Roads to Ladywell ward from Brockley.

We have also proposed the addition of a small number of properties to Lewisham Central from Blackheath and Lee Green for effective governance reasons as these properties are in a different ward along a busy stretch of road. These areas are highlighted on the attached map.

Bellingham, Catford South and Rushey Green

We have proposed that all of Sangley Road be moved into Catford South ward for effective governance of this busy area. We have also proposed that a small number of properties move between Hither Green, Rushey Green and Catford South for better community and governance boundaries. These are detailed in the table below.

Downham, Grove Park, Hither Green and Lee Green

We have accepted the LGBC's proposed warding pattern for Downham, Grove Park, Hither Green and Lee Green, except for some minor changes to a small number of properties between Hither Green, Lee Green, Lewisham Central and Rushey Green where we feel community identity is better served by moving some of the properties and roads into a neighbouring ward.

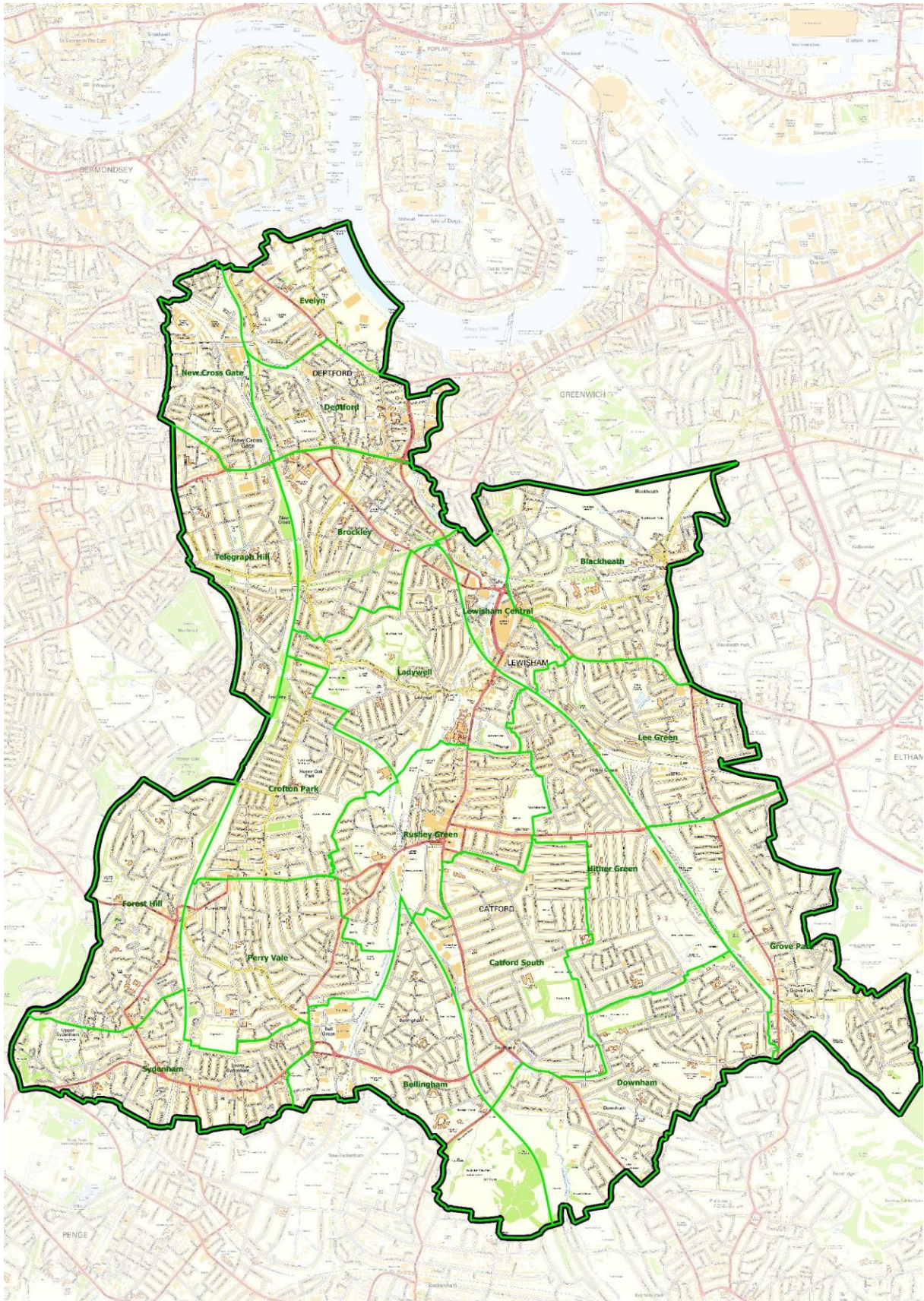
Crofton Park, Forest Hill, Perry Vale and Sydenham

We have accepted the LGBC's recommendations in these four wards in their entirety. We have no alternative proposals we wish to make in relation to the names of these wards.

Details of our suggested amendments are outlined below:

	Amendment to LGBC Proposal	From Ward	To Ward	No. of Voters 2025
1	Move the boundary between Hither Green & Rushey Green to the edge of Mountsfield Park, moving all of Standon Road, Mountsfield Close and Britton Close into Hither Green.	Rushey Green	Hither Green	255
2	Moving the boundary between Hither Green & Rushey Green so that the boundary down Fordyce Road extends further south down to George Lane	Rushey Green	Hither Green	208
3	Move the boundary between Hither Green and Catford South to behind the properties on the south side of Brownhill Road.	Catford South	Hither Green	149
4	Moving all of Sangley Road, both sides, from Rushey Green into Catford South.	Rushey Green	Catford South	361
5	Move a small number of properties in Morley Road into Lewisham Central.	Lee Green	Lewisham Central	17
6	Move the border between Lewisham Central and Blackheath on Lee High Road from Lewis Grove to Clarendon Rise.	Blackheath	Lewisham Central	12
7	Move Fordyce Road and Littlewood from Rushey Green into Hither Green, whilst keeping all of Mount Pleasant Road and George Lane in Rushey Green.	Hither Green	Rushey Green	88
8	Move all of the south side of the A2 to Brockley (the "triangle") – Tanners Hill Estate	New Cross	Brockley	658
9	Move the Ladywell/Brockley border across Brockley Road to include Comerford, Kneller, Arabin and Braxfield Roads.	Brockley	Ladywell	789
10	Move the Baring Hall Hotel and all of this parade of shops into Grove Park.	Downham	Grove Park	7

Full Borough Map with Lewisham Council's suggested amendments



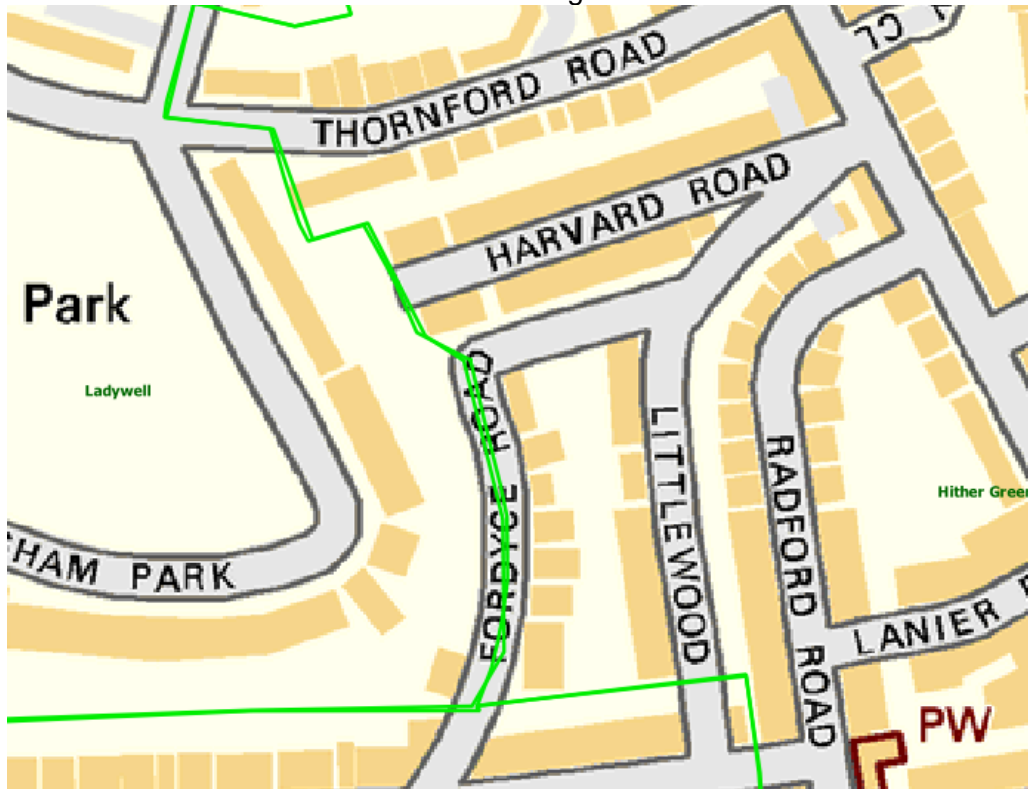
Amendment 1

Move the boundary between Hither Green & Rushey Green to the edge of Mountsfield Park, moving all of Standon Road, Mountsfield Close and Britton Close into Hither Green.



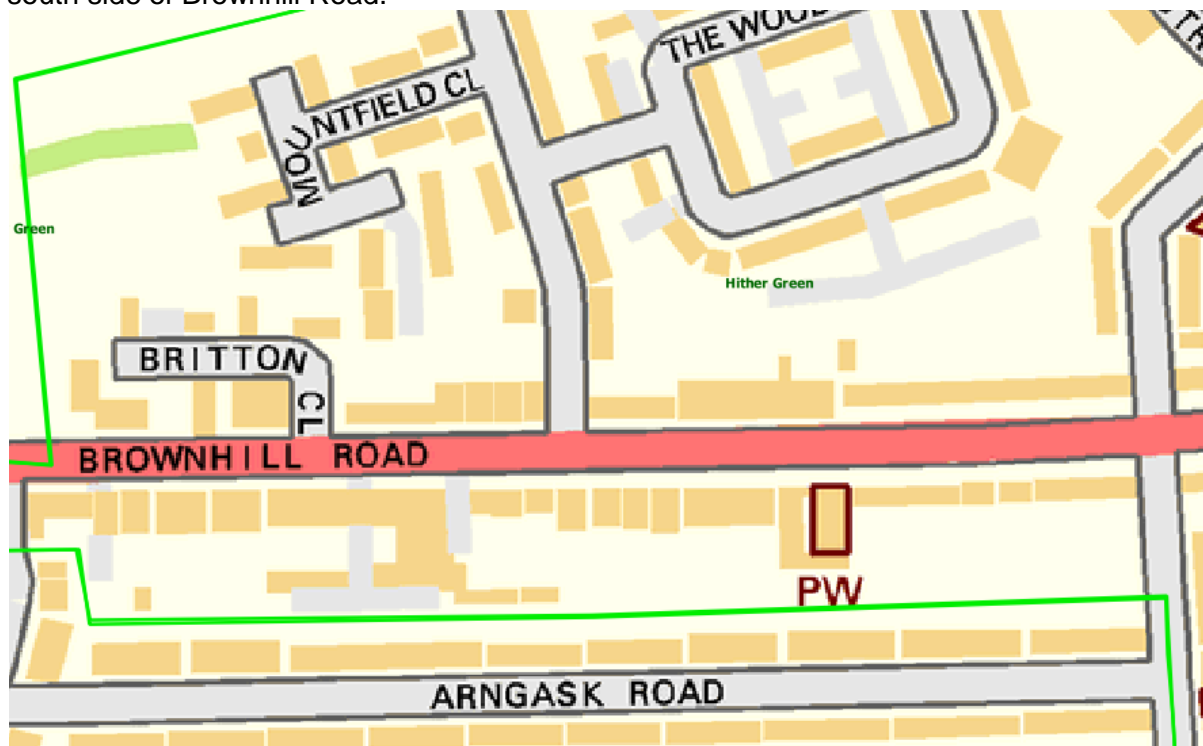
Amendment 2

Moving the boundary between Hither Green & Rushey Green so that the boundary down Fordyce Road extends further south down to George Lane. Also see Amendment 7



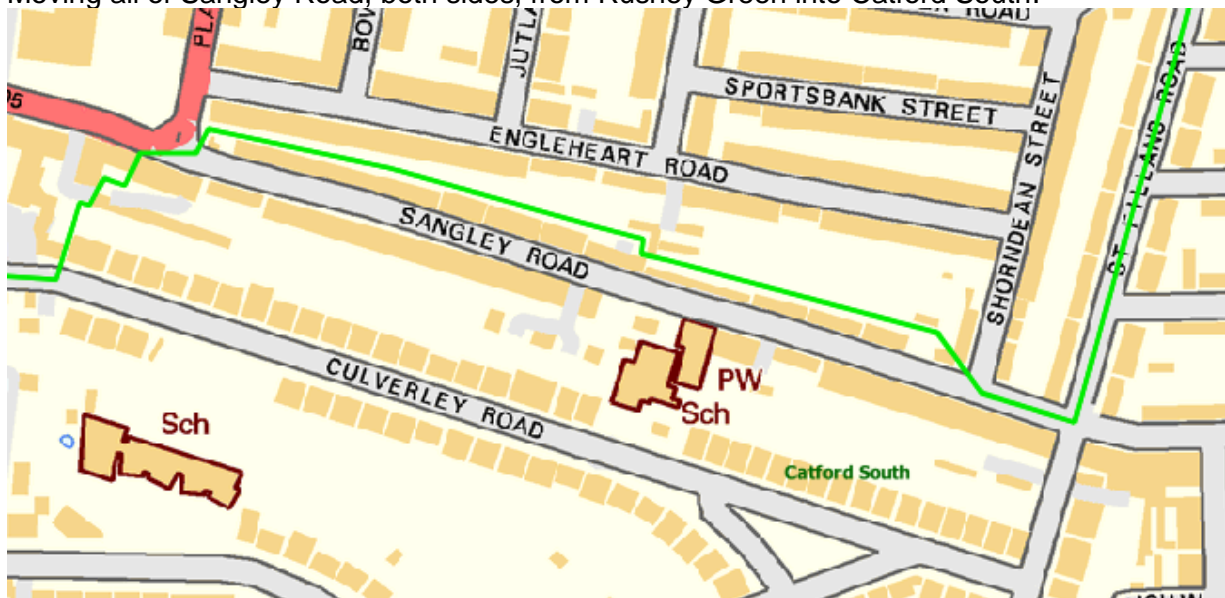
Amendment 3

Move the boundary between Hither Green and Catford South to behind the properties on the south side of Brownhill Road.



Amendment 4

Moving all of Sangley Road, both sides, from Rushey Green into Catford South.



Amendment 5

Move a small number of properties in Morley Road into Lewisham Central.



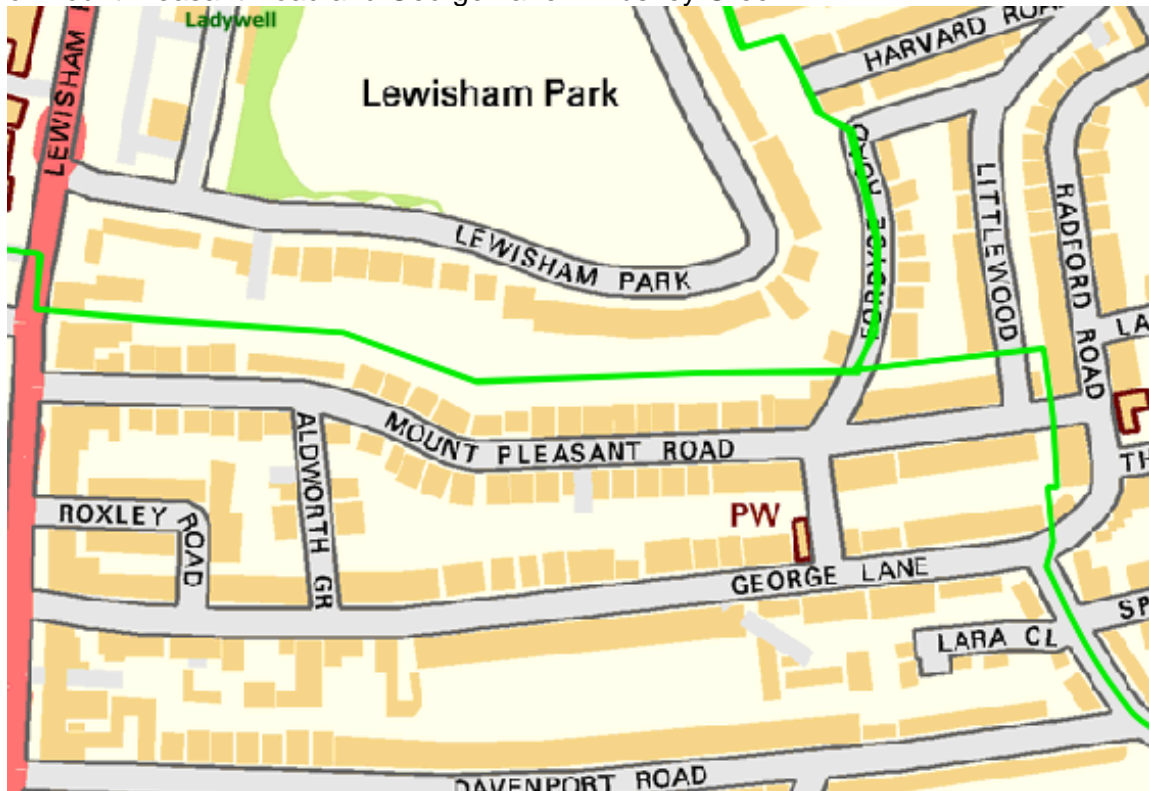
Amendment 6

Move the border between Lewisham Central and Blackheath on Lee High Road from Lewis Grove to Clarendon Rise.



Amendment 7

Move Fordyce Road and Littlewood from Rushey Green into Hither Green, whilst keeping all of Mount Pleasant Road and George Lane in Rushey Green.



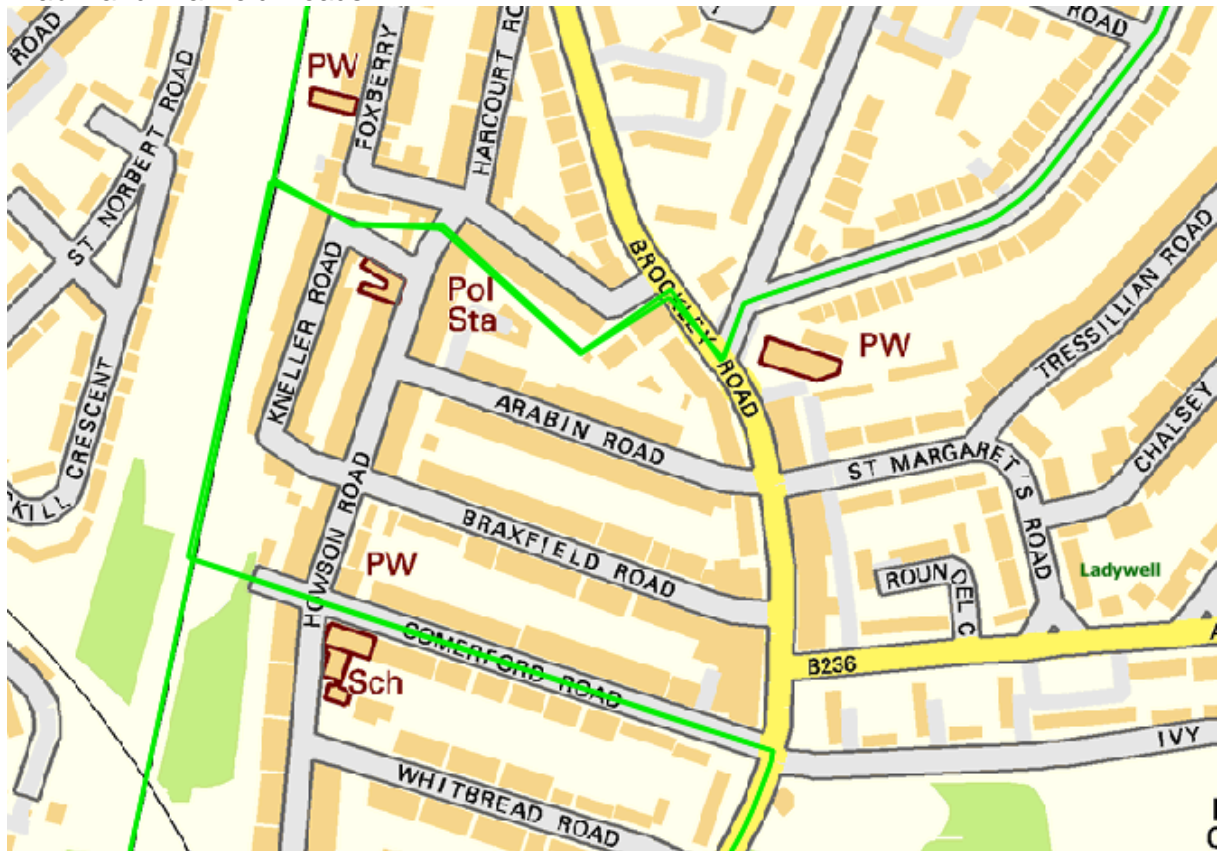
Amendment 8

Move all of the south side of the A2 to Brockley (the "triangle") – Tanners Hill Estate



Amendment 9

Move the Ladywell/Brockley border across Brockley Road to include Comerford, Kneller, Arabin and Braxfield Roads.



Amendment 10

Move the Baring Hall Hotel and all of this parade of shops into Grove Park.

