

additional papers 1



Electoral Matters Committee

Tue 26 Sep
2023
6.30 pm

Council Chamber,
Town Hall,
Walter Stranz Square,
Redditch
B98 8AH

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Electoral Matters

Tuesday, 26th September,
2023

6.30 pm

Council Chamber Town Hall

Agenda

Membership:

Cllrs:

Matthew Dormer
(Chair)
Peter Fleming (Vice-
Chair)
Juliet Barker Smith

Luke Court
Monica Stringfellow

4. Local Polling District Places Review (Pages 5 - 264)

This pack contains the background papers for this item.

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Redditch Borough Council Local Polling District and Place Review 2023

Ward Analysis: Astwood Bank & Feckenham V1.0



Impact of the Electoral Review

The previous Astwood Bank & Feckenham Ward is in its entirety in the new Astwood Bank & Feckenham Ward with the inclusion of the St Peters area (CCA) of the previous Crabbs Cross Ward, which can be seen in the top right-hand corner of the map.

Relevant Information from Previous Polling District Reviews

No changes were made in the 2019 review. The polling place for CCA changed in 2023 as the Church of LDS no longer wishes to be used as a polling station. For local Elections in May 2023, the polling place for CCA was moved to Windmill Community Centre, which is the polling place of the adjoining polling district CCB of the Crabbs Cross ward. However, CCA is now in the Astwood Bank & Feckenham ward and CCB is in the Webheath & Callow Hill ward.

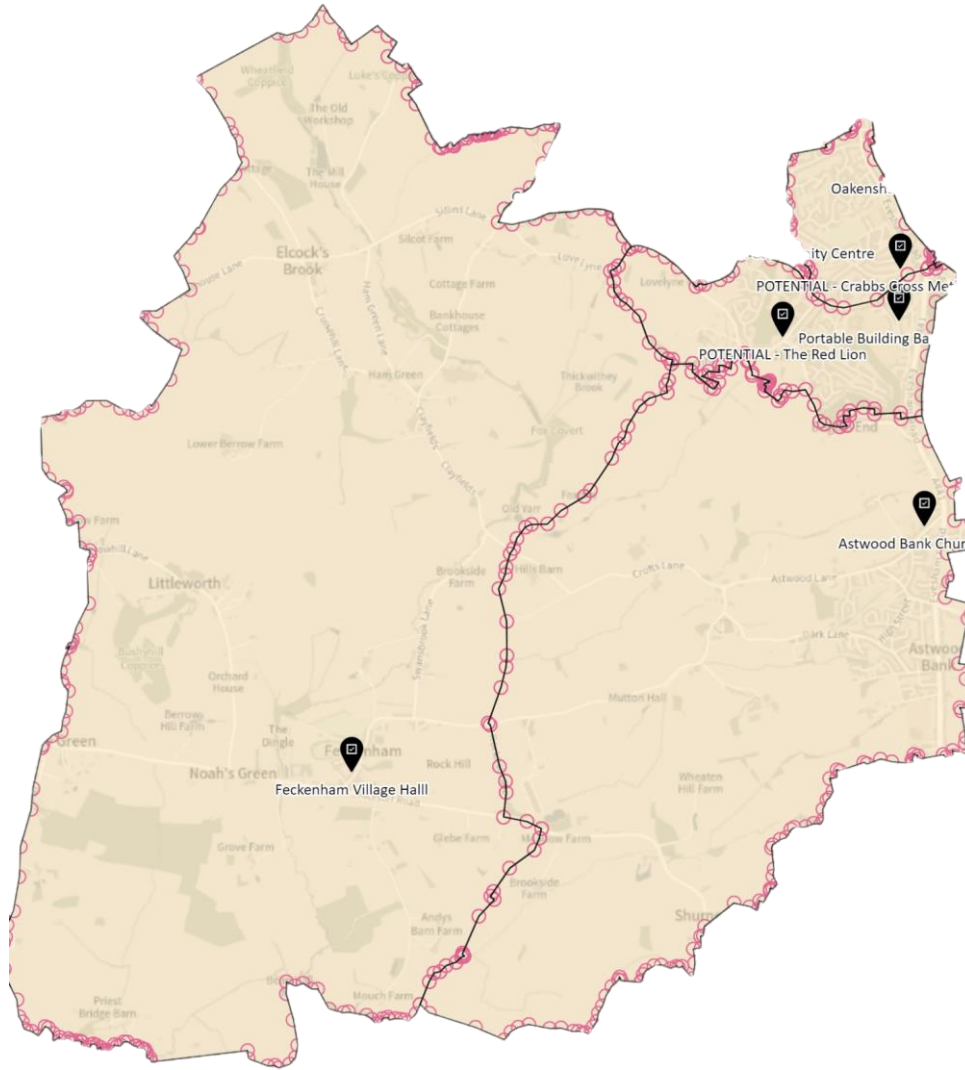
Current Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
AFA	Astwood Bank	Astwood Bank Church Hall	2436	2
AFB	Hunt End	Portable Building Banners Lane	1590	1
AFC	St Johns	Feckenham Village Hall	686	1
CCA	St Peters	Windmill Community Centre	2114	1

Proposed Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
AFA	St Peters	Crabbs Cross Methodist Church	2114	1
AFB	Hunt End	The Red Lion, Hunt End	1590	1
AFC	St Johns	Feckenham Village Hall	686	1
AFD	Astwood Bank	Astwood Bank Church Hall	2436	2

Map of New Proposals



Overview of Proposed Changes

Polling District letters have changed to accommodate the St Peters polling district. Whilst no changes are proposed to the boundaries of the St Peters polling district, there is a proposed change of polling place. This is due to the previous polling place being in a different polling district and now also in a different ward as a result of the Electoral Review. The Hunt End polling district has a proposed change of polling place as a suitable venue has been found within the polling district, negating the use of a portable building. No further changes are proposed to the polling districts or places, other than the change of code in line with system used by Electoral Services.

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	AFA – St Peters
Number of Electors	2114
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Proposed Option 1 – <i>Crabbs Cross Methodist Church</i>		Option 2 – <i>Windmill Community Centre</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments

Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	The polling place is at the southern end of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for voters.	Yes	It should be noted that this polling place is outside of the polling district and in a different ward.
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	It is noted that there is possibly room for two polling stations should an increase in electorate create a requirement.	Yes	The polling place accommodated three polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023.
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	As this is a new venue, privacy has not been discussed with polling station staff. However, the size of the venue means that there would be available space for privacy checking.	Yes	The Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes		Yes	
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No		No	Owned by Rubicon

Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No		No	
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No		No	
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		REDACTED
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	N/A		Senior Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked. Rated 4/5 for Staff 4/5 for Electors	
Polling Station Inspector Comments	N/A		Polling Station Inspector commented that the station is a good size and recommends its continued use as a polling place.	
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	N/A		Equalities Officer Inspected the Polling Station to complete an accessibility audit on 04 May 2023. No concerns raised other than external automatic door. Recommended the venue be kept as a polling station.	

Electoral Services Officer Comments	<p>We would recommend that this be used as the polling place as it is within the polling district and electors have only used the Windmill Community Centre once before. It is still a relatively low-cost polling station.</p> <p>We propose to change the PD code to AFA from CCA for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Astwood Bank & Feckenham ward</p>	It should be noted that this polling station is still recommended to be used for electors who live in the Walkwood polling district of the Webheath & Callow Hill ward.
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	AFB – Hunt End
Number of Electors	1590
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Proposed Option 1 – <i>The Red Lion</i>		Option 2 – <i>Portable Building, Banners Lane</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.	No	Limited space due to residents parking which causes generator fumes to affect polling staff

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	It is noted that there is possibly room for two polling stations. However, it is not viewed as needing an extra polling station at present.	No	
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	As this is a new venue, privacy has not been discussed with polling station staff. However, the size of the venue means that there would be available space for privacy checking.	No	Voter ID privacy is a concern at all portable buildings. Station must be temporarily cleared to check ID which may give impression of it being closed.
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes		No	The limited space available in a portable building means that voters are required to operate a 'one in one out' system. This creates a high risk of congestion and the possibility of outdoor queuing.
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	The proposed polling place is a large marquee at the back of the pub, so would have exclusive access.	Yes	Although there is a contract in place for scheduled polls. There is a risk of units being unavailable to us at short notice when running unscheduled polls.
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No	Large car park near the entrance.	Yes	The positioning of the portable building requires that a ramp be built on site upon placing of the portable buildings. This results in limited moveability which can

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				affect the gradient of the ramp. It was noted that the portable building has a raised lip at the entrance. The doors of the unit are not wide enough to accommodate all wheelchairs, meaning that some voters in wheelchairs would have to vote outside of the station.
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No	It should be noted that staff would need to use the pub toilets.	Yes	The units do not have kitchen facilities or running water for handwashing. A portable chemical toilet is required on site. These toilets are often vandalised before polling day meaning a clear-up is required and toilet paper replaced. There is no seating available for electors due to the size of the area and voting privacy.
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		REDACTED
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	N/A			Presiding Officer commented that the building was positioned in wrong place which resulted in fumes entering the building. Rated 2/5 for Staff 2/5 for Electors
Polling Station Inspector Comments	N/A			The Polling Station Inspector advised that the portable building should only be used if there is no alternative.
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	N/A			H&S, Equalities do not recommend portable buildings as polling places.

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We would recommend that this be used as the polling place as it is at the centre of the polling district. This would replace the portable building at Banners Lane. Complaints have been received about the portable building and where it is sited and this option would be considerably cheaper. We propose to no change to the polling district boundaries.	We do not recommend using a portable building as a polling place when a more suitable premises is available for the reasons outline above.
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	AFC – St Johns
Number of Electors	686
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Feckenham Village Hall</i>	Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>
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	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	Polling place is located within Feckenham village area of the polling district.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	It is noted that there is possibly room for two polling stations. However, it is not viewed as needing an extra polling station at present.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or	No			

extensive building works planned				
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No			
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer Commented that the polling place is an excellent location. Rated 5/5 for Staff 5/5 for Electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities.			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place for St Johns. Feckenham Village Hall is a large community building located in the village. The hall is well known as a polling place by the electorate. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff and is a relatively low-cost polling station.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	AFD – Astwood Bank
Number of Electors	2436
Number of polling stations required	2

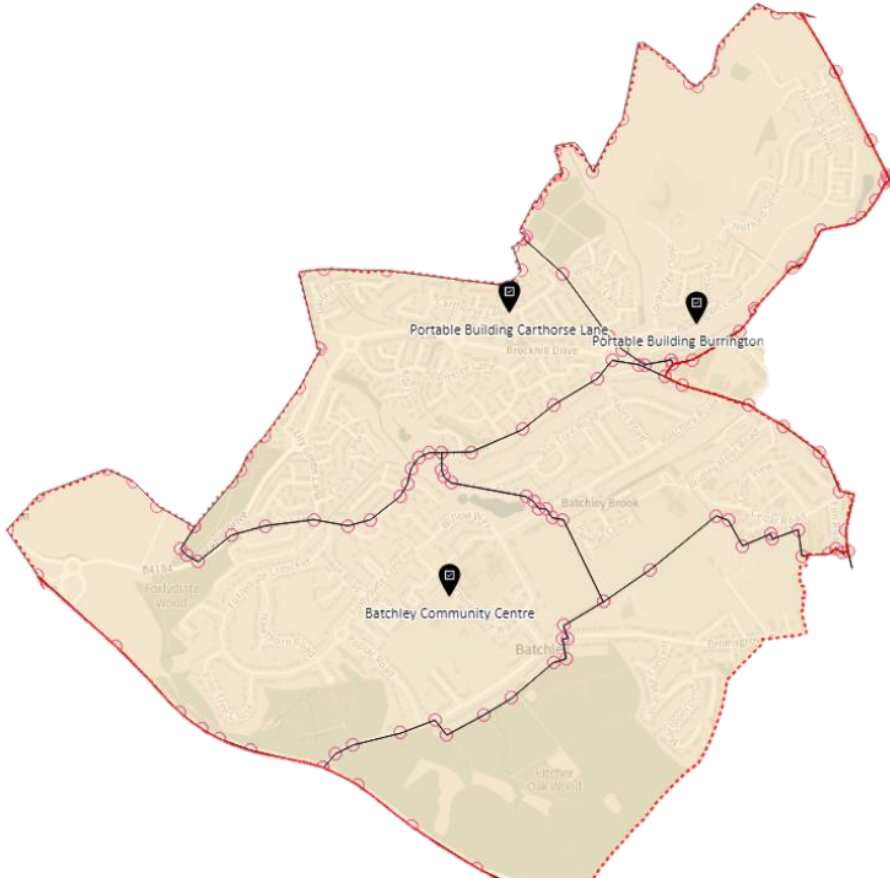
Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Astwood Bank Church Hall</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are	Yes	Polling place is located centrally within the Astwood Bank area.		

<p>there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers</p>				
<p>Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?</p>	Yes	The polling place accommodated two polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023.		
<p>Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?</p>	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
<p>Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?</p>	Yes			
<p>Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned</p>	No			
<p>Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?</p>	No	It has been noted that parking is limited.		

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer commented that this is the best location within the area. Rated 4/5 for Staff 5/5 for Electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities.			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place for Astwood Bank. Astwood Bank Church Hall is located centrally within Astwood Bank. Whilst having limited parking, the hall is well known as a polling place by the electorate and identified as the most suitable venue in the area. No further issues of concern were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff and is a relatively low-cost polling station. .	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Ward Analysis: Batchley & Brockhill V1.0



Impact of the Electoral Review

The new Batchley and Brockhill Ward consists of the old Batchley and Brockhill Ward in its entirety plus part of the Musketts (CEA) polling district (the area of north of Holmwood Drive and west of Purshall Close) of the previous Central ward.

Relevant Information from Previous Polling District Reviews

No changes to either polling districts or polling stations which affect this new ward were made in the 2019 review.

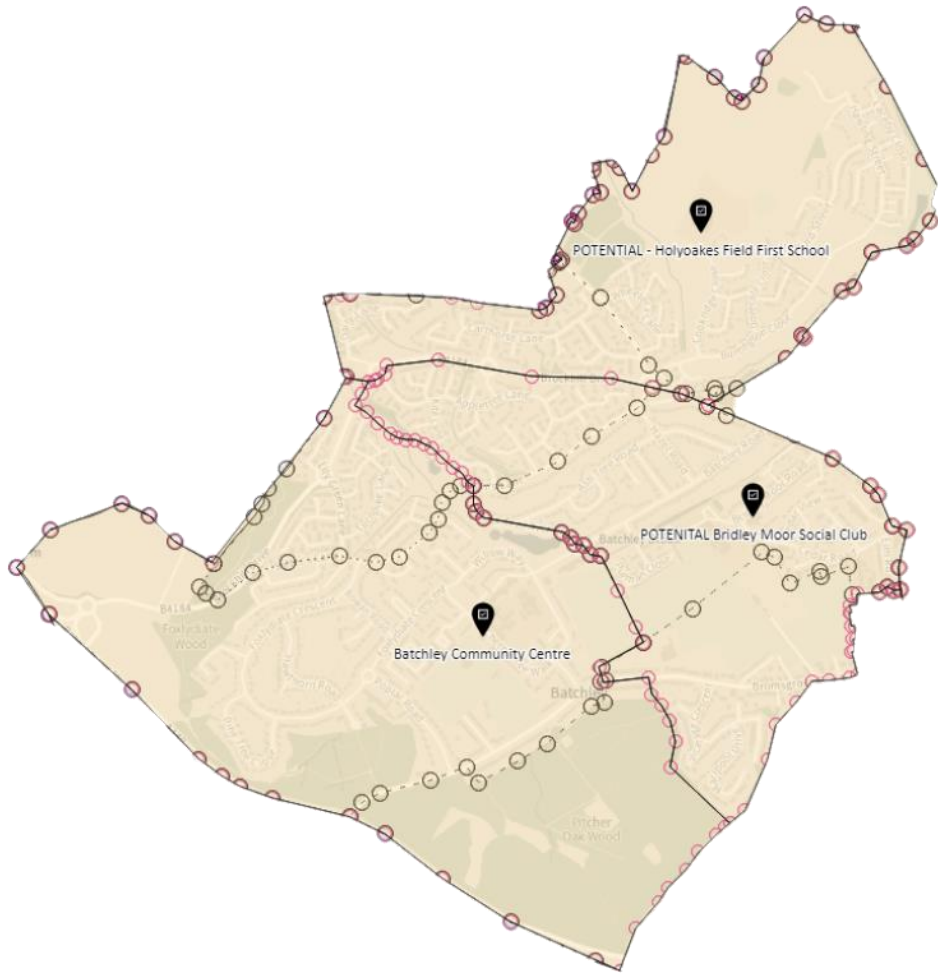
Current Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
BYA	Birchensale	Batchley Community Centre	1558	1
BYB	Brockhill West	Portable Building Carthorse Lane	2156	1
BYC	Foxlydiate	Batchley Community Centre	1807	1
BYD	Brockhill East	Portable Building Burrington Close	1049	1
CEA (part)	Musketts	Bentley Close Communal Room	610	1

Proposed Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
BBA	Brockhill	Holyoakes Field First School	2140	2
BBB	Batchley Brook	Bridley Moor & Batchley Social Club	2990	2
BBC	Batchley	Batchley Community Centre	2527	2

Map of New Proposals



Overview of Proposed Changes

The Boundaries of the new Batchley & Brockhill ward have been re-drawn to reduce the number of Polling Districts in line with the number of proposed polling places. The two portable buildings usually located within the area have been replaced with suitable alternatives. We believe this will greatly improve the voting experience for all electors, in particular those with disabilities as well as the facilities for polling station staff. The change also results in a significant cost saving.

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	BBA
Number of Electors	2130
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Holyoakes Field First School</i>		Option 2 – <i>Portable Building Burrington Close</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located to the North of the polling district in a reasonably central location within the polling district. The school is located on a hill.		The polling place was located in the bottom corner of the previous polling district and would be located centrally within the new proposed polling district.

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Room – reasonable sized room. Enough space for 1 perhaps 2 polling stations. Near front of building. • Classroom – good size room, space for 2 polling stations, need to walk round back of school to enter. • Main Hall – large room. Enough space for 3 polling stations. Near front of building. School would probably have to close if this option was used. 	No	This polling place would be unable to accommodate the proposed polling district.
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	As this is a new venue, privacy has not been discussed with polling station staff. However, the size of the venue means that there would be available space for privacy checking.	No	Voter ID privacy is a concern at all portable buildings. Station must be temporarily cleared to check ID which may give impression of it being closed.
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes		No	The limited space available in a portable building means that voters are required to operate a 'one in one out' system. This creates a high risk of congestion and the possibility of outdoor queuing.
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or	No	School has noted the need to be used for electoral purposes. Would like to remain open if possible.	Yes	Although there is a contract in place for scheduled polls, there is a risk of units being unavailable to us at short notice when running unscheduled polls.

extensive building works planned				
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No		Yes	The positioning of the portable building requires that a ramp be built on site upon placing of the portable buildings. This results in limited moveability which can affect the gradient of the ramp. It was noted that this portable building is not located on a solid base. This means that the area surrounding the building can become muddy. The doors of the unit are not wide enough to accommodate all wheelchairs, meaning that some voters in wheelchairs would have to vote outside of the station.
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No	Although if using the classroom there is only one toilet available.	Yes	The units do not have kitchen facilities or running water for handwashing. A portable chemical toilet is required on site. These toilets are often vandalised before polling day meaning a clear-up is required and toilet paper replaced. There is no seating available for electors due to the size of the area and voting privacy.
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		REDACTED
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	N/A Not currently used as a polling place.		Presiding Officer commented that a solid base should be placed at the site if the location was to be continued for use. Rated 2/5 for Staff 2/5 for electors.	

Polling Station Inspector Comments	N/A	The Polling Station Inspector advised that the portable building should only be used if there is no alternative.
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	N/A	H&S, Equalities do not recommend portable buildings as polling places.
Electoral Services Officer Comments	The school is situated in the new residential area within the polling district. Electoral Services have met with the school who are willing to accommodate the polling place whilst trying to keep the school open wherever possible. This would replace the portable building at Burrington Close and therefore recommend this be used as the polling place for the polling district.	We do not recommend using a portable building as a polling place when a more suitable premises is available for the reasons outline above.
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	BBB
Number of Electors	2990
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Bridley Moor & Batchley Social Club</i>		Option 2 – <i>Portable Building Carthorse Lane</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	The Polling Place is located on the central, eastern side of the proposed polling district. The club has a large car part and provide for easy access to the station.		The Polling Station was located at the top of the previous polling district and would be located centrally within the new proposed polling district.
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The club has a large room which could hold up to three polling stations.	No	This polling place would be unable to accommodate the proposed polling district.
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes		No	Voter ID privacy is a concern at all portable buildings. Station must be temporarily cleared to check ID which may give impression of it being closed. Presiding Officer highlighted this as a significant concern at the Local Elections held in May 2023.
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes		No	The limited space available in a portable building means that voters are required to operate a ‘one in one out’ system. This creates a high risk of congestion and the possibility of outdoor queuing.

Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	Currently undergoing some building work which is expected to be completed soon.	Yes	Although there is a contract in place for scheduled polls. There is a risk of units being unavailable to us at short notice when running unscheduled polls.
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No		Yes	The positioning of the portable building requires that a ramp be built on site upon placing of the portable buildings. This results in limited moveability which can affect the gradient of the ramp. The doors of the unit are not wide enough to accommodate all wheelchairs, meaning that some voters in wheelchairs would have to vote outside of the station.
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			The units do not have kitchen facilities or running water for handwashing. A portable chemical toilet is required on site. These toilets are often vandalised before polling day meaning a clear-up is required and toilet paper replaced. There is no seating available for electors due to the size of the area and voting privacy.
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		REDACTED
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	N/A Not currently used as a polling place.		Presiding Officer that the facilities for staff are poor with no hand-washing facilities/running water. The PO noted	

		that this was not at all good for staff welfare. Rated 1/5 for Staff and 2/5 for electors.
Polling Station Inspector Comments	N/A	The Polling Station Inspector advised that the portable building should only be used if there is no alternative.
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	N/A	H&S, Equalities do not recommend portable buildings as polling places.
Electoral Services Officer Comments	Electoral services visited the premises and identified that the club is a suitable venue for a polling station with good accessibility and facilities, with enough space for multiple polling stations. We would recommend that this be used as the polling place as it is at the centre of the polling district. This would replace the portable building at Carthorse Lane.	We do not recommend using a portable building as a polling place when a more suitable premises is available for the reasons outline above.
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

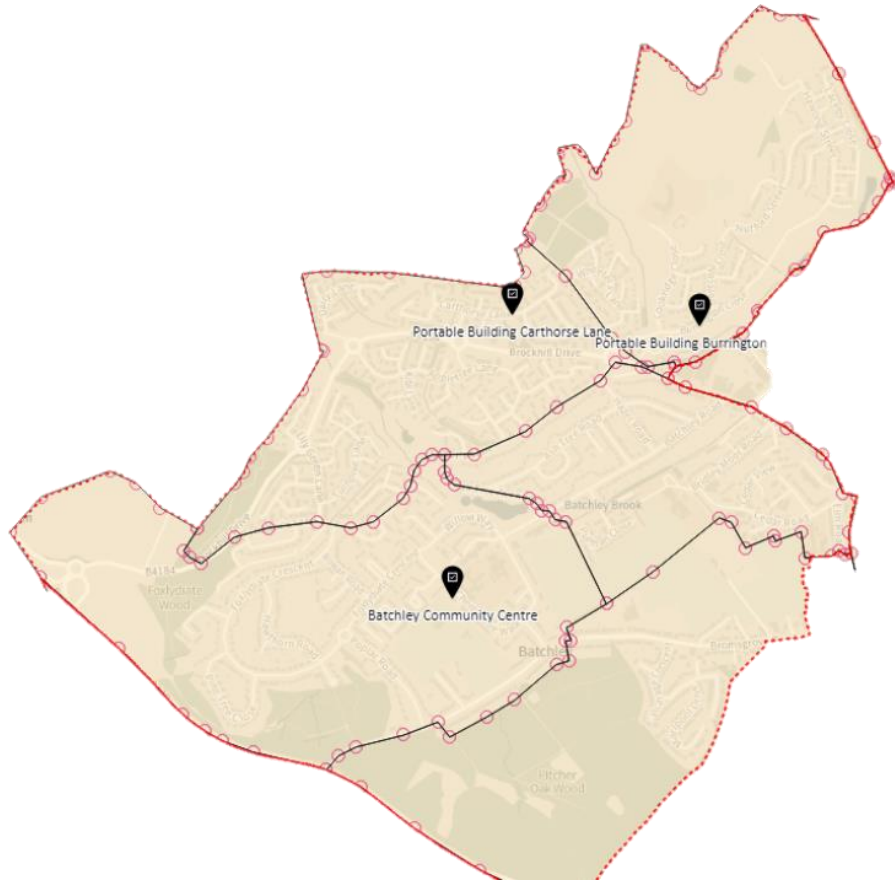
Polling District Code - Name	BBC - Batchley
Number of Electors	2518
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Batchley Community Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the residential area of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The polling place accommodated two polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			

Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	Owned by Rubicon		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No			
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	No concerns identified by the Presiding Officer.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	Polling station Inspector commented that the polling place has good facilities for staff and electors.			

Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	H&S, Equalities identified no concerns when inspecting the premises at the Local Elections held in May	
Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that the centre continues to be used as a polling place and have extended the polling district to the North. Batchley Community Centre is a large community building located within the polling district. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff and is a relatively low-cost polling station.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Ward Analysis: Batchley & Brockhill V2.0



Impact of the Electoral Review

The new Batchley and Brockhill Ward consists of the old Batchley and Brockhill Ward in its entirety plus part of the Musketts (CEA) polling district (the area of north of Holmwood Drive and west of Purshall Close) of the previous Central ward.

Relevant Information from Previous Polling District Reviews

No changes to either polling districts or polling stations which affect this new ward were made in the 2019 review.

Current Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
BYA	Birchensale	Batchley Community Centre	1558	1
BYB	Brockhill West	Portable Building Carthorse Lane	2156	1
BYC	Foxlydiate	Batchley Community Centre	1807	1
BYD	Brockhill East	Portable Building Burrington Close	1049	1
CEA (part)	Musketts	Bentley Close Communal Room	610	1

Proposed Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
BBA	Brockhill	Holyoakes Field First School	1518	1
BBB	Batchley Brook	Bridley Moor & Batchley Social Club	2883	2
BBC	Batchley	Batchley Community Centre	2277	2
BBD	Foxlydiate	Gospel Hall Church	979	1

Map of New Proposals



Overview of Proposed Changes

The Boundaries of the new Batchley & Brockhill ward have been re-drawn to reduce the number of Polling Districts in line with the number of proposed polling places. The two portable buildings usually located within the area have been replaced with suitable alternatives. We believe this will greatly improve the voting experience for all electors, those with disabilities, as well as the facilities for polling station staff. The change also results in a significant cost saving. Following initial discussions with the working group, the boundaries have been altered based on the discussions and a new polling district has been created, with the Gospel Hall Church the proposed polling place.

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	BBA
Number of Electors	1518
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Holyoakes Field First School</i>		Option 2 – <i>Portable Building Burrington Close</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located to the North of the polling district in a reasonably central location within the polling district. The school is located on a hill.		The polling place was located in the bottom corner of the previous polling district and would be located centrally within the new proposed polling district.

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Room – reasonable sized room. Enough space for 1 perhaps 2 polling stations. Near front of building. • Classroom – good size room, space for 2 polling stations, need to walk round back of school to enter. • Main Hall – large room. Enough space for 3 polling stations. Near front of building. School would probably have to close if this option was used. 	No	This polling place would be unable to accommodate the proposed polling district.
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	As this is a new venue, privacy has not been discussed with polling station staff. However, the size of the venue means that there would be available space for privacy checking.	No	Voter ID privacy is a concern at all portable buildings. Station must be temporarily cleared to check ID which may give impression of it being closed.
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes		No	The limited space available in a portable building means that voters are required to operate a 'one in one out' system. This creates a high risk of congestion and the possibility of outdoor queuing.
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or	No	School has noted the need to be used for electoral purposes. Would like to remain open if possible.	Yes	Although there is a contract in place for scheduled polls, there is a risk of units being unavailable to us at short notice when running unscheduled polls.

extensive building works planned				
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No		Yes	The positioning of the portable building requires that a ramp be built on site upon placing of the portable buildings. This results in limited moveability which can affect the gradient of the ramp. It was noted that this portable building is not located on a solid base. This means that the area surrounding the building can become muddy. The doors of the unit are not wide enough to accommodate all wheelchairs, meaning that some voters in wheelchairs would have to vote outside of the station.
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No	Although if using the classroom there is only one toilet available.	Yes	The units do not have kitchen facilities or running water for handwashing. A portable chemical toilet is required on site. These toilets are often vandalised before polling day meaning a clear-up is required and toilet paper replaced. There is no seating available for electors due to the size of the area and voting privacy.
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		REDACTED
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	N/A Not currently used as a polling place.		Presiding Officer commented that a solid base should be placed at the site if the location was to be continued for use. Rated 2/5 for Staff 2/5 for electors.	

Polling Station Inspector Comments	N/A	The Polling Station Inspector advised that the portable building should only be used if there is no alternative.
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	N/A	H&S, Equalities do not recommend portable buildings as polling places.
Electoral Services Officer Comments	The school is situated in the new residential area within the polling district. Electoral Services have met with the school who are willing to accommodate the polling place whilst trying to keep the school open wherever possible. This would replace the portable building at Burrington Close and therefore recommend this be used as the polling place for the polling district.	We do not recommend using a portable building as a polling place when a more suitable premises is available for the reasons outline above.
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	BBB
Number of Electors	2883
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Bridley Moor & Batchley Social Club</i>		Option 2 – <i>Portable Building Carthorse Lane</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	The Polling Place is located on the central, eastern side of the proposed polling district. The club has a large car part and provide for easy access to the station.		The Polling Station was located at the top of the previous polling district and would be located centrally within the new proposed polling district.
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The club has a large room which could hold up to three polling stations.	No	This polling place would be unable to accommodate the proposed polling district.
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes		No	Voter ID privacy is a concern at all portable buildings. Station must be temporarily cleared to check ID which may give impression of it being closed. Presiding Officer highlighted this as a significant

				concern at the Local Elections held in May 2023.
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes		No	The limited space available in a portable building means that voters are required to operate a 'one in one out' system. This creates a high risk of congestion and the possibility of outdoor queuing.
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	Currently undergoing some building work which is expected to be completed soon.	Yes	Although there is a contract in place for scheduled polls. There is a risk of units being unavailable to us at short notice when running unscheduled polls.
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No		Yes	The positioning of the portable building requires that a ramp be built on site upon placing of the portable buildings. This results in limited moveability which can affect the gradient of the ramp. The doors of the unit are not wide enough to accommodate all wheelchairs, meaning that some voters in wheelchairs would have to vote outside of the station.

Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			The units do not have kitchen facilities or running water for handwashing. A portable chemical toilet is required on site. These toilets are often vandalised before polling day meaning a clear-up is required and toilet paper replaced. There is no seating available for electors due to the size of the area and voting privacy.
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		Would need to discuss charges with committee but would keep in line with other polling stations.		£1119 (this includes the cost for electrical hook-up)
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	N/A Not currently used as a polling place.		Presiding Officer that the facilities for staff are poor with no hand-washing facilities/running water. The PO noted that this was not at all good for staff welfare. Rated 1/5 for Staff and 2/5 for electors.	
Polling Station Inspector Comments	N/A		The Polling Station Inspector advised that the portable building should only be used if there is no alternative.	
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	N/A		H&S, Equalities do not recommend portable buildings as polling places.	

Electoral Services Officer Comments	Electoral services visited the premises and identified that the club is a suitable venue for a polling station with good accessibility and facilities, with enough space for multiple polling stations. We would recommend that this be used as the polling place as it is at the centre of the polling district. This would replace the portable building at Carthorse Lane.	We do not recommend using a portable building as a polling place when a more suitable premises is available for the reasons outline above.
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	BBC - Batchley
Number of Electors	2277
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Batchley Community Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the residential area of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The polling place accommodated two polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	Owned by Rubicon		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	No concerns identified by the Presiding Officer.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	Polling station Inspector commented that the polling place has good facilities for staff and electors.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	H&S, Equalities identified no concerns when inspecting the premises at the Local Elections held in May			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that the centre continues to be used as a polling place and have extended the polling district to the North. Batchley Community Centre is a large community building located within the polling district. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff and is a relatively low-cost polling station.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	BBD – Foxlydiate
Number of Electors	979
Number of polling stations required	1

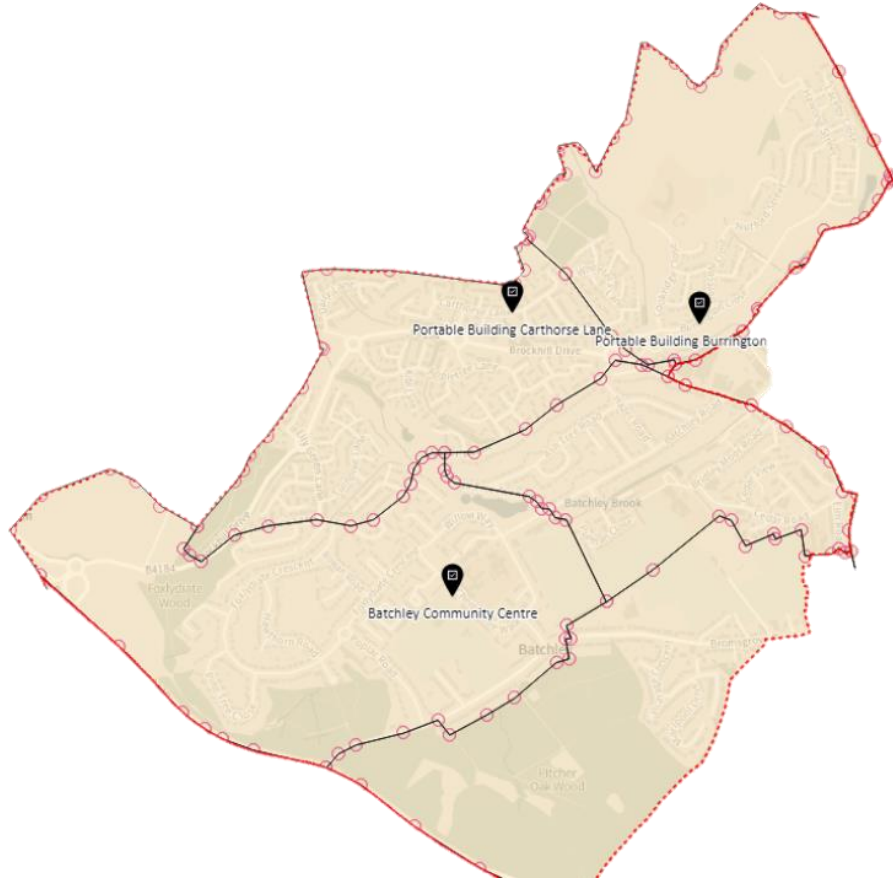
Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Gospel Hall Church</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located to the south of the residential area of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	It is noted that there is possibly room for two polling stations. However, one of the rooms has a sloping floor which limits the space available. The venue is not viewed as needing an extra polling station at present.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	As this is a new venue, privacy has not been discussed with polling station staff. However, the size of the venue means that there would be available space for privacy checking.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	The use still needs to be discussed with the trustees.		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	N/A			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	N/A			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	N/A			

<p>Electoral Services Officer Comments</p>	<p>The Creation of the new polling district was proposed at the first working group discussion for this ward. Officers have visited the proposed polling place and have found that it is a suitable location.</p>	
<p>Returning Officer's Comments</p>		

Ward Analysis: Batchley & Brockhill V3.0



Impact of the Electoral Review

The new Batchley and Brockhill Ward consists of the old Batchley and Brockhill Ward in its entirety plus part of the Musketts (CEA) polling district (the area of north of Holmwood Drive and west of Purshall Close) of the previous Central ward.

Relevant Information from Previous Polling District Reviews

No changes to either polling districts or polling stations which affect this new ward were made in the 2019 review.

Current Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
BYA	Birchensale	Batchley Community Centre	1558	1
BYB	Brockhill West	Portable Building Carthorse Lane	2156	1
BYC	Foxlydiate	Batchley Community Centre	1807	1
BYD	Brockhill East	Portable Building Burrington Close	1049	1
CEA (part)	Musketts	Bentley Close Communal Room	610	1

Proposed Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
BBA	Brockhill	Holyoakes Field First School	2869	2
BBB	Batchley Brook	Bridley Moor & Batchley Social Club	1605	1
BBC	Batchley	Batchley Community Centre	1724	1
BBD	Foxlydiate	Gospel Hall Church	1459	1

Overview of Proposed Changes

The Boundaries of the new Batchley & Brockhill ward have been re-drawn based on proposals put forward by Cllr Flemming as discussed in the second working group discussion for this ward.

The Foxlydiat polling district has been extended to include Lily Green Lane and Turnpike Lane with the new boundary at Brockhill Park. The Brockhill polling district has extended to include the majority of the Brockhill area surrounding Brockhill Lane. The Bromsgrove Road Boundary has been amended for convenience of electors and distance between the Batchley and Batchley Brook polling districts.

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	BBA
Number of Electors	2869
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Holyokes Field First School</i>		Option 2 – <i>Portable Building Burrington Close</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with	Yes	Polling place located to the North of the polling district in a reasonably		The polling place was located in the bottom corner of the previous polling district and

suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers		central location within the polling district. The school is located on a hill.		would be located centrally within the new proposed polling district.
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Room – reasonable sized room. Enough space for 1 perhaps 2 polling stations. Near front of building. • Classroom – good size room, space for 2 polling stations, need to walk round back of school to enter. • Main Hall – large room. Enough space for 3 polling stations. Near front of building. School would probably have to close if this option was used. 	No	This polling place would be unable to accommodate the proposed polling district.
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	As this is a new venue, privacy has not been discussed with polling station staff. However, the size of the venue means that there would be available space for privacy checking.	No	Voter ID privacy is a concern at all portable buildings. Station must be temporarily cleared to check ID which may give impression of it being closed.
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes		No	The limited space available in a portable building means that voters are required to operate a ‘one in one out’ system. This creates a high risk of congestion and the possibility of outdoor queuing.
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station?	No	School has noted the need to be used for electoral purposes. Would like to remain open if possible.	Yes	Although there is a contract in place for scheduled polls, there is a risk of units

E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned				being unavailable to us at short notice when running unscheduled polls.
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No		Yes	The positioning of the portable building requires that a ramp be built on site upon placing of the portable buildings. This results in limited moveability which can affect the gradient of the ramp. It was noted that this portable building is not located on a solid base. This means that the area surrounding the building can become muddy. The doors of the unit are not wide enough to accommodate all wheelchairs, meaning that some voters in wheelchairs would have to vote outside of the station.
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No	Although if using the classroom there is only one toilet available.	Yes	The units do not have kitchen facilities or running water for handwashing. A portable chemical toilet is required on site. These toilets are often vandalised before polling day meaning a clear-up is required and toilet paper replaced. There is no seating available for electors due to the size of the area and voting privacy.
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		REDACTED
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments

Presiding Officer Comments	N/A Not currently used as a polling place.	Presiding Officer commented that a solid base should be placed at the site if the location was to be continued for use. Rated 2/5 for Staff 2/5 for electors.
Polling Station Inspector Comments	N/A	The Polling Station Inspector advised that the portable building should only be used if there is no alternative.
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	N/A	H&S, Equalities do not recommend portable buildings as polling places.
Electoral Services Officer Comments	The school is situated in the new residential area within the polling district. Electoral Services have met with the school who are willing to accommodate the polling place whilst trying to keep the school open wherever possible. This would replace the portable building at Burrington Close and therefore recommend this be used as the polling place for the polling district. Officers have no adverse comments on the changes to the polling district boundaries proposed by the working group.	We do not recommend using a portable building as a polling place when a more suitable premises is available for the reasons outline above.
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	BBB
Number of Electors	1605
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Bridley Moor & Batchley Social Club</i>		Option 2 – <i>Portable Building Carthorse Lane</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	The Polling Place is located on the central, eastern side of the proposed polling district. The club has a large car part and provide for easy access to the station.		The Polling Station was located at the top of the previous polling district and would be located centrally within the new proposed polling district.
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The club has a large room which could hold up to three polling stations.	No	This polling place would be unable to accommodate the proposed polling district.
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private	Yes		No	Voter ID privacy is a concern at all portable buildings. Station must be temporarily

areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?				cleared to check ID which may give impression of it being closed. Presiding Officer highlighted this as a significant concern at the Local Elections held in May 2023.
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes		No	The limited space available in a portable building means that voters are required to operate a 'one in one out' system. This creates a high risk of congestion and the possibility of outdoor queuing.
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	Currently undergoing some building work which is expected to be completed soon.	Yes	Although there is a contract in place for scheduled polls. There is a risk of units being unavailable to us at short notice when running unscheduled polls.
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No		Yes	The positioning of the portable building requires that a ramp be built on site upon placing of the portable buildings. This results in limited moveability which can affect the gradient of the ramp. The doors of the unit are not wide enough to accommodate all wheelchairs, meaning that some voters in wheelchairs would have to vote outside of the station.

Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			The units do not have kitchen facilities or running water for handwashing. A portable chemical toilet is required on site. These toilets are often vandalised before polling day meaning a clear-up is required and toilet paper replaced. There is no seating available for electors due to the size of the area and voting privacy.
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		Would need to discuss charges with committee but would keep in line with other polling stations.		£1119 (this includes the cost for electrical hook-up)
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	N/A Not currently used as a polling place.		Presiding Officer that the facilities for staff are poor with no hand-washing facilities/running water. The PO noted that this was not at all good for staff welfare. Rated 1/5 for Staff and 2/5 for electors.	
Polling Station Inspector Comments	N/A		The Polling Station Inspector advised that the portable building should only be used if there is no alternative.	
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	N/A		H&S, Equalities do not recommend portable buildings as polling places.	

Electoral Services Officer Comments	Electoral services visited the premises and identified that the club is a suitable venue for a polling station with good accessibility and facilities, with enough space for multiple polling stations. We would recommend that this be used as the polling place as it is at the centre of the polling district. This would replace the portable building at Carthorse Lane. Officers have no adverse comments on changes to the polling district boundaries suggested by the working group.	We do not recommend using a portable building as a polling place when a more suitable premises is available for the reasons outline above.
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	BBC - Batchley
Number of Electors	1724
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Batchley Community Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the residential area of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The polling place accommodated two polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	Owned by Rubicon		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	No concerns identified by the Presiding Officer.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	Polling station Inspector commented that the polling place has good facilities for staff and electors.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	H&S, Equalities identified no concerns when inspecting the premises at the Local Elections held in May			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that the centre continues to be used as a polling place and have extended the polling district to the North. Batchley Community Centre is a large community building located within the polling district. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff and is a relatively low-cost polling station. Officers have no adverse comments on the changes proposed by the working group.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	BBD – Foxlydiate
Number of Electors	1459
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Gospel Hall Church</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located to the south of the residential area of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	It is noted that there is possibly room for two polling stations. However, one of the rooms has a sloping floor which limits the space available. The venue is not viewed as needing an extra polling station at present.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	As this is a new venue, privacy has not been discussed with polling station staff. However, the size of the venue means that there would be available space for privacy checking.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	The use still needs to be discussed with the trustees.		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	N/A			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	N/A			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	N/A			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	The Creation of the new polling district was proposed at the first working group discussion for this ward. Officers have visited the proposed polling place and have found that it is a suitable location. The revised boundaries have also been suggested by the working group. Officers have no adverse comments on the proposed changes.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Ward Analysis: Central V1.0



Impact of the Electoral Review

The new Central Ward includes the polling districts Smallwood (CEB), Southcrest (CEC) and part of Musketts (CEA) of the old Central Ward. It also includes the polling district of St Georges (LPC) from the old Lodge Park Ward and the St Stephens (ABC) polling district from the old Abbey Ward.

The CEA area within the new Central Ward is that east of Holmwood Drive.

The old Central Ward polling districts are in Redditch North County Division whereas ABC and LPC polling districts are in the Arrow Valley West County Division.

Relevant Information from Previous Polling District Reviews

In the 2019 review there was no suggested changes for polling places in ABC, CEA, CEB and CEC. In LPC electors had a change of polling place from Beoley Road West Communal Room to Harry Taylor House. This will need reviewing again in this review.

Boundaries between CEA, CEB and CEC were tidied up as they had been very complex and out of date.

Current Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
CEA (part)	Musketts	Bentley Close Communal Room	1030	1
CEB	Smallwood	REDI Centre	1033	1
CEC	Southcrest	Southcrest Evangelical Church	2130	1
LPC	St Georges	Harry Taylor House	438	1
ABC	St Stephens	Redditch Baptist Church	2207	2

Proposed Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
CEA	St Stephens	Redditch Baptist Church	2757	2
CEB	Smallwood	REDI Centre	1200	1
CEC	Southcrest	Southcrest Evangelical Church	1915	1
CED	Pitcheroak	Bentley Close Communal Room	1030	1

Map of New Proposals



Overview of Proposed Changes

In the CEA polling district, it is proposed that residents formally in the LPC polling district in the small area below the Coventry Highway are placed into the CEA polling district. No further changes are proposed in the district.

In CEB, there has been a small boundary change to move those on the northern side of Parsons Road as well as those on Beaufort Street and Old Crest Avenue into the district for convenience of polling place. No change is proposed to the polling place.

No changes are proposed to CEC other than those moving into the CEB district.

No changes are proposed to the CED district, although those previously in the district on the Bromsgrove road/Vicarage Crescent have now moved in to the Batchley and Brockhill ward.

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	CEA – St Stephens
Number of Electors	2757
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Redditch Baptist Church</i>		Option 2 – <i>Polling Place Name</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	The polling station is centrally located within the polling district. Whilst it is a further distance for those at the very North of the district, there are no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The Baptist Church held two polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		

Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No	The polling Station Inspector noted that parking is limited with on road parking only.		
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£

Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments				
Polling Station Inspector Comments		PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.		
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments		Equalities Officer Inspected the Polling Station to complete an accessibility audit on 04 May 2023. No concerns raised other than the limited parking available for electors. Recommended the venue be kept as a polling station.		
Electoral Services Officer Comments		We recommend that the former LPC polling district be amalgamated with this polling district as it is closest to the Redditch Baptist Church. Redditch Baptist Church is well known as a polling station for this polling district so no change to the polling place is proposed.		
Returning Officer's Comments				

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	CEB – Smallwood
Number of Electors	1200
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>REDI Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>Polling Place Name</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers		The polling station located at the edge of the polling district. However, there are no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	It is noted that there is possibly room for two polling stations. However, it is not viewed as needing an extra polling station at present.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	As there were no elections held at this polling place in May 2023, privacy has not been discussed with polling station staff. However, the size of the venue means that there would be available space for privacy checking.		

Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No	Depending on what room is being used, the rear entrance may need to be used.		
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£

Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments		Not used in May 2023 but past comments confirm Presiding Officers are happy with the use of the building as a polling station.		
Polling Station Inspector Comments		As Above.		
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments		Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities		
Electoral Services Officer Comments		We recommend that the polling district boundary to include those outlined above as the REDI centre is a more accessible location. We do not propose any change to the polling place.		
Returning Officer's Comments				

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	CEC – Smallwood
Number of Electors	1915
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Southcrest Evangelical Church</i>		Option 2 – <i>Polling Place Name</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	The polling station located at the edge of the polling district. However, there are no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	It is noted that there is possibly room for two polling stations. However, it is not viewed as needing an extra polling station at present.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	As there were no elections held at this polling place in May 2023, privacy has not been discussed with polling station staff. However, the size of the venue means that there would be available space for privacy checking.		

Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No			
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£

Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments		Not used in May 2023 but past comments confirm Presiding Officers are happy with the use of the building as a polling station.		
Polling Station Inspector Comments		As above.		
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments		Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities		
Electoral Services Officer Comments		We recommend the small change to the polling district boundary as outlined above as the electors affected are closer to the REDI Centre. As a polling place, Southcrest Evangelical Church is well known as a polling place by the electorate and therefore its continued use is recommended.		
Returning Officer's Comments				

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	CED – Pitcheroak
Number of Electors	1030
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Bentley Close Communal Room</i>		Option 2 – <i>Polling Place Name</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	The polling district is in reasonably central location with the polling district, with no apparent obstacles to those voting in person.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	No	The venue is a small communal room and therefore not suitable for more than one station, although it is not envisaged that more than one would be needed.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	As there were no elections held at this polling place in May 2023, privacy has not been discussed with polling station staff. However, the size of the venue means that there would be available space for privacy checking.		

Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No			
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£

Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments		Not used in May 2023 but past comments confirm Presiding Officers are happy with the use of the building as a polling station.		
Polling Station Inspector Comments		As above		
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments		Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities Officers.		
Electoral Services Officer Comments		We recommend no changes to the polling district boundary. Bentley Close Communal Room is well known as a polling place by the electorate. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff and is a relatively low-cost polling station.		
Returning Officer's Comments				

Ward Analysis: Greenlands & Lakeside_V1.0

Map of Current Polling Districts



Impact of the Electoral Review

The new Ward consists of the Riverside polling district of the old Abbey Ward, Holloway (LPB) and Arrowcrest (LPA) of the old Lodge Park Ward plus part of the Throckmorton (GRA) polling district of the old Greenlands Ward.

The part of GRA included in this ward is north of Throckmorton and Nash roads.

Relevant Information from Previous Polling District Reviews

In the 2019 review it was agreed to move the polling place for LPA from Oak Hill First School to Lodge Park Social Club. In addition, a small boundary change was made between LPA and LPB along Holloway Lane.

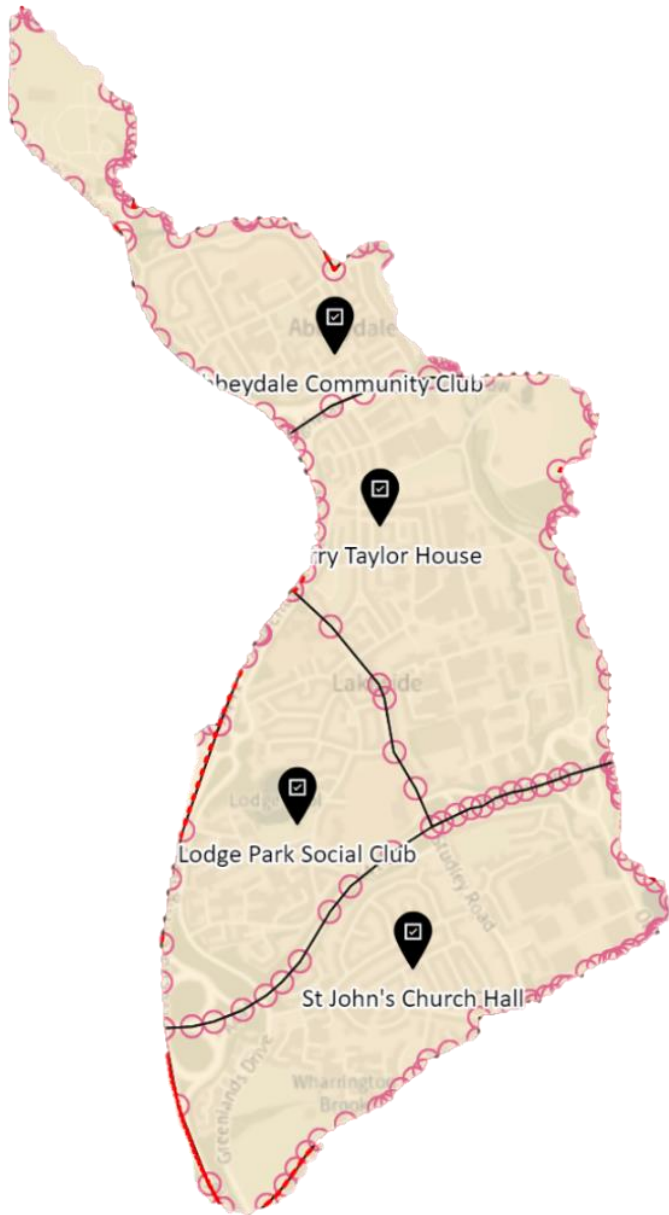
Current Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
ABA	Riverside	Abbeydale Community Club	1638	1
LPB	Holloway	Harry Taylor House	1471	1
LPA	Arrowcrest	Lodge Park Social Club	1763	1
GRA (part)	Throckmorton	St John's Church Hall	2489	2

Proposed Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
GLA	Riverside	Abbeydale Community Club	1638	1
GLB	Holloway	Harry Taylor House	1471	1
GLC	Arrowcrest	Lodge Park Social Club	1763	1
GLD	Throckmorton	St John's Church Hall	2489	2

Map of New Proposals



Overview of Proposed Changes

The proposed changes in the Greenlands & Lakeside ward are to move the new GLD polling district boundary along the A4189 to take in the area of Watery Lane. Polling district codes have been changed to keep them in line with the ward name and with the system used by Electoral Services.

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	GLA – Riverside
Number of Electors	1638
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Abbeydale Community Club</i>		Option 2 – <i>No alternative proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	The polling place is at the southern end of the polling district but situated where most of the residential properties are located.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary	Yes	It is noted that there is possibly room for two polling stations. However, it is not viewed as needing an extra polling station at present.		

staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?				
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No	The Presiding Officer commented that parking and accessibility is very good at the polling place.		

Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No	It was noted that lighting within the station is dim due to some of the light bulbs are no longer working.		
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked. Rated 3/5 for Staff and 3/5 for Electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	Recommended keeping as a station. Lighting was mentioned and noted that some bulbs were missing.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	H&S, Equalities visited on 04 May 2023, also noted dull lighting.			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	<p>We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place. The building is well known as a polling place by the electorate. Electoral Services can deal with premises over lighting issues and is a relatively low-cost polling station.</p> <p>We propose to change the PD code to GLA for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Greenlands and Lakeside ward.</p>	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	GLB – Holloway
Number of Electors	1471
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Harry Taylor House</i>		Option 2 – <i>No alternative proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the residential area of		

<p>there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers</p>		<p>the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.</p>		
<p>Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?</p>	Yes	<p>It is noted that there is possibly room for two polling stations. However, it is not viewed as needing an extra polling station at present.</p>		
<p>Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?</p>	Yes	<p>As there were no elections held at this polling place in May 2023, privacy has not been discussed with polling station staff. However, the size of the venue means that there would be available space for privacy checking.</p>		
<p>Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?</p>	Yes			
<p>Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned</p>	No	<p>Owned by RBC</p>		

Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No			
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Not used in May 2023 but past comments confirm Presiding Officers are happy with the use of the building as a polling station.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	As above.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	<p>We recommend that the polling district boundary moves to the A4189. Harry Taylor House is well known as a polling place by the electorate. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff and is a low-cost polling station owned by the Council.</p> <p>We propose to change the PD code to GLB for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Greenlands and Lakeside ward.</p>	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	GLC – Arrowcrest
Number of Electors	1763
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Lodge Park Social Club</i>		Option 2 – <i>No alternative proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the residential part of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	It is noted that there is possibly room for two polling stations. However, it is not viewed as needing an extra polling station at present.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	As there were no elections held at this polling place in May 2023, privacy has not been discussed with polling station staff. However, the size of the venue means that there would be available space for privacy checking.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Not used in May 2023 but past comments confirm Presiding Officers are happy with the use of the building as a polling station.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	As above.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	<p>We recommend no changes to the polling district boundary. Lodge Park Social Club is well known as a polling place by the electorate. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff and is a relatively low-cost polling station.</p> <p>We propose to change the PD code to GLC for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Greenlands and Lakeside ward.</p>	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	GLD – Throckmorton
Number of Electors	2646
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>St Johns Church Hall</i>		Option 2 – <i>No alternative proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the residential part of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The polling place accommodated two polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No	Whilst a car park is available at the rear of the building, it is noted that most electors use on road parking.		

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No	The Presiding Officer did feedback that there could be a possible issue with wheelchair users and the automatic doors.		
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer did raise a concern regarding the automatic doors and the effect on wheelchair users. No other concerns raised. Rated 5/5 for Staff 3/5 for electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI recommends as a polling station, good facilities, and parking.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that the polling district boundary moves to the A4189. St Johns Church Hall is well known as a polling place by the electorate. Electoral Staff will contact the property regarding the doors. It is a relatively low-cost polling station. We propose to change the PD code to GLD for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Greenlands and Lakeside ward.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Ward Analysis: Headless Cross & Oakenshaw V1.0



Impact of the Electoral Review

The ward is made up of the whole of the old Headless Cross and Oakenshaw Ward plus part of the Woodrow Polling District (GRB) which is south of Oakenshaw South Polling District (HOD) and the housing behind the hospital. This will mean that the part GRB is in a different County Division to the rest of the Ward.

Relevant Information from Previous Polling District Reviews

In the 2019 review complex boundaries between HOA, HOB and HOC were tidied up to reduce the complexity of the polling districts. The polling place of Vaynor School for Polling District HOA was moved to Headless Cross Scout and Guide Hut.

It was questioned why there were two polling stations in Oakenshaw (HOC and HOD) esp since one is a portable building. It was further questioned if HOD electors could vote at St Peters or Crabbs Cross Methodist Church. At the end of the review no change was made.

No change was suggested for Polling District GRB but in between reviews comment have been made about an extra polling place for the area now moving into this Ward.

Current Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
HOA	Vaynor	Headless Cross Scout and Guide Hut	1727	1
HOB	Birchfield	Rocklands Social Club	1825	1
HOC	Oakenshaw North	Oakenshaw Community Centre	1547	1
HOD	Oakenshaw South	Portable Building, Grangers Lane	1322	1
GRB (part)	Woodrow	Woodrow Community Centre	769	2

Proposed Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
HOA	Headless Cross	Rocklands Social Club	3656	2
HOB	Oakenshaw North	Oakenshaw Community Centre	1470	1
HOC	Oakenshaw South	Portable Building, Grangers Lane	2113	1

Map of New Proposals



Overview of Proposed Changes

The Vaynor and Birchfield polling districts have been combined as well as the inclusion of Ellerdene Close to create a Headless Cross polling district with Rocklands Social Club (the most suitable venue) proposed at the polling place. Oakenshaw North is mostly unchanged except for the removal of Ellerdene Close, with no proposed change to the polling place. The current Oakenshaw South polling district has been combined with the part of the previous Woodrow Polling District which is now within the Headless Cross & Oakenshaw ward with no proposed change in polling place due to lack of alternatives.

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	HOA – Headless Cross
Number of Electors	3656
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Rocklands Social Club</i>		Option 2 – <i>Headless Cross Scout & Guide HQ</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a reasonably central location within the residential area of the polling district with no	Yes	Polling place located in a reasonably central location within the residential area of the polling district. However, as the entrance to

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers		apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		the building is through Archer Terrace, signing is required from the main road.
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The polling place has previously only operated one polling station. However, the polling station inspector has identified that the premises could accommodate two polling stations.	Yes	The polling station inspector has identified that the premises could accommodate two polling stations.
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.	Yes	The Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes		Yes	
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No		No	
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No		Yes	Finding the polling station has caused some elector confusion in the past.

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No		No	
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		REDACTED
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked and stated that it is a suitable venue which electors are familiar with. Rated 5/5 for Staff 4/5 for Electors.		Presiding Officer stated that the building works well as a polling station, but additional signage is needed to avoid elector confusion. Recommended looking into combining the District with Rocklands Social Club.	
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.		PSI Recommends identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections. It was noted that additional sign needed for the main road.	
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Equalities Officer Inspected the Polling Station to complete an accessibility audit on 04 May 2023. No concerns were raised. Recommended the venue be kept as a polling station.		Equalities Officer Inspected the Polling Station to complete an accessibility audit on 04 May 2023. No concerns were raised.	

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that the club continues to be used as a polling place and combining the two districts which have two different station in close proximity is an economical decision. The club is located centrally within the polling district. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff.	Whilst the Scout Hut is a suitable polling place. Its close proximity to the Rocklands Social Club and its location outside of the current polling district and additional difficulty locating mean that we recommend combining the two polling district and using Rocklands as the Polling Place. This will also represent a cost saving.
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	HOB - Oakenshaw North
Number of Electors	1451
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Oakenshaw Community Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No alternative proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the residential area of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The polling place has previously only operated one polling station. However, the polling station inspector has identified that this is a large premise which could accommodate up to three polling stations.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	Owned by Rubicon.		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked Commented that the polling place was a good location with easy access and good for staff. Rated 5/5 for Staff 5/5 for Electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Equalities Officer Inspected the Polling Station to complete an accessibility audit on 04 May 2023. No concerns were raised. Recommended the venue be kept as a polling station.			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that the centre continues to be used as a polling place and have extended the polling district to the North. Oakenshaw Community Centre is a large community building located within the polling district. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff and is a relatively low-cost polling station.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	HOC – Oakenshaw South
Number of Electors	2113
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Portable Building, Grangers Lane</i>		Option 2 – <i>No alternative proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are	-	This is the only suitable polling place within the polling district. It should be noted that there is limited parking on		

there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers		the street where the building is situated.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	No	The polling place can only accommodate one polling station.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	No	Voter ID privacy is a concern at all portable buildings. Station has to be temporarily cleared to check ID which may give impression of it being closed.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	No	The limited space available in a portable building means that voters are required to operate a 'one in one out' system. This creates a high risk of congestion and the possibility of outdoor queuing.		
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	Yes	Although there is a contract in place for scheduled polls, there is a risk of units being unavailable to us at short notice when running unscheduled polls.		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	Yes	The positioning of the portable building requires that a ramp be built on site upon placing of the portable buildings.		

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach		This results in limited moveability which can affect the gradient of the ramp. It was noted that this portable building has a raised lip at the entrance. The doors of the unit are not wide enough to accommodate all wheelchairs, meaning that some voters in wheelchairs would have to vote outside of the station. The door cannot be kept open when windy.		
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	Yes	The units do not have kitchen facilities or running water for handwashing. A portable chemical toilet is required on site. These toilets are often vandalised before polling day meaning a clear-up is required and toilet paper replaced. There is no seating available for electors due to the size of the area and voting privacy.		
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer Commented that the Station was not ideal. Rated 3/5 for Staff 3/5 for Electors			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	Polling Station Inspector commented that parking was poor and that there was no privacy in the station.			

Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	H&S, Equalities agreed that the station is not ideal, but it is located in a central part of polling district, with no other suitable buildings.	
Electoral Services Officer Comments	Whilst we are aware that portable buildings are not the most suitable polling places, we have been unable to locate an alternative within the polling district. We therefore recommend the continued use of the polling place with the inclusion of the additional nine Days Lane residential area in the polling district.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Ward Analysis: Matchborough & Woodrow V1.0

Map of Current Polling Districts



Impact of the Electoral Review

The new Matchborough & Woodrow Ward consists of parts of both the old Greenlands and the old Matchborough Wards. The whole of polling district Matchborough East (MBA) is included in the new ward.

The bulk of the Matchborough West (MBB) polling district is included in the new ward. This mainly the area below Green Sward Lane but including Sherbourne Close.

The area north of Throckmorton Road in the Throckmorton (GRA) polling district is not included in the new ward.

In addition part of the Woodrow Polling District (GRB) which is south of Oakenshaw South Polling District (HOD) and the housing behind the hospital not included in the new ward.

The new Ward consists of both Arrow Valley East and Arrow Valley West County Divisions.

Relevant Information from Previous Polling District Reviews

There were no suggested changes in the 2019 polling review to either polling districts or polling places.

Current Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
GRA (part)	Throckmorton	St Johns Church Hall	816	2
GRB (part)	Woodrow	Woodrow Community Centre	2784	2
MBA	Matchborough East	Matchborough East Community Centre	2125	2
MBB (part)	Matchborough West	Matchborough Meeting Rooms	1813	2

Proposed Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
MWA	Matchborough East	Matchborough East Community Centre	2125	2
MWB	Matchborough West	Matchborough Meeting Rooms	1813	2
MWC	Woodrow	Woodrow Community Centre	3600	2

Overview of Proposed Changes

There are no changes proposed to the Matchborough East or the Matchborough West polling district or polling places, other than the loss of the Ipsley area brought about by the electoral review. It is proposed that the parts of both Throckmorton and Woodrow districts included within the new Matchborough & Woodrow Ward be combined to create one polling district. All polling district codes have been changed to keep them in line with the ward name and with the system used by Electoral Services.

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	MWA – Matchborough East
Number of Electors	2125
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Matchborough East Community Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The polling place accommodated two polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Senior Presiding Officer reported that the station was very comfortable to work at. Rated 5/5 for Staff 5/5 for Electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Equalities Officer Inspected the Polling Station to complete an accessibility audit on 04 May 2023. No concerns raised. The Officer noted that the station worked well as a dual station.			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place for Matchborough East. We propose to change the PD code to MWA for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Matchborough & Woodrow Ward.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	MWB – Matchborough West
Number of Electors	1813
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Matchborough Meeting Rooms</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the residential part of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The polling place accommodated two polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023. However, as the electorate has been reduced due to ward boundary changes, only one station will be required moving forward.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Senior Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked. Rated 5/5 for Staff 5/5 for Electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities.			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	<p>The Ipsley area is no longer included in the polling district. We recommend that no further changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place for Matchborough West. Matchborough Meeting Rooms is convenient for the local electorate at a low cost so recommend continued use.</p> <p>We propose to change the PD code to MWB for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Matchborough & Woodrow Ward.</p>	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	MWC – Woodrow
Number of Electors	3600
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Woodrow Community Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The polling place accommodated two polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023. It was noted that the polling place could accommodate an additional station if needed.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Senior Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked. It was noted that the polling place is in a good location and is fit for purpose. Rated 5/5 for Staff 4/5 for Electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections. It was noted that the polling station has good accessibility.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities.			

<p>Electoral Services Officer Comments</p>	<p>The polling district has been created by merging both parts of the previously Greenlands polling districts which are now contained within the Matchborough & Woodrow ward. We recommend that no changes are made to the polling place within the newly devised district. Woodrow Community centre is located centrally within the polling district and therefore convenient for the local electorate at a low cost.</p> <p>We propose to assign the PD code of MWC for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Matchborough & Woodrow Ward.</p>	
<p>Returning Officer's Comments</p>		

Ward Analysis: North V1.0



Impact of the Electoral Review

The new North Ward is made up from the old Church Hill Ward and the Papermill (ABB) polling district of the old Abbey Ward. The parts of the old Abbey Ward are in a different County Division to the old Church Hill Ward.

Relevant Information from Previous Polling District Reviews

Post the 2019 review the polling place for electors in Polling District Church Hill North (CHB) was moved from Abbeywood School to a Portable Building in Jersey Close.

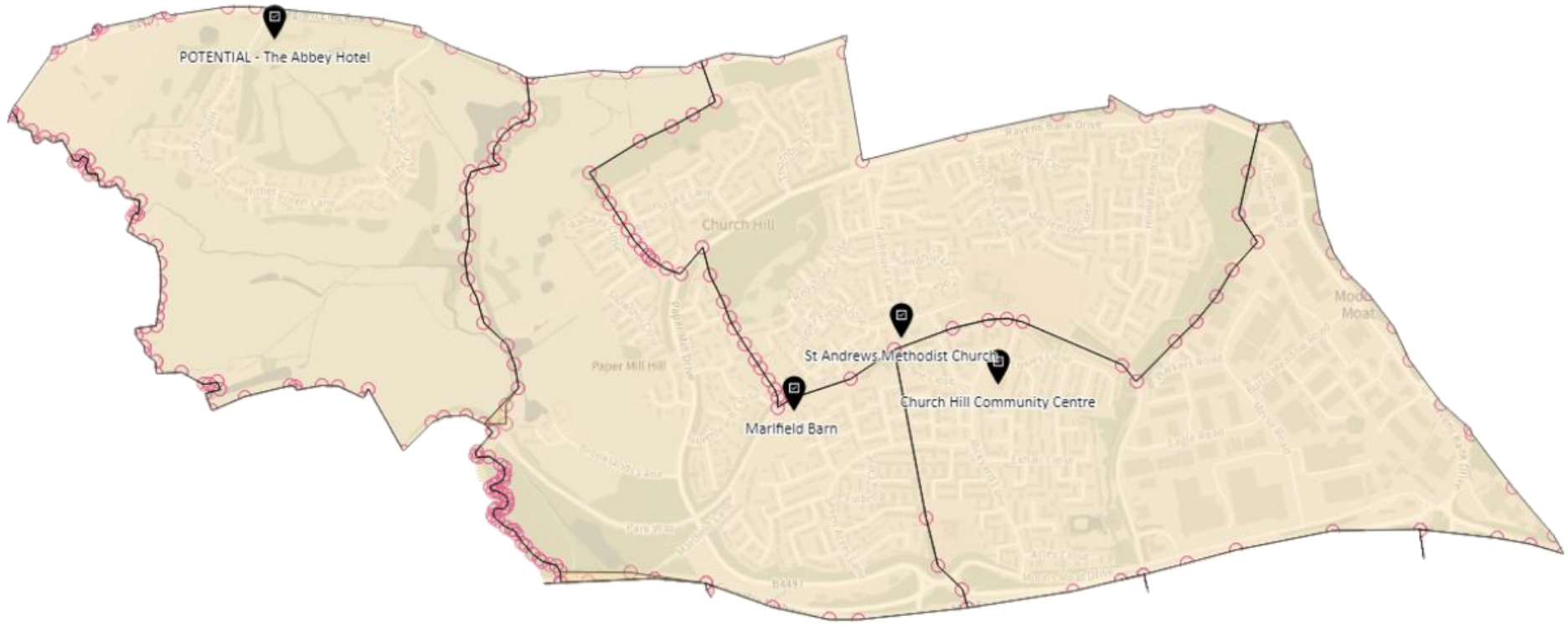
Current Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
ABB	Papermill	Portable Building, Rush Lane	1209	1
CHA	Church Hill South	Church Hill Community Centre	1766	1
CHB	Church Hill North	Portable Building, Jersey Close	1649	1
CHC	Church Hill West	Marlfield Barn	1226	1
CHD	Marlfield	St Andrews Methodist Church	1188	1

Proposed Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
NRA	Abbey	The Abbey Hotel	308	1
NRB	Papermill	Marlfield Barn	2001	1
NRC	Church Hill North	St Andrews Methodist Church	2940	2
NRD	Moons Moat	Church Hill Community Centre	1771	1

Map of New Proposals



Overview of Proposed Changes

The North ward polling districts have been re-drawn to create four polling districts.

The creation of polling district NRA is proposed for properties on Hither Green Lane as this residential area is totally separate to the rest of the ward which presents an obstacle for voting in person. It is proposed that the Abbey Hotel is used as a polling place for this polling district.

Polling District NRB is to the east of the Church Hill ward has been comprised of the Paper Mill Drive and Paper Mill Hill area. The proposed polling district takes into account complaints received from residents on Rush Lane as to the disruption caused by the portable building amongst other concerns on the general use of portable buildings as polling stations. The proposed polling place Marlfield Barn is in a central location for the polling district.

Polling District NRC is situation in the north of the North ward The boundary runs along Church Hill Way and includes properties north of the top end of Paper Mill Drive which were previously in the old Papermill polling district. It is proposed that the polling place for this polling district is St Andrews Methodist Church.

Polling District NRD stays the same in terms of residential properties with the inclusion of the commercial estate in Church Hill. There is no change proposed to the polling place, which is Church Hill Community Centre.

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	NRA - Abbey
Number of Electors	308
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>The Abbey Hotel</i>		Option 2 – <i>Portable Building Rush Lane</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the residential area of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.	No	This polling station is quite a distance away from the electors in the proposed polling district, with no conceivable route of travel other than by car.
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	It is noted that there is possibly room for two polling stations. However, it is not viewed as needing an extra polling station at present.	No	
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	As this is a new venue, privacy has not been discussed with polling station staff. However, the size of the venue means that there would be available space for privacy checking.	No	Voter ID privacy is a concern at all portable buildings. Station must be temporarily cleared to check ID which may give impression of it being closed.

Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes	Has own entrance	No	The limited space available in a portable building means that voters are required to operate a 'one in one out' system. This creates a high risk of congestion and the possibility of outdoor queuing.
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	This venue will need to be booked in advance. This may present an issue for unscheduled polls. However, when discussing this the Hotel, they were confident that a room for polling could be found.	Yes	Although there is a contract in place for scheduled polls. There is a risk of units being unavailable to us at short notice when running unscheduled polls.
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No		Yes	We have received numerous complaints from residents who live on Rush Lane regarding the noise of the generator and the fumes which it generates. Residents often voice their disapproval whilst voting at the station. The land this sits on is not level so additional oversight is required when the building is sited. The positioning of the portable building requires that a ramp be built on site upon placing of the portable buildings. This results in limited moveability which can affect the gradient of the ramp. It was noted that the portable building has a raised lip at the entrance. The doors of the unit are not wide enough to accommodate all wheelchairs, meaning that some voters in wheelchairs would have to vote outside of the station.

Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No	Hotel will provide drinks for staff.	Yes	The units do not have kitchen facilities or running water for handwashing. A portable chemical toilet is required on site. These toilets are often vandalised before polling day meaning a clear-up is required and toilet paper replaced. There is no seating available for electors due to the size of the area and voting privacy.
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		REDACTED
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	N/A as new recommendation for a polling place		Presiding Officer commented that the ramp from the path to the doorway leaves a step which makes wheelchair access impossible. It was also noted that elderly voters face particular difficulty accessing this portable building. Rated 2/5 for staff and 2/5 for electors.	
Polling Station Inspector Comments	N/A		The Polling Station Inspector advised that the portable building should only be used if there is no alternative.	
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	N/A		H&S, Equalities do not recommend portable buildings as polling places.	

Electoral Services Officer Comments	The polling district only represents a very small number of electors. Whilst The Hotel is a higher cost polling station, we recommend the creation of this polling district, as it is acknowledged that the residents do face obstacles to voting in person when looking at other options within the polling district. The cost saved by negating the use of portable buildings would mean a saving even when considering the higher cost of the venue, which we may be able to negotiate.	We do not recommend using a portable building as a polling place when a more suitable premises is available for the reasons outline above.
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	NRB - Papermill
Number of Electors	2001
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Marfield Barn</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	The polling place is in a reasonably central location within the polling district with no obstacles to those wishing to vote in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Possibly	The Barn is a relatively small space which would best lend itself to one polling station. Note: Officers will be checking size before the next meeting.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities.			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that the polling district be extended to incorporate the Paper Mill Hill areas to negate the use of the portable building on Rush Lane. Marlfield Barn is in a suitable location which is accessible for all those in the suggested polling district. No issues or concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	NRC – Church Hill North
Number of Electors	2940
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>St Andrews Methodist Church</i>		Option 2 – <i>Portable Building Jersey Close</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	The polling station is located at the bottom of the polling district within an accessible location for electors.	Yes	Polling station previously located within the Northern area of the polling station.

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	Polling place could accommodate up to two polling stations.	No	
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.	No	Voter ID privacy is a concern at all portable buildings. Station must be temporarily cleared to check ID which may give impression of it being closed.
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes		No	The limited space available in a portable building means that voters are required to operate a 'one in one out' system. This creates a high risk of congestion and the possibility of outdoor queuing.
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No		Yes	Although there is a contract in place for scheduled polls. There is a risk of units being unavailable to us at short notice when running unscheduled polls.
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No		Yes	This portable building is located on a street corner. Parking is an issue and residents have raised complaints every year about

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				parking on polling day as well as noise and fumes from generators. The positioning of the portable building requires that a ramp be built on site upon placing of the portable buildings. This results in limited moveability which can affect the gradient of the ramp. The doors of the unit are not wide enough to accommodate all wheelchairs, meaning that some voters in wheelchairs would have to vote outside of the station.
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No		Yes	The units do not have kitchen facilities or running water for handwashing. A portable chemical toilet is required on site. These toilets are often vandalised before polling day meaning a clear-up is required and toilet paper replaced. There is no seating available for electors due to the size of the area and voting privacy.
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		£240		£1,724.50 (including £139.50 fuel charge)
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer commented that this is an excellent venue with helpful caretakers. Rated 5/5 for electors and 5/5 for staff.			Presiding Officer raised the issue of the location of the portable building and the concerns voiced by local residents when they came in to vote. It was also noted that there would be an issue during inclement weather, in

		particular at a general election due to queueing in the open. Rated 2/5 for electors and 2/5 for staff.
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.	The Polling Station Inspector advised that the portable building should only be used if there is no alternative.
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities.	H&S, Equalities do not recommend portable buildings as polling places.
Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that the polling district be extended to incorporate the Church Hill North area to negate the use of the portable building on Jersey Close. St Andrews Church is in a suitable location which is accessible for all those in the suggested polling district. No issues or concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff.	We do not recommend using a portable building as a polling place when a more suitable premises is available for the reasons outline above. In this location, we feel that concerns raised by local residents must also be considered.
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	NRD – Moons Moat
Number of Electors	1771
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Church Hill Community Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes			
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Possibly	It is viewed that the space available at the Community Centre would best lend itself to one polling station.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for	Yes	The Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections		

photographic identification checks?				
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No			
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			

What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer Commented that the premise is a good location with no issues experience. Rated 5/5 for electors and 5/5 for staff.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	No issues of concern when inspected at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district other than the incorporation of the commercial area which has no effect on the electorate. We have suggested a change of name to Moons Moat. The Community Centre is a very suitable venue and well-liked by staff and the electorate. No further issues of concern were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff, and it is a low-cost polling station.			
Returning Officer's Comments				

Ward Analysis: Webheath & Callow Hill V1.0



Impact of the Electoral Review

The current West ward remains in its entirety within the Webheath & Callow Hill ward. The Callow Hill part of the current Crabbs Cross ward is now included within this Webheath & Callow Hill ward. The Webheath polling district and the Crabbs Cross polling districts will now be in different County Divisions.

Relevant Information from Previous Polling District Reviews

2019 Polling District Review:

The Webheath area was previously separated in to two polling districts which were joined together in 2019 to make the WEA polling district. As both polling districts voted at the Webheath Village Hall, this change had no impact on the electorate. Officers and members agreed that Webheath Village Hall was a suitable polling place within the Webheath area therefore no change was made to this.

The remaining area of the new ward is separated into two polling districts representing the Walkwood and Callow Hill areas. Officers and members agreed that both the Gazebo at Callow Hill and the Windmill Community Centre were suitable polling places located within the polling districts and therefore no changes were made.

Current Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
WEA	Webheath	Webheath Village Hall	4854	3
CCB	Walkwood	Windmill Community Centre	1464	1
CCC	Callow Hill	Gazebo at Callow Hill	768	1

Proposed Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
WCA	Webheath	Webheath Village Hall	4858	3
WCB	Walkwood	Windmill Community Centre	1464	1
WCC	Callow Hill	Gazebo at Callow Hill	768	1

Map of New Proposals



Overview of Proposed Changes

The proposed changes in the Webheath & Callow Hill ward are to the polling district codes only. This is to keep them in line with the ward name and with the system used by Electoral Services.

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WCA – Webheath
Number of Electors	4858
Number of Polling Stations Required	3

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Webheath Village Hall</i>		Option 2 – <i>No alternative proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary	Yes	The polling place accommodated three polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023. PSI commented that the station had a good-sized room,		

staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?		with an additional foyer to allow for directing electors.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No			

Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Senior Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked. Rated 4/5 for Staff and 5/5 for Electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities.			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	<p>We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place for Webheath. Webheath Village Hall is a large community building located centrally within the polling district. The hall is well known as a polling place by the electorate. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff and is a relatively low-cost polling station.</p> <p>We propose to change the PD code to WCA for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Webheath & Callow Hill ward.</p>	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WCB - Walkwood
Number of Electors	1464
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Windmill Community Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No alternative proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are	Yes	Whilst the community centre is located towards the edge of the polling district,		

there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers		it is suitably accessible to all those within the polling district.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The community centre held three polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023 due to an adjoining Polling Place being unavailable. Two in one room and one in the other.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	Owned by Rubicon.		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officers raised no concerns when asked. Rated 5/5 for Staff 5/5 for electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Equalities Officer Inspected the Polling Station to complete an accessibility audit on 04 May 2023. No concerns raised other than external automatic door being set to stay open. Recommended the venue be kept as a polling station.			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place for Walkwood. Windmill Community is a large, accessible building within the polling district. The centre is known as a polling place by the electorate and passed all accessibility checks. The centre is a low-cost polling station. We propose to change the PD code to WCB for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Webheath & Callow Hill ward.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WCC – Callow Hill
Number of Electors	768
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Gazebo at Callow Hill</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are	Yes	The Gazebo is located in the centre of the Callow Hill estate and easily		

there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers		accessible for those within the polling district.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	No	The Gazebo is a small community space and therefore not suitable for more than one station. This is a small polling district with a small electorate and therefore one polling station is adequate.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes	The polling place is suitable for a small electorate.		
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	Yes	Parking is adequate but staff must identify a space for disabled parking as		

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach		no marked space available. There is no flat curb. Portable ramp needed for wheelchair users. This is kept at the Gazebo and used on polling day. The lighting on approach is limited with one streetlamp.		
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer described the station as a good location with good parking facilities. Rated 5/5 for staff and 5/5 for electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	Polling Station Inspector recommends continued use of the station.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Equalities Officer Inspected the Polling Station to complete an accessibility audit on 04 May 2023. Identified the use of the ramp needed and some issues with disabled parking but recommended the venue be kept as a polling station.			

<p>Electoral Services Officer Comments</p>	<p>We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place for Callow Hill. The Gazebo at Callow Hill is a smaller station with some accessibility issues. However, it is extremely convenient for the local electorate at a relatively low cost.</p> <p>We propose to change the PD code to WCC for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Webheath & Callow Hill ward.</p>	
<p>Returning Officer's Comments</p>		

Ward Analysis: Webheath & Callow Hill V2.0



Impact of the Electoral Review

The current West ward remains in its entirety within the Webheath & Callow Hill ward. The Callow Hill part of the current Crabbs Cross ward is now included within this Webheath & Callow Hill ward. The Webheath polling district and the Crabbs Cross polling districts will now be in different County Divisions.

Relevant Information from Previous Polling District Reviews

2019 Polling District Review:

The Webheath area was previously separated in to two polling districts which were joined together in 2019 to make the WEA polling district. As both polling districts voted at the Webheath Village Hall, this change had no impact on the electorate. Officers and members agreed that Webheath Village Hall was a suitable polling place within the Webheath area therefore no change was made to this.

The remaining area of the new ward is separated into two polling districts representing the Walkwood and Callow Hill areas. Officers and members agreed that both the Gazebo at Callow Hill and the Windmill Community Centre were suitable polling places located within the polling districts and therefore no changes were made.

Current Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
WEA	Webheath	Webheath Village Hall	4854	3
CCB	Walkwood	Windmill Community Centre	1464	1
CCC	Callow Hill	Gazebo at Callow Hill	768	1

Proposed Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
WCA	Webheath West	St Philip's Church	2290	2
WCB	Webheath Village	Webheath Village Hall	2545	2
WCC	Walkwood	Windmill Community Centre	1444	1
WCD	Callow Hill	Gazebo at Callow Hill	816	1

Map of New Proposals



Overview of Proposed Changes

The proposed changes in the Webheath & Callow Hill ward have been amended as a result of the working group consultation. A further change has also been proposed by members of the working group.

It is proposed that the polling district of Webheath be split in to two polling districts with St Philip's Church proposed as the polling place for the eastern district and Webheath Village Hall for the western district. It is proposed that the boundary be placed from Callow Hill in the south along Green Lane, up to Heathfield Road, encompassing a row of dwellings on this road, then it would cut through to Springvale Road. Here the properties to the west of Springvale, Packwood, Neighbrook, Lordswood, Knightsford, Sydnal, Shaws, Hennals/Brotherton would be included whereas the opposite side of the road would remain in the Webheath Village polling district. This boundary would then encompass all of Brichfield Road northwest towards Bromsgrove.

In the Callow Hill polling district, the boundary has been moved boundary north to encompass the houses on Lower Grinsty Lane. The boundary has also been moved to cover the entirety of Redditch Golf Club's course for ease as well as the Walkwood Coppice. The change has moved 28 electors into the Callow Hill polling district. The boundary has been drawn to ensure that dwellings currently under construction to the far east of the boundary remain in the Webheath Village polling district.

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WCA – Webheath West
Number of Electors	2290
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>St Philip’s Church</i> <i>(NOT YET VISITED)</i>		Option 2 – <i>Webheath Village Hall</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers			Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?			Yes	The polling place accommodated three polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023. PSI commented that the station had a good-sized room, with an additional foyer to allow for directing electors.
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?			Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.

Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?			Yes	
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned			No	
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach			No	
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed			No	
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		£		REDACTED

Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments				Senior Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked. Rated 4/5 for Staff and 5/5 for Electors.
Polling Station Inspector Comments				PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments				Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities.
Electoral Services Officer Comments				Webheath Village Hall is a large community building and is well known as a polling place by the electorate. It is recommended that the working group take into consideration the effect of changing such a well-known and suitable polling place on the electorate and only do so if the benefits outweigh the disruption. If members decide to keep the Webheath Village Hall as the polling place, it is recommended that there be only one Webheath polling district as is currently the case.
Returning Officer's Comments				

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WCB – Webheath Village
Number of Electors	2545
Number of Polling Stations Required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Webheath Village Hall</i>		Option 2 – <i>No alternative proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The polling place accommodated three polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023. PSI commented that the station had a good-sized room, with an additional foyer to allow for directing electors.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		

Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No			
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£

Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments		Senior Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked. Rated 4/5 for Staff and 5/5 for Electors.		
Polling Station Inspector Comments		PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.		
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments		Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities.		
Electoral Services Officer Comments		We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place for Webheath. Webheath Village Hall is a large community building located centrally within the polling district. The hall is well known as a polling place by the electorate. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff and is a relatively low-cost polling station. We propose to change the PD code to WCA for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Webheath & Callow Hill ward.		
Returning Officer's Comments				

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WCC - Walkwood
Number of Electors	1444
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Windmill Community Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No alternative proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	Whilst the community centre is located towards the edge of the polling district, it is suitably accessible to all those within the polling district.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The community centre held three polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023 due to an adjoining Polling Place being unavailable. Two in one room and one in the other.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		

photographic identification checks?				
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	Owned by Rubicon.		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No			
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			

What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officers raised no concerns when asked. Rated 5/5 for Staff 5/5 for electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Equalities Officer Inspected the Polling Station to complete an accessibility audit on 04 May 2023. No concerns raised other than external automatic door being set to stay open. Recommended the venue be kept as a polling station.			
Electoral Services Officer Comments	<p>We are happy with the recommended small boundary change and recommend keeping the same polling place for Walkwood. Windmill Community is a large, accessible building within the polling district. The centre is known as a polling place by the electorate and passed all accessibility checks. The centre is a low-cost polling station.</p> <p>We propose to change the PD code to WCB for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Webheath & Callow Hill ward.</p>			
Returning Officer's Comments				

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WCD – Callow Hill
Number of Electors	816
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Gazebo at Callow Hill</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	The Gazebo is located in the centre of the Callow Hill estate and easily accessible for those within the polling district.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	No	The Gazebo is a small community space and therefore not suitable for more than one station. This is a small polling district with a small electorate and therefore one polling station is adequate.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		

Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes	The polling place is suitable for a small electorate.		
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	Yes	Parking is adequate but staff must identify a space for disabled parking as no marked space available. There is no flat curb. Portable ramp needed for wheelchair users. This is kept at the Gazebo and used on polling day. The lighting on approach is limited with one streetlamp.		
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			

What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer described the station as a good location with good parking facilities. Rated 5/5 for staff and 5/5 for electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	Polling Station Inspector recommends continued use of the station.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Equalities Officer Inspected the Polling Station to complete an accessibility audit on 04 May 2023. Identified the use of the ramp needed and some issues with disabled parking but recommended the venue be kept as a polling station.			
Electoral Services Officer Comments	We are happy that the small changes as outlined above be made to the polling district boundaries, but that the polling place remains the same. The Gazebo at Callow Hill is a smaller station with some accessibility issues. However, it is extremely convenient for the local electorate at a relatively low cost. We propose to change the PD code to WCC for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Webheath & Callow Hill ward.			
Returning Officer's Comments				

Ward Analysis: Webheath & Callow Hill V2.1



Impact of the Electoral Review

The current West ward remains in its entirety within the Webheath & Callow Hill ward. The Callow Hill part of the current Crabbs Cross ward is now included within this Webheath & Callow Hill ward. The Webheath polling district and the Crabbs Cross polling districts will now be in different County Divisions.

Relevant Information from Previous Polling District Reviews

2019 Polling District Review:

The Webheath area was previously separated in to two polling districts which were joined together in 2019 to make the WEA polling district. As both polling districts voted at the Webheath Village Hall, this change had no impact on the electorate. Officers and members agreed that Webheath Village Hall was a suitable polling place within the Webheath area therefore no change was made to this.

The remaining area of the new ward is separated into two polling districts representing the Walkwood and Callow Hill areas. Officers and members agreed that both the Gazebo at Callow Hill and the Windmill Community Centre were suitable polling places located within the polling districts and therefore no changes were made.

Current Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
WEA	Webheath	Webheath Village Hall	4854	3
CCB	Walkwood	Windmill Community Centre	1464	1
CCC	Callow Hill	Gazebo at Callow Hill	768	1

Proposed Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
WCA	Webheath West	St Philip's Church	2290	2
WCB	Webheath Village	Webheath Village Hall	2545	2
WCC	Walkwood	Windmill Community Centre	1444	1
WCD	Callow Hill	Gazebo at Callow Hill	816	1

Map of New Proposals



Overview of Proposed Changes

The proposed changes in the Webheath & Callow Hill ward have been amended as a result of the working group consultation. A further change has also been proposed by members of the working group.

It is proposed that the polling district of Webheath be split in to two polling districts with St Philip's Church proposed as the polling place for the western district and Webheath Village Hall for the eastern district. It is proposed that the boundary be placed from Callow Hill in the south along Green Lane, up to Heathfield Road, encompassing a row of dwellings on this road, then it would cut through to Springvale Road. Here the properties to the west of Springvale, Packwood, Neighbrook, Lordswood, Knightsford, Sydnal, Shaws, Hennals/Brotherton would be included whereas the opposite side of the road would remain in the Webheath Village polling district. This boundary would then encompass all of Brichfield Road northwest towards Bromsgrove.

In the Callow Hill polling district, the boundary has been moved boundary north to encompass the houses on Lower Grinsty Lane. The boundary has also been moved to cover the entirety of Redditch Golf Club's course for ease as well as the Walkwood Coppice. The change has moved 28 electors into the Callow Hill polling district. The boundary has been drawn to ensure that dwellings currently under construction to the far east of the boundary remain in the Webheath Village polling district.

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WCA – Webheath West
Number of Electors	2290
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>St Philip’s Church</i>		Option 2 – <i>Webheath Village Hall</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The Church Hall can accommodate 1 perhaps 2 stations for a local, the church itself can also be used for further polling stations	Yes	The polling place accommodated three polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023. PSI commented that the station had a good-sized room, with an additional foyer to allow for directing electors.
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes		Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.

Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes		Yes	
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No		No	
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No	Signage for disabled parking would be required	No	
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No		No	
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		REDACTED

Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	N/A not used before			Senior Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked. Rated 4/5 for Staff and 5/5 for Electors.
Polling Station Inspector Comments	N/A			PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not visited			Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities.
Electoral Services Officer Comments	There would be no problems in using this as a polling place.			Webheath Village Hall is a large community building and is well known as a polling place by the electorate. It is recommended that the working group take into consideration the effect of changing such a well-known and suitable polling place on the electorate and only do so if the benefits outweigh the disruption. If members decide to keep the Webheath Village Hall as the polling place, it is recommended that there be only one Webheath polling district as is currently the case.
Returning Officer's Comments				

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WCB – Webheath Village
Number of Electors	2545
Number of Polling Stations Required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Webheath Village Hall</i>		Option 2 – <i>No alternative proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The polling place accommodated three polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023. PSI commented that the station had a good-sized room, with an additional foyer to allow for directing electors.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		

Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No			
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£

Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments		Senior Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked. Rated 4/5 for Staff and 5/5 for Electors.		
Polling Station Inspector Comments		PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.		
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments		Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities.		
Electoral Services Officer Comments		<p>We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place for Webheath. Webheath Village Hall is a large community building located centrally within the polling district. The hall is well known as a polling place by the electorate. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff and is a relatively low-cost polling station.</p> <p>We propose to change the PD code to WCA for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Webheath & Callow Hill ward.</p>		
Returning Officer's Comments				

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WCC - Walkwood
Number of Electors	1444
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Windmill Community Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No alternative proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	Whilst the community centre is located towards the edge of the polling district, it is suitably accessible to all those within the polling district.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The community centre held three polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023 due to an adjoining Polling Place being unavailable. Two in one room and one in the other.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		

photographic identification checks?				
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	Owned by Rubicon.		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No			
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			

What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officers raised no concerns when asked. Rated 5/5 for Staff 5/5 for electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Equalities Officer Inspected the Polling Station to complete an accessibility audit on 04 May 2023. No concerns raised other than external automatic door being set to stay open. Recommended the venue be kept as a polling station.			
Electoral Services Officer Comments	<p>We are happy with the recommended small boundary change and recommend keeping the same polling place for Walkwood. Windmill Community is a large, accessible building within the polling district. The centre is known as a polling place by the electorate and passed all accessibility checks. The centre is a low-cost polling station.</p> <p>We propose to change the PD code to WCB for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Webheath & Callow Hill ward.</p>			
Returning Officer's Comments				

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WCD – Callow Hill
Number of Electors	816
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Gazebo at Callow Hill</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	The Gazebo is located in the centre of the Callow Hill estate and easily accessible for those within the polling district.		
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	No	The Gazebo is a small community space and therefore not suitable for more than one station. This is a small polling district with a small electorate and therefore one polling station is adequate.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		

Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes	The polling place is suitable for a small electorate.		
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	Yes	Parking is adequate but staff must identify a space for disabled parking as no marked space available. There is no flat curb. Portable ramp needed for wheelchair users. This is kept at the Gazebo and used on polling day. The lighting on approach is limited with one streetlamp.		
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			

What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer described the station as a good location with good parking facilities. Rated 5/5 for staff and 5/5 for electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	Polling Station Inspector recommends continued use of the station.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Equalities Officer Inspected the Polling Station to complete an accessibility audit on 04 May 2023. Identified the use of the ramp needed and some issues with disabled parking but recommended the venue be kept as a polling station.			
Electoral Services Officer Comments	We are happy that the small changes as outlined above be made to the polling district boundaries, but that the polling place remains the same. The Gazebo at Callow Hill is a smaller station with some accessibility issues. However, it is extremely convenient for the local electorate at a relatively low cost. We propose to change the PD code to WCC for administration purposes to identify that the polling district sits within the Webheath & Callow Hill ward.			
Returning Officer's Comments				

Ward Analysis: Winyates V1.0

Map of Current Polling Districts



Impact of the Electoral Review

The whole of the current Winyates Ward plus part of the Matchborough West (MBB) polling district make up the new Winyates Ward.

This part of MBB is part of Ipsley mainly above Green Sward Lane (not including Sherbourne Close) and the area West of Icknield Street Drive. This will require a new polling place.

Relevant Information from Previous Polling District Reviews

No changes were made in the 2019 review although alternative premises in polling districts WIA and WIB were trialled in 2022. This was using buildings in the Winyates centre which were reviewed after the 2022 election, and it was decided to move the polling places back to their previous locations.

Current Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
WIA	Winyates East	Tenacres Childrens Centre	2699	2
WIB	Winyates West	Arrow Valley First School	1863	1
WIC	Winyates Green	Winyates Green Community Centre	1642	1
MBB (part)	Matchborough West	Matchborough Meeting Rooms	568	2

Proposed Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
WIA	Winyates East	Tenacres Childrens Centre	2699	2
WIB	Winyates West	Arrow Valley First School	1863	1
WIC	Winyates Green	Winyates Green Community Centre	1642	1
WID	Ipsley	St Peter's Church	568	1

Map of New Proposals



Overview of Proposed Changes

The are no proposed changes within the Winyates area of the ward. The creation of a new polling district (WID) is proposed to cover the Ipsley part of the Ward. Two potential polling places have been identified for the Ipsley polling district.

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WIA – Winyates East
Number of Electors	2699
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Tenacres Childrens Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the residential area of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The polling place accommodated two polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No			

Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Senior Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked. Rated 5/5 for Staff 5/5 for Electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Equalities Officer Inspected the Polling Station to complete an accessibility audit on 04 May 2023. No concerns were raised. Recommended the venue be kept as a polling station.			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place for Winyates East. Tenacres is well known as a polling place by the electorate and was preferred as a venue compared to the Winyates Centre used in May 2022. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff and the polling place is free of charge.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WIB – Winyates West
Number of Electors	1863
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Arrow Valley First School</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the residential area of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	No	The polling station is located in a smaller room within the school in order to minimise disruption. If an extra polling station were required, the school would need to be closed.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	No issues raised.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes	As the access to the polling station requires a short walk through the grounds of the school, sufficient signage is required to guide voters to the entrance.		
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	As a school, they are always keen for alternatives to be considered.		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place. However, it was suggested that additional lighting may be required outside upon approach to the polling station.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	<p>We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place for Winyates West. Arrow Valley is well known as a polling place by the electorate and was preferred as a venue compared to the Winyates Centre used in May 2022.</p> <p>It is noted that the lighting issues will need to be addressed, particularly if the station is used during winter months. Whilst lighting and fencing may incur additional costs, we feel that the cost is still reasonable and allows for the school to remain open.</p>	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WIC – Winyates Green
Number of Electors	1642
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Winyates Green Community Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	Could accommodate two polling stations.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	Owned by Rubicon		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities.			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place for Winyates Green. Winyates Green Community Centre is a community building located centrally within the polling district. The centre is well known as a polling place by the electorate. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff, and it is a low-cost polling station.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WID – Ipsley
Number of Electors	568
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>St Peters Church</i>		Option 2 – <i>The Old Rectory</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	It should be noted that Icknield Street Drive runs down the centre of the proposed polling district and this polling place is situated in the west of the polling district.	Yes	It should be noted that Icknield Street Drive runs down the centre of the proposed polling district and this polling place is situated in the east of the polling district.

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	It is noted that there is possibly room for two polling stations. However, it is not viewed as needing an extra polling station at present.	Yes	Would need to use the Orangery rather than the Lavender Barn for more than one polling station.
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes		Yes	
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes		Yes	
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No		No	There might be a concern over bookings for the rooms available, particularly when running unscheduled polls.
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No		No	

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No		No	Not for the Lavender Barn but access through the hotel for the Orangery if an elector has mobility issues.
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		REDACTED
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	New location		New Location	
Polling Station Inspector Comments	N/A		N/A	
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	N/A		N/A	

<p>Electoral Services Officer Comments</p>	<p>WID is a new polling district, so a new polling place needs to be found. The polling district is split by Icknield Street Drive.</p> <p>The room at St Peters Church is an ideal venue for a polling place.</p>	<p>WID is a new polling district, so a new polling place needs to be found. The polling district is split by Icknield Street Drive.</p> <p>The Lavender Barn would be suitable for a polling place however there are concerns about availability.</p>
<p>Returning Officer's Comments</p>		

Ward Analysis: Winyates V2.1

Map of Current Polling Districts



Impact of the Electoral Review

The whole of the current Winyates Ward plus part of the Matchborough West (MBB) polling district make up the new Winyates Ward.

This part of MBB is part of Ipsley mainly above Green Sward Lane (not including Sherbourne Close) and the area West of Icknield Street Drive. This will require a new polling place.

Relevant Information from Previous Polling District Reviews

No changes were made in the 2019 review although alternative premises in polling districts WIA and WIB were trialled in 2022. This was using buildings in the Winyates centre which were reviewed after the 2022 election, and it was decided to move the polling places back to their previous locations.

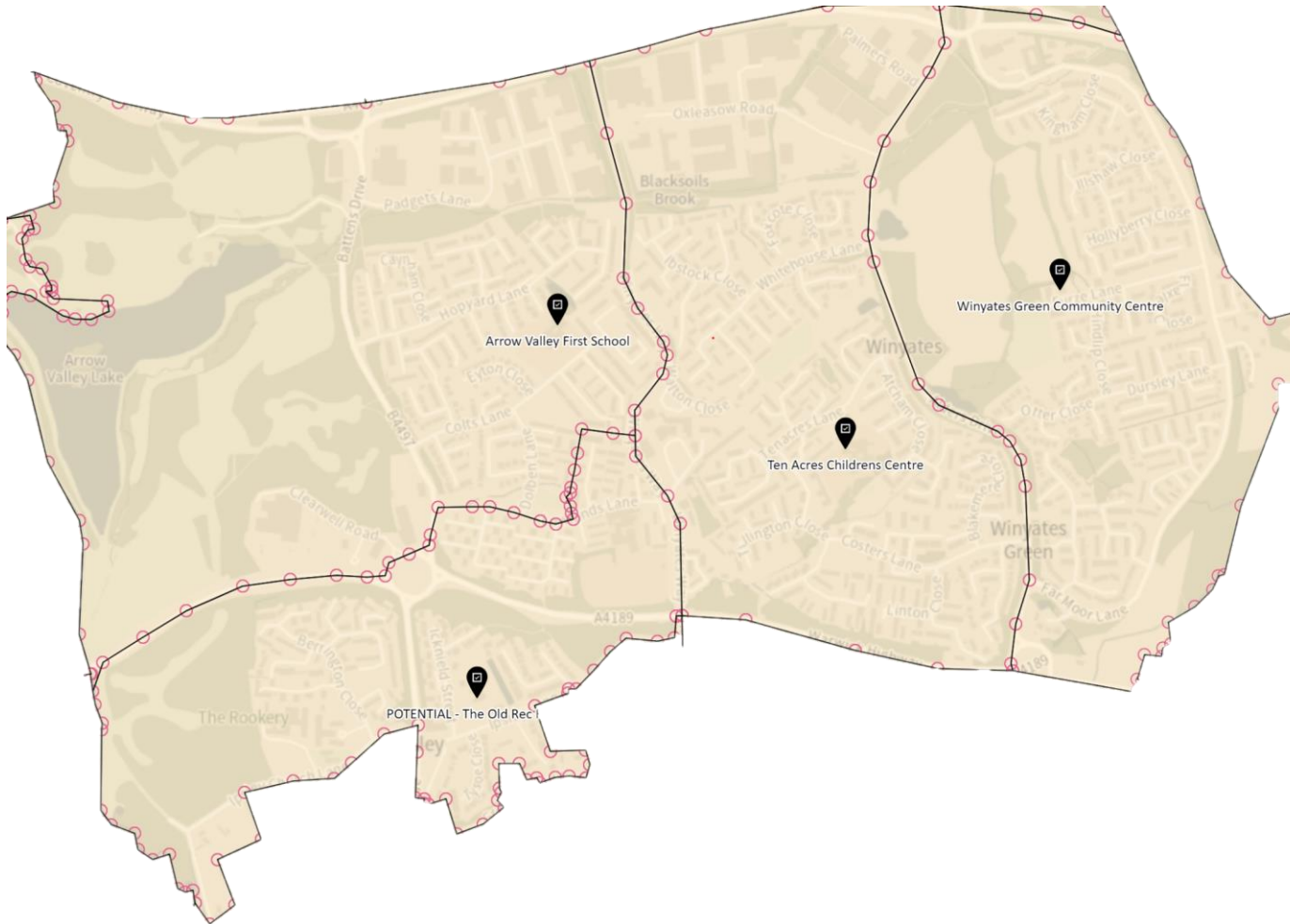
Current Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
WIA	Winyates East	Tenacres Childrens Centre	2699	2
WIB	Winyates West	Arrow Valley First School	1863	1
WIC	Winyates Green	Winyates Green Community Centre	1642	1
MBB (part)	Matchborough West	Matchborough Meeting Rooms	568	2

Proposed Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
WIA	Winyates East	Tenacres Childrens Centre	2699	2
WIB	Winyates West	Arrow Valley First School	1469	1
WIC	Winyates Green	Winyates Green Community Centre	1642	1
WID	Ipsley	The Old Rectory Hotel	974	1

Map of New Proposals



Overview of Proposed Changes

Following the initial working group discussions. The new polling district (WID) has been extended to include closes off Lowlands Lane to the north of the Warwick Highway. The suggested polling place for this revised district is The Old Rectory Hotel. In this proposal no further changes are proposed to the other polling districts or places in the Winyates ward.

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WIA – Winyates East
Number of Electors	2699
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Tenacres Childrens Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the residential area of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The polling place accommodated two polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No			

Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Senior Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked. Rated 5/5 for Staff 5/5 for Electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Equalities Officer Inspected the Polling Station to complete an accessibility audit on 04 May 2023. No concerns were raised. Recommended the venue be kept as a polling station.			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place for Winyates East. Tenacres is well known as a polling place by the electorate and was preferred as a venue compared to the Winyates Centre used in May 2022. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff and the polling place is free of charge.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WIB – Winyates West
Number of Electors	1469
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Arrow Valley First School</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the residential area of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	No	The polling station is located in a smaller room within the school in order to minimise disruption. If an extra polling station were required, the school would need to be closed.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	No issues raised.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes	As the access to the polling station requires a short walk through the grounds of the school, sufficient signage is required to guide voters to the entrance.		
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	As a school, they are always keen for alternatives to be considered.		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place. However, it was suggested that additional lighting may be required outside upon approach to the polling station.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	<p>The changes made to the polling district decrease the electorate at the polling station which may assist with some concerns for parking at the polling place. Arrow Valley is well known as a polling place by the electorate and was preferred as a venue compared to the Winyates Centre used in May 2022.</p> <p>It is noted that the lighting issues will need to be addressed, particularly if the station is used during winter months. Whilst lighting and fencing may incur additional costs, we feel that the cost is still reasonable and allows for the school to remain open.</p>	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WIC – Winyates Green
Number of Electors	1642
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Winyates Green Community Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	Could accommodate two polling stations.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	Owned by Rubicon		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities.			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place for Winyates Green. Winyates Green Community Centre is a community building located centrally within the polling district. The centre is well known as a polling place by the electorate. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff, and it is a low-cost polling station.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WID – Ipsley
Number of Electors	974
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>The Old Rectory</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles	Yes	It should be noted that Icknield Street Drive runs down the centre of the proposed polling district and this polling place is situated in the east of the polling district.		

for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	Would need to use the Orangery rather than the Lavender Barn for more than one polling station.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes			
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	There might be a concern over bookings for the rooms available, particularly when running unscheduled polls.		
Are there any issues with external access or	No			

facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No	Not for the Lavender Barn but access through the hotel for the Orangery if an elector has mobility issues.		
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		
Presiding Officer Comments	New Location			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	N/A			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	N/A			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	The proposed changes extend the electorate for the WID polling district. Members visited the site and found the walkway underneath the Warwick Highway to be suitable for access to the polling place. The Lavender Barn is suitable for a polling place however, there are concerns about availability for unscheduled polls.		
Returning Officer's Comments			

Ward Analysis: Winyates V2.2

Map of Current Polling Districts



Impact of the Electoral Review

The whole of the current Winyates Ward plus part of the Matchborough West (MBB) polling district make up the new Winyates Ward.

This part of MBB is part of Ipsley mainly above Green Sward Lane (not including Sherbourne Close) and the area West of Icknield Street Drive. This will require a new polling place.

Relevant Information from Previous Polling District Reviews

No changes were made in the 2019 review although alternative premises in polling districts WIA and WIB were trialled in 2022. This was using buildings in the Winyates centre which were reviewed after the 2022 election, and it was decided to move the polling places back to their previous locations.

Current Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
WIA	Winyates East	Tenacres Childrens Centre	2699	2
WIB	Winyates West	Arrow Valley First School	1863	1
WIC	Winyates Green	Winyates Green Community Centre	1642	1
MBB (part)	Matchborough West	Matchborough Meeting Rooms	568	2

Proposed Polling District Information

Polling District Code	Polling District Name	Polling Place	Electorate	No. of Stations
WIA	Winyates East	Tenacres Childrens Centre	1874	1
WIB	Winyates West	Arrow Valley First School	2256	2
WIC	Winyates Green	Winyates Green Community Centre	1642	1
WID	Ipsley	The Old Rectory Hotel	974	1

Map of New Proposals



Overview of Proposed Changes

Following the initial working group discussions. The new polling district (WID) has been extended to include closes off Lowlands Lane to the north of the Warwick Highway. The suggested polling place for this revised district is The Old Rectory Hotel. In this proposal, polling district WIB has also been extended to include Whitehouse Lane and surrounding Closes, which have been taken from the WIA polling district.

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WIA – Winyates East
Number of Electors	1874
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Tenacres Childrens Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the residential area of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	The polling place accommodated two polling stations at the Local Elections held on 04 May 2023.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No			
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach	No			

Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Senior Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked. Rated 5/5 for Staff 5/5 for Electors.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Equalities Officer Inspected the Polling Station to complete an accessibility audit on 04 May 2023. No concerns were raised. Recommended the venue be kept as a polling station.			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	The changes have been made to the polling district in-line with the proposals put forward by members of the working group. Officers feel that Tenacres Childrens Centre is better equipped to hold a larger electorate than Arrow Valley First School.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WIB – Winyates West
Number of Electors	2256
Number of polling stations required	2

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Arrow Valley First School</i>		Option 2 – <i>Ibstock House Sheltered Housing [NOT YET VISITED]</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the residential area of the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	No	The polling station is located in a smaller room within the school in order to minimise disruption. If an extra polling station were required, the school would need to be closed.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	No issues raised.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes	As the access to the polling station requires a short walk through the grounds of the school, sufficient signage is required to guide voters to the entrance.		
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	As a school, they are always keen for alternatives to be considered.		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place. However, it was suggested that additional lighting may be required outside upon approach to the polling station.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	The change in the polling district boundary in this proposal increases the electorate to a point where two polling stations would be needed within the polling place. This could result in the need for the school to close on polling day to facilitate two polling stations.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WIC – Winyates Green
Number of Electors	1642
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>Winyates Green Community Centre</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles for	Yes	Polling place located in a central location within the polling district with no apparent obstacles for those voting in person.		

voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	Could accommodate two polling stations.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes	The Senior Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector identified a suitable area for privacy within the venue for the Local Elections.		
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	Owned by Rubicon		
Are there any issues with external access or facilities at the polling place?	No			

E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No			
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		£
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		Comments
Presiding Officer Comments	Presiding Officer raised no concerns when asked.			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	PSI Recommends keeping the location as a polling place and identified no issues of concern when inspecting at the 04 May 2023 Local Elections.			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	Not yet visited by H&S, Equalities.			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	We recommend that no changes are made to either the boundaries of the polling district, or the polling place for Winyates Green. Winyates Green Community Centre is a community building located centrally within the polling district. The centre is well known as a polling place by the electorate. No issues of concerns were raised by any of the Returning Officer's staff, and it is a low-cost polling station.	
Returning Officer's Comments		

Review Information by Polling District

Polling District Code - Name	WID – Ipsley
Number of Electors	974
Number of polling stations required	1

Polling Place Framework	Option 1 – <i>The Old Rectory</i>		Option 2 – <i>No Alternative Proposed</i>	
	Yes/No	Comments	Yes/No	Comments
Is the polling place in a suitable location, with suitable transport links? Are there any obstacles	Yes	It should be noted that Icknield Street Drive runs down the centre of the proposed polling district and this polling place is situated in the east of the polling district.		

for voters reaching the polling place? E.g., steep hills, major roads, railway lines, rivers				
Is the polling place capable of accommodating more than one polling station together with the necessary staff and equipment to provide a good service to voters?	Yes	Would need to use the Orangery rather than the Lavender Barn for more than one polling station.		
Is the size sufficient to provide necessary private areas or privacy screens for photographic identification checks?	Yes			
Is the size big enough to ensure the flow of voters and reduce the risk of congestion and queues even where there is a high turnout?	Yes			
Are there any issues with the availability of the polling station? E.g., in the event of an unscheduled election or extensive building works planned	No	There might be a concern over bookings for the rooms available, particularly when running unscheduled polls.		
Are there any issues with external access or	No			

facilities at the polling place? E.g., Building clearly identifiable, level access, wide entrance, lighting upon approach				
Are there any issues with internal access or facilities at the polling place? E.g., Adequate toilet and kitchen facilities for staff, space for signage, seating for an elector if needed	No	Not for the Lavender Barn but access through the hotel for the Orangery if an elector has mobility issues.		
What is the cost of hire for the polling station		REDACTED		
Comments from Relevant Officials (where applicable)		Comments		
Presiding Officer Comments	New Location			
Polling Station Inspector Comments	N/A			
Health & Safety, Equalities Officer Comments	N/A			

Electoral Services Officer Comments	The proposed changes extend the electorate for the WID polling district. Members of the Group visited the site and found the walkway underneath the Warwick Highway to be suitable for access to the polling place. The Lavender Barn is suitable for a polling place however, there are concerns about availability for unscheduled polls.		
Returning Officer's Comments			

WORKING GROUP MEETING NOTES

15 August 2023

RBC Local Review Working Group					
Date	15 August 2023	Venue	MS Teams	Time	15:30
Present	Group Members: Cllr Dormer (Chair), Cllr Barker-Smith, Cllr Court, Cllr Fardoe, Cllr Flemming (Vice Chair), Cllr Stringfellow Officers: Darren Whitney(DW), Melissa Bassett(MB), Guy Revans(GR), Martyn Bradley(MBR) Other Attendees: N/A				
No.	Item	Summary Discussion	Actions	Responsibility	
1.	Apologies	Group Members: None			

		Officers: Emily Payne (Equalities Officer)		
2.	Parameters for the Working Group	<p>DW gave a brief overview of the parameters document highlighting legal items for the Statutory Review and considerations for polling districts and polling places including the use of schools and the importance of the Elections Act 2022. This was passed without amendment.</p> <p>MB gave an update on what has been within the review so far, including mapping, visiting potential polling places, feedback from Presiding Officers (PO) and Polling Station Inspectors (PSI) and the ward analysis sheets to considered in item 3.</p> <p>It was also noted that there will be an effect on Polling Districts after the County Divisional boundaries are agreed in July 2024.</p> <p>GR presented the group with the work that a PSI does on polling day including polling station set up, signage, collecting postal votes, supporting POs and reviewing the suitability of the polling station. GR noted there are a number of very good stations and some less good. He went on to describe the major problems with less good ones. This was mainly regarding temporary buildings which tend to be cold in the mornings and evenings but very hot during the day. There is noise and fumes from those that have generators. The ramps tend to be steep and there is a lack of room for movement inside.</p> <p>MBR then described his role and that of the Equalities Officer on polling day recording a check list that had been devised to view polling stations from an H&S and Equalities point of view. They did not manage to visit all stations in May so this will be an ongoing piece of work. MBR also echoed GR's points on temporary structures noting how difficult it was for staff being</p>		

		<p>there for 16 hours. He also noted that toilets had been vandalised before polling day.</p> <p>Cllr Fardoe also noted that ramps were too steep, parking at some sites was poor and overheating was a danger to staff. He pointed out Jersey Close as an example.</p> <p>MBR concluded by offering to visit any polling places being considered by the Group and attend any site visits the Group may want to do.</p>	<p>It was asked if the Group could be provided with a list of current portable buildings</p>	<p>DW</p>															
<p>3.</p>	<p>Ward Analysis: Greenlands & Lakeside</p>	<p>There was some discussion regarding the part of the old Greenlands Ward but was decided to keep the polling districts as in the ward analysis proposal.</p> <p>Group members did however make changes to polling district names, as suggested by Cllr Flemming:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Polling District Code</th> <th>Original Proposed Polling District Name</th> <th>Revised Proposed Polling District Name</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>GLA</td> <td>Riverside</td> <td>Abbeydale</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GLB</td> <td>Holloway</td> <td>Lakeside</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GLC</td> <td>Arrowcrest</td> <td>Lodge Park</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GLD</td> <td>Throckmorton</td> <td>Greenlands</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>All the polling places are currently in use and recommended to continue so by officers, the Group agreed with this.</p>	Polling District Code	Original Proposed Polling District Name	Revised Proposed Polling District Name	GLA	Riverside	Abbeydale	GLB	Holloway	Lakeside	GLC	Arrowcrest	Lodge Park	GLD	Throckmorton	Greenlands	<p>The Ward Analysis will go forward to Electoral Matters Committee and if agreed the Statutory Review</p>	<p>DW/MB</p>
Polling District Code	Original Proposed Polling District Name	Revised Proposed Polling District Name																	
GLA	Riverside	Abbeydale																	
GLB	Holloway	Lakeside																	
GLC	Arrowcrest	Lodge Park																	
GLD	Throckmorton	Greenlands																	
	<p>Matchborough & Woodrow</p>	<p>After some discussion the polling districts were agreed by the Group.</p>		<p>DW/MB</p>															

		<p>However, during the discussion there was a significant point the Group wanted noting for the Electoral Matters Committee to review at a future date:</p> <p>Cllr Marshall had made a submission to review the size of the Woodrow polling district and perhaps the Bryant Place building in Woodrow North. This would mean the creation on an additional polling district. Officers had contacted the owners who said that it is unlikely that building works would be completed in time for next May. The Group decided that there was some merit in considering this after the May 2024 elections and the conclusion of the County Boundary Review.</p> <p>As with Greenlands & Lakeside, all the polling places are currently in use and recommended to continue so by officers, the Group agreed with this for the statutory review.</p>	<p>The Ward Analysis will go forward to Electoral Matters Committee and if agreed the Statutory Review.</p> <p>Also recommends that Electoral Matters considers an extra polling district and place for Woodrow after July 2024</p>	<p>Electoral Matters Workplan</p>
	Winyates	<p>There was considerable discussion on the new Winyates Ward resulting in a number of options going forward.</p> <p>The two main points of the discussion was regarding the polling districts (WIA, WIB, WID) and the use of the two school buildings.</p> <p>In terms of polling districts it was decided that officers review the polling district WID to take in part of WIB. Group members with the possible addition of MBR would organise a site visit to look at the underpass under the Warwick Highway.</p> <p>Officers agreed, if time allowed, to look at north/south split of WIA and WIB instead of an East/West split. This would enable Ibstock House to be considered as a polling place.</p> <p>In addition, the Group asked Cllr Fardoe if he would look into any other options that could be considered for the Ward.</p>	<p>Officers to review WID polling district.</p> <p>Cllr Flemming to organise site visit to WID polling district for Group members</p> <p>North/South split (if time allows)</p>	<p>MB</p> <p>Cllr Flemming/Group Members/MBR</p> <p>MB</p>

		<p>The Group acknowledged that the schools although not ideal would still be the best option if polling districts remained as proposed.</p> <p>Officers had provided two options for the polling place in WID, the hall connected to St Peter's Church and various rooms situated at the Old Rectory.</p> <p>The group considered the hall to be the better option but did want to see the results of changing the polling district before making a firm decision.</p> <p>An additional building was noticed by group members within the WID polling district which may be worth investigating as a potential polling place.</p> <p>The Group were happy to endorse polling district WIC and it's polling place of Winyates Green Community Centre.</p>	Officers to investigate building in Ipsley.	MB
4.	Items to Carry Forward	Winyates Ward polling districts (WIA,WIB and WID) will be reviewed again at the third meeting of this group.	The Ward Analysis for Winyates Ward will go to the third meeting of the Group on 8 September	ALL
5.	Any Other Business	None		
6.	Next Meeting	Thursday 24 August 18:00	To note	ALL

24 August 2023

RBC Local Review Working Group											
Date	24 August 2023	Venue	MS Teams		Time	18:00					
Present	Group Members: Cllr Dormer (Chair), Cllr Barker-Smith, Cllr Court, Cllr Fardoe, Cllr Flemming (Vice Chair), Cllr Stringfellow Officers: Darren Whitney(DW), Melissa Bassett (MB), Martyn Bradley(MBR) Other Attendees: N/A										
No.	Item	Summary Discussion		Actions	Responsibility						
1.	Apologies	None									
2.	Notes of last meeting	<p>Notes of the last meeting were agreed.</p> <p>DW noted that Cllr Fardoe had provided updated maps for Winyates Ward which will be provided for the Working Group Meeting on 8 September.</p> <p>Cllr Flemming noted that Cllrs had met and reviewed the walk through in Ipsley which they were happy with. Again this will be reviewed on 8 September although Group Members would prefer the Old Rectory as a polling place if the PD is extended, otherwise the Church Hall is a good alternative.</p>									
3.	Ward Analysis: Astwood Bank & Feckenham	<p>There was some discussion regarding polling district names.</p> <p>Group members decided to make the following changes:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="629 1316 1476 1386"> <thead> <tr> <th>Polling District Code</th> <th>Original Proposed Polling District Name</th> <th>Revised Proposed Polling District Name</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Polling District Code	Original Proposed Polling District Name	Revised Proposed Polling District Name				The Ward Analysis will go forward to Electoral Matters Committee and if agreed the Statutory Review	DW/MB
Polling District Code	Original Proposed Polling District Name	Revised Proposed Polling District Name									

		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>AFA</td> <td>St Peters</td> <td>Crabbs Cross</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AFC</td> <td>St Johns</td> <td>Feckenham</td> </tr> </table> <p>There was then a discussion about the polling place for polling district AFA. Officers had suggested options of Crabbs Cross Methodist Church or Windmill Community Centre with a preference for the former. Discussion surrounded on these options plus the use of St Peter's Church. The church had rejected approaches for polling in the past. Finally, the Crabbs Cross Methodist Church is to be recommended to the Electoral Matters Committee.</p> <p>For the AFB polling place the marquee at the back of the Red Lion public house was thought a better option then the portable building in Banners Lane which currently used.</p> <p>For AFC and AFD polling places no change from Feckenham Village Hall and Astwood Bank Church Hall respectively was agreed. It was noted that parking is limited for Astwood Bank Church Hall.</p>	AFA	St Peters	Crabbs Cross	AFC	St Johns	Feckenham		
AFA	St Peters	Crabbs Cross								
AFC	St Johns	Feckenham								
	Batchley & Brockhill	<p>The Group considered the proposed polling districts for the ward and decided that they wished officers to review the Batchley area once again. A recommendation to create an extra polling district provisionally called 'Foxlydiate' was made. This would include the northwestern part of polling district BBC and western parts of BBA and BBB. A suggestion of using the Gospel Hall on Foxlydiate Crescent. Officers agreed to investigate and bring this back to the next meeting.</p> <p>In terms of polling places the following was decided:</p>	<p>Officers will review the Batchley area and visit the Gospel Hall.</p> <p>The other polling districts and places will go forward to</p>	<p>DW/MB</p> <p>DW/MB</p>						

		<p>For BBA polling district that Holyoakes Field First School be recommend as a polling place noting that there should be minimal disruption to the school and that the situation is not ideal as it is at the top of a hill.</p> <p>For BBB polling district that Bridley Moor & Batchley Social Club be recommended over the current polling place of the portable building at Carthorse Lane. This being a better option for all electors to vote in.</p> <p>For BBC polling district that Batchley Community Centre should be recommended to continue to be used as the polling place.</p>	Electoral Matters Committee and if agreed the Statutory Review	
	Headless Cross & Oakenshaw	<p>Most of the discussion regarding this ward took place over the Wirehill part of the ward. This is an area moved from the old GRB polling district. Some members of the Group found that asking electors to go to Grangers Lane to vote would be unfair due to the distance to get there.</p> <p>Officers informed the group that they are currently looking at options for polling places including buildings at the Alex Hospital and the Kingsley Leisure Centre buildings at Tudor Grange Academy.</p> <p>Whist the group thought there was some merit in these they asked officers to also look at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ryland House • Scott Atkinson Child Development Centre • Premises in Green Lane (it was noted that this in the Stratford on Avon DC area but it is known that other Councils do use, on rare occasions, polling places outside of the District/Borough area) <p>Cllr Court was willing to walk through with officers, including MBR, the Green Lane area.</p>	<p>Officers to chase the outstanding potential polling places.</p> <p>Officers to walk through Green</p>	<p>MB</p> <p>Cllr Court DW/MB/MBR</p>

		<p>Findings will be sent through to the Group to consider at the 8 September meeting.</p> <p>After discussing Lineholt Close it was recognised that there was no other suitable location for a polling place regarding the rest of the HOC polling district and so would need to continue with the use of the portable building in Grangers Lane.</p> <p>In terms of polling district HOA the Group was happy to recommend that Rocklands Social Club be used, especially since, in the past, some electors had to have past by it to get to the Scout & Guide HQ.</p> <p>The Group was content to recommend the continued use of Oakenshaw Community Centre as a polling place for the HOB polling district.</p>	<p>Lane with Cllr Court.</p> <p>The other polling districts and places will go forward to Electoral Matters Committee and if agreed the Statutory Review.</p>	DW/MB
	Webheath & Callow Hill	<p>There was a discussion on the polling district boundaries and the Group consider a request to add a number of properties to the WCC (Callow Hill) polling district and also to include the golf course in the same polling district.</p> <p>Cllr Flemming agreed to provide a drawing to be considered at the next meeting.</p> <p>After reviewing the polling places the Group was happy to recommend keeping them where they are currently situated.</p>	<p>Cllr Flemming to provide drawing to MB to create new polling district maps. To be reviewed at next meeting.</p>	MB
4.	Items to Carry Forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update on the Batchley Area • A review of the Wirehill Area • An update on the Webheath & Callow Hill Area 	<p>To go to the third meeting of the Group on 8 September</p>	ALL
5.	Any Other Business	None		

6.	Next Meeting	Friday 8 September 16:00	To note	ALL
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8 September 2023

RBC Local Review Working Group					
Date	8 September 2023	Venue	MS Teams	Time	16:00
Present	Group Members: Cllr Barker-Smith, Cllr Court, Cllr Fardoe, Cllr Fleming (Vice Chair), Cllr Stringfellow Officers: Darren Whitney (DW), Melissa Bassett (MB) Other Attendees: N/A				
No.	Item	Summary Discussion	Actions	Responsibility	
1.	Apologies	Cllr Dormer. Cllr Fleming chaired the meeting.			
2.	Notes of last meeting	<p>Notes of the last meeting were agreed.</p> <p>It was noted that Cllrs Barker-Smith, Fardoe and Stringfellow had made comments regarding several ward analyses and these with actions from the previous meetings would be covered under the individual ward analysis.</p>			
3.	Ward Analysis: North	<p>The main discussion took place around the Abbey (NRA) polling district. There were concerns around the cost of using the Abbey Hotel and also the name of the polling district.</p> <p>It was recognised that although the hotel is expensive to use the alternative would be to revert to a temporary portable building.</p> <p>Group members decided to make the following changes:</p>	The Ward Analysis will go forward to Electoral Matters Committee and if agreed the Statutory Review	DW/MB	

		Polling District Code	Original Proposed Polling District Name	Revised Proposed Polling District Name		
		NRA	Abbey	Bordesley		
		The Group were happy to use the other polling places as all had been used in the past with no major problems.				
	Central	The Group were happy to approve the ward analysis with the only the minor change of polling district name for CEA from St Stephens to St Stephen's. All the polling places are currently used and have no real issues with any of them.			The Ward Analysis will go forward to Electoral Matters Committee and if agreed the Statutory Review	DW/MB
	Batchley & Brockhill	Officers confirmed that the Gospel Hall would make a good polling place, the trustees of the hall will need to agree to it use and agree a rental charge. The Group considered the revised areas and proposed some further changes. Cllr Fleming agreed to make changes on a map and send to officers who would then circulate to the Group for email agreement.			Cllr Fleming to redraw polling district boundaries and send to officers. Officers will update analysis and circulate. Group to comment by email to officers.	Cllr Fleming DW/MB All
	Winyates	Officers had provided two versions of the new Winyates Ward: One which basically extended polling district WID to include an area north of the Warwick Highway and the other which included this change plus extending polling district WIB into polling district WIA.			The first Ward Analysis option will go forward to Electoral Matters Committee and if agreed the Statutory Review	DW/MB

		As the second option would mean more electors going to Arrow Valley First School the Group decided to recommend the first option to Electoral Matters Committee.											
	Webheath & Callow Hill	<p>After the second meeting Cllr Dormer and Cllr Fleming provided a revised version of the polling district with the agreed changes plus an addition polling district in the west of the new ward.</p> <p>This was discussed at the meeting.</p> <p>Officers had been to the extra recommended polling place, St Philip's Church, and found it suitable to use. The trustees would need to agree a price for the use of hall/church but would welcome use of the building as a polling place.</p> <p>The Group was happy with the physical changes but decided to recommend some polling district name changes:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Polling District Code</th> <th>Original Proposed Polling District Name</th> <th>Revised Proposed Polling District Name</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>WCA</td> <td>Webheath West</td> <td>Upper Norgrove</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WCB</td> <td>Webheath Village</td> <td>Webheath</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Polling District Code	Original Proposed Polling District Name	Revised Proposed Polling District Name	WCA	Webheath West	Upper Norgrove	WCB	Webheath Village	Webheath	The Ward Analysis will go forward to Electoral Matters Committee and if agreed the Statutory Review	DW/MB
Polling District Code	Original Proposed Polling District Name	Revised Proposed Polling District Name											
WCA	Webheath West	Upper Norgrove											
WCB	Webheath Village	Webheath											
	Headless Cross & Oakenshaw	<p>The new ward had been brought back to the group regarding the Wirehill area of the new Ward.</p> <p>Officers reported back that the Tudor Grange Academy had refused use of the Kingsley Leisure Centre buildings.</p> <p>Officers had no further responses regarding the NHS properties.</p> <p>There was a continued discussion about Green Lane which was discounted due to the lack of pavements.</p>	<p>Cllr Court to feedback potential temporary building sites to officers.</p> <p>Officers to visit sites and feedback to Electoral Matters Committee</p>	<p>Cllr Court</p> <p>DW/MB</p>									

		<p>Officers were concerned about the siting of temporary polling station within in the Wirehill area and would still recommend using Grangers Lane.</p> <p>It was agreed that Group Members would suggest any sites for a temporary building and officers would review these with depot staff and perhaps in addition with the help of the contractor. Cllr Court, knowing the area, agreed to walk round Wirehill and let officers know where a temporary building could be sited. Officers would then review and bring to the Electoral Matters Committee.</p> <p>It is recommended that if a decision cannot be made that Grangers Lane be the default position.</p>	The Ward Analysis will go forward to Electoral Matters Committee and if agreed, with any amendments for Wirehill, the Statutory Review	DW/MB
4.	Items to Carry Forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement on Batchley & Brockhill polling district arrangements • Wirehill update 	For agreement by Group or Electoral Matters Committee	ALL
5.	Any Other Business	<p>Cllr Fardoe asked if an extra meeting could be held to review changes, due to time constraints for the committee reports this was not possible but the Group were happy for Cllr Fardoe be part of the consultation on the Committee Report before it was sent for publication.</p> <p>Cllr Fleming, as Chair, thanked all Members and Officers involved for their hard work and for bringing together something that will make a genuine positive difference to Redditch Electors.</p>		
6.	Next Meeting	N/A		

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