

Polling Districts, Places and Stations Review 2019

Consultation Feedback by Ward

Date	Polling Station	Ward	Comments	Acting Returning Officer's comments
19/07/2019		All wards	Following the proposals for the Polling Station Review I have taken the time to consult with the Council Leader, Danny Cook as well as some of his colleagues. I completely support all of his and the Conservative groups suggestions which have been made in feedback from residents in the Tamworth area. Within the Belgrave Ward and Wilnecote Ward especially, there has been suitable expansions of polling areas allowing them to reflect the local geographical boundaries, due to them being better aligned within the area. The make-up of new polling districts within the Amington and Castle Ward would make them more accessible for constituents to vote, as it has improved parking facilities which are within walking distance, unlike their current positioning. Portable Polling Stations on Chiltern Road and in the Glascote Ward will allow them to be recentralised onto the estate to allow the population of the polling district to vote locally, without them having to travel too far to do so.	All submissions have been given careful consideration. Please see responses below.

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29/05/2019	Landau Forte - Greenacres	Amington	<p>There are proposals for a school in the new development within AM3. When this occurs it would enable GL1 to use AMINGTON HEATH and AM3 to use the new school. I understand residents in GL1 do complain about travelling to the Sacred Heart if they live close to Amington Heath School. We all have the option of postal voting if travel is difficult. The wards seem to be using in most cases a central point. It is a shame that schools are pre-dominantly used as the children lose a day of schooling.</p>	<p>It should be noted that although the Amington Ward currently uses three schools as polling stations the head teachers are informed of scheduled polls several years in advance thus allowing ample time to plan for a Teacher Training Inset Day. This should help keep disruption and inconvenience to a minimum. Whilst head teachers must provide the Returning Officer with a suitable room to facilitate voting it is not the Returning Officer who chooses to close the school. This is a decision taken by the head teacher and in fact a number of schools that are used as polling stations throughout the borough remain either fully or partially open on polling days.</p> <p>Schools are required under statute to be made available for voting purposes. This is partly due to the fact that as a public building the access must meet all requirements set out in the Equality Act 2010. Accessibility for disabled voters is a very important issue and ensuring that polling stations are suitable for all sorts of disability is essential. According to statistics provided by Staffordshire Observatory there are approximately 7,000 people within the borough who have mobility issues and an unknown number of people with other impediments. We must be very careful about not accidentally disenfranchising an elector as they are unable to access voting facilities easily. Section 16 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006 has placed a requirement on the local authority to review</p>

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				the accessibility of all polling stations. A review is undertaken at every poll and a polling station questionnaire is available for completion by electors. No complaints have been received at any of the recent elections in regard to accessibility issues in the Amington Ward. Therefore, no changes are proposed to any of the polling stations currently used.
06/06/2019	Landau Forte - Greenacres	Amington	Whilst schools tend to be used, elections do disrupt education of students, whether or not the school remains open or closes and use of other public buildings would be unlikely to affect as many individuals as it does when schools are used.	Please see above.
01/07/2019		Amington	The current polling district for AM1 and AM2 do not reflect the local geographic boundaries. The boundary for AM1 be extended north to the Coventry Canal, east to Florendine Street, ten South to meet the Glascote boundary. This wouldn't change the polling station arrangements for electors but would better align with geographical boundaries. Agree with the make-up of AM5 polling district, the polling station should be the new school. The current arrangements are shown as appendix G and our proposal as appendix H.	It will be recommended that a small alteration to the boundaries between polling districts AM1 and AM2 be completed. This small change would not require an alteration to the current polling place but would better align the polling districts when taking into account the natural geography of the area and current ward boundaries. This means that the following streets would move from polling district AM2 to polling district AM1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arden Close • Argyle Street - Numbers 114 to 120 (evens) • Beechwood Crescent • Bridge Street • Fairview Close • Florendine Street • Highfield Avenue • Monks Way • Sheepcote Lane – Numbers 105 –

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				<p>117 (odds) and Numbers 156 to 168 (evens)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tamworth Road – Numbers 1 – 159 (odds) and 20 – 128 (evens). This is the section of Tamworth Road running from Argyle Street up to the canal bridge opposite Florendine Street) • The Riddings • Wesley Way • Woodhurst Close
18/07/2019		Amington	<p>The current polling district for Am1 and AM2 do not reflect the local geographic boundaries. The boundary for AM1 be extended north to the Coventry Canal, east to Florendine Street, ten South to meet the Glascote boundary. This wouldn't change the polling station arrangements for electors but would better align with geographical boundaries. Agree with the make-up of AM5 polling district, the polling station should be the new school. The current arrangements are shown as appendix G and our proposal as appendix H.</p>	Please see above.