

REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES

To assist any interested party who may wish to make representations, the Council has put together the following information.

Definition of a Parliamentary Constituency, a Ward, Polling District, Polling Place and Polling Station

a) Parliamentary Constituency

The area designated by the Boundary Commission which is represented by a Member of Parliament (MP) in the House of Commons. This cannot be changed by the review – it is the division of the constituency into polling districts and places that is under review.

b) Wards

The Borough is divided into areas known as “Wards” which are represented by Borough Councillors. Ward boundaries cannot be changed by this review – it is the division of wards into polling districts and polling places that is under review.

c) Polling Districts

A polling district is the area created by the separation of a ward into smaller parts, within which a polling place can be determined which is most suitable for the electors.

d) Polling Places

A polling place is the building or area in which the number of polling stations will be selected by the (Acting) Returning Officer.

e) Polling Station

A polling station is the room or area in which voting takes place. This must be located within the polling place that has been designated for the particular polling district. The number of polling stations to be accommodated within a polling place is the decision of the (Acting) Returning Officer for the election.

Timetable for the Review

The Council is required to publish notice of the holding of a review. This has been carried out by way of notices posted outside the Town Hall, Epsom, at Bourne Hall, at the Ebbisham Centre and on the Council’s website. The timetable for the review is set out below:

Publication of notice and consultation document	27 June 2011
Commencement of Consultation	1 July 2011
Closing date for representations	12 Aug 2011
Consideration of all representations	12 – 23 Aug 2011
Report to Strategy and Resources Committee	27 Sept 2011
Report to Full Council	13 Dec 2011
Publication of notice of amendments to electoral register and intention to publish revised version of register (If necessary)	14 Dec 2011
Publication of revised version of register (if necessary)	1 January 2012

Criteria for Polling Places and Polling Districts

The Electoral Commission has set out guidance to assist in assessing the current arrangements and any proposals for change.

As part of the assessment of the suitability of polling district boundaries, the following should be considered:

- Are the boundaries well defined? For example. Do they follow the natural boundaries of the areas? If not, is it clear which properties belong in the polling district?
- Are there suitable transport links within the polling district, and how do they relate to the areas of the district that are most highly populated? Are there any obstacles to voters crossing the current polling district and reaching the polling place e.g. steep hills, impassable major roads, railway lines, rivers?

There are also a number of factors that must be considered when reviewing existing polling places or assessing new polling places, including:

- The location: is it reasonably accessible within the polling district? Does it avoid barriers for the voter such as steep hills, major roads, rivers, etc.? Are there any convenient transport links?
- Size: can the polling place accommodate more than one polling station if required? If multiple polling stations are required, is the polling place ample enough to accommodate all voters going into and out of the polling stations, even where there is a high turnout?
- Suitability: is the building readily available in the event of any unscheduled elections? Is there any possibility that the building may be demolished as part of a new development? Is the building accessible to all those entitled to attend the polling place?

The Electoral Commission recognises that the choice of polling place will often be a balance between the quality of the building in terms of access and facilities and the proximity of the building to the electors it is intended to serve and that there may be circumstances, as in the case of College Ward, where the polling place might fall wholly or partly outside the polling district because suitable alternatives are not available in the relevant Ward.

Although it is Council policy to avoid the use of schools wherever possible, there may be locations where there are no other suitable premises in the area. For the purposes of elections, the (Acting) Returning Officer is entitled to use free of charge, subject to covering the cost of heating, lighting and caretaking charges, schools maintained or assisted by a local authority as well as those schools that receive grants made up of monies provided by Parliament.

In conducting this review, it is proposed that, in order to minimize the risk of long queues at a polling place, as far as possible, around 1500 and no more than 2000 voters should be assigned to each polling station for local elections. It should be noted that the number of postal voters in each polling district is a relevant consideration in this regard. In the event of a combined and/or Parliamentary Election, given more complex arrangements and higher voter turnout, it may be necessary to review these numbers. In all circumstances, consideration is given to whether a polling place is capable of accommodating more than one polling station, if necessary.

Current practice, to avoid confusion and delays at polling stations and the Count, is not to locate polling stations from more than one Ward in the same building and this will be taken into consideration when considering any proposals.

Polling station staff are encouraged to make comments and observations regarding the suitability of polling places to which they are allocated and Polling Station Inspectors visited all polling stations during the recent elections in May 2011. Any comments have been taken into account when conducting the review.

The Role of the (Acting) Returning Officer

Whilst it is for the Council to decide on the creation of polling districts and location of polling places, it is for the (Acting) Returning Officer to decide how many polling stations are required for each polling station and must allocate electors to the polling stations in such manner as he or she thinks most conducive to the smooth running of polling day.

The Council must consult the (Acting) Returning Officer as part of the review and the (Acting) Returning Officer must comment during any review on both the existing polling districts and the polling stations and any proposed changes.

Other representations

The Council is also required to seek representations from those with an expertise in relation to access to premises and facilities for disabled people. Such persons must also be given the opportunity to comment on the representations made by the (Acting) Returning Officer (which are contained in this consultation document).

Election candidates and agents, political parties and members of the Council will also be notified of the review.

Summary of Consultees

Any elector in the Constituency may make representations on the designation of polling districts or places. In addition, the Council has notified the following groups/individuals about the review:

The Member of Parliament for Epsom and Ewell, Chris Grayling
Epsom and Ewell Access Group
Surrey Disabled People's Partnership
Members of Epsom and Ewell Borough Council
Surrey County Councillors representing divisions within the Epsom area
Election agents who acted at the 2011 elections
Candidates who stood in the 2011 elections
Residents Associations
Registered political parties who regularly field candidates in local and parliamentary elections in the Borough

Completion of the review

After considering all of the representations, a report will be presented to the Strategy and Resources Committee. It is anticipated that this will be at its meeting on 27 September 2011. The Strategy and Resources Committee will consider the report and make recommendations as it thinks appropriate to full Council on 13 December 2011 at which the final decisions will be made.

The Council is required to give reasons for its decisions in respect of the designation of both polling districts and polling places and these will be published, together with the following information, on the Council's website and made available, on request, at the Town Hall, Epsom

- all correspondence sent to the Returning Officer in connection with the review
- all correspondence sent to any person who the Council thinks has particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for persons who have different forms of disability;

- all representations made by any person in connection with the review;
- the minutes of any meetings held by the Council where details of the review have been considered;
- details of the actual designations of polling districts and polling places agreed as a result of the review; and
- details of where the results of the review have been published (as already stated above).

Challenging the Review

Although the Electoral Commission has no initial role in the review process itself, it does have an important role in respect of considering representations and observations made that a Council has failed to conduct a proper review on one of two grounds:

- that the Council has failed to meet the reasonable requirements of the electors in the constituency, or a body of them (i.e. the reasonable requirements of a particular area of the authority have not been satisfactorily met);

or

- that the Council has failed to take sufficient account of the accessibility to disabled persons of polling stations within a designated polling place.

Representations based on any other grounds will not be considered by the Commission.

All representations made to the Commission must be in writing either by post, email or fax and should include the location and any other relevant information, stating specifically why it is inaccessible or does not meet the reasonable requirements of the electors.

Who may make a representation to the Electoral Commission?

Section 18D (1) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, sets out who may make representations to the Electoral Commission namely;

- not less than thirty registered electors in the constituency (although electors registered anonymously cannot make a representation)

- a person (except the (Acting) Returning Officer) who made representations to the council when the review was being undertaken
- any person who is not an elector within the constituency but who the Electoral Commission feels has sufficient interest in the accessibility of disabled persons in the areas or has particular expertise in relation to the access to premises or facilities of disabled persons

The (Acting) Returning Officer is entitled to make observations on any representations made to the Commission.

What will the Electoral Commission do?

The Electoral Commission is required to consider any representations and observations and may direct the relevant council to make any alterations it sees necessary to the polling places designated by the review. Should a Council fail to make the alterations within two months of the direction being given, the Commission may make the alterations itself.

Proposals

Set out in [Appendix A](#) are details of current polling districts and polling places for each of the 13 wards within the Borough of Epsom and Ewell. [Appendix B](#) contains a breakdown for each polling place with the details of any proposed changes and the comments of the (Acting) Returning Officer. A map is also attached showing the location of all the polling places identified in the Schedule.

Included in [Appendix B](#) are details of known proposed developments. The potential increase in the electorate in any affected polling districts is an estimate based on two eligible electors per property and full occupancy of the approximate number of proposed dwellings.

The electorate, broken down into polling districts, is based on the electorate as at 1 July 2011.

Any significant comments from polling station staff or polling station inspectors regarding the condition or accessibility of currently used polling places are included where appropriate.

A full review of polling places was last conducted in 2007 and a copy of the report to the Strategy and Resources Committee dated 13 November 2007, including comments on the proposals at the time, is available on request or can be downloaded from the Council's website. The recommendation to further investigate the feasibility of creating a new Polling District and Polling Place for voters in Ruxley Ward was acted upon and a report went to the Strategy and Resources Committee on 1 April 2008.

There are no known plans which would affect the availability of those Council-owned premises currently used as polling places and the Council has had no indication that private venues currently used will not be available in future, apart from as indicated in Appendix B.

Representations

Any persons wishing to make comments or representations regarding the proposals may do so. Any representations you wish to make should be **received by close of business (5pm) on**

12 August 2011

All representations must be made in writing either by post, email or fax.

Representations by post should be sent to:

Electoral Services
Epsom and Ewell Borough Council
The Town Hall
The Parade
Epsom
Surrey
KT18 5BY

Representations by email should be sent to:

electoralservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk

Representations made by fax should be sent to:

01372 732111

For any queries, please telephone 01372 732000 and ask to speak to Electoral Services.

All representations will be published on the Council's website as soon as possible after receipt. Even if you have already commented on the proposals, you may make further submissions in response to views and comments you see on the website.

The final decision will be taken by full Council at its meeting on 13 December 2011 and, if necessary, a notice of any alterations to the register will be published on the Council's website no later than 14 December and any new polling districts and polling places will become effective at all elections held after that date.

EPSOM AND EWELL BOROUGH COUNCIL**SCHEDULE OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS**

WARD	POLLING DISTRICT	POLLING PLACE
CUDDINGTON	AA	Rowe Hall, 2 nd Cuddington Scout HQ, Salisbury Road, Worcester Park
	AB	St Mary's Church Hall, The Avenue, Worcester Park
AURIOL	B	Stoneleigh Methodist Church Hall, Stoneleigh Crescent, Ewell
EWELL COURT	CA	West Ewell Infants School, Ruxley Lane, West Ewell
	CB	Ewell Court House, Ewell Court Avenue, Ewell
RUXLEY	D	North Annexe Building (Sixth Form Common Room), Epsom & Ewell High School, Ruxley Lane, West Ewell
WEST EWELL	EA	Danetree Junior School, Danetree Road, West Ewell
	EB	All Saints Church & Community Centre, Fulford Road, West Ewell
COURT	FA	Southfield Park Primary School, Long Grove Road, Epsom
	FB	Longmead Centre Hall, Sefton Road, Epsom
STAMFORD	GA	The Fellowship Hall, West Hill, Epsom
	GB	Church Hall, Christ Church, Christ Church Road, Epsom
	GC	The Spalding Hall, The Wells Social Centre), Spa Drive, Epsom
STONELEIGH	HA	Stoneleigh Baptist Church Hall, The Glade, Stoneleigh
	HB	As Above (Stoneleigh Baptist Church)

APPENDIX A

WARD	POLLING DISTRICT	POLLING PLACE
NONSUCH	IA	St Paul's Church Centre, Northey Avenue, Cheam
	IB	Wallace Fields Junior School, Dorling Drive, Ewell
EWELL	JA	The Rose Room, Bourne Hall, Spring Street, Ewell
	JB	Classroom X1, Glyn School, The Kingsway, Ewell
	JB1	The Lintons Centre, Lintons Lane, Epsom
TOWN	KA	The Lintons Centre, Lintons Lane, Epsom
	KB	Myers Hall, Epsom Playhouse, Ashley Avenue, Epsom
	KC	St. Banabas Church, Temple Road, Epsom
COLLEGE	LA	The Pavilion, Alexandra Recreation Ground, Alexandra Road, Epsom
	LB	Wisley Room, The Church House, Church Street, Epsom
WOODCOTE	MA	Grace Baptist Church, 32 Dorking Road, Epsom
	MB	St Martin's C of E Junior School, Ashley Road, Epsom
	MC	Langley Vale Village Hall, Rosebery Road, Epsom

**EXISTING POLLING DISTRICTS AND PLACES AND (ACTING)
RETURNING OFFICERS' REPRESENTATIONS**

Cuddington Ward

Number of Polling Districts: Two
 Number of Polling Places: Two
 Electorate in Ward: **4632**
 Postal Voters in Ward: **513**
 Notes: There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	A(A)
Electorate in District:	2523
Postal Voters:	279
Polling Place	Scout Hut (Rowe Hall), Salisbury Road, Worcester Park
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	1
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available on site. On-street parking available around venue.

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Polling District	A(B)
Electorate in District	2109
Postal Voters	234
Polling Place	St Mary's Church Hall, The Avenue, Worcester Park
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	2
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking - off-street parking available on site. On-street parking also available around venue.

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Auriol Ward

Number of Polling Districts: One

Number of Polling Places: One

Electorate in Ward: **2989**Postal Voters in Ward **306**

Notes: There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	B
Electorate in District	2989
Postal Voters	306
Polling Place	Stoneleigh Methodist Church Hall, Stoneleigh Crescent, Ewell
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	3
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available on site. On-street parking available around venue.

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations**I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.**

Ewell Court Ward

Number of Polling Districts: Two
 Number of Polling Places: Two
 Electorate in Ward: **4270**
 Postal Voters in Ward: **516**
 Notes: There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	C(A)
Electorate in District	2577
Postal Voters	314
Polling Place	West Ewell Infants School, Ruxley Lane, West Ewell
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	4
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access – adequate (additional ramp provided) Parking – off-street parking available on site. Proposed development of the site formerly occupied by the Bradbury Centre is likely to result in an increase of an estimated 48 voters.

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

During the 2007 review, it was reported that there were plans to redevelop the site on which the premises used at that time, (the Bradbury Centre owned by St Francis of Assisi Church in Ruxley Lane), stood. It was intended that a new Community Hall was to be built as part of the redevelopment. This development has yet to commence and for recent elections, in the absence of any suitable alternatives, the polling place reverted to West Ewell Infant School which had been used in the past.

I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Ewell Court Ward (cont)

Polling District	C(B)
Electorate in District	1693
Postal Voters	175
Polling Place	Ewell Court House, Lakehurst Road, Ewell
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	5
Proposal	No change
Comments	Council owned premises Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking - off-street parking available

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Ruxley Ward

Number of Polling Districts:	One
Number of Polling Places:	One
Electorate in Ward:	4605
Postal Voters in Ward	580
Notes:	There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	D
Electorate in District	4605
Postal Voters	580
Polling Place	North Annexe, Epsom & Ewell High School Ruxley Lane, West Ewell
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	6
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available The room normally used is the Sixth Form Common Room in the North Annexe. The North Annexe is separate from main school building and the School remains open on polling day. Other parts of the Annexe are still used by the school on polling day.

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

It is recognised that the location of the current polling place in Ruxley Ward is not entirely satisfactory but the turnout figures do not necessarily support the view that voters in the southern half of the Ward, notably Clarendon Park, are disadvantaged compared with the rest of Ruxley Ward. In 2007, a separate polling station was created at Epsom and Ewell High School for the purposes of collating statistical information on turnout from the southern half of the Ward. The turnout for Clarendon Park was 35.98% compared with 28.98% for the Ward as a whole.

In December 2007, the Council considered these issues and resolved that the polling place in Ruxley Ward should continue to be designated as Epsom & Ewell High School and that further investigation should be undertaken, with full consultation with Ward Councillors, to establish the feasibility of creating a new polling district and polling place in the southern half of the Ward. The results of this investigation were reported back to the Council's Strategy and Resources Committee in April 2008.

These further investigations failed to identify any premises suitable for designation as a polling place in the southern half of the Ward and there would be a significant cost implication in providing temporary accommodation.

In the absence of any alternatives, I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

West Ewell Ward

Number of Polling Districts	Two
Number of Polling Places	Two
Electorate in Ward	4698
Postal Voters in Ward	423
Notes	There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	E(A)
Electorate in District	1493
Postal Voters	126
Polling Place	Danetree Junior School Danetree Road West Ewell
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	7
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – limited off-street parking on school premises otherwise on-street parking on residential road.</p> <p>The school remained open on 5 May 2011.</p> <p>Although it is Council policy to avoid the use of schools wherever possible, it was considered that there were no other suitable premises in the area. Schools are notified of scheduled elections as early as possible, preferably before the start of the academic year to allow schools the option of setting an INSET day.</p>

(Acting) Returning Officer’s Representations

Danetree School has been a designated polling place for many years. In the past, the School has shut on polling day but chose to remain open on 5 May 2011. Although there were no reported problems, this is not ideal. The School is keen that alternative premises are found and has suggested premises in Lansdowne Road (belonging to the West Ewell Evangelical Church) (**Map ref: 30**) and this will be investigated.

I consider the polling district suitable and, subject to further investigation, in the absence of any alternatives, I consider the polling place appropriate.

West Ewell Ward (cont)

Polling District	E(B)
Electorate in District:	3205
Postal Voters	297
Polling Place	All Saints Church Community Centre Fulford Road, West Ewell
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	8
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – limited off-street parking available on site otherwise on-street parking in residential road. Proposed development in this District is likely to result in an increase of an estimated 28 voters (The site of the former Plough pub=16 and Richards Fields=12)

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Court Ward

Number of Polling Districts: Two

Number of Polling Places: Two

Electorate in Ward: **4599**

Postal Voters in Ward **415**

Notes: The St. Ebba's redevelopment will result in a likely increase of an estimated 644 voters in the Ward.

Polling District	F(A)
Electorate in District	2771
Postal Voters	293
Polling Place	Southfields Park Primary School, Long Grove Road, Epsom
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	9
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available on school premises.</p> <p>2007 was the first time this school was used as a polling place as it was considered to be in a more central location for voters in this polling district than the previous polling place (Epsom County Primary School, Pound Lane), particularly bearing mind the redevelopment which was well underway at the time on Livingstone Park (the Horton Hospital redevelopment).</p> <p>This school closes on election day.</p> <p>Although it is Council policy to avoid the use of schools wherever possible, it is considered that there are no other suitable premises in the area. Schools are notified of scheduled elections as early as possible, preferably before the start of the academic year to allow schools the option of setting an INSET day.</p>

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

In 2007 it was noted that proposed redevelopment in this Polling District was likely to result in an increase of an estimated 140 voters (the Horton Hospital Stage B development) and the polling place was moved to its current location for the reasons set out above.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Court Ward (cont)

Polling District	F(B)
Electorate in District	1828
Postal Voters	122
Polling Place	Longmead Centre, Sefton Road, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	10
Proposal	No change
Comments	Council-owned premises Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available on site. The polling station is located in the main hall.

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

In 2007 it was noted that proposed redevelopment in this Polling District was likely to result in an increase of an estimated 560 voters (the St. Ebba's redevelopment). This estimate has been revised to an estimated increase of 644. This means a potential increase in the total electorate in this District to 2472. However, taking into account postal voting trends, I consider that the size of this Polling District is still within acceptable tolerances and there is scope to create another polling station at the polling place, if necessary. The location of the St. Ebba's redevelopment means that the polling place is reasonably accessible to new residents.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Stamford Ward

Number of Polling Districts	Three
Number of Polling Places	Three
Electorate in Ward	4515
Postal Voters in Ward	478
Notes	The West Park redevelopment will result in a likely increase of an estimated 900 voters in the Ward.

Polling District	G(A)
Electorate in District	1453
Postal Voters	157
Polling Place	The Fellowship Hall, West Hill, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	11
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - adequate Parking – small public car park opposite, no on-street parking available close to venue.

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Stamford Ward (cont)

Polling District	G(B)
Electorate in District	2072
Postal Voters	253
Polling Place	Church Hall, Christ Church, Christ Church Road Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	12
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Premises satisfactory. Location - see below Disabled access - adequate Parking – car park available on site but not immediately adjacent to building.</p> <p>2007 was the first time this hall was used as a polling place. Although the building is on the edge of the Polling District boundary, it is considered overall to be a more 'central' location for voters than Stamford Green School. There are two pedestrian crossings on the main road either side of Christ Church Hall. In addition, Stamford Green School would prefer not to be used. In the past, the School chose to remain open and the location of the polling station was not ideal because it had to be self contained with no unsupervised access to the main building. Disabled access could only be gained through the main school entrance security doors, not visible from the polling station, a potential problem after school hours when the school office next to the main school entrance was not manned.</p>

(Acting) Returning Officer’s Representations

In 2007 it was reported that proposed redevelopment in this Polling District was likely to result in an increase of an estimated 720 voters (West Park Hospital) from 2086 to 2806. This estimate has now been revised to a likely increase of an estimated 900 voters. However, taking into account postal voting trends, I consider that the size of this polling district is still within acceptable tolerances and there is scope to create another polling station at the polling place, if necessary.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Stamford Ward (cont)

Polling District	G(C)
Electorate in District	990
Postal Voters	68
Polling Place	Spalding Hall, The Wells Social Centre, Spa Drive, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	13
Proposal	No change
Comments	Council-owned premises Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access – Good during Centre opening hours (otherwise adequate) Parking – good – car park on site.

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Stoneleigh Ward

Number of Polling Districts: Two
 Number of Polling Places: One
 Electorate in Ward: **3775**
 Postal Voters **369**
 Notes: There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	H(A)
Electorate in District	1911
Postal Voters	167
Polling Place	Stoneleigh Baptist Church Hall, The Glade, Stoneleigh
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	14
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – limited off street parking available. On-street parking available around venue

(Acting) Returning Officer’s Representations

I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Polling District	H(B)
Electorate in District	1864
Postal Voters	202
Polling Place	Stoneleigh Baptist Church Hall, The Glade, Stoneleigh
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	14
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking - limited off street parking available. On-street parking available around venue.

(Acting) Returning Officer’s Representations

In 2007 it was suggested that H (A) and H (B) should be merged into a single polling district. Since this would have no affect on the number of polling places, it was considered that this would be an administrative exercise of no direct benefit to the electorate in the Ward and the Council resolved in December 2007 to retain the status quo.

I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Nonsuch Ward

Number of Polling Districts: Two
Number of Polling Places: Two
Electorate in Ward: **4388**
Postal Voters **476**
Notes: There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	I(A)
Electorate in District	3518
Postal Voters	381
Polling Place	St Paul's Church Centre, 15 Northey Ave, Cheam
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	15
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available on site. On-street parking available around venue

Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Nonsuch Ward (cont)

Polling District	I(B)
Electorate in District	870
Postal Voters	95
Polling Place	Wallace Fields Junior School, Dorling Drive, Ewell
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	16
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off street parking available on school premises and on-street parking available close to venue.</p> <p>Although the Polling Place is not actually located within the Nonsuch Ward boundaries, it is immediately adjacent to the Ward and it has worked very well for many years.</p> <p>This school closes on election day.</p> <p>Although it is Council policy to avoid the use of schools wherever possible, it is considered that there are no other suitable premises in the area. Schools are notified of scheduled elections as early as possible, preferably before the start of the academic year to allow schools the option of setting an INSET day.</p>

(Acting) Returning Officer’s Representations

The current polling station for polling district IB is at Wallace Fields Junior School, which closes on polling day. Although not ideal, there is no more conveniently sited alternative. NESCOL have been approached in the past but responded at the time, that, because of the intensity of use of their site, they could not make any accommodation available unless an election falls in a half term or vacation period (which is unlikely). However, a recent site visit established that there was in fact no suitable accommodation available for the purposes of polling. In any event, NESCOL is not an ideal site, being relatively distant from most of the area and across the busy Reigate Road.

I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Ewell Ward

Number of Polling Districts: Three

Number of Polling Places: Three

Electorate in Ward: **4292**

Postal Voters **519**

Notes: Proposed development on the Cheam Motors site (JA) and in J (B) (the Tall Pines site, Epsom Road) will result in a likely increase of an estimated 78 voters in the Ward.

Polling District	J(A)
Electorate in District	2569
Postal Voters	281
Polling Place	Rose Room, Bourne Hall, Spring Street, Ewell
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	17
Proposal	No change
Comments	Council-owned premises Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available (public car park).

(Acting) Returning Officer’s Representations

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Polling District	J(B)
Electorate in District	166
Postal Voters	188
Polling Place	Classroom X1, Glyn School, The Kingsway, Ewell
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	18
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – limited off-street parking available on school premises. On-street parking available close to venue. The polling station is currently located in the sixth form block. The School to remains open on polling day and other parts of the block are still used by the school.

(Acting) Returning Officer’s Representations

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Ewell Ward (Cont)

Polling District	J(B1)
Electorate in District	557
Postal Voters	50
Polling Place	Lintons Centre, Lintons Lane, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	19
Proposal	MERGER OF J(B) AND J(B1)
Comments	<p>Premises poor; location satisfactory Disabled access - adequate Parking – off-street parking on site</p> <p>There are plans to redevelop the Lintons Centre, but it is not clear if this will affect the use of the main building during the redevelopment or future use after the works are completed. Situation to be kept under review.</p> <p>It is proposed that the area J(B1) be merged back into J(B). The turnout of the electorate is making the continued split of the Polling District an unacceptable use of resources. In May 2007 turnout was 20.7%, the lowest of all polling stations in the Borough. Of 472 who could have voted in person, only 98 did so.</p> <p>If the site were to be redeveloped and no longer suitable for use as a polling place, the best alternative location (St John Ambulance Hall, Hook Road) would not be large enough to accommodate voters from Town K(A) & Ewell J(B1). (See comments in relation to K(A) below)</p> <p>The polling place for the JB Polling District is currently Glyn School, The Kingsway, Ewell.</p>

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

The Polling District of J(B1) comprises approximately 325 properties on the south-east side of East Street, including Dirdene Gardens. It was created after the Ward Boundary changes made in 2002 and was intended as a temporary measure until the County Council elections in 2005 when the new County Council Division boundaries came into force. The 2007 review retained J(B1) because the Ewell Ward Boundary did not seem to match community ties at that time with most of the residents in this area regarding themselves as part of Epsom rather than Ewell. However, it was also reported that, if an early boundary review was not forthcoming, it was the then Returning Officer's intention to propose the merger of JB and J (B1). I also consider the current arrangements an unacceptable use of resources and the

case for merger is further strengthened by the uncertainty surrounding the future availability of the Lintons Centre. The availability of an alternative suitable polling place could be a problem if this change were not made.

I propose that the Polling Districts of J(B) and J(B1) be merged and that the polling place for J (B) be The Glyn School.

Town Ward

Number of Polling Districts	Three
Number of Polling Places	Three
Electorate in Ward	5147
Postal Voters	646
Notes	The proposed Lintons Centre development will result in a likely estimated increase of 106 voters and the Epsom Station development an estimated increase of 248 voters.

Polling District	K(A)
Electorate	1215
Postal Voters	124
Polling Place	Lintons Centre, Lintons Lane, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	19
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Premises poor; location satisfactory Disabled access - adequate Parking – off-street parking on site</p> <p>There are plans to redevelop the Lintons Centre, but it is not clear if this will affect the use of the main building during the redevelopment. Situation to be kept under review.</p> <p>If the Lintons Centre was not available for a particular election then an alternative is for the Polling Place to be located at the St John Ambulance Hall, Hook Road (Map ref: 27). This was previously used by voters in K(C) before their Polling Place was changed to St Barnabas Church, Temple Road. However availability of premises maybe difficult at short notice.</p>

(Acting) Returning Officer’s Representations

I recognise that the Lintons Centre is not very suitable as a polling place. However if the decision to move back to St John’s Ambulance Hall was made then availability could be an issue and, whilst adequate, the accommodation is not ideal and would not be capable of housing more than one polling station.

In the current circumstances, I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Town Ward (cont)

Polling District	K(B)
Electorate in District	2656
Postal Voters	417
Polling Place	Myers Hall, Epsom Playhouse, Ashley Avenue, Epsom
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	20
Proposal	No change
Comments	Council owned premises Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking - Multi storey public car park adjacent to Playhouse. No on-street parking close to venue.

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

Taking into account postal voting trends, I consider that the size of this polling district is still within acceptable tolerances. The number of polling stations was recently increased from one to two to accommodate the increasing electorate.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Polling District	K(C)
Electorate in District	1276
Postal Voters	105
Polling Place	St Barnabas Church, Temple Road, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	21
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location good Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available on site. Limited on-street parking also available. 2007 was the first time this was used as Polling Place. The accommodation much more suited to use as polling station than St. John's Ambulance Hall and this location is considered more central for voters in this district than St John Ambulance Hall which is located in Hook Road (Map ref:27).

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

College Ward

Number of Polling Districts	Two
Number of Polling Places	Two
Electorate in Ward	4316
Postal Voters	611
Notes	There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	L(A)
Electorate in District	2165
Postal Voters	283
Polling Place	The Pavilion, Alexandra Recreation Ground, Alexandra Road, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	22
Proposal	No change
Comments	Council owned premises Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - Adequate Parking – close to pavilion for staff & disabled. In main car park for other voters.

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

College Ward (cont)

Polling District	L(B)
Electorate in District	2151
Postal Voters	328
Polling Place	The Wisley Room, The Church House, Church Street, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	23
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available on site. On-street parking probably difficult close to venue.</p> <p>Although the Polling Place is not actually located within the College Ward boundaries, it is immediately adjacent to the Ward and it has worked very well for many years.</p> <p>As far as the Council is aware, there are no other suitable premises (halls etc) within College Ward/Polling District boundaries.</p>

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Woodcote Ward

Number of Polling Districts	Three
Number of Polling Places	Three
Electorate in Ward	4387
Postal Voters	559
Notes	Proposed development will add approximately 208 voters to the Ward.

Polling District	M(A)
Electorate in District	1573
Postal Voters	167
Polling Place	Grace Baptist Church, 32 Dorking Road, Epsom (formerly known as Dorking Road Baptist Church)
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	24
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - adequate Parking – off-street parking on site although access is difficult.

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

In 2007 it was reported that proposed development in this Polling District was likely to result in an increase of an estimated 144 voters (Rosebery School development) from 1515 to 1659. This estimate has now been revised to a likely increase of an estimated 208 voters.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Woodcote Ward (cont)

Polling District	M(B)
Electorate in District	1554
Postal Voters	258
Polling Place	St. Martins C of E Junior School, Ashley Road, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	25
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - reasonable Parking – off-street parking available on school premises</p> <p>Since the building of the Sure Start Children’s Centre, the only vehicle access is via Ashley Road.</p> <p>This school chose to remain open on 5 May 2011.</p> <p>It is Council policy to avoid the use of schools wherever possible but it is considered that there are no other suitable premises in the area. Schools are notified of scheduled elections as early as possible, preferably before the start of the academic year, to allow schools the option of setting an INSET day.</p>

(Acting) Returning Officer’s Representations

During the 2010 elections problems of disabled access to the school hall were experienced due to the erection of a fence around the playground. Vehicle access was from the Ashley Road entrance but voters had to park and walk across the playground to the school hall. Discussions with the new Headteacher resulted in the offer of the use of a separate classroom block close to the Ashley Road entrance which had the advantage of being self-contained and close to the car park for disabled voters. In addition, the accommodation could, and was used, without the rest of the school having to close. A ramp for the slight lip into the classroom would be provided for future elections.

The site is not ideal but there are no other suitable premises. W.S. Atkins has been approached. The firm has confirmed that they have no suitable accommodation available. I also consider premises at the University of Creative Arts in Ashley Road unsuitable. The racecourse is not within the Polling District and is too remote with no regular/reliable public transport links. Likewise, the Epsom Playhouse is not within the Polling District, has no on-street parking close to the venue and already contains two polling stations for a different Ward. This could lead to confusion and delays on polling day. I am aware that, although in a different Ward, Epsom Methodist Church has been designated as a polling place in the past and this will be investigated further

although it has been suggested that the premises might not be available owing to other uses.

In the absence of any alternatives, I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Polling District	M(C)
Electorate in District	1260
Postal Voters	134
Polling Place	Langley Vale Village Hall, Rosebery Road, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	26
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – on-street parking available around venue.

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.