# Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations

London Borough of Lewisham August to December 2019

#### 1 Introduction

- 1.1. By order of section 18c of the Representation of the People Act, the Returning Officer for Lewisham Council is required to undertake a review of all polling districts and places every 5 years.
- 1.2. This Review must take place between 1 October 2018 and 31 January 2020.
- 1.3. This document provides details of the requirements and objectives of the Review, along with the initial recommendations of the Returning Officer.
- 1.4. These recommendations will be open to consultation for 6 weeks open to all residents, stakeholders and interested parties. In particular, we shall be seeking representations from local disability groups on the accessibility and suitability of polling places.

### 2 Scope and Objectives of the Review

- 2.1. The Review will examine all Polling Districts and Polling Places. Ward boundaries cannot be altered as part of this Review.
- 2.2. We aim to provide Polling Districts in all Wards that conform to the following criteria:
  - Meet Electoral Commission guidance regarding electorate size
  - Based on electorate projections for 2020 when the Review must be complete
  - The area must allow for a Polling Place to be situated in a location that is accessible for all electors in the Polling District
- 2.3. Polling Places will be selected according to the following criteria:
  - Compliance with Electoral Commission guidance
  - Accessibility will be a central consideration
  - Availability and cost we require Polling Places that can be used for every election at a cost that is reasonable to the taxpayer
  - No more than 2,000 electors to be allocated to each Polling Station note that a Polling Place can accommodate multiple Polling Stations
  - Where possible, electorate allocations to each Polling Station should be of roughly equal size within each Ward

- 2.4. Note that some Polling Places are no longer of suitable quality, and in some Polling Districts the Polling Places are no longer available.
- 2.5. Information will be provided for each Ward detailing the current polling arrangements and any issues requiring solutions.

#### 3 The Timetable

3-Sep-19	Publish Notice of holding a review
3-Sep-19	Publish RO's proposals and Start of consultation period
3-Sep-19	Seek representations from experts on disabled access
11-Oct-19	End of consultation period
18-Oct-19	Revise proposals based on results of consultation and representations
27-Nov-19	Formal meeting of the council to approve the new proposals
01-Dec-19	Publish the electoral register with new proposals included

#### 4 Background Information

- 4.1. Lewisham's electorate has increased by approximately 10,000 since the last Polling Review. There is now an uneven distribution of electors amongst Polling Districts in some Wards.
- 4.2. There have been many large scale developments in certain Wards, dramatically increasing the electorate in certain Polling Districts.
- 4.3. Despite this, the current Polling arrangements have been working very well. Feedback from voters, candidates and election agents suggests that the arrangements for most Wards can continue largely unchanged.
- 4.4. Feedback and the Returning Officer's own investigations have highlighted specific Polling Districts and Places that require amendments. These are highlighted in the analysis for each Ward.
- 4.5. There are fewer public buildings available for use as Polling Places, and fewer private premises such as Churches that offer suitable accommodation that is accessible to disabled voters. This restricts the choice of Polling Places in some Wards.
- 4.6. The Returning Officer and the Election Committee have determined that Primary Schools will continue to be used as Polling Places in Polling Districts where they offer the best facilities for electors. Secondary Schools will not be used.

### 5 Key Issues for the Proposals

5.1. According to Electoral Commission guidance, no polling station should have more than 2,500 electors allocated to it. This excludes postal voters and those not eligible to vote.

Where a polling district has more than 2,500 electors allocated to it the electorate is split between 2 polling stations in the same venue. In Lewisham we believe the figure of 2,500 is slightly too high, and set a figure of 2,000 for the maximum number of electors allocated to a single polling station. Should the electorate be higher, we allocate a second polling station in the polling place. This is known as a double polling station.

- 5.2. No polling station should have fewer than 1,000 electors allocated to it this will ensure value for money in terms of costs per voter. This will only apply where it is practical.
- 5.3. The allocated Polling Places should not alter considerably from the 2019 European Parliamentary elections unless another location will offer improved accessibility and convenience.
- 5.4. All new Polling Places must be assessed for accessibility, facilities and proximity to voters in that Polling District.
- 5.5. Physical barriers such as railway lines, parks, and main roads can prevent an easy division of electors to Polling Districts. The proposals must take these into account and regard the safety of electors travelling to and from their Polling Place.
- 5.6. Transport links in Polling Districts should be taken to account they can improve accessibility for electors. Where changes are required the Review will note the provision of bus stops and parking spaces.
- 5.7. When allocating electors to Polling Places and Stations the review will account for previous electoral turnout and the capacity of polling staff to deal with high turnouts.
- 5.8. The Returning Officer notes that the use of schools as Polling Places can cause significant disruption to pupils, teachers and parents. With plenty of notice schools can often use the occasion as an inset day, and give parents plenty of time to make alternative arrangements. Communication between schools and electoral staff should afford schools the time to do this.

### **6** The Decision Making Process

- 6.1. The initial proposals in this report will be open to a 5 week consultation.
- 6.2. The proposals will also be subject to an internal decision making process first they will be presented to the Election Committee, then the Mayor and Cabinet.
- 6.3. After the consultation period has ended, the Returning Officer will consider all representations received, including those from Councillors.
- 6.4. The Returning Officer will publish a report listing their final proposals. As part of the report, all representations will be published with the Returning Officer's response.

6.5. These final proposals will be presented to all Councillors for approval at a Full Council Meeting on 27 November 2019 prior to publication on 1 December 2019.

#### 7 The Proposals

- 7.1. The following pages provide a polling scheme details for every ward. A separate document contains maps of each ward (separated due to file size for ease of sharing and access)
- 7.2. All proposed changes are highlighted and accompanied by a clear explanation for the reasons for the change and the other potential options explored.
- 7.3. For some wards there are no proposed changes.

#### 8. The Impact of the 2019-20 Ward Boundary Review

- 8.1. The Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC) are currently undertaking a review of the ward names and boundaries in Lewisham
- 8.2. It is inevitable that we will see significant changes to most, if not all, ward boundaries as a result of the review
- 8.3. The changes to ward boundaries as a result of this review will not come into force until the next local elections in 2022
- 8.4. Lewisham Council, led by the RO, will undertake an additional review of polling districts and places prior to the new ward boundaries coming into force. This is vital to ensure that we have correct and accessible polling arrangements for the elections in 2022
- 8.5. Note that the changes will not come into effect until May 2022 therefore this review of polling districts and places will not need to account for any future changes to ward boundaries

#### 9. Electorate Data

- 9.1. This review covers the polling districts and places to be used for all types of elections and referendums within the London Borough of Lewisham
- 9.2. We will use the total electorate figures rather than the Local or Parliamentary. The figures will therefore include all electors for Lewisham, regardless of the franchise. Note that the Local election franchise will exclude overseas electors and the Parliamentary franchise will exclude EU resident electors. The total electorate will therefore be a slightly higher figure than either franchise, but has been determined as a good base to work with for the review.

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# **BROCKLEY WARD**

# **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
DBR1	1,585	178	1,407	St. John with Holy Trinity Church, (George Lewis Room), St John's Vale, SE8 4EA	
DBR2	2,043	208	1,835	Myatt Garden Primary School, (Nursery), Upper Brockley Road, SE4 1DF	
DBR3	1,777	206	1,571	St. Peter's Church, (Community Room), Wickham Road, SE4 1LT	
DBR4	1,821	184	1,637	Little Gems Day Nursery, Clare Road, Entrance in St. Donatts Road, SE14 6PX	
DBR5	1,912	221	1,691	New Cross Road Baptist Church Hall, 466a New Cross Road, SE14 6TJ	
DBR6	3,324	386	2,938	Ashmead Primary School, (Main Hall and Music Room), Ashmead Road, SE8 4DX	DOUBLE STATION

#### **Issues and Proposals**

# **CROFTON PARK WARD**

# **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
DCR1	1,896	208	1,688	Stillness Junior School, (Sports Hall), Brockley Rise, SE23 1NH	
DCR2	1,833	222	1,611	Prendergast Ladywell Fields College, CLC, (Atrium), SE4 1SA	
DCR3	1,718	174	1,544	Beecroft Garden Primary School, (Atrium), Beecroft Road, SE4 2BS	
DCR4	1,946	264	1,682	The Undercroft, (Old St Cyprian's Chapel & Churchwardens Vestry), St. Hilda's Church, SE4 2DH	
DCR5	1,938	230	1,708	St. Saviour's Church Hall, (Main Hall), 69 Brockley Rise, SE23 1JN	
DCR6	1,680	198	1,482	Adult Learning Lewisham, (Hut 2), Brockley Rise Centre, SE23 1PR	

#### **Issues and Proposals**

# **EVELYN WARD**

#### **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
DEV1	2,487	275	2,212	Clyde Early Childhood Centre, (Entrance Hall), Etta Street, SE8 5NH	DOUBLE STATION
DEV2	1,818	240	1,578	Grinling Gibbons School, (Reception Class), Clyde Street, SE8 5LW	
DEV3	2,481	288	2,193	Riverside Youth Club, (Ground Floor Hall), Grove Street, SE8 3QQ	DOUBLE STATION
DEV4	3,563	450	3,113	Deptford Park Primary School, (Junior Hall), entrance in Oxestalls Road, SE8 5RJ	DOUBLE STATION
DEV5	1,109	109	1,000	Lewington Centre, (Main Hall), 9 Eugenia Road, SE16 2RU	
DEV6	1,540	199	1,341	Sir Francis Drake Primary School, (Hall), Entrance on Grinstead Road, SE8 5AE	

#### **Issues and Proposals**

No changes are proposed for this ward. The current polling scheme meets the requirements. The electorate in this ward is large – around 30% higher than the average. The current allocation of double stations is well within the electoral commission guidance.

# **LADYWELL WARD**

#### **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
DLA1	1,138	147	991	John Evelyn Campus, Dressington Lodge, Dressington Avenue, SE4 1JQ	
DLA2	2,110	272	1,838	St. Mary`s Centre, (Pool Area), Ladywell Road, SE13 7UW	
DLA3	1,690	160	1,530	St. John's Medical Centre, (Training Room), 56-60 Loampit Hill, SE13 7SX	
DLA4	1,110	116	994	Portacabin on entrance to Hilly Fields, via Hilly Fields Crescent, SE4 1QA	
DLA5	2,199	236	1,963	St. Andrew's United Reformed Church, (St Andrew's Centre, Church Hall), Brockley Road, SE4 2SA	
DLA6	1,828	217	1,611	Crofton Park Baptist Church, (Main Back Hall), Huxbear Street, SE4 1EA	

#### **Issues and Proposals**

No changes are proposed for this ward. The current polling scheme meets the requirements. The polling place in DLA4 could be moved to Sir Francis Drake Bowling Club, which is immediately adjacent to the site of the portacabin. Improvement works would be required to the bowling club's facilities to enable this move. Currently there has been no agreement to provide funds for these improvements, so the current arrangements for a portacabin will remain.

# **LEWISHAM CENTRAL WARD**

#### **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
DLC1	3,052	355	2,697	Brindishe Green Primary School, (Large Hall), Beacon Road, SE13 6EH	DOUBLE STATION
DLC2	2,320	267	2,053	College Park Baptist Chapel, Clarendon Rise, London, SE13 5ES	DOUBLE STATION
DLC3	3,716	536	3,180	Prendergast Vale School, (Nursery), Elmira Street, SE13 7BN	DOUBLE STATION
DLC4	2,046	288	1,758	St. Mary's C of E Primary School, (Main Hall), Entrance in Romborough Way, SE13 6NX	Shared venue with DLC5
DLC5	1,548	210	1,338	St. Mary's C of E Primary School, (Main Hall), Entrance in Romborough Way, SE13 6NX	Shared venue with DLC4
DLC6	1,708	216	1,492	St. Christopher Christian Fellowship Church Hall, (Main Hall), 31A Torridon Road, SE6 1AQ	

#### **Issues and Proposals**

There is a proposed change to DLC3 in this ward. The Returning Officer proposes splitting this polling district into 2 distinct areas — Orchard Estate and surrounding streets, and the remainder of the district. This would better serve the electorate and offer more accessible and convenient polling places. Orchard Estate has a community centre that has been refurbished and would offer an excellent polling place for electors on the estate and surrounding streets. Prendergast Vale School would continue as a polling place for the other half of the district. This proposal is reflected on the following map.

#### **New Polling Scheme**

DLC1	3,052	355	2,697	2,697 Brindishe Green Primary School, (Large Hall), Beacon Road, SE13 6EH	
DLC2	2,320	267	2,053	2,053 College Park Baptist Chapel, Clarendon Rise, London, SE13 5ES	
DLC3	2,126	307	1,819	Prendergast Vale School, (Nursery), Elmira Street, SE13 7BN	
DLC4	2,046	288	1,758	St. Mary's C of E Primary School, (Main Hall), Entrance in Romborough Way, SE13 6NX	Shared venue with DLC5
DLC5	1,548	210	1,338	St. Mary's C of E Primary School, (Main Hall), Entrance in Romborough Way, SE13 6NX	Shared venue with DLC4
DLC6	1,708	216	1,492	St. Christopher Christian Fellowship Church Hall, (Main Hall), 31A Torridon Road, SE6 1AQ	
DLC7	1,590	229	1,361	Orchard Community Centre, Columbine Way, Lewisham Road, London SE13 7LQ	NEW VENUE

# **NEW CROSS WARD**

# **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
DNE1	1,644	180	1,464	Woodpecker Community Centre, (Main Hall), 100 Woodpecker Road, SE14 6EU	
DNE2	2,547	233	2,314	The Library at Deptford Lounge, (Meeting Rooms 1 & 2), 9 Giffin Street, SE8 4RJ	DOUBLE STATION
DNE3	1,485	183	1,302	Mulberry Centre, (Wickham Room), 15 Amersham Vale, SE14 6LE	
DNE4	1,603	165	1,438	Childeric Primary School, (Nursery), Childeric Road, SE14 6DG	
DNE5	3,072	332	2,740	All Saints Community Centre , (Old Hall), Monson Road, SE14 5DJ	DOUBLE STATION
DNE6	1,885	270	1,615	Scotney Hall, 17 Sharratt Street, London, SE15 1NR	

#### **Issues and Proposals**

# **TELEGRAPH HILL WARD**

# **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
DTE1	2,200	226	1,974	Edmund Waller Primary School, (Cooke Hall), Waller Road, SE14 5LY	
DTE2	2,284	258	2,026	Kender Primary School, (Nursery), Entrance on Besson Street, SE14 5JA	DOUBLE STATION
DTE3	1,710	198	1,512	St. James Family Learning Centre, (Large Nursery Room), New Cross and Deptford Families First, SE14 6AD	
DTE4	1,872	247	1,625	Hatcham Oak Early Childhood Centre, Large Training Room, 29 Wallbutton Road, SE4 2NX	
DTE5	1,901	196	1,705	John Stainer Community Primary School, (Main Hall), St Asaph Road, SE4 2DY	
DTE6	1,666	209	1,457	Turnham Primary School, (Nursery Room), Turnham Road, SE4 2HH	

#### **Issues and Proposals**

# **BLACKHEATH WARD**

#### **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
EBL1	1,726	283	1,443	Parkside SE10, (Main Hall), 1 Copperwood Place, SE10 8FY	
EBL2	1,296	202	1,094	John Ball Nursery School, (Early Years Centre), Hurren Close, SE3 OTP	
EBL3	1,835	302	1,533	Heath House Prep School, (Main Hall) 3-4 Blackheath Grove, London, SE3 0DD	
EBL4	2,370	364	2,006	Brandram Road Community Centre, (Main Hall), 25 33 Brandram Road, SE13 5RT	DOUBLE STATION
EBL5	1,295	157	1,138	St. Stephen & St. Mark Church Hall, St. Stephen's Grove, London, SE13 5JA	
EBL6	1,706	261	1,445	Granville Park Centre, (Room G3), Granville Park, SE13 7DX	

#### **Issues and Proposals**

The polling place for EBL3 is a concern. The hire charge is very high – £3,500, and does not represent value for money. National government is responsible for election accounting for national polls and has formally requested that the Returning Officer make a change in this polling district. The cost is well above the national average and will be rejected in future.

Splitting the EBL3 polling district in half along the Montpellier Vale / Lee Road junction would allow for a redistribution of these electors to EBL2 and EBL4. The increase in electorates in these 2 districts fall within the review parameters. This change would save considerable money for the Council and would offer electors both cheaper and improved polling places. The names of the polling districts would change accordingly. See the map and table below for more details of the split.

#### **New Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
EBL1	1,726	283	1,443	Parkside SE10, (Main Hall), 1 Copperwood Place, SE10 8FY	
EBL2	1,961	311	1,650	John Ball Nursery School, (Early Years Centre), Hurren Close, SE3 0TP	
EBL3	3,540	557	2,983	Brandram Road Community Centre, (Main Hall), 25 33 Brandram Road, SE13 5RT	DOUBLE STATION
EBL4	1,295	157	1,138	St. Stephen & St. Mark Church Hall, St. Stephen's Grove, London, SE13 5JA	
EBL5	1,706	261	1,445	Granville Park Centre, (Room G3), Granville Park, SE13 7DX	

# **CATFORD SOUTH WARD**

# **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
ECA1	1,512	181	1,331	St. Laurence Centre, (Coffee Bar), 37 Bromley Road, SE6 2TS	
ECA2	2,112	248	1,864	Catford & Bromley Synagogue, (Youth Club), 6 Crantock Road, SE6 2QT	
ECA3	1,713	222	1,491	Healthy Lifestyle Centre, The Studio, Abbotshall Road, SE6 1SQ	
ECA4	1,912	221	1,691	Torridon Junior School, (Hall), entrance on Hazelbank Road, SE6 1TG	
ECA5	1,600	161	1,439	St. Andrew the Apostle, St. Andrews Church Hall, Sandhurst Road, SE6 1XD	
ECA6	1,974	298	1,676	Brownhill Road Baptist Church Hall, (Lower Hall), 292 Brownhill Road, SE6 1AU	

#### **Issues and Proposals**

# **DOWNHAM WARD**

# **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
EDO1	1,689	278	1,411	Catford Wanderers Sports Club, Beckenham Hill Road, (Homebase entrance), SE6 2NU	
EDO2	1,208	123	1,085	Downham Community Centre, (Large Hall), Wesley Halls, BR1 5PE	
EDO3	1,665	227	1,438	King's Church, (Main Hall), The Green, BR1 5LS	
EDO4	2,069	264	1,805	Good Shepherd Primary School, (Lower Hall), Moorside Road, BR1 5EP	
EDO5	2,566	321	2,245	Rangefield Primary School, (Main Hall), Glenbow Road, BR1 4RP	DOUBLE STATION
EDO6	1,132	180	952	Ten Em Bee Sports Development Centre, (Pavilion), 120A Old Bromley Road, BR1 4JY	

### **Issues and Proposals**

# **GROVE PARK WARD**

# **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
EGR1	1,694	200	1,494	Marvels Lane Primary School, (Childrens Centre), Riddons Road, SE12 9RA	
EGR2	1,452	253	1,199	W. G. Grace Community Centre, (Main Hall), 1 Lions Close, SE9 4HG	
EGR3	1,979	312	1,667	St. Augustine's Church Hall, (Small Hall), 336 Baring Road, SE12 ODU	
EGR4	2,383	321	2,062	Baring Primary School, (Hall), Linchmere Road, SE12 ONB	DOUBLE STATION
EGR5	1,260	144	1,116	Ringway Centre, (Main Hall), 268 Baring Road, SE12 ODS	
EGR6	1,751	257	1,494	Burnt Ash Methodist Church Hall, Burnt Ash Hill, London, SE12 OQD	

### **Issues and Proposals**

# **LEE GREEN WARD**

#### **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
ELG1	1,813	205	1,608	Lochaber Hall, (Main Hall), Manor Lane Terrace, SE13 5QL	
ELG2	1,990	286	1,704	Brindishe Lee School, (Dance Studio), Wantage Road, SE12 8NA	
ELG3	2,040	295	1,745	Lee Green United Reformed Church, 111- 113 Burnt Ash Road, SE12 8RA	
ELG4	1,818	224	1,594	St. Winifred`s Primary School, (Hall), Newstead Road, SE12 OSJ	
ELG5	1,350	189	1,161	The Church of the Good Shepherd Lee, (Main Hall), Handen Road, SE12 8NR	
ELG6	1,371	177	1,194	Trinity Primary School, Leahurst Road, London, SE13 5HZ	

#### **Issues and Proposals**

The polling place for ELG4 has an issue for disabled voters; specifically, there is a lift for wheelchairs, scooters etc to use to go up the few steps to the room where the polling station is situated. The lift can be unreliable and prone to breaking down. There haven't been complaints from voters but the polling staff and Returning Officer are concerned that improvements are required to make it easier and quicker for disabled residents to access this polling station. We have not found an alternative venue in this polling district and seek representations from residents and disabled groups on alternative venues or possible improvements to the existing venue.

# **RUSHEY GREEN WARD**

#### **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
ERU1	2,736	380	2,356	Civic Suite, Lewisham Council, Catford Road, SE6 4RU	DOUBLE STATION
ERU2	1,849	208	1,641	Trinity Church Hall, Faversham Road, London, SE6 4XE	
ERU3	1,898	229	1,669	Holy Cross RC School, (Main Hall), Culverley Road, SE6 2LD	
ERU4	2,298	285	2,013	Calabash Centre, (Back Hall), 24/26 George Lane, SE13 6HH	DOUBLE STATION
ERU5	1,730	180	1,550	Holbeach School, (Main Hall), Doggett Road, SE6 4QB	

#### **Issues and Proposals**

Only one change is proposed for this ward. In ERU4 – Redfearn Road. We propose moving the entirety of this road into ERU3. This will improve the access to the polling place for these residents.

# WHITEFOOT WARD

#### **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
EWH1	2,365	276	2,089	Goldsmith's Community Centre, (The Gym), Castillon Road, SE6 1QD	DOUBLE STATION
EWH2	1,146	233	913	St. Andrew the Apostle, St. Andrews Church Hall, Sandhurst Road, SE6 1XD	
EWH3	1,341	178	1,163	Knights Temple Grove Primary School, (Main Hall), Ballamore Road, BR1 5LW	
EWH4	1,250	158	1,092	Hope Church Downham, (Main Hall), 480 Whitefoot Lane, BR1 5SF	
EWH5	1,685	199	1,486	St. John The Baptist Church, 353 Bromley Road, London, SE6 2RP	
EWH6	2,299	300	1,999	Haskins Community Hall, Watermead Estate, Allerford Road, SE6 2TB	

#### **Issues and Proposals**

The polling place for EWH6 is a recent change. The previous venue was Elim Pentecostal Church on Allerford Road. This new venue is immediately opposite and offers improved facilities for voters and polling staff. As a community owned asset it also represents excellent value for money. The EWH2 polling district does not have any potential venues for a polling place within it's boundary. The closest and most convenient location is St. Andrew's Church Hall, however it is outside the ward boundary. The Returning Officer and Election Committee have approved the allocation of this polling place to EWH2 for the last 3 years. During that times the turnout in this district has improved and feedback has been positive.

On this basis, no changes are proposed for this ward.

# **BELLINGHAM WARD**

### **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
WBE1	2,002	257	1,745	Haseltine Primary School, (Dining Hall), Haseltine Road, SE26 5AD	
WBE2	2,257	304	1,953	Blackheath Hockey & Catford Cyphers Cricket Club, (The Pavilion), Rubens Street, SE6 4DH	
WBE3	1,555	151	1,404	Athelney Primary School, (School Gym), Athelney Street, SE6 3LD	
WBE4	1,627	188	1,439	Christ Church United Reformed Church, (First Hall), Bellingham Green, SE6 3HQ	
WBE5	1,262	152	1,110	Elfrida Nursery School, (Community Centre), entrance in Playgreen Way, SE6 3EN	
WBE6	1,675	192	1,483	Sedgehill Community Centre, (Main Hall), 69-85 Sedgehill Road, SE6 3QN	

### **Issues and Proposals**

# **FOREST HILL WARD**

#### **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
WFO1	2,292	289	2,003	Kelvin Grove Primary School, (Early Years Reception), Kelvin Grove, SE26 6BB	DOUBLE STATION
WFO2	1,563	210	1,353	Forest Hill Library, (Children's Room), Entrance in Thorpewood Avenue, SE23 3HZ	
WFO3	1,971	267	1,704	Christian Fellowship Centre, (Main Hall), 39 Honor Oak Road, SE23 3SH	
WFO4	1,508	239	1,269	Horniman Primary School, (Community Room), Horniman Drive, SE23 3BP	
WFO5	1,809	184	1,625	The Church (Worldwide) Inc., r/o 49 Devonshire Road, London, SE23 3EN	
WFO6	645	102	543	Eliot Bank Primary School, (Children's Centre), Thorpewood Avenue, SE26 4BU	
WFO7	1,095	158	937	Portacabin outside 141-181 Eliot Bank, London, SE23 3XB	

#### **Issues and Proposals**

No changes are proposed for this ward. The current polling scheme meets the requirements. A new polling place for WFO7 has been investigated but no alternative venue has been found. The district boundaries cannot be sensibly redrawn without significantly reducing the accessibility of voting for many electors. The layout of properties and hills in this district supports the boundaries staying exactly the same. That would mean the current location of a portacabin at Eliot Bank remains the best possible solution for voters in this area to ensure a good standard of accessibility.

# PERRY VALE WARD

#### **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
WPE1	2,130	211	1,919	Perrymount Primary School, (Hall), Sunderland Road, SE23 2PX	
WPE2	2,045	235	1,810	St. George's C of E Primary School, (Early Years Block), Church Vale, SE23 2UW	
WPE3	1,621	200	1,421	Forest Hill School, (Fusion Sports Centre), Entrance on Bampton Road, SE23 2XN	
WPE4	1,719	194	1,525	Perry Rise Baptist Church, (Main Hall), Perry Rise, SE23 2QL	
WPE5	1,655	182	1,473	Kilmorie Primary School, (Nursery), Kilmorie Road, SE23 2SP	
WPE6	1,989	190	1,799	St. George`s Church, Vancouver Road, London, SE23 2AG	

#### **Issues and Proposals**

No changes are proposed for this ward. The current polling scheme meets the requirements. We have reviewed the polling place for WPE3, which is the Fusion Sports Centre at Forest Hill School. The polling station is easily separated from the rest of the school and does not impact the students or teaching. There are no alternative venues in this polling district, and the layout of properties, streets and hills in this district would not support a significant change to the polling district boundaries. Therefore we propose this polling district and polling place to continue, but would welcome representations on suitable changes.

# SYDENHAM WARD

#### **Current Polling Scheme**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORS	POSTAL VOTERS	POLLING STATION VOTERS	POLLING PLACE	SPECIAL
WSY1	1,407	182	1,225	St. Bartholomew's Church, Westwood Hill, SE26 6QR	
WSY2	1,675	223	1,452	The Grove Centre, (Coffee Bar), 2 Jews Walk, SE26 6PL	
WSY3	1,306	157	1,149	Portacabin on High Level Drive, (In front of shop), High Level Drive, SE26 6XT	
WSY4	1,494	154	1,340	St. Bartholomew's C of E School, (Main Hall), The Peak, SE26 4LJ	
WSY5	1,918	234	1,684	The Sydenham Centre, (Ground Floor Activity Studio), 44a Sydenham Road, SE26 5QF	
WSY6	1,770	199	1,571	St. Michael's C of E Primary School, (Main Hall), Champion Crescent, SE26 4HH	
WSY7	1,738	230	1,508	The Sydenham Centre, (Ground Floor Activity Studio), 44a Sydenham Road, SE26 5QF	

#### **Issues and Proposals**

No changes are proposed for this ward. The current polling scheme meets the requirements. WSY3 – we have investigated alternative venues for this district but none are available. The layout of streets and properties does not support a change to the polling district boundary. WSY5 and 7 – these districts share a polling place. It is conveniently located for the vast majority of electors and has supported a decent turnout for the last few elections. Alternative venues have been investigated but so far we have not found anything that offers suitable and accessible accommodation. The Sydenham Centre has recently been refurbished to accommodate a bar in the main room where the polling place is situated. During the election the bar was closed and feedback from polling staff and voters has not suggested the change in use has been detrimental. Representations from residents in Sydenham would be welcomed on these 2 issues.

# How to make a Representation

Visit, write or email the Returning Officer at:

Electoral Services
Ground Floor
Laurence House
Catford
SE6 9SE

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