



REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS & POLLING PLACES – ACTING RETURNING OFFICER’S SUBMISSION

The London Borough of Merton has been conducting a review of polling districts and polling places in accordance with the provisions of the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013. The Acting Returning Officer (ARO) for the parliamentary constituencies of Mitcham & Morden and Wimbledon makes the following proposals regarding existing polling stations and polling stations likely to be used based on proposed polling places.

BACKGROUND

The last review of polling districts and polling places was conducted in 2014. In order to satisfy the requirements of the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013, the authority was required to complete a full statutory review of all polling districts and polling places within a 16 month period from 1 October 2013. Reviews are required to be held within the period of 16 months that starts on 1 October of every 5th year after 1 October 2013, therefore the next compulsory review must be completed by 31 January 2020.

In conducting the review, the authority must seek to ensure that all electors have reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances, and have regard to the needs of electors who are disabled.

THE ACTING RETURNING OFFICERS SUBMISSION

The following pages provide existing and/or proposed polling scheme details for every ward. All proposed changes are highlighted and accompanied by a clear explanation for the reasons for the change. For some wards there are no proposed changes.

This review covers the polling districts and places to be used for all types of elections and referendums within the London Borough of Merton; therefore local electorate figures (as the higher electorate figure) have been used rather than Parliamentary electorate figures. The local electorate figures used in this review are from the latest update to the electoral register on 2 September 2019.

ISSUES AFFECTING THE REVIEW

Use of schools as polling stations: The Acting Returning Officer notes that the use of schools as Polling Places can cause significant disruption to pupils, teachers

and parents. During this review the Acting Returning Officer is attempting to find alternative venues to schools that are used as polling stations that are required to close on polling day.

The Impact of the 2019-20 Ward Boundary Review: The Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC) are currently undertaking a review of the ward names and boundaries in Merton.

The changes to ward boundaries as a result of this review will not come into force until the next local elections in 2022.

Merton Council, led by the Returning Officer, will undertake an additional review of polling districts and places prior to the new ward boundaries coming into force. This is vital to ensure that the council has correct and accessible polling arrangements for the 2022 elections.

The Returning Officer takes the view that the new warding arrangements may necessitate extensive changes, therefore to minimise voter confusion and inconvenience changes to polling district boundaries have been deferred until the new warding patterns are settled.

Key

 Denotes a change of polling station

Lower Morden (A)

| Existing arrangements | | | |
|--|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| AA (1) | 1536 | St. Martin's Church, Camborne Road, Morden, SM4 4JL (in church hall) | permanent ramp |
| AB (2&3) | 3052 | Morden Assembly Hall, Tudor Drive, Morden, SM4 4PG (in assembly hall) | permanent ramp |
| AC (4&5) | 2493 | Emmanuel Church Hall, Dudley Drive, Morden, SM4 4QG (in church hall) | permanent ramp |
| Representations received | | | |
| 3 representations were received via the online consultation. All respondents were satisfied with the current polling arrangements. | | | |
| ARO submission | | | |
| No change, the existing arrangements are acceptable. | | | |

St Helier (B)

| Existing arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| BA (7&8) | 2282 | Morden Primary School, London Road, Morden, SM4 5PX (in school hall) | level |
| BB (8) | 2014 | Congregational Church Hall, Green Lane, Morden, SM4 6SR (in church hall) | level |

| | | | |
|------------|------|--|-------|
| BC (9) | 2262 | Abbotsbury Primary School, Abbotsbury Road, Morden, SM4 5JS (in school hall) | level |
| BD (10) | 1587 | Abbotsbury Primary School, Abbotsbury Road, Morden, SM4 5JS (in school hall) | level |

Proposed arrangements

| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------|
| BA (7&8) | 2282 | Lawrence Weaver Institute, Green Lane, Morden (in main hall) | permanent ramp |
| BB (8) | 2014 | Congregational Church Hall, Green Lane, Morden, SM4 6SR (in church hall) | level |
| BC (9) | 2262 | St Georges Church Hall, Central Road, Morden, SM4 5RJ (in church hall) | level |
| BD (10) | 1587 | St Georges Church Hall, Central Road, Morden, SM4 5RJ (in church hall) | level |

Representations received

Two representations were received via the online consultation, both concerned with the use of Abbotsbury Primary School as a polling station. One respondent was in favour of the school being used, and the other was against. The respondent against using the school suggested the Farm Road Pavilion as an alternative option. This respondent also suggested the St Lawrence Church on Epsom Road as an alternative location for Morden Primary School.

ARO submission

To avoid closing Morden Primary School, the ARO proposes using the Lawrence Weaver Institute on Green Lane, which is centrally located within polling district BA. The building has been visited by Electoral Services during the course of the review and has been assessed as meeting the requirements of a double polling station. The St Lawrence Church was also considered but was rejected due to the fact that all electors from polling district BA would have to cross the busy A24 road in order to reach the venue. To avoid closing Abbotsbury Primary School, the ARO proposes using the St Georges Church Hall on Central Road. The Church Hall is centrally located between polling districts BC and BD. The building has been visited by Electoral Services during the course of the review and has been assessed as meeting the requirements of a double polling station. The Farm Road Pavilion was also considered but was ruled out due to its general poor condition. Ward Councillors have been consulted on the proposed changes and are in favour of using the new venues.

Colliers Wood (C)

Existing arrangements

| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------|
| CA (11&12) | 2040 | Colliers Wood Community Centre, 66-72 High Street, Colliers Wood, SW19 2BY (in hall) | level |

| | | | |
|------------|------|--|----------------|
| CB (13) | 1917 | St. Joseph's Church Hall, 63 High Street, Colliers Wood, SW19 2JF (in church hall) | permanent ramp |
| CC (14) | 1676 | Christ Church Hall, Christchurch Road SW19 2NW (in church hall) | temporary ramp |
| CD (15) | 1223 | Former Safer Neighbourhoods Office, 16-18 Wilson Avenue, Mitcham, CR4 3JL (in communal area) | level |
| CE (16) | 1458 | Abbey Orchard Community Room, Singleton Close SW17 9JZ (in community room) | level |

Proposed arrangements

| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------|
| CA (11&12) | 2040 | Colliers Wood Community Centre, 66-72 High Street, Colliers Wood, SW19 2BY (in hall) | level |
| CB (13) | 1917 | St. Joseph's Church Hall, 63 High Street, Colliers Wood, SW19 2JF (in church hall) | permanent ramp |
| CC (14) | 1676 | Christ Church Hall, Christchurch Road SW19 2NW (in church hall) | temporary ramp |
| CD (15) | 1223 | Positive Network Centre, Taylor Road, Mitcham, CR4 3JR (in communal area) | level |
| CE (16) | 1458 | Abbey Orchard Community Room, Singleton Close SW17 9JZ (in community room) | level |

Representations received

None

ARO submission

The former safer neighbourhoods office in Wilson Avenue was used as a polling station for the unscheduled European Parliamentary elections in 2019 after the Positive Network Centre was unavailable. The ARO proposes that the polling station for polling district CD reverts to its original venue (the Positive Network Centre) for future elections.

Lavender Fields (D)

Existing arrangements

| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| DA (17&18) | 2603 | South Mitcham Community Centre, Haslemere Avenue, Mitcham, CR4 3PR (in hall) | level |
| DB (19&20) | 3371 | Lavender Park Pavilion, Steers Mead, Mitcham, CR4 3HL (in hall) | level |
| DC (21) | 1926 | Bond Primary School, Bond Road, Mitcham, CR4 3HG (in school hall) | temporary ramp |

Representations received

One representation was received regarding the South Mitcham Community Centre, the respondent was very satisfied with the venue.

ARO submission

No change. Unfortunately no alternative has yet been found for Bond Primary School, which is required to close on polling day. The polling place will be re-evaluated after the ward boundary review is completed in 2020.

Cricket Green (E)

| Existing arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| EA (22&23) | 2552 | South Mitcham Community Centre, Haslemere Avenue, Mitcham, CR4 3PR (in hall) | level |
| EB (24) | 2092 | Benedict Primary School, Benedict Road, Mitcham, CR4 3BE (in school hall) | permanent ramp |
| EC (25) | 1576 | Age UK Merton, 277 London Road, Mitcham, CR4 3NT (in ground floor meeting room) | permanent ramp |
| ED (26) | 1585 | 11th Mitcham Scout & Guide Headquarters, Mitcham Park, Mitcham, CR4 4EN (in scout hall) | temporary ramp |
| EE (27) | 648 | Mitcham Garden Village, Mitcham, CR4 4HE (in marquee) | level |

| Proposed arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| EA (22&23) | 2552 | South Mitcham Community Centre, Haslemere Avenue, Mitcham, CR4 3PR (in hall) | level |
| EB (24) | 2092 | Mitcham Parish Church, Church Road, Mitcham, CR4 3BE | level |
| EC (25) | 1576 | Age UK Merton, 277 London Road, Mitcham, CR4 3NT (in ground floor meeting room) | permanent ramp |
| ED (26) | 1585 | 11th Mitcham Scout & Guide Headquarters, Mitcham Park, Mitcham, CR4 4EN (in scout hall) | temporary ramp |
| EE (27) | 648 | Mitcham Garden Village, Mitcham, CR4 4HE (in marquee) | level |

Representations received

One representation was received regarding the South Mitcham Community Centre, the respondent was very satisfied with the venue. Another representation was received regarding the Benedict Primary School, which suggested using the Mitcham Parish Centre, on Church Path, as an alternative venue.

ARO submission

To avoid closing Benedict Primary School, the ARO proposes using the Mitcham Parish Church on Church Road, which is located nearby to the school within polling district EB. The Mitcham Parish Centre was originally considered as the

alternative venue, however the PCC were reluctant to cancel original bookings and suggested that the Church be used instead. The Church has been visited by Electoral Services during the course of the review and has been assessed as meeting the requirements of a polling station. Ward Councillors have been consulted on the proposed change of polling station and are in favour of using the new venue.

Ravensbury (F)

| Existing arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| FA (28) | 763 | Ravensbury Club Room, Ravensbury Grove, Mitcham, CR4 4DL (in the club room) | permanent ramp |
| FB (29) | 1526 | Communal Tenants' Rooms, 90 Rawnsley Avenue, Mitcham, CR4 4BX (in the tenants' rooms) | level |
| FC (30) | 1515 | Portacabin, Gifford House, 67C St. Helier Avenue, Morden, SM4 6HY (in former office) | permanent ramp |
| FD (31) | 1939 | Malmesbury Primary School, Malmesbury Road, Morden, SM4 6HG (in school hall) | permanent ramp |
| FE (32) | 803 | Merton & Morden Guild, 34A Aberconway Road, Morden, SM4 5LF (in the hall) | level |
| FF (33) | 1103 | St Theresa's Church Hall, 250 Bishopsford Road, Morden, SM4 6BZ | level |

Representations Received

One representation was received regarding the Portacabin at Gifford House, which highlighted the fact that the land has been earmarked for residential development. Four representations were received regarding the Malmesbury Primary School, with two suggesting the old British Legion Hall as an alternative location.

ARO submission

No change. The Portacabin at Gifford House will continue to be used as a polling station. Gifford House has been added as a housing allocation site on the new local plan, but if residential development does progress, works are not expected to commence for at least 3 years. Therefore this polling place will be re-evaluated during the next polling district review in 2020-2021, after the LGBCE's electoral review of Merton has been completed. The British Legion Hall on Newminster Road was considered as an alternative to Malmesbury Primary School, but was judged as unsuitable for use as a polling station after a site visit by Electoral Services. The hall contains several permanent structures which cannot be removed for a temporary hire. The Newminster Children's Centre next door to the school was also considered but the majority of the internal space is leased to health visitors and midwifery tenants, so this venue is also unsuitable for a polling station of the size required by polling district FD. Therefore the Malmesbury Primary School will continue to be used but the school will consider the option of staying open on polling day. The polling place will be re-evaluated after the ward boundary review is completed in 2020.

Graveney (G)

| Existing arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| GA (34&35) | 2398 | Links Primary School, Frinton Road ,SW17 9EH (in school hall) | permanent ramp |
| GB (36&37) | 2880 | St. Barnabas Church, Thirsk Road, Mitcham, CR4 2BD (in the rear of the church) | level |
| GC (38&39) | 1995 | Beecholme Primary School, Edgehill Road, Mitcham, CR4 2HZ (in school hall) | level |

| Proposed arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| GA (34&35) | 2398 | Church of the Assumption, 282 Links Road, Tooting, SW17 9ER | level |
| GB (36&37) | 2880 | St. Barnabas Church, Thirsk Road, Mitcham, CR4 2BD (in the rear of the church) | level |
| GC (38&39) | 1995 | Beecholme Primary School, Edgehill Road, Mitcham, CR4 2HZ (in school hall) | level |

Representations received

One representation was received regarding Links Primary School. The respondent was unhappy that the school was used as a polling station. One representation was received regarding St Barnabas Church. The respondent was satisfied with the polling station. One representation was received regarding Gorrington Park Primary School. The respondent was happy with the polling station, particularly the location.

ARO submission

To avoid closing Links Primary School, the ARO proposes using the Church of the Assumption, which is also located on Links Road within polling district GA. The building has been visited by Electoral Services during the course of the review and has been assessed as meeting the requirements of a polling station. Ward Councillors have been consulted on the proposed change of polling station and are in favour of using the new venue. Unfortunately no alternative has yet been found for Beecholme Primary School, which is required to close on polling day. The polling place will be re-evaluated after the ward boundary review is completed in 2020.

Figge's Marsh (H)

| Existing arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| HA (40) | 635 | Age UK Merton, 277 London Road, Mitcham, CR4 3NT (in ground floor meeting room) | permanent ramp |
| HB (41&42) | 2365 | Gorrington Park Primary School, Sandy Lane, Mitcham, CR4 2YA (in part of the school hall) | permanent ramp |
| HC (43&44) | 3247 | St. Mark's Church Hall, St Mark's Road, Mitcham, CR4 2LF (in the church hall) | permanent ramp |
| HD (45) | 2107 | Acacia Centre, 230 Grove Road, Mitcham, CR4 1SD (in the hall) | level |

Representations received

One representation was received regarding St Mark's Church Hall. The respondent was satisfied with the venue.

ARO submission

No change, the existing arrangements are acceptable. Gorrington Park Primary School is not required to close on polling day.

Longthornton (I)

Existing arrangements

| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------|
| IA (46) | 1604 | Streatham Vale Baptist Hall, Leonard Road, SW16 5SY (in the church hall) | permanent ramp |
| IB (47) | 1096 | Elmwood Tennis Club, Rear of 337 Tamworth Lane, Mitcham, CR4 1DL (in the main space) | temporary ramp |
| IC (48) | 1610 | Stanford Primary School, Chilmark Road, SW16 5HB (in the school hall) | level |
| ID (49&50) | 2590 | St. Olave's Church, Church Walk, SW16 5JH (in the church hall) | permanent ramp |
| IE (51) | 1028 | Acacia Centre, 230 Grove Road, Mitcham, CR4 1SD (in the hall) | level |

Representations Received

None

ARO submission

No change, the existing arrangements are acceptable. Stanford Primary School is not required to close on polling day.

Pollards Hill (J)

Existing arrangements

| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| JA (52&53) | 2878 | New Horizon Centre, South Lodge Avenue, Mitcham, CR4 1LT (in the hall) | level |
| JB (54) | 856 | Elmwood Tennis Club, Rear of 337 Tamworth Lane, Mitcham, CR4 1DL (in main space) | temporary ramp |
| JC (55&56) | 2781 | Sherwood Primary School, Abbots Road, Mitcham, CR4 1JP (in the school hall) | permanent ramp |
| JD (57) | 1548 | Moat Housing Office, 50 Montgomery Close, Mitcham, CR4 1XT (room on ground floor of office) | permanent ramp |

Representations received

One representation was received regarding the New Horizon Centre. The respondent was satisfied with the polling station. One representation was received regarding the Moat Housing Office. The respondent was satisfied with the polling station.

ARO submission

No change, the existing arrangements are acceptable. Sherwood Primary School is not required to close on polling day.

Village (K)

| Existing arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--|-------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| KA (58) | 1687 | St. Mary's Garden Hall, 30 St Mary's Road, SW19 7BP (in the garden hall) | level |
| KB (59) | 1494 | Christ Church Hall, 2 Cottenham Park Road, SW20 0RZ (in the church hall) | temporary ramp |
| KC (60 & 61) | 2194 | Lecture Hall, Lingfield Road, SW19 4QD (in the lecture hall) | separate level entrance |
| KD (62) | 929 | St. Matthew's (CoE) Primary School, Cottenham Park Road, SW20 0SX (in the school hall) | level |

| Proposed arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---|-------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| KA (58) | 1687 | St. Mary's Garden Hall, 30 St Mary's Road, SW19 7BP (in the garden hall) | level |
| KB (59) | 1494 | Christ Church Hall, 2 Cottenham Park Road, SW20 0RZ (in the church hall) | temporary ramp |
| KC (60 & 61) | 2194 | Lecture Hall, Lingfield Road, SW19 4QD (in the lecture hall) | separate level entrance |
| KD (62) | 929 | 19th Wimbledon Scout Group, 106 Cottenham Park Road, Wimbledon, SW20 0SX (in main hall) | level |

Representations Received

One representation was received regarding St Matthew's Primary School. The respondent was satisfied with the venue.

ARO submission

To avoid closing St Matthew's Primary School, the ARO proposes using the 19th Wimbledon Scout Group, which is also located on Cottenham Park Road within polling district KD. Electors from polling district KD will be able to access the building through a well-lit pathway that runs from the school to the Scout Group. The building has been visited by Electoral Services during the course of the review and has been assessed as meeting the requirements of a polling station. Ward Councillors have been consulted on the proposed change of polling station and are in favour of using the new venue.

Raynes Park (L)

| Existing arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|--|----------------|
| LA (63) | 864 | Christ Church Hall, 2 Cottenham Park Road, SW20 0RZ (in the church hall) | temporary ramp |
| LB (64 & 65) | 2995 | Raynes Park Methodist Church Hall, Worple Road, SW20 8RA (in the church hall) | temporary ramp |
| LC (66) | 1781 | Cottenham Park Recreation Ground Pavilion, Melbury Gardens, SW20 0DH (in the meeting room) | temporary ramp |
| LD (67) | 1692 | Raynes Park Sports Ground, Taunton Avenue, SW20 0BH (in the main hall) | permanent ramp |

Representations received

One representation was received regarding Cottenham Park Recreation Ground Pavilion, the respondent was satisfied with the venue. Two representations were received regarding the Raynes Park Sports Ground. Both were satisfied with the polling station but one respondent stated that better directional signage was needed from Taunton Avenue.

ARO submission

No change, the existing arrangements are acceptable. Comments regarding signage at Raynes Park Sports Ground will be taken into account at future elections.

Hillside (M)

Existing arrangements

| polling district | electors | polling place (polling station) | disabled access |
|------------------|----------|--|-----------------|
| MA (68 & 69) | 2770 | Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Edge Hill, SW19 4LP (in the parish hall) | temporary ramp |
| MB (70 & 71) | 2028 | St. Mark's Hall, Compton Road, SW19 7QD (in the church hall) | level access |
| MC (72) | 1710 | Drake House, 44 St. George's Road, SW19 4ED (in the main hall) | permanent ramp |

Representations received

One representation was received regarding Sacred Heart Parish Hall. The respondent was satisfied with the venue.

ARO submission

No change, the existing arrangements are acceptable.

Wimbledon Park (N)

Existing arrangements

| polling district | electors | polling place (polling station) | disabled access |
|------------------|----------|--|-----------------|
| NA (73) | 1938 | Wimbledon Park Primary School, Havana Road, SW19 8EJ (in the school nursery) | level access |
| NB (74 & 75) | 3114 | Christ The King Church Hall, The Crescent, SW19 8AW (in the church hall) | temporary ramp |
| NC (76 & 77) | 2406 | Bethel United Church Hall, Kohat Road, SW19 8LD (in the church hall) | permanent ramp |

| | | | |
|---|-----|---|--------------|
| ND (78) | 840 | Marchard Hall, Rear of Coronation Hall, Ashcombe Road, SW19 8JR (in the hall) | level access |
| Representations received | | | |
| One representation was received regarding Bethel United Church Hall. The respondent was satisfied with the venue. | | | |
| ARO submission | | | |
| No change, the existing arrangements are acceptable. Wimbledon Park Primary School is not required to close on polling day. | | | |

Trinity (O)

| Existing arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| OA (79) | 1044 | Holy Trinity Church Hall, The Broadway, SW19 1RY (in the church hall) | level |
| OB (80) | 1333 | Everyday Church, 28-30 Queen's Road, SW19 8LR (in the church hall) | level |
| OC (81 & 82) | 2179 | Holy Trinity (CoE) Primary School, Effra Road, SW19 8PW 9in the school hall) | level |
| OD (83 & 84) | 2785 | Garfield Primary School, Garfield Road, SW19 8SB (in the school hall) | level |

| Proposed arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| OA (79) | 1044 | Holy Trinity Church Hall, The Broadway, SW19 1RY (in the church hall) | level |
| OB (80) | 1333 | Everyday Church, 28-30 Queen's Road, SW19 8LR (in the church hall) | level |
| OC (81 & 82) | 2179 | Shree Ghanapathy Temple, 125-133 Effra Rd, Wimbledon, SW19 8PU (in entrance hall) | level |
| OD (83 & 84) | 2785 | Garfield Primary School, Garfield Road, SW19 8SB (in the school hall) | level |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Representations received | | | |
| Two representations were received for Holy Trinity Primary School. Both respondents were satisfied with the venue, however one respondent did suggest the Polka Theatre as an alternative venue. To avoid using Garfield Primary School as a polling station, one ward Councillor suggested using the All Saints Centre on All Saints Road, the Garden Shed Pub, or putting a portacabin on the site of the old Virgin Active gym. | | | |
| ARO submission | | | |
| To avoid closing Holy Trinity Primary School, the ARO proposes using the Shree Ghanapathy Temple, which is also located on Effra Road within polling district OC. The building has been visited by Electoral Services during the course of the review and has been assessed as meeting the requirements of a polling station. The Temple will remain open on polling day so a partition will need to be erected to separate the polling station from the rest of the building. Various alternatives have been proposed for Garfield Primary School (which is required to close on polling day). The All Saints Centre is located slightly outside of the ward, and would be a | | | |

long way to walk for electors in North Road, Kipling Drive etc, in the east of the polling district and in Caxton Road in the north of the polling district. The Garden Shed pub does not have an area that can be separated off from the rest of the building, and has some of the same issues regarding location, being near the south of the polling district. At the time of writing, installing a portacabin on the site of the old Virgin Active gym may be the most viable alternative to the school. However, the projected cost may be prohibitive. Hiring and delivery costs for a portacabin and chemical toilets is around £5500. There would also be additional cost for a generator, plus an electrician to fit, remove and maintain it. A temporary ramp would also need to be purchased and fitted. To prevent squatters occupying the site, the entrance is currently sealed off with a gate and stone bund, which would need to be removed prior to polling day and then replaced afterwards. Therefore security would probably be required to watch over the cabin and generator for around 24 hours before polling begins. Having not implemented a solution such as this before, there are risks around using a portacabin for a snap general election, particularly with regards to timescales. Therefore the ARO recommends that Garfield Primary school remains as the default polling place for the purposes of this review. The polling place will be re-evaluated after the ward boundary review is completed in 2020.

Dundonald (P)

| Existing arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| PA (85 & 86) | 2106 | Dundonald Recreation Ground Pavilion, Dundonald Road, SW19 3QH (in the main hall) | level |
| PB (87) | 1819 | St. Andrew's Hall, Herbert Road, SW19 3SH (in the hall) | level |
| PC (88 & 89) | 2994 | Dundonald Church, 577 Kingston Road, SW20 8SA (in the church hall) | level |

| Proposed arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| PA (85 & 86) | 2106 | Dundonald Recreation Ground Pavilion, Dundonald Road, SW19 3QH (in the main hall) | level |
| PB (87) | 1819 | St. Andrew's Hall, Herbert Road, SW19 3SH (in the hall) | level |
| PC (88 & 89) | 2994 | Raynes Park Library, 21 Approach Road, SW20 8BA (inside separate hall) | level |

Representations received

One representation was received regarding Dundonald Church, the response highlighted the fact that the Church is about to be redeveloped and will not be available for future elections. One representation was received from the Merton Liberal Democrat Group regarding Dundonald Recreation Ground Pavilion, who would appreciate a review of signage at the site.

ARO submission

As stated above, the Dundonald Church, which is currently the polling station for polling district PC, is being redeveloped from September 2019 and will be unavailable for 2 years. The ARO therefore proposes using the Raynes Park Library, which is also located within polling district PC. The library is fully accessible, and has a hall that can be used as a polling station. The library itself would be able to stay open on the day as the hall can be separated from the rest of the building. As a council owned building, the ARO is also entitled to hire the premises for no charge. Ward Councillors have been consulted on the proposed change of polling station and are in favour of using the new venue. Comments regarding signage at Dundonald Recreation Ground Pavilion will be taken into account at future elections.

Abbey (Q)

| Existing arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| QA (90 & 91) | 2223 | Salvation Army Hall, 109 Kingston Road, London, SW19 1LT (in the main hall) | level |
| QB (92 & 93) | 2239 | All Saints Church Hall, Norman Road, London, SW19 1BT (in the church hall) | level |
| QC (94) | 1436 | St John's Ambulance Hall, 122-124 Kingston Road, London, SW19 1LY (in the main hall) | level |
| QD (95) | 1937 | Merton Abbey Primary School, 63 High Path, SW19 2JY (in communal area) | level |

| Proposed arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| QA (90 & 91) | 2223 | Salvation Army Hall, 109 Kingston Road, SW19 1LT (in the main hall) | level |
| QB (92 & 93) | 2239 | All Saints Church Hall, Norman Road SW19 1BT (in the church hall) | level |
| QC (94) | 1436 | St John's Ambulance Hall, 122-124 Kingston Road, SW19 1LY (in the main hall) | level |
| QD (95) | 1937 | St John the Divine Church Hall, High Path, SW19 2JY (in main hall) | Temporary ramp |

Representations received

One representation was received regarding All Saints Church Hall. The respondent was satisfied with the polling station.

ARO submission

After the closure of the High Path Community Resource Centre, the Merton Abbey Primary School was used as a polling station for the unscheduled European Parliamentary elections in May 2019. To avoid using the school for future elections, the ARO proposes using the St John the Divine Church Hall, which is located opposite the school on High Path within polling district QD. The building has been visited by Electoral Services during the course of the review and has been assessed as meeting the requirements of a polling station. A temporary ramp

will need to be installed for polling day. Ward Councillors have been consulted on the proposed change of polling station and are in favour of using the new venue.

Merton Park (R)

| Existing arrangements | | | |
|--|-----------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| RA (96) | 722 | Cricket Pavilion, John Innes Recreation Ground, Hill Lane, London, SW20 9ES (in the main room of the pavilion) | level except slight lip at entrance |
| RB (97 & 98) | 3275 | St. Mary's Church Hall, Church Path, London, SW19 3HJ (in the church hall) | permanent ramp |
| RC (99 & 100) | 3194 | Morden Baptist Church Hall, 36 Crown Lane, Morden, SM4 5BL (in the church hall) | level |
| Representations received | | | |
| <p>One representation was received from the Merton Park Ward Independent Group, who are satisfied with the access arrangements at each of the polling stations that are currently used for the RA, RB and RC polling districts. One representation was received regarding the Cricket Pavilion at John Innes Recreation Ground. The respondent was satisfied with the venue. Three representations were received for St Mary's Church Hall, all respondents were satisfied with the venue. Three representations were also received for Morden Baptist Church Hall, all respondents were satisfied with the polling station.</p> | | | |
| ARO submission | | | |
| No change, the existing arrangements are acceptable | | | |

Cannon Hill (S)

| Existing arrangements | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| SA (101) | 1388 | Merton Park Baptist Church, Bushey Road, London, SW20 8TE (in main hall) | level |
| SB (102) | 1710 | Endeavour Club, 190 Martin Way, Morden, SM4 4AJ (in the hall) | level |
| SC (103 & 104) | 2015 | Eastway Day Centre, 44 Eastway, Morden, SM4 4HW (in the hall) | level |
| SD (105 & 106) | 2085 | Hillcross Primary School, Ashridge Way, Morden, SM4 4EE (in the school hall) | permanent ramp |
| Proposed arrangements | | | |
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| SA (101) | 1388 | Merton Park Baptist Church, Bushey Road, London, SW20 8TE (in main hall) | level |
| SB (102) | 1710 | Endeavour Club, 190 Martin Way, Morden, SM4 4AJ (in the hall) | level |
| SC (103 & 104) | 2015 | Eastway Day Centre, 44 Eastway, Morden, SM4 4HW (in the hall) | level |

| | | | |
|--|------|---|----------------|
| SD (105 & 106) | 2085 | Central Ward Residents Club, Between 55-57 Ashridge Way, Morden, SM4 4ED (in the function room) | permanent ramp |
| Representations received | | | |
| <p>Three representations were received regarding the Endeavour Club. All three respondents were satisfied with the venue, however one respondent did mention that the entrance is quite narrow for wheelchair users. Three representations were received for Eastway Day Centre. All respondents were again satisfied with the polling station. Twenty responses were received regarding Hillcross Primary School. Four respondents were satisfied with the school being used as a polling station, and sixteen were dissatisfied with the school being used. Eight of those who were dissatisfied with the school suggested the Central Ward Residents Club as an alternative venue.</p> | | | |
| ARO submission | | | |
| <p>To avoid closing Hillcross Primary School, the ARO proposes using the Central Ward Residents Club, which is located nearby to the school on Ashridge Way within polling district SD. The building has been visited by Electoral Services during the course of the review and has been assessed as meeting the requirements of a polling station. Temporary lighting will need to be installed on polling day along with a disabled ramp. Access for voters will be through the front of the club, who have agreed to close the front bar for the duration of the hire. Ward Councillors have been consulted on the proposed change of polling station and are in favour of using the new venue.</p> | | | |

West Barnes (T)

| Existing arrangements | | | |
|---|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| <i>polling district</i> | <i>electors</i> | <i>polling place (polling station)</i> | <i>disabled access</i> |
| TA (107 & 108) | 2365 | Sacred Heart (RC) Primary School, Burlington Road, New Malden, KT3 4ND (in the school hall) | permanent ramp |
| TB (109 & 110) | 3097 | St. Saviour's Hall, Church Walk, London, SW20 9DL (in the church hall) | level |
| TC (111 & 112) | 2108 | Holy Cross Church Hall, Adela Avenue, New Malden, KT3 6HT (in the church hall) | permanent ramp |
| Representations received | | | |
| <p>Three representations were received regarding the Holy Cross Church Hall, all respondents were satisfied with the venue. One ward Councillor suggested the Earl Beatty pub on West Barnes Lane or the Scout Hall on Arthur Road as alternatives for Sacred Heart Primary School.</p> | | | |
| ARO Submission | | | |
| <p>No change. Unfortunately no alternative has yet been found for Sacred Heart Primary School, which is required to close on polling day. The Earl Beatty pub and the Scout Hall were considered as alternatives to the school, but were ruled out because of their location, both being in polling district TC. Both venues are also on the other side of the railway line which separates polling district TA from polling district TC. Residents from polling district TA would be required to cross the railway line in order to visit either of these buildings. The polling place will be re-evaluated after the ward boundary review is completed in 2020.</p> | | | |

Ged Curran
Acting Returning Officer

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SM4 5DX

1 October 2019