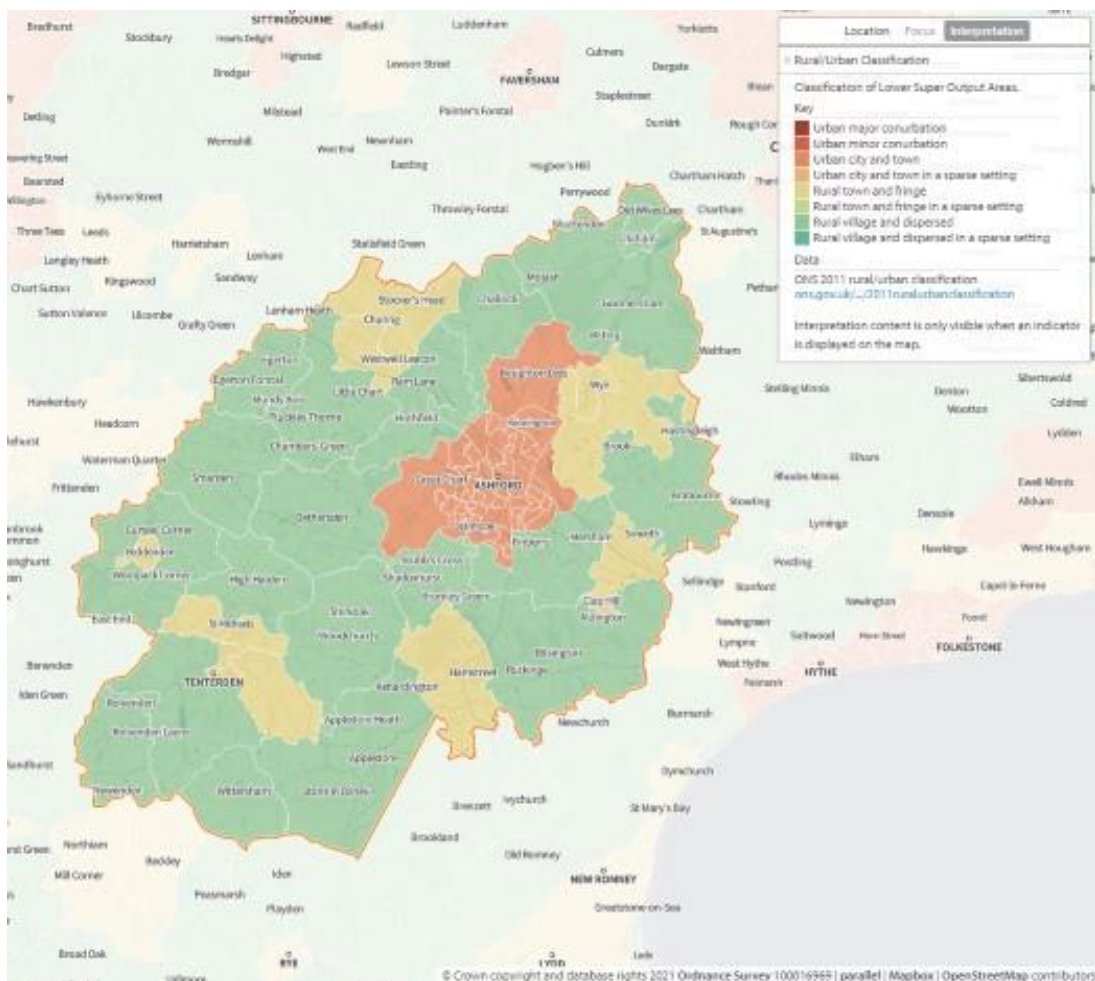


## 8 Ashford Borough Council Locality

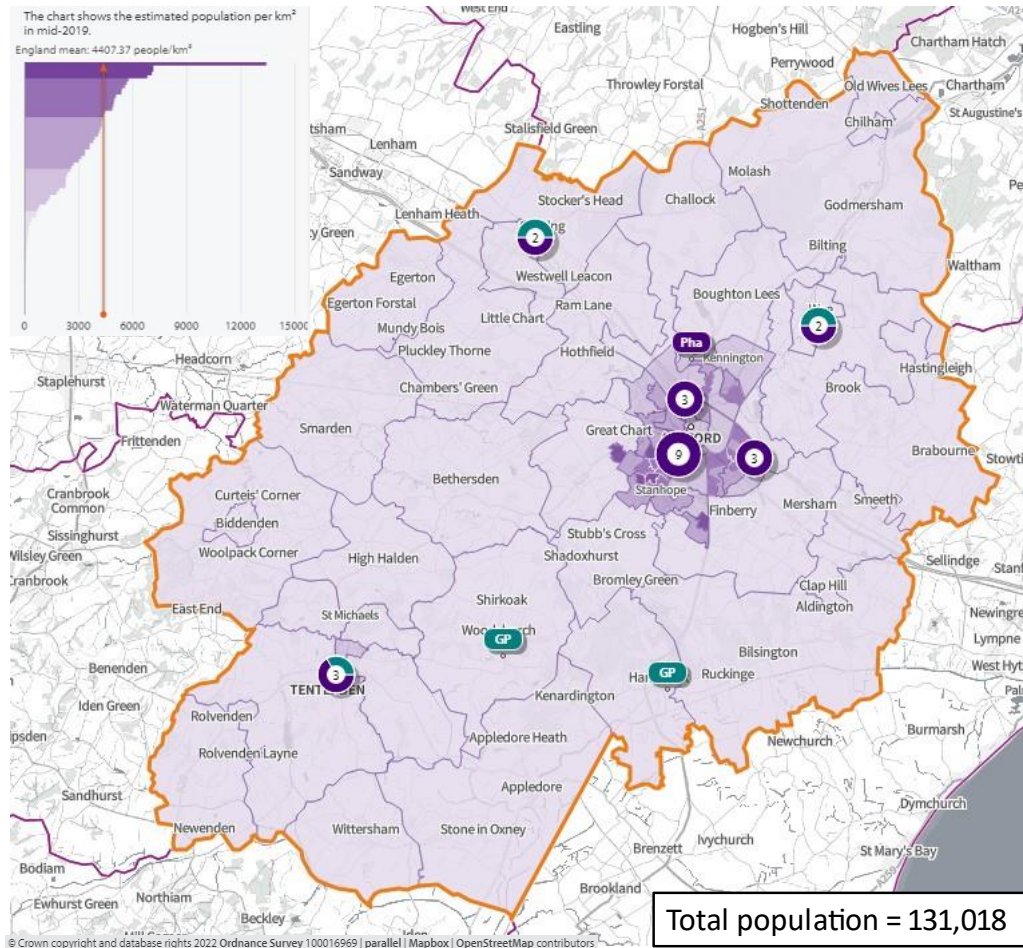
### 1. Key Facts

The locality of Ashford is a local government authority in the south of the county. It covers an area of 508.6 square kilometres. Most of the population live in and around the town of Ashford. Map 17 shows that the rest of the locality is rural in nature and mainly agricultural. Ashford is the least densely populated district in Kent with 3.3 persons per hectare, the average in Kent is 4.5 <sup>(3)</sup>.

### Map 17. Rural/urban classification of lower super output areas in Ashford



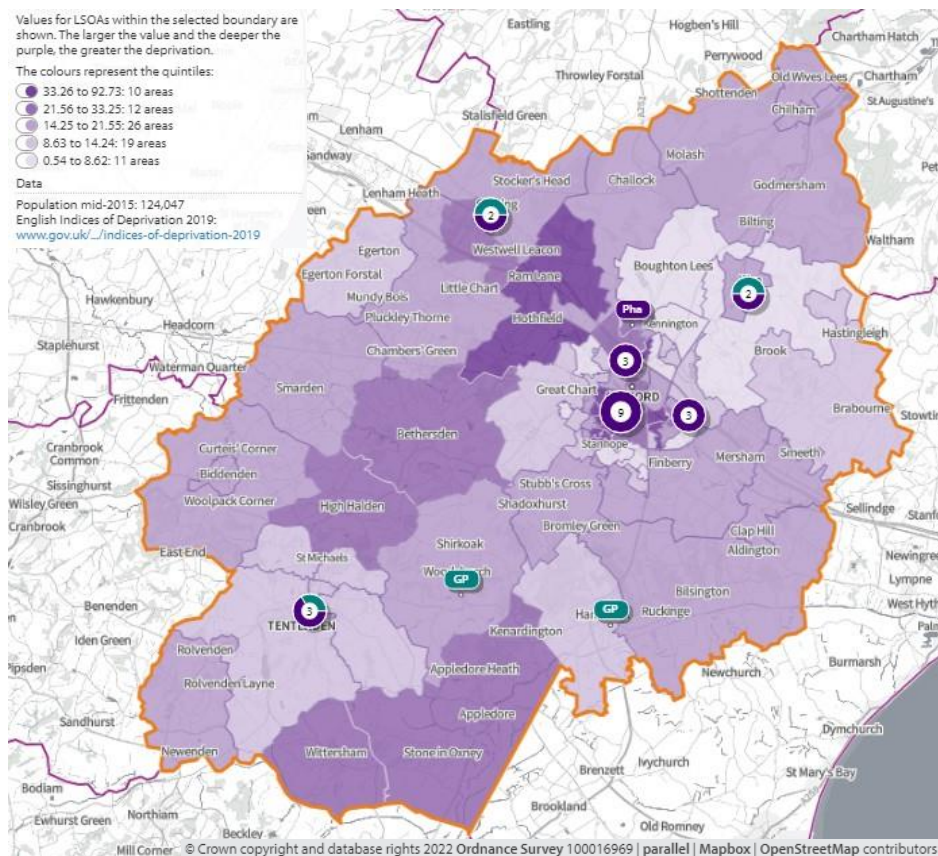
**Map 18. Population density of lower super output areas in Ashford overlaid with locations of pharmacies and dispensing doctors**



## Deprivation

**Map 19** shows the areas of deprivation in the Ashford locality. Deprivation tends to be average across the district but there are pockets of high deprivation. Ashford is ranked 7th out of Kent's 12 districts for deprivation. One LSOA on the edge of Ashford town is within the top 10% most deprived areas in England. Employment rates are similar to the Kent average <sup>(63)</sup> as are educational attainment rates with 55.3% of all children achieving 5 or more GCSEs <sup>(64)</sup>.

### Map 19. Deprivation of lower super output areas in Ashford overlaid with locations of pharmacies and dispensing doctors



## Spoken Language

English is the main language for all people aged 16 or over in 94.9% of households in the district. 2.6% of households have no people with English as the main language <sup>(2)</sup>.

## House ownership

69% of houses are owned either outright (32%) or with a mortgage (37%). The average number of occupants per household is 2.4, the same as the Kent average <sup>(2)</sup>.

## Age distribution

The average age of Ashford district residents is 41, similar to the Kent average of 41.4 and the highest of all Kent districts. 19.7% of the population is over 65 and 20.6% 0-15<sup>(2)</sup>. Life expectancy at birth is 78.6 for males and 82.8 for females<sup>(46)</sup>.

## Employment

By industry, the top three employers in the Ashford district are wholesale and retail trade (20.2%), human health and social work activities (16.7%), and administrative and support service activities (8.8%)<sup>(15)</sup>. The proportion of jobs in the wholesale and retail trade (20.2%) is the highest for this industry in Kent and only Thanet matches Ashford for the highest proportion of jobs in a single industry<sup>(15)</sup>.

## Car ownership

16% of households in Ashford district do not have a car or van in the household<sup>(13)</sup>.

## Care Homes

There are a considerable number of care homes in the Ashford area. Patients who are looked after in a care home setting are often high users of medicines. However, because of the nature of their care, they rarely access pharmaceutical services individually, leaving this to be carried out by the care home staff. More recently care home organisations do not use local pharmacies for this service, favouring the large “hub” or “internet” pharmacies which specialise in this type of one-stop service. Therefore, there is not considered to be any relationship between the number of care homes and the need for local pharmaceutical services.

### 2. Necessary services: current provision within the locality

*(All data presented in this section is for the financial year 2020/21 with the exception of lateral flow devices data which covers the 4 months from April 2021 to July 2021)*

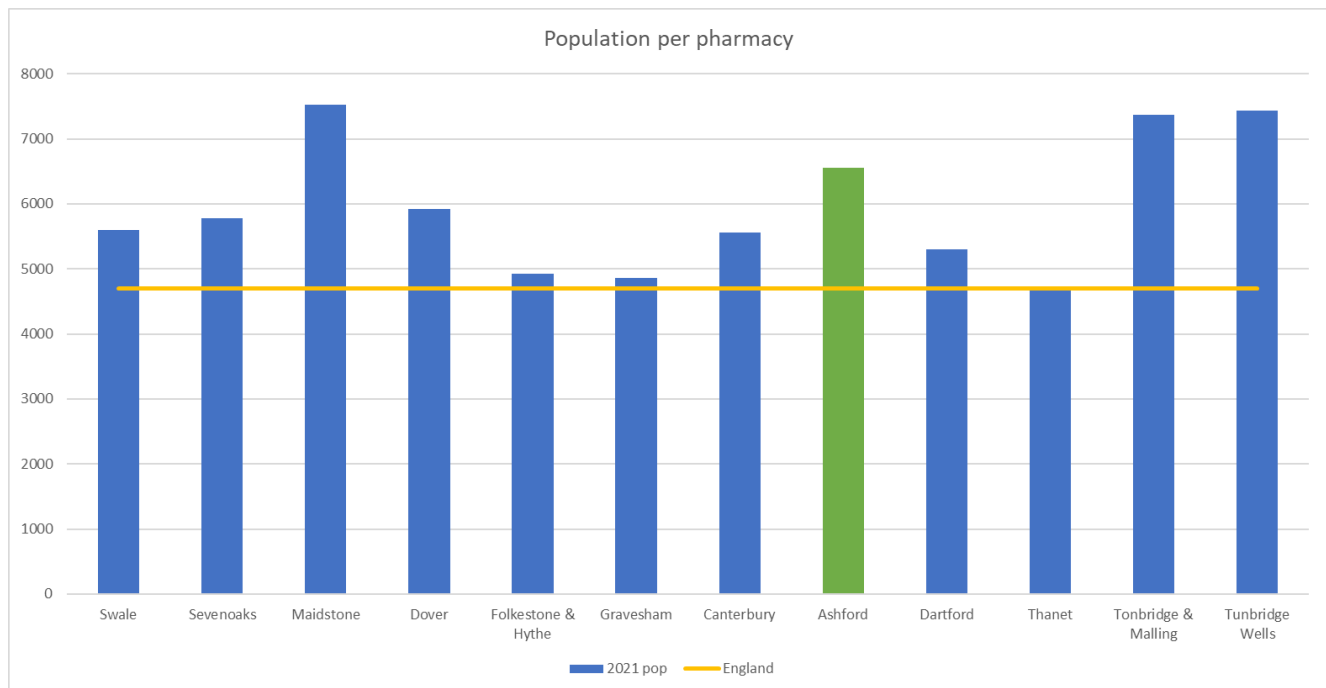
There are 20 Community pharmacies providing dispensing services in the Ashford locality. That is one pharmacy per 6,551 head of population. Figure 26 below shows how this compares with the other localities of Kent.

17 of the pharmacies open at least one hour after 17:00 on weekdays. All 20 are open on Saturdays and 6 open Saturday and Sundays. The weekly opening hours range from 48 to 101, with the average opening hours being 62 each week.

In addition, there are five dispensing GP practices in the locality.



**Figure 26. Number of people per pharmacy in each locality**



The facts below indicate that the majority of prescriptions generated in the locality are dispensed in the locality. There are 10.4% of prescriptions generated in the area that are dispensed in neighbouring areas and an even smaller percentage that are generated outside the locality and dispensed by Ashford locality community pharmacies <sup>(1)</sup>.

- 1,153 outside prescribers dispense in Ashford
  - 2.3% of all items dispensed in Ashford
- 41 prescribers in Ashford
  - 97.7% of all items dispensed in Ashford
- 30 dispensers in Ashford
  - 89.6% of all items prescribed
- 2,069 dispensers outside of Ashford
  - 10.4% of all items prescribed in Ashford

**Pharmacy locality:** Maps 1 and 2 above show the locality of the community pharmacies and GP dispensing practices.

## Opening times

Table 24 below show the core and supplementary hours of each pharmacy. <sup>(65)</sup>

**Table 24. Opening times for all pharmacies in Ashford**

Pharmacy	Total weekly hours	Max. hours open after 5pm at least 1 day/week	Saturday hours	Sunday Hours
Lloyds Pharmacy, Bybrook	101	6	15	6
Asda Pharmacy	100	6	15	6
Boots, Sevington	96	7.0	15	6
Tesco Pharmacy, Kingsnorth	84	4	13	6
Tesco Pharmacy, Willesborough	78	3	12	6
Boots the Chemists, High Street	60	0.5	9	6
Ashworths Dispensing Chemist	59	2	9	0
Paydens Pharmacy, Tenterden	56	1	8.5	0
Boots, Tenterden	54	0.5	9	0
Delmergate Pharmacy, Repton Ave.	53.5	1	8.5	0

**Table 24 continued**

Pharmacy	Total weekly hours	Max. hours open after 5pm at least 1 day/week	Saturday hours	Sunday Hours
Lloyds Pharmacy, Willesborough	53.5	1.5	3.5	0
Courts Pharmacy, Kennington	53	1.5	3	0
Kamsons Pharmacy, Stanhope	51.5	1.25	4	0
Paydens Pharmacy, Mace Lane	51.5	1.5	4	0
Kamsons Pharmacy, High Street	49.5	0.5	7	0
Well, Brookfield Court	49	1	4	0
Charing Pharmacy	49	1	4	0
Well, Wye	49	1	4	0
Delmergate Ltd, Eureka Park	48	1	3	0
Lloyds Pharmacy, Singleton	46.5	1.5	4	0

The dispensing GP practices in this locality are:

- Woodchurch Surgery TN26 3SF
- The Charing Surgery TN237 0AW
- Ivy Court surgery, Tenterden TN30 6RB
- Wye Surgery TN25 5AY
- Ham Street Surgery TN26 2NS

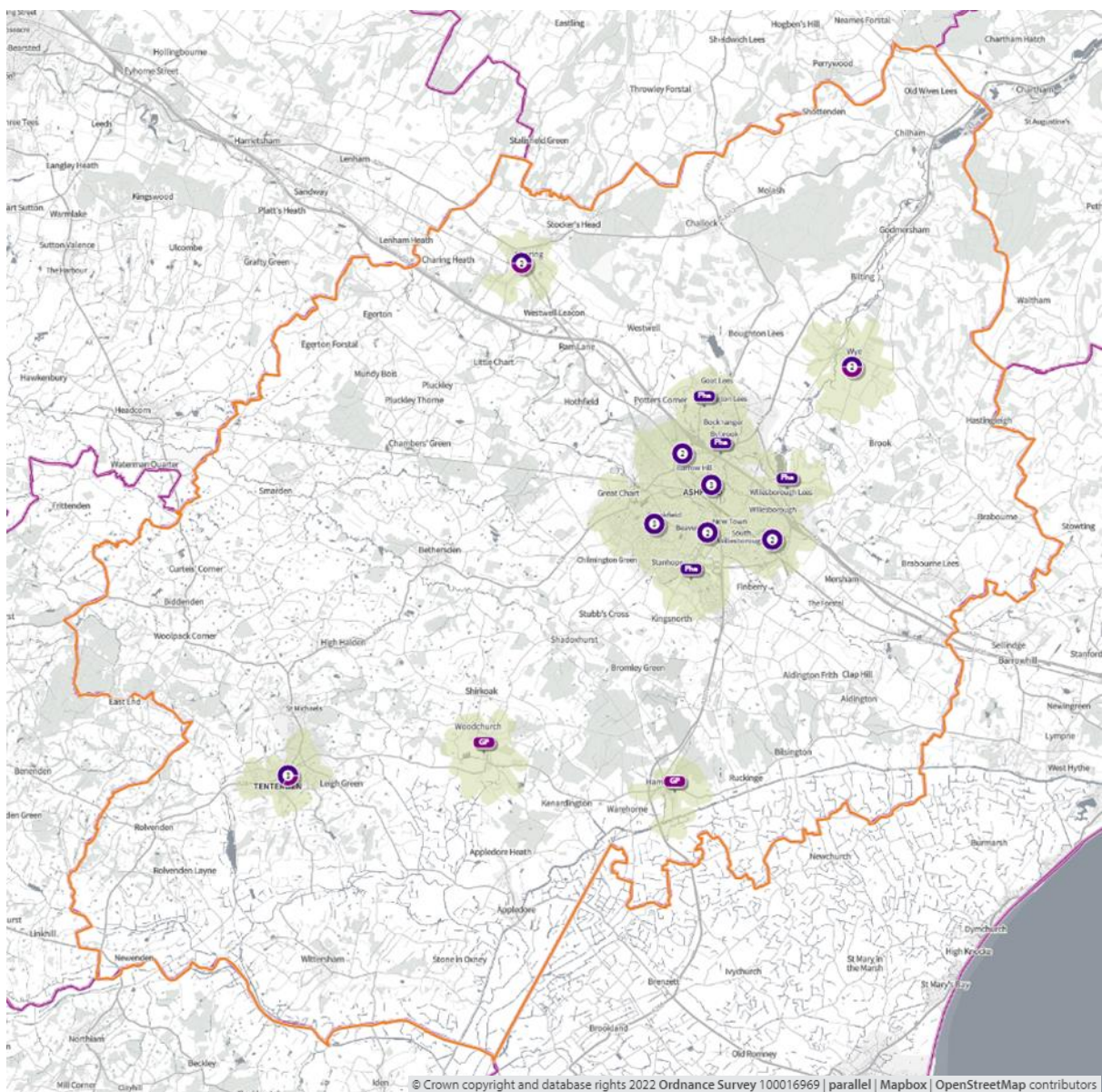
## Access to Community Pharmacies

### Travel times

Access during core opening times is shown in the maps (4-11) below.

In **map 20** below, the green shaded areas are within a 20-minute walk of a community pharmacy/dispensing GP practice. All pharmacies are open for at least 3 hours on a Saturday in addition to their weekday opening hours. The data indicates that 31,913 (24.4%) people are not within a 20-minute walk.

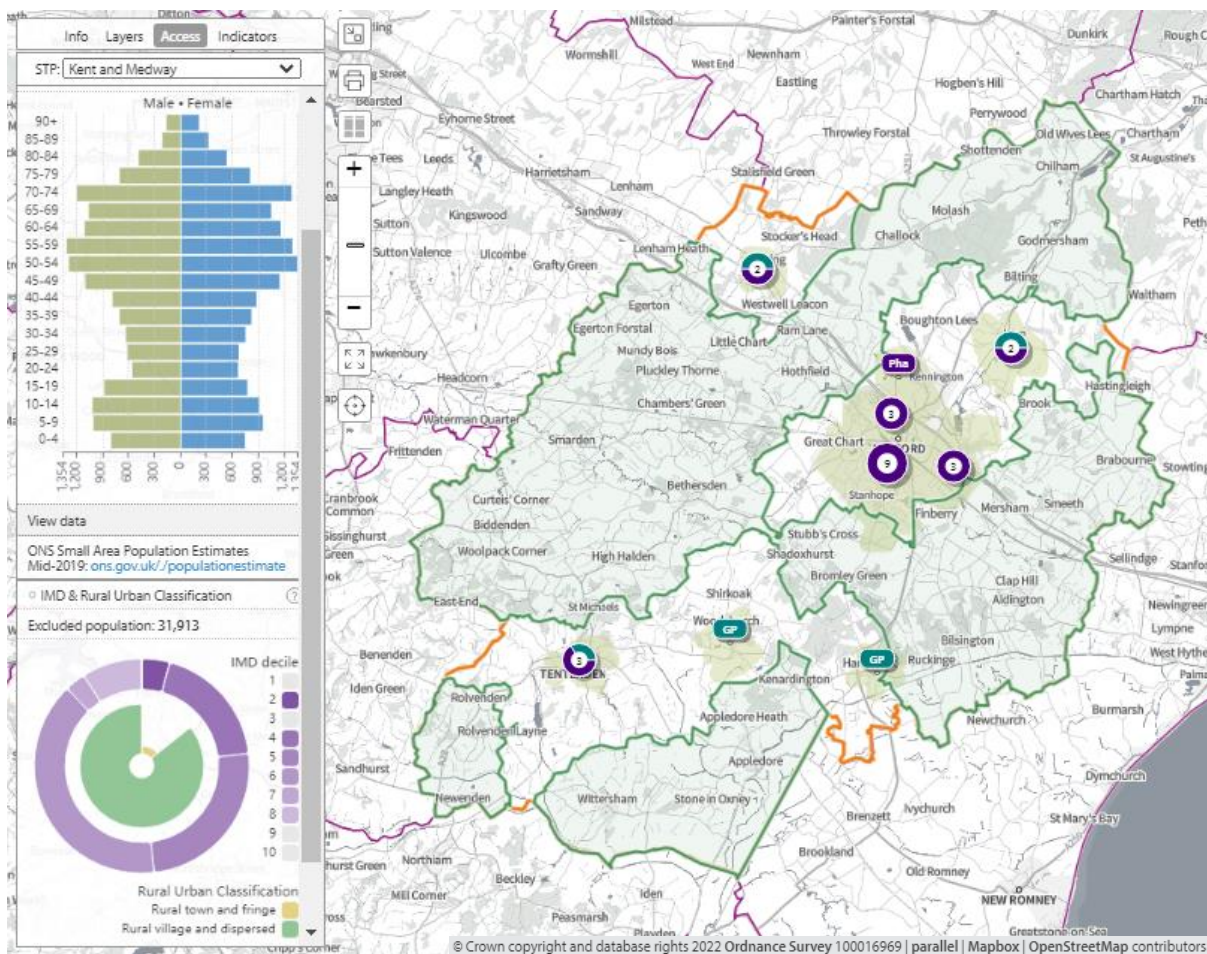
**Map 20. Locations of community pharmacies/dispensing GPs and areas within a 20-minute walk**





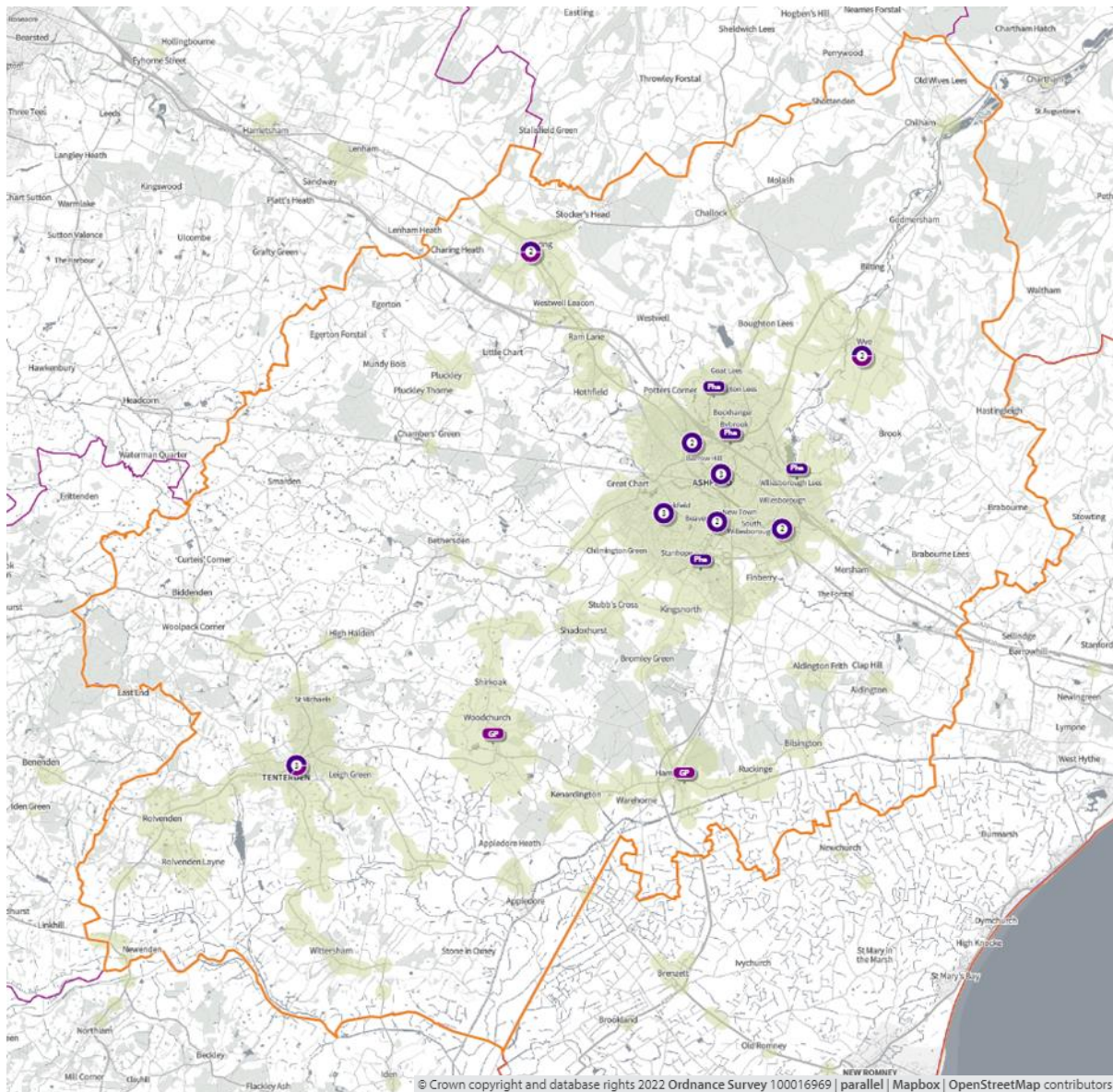
**Map 21**, below, shows **20 minutes walking access** for those in the population over **65 years of age**. 31.7% of 65+ population is not within a 20 minutes' walk of a community pharmacy or dispensing GP practice

**Map 21. Locations of community pharmacies/dispensing GPs and lower super output areas not within a 20-minute walk**



Map 22, below, shows **20 minutes public transport access**, on weekday mornings as green shaded areas to community pharmacies/dispensing GP practices. 12,815 (9.8%) people are not within 20-minutes by public transport.

**Map 22. Locations of community pharmacies/dispensing GPs and areas within 20-minutes by public transport on weekday mornings**

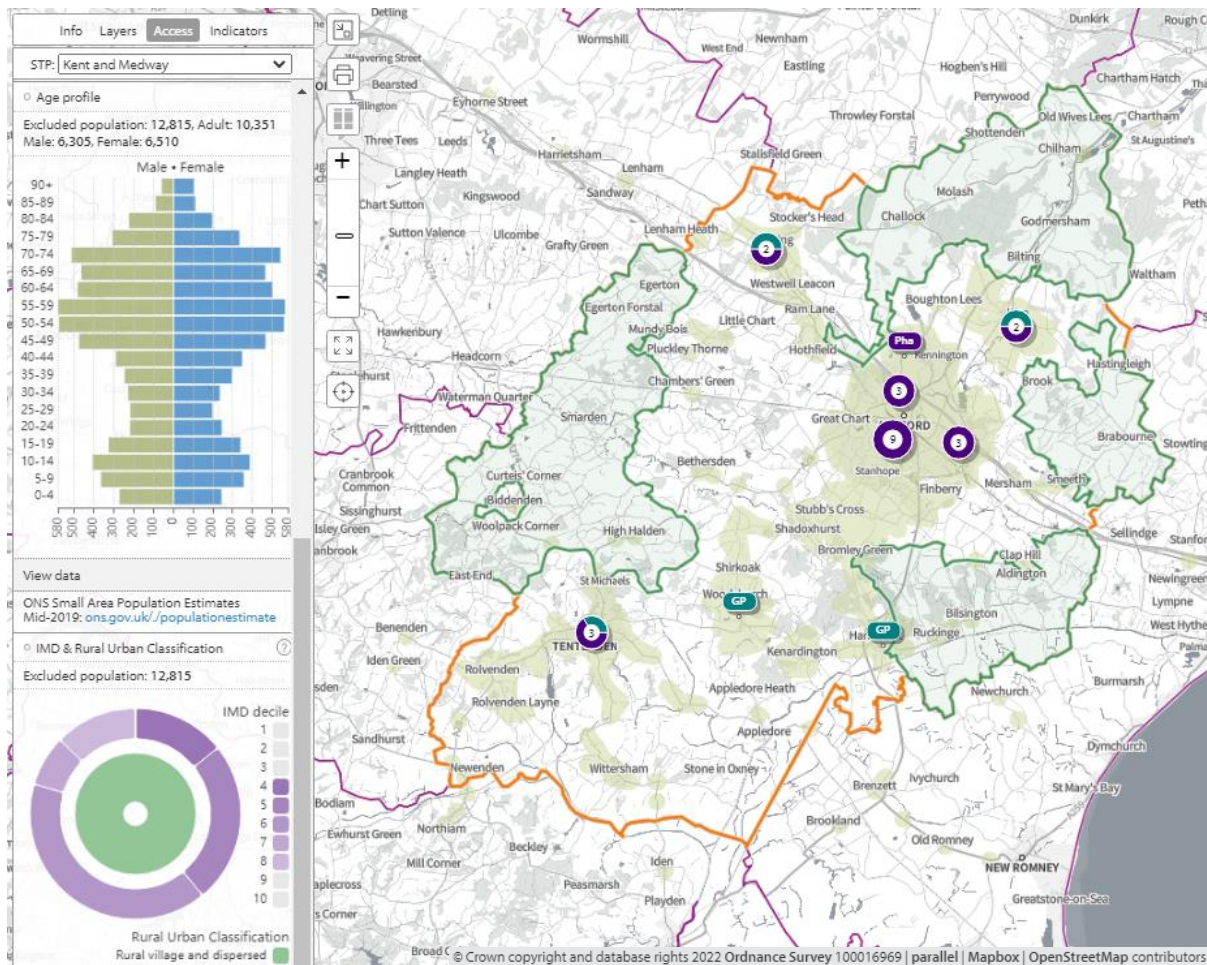




**Map 23**, below, shows **20 minutes public transport access** on weekday mornings as green shaded areas, for those in the population over **65 years of age** to community pharmacies/dispensing GP practices.

The data reveals that 13.5% people are not within 20-minutes by public transport.

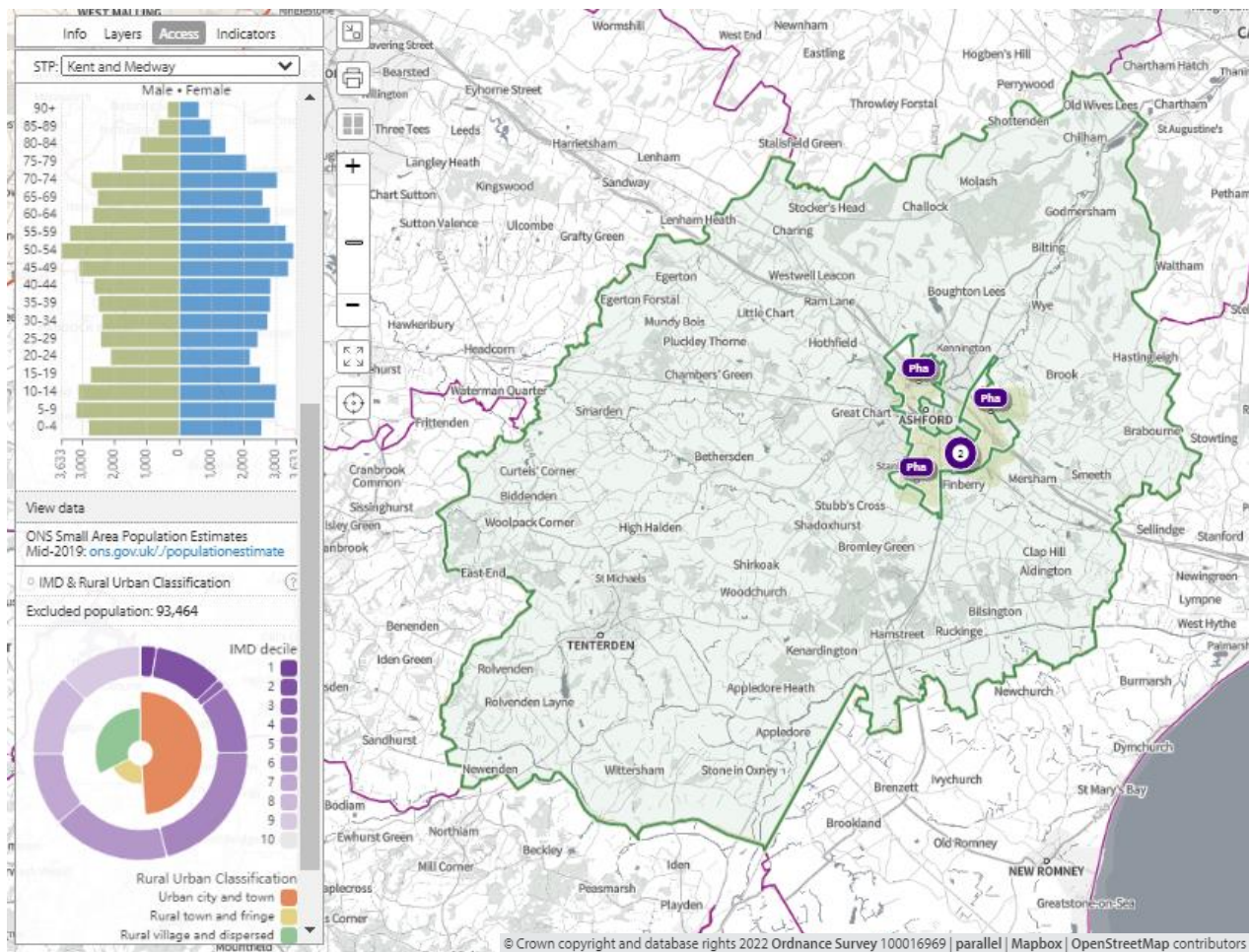
**Map 23. Locations of community pharmacies/dispensing GPs and lower super output areas not within 20-minutes by public transport**



Maps 24 and 25 show travel times for weekday evenings up to 8pm and Sundays

In **map 24**, below, 20-minute **walking access** to community pharmacies that are open until at least **20:00 hours on weekdays and open on Sundays** is shown. The data reveals that 71.3% of the population is not within a 20-minute walk of a community pharmacy at these times. Walking access in the evenings and on Sundays is in the town of Ashford with those living in more rural areas having no walking access.

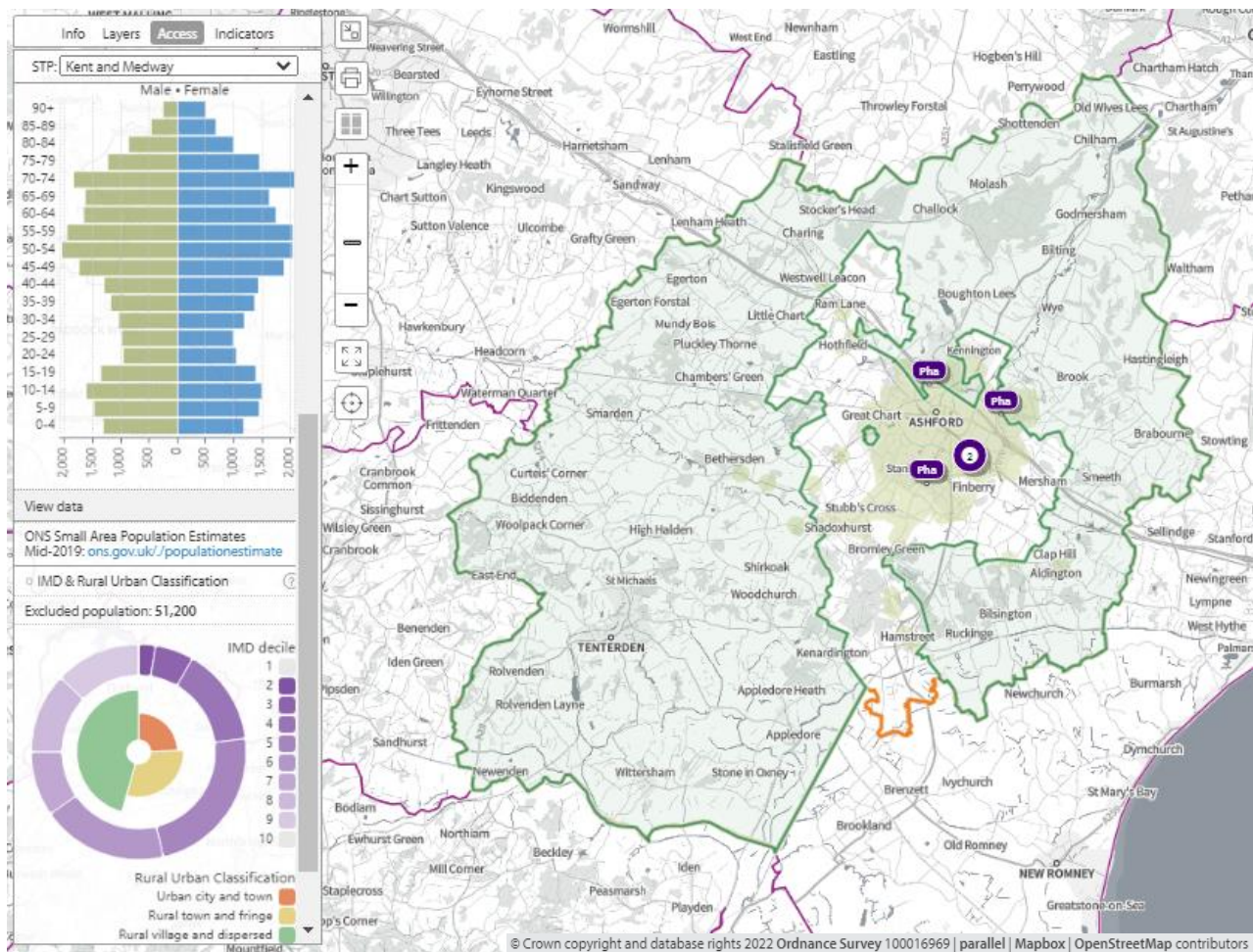
**Map 24. Locations of community pharmacies and lower super output areas not within a 20-minute walk**





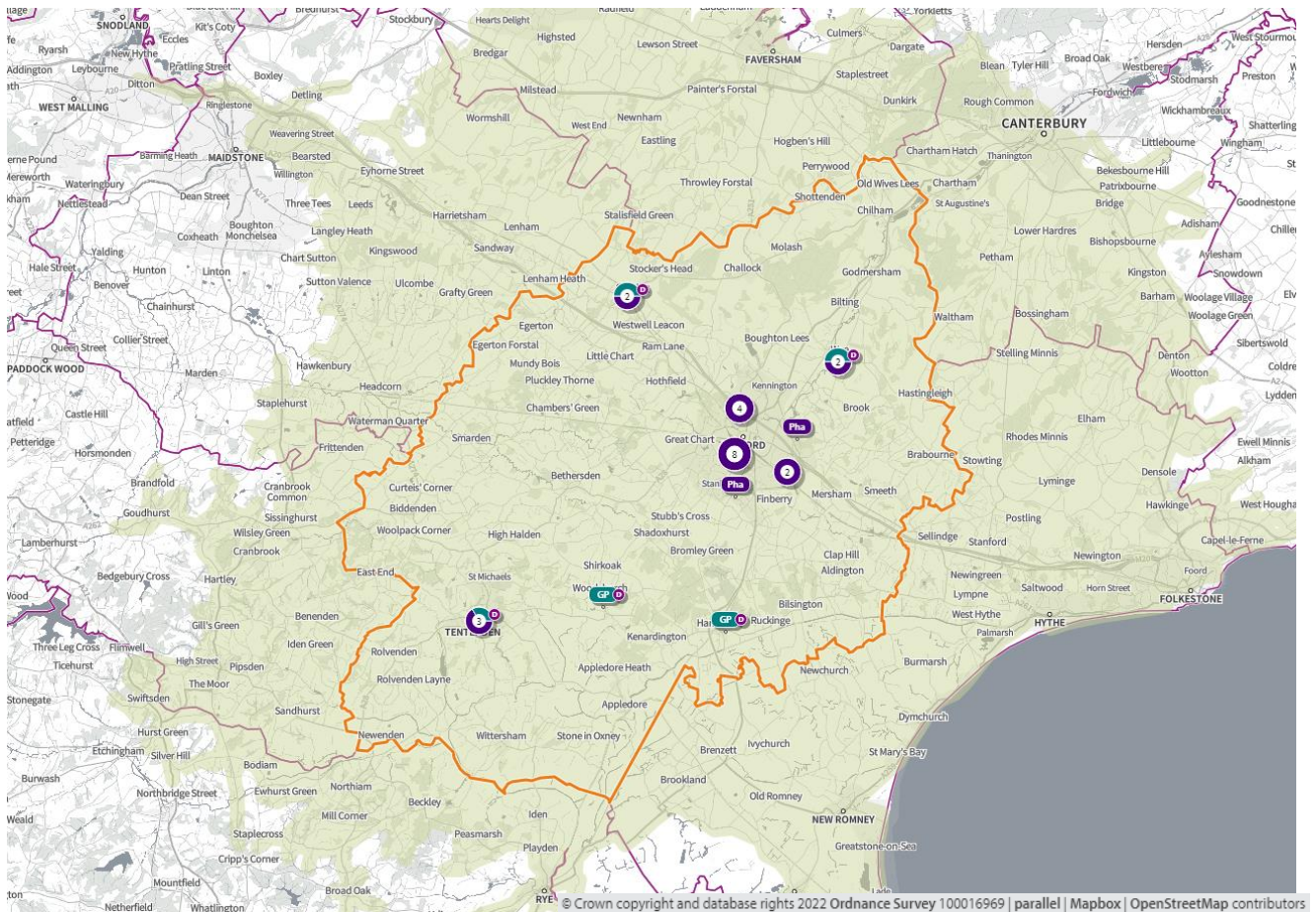
In **map 25**, below, 20-minute **public transport** to community pharmacies that are open until at least **20:00 hours on weekdays and open on Sundays** is shown as green shaded areas. The information shows that 40% of the population is not within 20-minutes by public transport of a community pharmacy at these times. As above this access is for those living in or close to the town of Ashford.

**Map 25. Locations of community pharmacies and lower super output areas not within 20-minutes by public transport**



Map 26, below, shows **20-minutes car** access, as green shaded areas to community pharmacies/dispensing GP practices. The entire population of Ashford is within 20 minutes by car. All pharmacies are open for at least 3 hours on a Saturday.

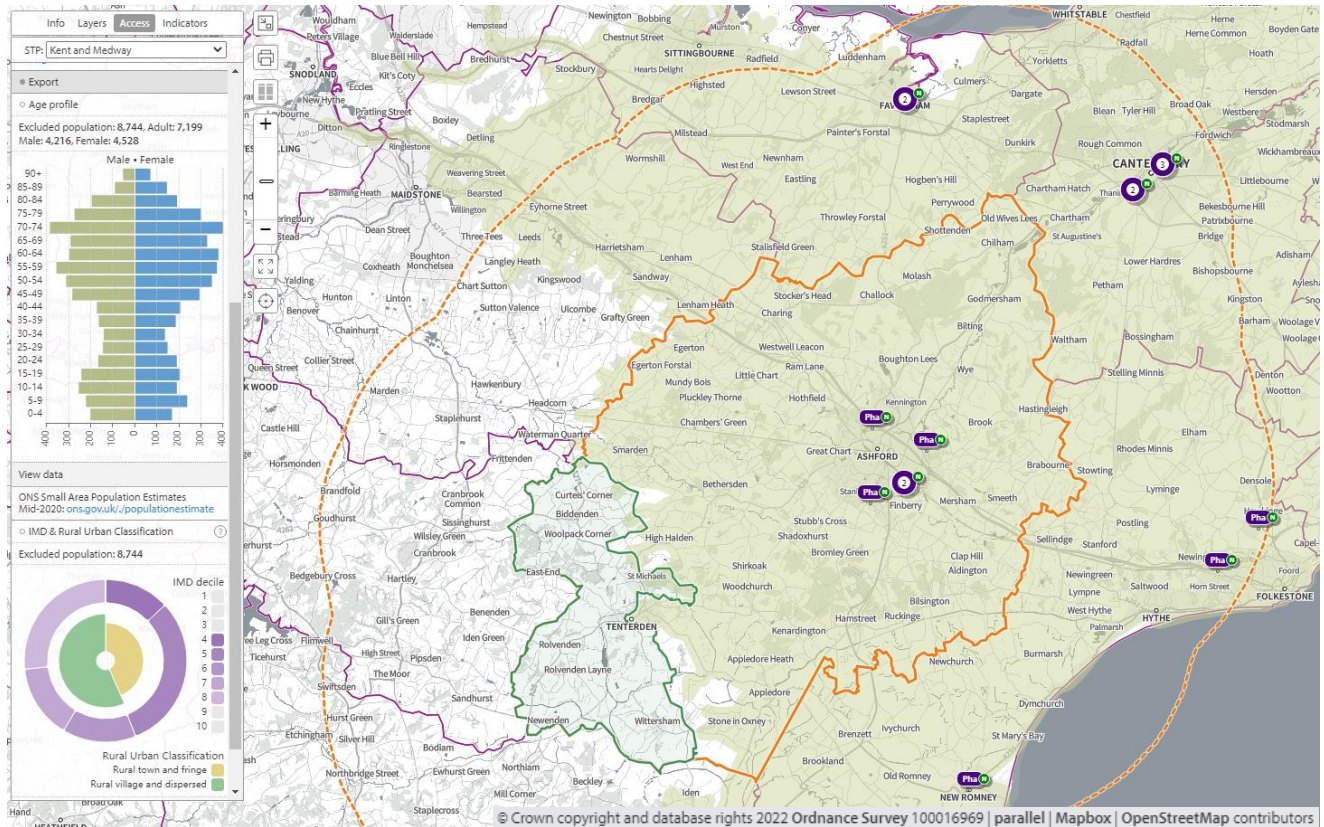
**Map 26. Locations of community pharmacies/dispensing GPs and areas within 20-minutes by car**





In map 27, below, 20-minute **car access** to community pharmacies that are open until at least **20:00 hours on weekdays and open on Sundays** is shown as green shaded areas. The information shows that 9.5% of the population is not within 20 minutes by car of a community pharmacy at these times.

**Map 27. Locations of community pharmacies open until at least 8pm and lower super output areas not within 20-minutes by car**



### 3. Necessary services: current provision outside the localities area <sup>(1)</sup>

The information below indicates the number of prescriptions dispensed in and outside the locality.

- 2.46 million items prescribed in Ashford
  - 2.2 million items dispensed in Ashford
    - 1.2 million (54.5%) via Electronic Prescription Service
  - 255,908 (10.4%) dispensed outside of the district
    - 115,000 distance selling
    - 50,000 equally split between Folkestone and Hythe, Thanet and Canterbury
  
- 2.25 million items dispensed in Ashford
  - 1.64 million items dispensed by community pharmacies in Ashford
  - 615,000 dispensed by 10 GP practices:
    - Hamstreet Surgery – 155,116
    - Ivy Court Surgery – 140,747
    - Charing Surgery -119,836
    - Wye Surgery – 57,882
  - 52,844 items prescribed outside borough i.e. more going out than coming in

Some residents choose to access contractors outside both the locality and the Health and Wellbeing Board's area in order to access services:

- Offered by dispensing appliance contractors
- Offered by distance selling premises
- Which are located near to where they work, shop or visit for leisure or other purposes.

Taking into account this choice of pharmacy outside of the locality, the majority of residents can access a pharmacy and do access a pharmacy within the locality.



#### 4. Other relevant services: current provision

The following advanced services were delivered by pharmacies in the Ashford locality in 2020/21

**Table 25. Number of pharmacies providing advanced services**

Advanced service name	No. of pharmacies
New Medicine Service	20
Appliance Use Review	0
Hypertension Service‡	20
Stoma Appliance Customisation	2
Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS)‡	20
Hepatitis C Antibody Testing Service	0
Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Advances Service	20
Covid Vaccination Service*	1
Covid Home Delivery Service*	15
Covid lateral flow device distribution*	20

\*Specific to the Covid-19 pandemic

‡Services introduced during the year of study

Please note that three services were specific to the Covid-19 pandemic (Covid vaccination, homedelivery and lateral flow device distribution services) and that others were new services (CPCS, Hypertension service) introduced within the year. There is, however, good participation and early adoption of new services from pharmacies in this locality.

#### 5. Other NHS services

The Strategic Health Asset Planning and Evaluation (SHAPE) web application provides the following information:

- Ashford Medical Partnership is open until 8pm on Mondays and 8.15pm on Wednesdays
- Singleton Health Centre is open until 7.15pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
- Charing Surgery is open 9am-12.30pm on Saturdays
- Hamstreet Surgery is open until 8pm on Tuesdays and 9am-12pm on Sundays
- Ivy Court Surgery is open from 6.30am on Tuesdays-Thursdays and 9am-12pm on Saturdays and Sundays
- Kingsnorth Medical Practice is open until 8pm on Wednesdays
- New Hayesbank Surgery is open until 8pm on Mondays and from 7am on Wednesdays and Thursdays and 8am-12pm on Saturdays
- Sydenham House Medical Centre is open 8am-2pm on Saturdays
- Woodchurch Surgery is open until 8pm on Tuesdays and from 7.30am on Wednesdays

- Wye Surgery is open until 7pm Monday-Thursday

There is a large district general hospital, The William Harvey Hospital, in Ashford. It has both an accident and emergency and minor ailment and injury services which do use NHS prescriptions.

There are also drug and alcohol services, other Kent and Medway NHS Hospital Trusts and Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust and Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust with services that generate prescriptions that are dispensed by community pharmacies in this locality

- 14 pharmacies dispensed a total of 3,115 (mean = 222, range = 1-1,266) items from drug and alcohol services
- 20 pharmacies dispensed a total of 1,987 (mean = 99, range = 28-626) items from Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust (secondary mental health services)
- 17 pharmacies dispensed a total of 134 items (mean = 7.9, range = 1-59) from KCHFT
- 20 pharmacies and 2 GP practices dispensed a total of 16,209 items (mean = 1,351, range = 55-2,320) from Kent and Medway hospitals

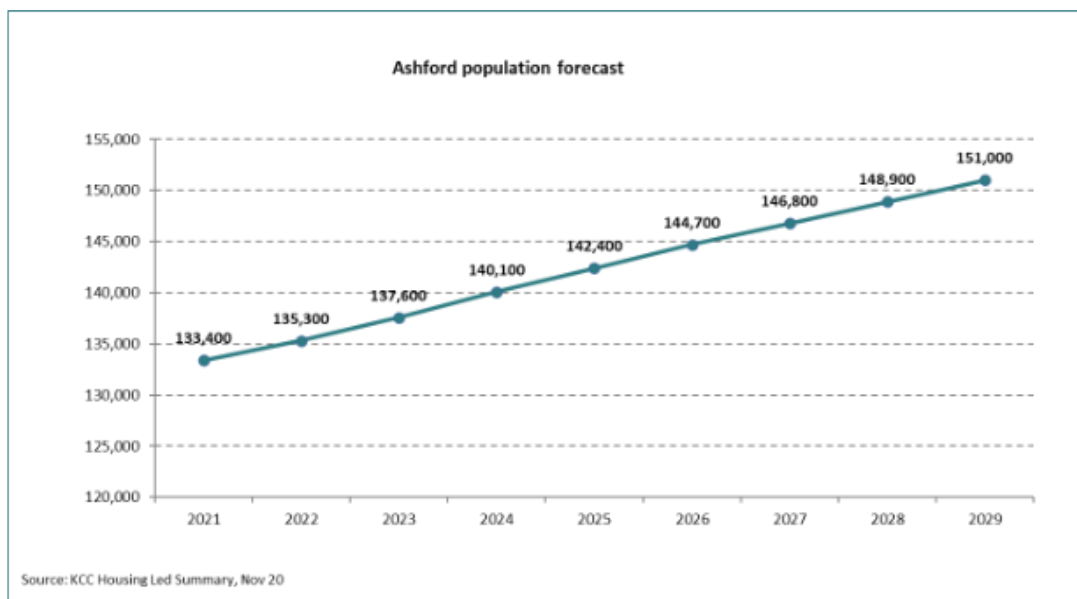
#### **6. Choice with regard to obtaining pharmaceutical; services**

As can be seen from sections 2 and 3, those living within the locality and registered with one of the GP practices generally choose to access one of the pharmacies in the locality in order to have their prescriptions dispensed or, if eligible, to be dispensed to by their practice. Those that look outside the locality usually do so either to access a neighbouring pharmacy, or a dispensing appliance contractor or distance selling premises outside of the Health and Wellbeing Board's area.

## 7. Developments

Figure 27 shows the predicted increase in the population of the Ashford locality continuing to grow over the lifetime of this PNA. By 2025 it is estimated that each pharmacy will serve a population of 7,120.

**Figure 27 – Ashford Population Forecast**

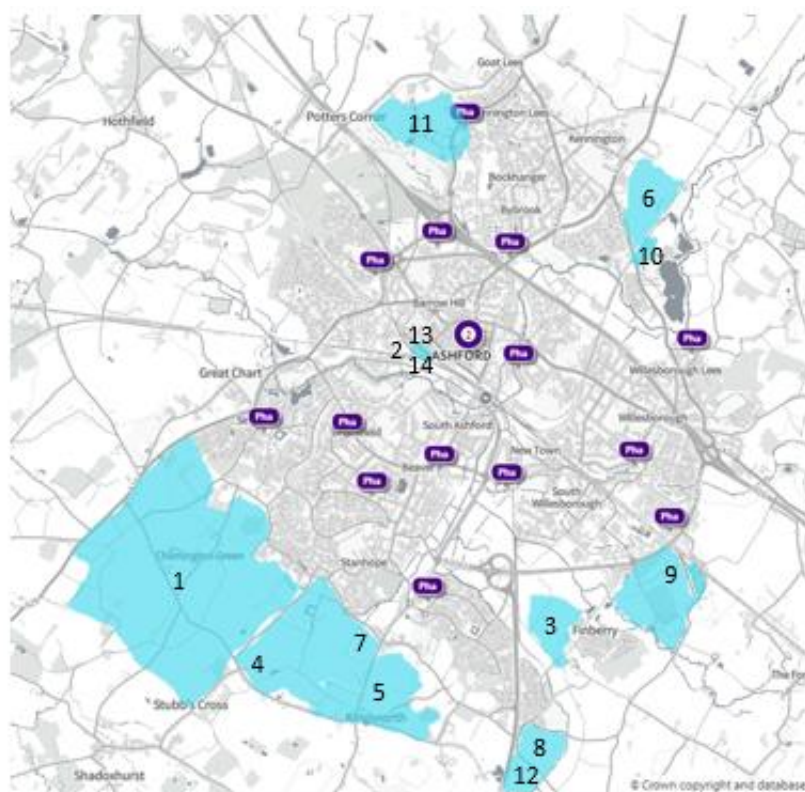


 **1 pharmacy per 7,120 people in 2025**

This is an increase of 569 people per pharmacy from 2022. As stated in the community pharmacy contracts survey the 11 pharmacies in the Ashford locality do have capacity to increase their services and 2 stated they did not. 13 responses were received from the 20 pharmacies of the Ashford locality.

Map 28 below shows where there are major housing developments planned in the coming years according to the Ashford Local Plan. Table 26 indicates the number of dwellings planned for each site. With an average of 2.4 people per proposed dwelling, the population around the major urban centre will increase by 11,892 by 2025.

**Map 28. Location of housing developments in the Ashford Local Plan**



**Table 26. Proposed housing developments – number of dwellings per year at each development**

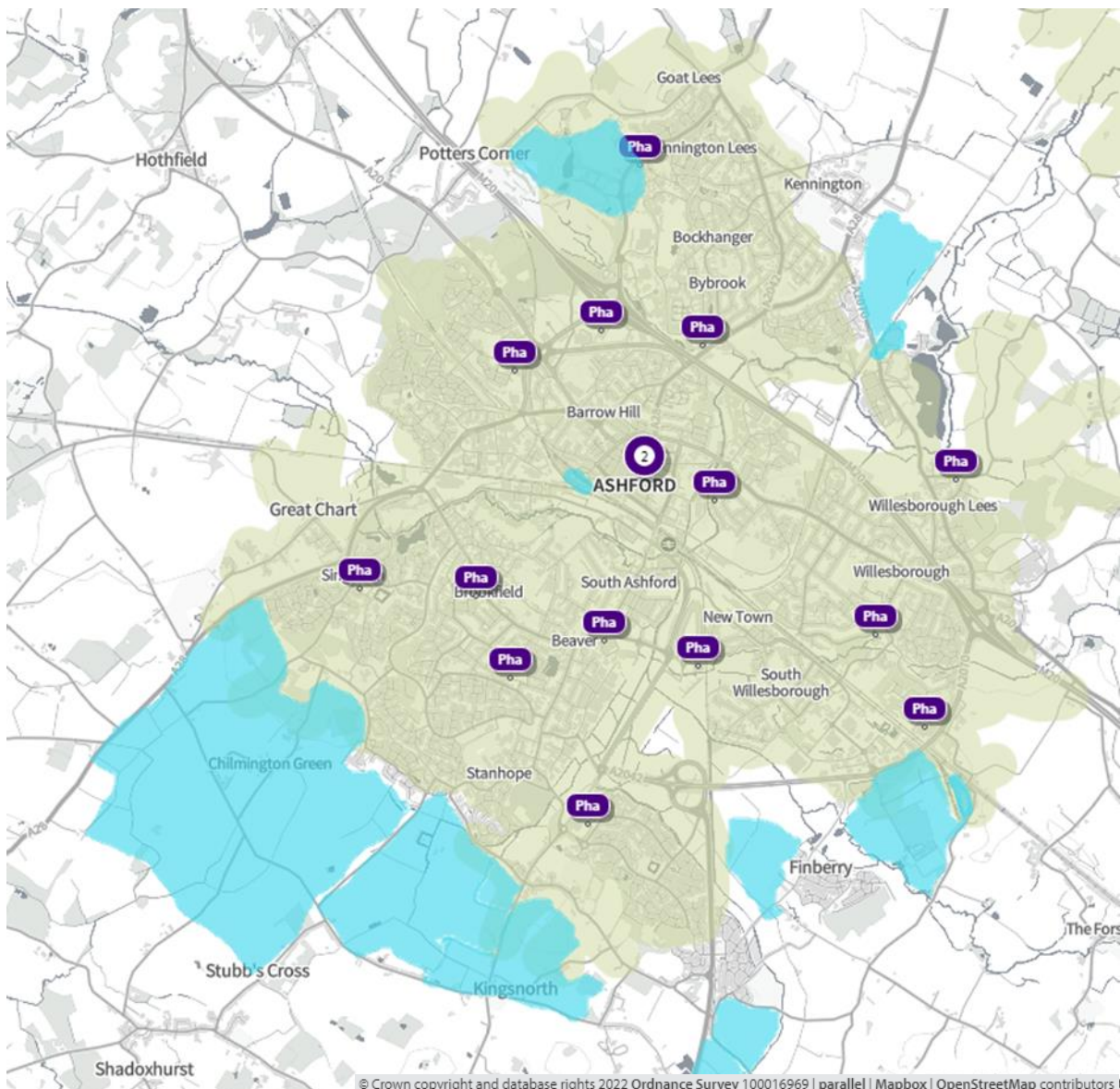
Site Name	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29	29/30	2025	2030
1. Chilmington Green	200	200	200	200	200	250	250	250	250	300	1000	2300
2. Former Powergen	222	189	189	60							660	660
3. Finberry (LP 2000)	120	120	100	65							405	405
4. Court Lodge, Kingsnorth		50	90	110	110	110	120	120	120	120	360	950
5. Land north of Steeds Lane and Magpie Hall Road, Kingsnorth	50	60	60	60	60	55	55				290	400
6. Land NE of Willesborough Road, Kennington (S2)	25	50	50	75	75	80	80	80	80	80	275	675
7. Land south of Pound Lane, Kingsnorth (S5)	50	50									100	100
8. Park Farm south east	100	100	75								275	275
9. Waterbrook	50	50	50	50	50	50	30				330	330
10. Conningbrook	50	75	75	70	50	50					370	370
11. Eureka Park	30	50	50	80	80	85					375	375
12. Land south of Brockmans Lane			50	50							100	100
13. Elwick Road		100	100								200	200
14. Victoria Way East	115	100									215	215



Access, with 20 minutes by walking, public transport and driving from these new developments to community pharmacies is shown in the following maps. The maps show access on different days and times of the week.

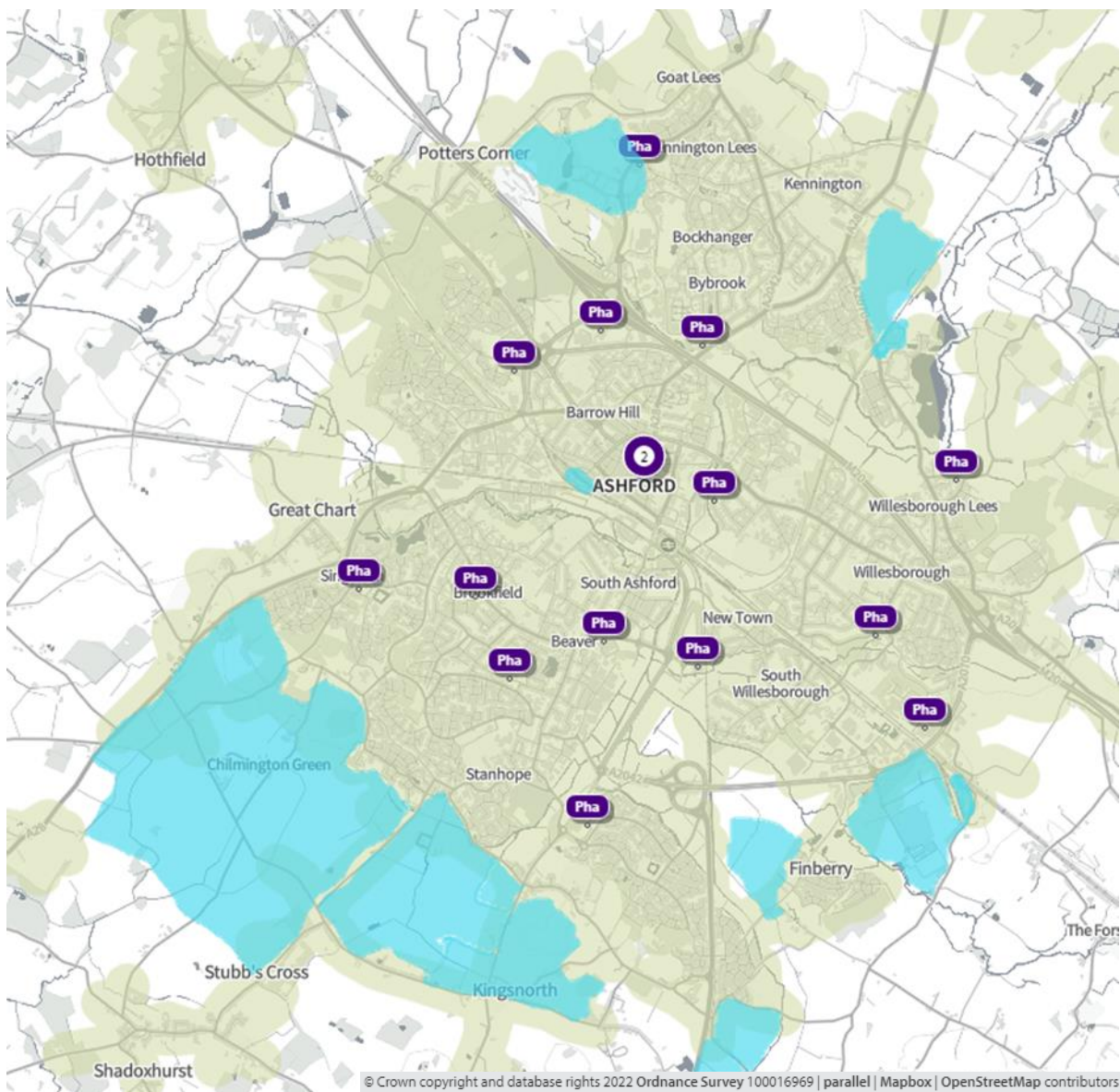
In map 29, below, **the green shaded areas** are within a **20-minute walk** of a community pharmacy/dispensing GP practice and the **blue shaded areas** are **locations of major housing developments (≥100 dwellings)**

**Map 29. Location of community pharmacies, proposed housing developments, and areas within a 20 minute walk of a community pharmacy**



In map 30, below, the green shaded areas are within 20-minutes by public transport of a community pharmacy/dispensing GP practice and the **blue shaded areas are locations of major housing developments (≥100 dwellings)**

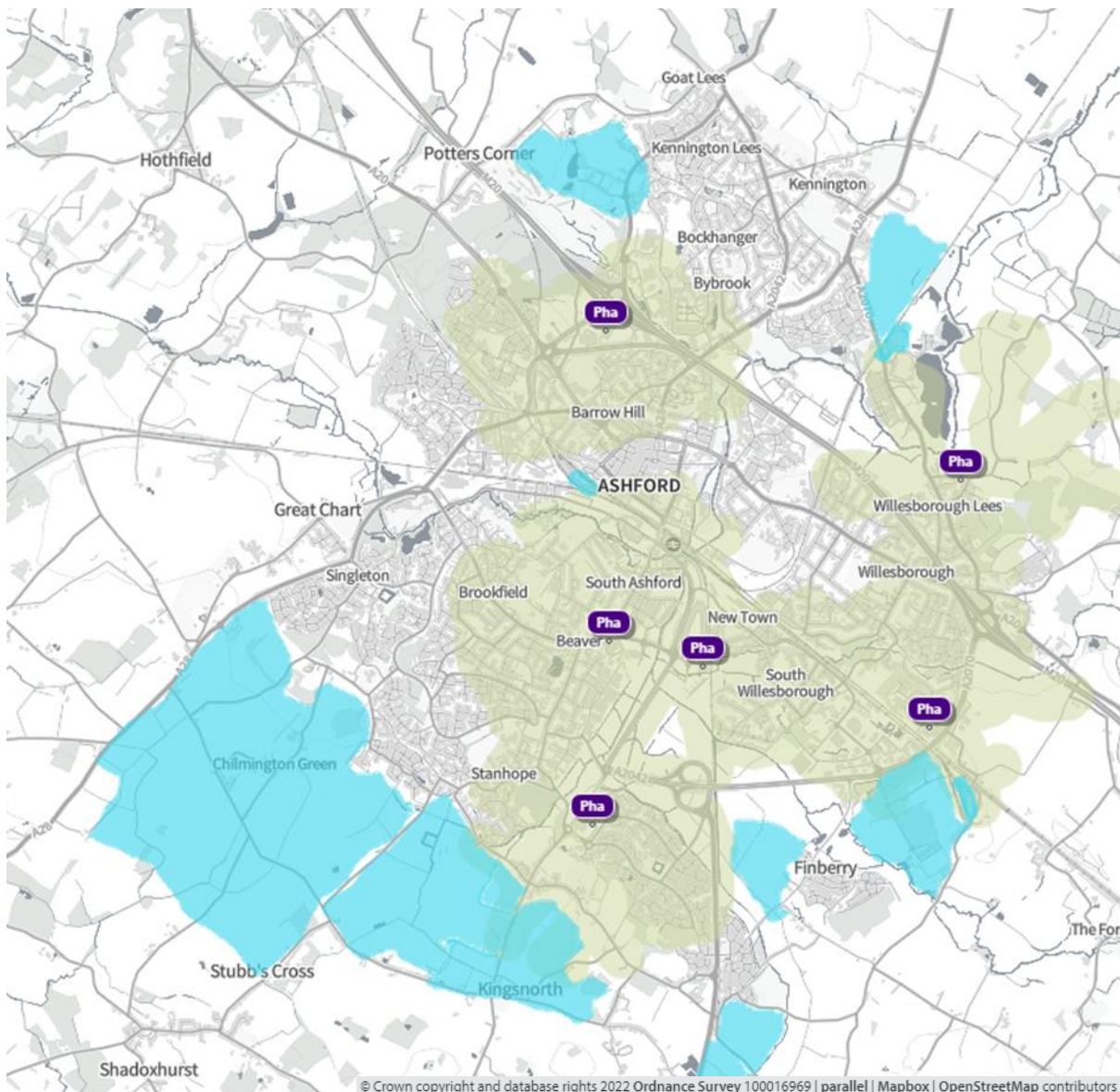
**Map 30. Location of community pharmacies, proposed housing developments, and areas within 20 minutes of a community pharmacy by public transport on weekday mornings**





In map 31, below, the green shaded areas are within a 20-minute walk of a community pharmacy that is open on Sundays and to at least 8pm weekdays. **The blue shaded areas are locations of major housing developments (≥100 dwellings)**

**Map 31. Locations of community pharmacies open on Sundays and until at least 8pm, proposed housing developments, and areas within 20 minutes of a community pharmacy by public transport on weekday evenings**



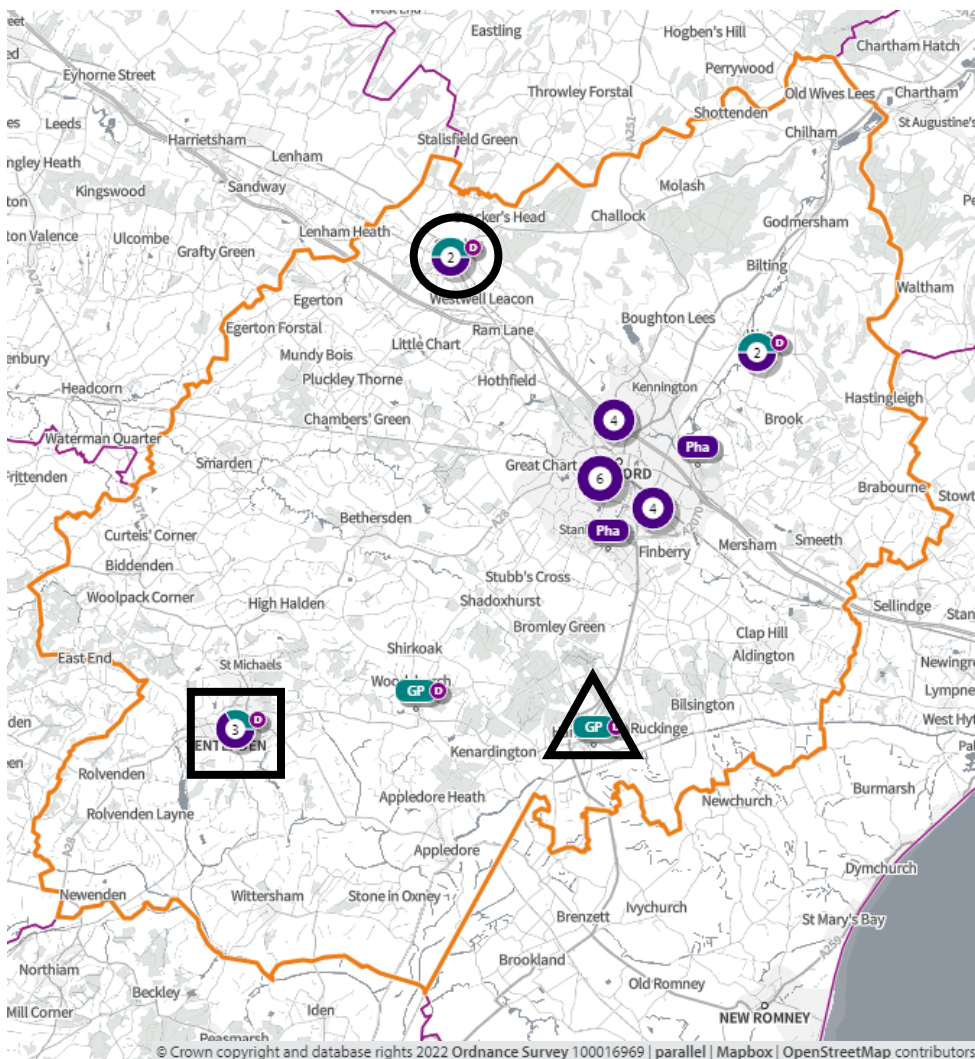


There are additional areas of significant housing development in the vicinity of existing pharmacies or dispensing practices. Hamstreet (shown in the black triangle) is considered suitable for 130 new dwellings and a care home of circa 60 beds.

Charing (shown in the black circle) is proposed for development of around 200 dwellings.

Tenterden (shown in the black square) is proposed for development of around 225 dwellings

**Map 32. Locations of community pharmacies/dispensing GPs and proposed housing developments**



**8. Necessary services: - Gaps in provision**

The current pharmacy services provision matches the distribution of the population. Over the next three years significant development is planned on the periphery of Ashford town, with the greatest development occurring to the south-west of the town. All areas are currently well served by community pharmacies with access within 20 minutes by foot and public transport. It is of note that Ashford has a good off-road cycle network providing access to services.

The pharmacies currently provide service per pharmacy to a higher population than that the English average. In the contractor's questionnaire only two pharmacies out of thirteen responses stated that they did not have capacity to respond to increased demand. This may be due to current work force constraints. This indicates a gap in provision in the area southwest of Ashford town area for pharmacy services providing both essential and advanced services.

#### **9. Improvements or better access: Gaps in provision**

An increase in pharmacy provision, of both essential and advanced services, will be needed in the next three years in the area to the southwest of the Ashford town centre namely the Chilmington and Kingsnorth area, if the proposed housing is built.

