

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places of Dartford 2018 (Acting) Returning Officer Comments

As (Acting) Returning Officer, I have reviewed the proposals approved by the Electoral Provisions Subcommittee and support the recommendations which seem to offer effective arrangements which support the council priority to encourage strong and involved communities, by enabling the electorate to effectively engage in the democratic process.

I welcome the proposal to grant delegated authority for the Managing Director to approve an alternative polling place in the event that any polling place becomes unavailable or found to be unsuitable in the run up to an election and to consider whether this change should be made on a permanent basis following the election.

Where possible no more than 2500 electors should vote at any one polling station however; more than one polling station can be situated in a polling place and these proposals would facilitate this.

The polling stations used, where reasonable and practicable, will be accessible to those who have a disability. Although this can be challenging when mobile units are used, I will endeavour to make reasonable adjustments; however when available, I would prefer to use permanent premises and should these be identified and available will propose amendments to polling places where necessary and appropriate. The selection of polling stations will become more challenging if changes to the operation of polling stations currently being considered are adopted as these will require more staff in each location and may rule out the use of mobile stations in many locations.

In some of the polling districts, no single polling place has been identified and this will allow me the ability to place the polling station in the most suitable and available place for that election.

The election timetable has been demanding and will continue to be challenging over the next four years. In this time, Dartford will continue to change with new households and an increasing electorate. The polling districts will need to be kept under review and any necessary changes made to polling places as the electorate in each area changes.

Ward	Code	Proposed Polling Place	(Acting) Returning Officer Possible Polling Station identified
Bean & Village Park	BEA1	Mobile Unit or premises within the polling district	<i>The Arrow Riding School, if available, would offer a better arrangement than a mobile unit but the flexibility should remain.</i>
	BEA2	Bean Youth & Community Centre, High Street	
Bridge Ward	BRG1	Dartford Bridge Learning & Community Campus, Birdwood Ave	<i>This would offer a suitable facilities for the location of a polling station</i>
	BRG2	Management Centre, Marsh Street North	
Brent	BRT1	Dartford Primary Academy, York Road	
	BRT2	Princes Park, Grassbanks	<i>This would offer a suitable facilities for the location of a polling station</i>
	BRT3	Fleetdown Library, Swaledale Road	
Burnham	BUR1	Holy Trinity Primary School, Chatsworth Road	
Darenth	DAR1	Darenth Village Hall, Ladywood Road	
	DAR2	Darenth Village Hall, Ladywood Road	
Ebbsfleet	EBB1	Cherry Orchard Primary School/Community Centre, Cherry Orchard	<i>This would offer the option to use with the school or the community centre as a polling station.</i>
	EBB2	A Mobile unit or premises within the polling district or neighbouring area	<i>A permanent premise has not been identified and preferably would like to keep the polling station within the polling</i>

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			<i>district, which may result in a mobile unit being utilised.</i>
Greenhithe	GRE1	A premises within the polling district	<i>Knockhall Primary School would be the preferred location</i>
	GRE2	Mobile Unit or premises within the polling district	<i>The continued use of Bronze Inc, 2 North Star Boulevard, or another business within the area, would be preferred over the use of the mobile unit.</i>
	GRE3	Mobile Unit or premises within the polling district	<i>If available, the Community Centre, Ingress Park Avenue would be preferable over a mobile unit which would located close to this area.</i>
Heath	HEA1	Wentworth Primary School, Wentworth Drive	
	HEA2	Scout House, Broomhill Road	
	HEA3	Mobile Unit or premises within the polling district	<i>As with previous years the mobile unit would probably be placed on the junction of Heathclose Road/Heath Lane</i>
Joydens Wood	JOY1	Summerhouse Drive Library, 80 Summerhouse Drive	
	JOY2	Joydens Wood Community Centre, Birchwood Drive	
Longfield, New Barn & Southfleet	LNS1	Mobile Unit or premises within the polling district	<i>If premises cannot be found, a mobile unit would be placed at a suitable accessible location.</i>
	LNS2	Jubilee Hall, St Mary Magdalene Church	
	LNS3	Community Hall, Nurstead Lane	
	LNS4	Mobile Unit or premises within the polling district	<i>Possible mobile unit on The Oval</i>
	LNS5	Mobile Unit or premises within the polling district	<i>Possible mobile unit at Nuthatch</i>
	LNS6	Southfleet Village Hall, Dale Road	
	LNS7	Mobile Unit or premises within the polling district	<i>Possible Mobile Unit at the junction of Station Road and Park Corner Road or on Broomhills</i>
Maypole & Leyton Cross	MLC1	Bexley Park Sport and Sport Club, Calvert Drive	
	MLC2	Leyton Cross Social Club, 14 Tredegar Road	
Newtown	NEW1	St Albans Primary School, St Albans School	<i>Support the change to the school premises</i>
	NEW2	Methodist Church Hall, The Brent	
	NEW3	The Pavilion, Hesketh Park	<i>This would offer a suitable facilities for the location of a polling station</i>
Princes	PRI1	9th Dartford(Morning Star) Scout Hall, Heath Lane	<i>As there are multiple options for a polling place, this should be amended to premises within the polling district, but would look to use the scout hall at the first instance.</i>
	PRI2	Mobile Unit or premises within the polling district	<i>This mobile unit has previously been placed at the junction of Chestnut / Larch Road</i>
	PRI3	Phoenix Place Community Hub, Phoenix Place	<i>This would offer a suitable facilities for the location of a polling station</i>
	PRI4	Tree Community Centre, Cedar Road	

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	PRI5	Oakfield Primary Academy, Oakfield Lane	
Stone Castle	SCA1	Mobile Unit or premises within the polling district	<i>Possible Mobile Unit in the Car Park at Lads of the Village</i>
	SCA2	Stone Pavilion, Hayes Road	
	SCA3	Mobile Unit or premises within the polling district	<i>Previously a mobile unit on Steele Avenue, however a new location may need to be sought to ensure it is the best location for the polling district. This is a large polling district and a mobile unit will not be able to cope with future growth.</i>
Stone House	SHO1	The Gateway Primary School, Milestone Road	<i>Support the change to the school premises</i>
	SHO2	The Brent County Primary School, London Road	<i>Support the change to the school premises</i>
	SHO3	The Gateway Primary School, Milestone Road	<i>Support the change to the school premises</i>
	SHO4	The Brent County Primary School, London Road	
Swanscombe	SWA1	Heritage Community Hall, Craylands Lane	
	SWA2	Swanscombe & Greenhithe Town Council Offices, The Grove	
	SWA3	The Church Centre, 112 Swanscombe Street	
Temple Hill	TEM1	Mobile Unit or premises within the polling district	<i>Mobile Unit of Trevithick Drive</i>
	TEM2	Temple Hill Primary Academy, St Edmunds Road	<i>This would offer a suitable facilities for the location of a polling station</i>
	TEM3	Temple Hill Community Centre, Temple Hill	
Town	TOW1	Mobile Unit or premises within the polling district	<i>Until the developments in this area have been completed, there may not be a suitable premise to use as a polling station and a mobile unit may need to be utilised.</i>
	TOW2	Mobile Unit or premises within the polling district	<i>The Highfield Road Baptist Church has previously been used, however there are other premises available which may be better in time as the town centre is developed.</i>
	TOW3	Central Park Running Track, The Pavilion, Cranford Road	<i>This would offer a suitable facilities for the location of a polling station</i>
West Hill	WES1	West Hill County Primary School, Dartford Road	
	WES2	Our Lady's Primary School, King Edward Ave	<i>This would offer a suitable facilities for the location of a polling station</i>
	WES3	Mobile Unit or premises within the polling district	<i>Parish Rooms at Christchurch as previously used or one of the Grammar Schools may offer a better arrangement.</i>
Wilmington, Sutton-at-Hone & Hawley	WSH1	Sutton-at-Hone Library, Main Road	<i>This would offer a suitable facilities for the location of a polling station</i>
	WSH2	Hawley Mission Hall, adjacent 20 Shirehall Road	
	WSH3	Wilmington Memorial Hall, 96 High Road	

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	WSH4	St Michael's Hall, 2 High Road	
	WSH5	Oakfield Primary Academy, Oakfield Lane	