

## APPENDIX 2: Polling District and Polling Place Review 2019 – Responses to Consultation

Ref	Respondent	Date of Response	Response	Acting Returning Officer's Comments
1	Cllr Nicholas Bennett	10/09/2019	I support the proposals for West Wickham to leave the existing polling stations as they are despite some minor confusion by some voters with regard to the two polling stations at the Pickhurst Schools.	I am grateful to the Councillor for his comments
2	Cllr Simon Fawthrop	10/09/2019	I hope you will consider moving PW2 polling place from Crofton School to the Baptist Church where FC2 currently vote.	The law provides that a polling place must be designated for each polling district unless there are 'special circumstances' to designate it outside the polling district (e.g. if no accessible polling place can be identified in the polling district). This is not the case in this instance. It may be that this can be addressed following the Boundary Commission Review
3	Cllr Mike Botting	11/09/2019	As far as Orpington Constituency is concerned I agree with the comments of the ARO that no changes are needed at this stage to the Polling Stations within the Constituency. The issues encountered during the 2017 General election seem to have been dealt with and until the result of the current boundary review is concluded I recommend that we maintain the status quo in Orpington. I was unaware of any issues during the local elections last year.	I am grateful to the Councillor for his comments
4	Janet Senior, Acting Returning Officer, Lewisham West & Penge	11/09/2019	Thank you for sharing your proposals for Bromley's polling districts and stations, which I have noted. I have no comments to make regarding your proposals for the Lewisham West & Penge constituency.	I am grateful to the Acting Returning Officer for her comments
5	Geraldine Shackleton, Head teacher, Cudham C E Primary School	12/09/2019	Thank you for the email regarding the use of our school as a Polling Station, last year was my first year here during a polling day and it was certainly exciting with the press, police and high profile visitors.	I am grateful to the Head teacher for her comments and I quite understand her concerns. As she is aware we have looked at a number of suggested alternative

			<p>We are a very small school with a large catchment area and I would imagine that is also the case for the voters who use this school. I would like the school not to be used as a voting station, I do understand that other local centres have been approached to be hosts in previous years but for one reason or another this has not happened. As you can well imagine the prospect of yet another election happening is causing unrest and I am unable to cancel any pre-booked inset days so this would be an additional day in which I couldn't have the children in school but instead send work for them to do at home. Cudham School is a school that is currently undergoing a lot of addition support from our Trust as our results are not as we would like them to be, so I really don't want to have any days when the children cannot be in school.</p> <p>I do hope my thoughts can be born in mind when you plan your polling stations and thank you in advance for your support</p>	<p>locations but unfortunately none have been suitable, available and accessible</p> <p>We have been able to work with the Head teacher to keep the school open although the first point in her response can make this challenging</p> <p>It may be that a different solution can be identified following the Boundary Commission review</p>
6	Cllr Marina Ahmad	13/09/2019	<p>I have had a number of requests by residents in the past for a polling station to be available at the Turpington Lane Community Centre in Bromley Common. This could increase voter turnout in the area.</p>	<p>I note the Councillor's suggestion but I am reluctant to change the current polling place at this stage for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) any change to the polling place causes voter confusion requiring extensive resources to inform and educate the voter</li> <li>2) there could be extensive changes to current polling districts following the conclusion of the Boundary Commission Review (with a high percentage of the electorate being required to vote at different polling stations)</li> <li>3) the likelihood of an imminent 'snap' General election</li> </ol>

				However, once the final outcome of the current Boundary Commission Review is known (about March 2020), I will undertake a full review to comply with any changes (for implication at the 2022 Local elections) and will certainly take into account the suggestion at this stage
7	Cllr Alexa Michael	13/09/2019	<p>In regard to a “light touch” review of polling districts and polling places, I consider that the present arrangements are satisfactory for the Bromley Common &amp; Keston Ward <i>as currently constituted</i>.</p> <p>You will be aware that the Conservative proposal is to place Keston Village into a new Keston &amp; Hayes Ward. Currently everybody living in polling district BC5 votes at the Keston Village Hall in Heathfield Road. Would this continue to be the location for electors living in the remainder of what is now BC5 in any new Bromley Common &amp; Holwood Ward and would electors living in Keston Village in any new Hayes &amp; Keston Ward use it as well?</p>	I am grateful to the Councillor for her comments
8	Cllr Christopher Marlow	15/09/2019	<p>I am writing to you concerning polling district CH4 in the Chislehurst ward. This polling district is oversized, and the current polling station is too far to reach by foot for most residents, many of whom are elderly. In addition, the road from which the school is accessed is extremely narrow, and does not always have sufficient parking spaces at peak voting times.</p> <p>I would propose that the polling district be split in two east-west, perhaps using Centre Common Road (Chislehurst High Street)/St Paul’s Cray Road as the dividing line, with two new polling stations located close to the centre of each respective new polling district. Clearly in light of the boundary review CH4 may not survive, but if it does, I would ask that my suggestion be considered for future elections as a longstanding CH4 resident.</p>	I note the Councillor’s suggestion but await the outcome of the Boundary Commission Review before I consider making changes to any polling districts or polling places
9	Cllr Kieran Terry	15/09/2019	I echo the very valid points raised by Cllr Marlow, especially in	See above

			<p>terms of excessive distances residents are required to walk to get to the polling station and also the potential boundary between the two new polling districts.</p> <p>The suggestions below will allow for greater accessibility for voters in Chislehurst</p>	
10	Cllr Vanessa Allen	04/10/2019	<p>Thank you for this email. Please see below the Labour Group's comments concerning polling stations.</p> <p><u>Clock House</u></p> <p>The five polling stations listed - Stewart Fleming School, Avenue Road Baptist Church, Churchfields Primary School, Neighbourhood Church, and Beckenham Library - are all acceptable locations and we note that no changes are proposed to any of these.</p> <p>For added clarity for voters, the names and addresses of Stewart Fleming School, Avenue Road Church, and Neighbourhood Church, should be underlined, in bold, and very carefully checked prior to print and despatch of polling cards. This is because the locations and/or entrances used at these sites have changed at least once in the past three years and we received complaints about voters being confused by this. For Stewart Fleming School the signage outside and in nearby roads also requires attention due to the distance between the old entrance and the new.</p> <p>Polling cards for Stewart Fleming School in 2018 were incorrectly printed indicating the Suffield Road entrance. This is a particular issue here as the correct entrance to Stewart Fleming School is several hundred yards from Suffield Road.</p> <p><u>Crystal Palace</u></p> <p>We are content with the existing arrangements for CP1 and CP2.</p>	<p>I am grateful to the Labour Group for their response to the review and comment as follows:</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>We were not aware of the change of entrance/building at Stewart Fleming School in 2018.</p> <p>We were only advised of the changes in 2019 after the initial poll cards were despatched. A letter was sent to all eligible electors advising them of the changes. However this is not a material consideration for the review</p> <p>Thank you</p>

		<p>For CP3, we feel that consideration should be given to using St Hugh's Community Centre as this is more central for the majority of voters in the polling district.</p> <p>For CP4, Anerley Town Hall is outside the polling district and a long distance from the concentration of voters who live on the South Penge Estate. Increased use of the Town Hall has led to the introduction of permit-only parking and the overflow car park is ear-marked for housing development. CPZs have recently been introduced on surrounding streets, so parking within the town hall site is no longer an option.</p> <p>We therefore request a new polling station be sought inside CP4.</p> <p><u>Bromley and Chislehurst</u></p> <p><u>Mottingham and Chislehurst North</u></p> <p>Mottingham Primary School - there were multiple complaints about the change of entrance in 2018 and I note that in 2019 the entrance reverted to that previously used. This also needs to be very clearly indicated on polling cards as suggested above.</p>	<p>I note your suggestion for CP3 and will certainly give consideration to this alternative venue once the outcome of the Boundary Commission Review is known</p> <p>Please suggest an alternative venue in CP4 as I am not aware of any suitable location available in the polling district despite extensive searches for an alternative venue. The situation may be different following the outcome of the Boundary Commission Review</p> <p>Noted</p>
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Also received response from the Administrator of St Paul's Church, Brackley Road, Beckenham BR3 1RB (suggested alternative venue to Worsley Bridge Primary School in Polling District CC1, Copers Cope Ward, Beckenham Parliamentary Constituency) indicating that that there may be issues with using the Church hall as a polling station, if polling day is held on any day of the week except a Thursday (as there is a pre-school)