

# 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.
23/05/2019	Wilnecote Junior School and Heathfields Infants School	Wilnecote	Please stop using the primary and infants school for Polling Stations the children already have 14 weeks off a year. Please consider using the Wilnecote Parish hall or even Wilnecote Leisure Centre. A mobile could go on car park. The new scout hut will be also ready very soon on	It should be noted that although the Wilnecote Ward currently uses two schools as polling station 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

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			Ninefoot park.	<p>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 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</p>

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				<p>Wilnecote Ward. Therefore, no changes are proposed to any of the polling stations currently used.</p> <p>The newly build Scout Hut adjacent to Ninefoot Park actually just falls into the Belgrave Ward. At present there is an uneven surface in the car park and there is no dedicated disabled parking bay. The car park is also utilised by the local businesses so parking in this location could potentially be an issue.</p> <p>Wilnecote Village Hall is too far away from the main population of the ward and there are no bus routes that would help facilitate the electorate to travel there.</p> <p>Therefore, at the present time I am proposing no changes to the current polling stations.</p>
01/07/2019		Wilnecote	<p>The current arrangements of polling districts do not align with the wards natural geography. Polling Districts should better reflect layout and makeup of housing estate. Currently the "Birds estates" are split over two polling districts (W14 and W16). We suggest that these should be merged into 1 polling district. The current arrangements are shown as appendix A and our proposal as appendix B. Following the development on Hedging Lane, we proposed that W13 should be extended south to include the new development on Hedging Lane, they are currently in W15. It would make more sense for these residents to use the nearby polling station in W13. The current arrangements are shown as</p>	<p>After looking at the map it seems sensible to combine polling districts W14 and W16. These will be combined and will be renamed W14. The polling district will still vote at Heathfields Infants School.</p> <p>The amendment to the W15 and W13 polling district seems as sensible solution and the remainder of Hedging Lane including the part of Hockley Road will be incorporated into the W13 polling district.</p>

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			appendix C and our proposal as appendix D.	
18/07/2019		Wilnecote	<p>The current arrangements of polling districts do not align with the wards natural geography. Polling Districts should better reflect layout and makeup of housing estate. Currently the "Birds" estates are split over two polling districts (W14 and WI5). We suggest that these should be merged into 1 polling district. The current arrangements are shown as appendix A and our proposal as appendix B. Following the development on Hedging Lane, we proposed that WI3 should be extended south to include the new development on Hedging Lane, they are currently in WI5. It would make more sense for these residents to use the nearby polling station in WI3. The current arrangements are shown as appendix C and our proposal as appendix D.</p>	Please see above.