

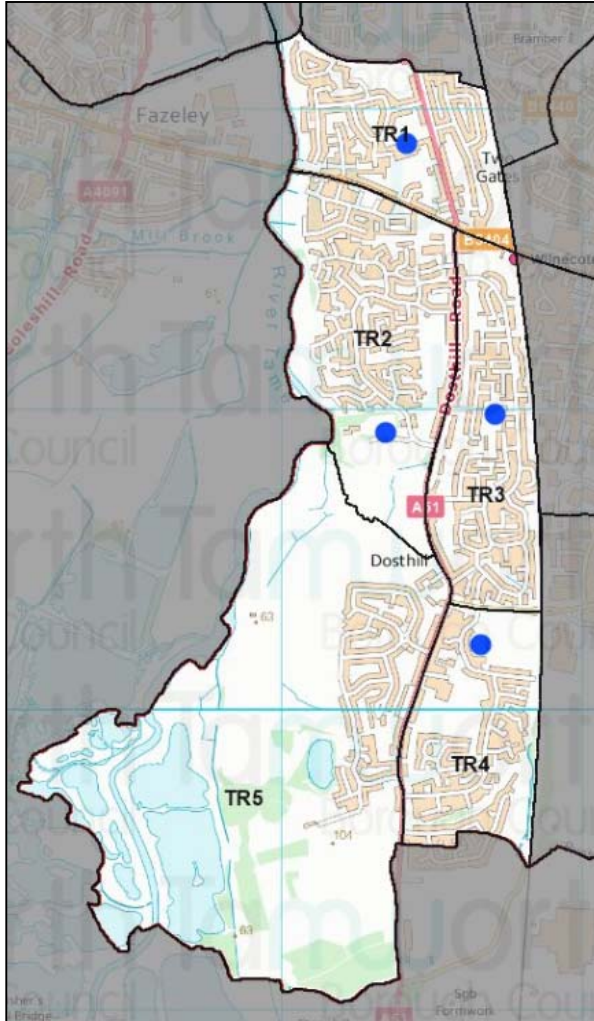
Trinity Ward: Recommendations

Out of the submissions received only one requested a change as the result of using a school as a polling station. It should be noted that although the Trinity Ward currently uses one school as polling station the head teacher is 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.

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 Trinity Ward. Therefore, no changes are proposed to any of the polling stations currently used.

It is recommended that polling place represent the same area as the polling district plus the adjoining polling district(s) to allow a greater degree of flexibility in deciding where a polling station should be located should the need arise.

Trinity Ward (Proposed)



New Polling District	Proposed Polling Station	Address	Estimated Electorate	Estimated Polling Station Electorate	No of polling stations
TR1	Two Gates Primary School	Tamworth Road, B77 1EN	1,934	1,586	1
TR2	Dorcas Centre	Dosthill, B77 1JE	1,617	1,326	1
TR3	Dorado – Temporary Station	Cottage Farm Road, Dosthill	1,955	1,603	1
TR4	Dosthill Boys Club	Cadogan Road, Dosthill, B77 1PQ	1,388	1,138	1
TR5	Dosthill Boys Club	Cadogan Road, Dosthill, B77 1PQ	1,165	955	1

Estimated Electorate = Number of Properties x 2.6

Estimated Polling Station Electorate = Based on the average of 82% of electors choosing to attend a polling station.