

# **Public Consultation**

# **Polling District and Polling Places Review**

**Epsom & Ewell Borough Council** 

November 2024

Jacqueline King - Acting Returning Officer Epsom & Ewell Borough Council The Town Hall The Parade Epsom Surrey KT15 8BY

www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk

#### Background

The Representation of the People Act 1983 (the Act) was amended by the Electoral Administration Act 2006 (Section 16) and later by the Electoral Registration Act 2013 (section 17) to detail the current process regarding the way 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 these were subsequently held in December 2014, December 2019, December 2022 and October 2023.

# 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

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 and on the Council's website. The timetable for the review is set out below:

Publication of notice	21 November 2024
Publication of consultation document	21 November 2024
Closing date for representations	5pm,2 January 2025
Consideration of all representations	3-10 January 2025
Report to Strategy and Resources Committee	28 January 2025
Report to Full Council	11 February 2025
Publication of notice of amendments to electoral register and intention to publish revised version of register (If necessary)	14 February 2025
Publication of revised version of register (if necessary)	1 March 2025

#### **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, 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. If a school is used, the polling station(s) should be located within the school grounds to enable the school to remain open with suitable separation of pupils from voters to cause minimal disruption to the school day. Any decision to close any school ultimately remains with the school itself.

There are occasions where a school may be the only option available, and it may need to close.

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.

In conducting this review, it is proposed that, in order to minimise the risk of queues at a polling place, as far as possible, that no more than 2250 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 or County division 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, as are Polling Station Inspectors who visited all polling stations during the last elections (held in May & July 2024). Comments made have been taken into account when conducting this 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 place and must allocate electors to the polling stations in such manner as they think 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.

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, Helen Maguire
- Surrey Coalition of Disabled People (<u>www.surreycoalition.org.uk</u>)
- All Epsom and Ewell Borough Councillors
- All Surrey County Councillors representing divisions within the Epsom area
- Election agents who acted at the 2024 PCC & Parliamentary elections
- Registered political parties who regularly field candidates in local and parliamentary elections in the Borough
- Venues used as polling places

#### **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 28 January 2025. The Strategy and Resources Committee will consider the report and make recommendations as it thinks appropriate to Full Council on 11 February 2025 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 Acting 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

#### 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 <u>Appendix A</u> are details of current and proposed polling districts and polling places for each of the Wards within the Borough of Epsom and Ewell.

<u>Appendix B</u> contains a map and a breakdown for each polling place with the details of any proposed changes and the comments of the Acting Returning Officer.

The electorate, broken down into polling districts, is based on the electorate as at 1 November 2024.

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 districts & places was last conducted in 2023 and this review is available on the Council's website (https://www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/council/elections-and-voting/electoral-boundaries).

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

#### 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 no later than 5pm on 2 January 2025** 

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

Representations by email with the subject line Polling District/Place Review, should be sent to:

electoralservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk

Representations by post should be sent to:

Electoral Services (Polling District/Place Review) Epsom and Ewell Borough Council The Town Hall The Parade Epsom Surrey KT18 5BY

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

All representations will be published on the Council's website after the closing date for representations.

The final decision will be taken by full Council at its meeting on 11 February 2025 and, if necessary, a notice of any alterations to the register will be published on the Council's website no later than 14 February 2025.

Any new polling districts and polling places will become effective at all elections held after 1 March 2025.

# Appendix A

#### Epsom & Ewell Borough Council

# Schedule of Current and Proposed Polling Districts and Polling Stations

WARD	CURRENT POLLING DISTRICT	CURRENT POLLING PLACE	PROPOSED POLLING PLACE
CUDDINGTON	AA	Rowe Hall, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cuddington Scout HQ, Salisbury Road, Worcester Park KT4 7LP	No Change
	AB	St Mary's Church Hall, The Avenue, Worcester Park	No Change
AURIOL	В	Stoneleigh Methodist Church Centre, Stoneleigh Crescent, Ewell KT19 0RT	No Change
EWELL COURT	CA	Ruxley Church, Ruxley Lane, West Ewell KT19 0JG	No Change
	СВ	Ewell Court House, Ewell Court Avenue, EwellKT19 0EB	No Change
RUXLEY	D	Epsom & Ewell High School, Ruxley Lane, West Ewell KT19 9JW	No Change
WEST EWELL	EA	Epsom Vineyard Church Centre, 23 Lansdowne Road, West Ewell KT19 9QJ	No Change
	EB	All Saints Church & Community Centre, Fulford Road, West Ewell KT19 9QY	No Change

WARD	CURRENT POLLING DISTRICT	CURRENT POLLING PLACE	PROPOSED POLLING PLACE
COURT	FA	Bowling Pavilion, Court Recreation Ground, Pound Lane, Epsom KT19 8SB	No Change
	FB(1) & FB(2)	Community & Wellbeing Centre, Sefton Road, Epsom KT19 9HG	FB (1) – No Change FB (2) - Bowling Pavilion, Court Recreation Ground, Pound Lane, Epsom KT19 8SB (proposed to merge with FA)
STAMFORD	GA	The Church Hall, Christ Church, Christ Church Road, Epsom KT19 8NE	No Change
	GB	The Wells Community Centre, Spa Drive, Epsom KT18 7LR	No Change
STONELEIGH	Н	Stoneleigh Baptist Church Hall, The Glade, Stoneleigh KT17 2HL	No Change
NONSUCH	IA	St Paul's Church Centre, Northey Avenue, Cheam SM2 7HS	No Change
	IB	NESCOT, Reigate Road, Ewell KT17 3DS	No Change
EWELL VILLAGE	J	Bourne Hall, Spring Street, Ewell KT17 1UF	No Change

WARD	CURRENT POLLING DISTRICT	CURRENT POLLING PLACE	PROPOSED POLLING PLACE
TOWN	KA	Defoe Court, 87 East Street, Epsom KT17 1AQ	No Change
	KB	Epsom Playhouse, Ashley Avenue, Epsom KT18 5AL	No Change
	KC	St. Barnabas Church, Temple Road, Epsom KT19 8TU	No Change
COLLEGE	LA	The Pavilion, Alexandra Recreation Ground, Alexandra Road, Epsom KT17 4BU	No Change
	LB	The Church House, Church Street, Epsom KT17 4PX	No Change
WOODCOTE	MA	Grace Baptist Church, 32 Dorking Road, Epsom KT18 7NH	No Change
AND LANGLEY	MB	St Martin's C of E Junior School, Ashley Road, Epsom KT18 7AD	No Change
VALE	MC	Langley Vale Village Hall, Rosebery Road, Epsom KT18 6AF	No Change
HORTON	N(1) & N(2)	The Horton Arts Centre, Haven Way, Epsom KT19 8NP	No Change other than merging N1 & N2 to become single ward/polling district

### TOTALS

Number of Polling Places	25	Number of Polling Stations	35*
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\*Note: Depending on the election some Polling Places have more than 1 polling station located at it.

# Appendix B

Epsom & Ewell Borough Council

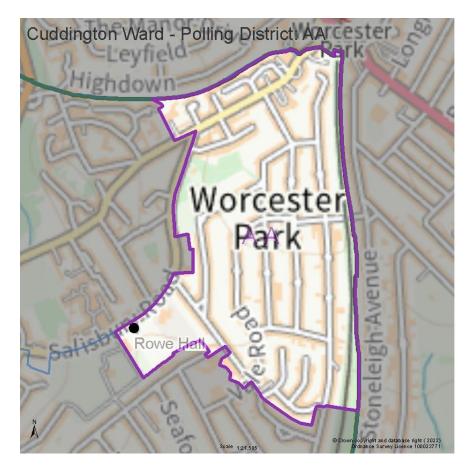
Existing Polling Districts & Places and Acting Returning Officers' representations

# **Cuddington Ward**

Number of Polling Districts:	Two
Number of Polling Places:	Two
Electorate in Ward:	5001
Postal Voters in Ward:	790

Polling District	A(A)
Electorate in District:	2738
Postal Voters:	381
Polling Place	Scout Hut (Rowe Hall), Salisbury Road,
	Worcester Park KT4 7LP
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	1
Proposals	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory
	Disabled access - good
	Parking – limited off-street parking available on site. On-
	street parking available around venue.

# Polling District 2024



#### Cuddington Ward AA (cont)

#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

#### Cuddington Ward (cont)

Polling District	A(B)
Electorate in District	2263
Postal Voters	409
Polling Place	St Mary's Church Hall, The Avenue,
	Worcester Park KT4 7HL
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.
	Venue is large enough to accommodate 2 polling Stations if necessary

#### Polling District 2024



#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received following the May & July 2024 elections.

No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

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

# Auriol Ward

Number of Polling Districts:	One
Number of Polling Places:	One
Electorate in Ward:	3430
Postal Voters in Ward	542

Polling District	В
Electorate in District	3430
Postal Voters	542
Polling Place	Stoneleigh Methodist Church Centre, Stoneleigh
	Crescent, Stoneleigh, Ewell KT19 0RT
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.

# Polling District 2024



#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections. No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time. 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:	3614
Postal Voters in Ward:	591

Polling District	C(A)
Electorate in District	1909
Postal Voters	324
Polling Place	Ruxley Church, Ruxley Lane, West Ewell KT19 0JG
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	4
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location - Good
	Disabled access - Good
	Parking – off-street parking available on site.

#### **Polling District 2024**



#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

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

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#### **Ewell Court Ward (cont)**

Polling District	С(В)
Electorate in District	1705
Postal Voters	267
Polling Place	Ewell Court House, Lakehurst Road, Ewell KT19 0EB
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

#### Polling District 2024



#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

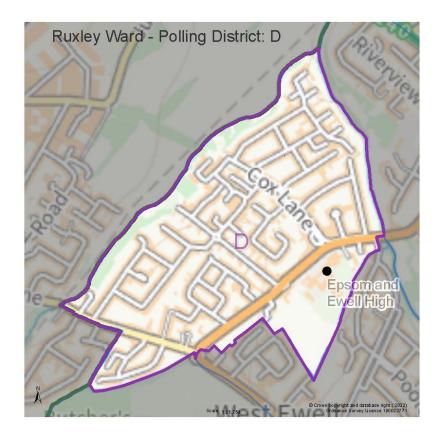
I consider the polling district and polling place to be appropriate.

# **Ruxley Ward**

Number of Polling Districts:	One
Number of Polling Places:	One
Electorate in Ward:	3721
Postal Voters in Ward	506

Polling District	D
Electorate in District	3721
Postal Voters	506
Polling Place	Epsom & Ewell High School, Ruxley Lane,
_	West Ewell KT19 9JW
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	6
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory
	Disabled access – good
	Parking – off-street parking available on-site for disabled
	only during school hours
	Polling station is located in the North Annexe which is
	separate from main school building and enables the
	school to remain open on polling day.

# Polling District 2024



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#### Ruxley Ward D (cont)

#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

It is recognised that having a polling place in a school is not entirely satisfactory, but enquiries have failed to identify any other premises suitable for designation as a polling place elsewhere in the ward and there would be a significant cost implication in providing temporary unit accommodation even if a suitable location could be found.

For the Police & Crime Commissioner elections in May 2024 the school asked that the new pavilion be used instead of the usual location (North Annexe building) due to safeguarding reasons and wanting to keep voters off the school grounds and away from the children. This move was implemented on a strictly trial basis for the election however the location was deemed to be not suitable due to a number of reasons.

The lack of disabled parking for voters resulted in multiple complaints and some voters giving up due to the distance to walk from the parking area to the pavilion and not voting at all on the day. There were other issues with the location including complaints from voters about a lack of external lighting and antisocial behavior related to the use of electric scooters and bikes in the access footpath which leads to the site. This latter issue resulted in the police being called to attend the site towards the end of polling day as voters and staff were being subject to unacceptable intimidation.

For the Parliamentary election on 4 July 2024 the polling station reverted back to the normal location in the North Annexe and the school made a decision to close on polling day. The school is able to utilise an inset day for this purpose if it chooses to do so. The return to use of the North Annexe building in July 2024 resolved the issues experienced in May 2024 and no complaints were received from voters as a result of the arrangements.

If the school decides that it does not want to close on polling day for future elections then we can continue to implement the system for parking for voters with mobility issues during the school hours. This has been successfully implemented for several years and involves notifying voters via a warning message on their poll cards regarding the restricted access. There is on-street parking available on roads close to the school.

No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

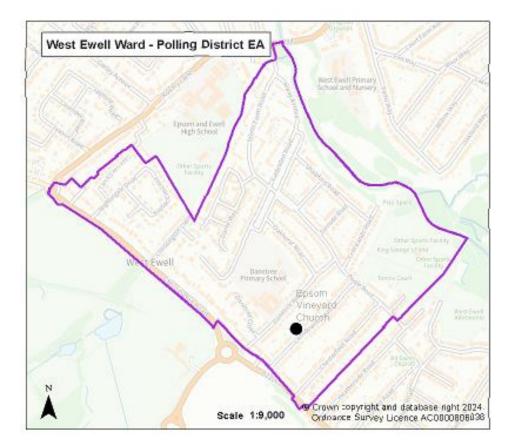
In the absence of any suitable alternatives, I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

### West Ewell Ward

Number of Polling Districts	Two
Number of Polling Places	Two
Electorate in Ward	5068
Postal Voters in Ward	660

Polling District	E(A)
Electorate in District	2099
Postal Voters	282
Polling Place	Epsom Vineyard Church Centre, Lansdowne Road,
	West Ewell KT19 9QJ
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	7
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory
	Disabled access – satisfactory
	Parking – Limited off-street parking on site; on-street parking on residential road.

### Polling District 2024



#### West Ewell Ward EA (cont)

#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

#### West Ewell Ward (cont)

E(B)
2969
378
All Saints Church Community Centre
Fulford Road, West Ewell KT19 9QY
2
8
No change
Premises and location satisfactory
Disabled access – good
Parking – limited off-street parking available on site otherwise on-street parking in residential road.

#### Polling District 2024



#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

#### No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

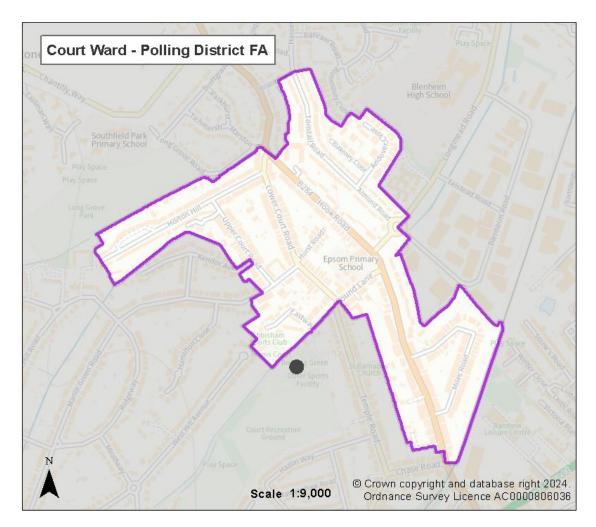
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# Court Ward

Number of Polling Districts:	Three
Number of Polling Places:	Two
Electorate in Ward:	4699
Postal Voters in Ward	568

Polling District	FA
Electorate in District	2087
Postal Voters	267
Polling Place	Bowling Pavilion, Court Recreation Ground, Pound Lane,
	Epsom KT19 8SB
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	9
Proposal	Change – merge with existing district FB(2) to amend the
	Polling District to be as shown on the map below.
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory
	Disabled access – good
	Parking – off-street parking available in adjacent car park

#### Polling District 2024



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#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received following the May & July 2024 elections.

However, during a previous review, the neighbouring polling district FB was split into 2 districts due to the ward being in 2 different County Council electoral divisions. It was agreed to revisit the arrangements for the ward after the 2024 Surrey County Council Electoral boundary review finished. The County review finished with no changes to the polling district known as FB(2), in so much as it is not moving into a different County division.

As a result voters in FB(1) are in the West Ewell County Council division but voters in FB(2) are in the Epsom West County Council division, which is the same division as voters in FA. If these voters attend the same polling station at a County Council election it creates a risk of ballot papers being placed in a ballot box for the incorrect electoral division.

It is therefore recommended that the polling district currently called FB(2) is merged with FA and voters will vote at the Court Recreation Ground Pavilion at all future elections to remove the risk of cross contamination of ballot papers. For clarity, this will not change the electoral ward or division for any voter, only the polling station that they vote in.

Court Recreation Ground currently hosts a single polling station and the potential increase in numbers of in person voters may require it to be split into 2 stations, although there are currently 4 other single polling stations (AB-St Mary's, EA – Epsom Vineyard, LA -Alex Rec Pavilion, LB – Church House) with comparable number of electors allocated. A further site visit is recommended to ascertain if the venue is large enough to accommodate a double polling station or not.

If the above merge is not approved voters in FB(2) will continue to vote alongside FB(1) voters at the Wellbeing Centre at Longmead. This will require a clear division of the polling place on polling day to ensure that voters are issued the correct ballot papers and once voted those papers go in the correct ballot box.

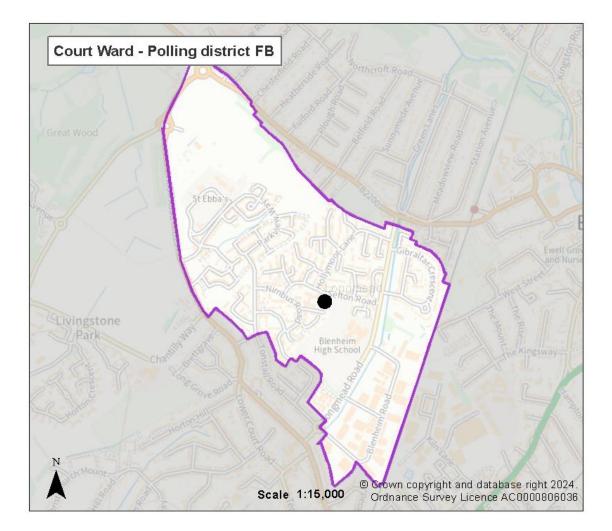
It is proposed that this polling district is merged with polling district FB(2) which is in the same County Council electoral division and that the combined district is named FA.

I consider the proposed changes to the polling district and polling place appropriate

### Court Ward (cont)

Polling District	FB
Electorate in District	2612
Postal Voters	301
Polling Place	Community and Wellbeing Centre, Sefton Road, Epsom KT19 9HG
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	10
Proposal	Change – existing district FB(2) to be merged with district FA as detailed above. District FB(1) to be renamed FB as shown in the map below.
Comments	Council-owned premises Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access – good Parking – off-street parking available on site. The polling station is located in the main hall.

#### **Polling District 2024**



#### Court Ward FB (cont)

#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

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It is proposed that polling district FB(2) is merged with polling district FA which is in the same County Council electoral division. This is also detailed in the representation for polling district FA (above). It is proposed that polling district FB(1) is renamed FB as shown in the map above.

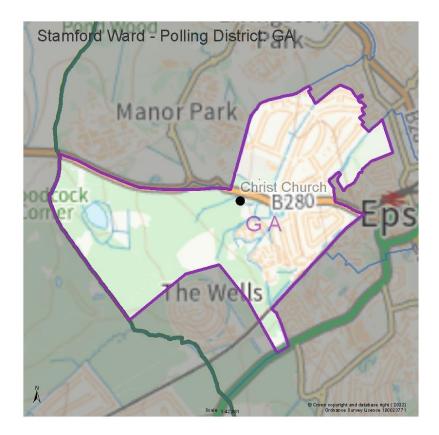
I consider the proposed changes to the polling district and polling place appropriate.

# **Stamford Ward**

Number of Polling Districts	Two
Number of Polling Places	Two
Electorate in Ward	3713
Postal Voters in Ward	637

Polling District	G(A)
Electorate in District	2706
Postal Voters	511
Polling Place	Church Hall, Christ Church, Christ Church Road Epsom KT19 8NE
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	11
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises satisfactory. Location – adequate Disabled access - adequate Parking – car park available on site but not immediately adjacent to building. On-street parking is also available.

### **Polling District 2024**



#### Stamford Ward GA (cont)

# Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

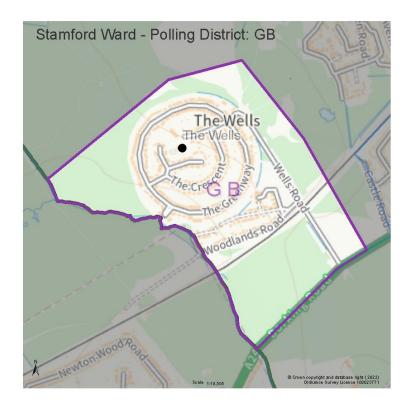
No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

#### Stamford Ward (cont)

Polling District	G(B)
Electorate in District	1007
Postal Voters	126
Polling Place	The Wells Community Centre, Spa Drive,
	Epsom KT18 7LR
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	12
Proposal	No change
Comments	Council-owned premises Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access – Good Parking – good – car park on site.
	The centre has now re-opened and run by The Epsom Wells Community Association) a local community group.

### **Polling District 2024**



#### Stamford Ward G(B) cont

#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

No further changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

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

# **Stoneleigh Ward**

Number of Polling Districts:	One
Number of Polling Places:	One
Electorate in Ward:	3673
Postal Voters	503

Polling District	Н
Electorate in District	3673
Postal Voters	503
Polling Place	Stoneleigh Baptist Church Hall, The Glade,
	Stoneleigh KT17 2HL
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	13
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – limited off street parking available. On-street parking available around venue

#### **Polling District 2024**



### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

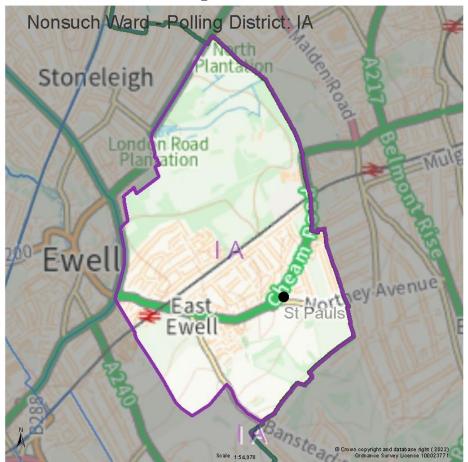
No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections. No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time. I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

# Nonsuch Ward

Number of Polling Districts:	Two
Number of Polling Places:	Two
Electorate in Ward:	5306
Postal Voters	978

Polling District	I(A)
Electorate in District	3516
Postal Voters	621
Polling Place	St Paul's Church Centre, 15 Northey Avenue,
	Cheam SM2 7HS
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	14
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available on site. On-street parking available around venue

# Polling District 2024



#### Nonsuch Ward IA (cont)

# Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

I consider the polling district and polling place appropriate.

# Nonsuch Ward (cont)

Polling District	I(B)
Electorate in District	1790
Postal Voters	357
Polling Place	NESCOT College, Reigate Road, Ewell KT17 3DS
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	15
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access – good Parking – off street parking available in large car park close to venue.



#### Nonsuch Ward IB (cont)

#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

In 2024 neither the theatre nor other suitable accommodation was available in the main buildings so to continue to use NESCOT we instead had a temporary polling station unit in the main car park. The unit was able to be placed away from the main buildings and worked well for voters.

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

# Subject to the above comments being accepted I consider the proposals for the continued use of NESCOT to be appropriate and no changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

# **Ewell Village Ward**

Number of Polling Districts:	One
Number of Polling Places:	One
Electorate in Ward:	3414
Postal Voters	517

Polling District	J
Electorate in District	3414
Postal Voters	517
Polling Place	Bourne Hall, Spring Street, Ewell KT17 1UF
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	16
Proposal	No changes
Comments	Council-owned premises Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - good Parking – off-street parking available (public car park). The polling stations are normally located in the Rose Room.



## Ewell Village Ward J (cont)

# Acting Returning Officer's Representations

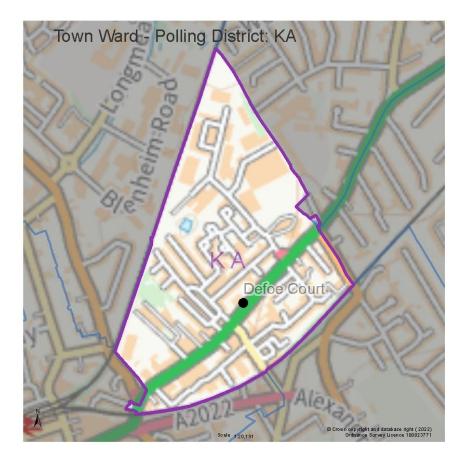
No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

# Town Ward

Number of Polling Districts	Three
Number of Polling Places	Three
Electorate in Ward	5429
Postal Voters	741

Polling District	K(A)
Electorate	1869
Postal Voters	273
Polling Place	Defoe Court, 87 East Street, Epsom KT17 1AQ
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	17
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)

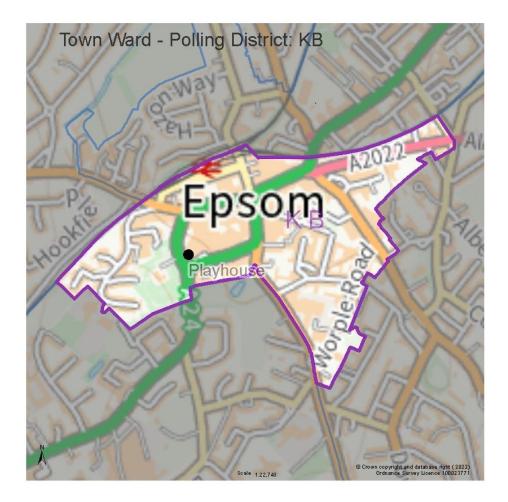
#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

# Town Ward (cont)

Polling District	K(B)
Electorate in District	2393
Postal Voters	301
Polling Place	Epsom Playhouse, Ashley Avenue, Epsom KT18 5AL
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	18
Proposal	No change
Comments	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. The Polling Station is normally located in the Myers Hall.



## Town Ward KB (cont)

#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

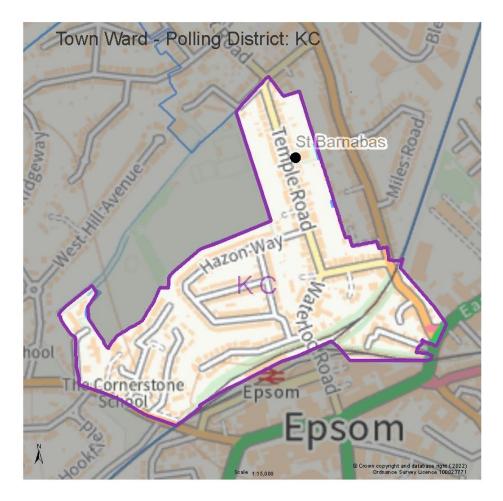
For the Parliamentary election in July 2024 this polling place hosted 2 polling stations due to the expected high turnout. It is anticipated that for local elections this will reduce back down to a single polling station again.

#### No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

# Town Ward (cont)

Polling District	K(C)
Electorate in District	1167
Postal Voters	167
Polling Place	St Barnabas Church, Temple Road,
	Epsom KT19 8TU
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	19
Proposal	No change to polling place
Comments	Premises and location good
	Disabled access - good
	Parking – off-street parking available on site.

# **Polling District 2024**



# Acting Returning Officer's Representations

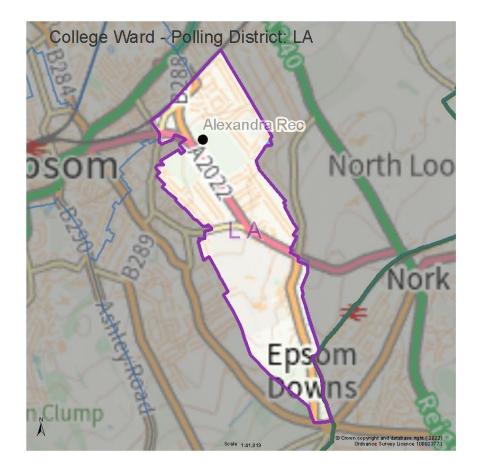
No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

# No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

# **College Ward**

Number of Polling Districts	Two
Number of Polling Places	Two
Electorate in Ward	5151
Postal Voters	1071

Polling District	L(A)
Electorate in District	2225
Postal Voters	446
Polling Place	The Pavilion, Alexandra Recreation Ground, Alexandra
	Road, Epsom KT17 4BU
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	20
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.



## College Ward LA (cont)

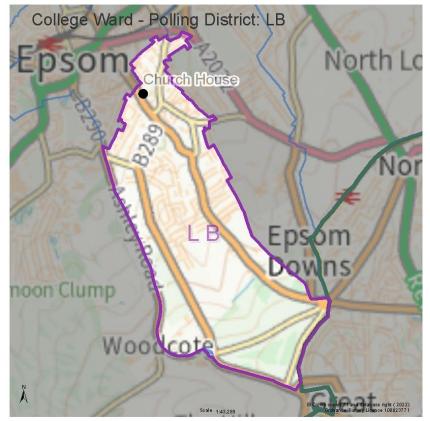
#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

# College Ward (cont)

Polling District	L(B)
Electorate in District	2926
Postal Voters	625
Polling Place	The Church House, Church Street, Epsom KT17 4PX
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	21
Proposal	No change
Comments	<ul> <li>Premises and location satisfactory</li> <li>Disabled access - good</li> <li>Parking – off-street parking available on site. No onstreet parking close to venue.</li> <li>The venue has worked very well for many years and depending on the number of postal voters should be able to accommodate a double polling station if required. As far as the Council is aware, there are no other suitable premises (halls etc) within the College Ward/Polling District boundaries.</li> <li>The polling station is normally located in The Wisley Room.</li> </ul>



## College Ward LB (cont)

#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

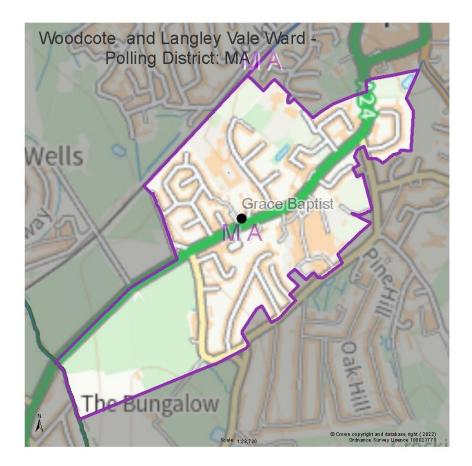
This polling station historically has a high turnout of voters and to prepare for the type of increased turnout expected at a Parliamentary election the upstairs room was used for the PCC elections in May which worked fine. For the 4 July Parliamentary election both the upstairs and downstairs rooms (Wisley Room) were booked and again this was fine although at a non-national election we would most likely revert back to a single polling station as the venue.

#### No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

# Woodcote and Langley Vale Ward

Number of Polling Districts	Three
Number of Polling Places	Three
Electorate in Ward	4545
Postal Voters	895

Polling District	M(A)
Electorate in District	1543
Postal Voters	305
Polling Place	Grace Baptist Church, 32 Dorking Road,
	Epsom KT18 7NH
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	22
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory Disabled access - adequate Parking – limited off-street parking on site



## Woodcote and Langley Vale Ward MA (cont)

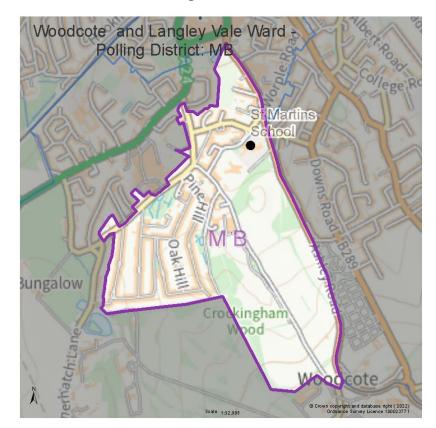
## **Acting Returning Officer's Representations**

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

# No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

# Woodcote and Langley Vale Ward (cont)

Polling District	М(В)
Electorate in District	1685
Postal Voters	375
Polling Place	St. Martins C of E Junior School, Ashley Road,
_	Epsom KT18 7AD
No. of Stations	1
Map Ref.	23
Proposal	No change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory
	Disabled access – adequate
	Vehicle access via Worple Road only
	Parking – off-street parking available on school
	premises
	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 them the option of setting an
	INSET day. The polling station is located in the
	Childrens Centre 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.



## Woodcote and Langley Vale Ward MB (cont)

#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

It is recognised that the location of the current polling place in a school is not entirely satisfactory, but enquiries have failed to identify any premises suitable for designation as a polling place elsewhere in the ward and there would be a significant cost implication in providing temporary accommodation even if a suitable location could be found.

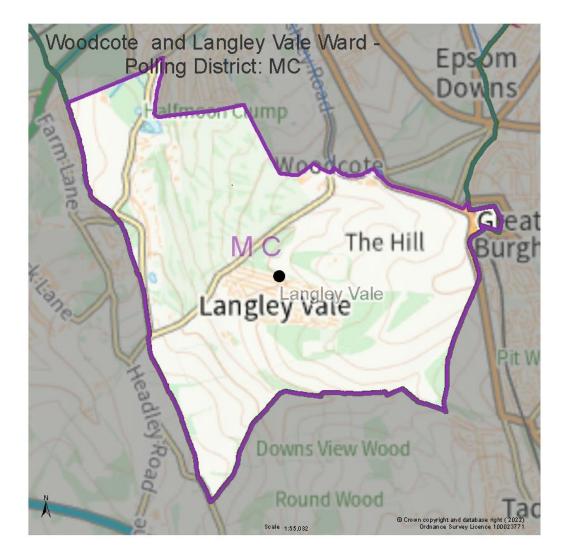
Following the elections in May 2023 the school asked that the Children Centre be used instead of the usual location (Music Block). A site visit was undertaken to investigate the suitability of this building i.e., disabled access/parking etc. and it was agreed to trial the use of the new location for the PCC elections in May 2024. This trial went well and the school, parents and voters were all satisfied with the new arrangements so moving forward this will be the polling station location.

No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time.

I consider the polling district to be appropriate and in the absence of any suitable alternatives I consider the polling place appropriate.

# Woodcote and Langley Vale Ward (cont)

venue.
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## Woodcote and Langley Vale Ward MC (cont)

#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

During previous reviews there were concerns about accessibility for disabled people due to the sloping access to the Village Hall. 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 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.

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

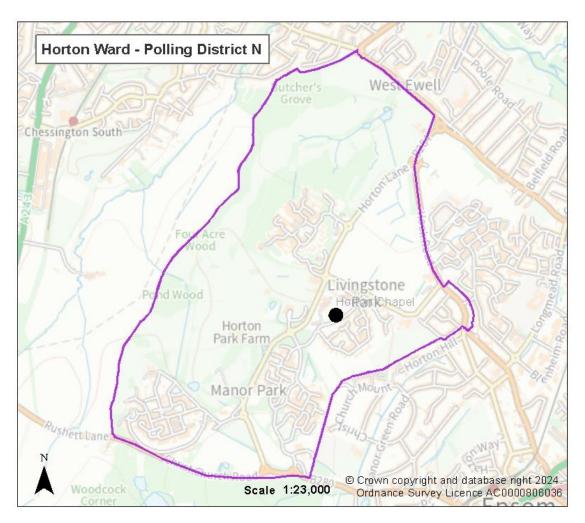
#### No changes are proposed to the polling district at this time

	Horton Ward
Districts	0

Number of Polling Districts	One
Number of Polling Places	One
Electorate in Ward	3339
Postal Voters	661

Polling District	N
Electorate in District	3339
Postal Voters	661
Polling Place	The Horton Arts Centre, Haven Way, Epsom KT19 8NP
No. of Stations	2
Map Ref.	25
Proposal	Change
Comments	Premises and location satisfactory
	Disabled access - good
	Parking – venue car park on site
	Due to the change of county division boundary merge N1 &
	N2 into a single ward/polling district

# **Polling District 2024**



Epsom and Ewell Borough Council

## Horton Ward (cont)

#### Acting Returning Officer's Representations

The use of the Horton Arts Centre in May 2023 worked well, and we hope to continue to use it as a polling place for all future elections.

No adverse feedback has been received post the May & July 2024 elections.

The reason the polling district was split into 2 was due to the ward being in 2 different County Council electoral divisions. However the County Council boundary review is now finished and the outcome of the review means that voters in the Clarendon Park part of the Ward N(2) will be moving from the West Ewell division into the Epsom West Division. It is proposed to merge the polling districts and the ward will simply be known as Horton – N. This will also assist with the allocation of streets/electorate to the 2 polling stations at the venue so that each polling station has a single register instead of 2 as is currently set up.

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