



PUBLIC CONSULTATION

POLLING DISTRICT AND POLLING PLACES REVIEW

EPSOM AND EWELL BOROUGH COUNCIL

September 2019

Kathryn Beldon Acting Returning Officer
Epsom and Ewell Borough Council
The Town Hall
The Parade
Epsom
Surrey KT15 8BY

www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk

Polling District and Places Review September 2019

Background

The Electoral Administration Act 2006 (Section 16) introduced a number of changes to the Representation of the People Act 1983 in respect of the way in which reviews of polling districts and polling places must be undertaken.

First Review

The Act specified how frequently reviews should be undertaken and made it a requirement that relevant authorities (i.e. this Council) carry out a review every four years. The Council was required to conclude the first review by 31 December 2007. The review was duly undertaken in September 2007 and the outcome of the review reported to Council in December of that year.

Subsequent Reviews

Notwithstanding the legislation, the Council regularly reviews its polling places but duly completed a second statutory review in December 2011.

The Electoral Registration Act 2013 introduced a change to the timing of compulsory reviews and the next compulsory review that had to be held between 1 October 2013 and 31 January 2015 was completed in December 2014. This review has a requirement to be held and completed between 1 October 2018 and 31 January 2020

Definition of a Parliamentary Constituency, a Ward, Polling District, Polling Place and Polling Station

To assist any interested party who may wish to make representations, the following definitions may be helpful:

a) Parliamentary Constituency

This is an area designated by the Boundary Commission which is represented by a Member of Parliament (MP) in the House of Commons. This cannot be changed by the review – it is the division of the constituency into polling districts and places that is under review.

b) Wards

The Borough is divided into areas known as “Wards” which are represented by Borough Councillors.

c) Polling Districts

A polling district is the area created by the division of a Ward into smaller parts, within which a polling place can be determined which is most suitable for the electors.

d) Polling Places

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A polling place is the building or area in which the number of polling stations will be selected by the (Acting) Returning Officer.

e) Polling Station

A polling station is the room or area in which voting takes place. This must be located within the polling place that has been designated for the particular polling district. The number of polling stations to be accommodated within a polling place is the decision of the (Acting) Returning Officer.

Timetable for the Review

The Council is required to publish notice of the holding of a review. This has been carried out by way of notices posted outside the Town Hall, Epsom on all the Borough Boards and on the Council's website. The timetable for the review is set out below:

Publication of notice	11 September 2019
Publication of consultation document	11 September 2019
Closing date for representations	16 October 2019
Consideration of all representations	16 – 18 October 2019
Report to Strategy and Resources Committee	26 November 2019
Publication of notice of amendments to electoral register and intention to publish revised version of register (If necessary)	19 December 2019
Publication of revised version of register (if necessary)	2 January 2020

Criteria for Polling Places and Polling Districts

The Electoral Commission has set out guidance to assist in assessing the current arrangements and any proposals for change.

As part of the assessment of the suitability of polling district boundaries, the following should be considered:

- Are the boundaries well defined? For example. Do they follow the natural boundaries of the areas? If not, is it clear which properties belong in the polling district?
- Are there suitable transport links within the polling district, and how do they relate to the areas of the district that are most highly populated? Are there any obstacles to voters crossing the current polling district and reaching the polling place e.g. steep hills, impassable major roads, railway lines, rivers?

There are also a number of factors that must be considered when reviewing existing polling places or assessing new polling places, including:

- The location: is it reasonably accessible within the polling district? Does it avoid barriers for the voter such as steep hills, major roads, rivers, etc.? Are there any convenient transport links?
- Size: can the polling place accommodate more than one polling station if required? If multiple polling stations are required, is the polling place ample enough to accommodate all voters going into and out of the polling stations, even where there is a high turnout?
- Suitability: is the building readily available in the event of any unscheduled elections? Is there any possibility that the building may be demolished as part of a new development? Is the building accessible to all those entitled to attend the polling place?

The Electoral Commission recognises that the choice of polling place will often be a balance between the quality of the building in terms of access and facilities and the proximity of the building to the electors it is intended to serve and that there may be circumstances, as in the case of College Ward, where the polling place might fall wholly or partly outside the polling district because suitable alternatives are not available in the relevant Ward.

Although it is Council policy to avoid the use of schools wherever possible, there may be locations where there are no other suitable premises in the area. For the purposes of elections, the (Acting) Returning Officer is entitled to use free of charge, subject to covering the cost of heating, lighting and caretaking charges, schools maintained or assisted by a local authority as well as those schools that receive grants made up of monies provided by Parliament. However if using a school is the only option, where possible, the polling station(s) should be so located within the grounds to enable the school to

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remain open with suitable separation of pupils from voters to cause minimal disruption to the school day. The decision to close any school ultimately remains with the school itself.

In conducting this review, it is proposed that, in order to minimize the risk of queues at a polling place, as far as possible, around 1500 and no more than 2000 voters should be assigned to each polling station as recommended by the Electoral Commission. It should be noted that the number of postal voters in each polling district is a relevant consideration in this regard. In the event of a combined and/or Parliamentary Election, given more complex arrangements and higher voter turnout, it may be necessary to review these numbers. In all circumstances, consideration is given to whether a polling place is capable of accommodating more than one polling station, if necessary.

Current practice, to avoid confusion and delays at polling stations and the Count, is not to locate polling stations from more than one Ward in the same building and this will be taken into consideration when considering any proposals.

Polling station staff are encouraged to make comments and observations regarding the suitability of polling places to which they are allocated and Polling Station Inspectors visited all polling stations during the recent elections in May 2019. Any comments have been taken into account when conducting the review.

The Role of the (Acting) Returning Officer

Whilst it is for the Council to decide on the creation of polling districts and location of polling places, it is for the (Acting) Returning Officer to decide how many polling stations are required for each polling station and must allocate electors to the polling stations in such manner as he or she thinks most conducive to the smooth running of polling day.

The Council is required to consult the Returning Officer for every Parliamentary Constituency that is wholly or partly within its area. The whole of the Borough falls within the Parliamentary Constituency of Epsom and Ewell there are no other Constituencies wholly or partly within its area.

Therefore the Council needs only to consult the (Acting) Returning Officer for Epsom and Ewell as part of the review and the (Acting) Returning Officer must comment during any review on both the existing polling districts and the polling stations and any proposed changes.

Other representations

Any elector in the Constituency may make representations on the designation of polling districts or places.

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The Council is also required to seek representations from those with an expertise in relation to access to premises and facilities for disabled people. Such persons must also be given the opportunity to comment on the representations made by the (Acting) Returning Officer (which are contained in this consultation document).

Summary of Consultees

Set out below is a list of persons specifically notified about the review:

The Member of Parliament for Epsom and Ewell, Chris Grayling
Epsom and Ewell Equality Forum
Surrey Disabled People's Partnership
All Epsom and Ewell Borough Councillors
All Surrey County Councillors representing divisions within the Epsom area
Election agents who acted at the 2019 Borough elections
Candidates who stood in the 2019 Borough elections
Residents Associations (SCoRA)
Registered political parties who regularly field candidates in local and parliamentary elections in the Borough

Completion of the review

After considering all of the representations, a report will be presented to the Strategy and Resources Committee. It is anticipated that this will be at its meeting on?. The Strategy and Resources Committee will consider the report and make recommendations as it thinks appropriate to full Council on ? at which the final decisions will be made.

The Council is required to give reasons for its decisions in respect of the designation of both polling districts and polling places and these will be published, together with the following information, on the Council's website and made available, on request, at the Town Hall, Epsom

- all correspondence sent to the Returning Officer in connection with the review
- all correspondence sent to any person who the Council thinks has particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for persons who have different forms of disability;
- all representations made by any person in connection with the review;
- the minutes of any meetings held by the Council where details of the review have been considered;
- details of the actual designations of polling districts and polling places agreed as a result of the review; and

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- details of where the results of the review have been published (as already stated above).

Challenging the Review

Although the Electoral Commission has no initial role in the review process itself, it does have an important role in respect of considering representations and observations made that a Council has failed to conduct a proper review on one of two grounds:

- that the Council has failed to meet the reasonable requirements of the electors in the constituency, or a body of them (i.e. the reasonable requirements of a particular area of the authority have not been satisfactorily met);

or

- that the Council has failed to take sufficient account of the accessibility to disabled persons of polling stations within a designated polling place.

Representations based on any other grounds will not be considered by the Commission.

All representations made to the Commission must be in writing either by post, or email and should include the location and any other relevant information, stating specifically why it is inaccessible or does not meet the reasonable requirements of the electors.

Who may make a representation to the Electoral Commission?

Section 18D (1) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, sets out who may make representations to the Electoral Commission namely;

- not less than thirty registered electors in the constituency (although electors registered anonymously cannot make a representation)
- a person (except the (Acting) Returning Officer) who made representations to the council when the review was being undertaken
- any person who is not an elector within the constituency but who the Electoral Commission feels has sufficient interest in the accessibility of disabled persons in the areas or has particular expertise in relation to the access to premises or facilities of disabled persons

The (Acting) Returning Officer is entitled to make observations on any representations made to the Commission.

What will the Electoral Commission do?

The Electoral Commission is required to consider any representations and observations and may direct the relevant council to make any alterations it sees necessary to the polling places designated by the review. Should a Council fail to make the alterations within two months of the direction being given, the Commission may make the alterations itself.

Proposals

Set out in Appendix A are details of current polling districts and polling places for each of the 13 Wards within the Borough of Epsom and Ewell. Appendix B contains a breakdown for each polling place with the details of any proposed changes and the comments of the (Acting) Returning Officer. A map is also attached showing the location of all the polling places identified in the Schedule.

Included in Appendix B are details of known proposed developments. The potential increase in the electorate in any affected polling districts is an estimate based on two eligible electors per property and full occupancy of the approximate number of proposed dwellings.

The electorate, broken down into polling districts, is based on the electorate as at 1 September 2019.

Any significant comments from polling station staff or polling station inspectors regarding the condition or accessibility of currently used polling places are included where appropriate.

A full review of polling places was last conducted in 2011 and a copy of the report to the Strategy and Resources Committee dated 15 November 2011, including comments on the proposals at the time, is available on request or can be downloaded from the Council's website. The recommendation to further investigate the feasibility of creating a new Polling District and Polling Place for voters in Ruxley Ward was acted upon and a report went to the Strategy and Resources Committee on 1 April 2008.

Certain matters required addressing prior to the European Elections in May 2014. Representations received during the previous review were taken into consideration when looking at alternative polling places and a report was considered by the Strategy and Resources Committee on 12 November 2013, subsequently ratified by Council on 10 December 2013.

There are no known plans which would affect the availability of those Council-owned premises currently used as polling places and the Council has had no indication that private venues currently used will not be available in future, apart from as indicated in Appendix B.

Representations

Any persons wishing to make comments or representations regarding the proposals may do so. Any representations you wish to make should be **received by close of business (5pm) on**

16 October 2019

All representations must be made in writing either by post or email.

Representations by post should be sent to:

Electoral Services
Epsom and Ewell Borough Council
The Town Hall
The Parade
Epsom
Surrey
KT18 5BY

Representations by email should be sent to:

electoralservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk

For any queries, please telephone 01372 732000 and ask to speak to Electoral Services.

All representations will be published on the Council's website as soon as possible after receipt. Even if you have already commented on the proposals, you may make further submissions in response to views and comments you see on the website.

The final decision will be taken by Strategy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 26 November 2019 and, if necessary, a notice of any alterations to the register will be published on the Council's website no later than 19 December 2019 and any new polling districts and polling places will become effective at all elections held after 2 January 2020.

EPSOM AND EWELL BOROUGH COUNCIL

**CURRENT SCHEDULE OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING
STATIONS**

WARD	POLLING DISTRICT	POLLING PLACE
CUDDINGTON	AA	Rowe Hall, 2 nd Cuddington Scout HQ, Salisbury Road, Worcester Park KT4 7LP
	AB	St Mary's Church Hall, The Avenue, Worcester Park KT4 7HL
AURIOL	B	Stoneleigh Methodist Church Centre, Stoneleigh Crescent, Ewell KT19 0RT
EWELL COURT	CA	Ruxley Church, Ruxley Lane, West Ewell KT19 0JG
	CB	Ewell Court House, Ewell Court Avenue, Ewell KT19 0EB
RUXLEY	D	Epsom & Ewell High School, Ruxley Lane, West Ewell KT19 9JW
WEST EWELL	EA	Harrier Centre, King George V Rec Ground, Poole Road, West Ewell KT19 9RY
	EB	All Saints Church & Community Centre, Fulford Road, West Ewell KT19 9QY
COURT	FA	Southfield Park Primary School, Long Grove Road, Epsom KT19 8TF
	FB	Community & Wellbeing Centre (Main Hall) (Former Longmead Centre), Sefton Road, Epsom KT19 9HG
STAMFORD	GA	The Fellowship Hall, West Hill, Epsom KT19 8JD
	GB	The Church Hall, Christ Church, Christ Church Road, Epsom KT19 8NE
	GC	The Wells Social Centre, Spa Drive, Epsom KT18 7LR
STONELEIGH	HA	Stoneleigh Baptist Church Hall, The Glade, Stoneleigh KT17 2HL
	HB	Stoneleigh Baptist Church Hall, The Glade, Stoneleigh KT17 2HL

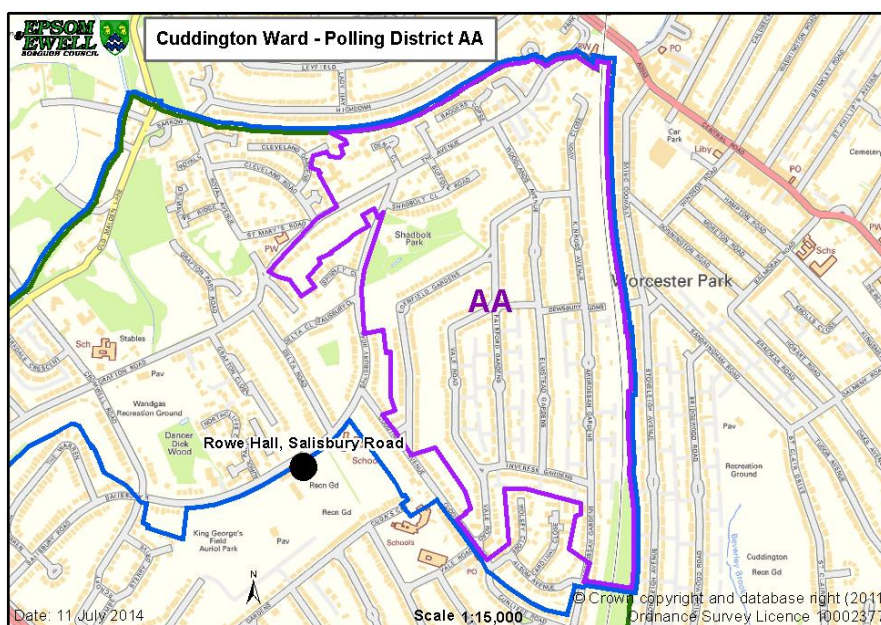
WARD	POLLING DISTRICT	POLLING PLACE
NONSUCH	IA	St Paul's Church Centre, Northey Avenue, Cheam SM2 7HS
	IB	Wallace Fields Junior School, Dorling Drive, Ewell KT17 3BH
EWELL	JA	Bourne Hall, Spring Street, Ewell KT17 1UF
	JB	Glyn School, The Kingsway, Ewell KT17 1NB
	JC	Defoe Court, 87 East Street, Epsom KT17 1AQ
TOWN	KA	Defoe Court, 87 East Street, Epsom KT17 1AQ
	KB	Epsom Playhouse, Ashley Avenue, Epsom KT18 5AL
	KC	St. Barnabas Church, Temple Road, Epsom KT19 8TU
COLLEGE	LA	The Pavilion, Alexandra Recreation Ground, Alexandra Road, Epsom KT17 4BU
	LB	The Church House, Church Street, Epsom KT17 4PX
WOODCOTE	MA	Grace Baptist Church, 32 Dorking Road, Epsom KT18 7NH
	MB	St Martin's C of E Junior School, Ashley Road, Epsom KT18 7AD
	MC	Langley Vale Village Hall, Rosebery Road, Epsom KT18 6AF

**EXISTING POLLING DISTRICTS AND PLACES AND (ACTING)
RETURNING OFFICERS' REPRESENTATIONS**

Cuddington Ward

Number of Polling Districts:	Two
Number of Polling Places:	Two
Electorate in Ward:	4522
Postal Voters in Ward:	641
Notes	There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	A(A)
Electorate in District:	2475
Postal Voters:	331
Polling Place	Scout Hut (Rowe Hall), Salisbury Road, Worcester Park
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	1
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – limited off-street parking available on site. On-street parking available around venue.



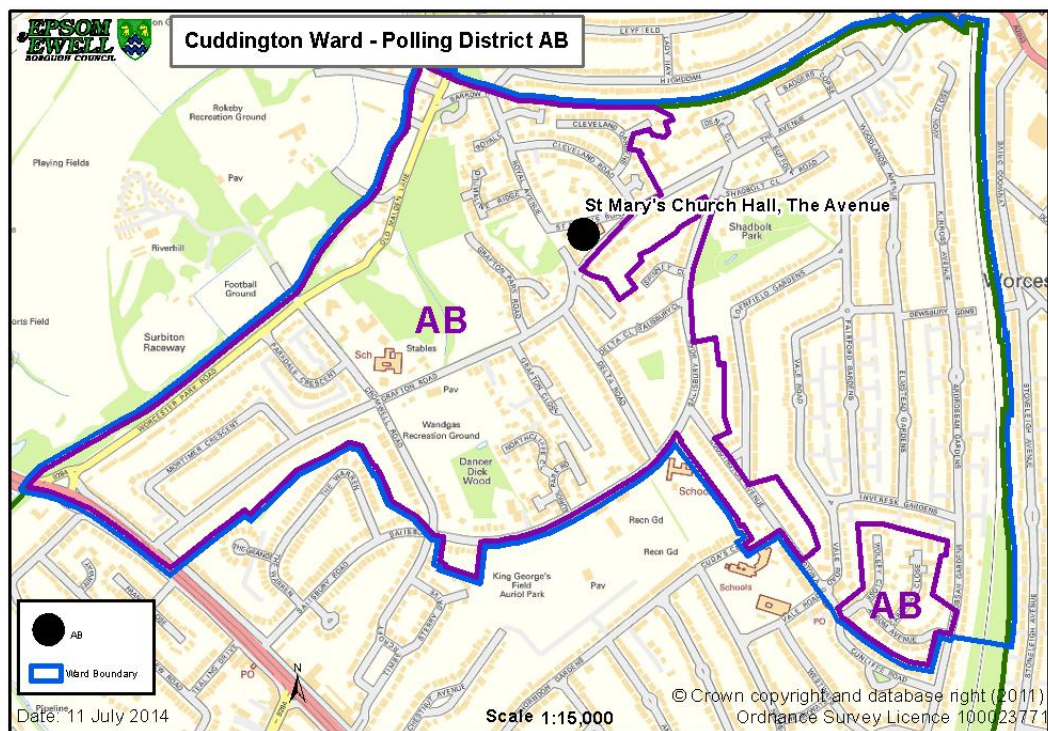
(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

The previous reviews in 2011 and 2014 did not lead me to believe that the Polling District boundary or the Polling place are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Cuddington Ward (cont)

Polling District	A(B)
Electorate in District	2047
Postal Voters	310
Polling Place	St Mary's Church Hall, The Avenue, Worcester Park
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	2
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking - off-street parking available on site. On-street parking also available around venue.



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

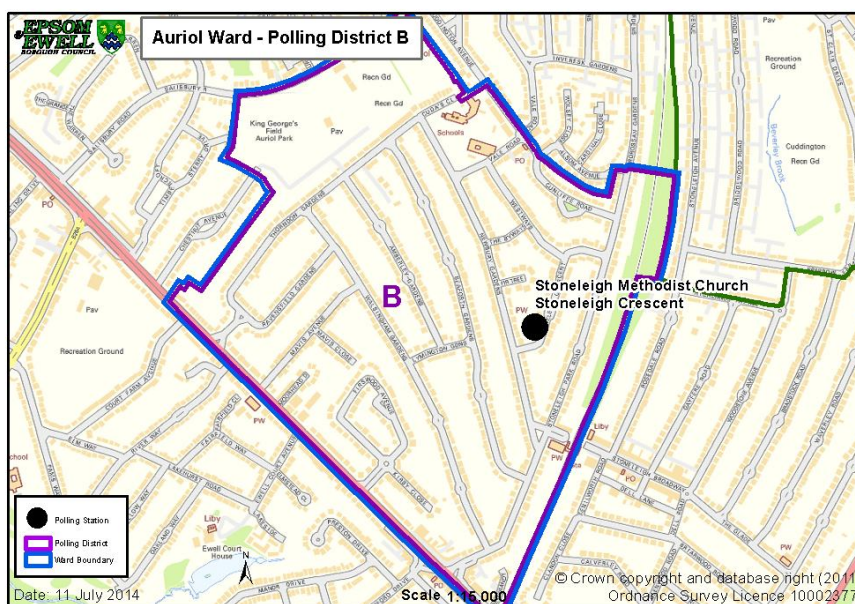
The previous reviews in 2011 and 2014 did not lead me to believe that the Polling District boundary or the Polling place are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Auriol Ward

Number of Polling Districts: One
 Number of Polling Places: One
 Electorate in Ward: **3096**
 Postal Voters in Ward: **390**
 Notes: There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	B
Electorate in District	3096
Postal Voters	390
Polling Place	Stoneleigh Methodist Church Centre, Stoneleigh Crescent, Stoneleigh, Ewell
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	3
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available on site. On-street parking available around venue.



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

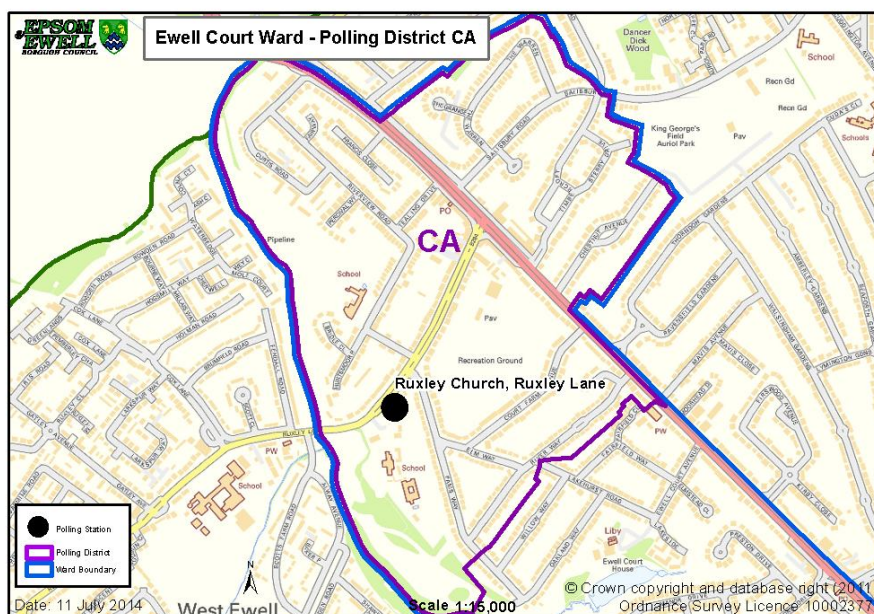
The previous reviews in 2011 and 2014 did not lead me to believe that the polling district boundary or the polling place are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Ewell Court Ward

Number of Polling Districts: Two
 Number of Polling Places: Two
 Electorate in Ward: **4330**
 Postal Voters in Ward: **666**
 Notes: There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	C(A)
Electorate in District	2626
Postal Voters	418
Polling Place	Ruxley Church, Ruxley Lane, West Ewell
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	4
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location - Good Disabled access - Good Parking – off-street parking available on site.



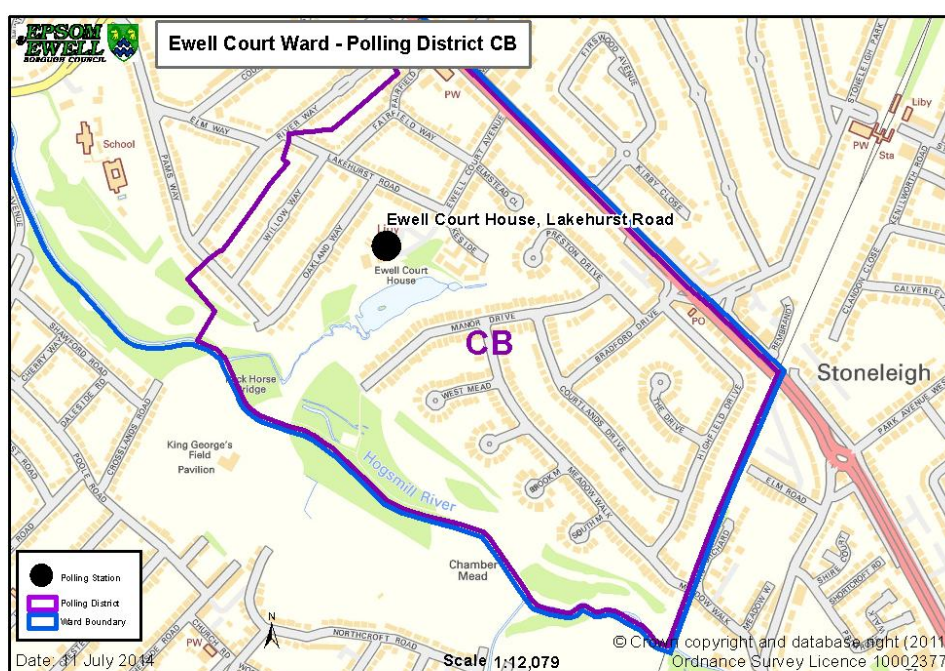
(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

The church has been designated as the polling place for C(A) since 2013. The previous review in 2014 did not lead me to believe that the polling district boundary or the polling place are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Ewell Court Ward (cont)

Polling District	C(B)
Electorate in District	1704
Postal Voters	248
Polling Place	Ewell Court House, Lakehurst Road, Ewell
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	5
Proposal	No change
Comments	Council owned premises Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access – good via separate side door Parking - off-street parking available



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

The previous reviews in 2011 and 2014 did not lead me to believe that the polling district boundary or the polling place are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Ruxley Ward

Number of Polling Districts: One

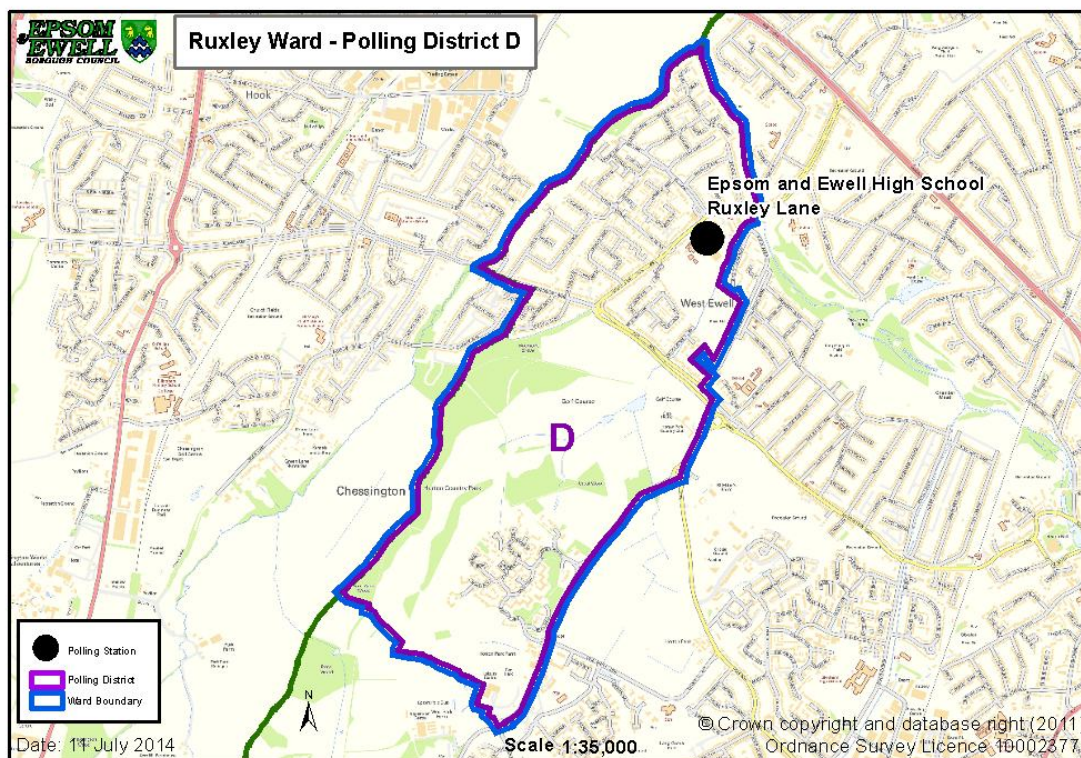
Number of Polling Places: One

Electorate in Ward: **4608**

Postal Voters in Ward **699**

Notes: There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.? EE
 High playing fields application

Polling District	D
Electorate in District	4608
Postal Voters	699
Polling Place	Epsom & Ewell High School, Ruxley Lane, West Ewell
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	6
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available on-site for disabled only during school hours</p> <p>Polling station is located in the North Annexe in a room also used as an I.T. suite. The North Annexe is separate from main school building and the School remains open on polling day. Other parts of the Annexe are still used by the school on polling day.</p>



Ruxley Ward (cont)

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

In 2014 a representation was received from a resident of the Clarendon Park area stating that they believed the distance of the polling station from Clarendon Park was potentially a deterrent to voters.

It is recognised that the location of the current polling place in Ruxley Ward is not entirely satisfactory but enquiries have failed to identify any premises suitable for designation as a polling place in the southern half of the Ward and there would be a significant cost implication in providing temporary accommodation and also in finding a suitable location for any temporary unit to be located.

The size of the polling district is still within acceptable tolerances. The number of voters potentially voting at each station is just over the recommended tolerance set by the Electoral Commission and there is possible scope for increasing the number of polling stations at the premises. However there are proposals to develop the school playing fields which could increase electorate by 300-400 voters. If this happens then an alternative location within the school may need to be identified or the site could be included into West Ewell ward subject to the necessary permissions from the Boundary Commission.

There have been issues with vehicle access for voters during the school hours and a compromise has been reached with the school regarding access for disabled voters. There is plenty of on street parking in roads close to the

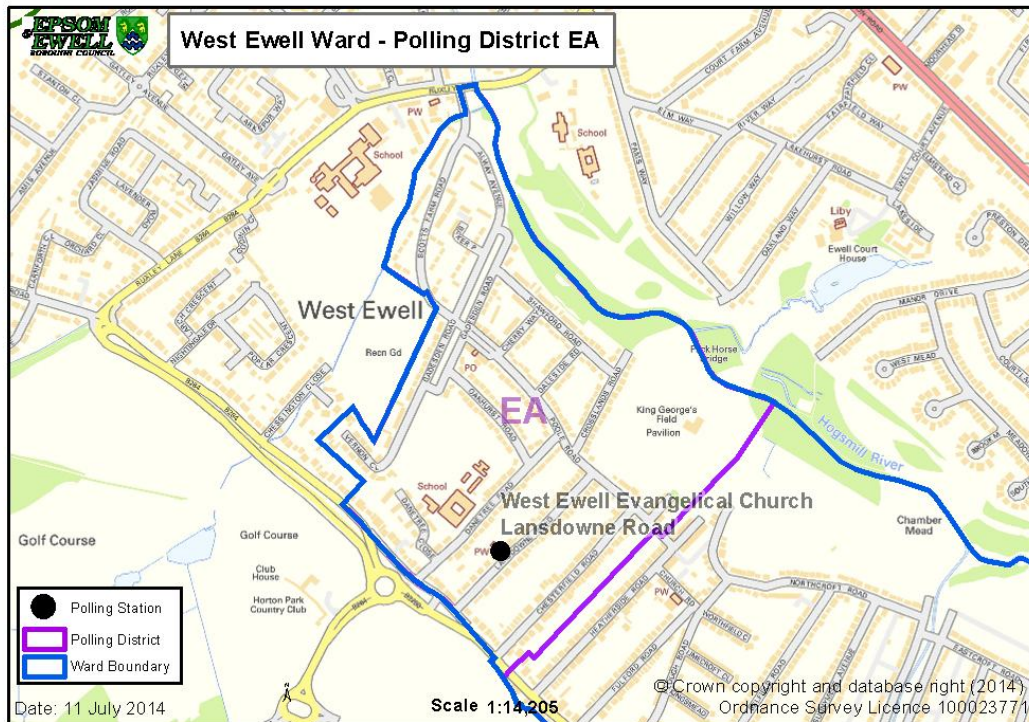
school. To advise voters regarding the limited access a warning is now printed on poll cards.

In the absence of any alternatives, I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

West Ewell Ward

Number of Polling Districts	Two
Number of Polling Places	Two
Electorate in Ward	4711
Postal Voters in Ward	489
Notes	There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	E(A)
Electorate in District	1492
Postal Voters	144
Polling Place	West Ewell Evangelical Church, Lansdowne Road, West Ewell
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	7
Proposal	Changes
Comments	<p>Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - satisfactory Parking – Limited off-street parking on site; on-street parking on residential road.</p> <p>First used as a polling place in 2013. These premises are used as an alternative to Danetree School until 2016. Unfortunately it became unavailable and the Harrier Centre, Poole Road has been used since 2017. Church is now available again and the intention is to revert back.</p>



West Ewell Ward EA (cont)

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

First used as a polling place in 2013 the church was used as an alternative to Danetree School until 2016. Unfortunately the church became unavailable and the Harrier Centre, Poole Road has been used since 2017. Although the facilities within the Harrier centre are good comments have been made by voters regarding parking. The main car park is quite a distance from the actual building and the access road to the disabled parking is narrow with limited spaces available. The Harriers athletic club meet on a Thursday so the main car park has become full with voters having to park on adjacent roads.

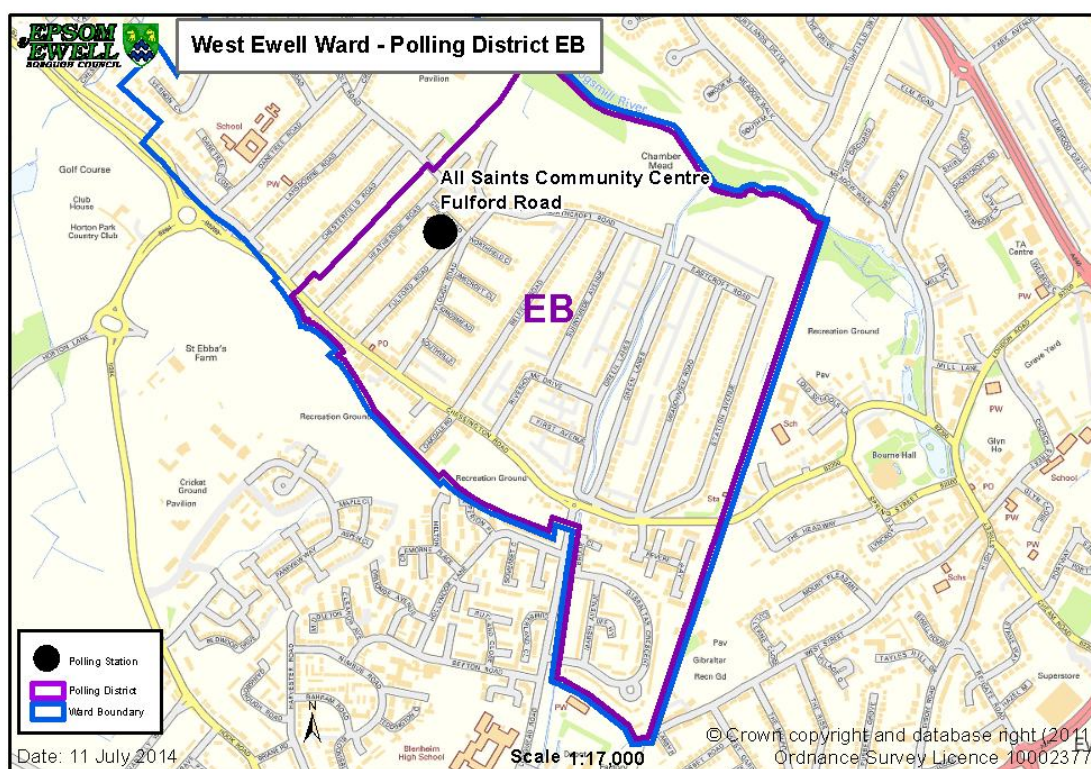
The Church has indicated that it would be available again and the intention is to inspect the premises with the intention to revert back.

I am not aware of any adverse feedback regarding the use of these premises.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

West Ewell Ward (cont)

Polling District	E(B)
Electorate in District:	3219
Postal Voters	345
Polling Place	All Saints Church Community Centre Fulford Road, West Ewell
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	8
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – limited off-street parking available on site otherwise on-street parking in residential road.



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

The previous reviews in 2011 and 2014 did not lead me to believe that the polling district boundary or the polling place are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Court Ward

Number of Polling Districts: Two

Number of Polling Places: Two

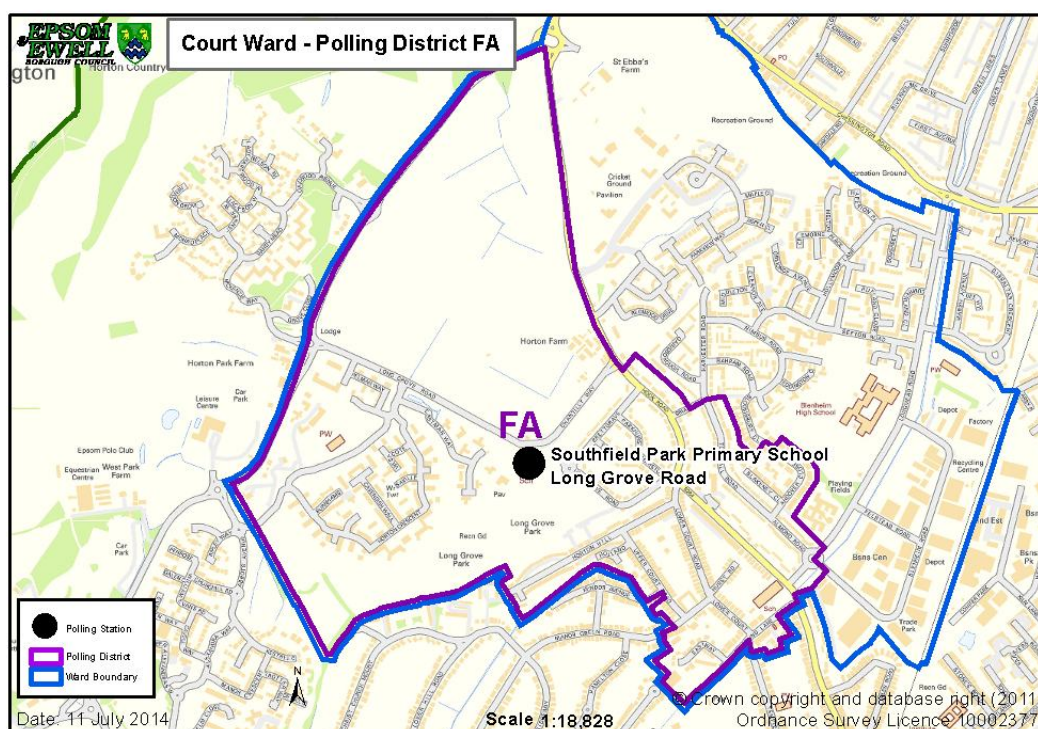
Electorate in Ward: **5026**

Postal Voters in Ward **561**

Notes: There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	F(A)
Electorate in District	2714
Postal Voters	332
Polling Place	Southfields Park Primary School, Long Grove Road, Epsom
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	9
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available on school premises.</p> <p>This school closes on election day.</p> <p>Although it is Council policy to avoid the use of schools wherever possible, it is considered that there are currently no other suitable premises in the area. Schools are notified of scheduled elections as early as possible, preferably before the start of the academic year to allow schools the option of setting an INSET day.</p> <p>When the Horton Chapel refurbishment is complete there is intention to investigate if it will be a suitable alternative to the school – refurb expected 2020? However the chapel is not as central in the polling district as the school and some voters will have to travel further.</p>

Court Ward FA (cont)



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

Whilst it is recognised that it is not ideal to use the school there is currently no other venue available other than the school to use.

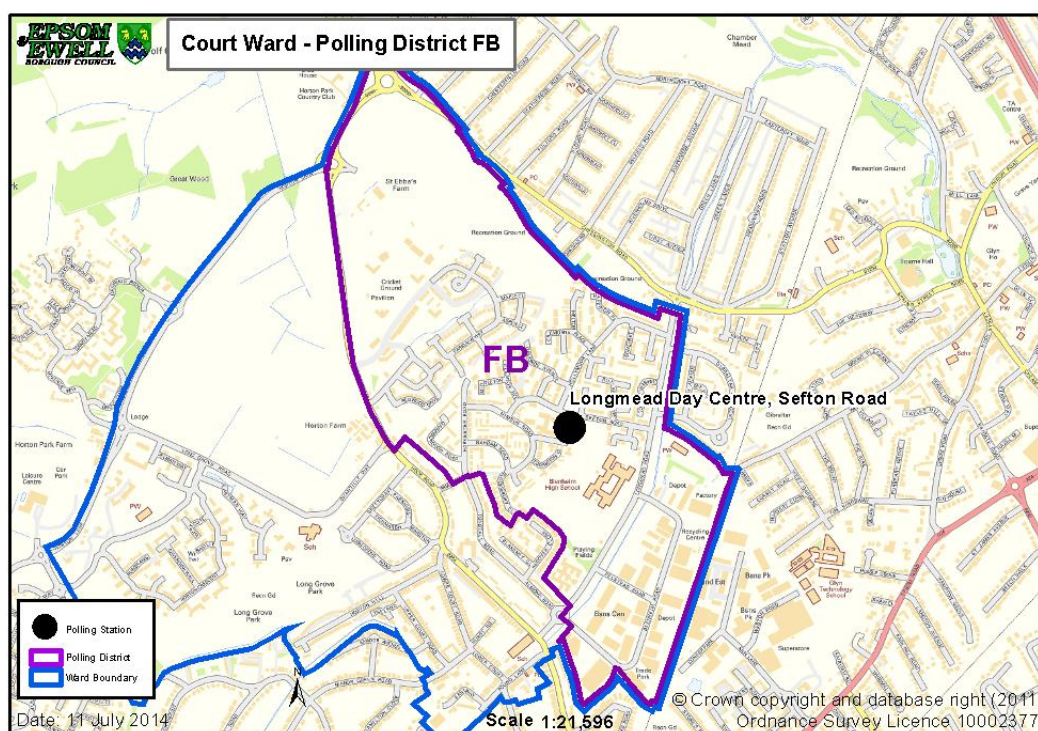
For the County by-election in Nov 2015 the staff room was used for polling station which allowed the school to remain open however the room was very tight for 2 polling stations and is not suitable for normal full elections with higher turnout's especially Parliamentary elections. The school uses the main hall for school dinners which appears to be the main reason that they close on polling day. However if an agreement could be reached there is alternative access to the hall which would avoid voters mixing with pupils and allow the school to stay open.

When the Horton Chapel refurbishment is complete there is intention to investigate if it will be a suitable alternative to the school – refurb expected 2020? However the chapel is not as central in the polling district as the school and some voters will have to travel further.

Subject to the above comments, I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Court Ward (cont)

Polling District	F(B)
Electorate in District	2312
Postal Voters	229
Polling Place	Health and Wellbeing Centre (Former Longmead Centre), Sefton Road, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	10
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Council-owned premises Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available on site.</p> <p>The polling station is located in the main hall.</p>



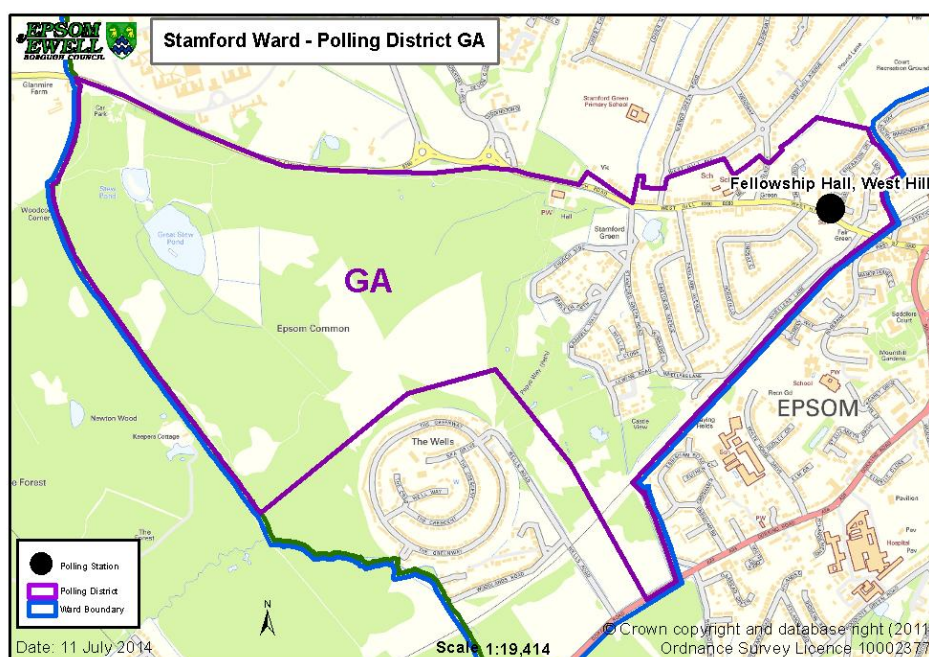
(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

. Taking into account postal voting trends, I consider that the size of this Polling District is still within acceptable tolerances and there is scope to create another polling station at the polling place, if necessary. No adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.
I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Stamford Ward

Number of Polling Districts	Three
Number of Polling Places	Three
Electorate in Ward	5414
Postal Voters in Ward	799
Notes	There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	G(A)
Electorate in District	1510
Postal Voters	215
Polling Place	The Fellowship Hall, West Hill, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	11
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - adequate Parking – small public car park opposite, no on-street parking available close to venue.



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

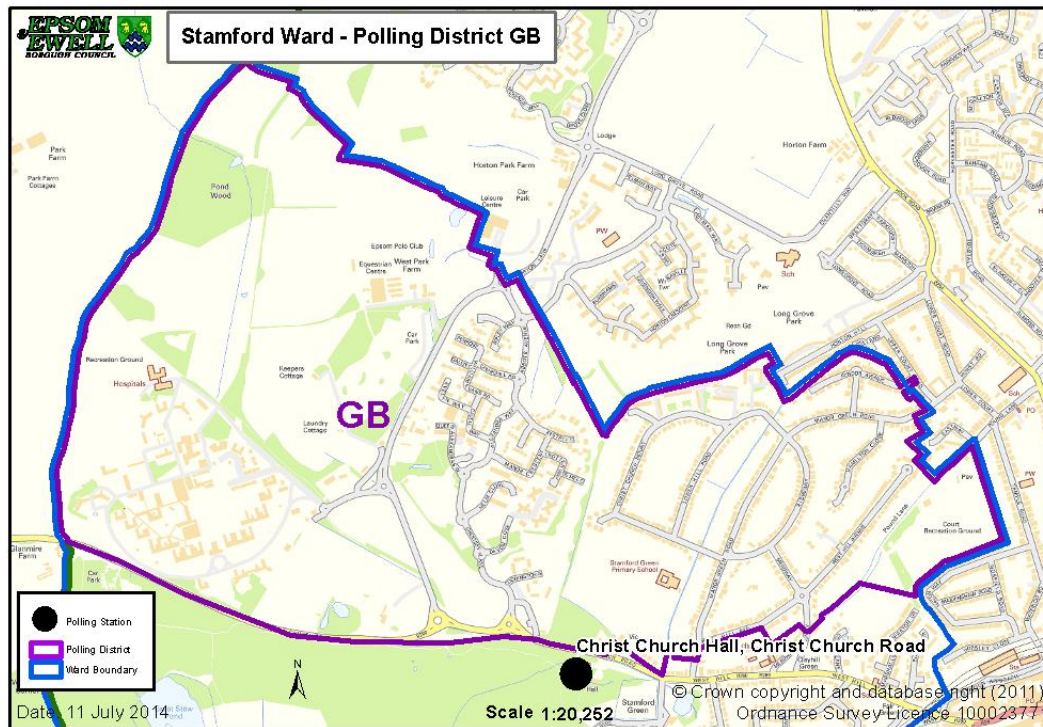
The previous reviews in 2011 and 2014 did not lead me to believe that the polling district boundary or the polling place are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Stamford Ward (cont)

Polling District	G(B)
Electorate in District	2891
Postal Voters	483
Polling Place	Church Hall, Christ Church, Christ Church Road Epsom
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	12
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Premises satisfactory. Location – adequate Disabled access - adequate Parking – car park available on site but not immediately adjacent to building.</p> <p>Although the building is on the edge of the Polling District boundary, it is considered overall to be a more 'central' location for voters than the previous polling station which was Stamford Green School and so is in line with Council policy to avoid the use of schools whenever possible. There are two pedestrian crossings on the main road either side of Christ Church Hall.</p>

Stamford Ward GB (cont)



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

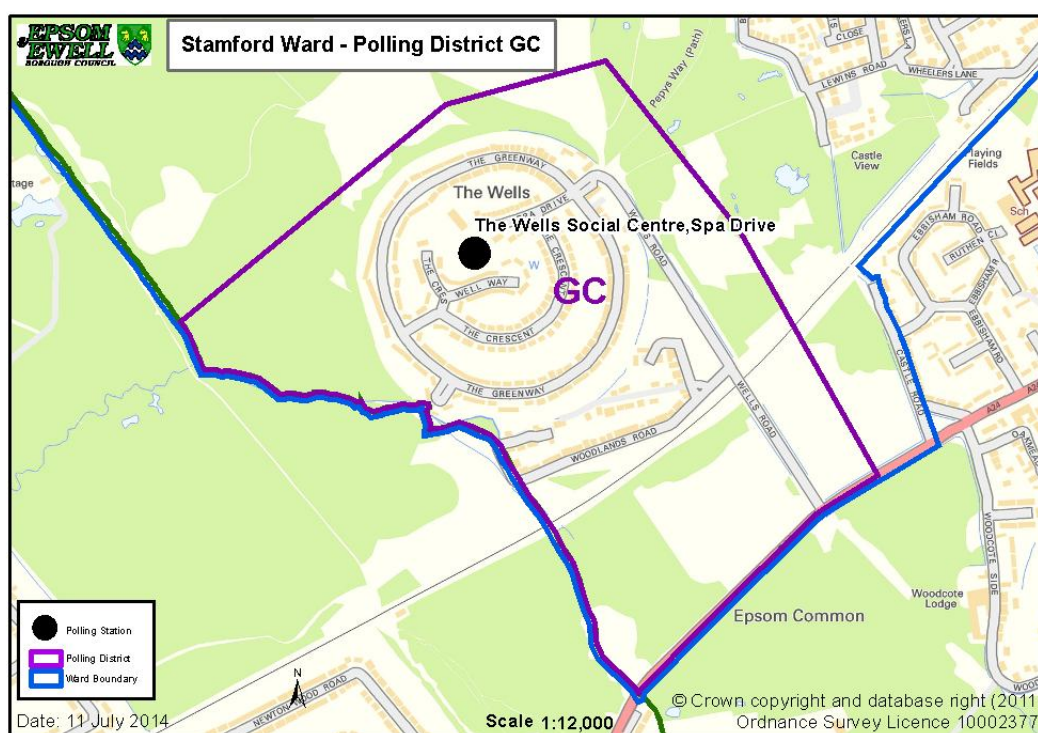
, I consider that the size of this polling district is still within acceptable tolerances and an additional polling station was created and been in place at this polling place since the 2015 elections.

The previous reviews in 2011 and 2014 did not lead me to believe that these premises are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Stamford Ward (cont)

Polling District	G(C)
Electorate in District	1013
Postal Voters	101
Polling Place	The Wells Social Centre, Spa Drive, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	13
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Council-owned premises Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access – Good Parking – good – car park on site.</p> <p>The polling station was located in the Main Hall in the 2019 elections</p> <p>This building is due to be redeveloped and alternative arrangements will need to be made for voters whilst building work is underway until the new community hall is available</p>



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

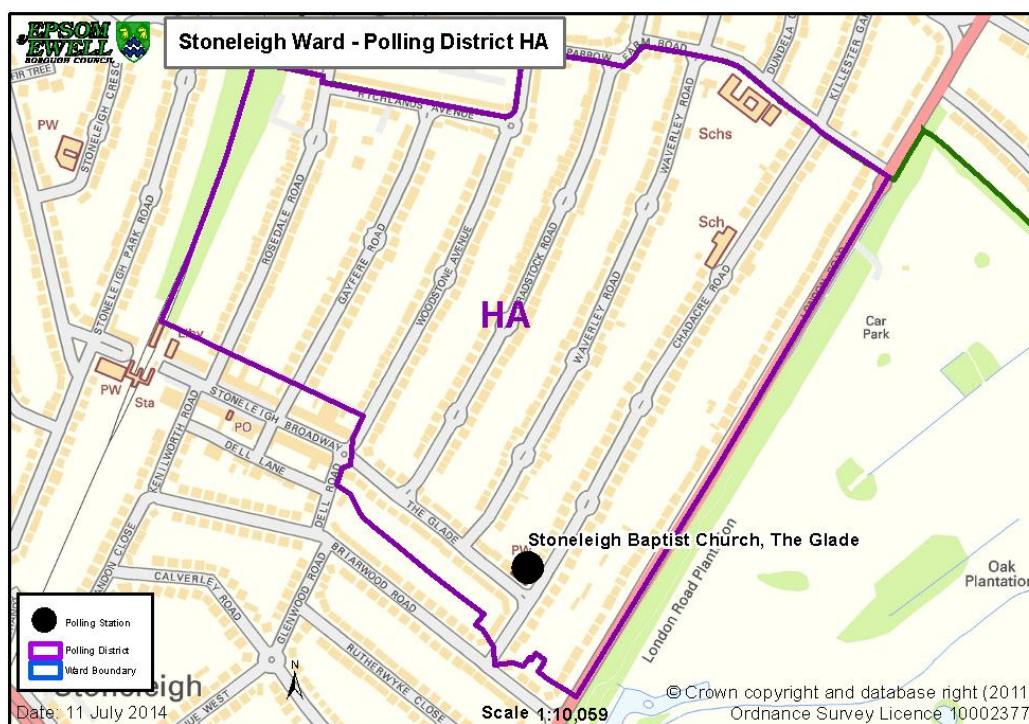
The previous reviews in 2011 and 2014 did not lead me to believe that the Polling District boundary or the Polling place are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

This building is due to be redeveloped and alternative arrangements will need to be made for voters whilst building work is underway and until the new community hall is available. The date of these works is not currently known but it is expected that a temp building will be located somewhere on the current centre site.

Subject to the above comments, I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

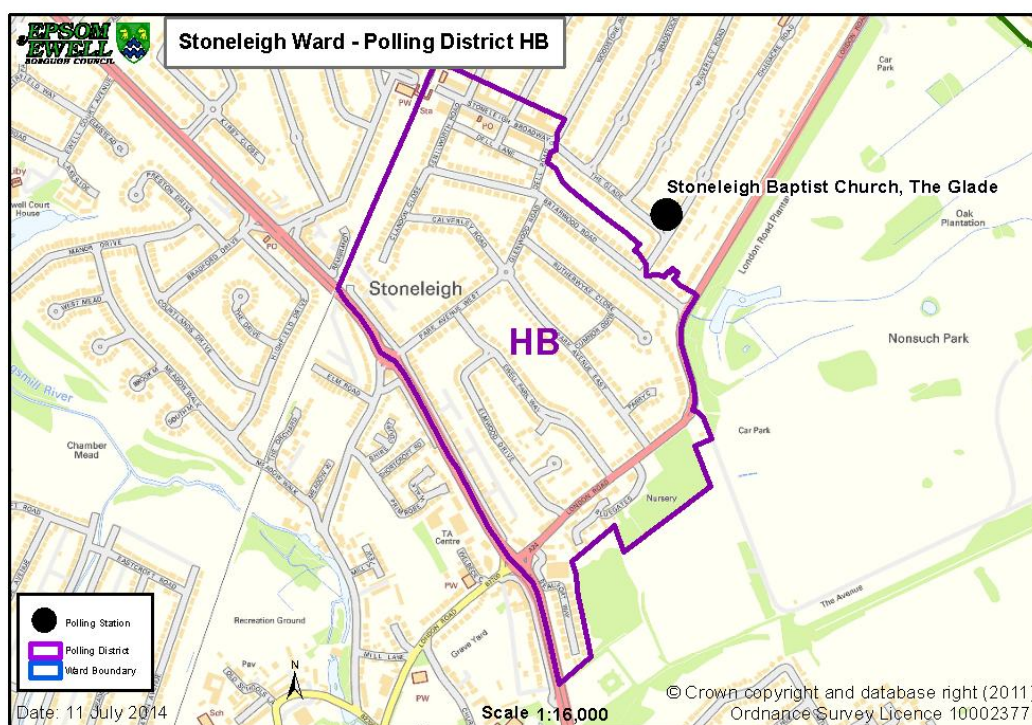
Number of Polling Districts:	Two
Number of Polling Places:	One
Electorate in Ward:	3676
Postal Voters	433
Notes:	There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	H(A)
Electorate in District	1898
Postal Voters	226
Polling Place	Stoneleigh Baptist Church Hall, The Glade, Stoneleigh
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	14
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – limited off street parking available. On-street parking available around venue



Stoneleigh Ward (cont)

Polling District	H(B)
Electorate in District	1778
Postal Voters	207
Polling Place	Stoneleigh Baptist Church Hall, The Glade, Stoneleigh
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	14
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking - limited off street parking available. On-street parking available around venue.



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

Previously in 2007 it was suggested that H(A) and H(B) should be merged into a single polling district. Since this would have no effect on the number of polling places, it was considered that this would be an administrative exercise of no direct benefit to the electorate in the Ward and the Council resolved in December 2007 to retain the status quo. There have been no further requests to merge so no change is expected to the existing polling districts.

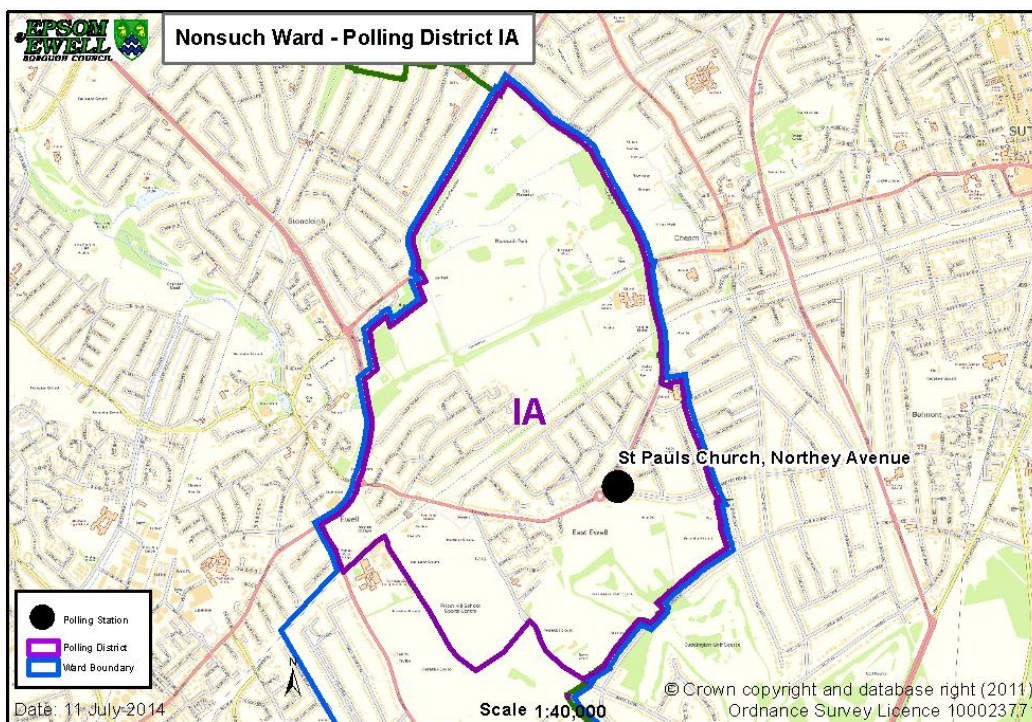
This is a busy polling place but the previous reviews in 2011 and 2014 did not lead me to believe that a merger was desirable or that the premises were unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I consider the polling districts and polling place to be appropriate.

Nonsuch Ward

Number of Polling Districts: Two
 Number of Polling Places: Two
 Electorate in Ward: **4586**
 Postal Voters **704**
 Notes: The redevelopment of land at NESCOT on the Reigate Road is still underway and the current electorate is likely to increase further

Polling District	I(A)
Electorate in District	3700
Postal Voters	565
Polling Place	St Paul's Church Centre, 15 Northey Ave, Cheam
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	15
Proposal	Change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available on site. On-street parking available around venue Move polling district boundary so properties within the NESCOT development become part of Nonsuch I(B)



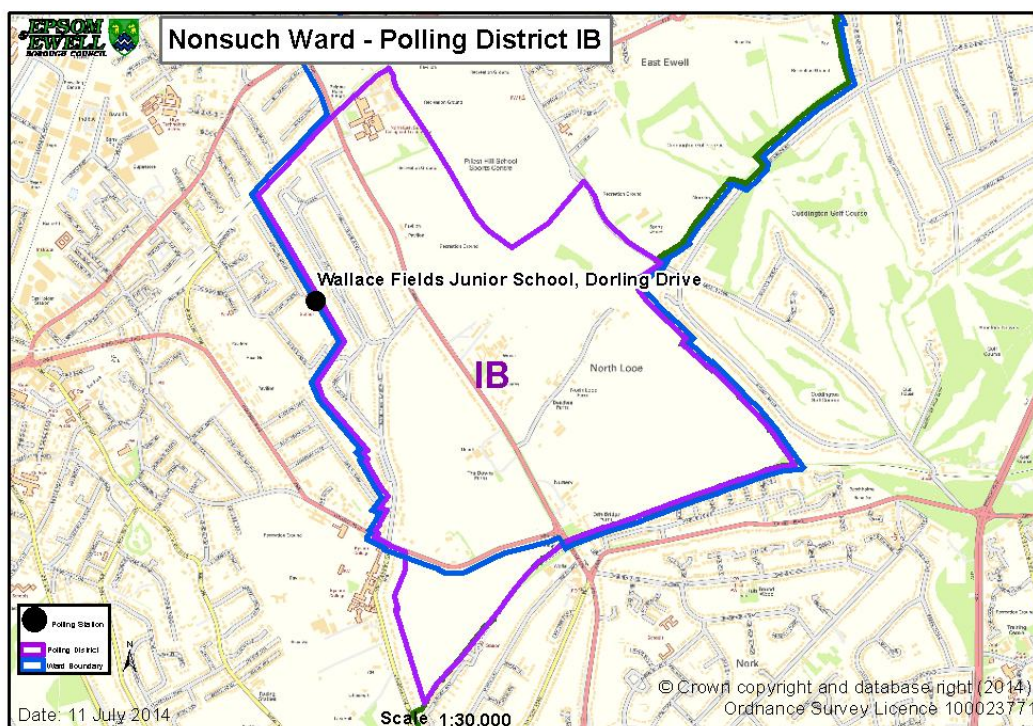
(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

Since the NESCOT development the electorate for this station has increased by approx. 200 voters this is expected to rise as further properties are occupied. The location of the site means that voters currently have to travel quite a distance to this polling station. The intention is to move the polling district boundary from the existing line to run along the back of the properties in Chatsfield, Conaways Close and St Normans Way. The voters on the NESCOT site will then be part of Nonsuch I(B) and vote at a different polling station to be decided.

Subject to the above changes, I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Nonsuch Ward (cont)

Polling District	I(B)
Electorate in District	886
Postal Voters	139
Polling Place	Wallace Fields Junior School, Dorling Drive, Ewell
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	16
Proposal	Change to ?
Comments	<p>Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access – good Parking – off street parking available on school premises and on-street parking available close to venue.</p> <p>Although the Polling Place is not actually located within the Nonsuch Ward boundaries, it is immediately adjacent to the Ward and it has worked very well for many years.</p> <p>This school closes on election day.</p> <p>Although it is Council policy to avoid the use of schools wherever possible, it is considered that there are no other suitable premises in the area. Schools are notified of scheduled elections as early as possible, preferably before the start of the academic year to allow schools the option of setting an INSET day.</p> <p>Move polling district boundary so properties within the NESLOT development become part of Nonsuch I(B)</p>



Nonsuch Ward IB (cont)

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

At the time of the previous review, it was noted that, although the Council has a policy to avoid the use of schools and the school is closed on election days, there was no more conveniently sited alternative to Wallace Fields Junior School. NESCOL had been approached in the past but responded at the time, that, because of the intensity of use of the site, they could not make any accommodation available unless an election falls in a half term or vacation period (which is unlikely).

A further site visit undertaken to NESCOL in 2011 and 2018 established that there was in fact no suitable accommodation available for the purposes of polling on this site at the time. However now that the NESCOL housing development of the site is almost finished there is a proposal to move the polling district boundary and include the new properties within I(B) instead of I(A).

Although the location of NESCOL in the polling district is not ideal, being across the busy Reigate Road, it is hoped that somewhere suitable within the site can be found. The parking and disabled access to the building is very good and using this location would stop the need for the school to be used.

We have had a small number of complaints from some parents regarding the closing of the school mainly down to child care cost issues. The school is not able to stay open during polling day due to its layout and access via an alley on the far side of the school for voters on foot from the polling district.

There is also the possibility of using the pavilion at the playing fields owned by Glyn School adj to the NESOT site but this will need to be investigated to see if the site and building is suitable.

Subject to the above comments being accepted I consider the proposals for the changes to the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Ewell Ward

Number of Polling Districts: Three

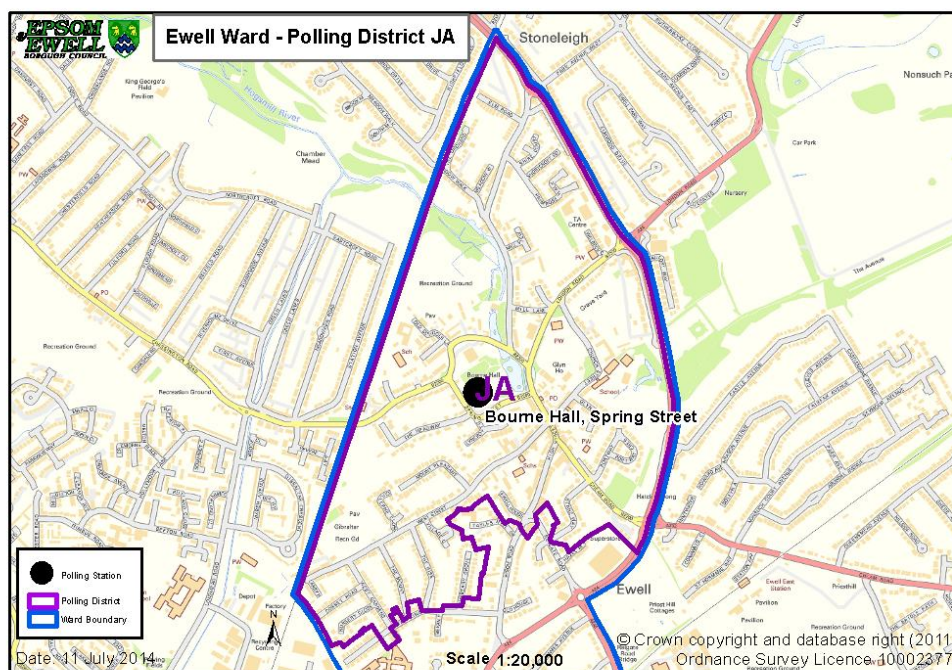
Number of Polling Places: Three

Electorate in Ward: **4340**

Postal Voters **644**

Notes: There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	J(A)
Electorate in District	2637
Postal Voters	376
Polling Place	Bourne Hall, Spring Street, Ewell
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	17
Proposal	No change
Comments	Council-owned premises Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available (public car park). The polling station is located in the Rose Room.



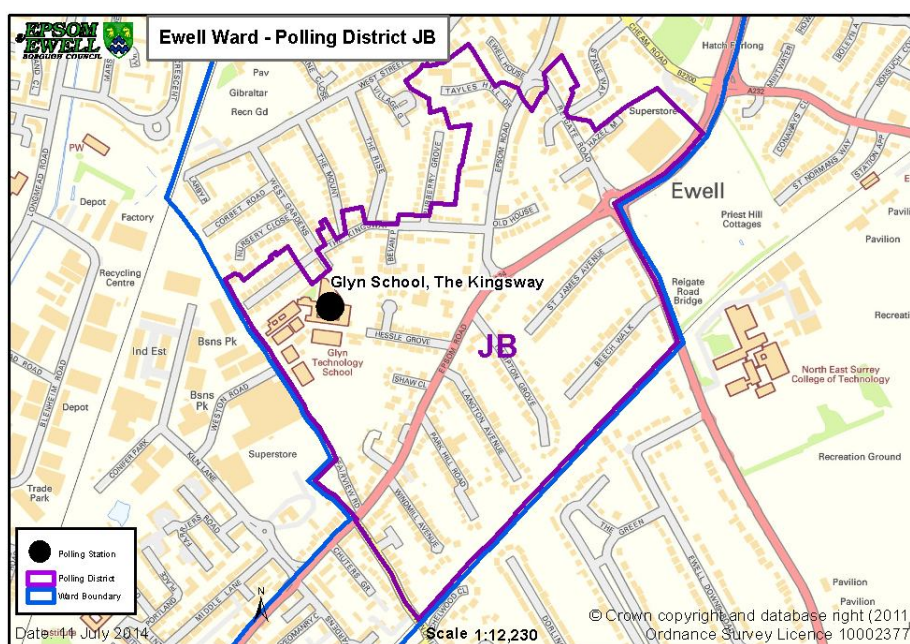
(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

The previous reviews in 2011 and 2014 did not lead me to believe that the Polling District boundary or the Polling place are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Ewell Ward (cont)

Polling District	J(B)
Electorate in District	1174
Postal Voters	199
Polling Place	Glyn School, The Kingsway, Ewell
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	18
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - adequate Parking – limited off-street parking available on school premises. On-street parking available close to venue.</p> <p>The polling station is currently located in the staff room so that the school can remain open on polling day as Classroom X1 is no longer available. Disabled access is via a lift as the staff room is accessed via stairs. There is a bell on the ground floor for those requiring disabled access to obtain assistance</p>



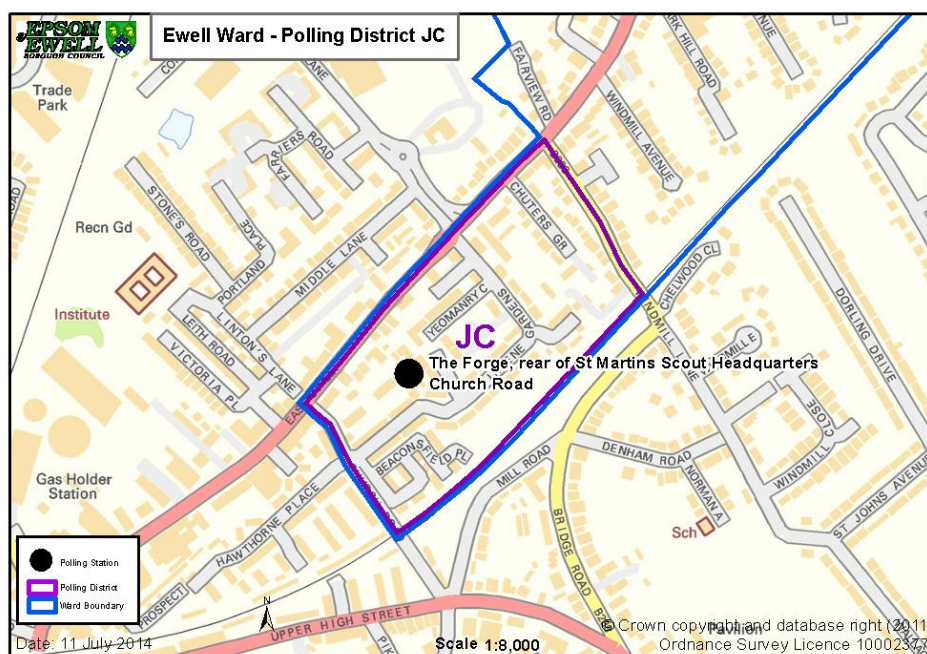
(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

The previous reviews in 2011 and 2014 did not lead me to believe that the Polling District boundary or the Polling place are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Ewell Ward (cont)

Polling District	J(C)
Electorate in District	529
Postal Voters	69
Polling Place	Defoe Court, 87 East Street, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	19 NEW map required
Proposal	No Change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access – good Parking – no parking on site The polling station is located in the conference room.



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

After the demolition of the Lintons Centre various premises were investigated but the only premises that was available was “The Forge”, a building located behind the Scout Hall, and owned by the Scouts. This building located at the rear of the site was found to be large enough to accommodate the small number of electors eligible to vote in polling district J(C) however it's location on the site was not ideal – extra lighting was required due to issues with the state of the access drive after dark for voters on foot and the vehicle access (the drive is very narrow and gated) and the limited parking. As the options for polling station accommodation in this area were very limited, its use was trialled as a polling place during the European Elections in May 2014 and for elections in 2015.

Due to the access problems at this site when Defoe Court in East was identified as a good central location and was large enough for 2 polling stations the decision was made to move from the Forge to Defoe Court for elections in 2016 onwards.

Even though there is no parking for voters on site the premises is otherwise deemed suitable as it is a new building with good disabled access and 24 hour staff on duty for any assistance needs. This same building is also used for voters who vote in polling district K(A) and although we try to keep voters from different wards in separate locations the room is large enough and the room division made by staff and signage for voters has not caused any problems to date.

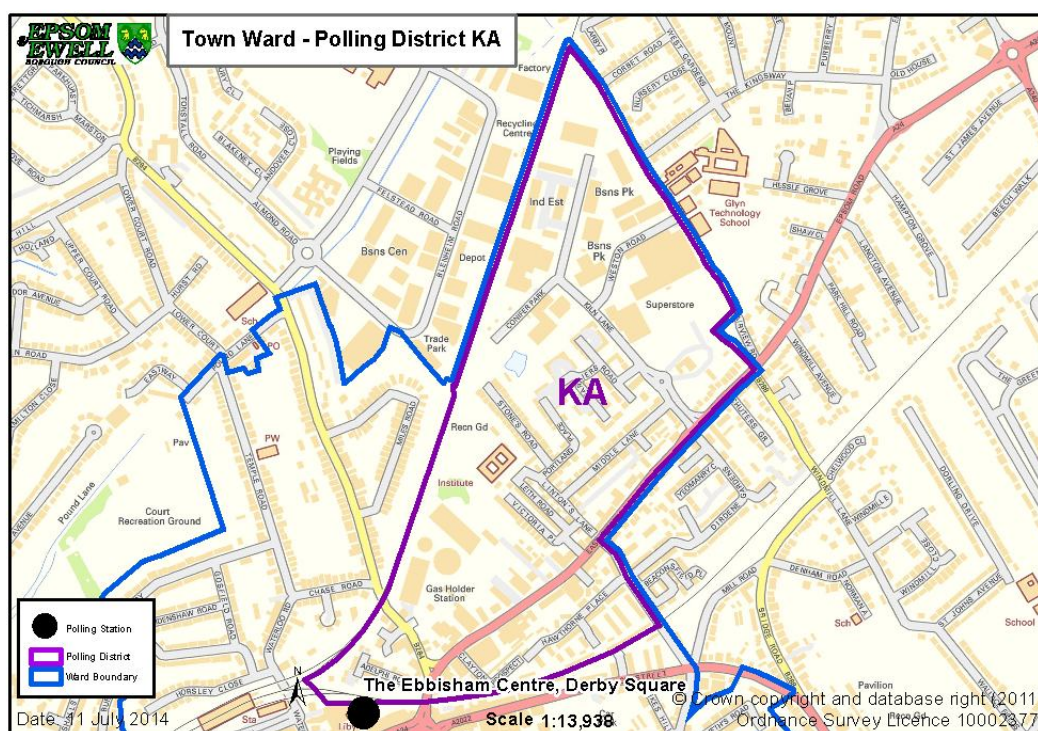
I consider the polling district and polling place adequate.

Town Ward

Number of Polling Districts Three
 Number of Polling Places Three
 Electorate in Ward **5282**
 Postal Voters **777**
 Notes

Polling District	K(A)
Electorate	1365
Postal Voters	192
Polling Place	Defoe Court, 87 East Street, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	20 NEW map required
Proposal	No Change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – no parking available The polling station is located in the conference room.

Town Ward KA (cont)



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

When trialled back in 2001, The Ebbisham Centre was not a popular choice with the electorate owing largely to the issue of parking (there is no free or convenient on-street parking in the vicinity of the building). However, this would apply to the majority of locations in the Town centre. The options for polling station accommodation in this area were very limited and no other suitable premises had been located.

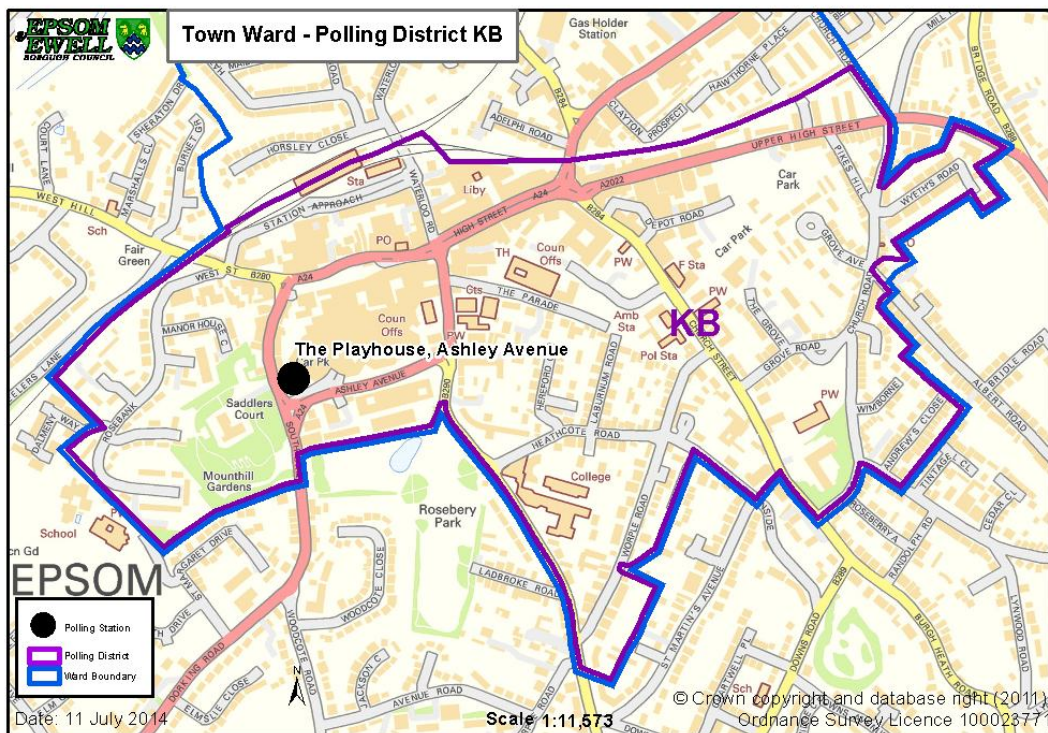
Since Defoe Court has been available this has been a much better located polling station being a new building it has good disabled access and 24 hour staff on duty for any assistance needs. Although there is no parking the station is much more centrally placed in the polling district and the only complaints we had was from voters in the first year of use, who were directed to Sainsbury by their sat navs but this is no longer an issue.

This same building is also used for voters who vote in polling district J(C) and although we try to keep voters from different wards in separate locations the room is large enough and the room division made by staff and signage for voters has not caused any problems to date.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Town Ward (cont)

Polling District	K(B)
Electorate in District	2691
Postal Voters	431
Polling Place	Epsom Playhouse, Ashley Avenue, Epsom
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	21
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Council owned premises Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking - Multi storey public car park adjacent to Playhouse. No on-street parking close to venue.</p> <p>The Polling Station is located in the Myers Hall.</p>



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

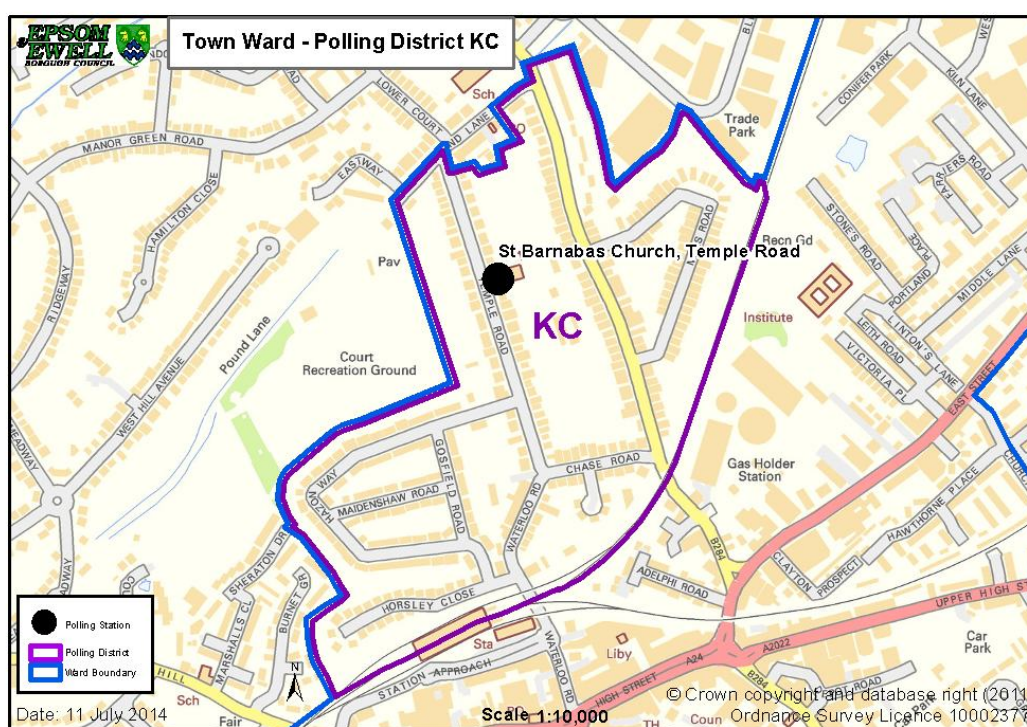
Town Ward KB (cont)

The previous reviews in 2011 & 2014 did not lead me to believe that the Polling District boundary or the Polling place are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I therefore consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Town Ward (cont)

Polling District	K(C)
Electorate in District	1226
Postal Voters	154
Polling Place	St Barnabas Church, Temple Road, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	22
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location good Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available on site.



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

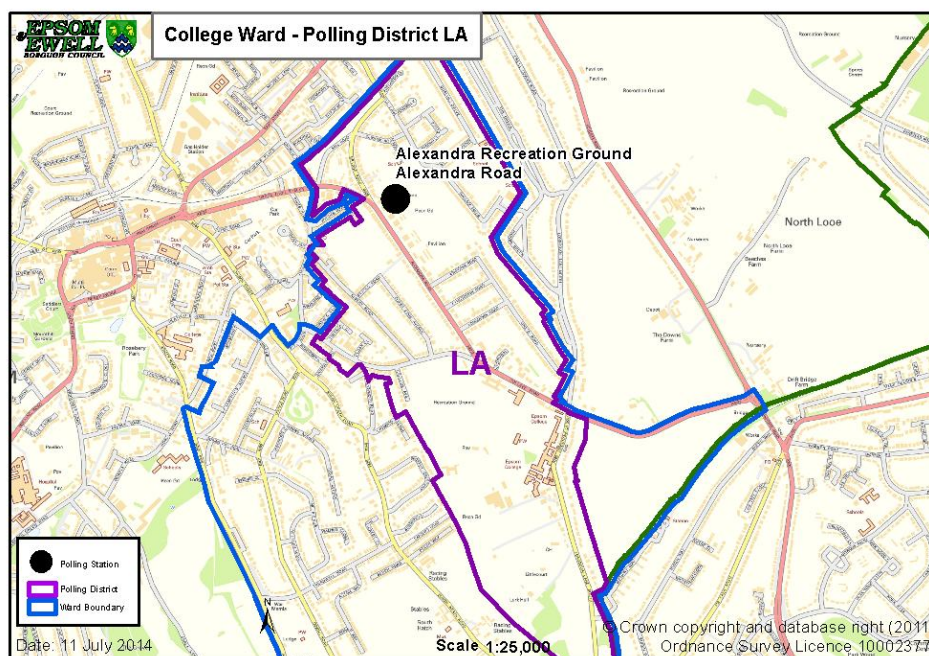
The previous reviews in 2011 & 2014 did not lead me to believe that the Polling District boundary or the Polling place are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

College Ward

Number of Polling Districts	Two
Number of Polling Places	Two
Electorate in Ward	4293
Postal Voters	754
Notes	There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	L(A)
Electorate in District	2147
Postal Voters	347
Polling Place	The Pavilion, Alexandra Recreation Ground, Alexandra Road, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	23
Proposal	No change
Comments	Council owned premises Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - Adequate Parking – close to pavilion for staff & disabled. In main car park for other voters.



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

The previous reviews in 2011 and 2014 did not lead me to believe that the Polling District boundary or the Polling place are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

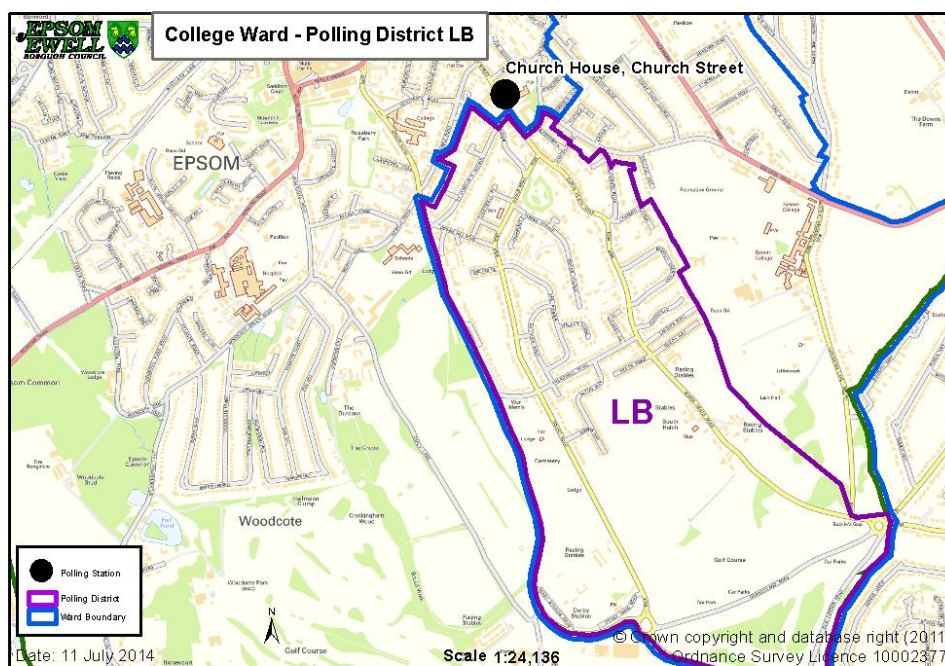
I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Epsom and Ewell Borough Council

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College Ward (cont)

Polling District	L(B)
Electorate in District	2146
Postal Voters	407
Polling Place	The Church House, Church Street, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	24
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available on site. No on-street parking close to venue.</p> <p>Although the Polling Place is not actually located within the College Ward boundaries, it is immediately adjacent to the Ward and it has worked very well for many years.</p> <p>As far as the Council is aware, there are no other suitable premises (halls etc) within the College Ward/Polling District boundaries.</p> <p>The polling station is located in The Wisley Room.</p>



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

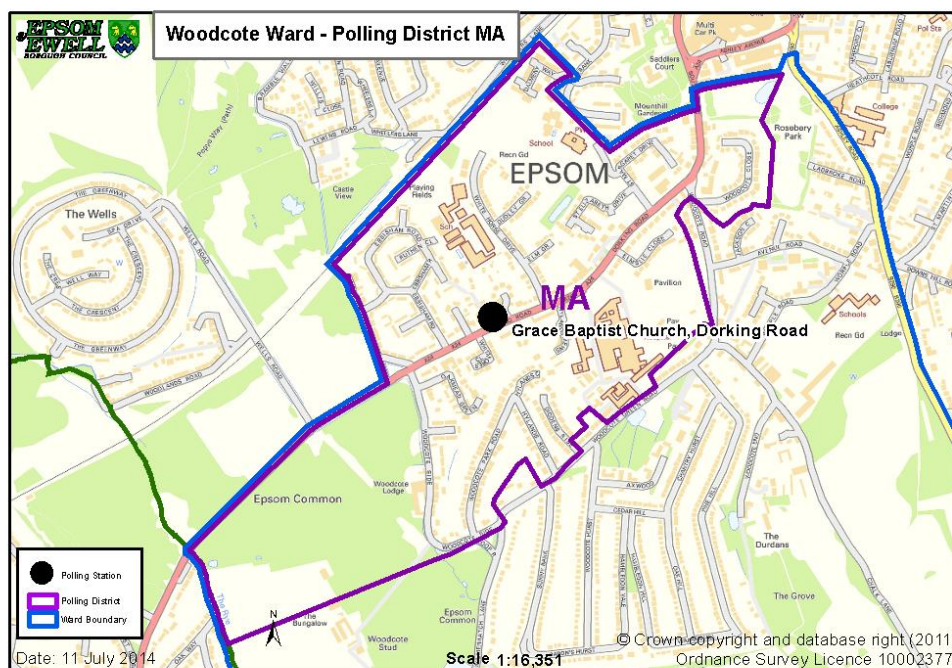
The previous reviews in 2011 and 2014 did not lead me to believe that the Polling District boundary or the Polling place are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

Woodcote Ward

Number of Polling Districts	Three
Number of Polling Places	Three
Electorate in Ward	4475
Postal Voters	804
Notes	There are no planned developments which would significantly affect the electorate of this Ward.

Polling District	M(A)
Electorate in District	1662
Postal Voters	279
Polling Place	Grace Baptist Church, 32 Dorking Road, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	25
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - adequate Parking – limited off-street parking on site



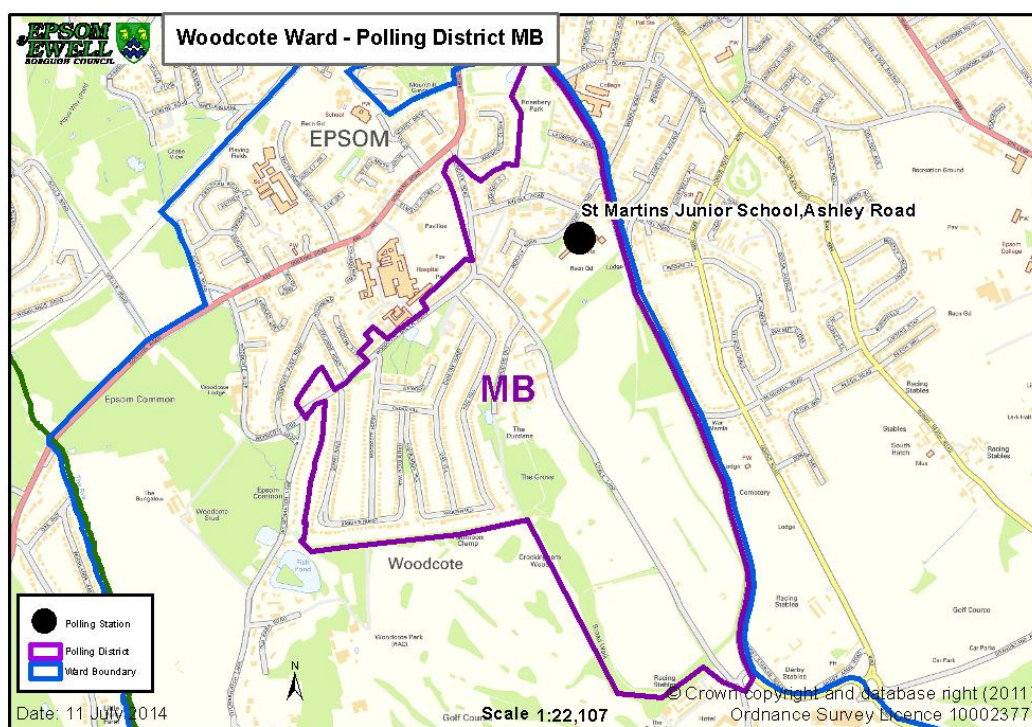
(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

The previous reviews in 2011 and 2014 did not lead me to believe that the Polling District boundary or the Polling place are unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Woodcote Ward (cont)

Polling District	M(B)
Electorate in District	1538
Postal Voters	329
Polling Place	St. Martins C of E Junior School, Ashley Road, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	26
Proposal	No change
Comments	<p>Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access – adequate Vehicle access via Ashley Road only Parking – off-street parking available on school premises</p> <p>It is Council policy to avoid the use of schools wherever possible but there are no other suitable premises in the area. Schools are notified of scheduled elections as early as possible, preferably before the start of the academic year, to allow schools the option of setting an INSET day.</p> <p>The polling station is located in the Music block as this building is separate from the main building and can be cordoned off from the rest of the School so that it can remain open on polling day.</p>



Woodcote Ward MB (cont)

(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

As per the previous view although it is Council policy to avoid the use of schools wherever possible suitable alternative premises have yet to be found. W.S. Atkins was approached but confirmed that they had no suitable accommodation available. The premises at the University of Creative Arts in Ashley Road is likewise unsuitable. The racecourse is not within the Polling District and is too remote with no regular/reliable public transport links.

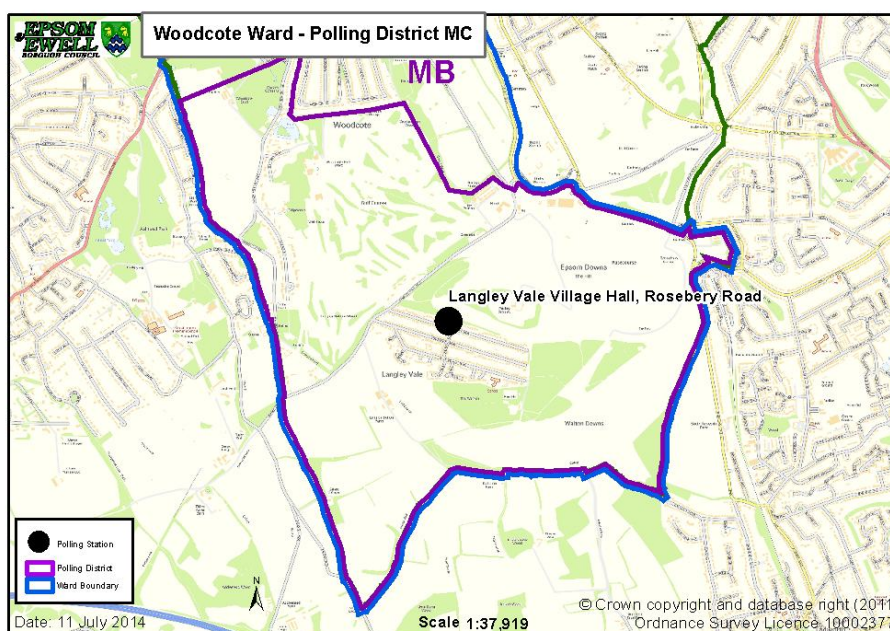
At the time of the previous review, it was reported that as a result of reconfiguration of the premises, discussions with the new Headteacher had resulted in the offer of the use of a separate classroom block close to the Ashley Road entrance. These facilities had the advantage of being self-contained and close to the car park for disabled voters. Since this review the accommodation has been used, without the rest of the school having to close. A ramp for the slight lip into the classroom was provided and for the curb from the car park.

With the use of this classroom block polling day has been successful with the school remaining open for all elections. The access to the polling station for vehicles is via Ashley Road only and a message to voters is now included on all poll cards so they are aware.

In the absence of any alternatives, I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

Woodcote Ward (cont)

Polling District	M(C)
Electorate in District	1275
Postal Voters	196
Polling Place	Langley Vale Village Hall, Rosebery Road, Epsom
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	27
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – on-street parking available around venue.



(Acting) Returning Officer's Representations

During the 2011 review concerns about accessibility for disabled people due to the sloping access to the Village Hall were raised, and it was suggested that the adjacent Church Hall or the school at Langley Vale might be a more appropriate venue. It is Council policy to avoid the use of schools wherever possible and the school is less conveniently located than the current polling station.

A site visit was also made to the Church Hall and although the slope to the building is less than at the Village Hall, the layout of the building was considered unsuitable as a polling place and there would be no advantage in relocating there.

The previous reviews in 2011 and 2014 did not lead me to believe that the Polling District boundary or the Polling place are inappropriate/unsuitable and no adverse feedback has been received post the May 2019 elections.

I therefore consider the current polling district and polling place appropriate.