

WANDSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE - 10TH OCTOBER 2007

Report by the Chief Executive and Director of Administration on a review of polling district boundaries and polling places

SUMMARY

Under Section 16 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006, the Council is required to undertake a review of the polling districts which comprise the three Parliamentary Constituencies in the Borough and their polling places. A polling scheme must be approved by the Council before the end of 2007.

This report sets out the background, covering previous review practice in Wandsworth and initial proposals for the required new review and incorporates the comments of the Returning Officer. It seeks the Committee's approval to these proposals for the purposes of consultation. A report on the outcome of the consultation and final proposals for formal approval will be submitted to the Committee in November 2007 and adoption by the Council in December 2007.

The initial proposals include the division of polling district SMD in St Mary's Park Ward into two, resulting in the creation of a new SME polling district to vote at Battersea Youth Centre, Hope Street. This proposal originates from the rapidly growing population on the new Battersea Reach development.

It is also proposed - for various reasons set out in the report - to change a number of polling places from premises used previously:-

Fairfield Ward - polling districts FFB and FFE to vote at the Civic Suite, Wandsworth High Street;

Queenstown Ward - polling district QTD to vote at All Saint's Church, Prince of Wales Drive;

St Mary's Park Ward - polling district SMC to vote at Ethelburga Community Centre, Worfield Street; and polling district SMD to vote at Battersea Central Mission Hall, 20/22 York Road; and

Roehampton Ward - polling district RHA to vote at Stag House, Stroud Crescent.

Recommendations

1. The Committee are recommended to approve (a) the initial

proposals set out in this report, and detailed in the Appendix, for polling districts which comprise the three Parliamentary Constituencies in the Borough and their polling places; and (b) the undertaking of consultation on these initial proposals.

Introduction

2. Under Section 18 of the Representation of the People Act 1983, a local authority is required to divide its area into polling districts for each of its parliamentary constituencies and to keep them under review. In doing so, the local authority must seek to ensure that all electors in a constituency have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances.
3. Also, a polling place is to be designated for each polling district and they must be kept under review. In the main, the local authority must seek to ensure that all electors have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances; that so far as is reasonable and practicable each polling place (either potential or when reviewed) is accessible to electors who are disabled; and that the polling place is in the polling district - unless special circumstances make it desirable to designate an area wholly or partly outside the polling district.
4. Currently, Wandsworth comprises 3 parliamentary constituencies, with a total of 20 wards each electing 3 Councillors and, in December 2000, the Council approved the London Borough of Wandsworth Polling District Order dividing the constituencies into polling districts and designating polling places.
5. In February 2003 the Council approved amendments to polling districts FFB in Fairfield Ward and WCC in Wandsworth Common Ward in order to provide suitable boundary alignments for Parliamentary elections which will come into effect now for the next General Election. This involved the creation of:-

A new FFE polling district in Fairfield Ward - in the Putney Constituency for Parliamentary Elections, and in the Battersea Constituency for other elections.

A new WCF polling district in the Wandsworth Common Ward - in the Battersea Constituency for Parliamentary Elections, and in Tooting Constituency for other elections.
6. Since then, it has been necessary at some elections to designate, sometimes temporarily, a few other polling places as the previously designated premises have become unavailable (e.g. in the short term because of refurbishment works or permanently as buildings have been demolished or put to other use by the owners).

Electoral Administration Act 2006

7. Under Section 16 of this Act, a local authority must complete a review of all the polling districts and polling places in its area before the end of 2007 and thereafter these arrangements are to be reviewed at least every four years.

Review of polling district boundaries and polling places

Guidance (Circular EC28/2007) dated 26th June 2007 has been issued by the Electoral Commission and is available at www.electoralcommission.org.uk on the recommended best practice for conducting such a review, and this has been adopted, as far as practicable, for the conduct of Wandsworth Council's review.

Published Notice and Proposed Consultation

8. Consequently, the Chief Executive and Director of Administration has published a notice stating that the Council is carrying out this review and he has invited any initial informal comments and proposals. Representatives of the local political parties and disabled people have been informed of the commencement of this review and invited to submit comments for consideration. Comments have already been received and these and any others will be considered, together with any other views received during the formal consultation period which will run from 11th October for 30 days until 9th November 2007. During this period all local political and interested parties and disability groups will be contacted. A final report setting out comments received and final proposals will be reported to this Committee in November 2007.

Initial proposals

9. The notice stated that the Council's initial proposals, together with the Returning Officer's comments, will show the location of any proposed new polling places within the existing or proposed polling districts. These initial proposals are set out in the Appendix to this report. Maps showing the boundaries of the polling districts and the location of the polling places are attached and copies will be displayed in the Committee Room on the evening of the meeting.
10. It is proposed to create only one new polling district, that being in St Mary's Park Ward by the division of polling district SMD into two, as follows:-

SMD (residue) with 1,161 electors

New SME with 751 electors.

The reasons for this proposal are set out in the Appendix, but broadly are that the proposed SME polling district is an area with a rapidly expanding population from the Battersea Reach development which is a significant distance from the SMD polling place and can conveniently and cost effectively be provided with a much nearer polling place at Battersea Youth Centre.

11. If these initial proposals are approved by this Committee, they will be published on 11th October 2007 for a formal period of consultation of 30 days.

General Principles for selecting polling places

12. It has been the long standing practice in Wandsworth to keep polling districts and polling places under regular review. A key activity has been to seek to identify premises - whether owned by the Council, privately or a community/voluntary/church organisation - which are suitable for use as polling places and which are convenient within the polling district concerned and located close to where most of the electors in the polling district live. In doing so, detailed consideration has been given to issues such as any natural or geographical boundaries which apply to an area, any difficult hilly conditions likely to be encountered, the ease of access and condition and safety of footpaths and approaches, the availability of good transport links, parking facilities and, most importantly, the suitability of facilities for use by disabled and physically impaired people. In addition, in the 1980s the Inner London Education Authority requested Returning Officers to minimise their use of school premises for polling purposes in order to lessen disruption of teaching. This led to school use being restricted to a handful of cases where absolutely no alternative premises could be found, and this has now been the standard approach for many years.

Measures to improve access for disabled and other voters

13. As mentioned above, an important criterion for acceptability of polling places is safe and satisfactory access to the premises from the neighbouring highway. It is frequently not possible to find premises with completely adequate access and internal layouts: a considerable number of potential premises have one or two entrance steps and in some cases more. Where no better premises can be found with completely level access, it has been the longstanding practice of the Returning Officer to install custom-built ramps wherever practicable to permit access for wheelchair users and to render easier access by the elderly or infirm. In most cases these are simple but serviceable ramps with handrails attached where appropriate. These ramps are transported from storage just before elections and returned to store immediately afterwards.
14. At each election during the last 10 years, surveys of the conditions pertaining at all polling stations and access to them have been undertaken and a valuable record base has now been created. These records have proved to be useful tool in undertaking this latest review. These surveys have principally been used for improving access, but also to identify other issues - the general adequacy of space and the best layout of polling stations, special health and safety checks to be conducted at the premises by the Presiding Officer in addition to the standard ones, any special signage required, any requirements for auxiliary heating or improved lighting at the polling place, special furniture or floorcovering requirements to improve facilities, special parking or traffic control coning off requirements and other particularities.

Information and feedback from users and disability groups, etc.

15. Inspections of polling places have taken place at elections in recent years by organisations such as SCOPE. Also, suggestions have been received from bodies such as the RNIB, and from individual disabled or visually impaired voters. Such feedback has been extremely useful, and in some cases has led to use of better alternative premises or improved access ramps. Points have also been made which have been emphasised in training to Presiding Officers and other election staff, who are encouraged to report any relevant voters' comments and also to suggest improvements.

Investigations and conduct of this review

16. The principal criteria set out above have been applied in this preliminary review of polling districts and polling places and have been used as the basis for the initial proposals set out for polling places in the Appendix. Despite extensive investigations, it has not always been possible to identify suitable and available premises within each polling district and, as an alternative in such situations, other suitable premises nearby but outside the polling district have been proposed. In some cases, there is no alternative but to continue using school premises but as before this has been avoided wherever possible as it is clear from parents' reactions that they do not favour interruptions to their children's learning. In cases when premises do not meet fully the criteria, they can - with the provision of supplementary facilities by the Council at times of elections - reasonably fulfil the key requirements for polling purposes.

Temporary enhanced parking controls

17. It is also now standard practice at times of elections for the Director of Technical Services to take steps, where necessary or appropriate, to suspend or modify parking controls at or in the vicinity of polling places to enable voters, especially the disabled or physically impaired, to park close to polling stations. The Director of Housing takes similar measures where polling places are located on the Council's housing estates.
18. In addition, Presiding Officers at each polling place are required to carry out, and record, inspections of the premises early on polling day and at regular intervals during the day to identify any shortcomings in the physical condition or safety of the premises. Any issues which they cannot rectify immediately are referred to the Returning Officer so that urgent remedial action can be considered. Presiding Officers are also instructed to provide immediate assistance to voters to overcome any access, etc problems they may encounter.

Final polling scheme

19. All comments received by way of this consultation process will be considered, together with the Returning Officer's observations and comments, and the Committee will be recommended at their meeting on 28th November 2007 to

approve a final polling scheme which will be submitted to the Council Meeting on 12th December 2007 for formal adoption.

Representations to the Electoral Commission

20. Following the conclusion of the review, representations can be made, within a period of six weeks of the publication date of the finalised review, to the Electoral Commission. The Commission will only consider representations that the review process has not been conducted correctly.

Conclusion

21. These initial proposals incorporate my preliminary views, as the Returning Officer, for polling districts and polling places for application from 1st January 2008 and for the foreseeable future. Further reviews must be conducted every four years, although amendments can be made to schemes in the meantime. Consequently, should any modification be advisable or prove necessary in the next few years there would be scope for interim reviews to be undertaken of any alternative proposals which then merited consideration. Given the criteria which are applied - so far as is reasonably practicable - when making such proposals, and the increasing difficulties which are encountered nowadays in allocating polling stations to premises situated within the polling district concerned and which are suitable and accessible for polling purposes, these initial proposals are considered to constitute a Borough-wide polling scheme which is reasonable in all the circumstances and will be effective. Consequently, the Committee are asked to approve these details as the Council's initial polling scheme proposals for the purpose of the consultation set out in paragraph 8 above.

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Wandsworth High Street
Wandsworth, SW18 2PU

GERALD JONES
Chief Executive and
Director of Administration and
Returning Officer

2nd October 2007

BACKGROUND PAPER

The following background paper was used in the preparation of this report:-

Circular EC28/2007 – Reviews of polling districts, polling places and polling stations, dated 26th June 2007. (Available at www.electoralcommission.org.uk).

All reports to Overview and Scrutiny Committees, regulatory and other committees, the Executive and the full Council can be viewed on the Council's website (www.wandsworth.gov.uk/moderngov) unless the report was published before May 2001, in which case the Committee Secretary (Graham Collins on 020 8871 6021) can supply it if required.

APPENDIX

Battersea Parliamentary Constituency

(electorate figures are as at 3rd September 2007)

Balham Ward

Polling District BHA (electorate 3,299)

Polling Place - Broomwood Methodist Church Hall, entrance in Kyrle Road

Comments: These premises are located on the northern edge of the polling district and are the only available accommodation in the polling district which are suitable for use as polling stations. The accommodation is spacious, with good facilities, and both the approach and entrance to the polling place are flat. A Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) operates in Kyrle Road and neighbouring streets on weekdays, only between 9 30 a.m. and 10 30 a.m.

Polling District BHB (electorate 3,119)

Polling Place - The Gateway Community Centre, 51 Oldridge Road

Comments: These premises are located centrally in the polling district and are well known within the area. The accommodation is spacious, with good facilities, and both the approach and entrance to the polling place are flat. A CPZ operates in Oldridge Road and neighbouring streets on weekdays, only between 10 30 a.m. and 11 30 a.m.

Polling District BHC (electorate 2,655)

Polling Place - Balham Pentecostal Church, 18 Balham New Road

Comments: These premises are located in the southern part of the polling district and are the only identified, suitable accommodation in the polling district. The accommodation is restricted in size although adequate for the two polling stations currently allocated there; facilities are satisfactory. The approach is flat and, although there is a slight incline leading to the entrance door within the surround of the premises, this is suitable for use by disabled and infirm people. A CPZ operates in Balham New Road and neighbouring streets between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. except for Sundays.

Polling District BHD (electorate 1,949)

Polling Place - Henry Cavendish School Annexe, corner of Cavendish Road and Hydethorpe Road

Comment: This Annexe is located just outside the polling district on the eastern side of Cavendish Road and in the London Borough of Lambeth as, for a considerable period of time, it has not been possible to identify other suitable premises within the polling district for use as polling stations. Lambeth

Council uses another part of the separate, main School in Hydethorpe Road as a polling place. The Annexe is well known locally and, although the accommodation is restricted in size, it is just adequate for the two polling stations currently allocated there. Facilities are satisfactory and it is necessary for the equipment there to be supplemented by the Council at times of elections by the provision of adult-sized furniture. The approach and the entrance at the corner of Cavendish Road and Hydethorpe Road are flat. CPZs operate locally and on the western side of Cavendish Road and the Zone operates between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. except for Sundays.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward.

Fairfield Ward

Polling District FFA (electorate 2,601)

Polling Place - Training and Resource Centre, Alma Road

Comment: These premises are located reasonably centrally within the polling district. The accommodation is reasonably spacious, with good facilities, although the premises are situated on a road which - like most neighbouring roads - slopes downwards, south to north. Within the surrounds of the building there is a slight downward slope from the public footpath to the entrance door. However, the footpath and the premises themselves are suitable for use by disabled and infirm people. A CPZ operates in Alma Road and neighbouring streets between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District FFB (electorate 605)

Polling Place - Civic Suite, Wandsworth High Street

Comment: These premises are located outside the polling district, and they will be the nearest, suitable accommodation which has been identified for use when the previous polling place at West Hill Library is no longer available; the Civic Suite is situated in a prominent location. The accommodation is reasonably spacious, with good facilities. The approach and entrance to the building are flat and a permanent ramp with handrails has been provided to the entrance. Wandsworth High Street is a one-way road on a Red Route and short stay Red Route parking is available nearby. CPZs operate in the streets to the north and south of this location - between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District FFC (electorate 2,669)

Polling Place - St Anne's Church Hall, St Ann's Crescent, opposite Rosehill Road

Comment: These premises are located centrally within the polling district. The accommodation is restricted in size although it is adequate for the two

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polling stations currently located there; the facilities are satisfactory. The approach from St Ann's Crescent and the entrance are flat, although the site slopes downward to the north and west and, consequently, the approach from those directions is slightly uphill, including through the surrounds of the church. A CPZ operates in local streets between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District FFD (electorate 3,483)

Polling Place - Louvaine Road Residents' Association, 92C St John's Hill

Comment: These premises are located towards the eastern end of the polling district and provide the only available accommodation in the polling district which has been identified as suitable for use as polling stations. The accommodation is somewhat cramped for the three polling stations currently located there; it is usually necessary for the Council to provide temporary supplementary internal electric lighting on the days of elections. The approach by St John's Hill is flat, although streets to the side of the polling place slope downwards, south to north. The entrance is narrow and there is a slight upward slope from the public footpath to the entrance, which is equipped with a handrail. A CPZ operates in local streets between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District FFE (electorate 1,403)

Polling Place - Civic Suite, Wandsworth High Street

Comments: See Polling District FFB above. Polling District FFE is included in the Putney Constituency for Parliamentary elections, and in the Battersea Constituency for other elections.

CONCLUSION - The only change proposed for this Ward affects polling districts FFB and FFE. Previously, West Hill Library was used as the polling place for these polling districts. However, in the near future those premises are to be converted for a different purpose and this necessitates a change of polling location. Once the conversion, etc has been completed, consideration will be given as to whether the former location could be used again for polling purposes.

Latchmere Ward

Polling District LMA (electorate 3,839)

Polling Place - Battersea Chapel, Wye Street

Comment: These premises are located on the north-western edge of the polling district and provide very good, spacious accommodation and facilities, with both the entrance and internal areas of the building permanently and comprehensively ramped. A stepped entrance is also available. The approach

to the building is flat. Parking is available in Wye Street. Ingrave Street and local streets.

Polling District LMB (electorate 3,206)

Polling Place - Wilditch Community Centre, Culvert Road

Comment: These premises are located centrally within the polling district and provide very good, spacious accommodation and facilities. The approach and entrance is flat. Parking is available in Culvert Road and local streets.

Polling District LMC (electorate 1,423)

Polling Place - George Shearing Community Centre, Este Road

Comment: These premises are located on the eastern edge of the main residential area of the polling district. The accommodation is spacious, with good facilities. The approach and entrance are flat. A CPZ operates in Este Road between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District LMD (electorate 1,820)

Polling Place - Battersea Youth Centre, Hope Street

Comments: These premises are located centrally within the polling district and provide adequate accommodation and facilities. The approach and entrance are flat. Parking is available in Hope Street and local streets.

It is proposed that these premises will also be used for polling district SME in the St Mary's Park Ward.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward.

Northcote Ward

Polling District NCA (electorate 2,003)

Polling Place - Northcote Road Baptist Church Hall, Wakehurst Road

Comment: These premises are located centrally, although they are on the eastern edge of the polling district. The accommodation and facilities are reasonable. Generally, the streets in the polling district slope sharply uphill, east to west from Northcote Road. The entrance from Wakehurst Road to the door of the polling place is slightly sloped and the entrance has handrails. A CPZ operates in Wakehurst Road and local streets between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. except for Sundays.

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Polling District NCB (electorate 3,575)

Belleville School, Belleville Road

Comment: These premises are located in the western part of the residential area of the polling district. The accommodation is spacious and the facilities are good. Generally, the streets in the polling district to the east of Northcote Road slope sharply, including Belleville Road from which access to the polling place is gained. However, the short path from the public footpath to the school building is flat. A CPZ operates in Belleville Road and local streets between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. except for Sundays.

Polling District NCC (electorate 2,997)

Polling Place - Chatham Hall, 152 Northcote Road, opposite Northcote Library

Comment: These premises are located at the northern end of the polling district. The accommodation and facilities are good. There is a slight uphill approach to the premises from Northcote Road and inside there is a permanent ramp from the small car park which is in front of the building. The entrance to the building is slightly sloping and has handrails. An alternative stepped exit to the building is available and the Council provides a temporary ramp over the steps at times of elections. Apart from the car park in front of the premises, a CPZ operates in Northcote Road and local streets between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. except for Sundays.

Polling District NCD (electorate 2,208)

Polling Place - St John's Hill Centre (formerly Peabody Hall), Peabody Estate (entrance in St John's Hill and Strath Terrace)

Comment: These premises are located in the western part of the polling district and within the Peabody Estate. They provide the only identified suitable accommodation in the polling district. The accommodation and facilities are reasonable. There is a slight ramped slope to the entrance door and this has a handrail. The premises are regularly used by disabled and infirm people. Vehicular access to the Centre is from Bouflower Road and also there are many pedestrian access points, principally from St John's Hill and Strath Terrace. There is a small car parking area in front of the Hall and a CPZ operates in local streets between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward.

Queenstown Ward

Polling District QTA (electorate 885)

Polling Place - R.O.S.E. Community Clubroom, Ascalon Street (access for vehicles only via Wandsworth Road)

Comment: These premises are located reasonably centrally in the polling district in relation to the main concentration of electors and provide very good spacious accommodation and facilities. Both the approach and the entrance to the building are flat. Parking is available in Ascalon Street and local streets.

Polling District QTB (electorate 1,915)

Polling Place - Patmore Community Clubroom, Thessaly Road

Comment: These premises are located at the southern edge of the polling district, on the boundary with the London Borough of Lambeth, and are reasonably well situated in relation to the main concentration of electors and towards the natural entry/exit points on to Wandsworth Road. No suitable and available premises have been identified within the polling district for use for polling purposes. The building provides very good, spacious accommodation and facilities. Both the approach and the entrance, which is set back within the curtilage of the building, are flat. Parking is available in Thessaly Road.

Polling District QTC (electorate 2,495)

Polling Place - Heathbrook Park Sports Centre, St. Rule Street

Comment: These premises are situated in the south-eastern part of the polling district and provide the only identified available accommodation in that polling district which is suitable for use for polling purposes. The accommodation and facilities are good. Both the approach and the entrance are flat. A CPZ operates in St Rule Street, which is closed at a point just to the south of the premises, between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District QTD (electorate 3,076)

Polling Place - All Saint's Church, Prince of Wales Drive

Comment: These premises are located reasonably centrally in the polling district and provide very good, spacious accommodation and facilities. The approach is flat, with a slight slope to the entrance within the curtilage of the building. However, this is suitable for use by disabled/infirm people. A CPZ operates in Prince of Wales Drive between 9 00 a.m. and 5 00 p.m. on weekdays.

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Polling District QTE (electorate 2,226)

Polling Place - Shaftesbury Christian Centre, 2 Austin Road

Comment: These premises are located on the western edge of the polling district and provide the most suitable accommodation available within the polling district. The accommodation and facilities are good. The approach and entrance are flat. Parking is available in Austin Road and some limited Red Route parking is available in nearby Battersea Park Road.

CONCLUSION - The only change proposed affects polling district QTD. For recent elections, Battersea Park Library in Battersea Park Road has been used, although this building is situated outside of the polling district; the accommodation there is rather cramped. The opportunity now exists to return to All Saint's Church Hall, Prince of Wales Drive, which was used previously until it became unavailable a few years ago. In view of the much superior accommodation which it offers and its convenient location within the polling district, the Returning Officer proposes to return to this location for elections in the future.

Shaftesbury Ward

Polling District SBA (electorate 4,884)

Polling Place - Lower Hall, Battersea Arts Centre, Town Hall Road

Comment: These premises are situated centrally within the polling district and the accommodation and facilities are adequate. The approach to the Lower Hall, which is situated at the northern end of Town Hall Road, is hilly, sloping downwards south to north. Entrance to the Lower Hall is by means of fairly steep steps and a separate flat entrance is available further to the north at the rear of the Battersea Arts Centre. Town Hall Road is a private road for parking purposes and a CPZ operates in Theatre Street adjoining the Battersea Arts Centre and local streets between 8 30 a.m. and 6 30 p.m. except Sundays.

Polling District SBB (electorate 3,028)

Polling Place - Devas Club, Stormont Road

Comment: These premises are located in the north-western part of the polling district and provide the most suitable accommodation identified in the district for use for polling purposes. The Hall is situated at the rear of the premises and the approach and entrance are flat, with the accommodation and facilities being adequate for use by the number of polling stations located there. A CPZ operates in Stormont Road and local streets between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District SBC (electorate 2,752)

Polling Place - Battersea Scout Centre, 15 Wickersley Road

Comment: These premises are situated at the northern edge of the polling district and provide the most suitable accommodation identified in the district for use for polling purposes. The accommodation is spacious and the facilities are good. The approach is flat, although electors living in the southern part of the district have to walk downhill to the polling place. The entrance has a step and a portable ramp is provided by the Council at times of elections. A CPZ operates in Wickersley Road and local streets between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. on weekdays.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward.

St Mary's Park Ward

Polling District SMA (electorate 2,620)

Polling Place - Dimson Hall, 141 Battersea Church Road

Comment: These premises are located in the western part of the polling district and provide the most suitable accommodation identified in the district for use for polling purposes. The accommodation and facilities are modern and very good. The approach and entrance are flat. A CPZ operates in Battersea Church Road between 9 00 a.m. and 5 00 p.m. except Sundays.

Polling District SMB (electorate 3,797)

Polling Place - Katherine Low Settlement, 108 Battersea High Street (entrance in Orville Road)

Comment: These premises are located in the western part of the polling district and provide the only suitable, available accommodation identified in the district for use for polling purposes. Both the Hall and the Canteen areas of the premises are used for polling and the accommodation and facilities are adequate for the number of polling stations located there. The approach and the entrance in Orville Road are flat. A CPZ operates in local streets between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays and a disabled parking bay is located in Orville Road.

Polling District SMC (electorate 2,866)

Polling Place - Ethelburga Community Centre, Worfield Road

Comment: These premises are located centrally in the polling district. Both the Hall and the Meeting Room will be used for polling and provide adequate accommodation and facilities for the number of polling stations located there.

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The approach has a slight slope with one step which is permanently ramped and the entrance is flat. The premises are regularly used by disabled and infirm people. A CPZ operates in Worfield Street and local streets between 9 00 a.m. and 5 00 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District SMD (electorate 1,161) (**proposed revised polling district**)

Polling Place - Battersea Central Mission Hall (also known as Battersea Methodist Mission), 20/22 York Road

Comment: Previously, premises at Caius House, Holman Road were used but these are very shortly to be redeveloped and the best alternative location has been sought. The Battersea Central Mission premises are located in the south-eastern part of the polling district and provide the only suitable accommodation identified in the district for use for polling purposes. The Hall used for polling is situated to the side and rear of the main Mission building and access is via a signed pedestrian passageway. The approach is flat, although at the entrance a steep step up into the Hall will require the provision by the Council of a portable ramp. The accommodation and facilities at the Hall are adequate. York Road is a Red Route and there is time limited Red Route parking nearby.

Polling District SME (electorate 751) (**proposed new polling district**)

Polling Place - Battersea Youth Centre, Hope Street

Comment: This proposed new polling district comprises the western portion of the previous SMD district, and contains the new Battersea Reach development (previously known as Gargoyle Wharf). There are at present no identified, suitable premises in the proposed new SME polling district which could be used for polling purposes. It is therefore proposed to use the Battersea Youth Centre. This proposed polling place is situated slightly to the south of the proposed new polling district and it is reasonably centrally situated in terms of the east/west location of the SME polling district. The Battersea Youth Centre will also be used for polling district LMD and a description of the premises is given above in the details on Latchmere Ward.

CONCLUSION - The closure of the Wand Youth Club in polling district SMC gave rise to the need to find an alternative location for elections. The nearest available, and still centrally located, building is Ethelburga Community Centre in Worfield Street and therefore it is proposed that this be used for polling in future.

Battersea Central Mission Hall is proposed for use as a temporary polling place for polling district SMD whilst the previous polling place at Caius House Club, Holman Road is redeveloped. It is hoped to return to the previous polling place when redevelopment is completed.

It is proposed to split the current polling district SMD into two new polling districts - SMD and SME. As indicated above, on a temporary

basis it is proposed to use Battersea Central Mission Hall as the polling place for the proposed revised SMD polling district. For new polling district SME no suitable accommodation exists currently within the district and, consequently, it is proposed to use Battersea Youth Centre, Hope Street (which is also used for polling district LMD). This would offer a cost-effective means of covering the small but rapidly rising population in this area. Parts of the area of the proposed new SME polling district are still undergoing redevelopment and, if as a result of subsequent building works, a suitable polling place within the polling district can be identified at a later date, then consideration would be given to its use for polling purposes in future.

Wandsworth Common Ward (part)

Polling District WCF (electorate 1,450)

Polling Place - One O'Clock Centre, Heathfield Road

Comment: See Polling District WCC below. Polling District WCF is included in the Battersea Constituency for Parliamentary elections, and in the Tooting Constituency for other elections.

Putney Parliamentary Constituency **(electorate figures are as at 3rd September 2007)**

East Putney Ward

Polling District EPA (electorate 3,748)

Polling Place - Methodist Church Hall, Gwendolen Avenue (corner of Upper Richmond Road)

Comment: These premises are located in the north-western corner of the polling district. The accommodation is adequate, although it can become congested when voting is busiest. The facilities are satisfactory. The main entrance is stepped, although a separate disabled access is available on the Upper Richmond Road side of the premises. A CPZ operates in Gwendolen Avenue and neighbouring streets only between 8 30 a.m. and 6 30 p.m. except on Sundays.

Polling District EPB (electorate 3,724)

Polling Place - St Stephen's Church, Manfred Road

Comment: These premises are located close to the centre of the polling district. The accommodation is adequate and the facilities are satisfactory, although additional electric lighting may be required at times of elections; this is to be actioned by the Council when necessary. Access is level and vehicles used by disabled voters are permitted to park in the Church grounds. A CPZ

Review of polling district boundaries and polling places

operates in Manfred Road and neighbouring streets only between 8 30 a.m. and 6 30 a.m. except on Sundays.

Polling District EPC (electorate 1,373)

Polling Place - St Michael's Church Hall, Wimbledon Park Road (corner of Granville Road)

Comment: These premises are located just outside the polling district, at its south-eastern corner; no suitable or available alternative premises have been identified within the polling district for use for polling purposes. A permanent ramp is in place to provide access for disabled people, and the accommodation is spacious and has good facilities. CPZs operate in neighbouring streets to the south only between 2 00 p.m. and 3 00 p.m. on weekdays and between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays to the north.

Polling District EPD (electorate 2,271)

Polling Place - Cadet Hall, rear of 19 Lytton Grove

Comment: These premises are located in the north-eastern corner of the polling district. Access, via a driveway, is level and the accommodation is adequately sized; facilities are good. Vehicles used by disabled voters are permitted to park in the Hall grounds. A CPZ operates in Lytton Grove and neighbouring streets only between 9 30 a.m. and 10 30 a.m. on weekdays.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward.

Fairfield Ward (part)

Polling District FFE (electorate 1,403)

Polling Place - Civic Suite, Wandsworth High Street

Comment: See Polling District FFB above. Polling District FFE is included in the Putney Constituency for Parliamentary elections, and in the Battersea Constituency for other elections.

Roehampton Ward

Polling District RHA (electorate 881)

Polling Place - Stag House, Stroud Crescent

Comment: These premises are located on the Putney Vale Estate which is the principal centre of residential population for this polling district. The former polling place (at the nearby Putney Vale Community Clubroom) has fallen increasingly into disrepair and its future is currently being reviewed. Access to

Stag House is reasonably level and the accommodation is adequate for polling purposes; the facilities are satisfactory. On-street parking is available.

Polling District RHB (electorate 2,946)

Polling Place - St Joseph's Catholic Church, 218 Roehampton Lane

Comment: These premises are located at the northern edge of the polling district and conveniently close to the centre of Roehampton. Although the Church is situated on a hill, access into the premises is level and the accommodation is spacious and facilities are excellent. Vehicles used by disabled voters are permitted to park in the Church grounds. Roehampton Lane is a Red Route.

Polling District RHC (electorate 3,363)

Polling Place - Roehampton Library, Danebury Avenue

Comment: These premises are located on the eastern edge of the polling district and conveniently close to the centre of Roehampton. Access is level and the accommodation is very satisfactory, with good facilities. Parking is available in the car park adjoining the Library.

Polling District RHD (electorate 2,562)

Polling Place - Brookside Community Centre, Priory Lane

Comment: These premises are located in the northern part of the polling district and are readily accessible to the majority of the district's electors, who reside on the Lennox Estate. However, it is a significant distance from other residents (e.g. of Roedean Crescent and Roehampton Gate) and from student residences on the campus of Roehampton University. Access to the premises is level and the accommodation is spacious, with good facilities. On-street parking is available nearby. Consideration has been given to sub-dividing this polling district to produce a new small district within the Roehampton University Campus. However, as this would only include a static population of some 732 voters - virtually all of whom would be active and mobile - it is not considered essential and would not be cost-effective.

Polling District RHE (electorate 1,107)

Polling Place - Roehampton Church School Nursery (Ponsonby Road entrance)

Comment: These premises are situated on the western edge of the polling district, and close to the main concentration of electors. A temporary ramp to the entrance is provided by the Council at times of elections; otherwise, access is level and facilities are good. The accommodation is adequately sized for polling purposes. On-street parking is available outside the premises.

CONCLUSION - Apart from moving the polling place for RHA to Stag House for the reasons set out above, no changes are proposed to the locations of any of the other existing polling places for this Ward.

Southfields Ward

Polling District SFA (electorate 3,717)

Polling Place - St Barnabas' Church Hall, Lavenham Road

Comment: These premises are located on the eastern edge of the polling district. A temporary ramp to the entrance is provided by the Council at times of elections; otherwise access is level. The accommodation is cramped and becomes congested when voting is busiest; facilities are satisfactory. However, the Hall is the only identified suitable building available in the district for use for polling purposes. At some time in the future, the Hall is to undergo refurbishment and, for the duration of that project, it is proposed that the Church itself will be used for polling purposes. A CPZ operates in Lavenham Road and neighbouring streets only between 1 30 p.m. and 2 30 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District SFB (electorate 2,757)

Polling Place - Baptist Church Hall, Wimbledon Park Road (entrance at rear in Pirbright Road)

Comment: These premises are located towards the south-western corner of the polling district. The external approaches slope towards the Hall and are uneven but, overall, the access arrangement is considered to be reasonable for polling purposes. Access into the premises is level and the accommodation is spacious, with reasonable facilities, although electric lighting may be poor. The Council provides supplementary electric lighting as necessary at times of elections. A CPZ operates in Wimbledon Park Road and neighbouring streets between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District SFC (electorate 2,936)

Polling Place - Royal Military Police Building, Buckhold Road

Comment: These premises are located in the northern part of the polling district. Access is reasonably level, incorporating a permanent ramp, and the accommodation and facilities are adequate. A CPZ operates in Buckhold Road and neighbouring streets between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District SFD (electorate 1,863)

Polling Place - TAVR Centre, 351 Merton Road

Comment: These premises are located centrally within the polling district, on its western boundary. Access is level and the accommodation is very spacious,

with good facilities. A CPZ operates in Merton Road and neighbouring streets only between 1 30 p.m. and 2 30 p.m. on weekdays.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward.

Thamesfield Ward

Polling District TFA (electorate 2,539)

Polling Place - All Saints Church, Putney Common

Comment: These premises are located near the centre of the polling district. Access is via either the Common or Egliston Road; both approaches are level. A ramp into the Church is provided by the church authorities. The accommodation is adequately sized and facilities are good. A CPZ operates in Egliston Road and Putney Common and neighbouring streets only between 9 30 a.m. and 10 30 a.m. on weekdays.

Polling District TFB (electorate 3,796)

Polling Place - St Mary's Church of England School, corner of Charlwood Road and Felsham Road

Comment: These premises are located near the centre of the polling district. The accommodation is very satisfactory, with good facilities. A ramp is provided by the Council at times of elections to facilitate access into the building and otherwise the approaches are level. A CPZ operates locally between 8 30 a.m. and 6 30 p.m. except for Sundays.

Polling District TFC (electorate 2,897)

Polling Place - Putney Library, Disraeli Road

Comment: These premises are located in the southern part of the polling district, and close to Putney High Street. Access from Disraeli Road is level; the accommodation is slightly cramped and can become congested when voting is busiest; the facilities are reasonable, although it may be necessary for the Council to provide supplementary heating at times of elections. A CPZ operates in Disraeli Road and neighbouring streets between 8 30 a.m. and 6 30 p.m. except on Sundays.

Polling District TFD (electorate 1,910)

Polling Place - Brandlehow Nursery School (entrance from Skelgill Road - junction with Fawe Park Road)

Comment: These premises are located near the centre of the polling district. Access is level and the accommodation is adequately sized; the facilities are

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good. A CPZ operates locally between 8 30 a.m. and 6 30 p.m. except on Sundays.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward.

West Hill Ward

Polling District WHA (electorate 3,745)

Polling Place - Open Door Community Centre, Beaumont Road

Comment: These premises are located reasonably close to the centre of the polling district. Although the building is situated on a hill, access to and within the premises is level and the accommodation is spacious with very good facilities. Limited car parking space is available on site.

Polling District WHB (electorate 1,359)

Polling Place - The Wimbledon Park Rifle Club, Granville Road

Comment: These premises are situated outside the polling district, just beyond its eastern boundary, as there were no identified premises within the district which were suitable and available for polling purposes. Approaches have been made to the Principal of St Cecilia's School to seek the use of part of the school premises for polling purposes but he has again confirmed just recently that this is not considered feasible.

The Rifle Club premises are set back from Granville Road, behind a terrace of houses, and situated beside a railway embankment. The accommodation is not entirely satisfactory and the floors are uneven and "springy" in places although not considered hazardous in any way. Special arrangements need to be made to screen off items of the Club's equipment. A temporary ramp is provided by the Council at times of elections to facilitate access into the building. Vehicles used by disabled voters are permitted to park in the Club's driveway. A CPZ operates locally only between 2 00 p.m. and 3 00 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District WHC (electorate 4,001)

Polling Place - St Paul's Community Centre, Inner Park Road

Comment: These premises are located near the centre of the polling district. Access into the building is level, although there is a small step from the public footpath to the Centre's surrounds; an investigation will be carried out to assess the feasibility, and safety, of the Council providing a temporary ramp at times of elections. The accommodation is spacious and has good facilities. Parking for cars is available on-street.

Polling District WHD (electorate 1,951)

Polling Place - Southfields Library, Wimbledon Park Road

Comment: These premises are located near the north-eastern corner of the polling district, and it is recognised that this is some distance from residential properties in the south-western part of the district. The premises are fully accessible to disabled people and the facilities are excellent. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward, although a continued search for more ideal premises in polling district WHB will be maintained.

West Putney Ward

Polling District WPA (electorate 2,931)

Polling Place - Dryburgh Hall, Dryburgh Road (by Putney Leisure Centre)

Comment: These premises are located on the northern edge of the polling district. The accommodation is spacious and the facilities are good. Although the Hall is above ground level, a lift is available. A CPZ operates locally only between 9 30 a.m. and 10 30 a.m. on weekdays.

Polling District WPB (electorate 2,766)

Polling Place - Eastwood Community Centre, Aubyn Square (access also by footpath next to 154 Huntingfield Road)

Comment: These premises are located near the western boundary of the polling district, with access for some voters via a footpath off Huntingfield Road. The approaches to the building are level, although there is a small step into the Centre; an investigation will be carried out to assess the feasibility, and safety, of the Council providing a temporary ramp at times of elections. The accommodation is small, although adequate for polling purposes, and the facilities are satisfactory. Although car parking on the housing estate is controlled, voters are permitted to park in front of the polling place whilst they are voting.

Polling District WPC (electorate 3,361)

Polling Place - The Ashburton Luncheon Club, 101 - 103 Carslake Road

Comment: These premises are located towards the southern edge of the polling district and are the only identified, suitable premises for polling purposes. A permanent ramp provides access into the building, the accommodation is satisfactory and the facilities are satisfactory. Although car parking on the housing estate is controlled, voters are permitted to park in

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front of the polling place whilst they are voting and in the nearby uncontrolled roads.

Polling District WPD (electorate 1,267)

Polling Place - Sports Pavilion, Roehampton Playing Fields, Coppice Drive (entrance also from Dover House Road)

Comment: These premises are located on the southern edge of the polling district and are the only identified, suitable premises for polling purposes. A temporary ramp into the premises is provided by the Council at times of elections. The accommodation is adequate and the facilities are satisfactory. Parking for cars is available on-street.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward.

Tooting Parliamentary Constituency

(electorate figures are as at 3rd September 2007)

Bedford Ward

Polling District BFA (electorate 2,711)

Polling Place - TAVR Centre, 213 Balham High Road

Comment: These premises are located in the centre of the western edge of the polling district and provide the only identified and available accommodation in that district for use for polling purposes. The premises occupy a prominent position on the High Road and are easily recognisable. They are spacious, with good facilities and two wide entrances to the Hall. Separate wheelchair access is provided. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. on weekdays; Balham High Road is a Red Route.

Polling District BFB (electorate 2,972)

Polling Place - Rydevale Day Nursery, 33 Little Dimocks, Ryde Vale Road

Comment: These premises are located within a housing estate, near the centre of the populated, northern part of the polling district. Whilst the premises are of modest size, they provide adequate accommodation and facilities for polling purposes, although the Council provides adult-sized furniture at times of elections. Ramps with handrails are provided for the front main entrance and for the side entrance to the hall. No suitable alternative premises are available within the polling district. Although car parking on the housing estate is controlled, voters can park in front of the polling place whilst they are voting. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District BFC (electorate 3,359)

Polling Place - St Anselm's School, Tooting Bec Road (entrance from Louisville Road only)

Comment: These premises are located in the centre of the western edge of the populated area of the polling district. The accommodation is spacious and has good facilities; there is a shallow step at the entrance for which a ramp is provided by the Council at times of elections to make it accessible by wheelchair users. Voters are permitted to park in the school car park. A CPZ operates in Louisville Road between 9 30 a.m. and 6 30 p.m. except for Sundays; Tooting Bec Road is a Red Route.

Polling District BFD (electorate 1,951)

Polling Place - Bruce Hall, Brudenell Road (near junction with Franciscan Road)

Comment: This polling district is designated to vote at Bruce Hall as these premises, whilst located outside the western boundary of the Ward, are considered to offer a more convenient polling place for the voters concerned (instead of the previous polling place at St Anselm's School). The accommodation allocated for the two polling stations, whilst modest, is adequate and facilities are reasonable. The entrance is flat and is easily accessible by wheelchair users. Voters are permitted to park in the Church Hall car park. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays.

These premises will also be used for polling district GNC in Graveney Ward.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward.

Earlsfield Ward

Polling District EFA (electorate 2,147)

Polling Place - Anchor Congregational Church, Garratt Lane (adjacent to John Pounds House, 271 Garratt Lane)

Comment: These premises are located conveniently almost at the centre of the polling district and they adequately accommodate two polling stations. The Hall, which has good facilities, is easily accessed via a short paved passage and a slight paved ramp. There are two large advisory disabled parking bays in front of the entrance. A CPZ operates in the area between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays.

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Polling District EFB (electorate 3,887)

Polling Place - St Andrew's Parish Hall, Waynflete Street

Comment: These premises are located slightly north of the centre of the polling district and adequately accommodate three polling stations. The Hall, which has good facilities and a reasonably wide entrance, is accessed from the pavement over a slight concreted ramp. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District EFC (electorate 2,041)

Polling Place - St Gregory's Church Hall, 306 Garratt Lane (adjacent to Henry Prince Estate)

Comment: These premises are located in the middle of the western edge of the polling district. The accommodation is adequately sized and, whilst most facilities are considered to be good, the Council makes any necessary supplementary heating and electric lighting available at times of elections. Access to the Hall includes a permanent ramp equipped with handrails. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays. Ample off-street car parking space is available in front of the Hall.

Polling District EFD (electorate 2,795)

Polling Place - Aboyne Estate Tenants' Clubroom, Deeside Road

Comment: These premises are located within a housing estate to the east of the centre of the polling district. The accommodation is adequately sized and facilities are very good. There is a gentle gradient, built in ramp with handrails to access the hall via a wide entrance. There is ample off-street car parking in front of the Clubroom.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward.

Furzedown Ward

Polling District FDA (electorate 2,635)

Polling Place - St Paul's Church, Welham Road (entrance from Chillerton Road)

Comment: These premises are located centrally within the polling district. The accommodation and facilities are adequate. There are two entrances to this polling place - one with steps and handrails at the front of the premises and the other at the side where there is a single shallow step. At times of elections, the Council provides a temporary ramp to the side entrance into the

Church. Parking is available in Chillerton Road and Welham Road, as well as the Church grounds.

Polling District FDB (electorate 2,873)

Polling Place - Mitcham Lane Baptist Church, corner of Mitcham Lane and Welham Road)

Comment: These premises are located almost at the centre of polling districts FDB and FDD and the accommodation is adequately sized to contain polling stations for electors from both polling districts. There are two entrances - one of which is stepped and the other has a permanent ramp. At times of elections, the Council provides a temporary ramp and barrier treatment internally to one of the polling stations. Parking is available in Welham Road and Mitcham Lane.

Polling District FDC (electorate 2,404)

Polling Place - The Richardson Hall, St Alban's Church Centre, corner of Thrale Road and Pretoria Road

Comment: These premises are located at the edge of the southern end of the polling district. The accommodation is provided in a modern building which is adequately sized and has good facilities. The approach is level and the entrance is wide. Limited parking is available on the premises and on-street parking is available in Pretoria Road.

Polling District FDD (electorate 2,904)

Polling Place - Mitcham Lane Baptist Church, corner of Mitcham Lane and Welham Road

Comment: See Polling District FDB above. No suitable and available premises have been identified within the FDD polling district for use for polling purposes, but the accessibility and convenience of the Baptist Church in polling district FDB is considered satisfactory and the best reasonable solution in the circumstances.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward.

Graveney Ward

Polling District GNA (electorate 4,511)

Polling Place - Tooting and Balham Sea Cadet Corps Unit, Mellison Road (corner of Himley Road)

Comment: These premises are located in the middle of the northern half of the polling district. The accommodation is modestly sized but adequate for polling

Review of polling district boundaries and polling places

purposes. Facilities are reasonable. Access to the Hall is via a wooden ramp at the front provided by the Council at times of elections, as well as a ramped access from the rear garden. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. except on Sundays.

Polling District GNB (electorate 3,453)

Polling Place - St Nicholas Church (Church Room), Church Lane

Comment: These premises are located in the centre of the southern half of the polling district. The accommodation is adequately sized and facilities are good. A ramped access is provided to the premises. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. except on Sundays. Limited parking is available in the Church grounds.

Polling District GNC (electorate 2,713)

Polling Place - Bruce Hall, Brudenell Road (near junction with Franciscan Road)

Comment: This polling district is designated to vote at Bruce Hall as these premises, whilst located outside the northern edge of the Ward, are considered to offer a more convenient polling place for the voters concerned. The accommodation and facilities are adequate. The entrance is flat and is easily accessible by wheelchair users. Voters are permitted to park in the Church Hall car park. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays.

These premises will also be used for polling district BFD in Bedford Ward.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward.

Nightingale Ward

Polling District NGA (electorate 2,234)

Polling Place - St Jude's Church Hall (also known as Gateway House), Heslop Road

Comment: These premises are located near the centre of the polling district. The accommodation, though severely limited in size, is just adequate for polling purposes, and the facilities are reasonable. No suitable and available premises have been identified within the polling district for use for polling purposes. Access is generally level although there is a shallow step at the entrance. A CPZ operates locally only from 11 30 a.m. and 12 30 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District NGB (electorate 3,599)

Polling Place - Balham Library, Ramsden Road

Comment: These premises are located just outside the southern boundary of the polling district; no alternative suitable premises have been identified within the polling district for use for polling purposes. The Hall is fully accessible to the disabled, the approaches are level and the entrance is wide, the accommodation is adequately sized and the facilities are very good. A parking bay for use by disabled people is available just outside the entrance. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District NGC (electorate 3,818)

Polling Place - St Mark's United Reformed Church Hall, Rowfant Road
(entrance also in Balham High Road)

Comment: These premises are located near the centre of the polling district, on its eastern boundary. The accommodation is spacious and the facilities are reasonable. There is a slight ridge at the entrance to the Hall which does not inhibit wheelchair use. Access is from either Balham High Road or Rowfant Road - each leading to a long, narrow footpath at the side of the Church premises. The surface of this path in some places is uneven, with a few raised areas. As far as reasonably possible measures are taken by the Council at times of elections to lessen the impact of these shortcomings. No alternative suitable premises have been identified within the polling district for use for polling purposes. Balham High Road is a Red Route. Rowfant Road is in a CPZ which operates between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. except on Sundays.

Polling District NGD (electorate 1,434)

Polling Place - St Mary Magdalene Church Hall, Trinity Road (near junction with Bellevue Road)

Comment: These premises are located on the northern edge of the polling district. The accommodation is adequately sized for a single polling station and the facilities are good. Access is via a permanent ramp and a wide entrance. Trinity Road is a Red Route. Parking bays for use by disabled people are available opposite the Hall. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. except on Sundays.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward.

Tooting Ward

Polling District TTA (electorate 2,594)

Polling Place - Fairlight Christian Centre, Fairlight Road

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Comment: These premises are located in the centre of the southern part of the polling district. The accommodation is adequately sized and has good facilities. Access is via a permanent ramp, with handrails, and a wide entrance. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. except on Sundays.

Polling District TTB (electorate 2,310)

Polling Place - Church Hall, Pilgrims' Union Church of God, Aldis Street

Comment: These premises are located in the southern part of the polling district. The accommodation is modestly sized but adequate and the facilities are reasonable. Access is via a permanent ramp at the entrance. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. except on Sundays.

Polling District TTC (electorate 2,117)

Polling Place - St Augustine's Church Hall, Broadwater Road (near junction with Upper Tooting Road)

Comment: These premises are located in the northern part of the polling district. The accommodation is adequately sized and has good facilities. Access is level, with a wide entrance. Parking is available in the Church grounds. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. except on Sundays.

Polling District TTD (electorate 2,123)

Polling Place - Tooting Hub (Youth Club), St Peter's Church Hall, 7a Beechcroft Road

Comment: These premises are located near the north-eastern edge of the polling district. The accommodation is adequately sized and has good facilities. A temporary ramp to the entrance is provided by the Council at times of elections. Two parking spaces are available in the grounds of the Hall. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 4 30 p.m. on weekdays.

Polling District TTE (electorate 2,044)

Polling Place - Church Hall, The Church of the God of Prophecy, Lynwood Road

Comment: These premises are located near the centre of the polling district. The accommodation is adequately sized and the facilities are good, although the Council provides supplementary internal electric lighting at times of elections, together with a temporary ramp to provide access to the Hall. A CPZ operates locally between 9 30 a.m. and 5 30 p.m. except on Sundays.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward.

Wandsworth Common Ward

Polling District WCA (electorate 3,198)

Polling Place - Swaffield School, St Ann's Hill

Comment: These premises are located in the middle of the western side of the polling district. The accommodation is adequately sized and has good facilities. Access is via a low gradient ramp into the entrance and then level approach into the Hall. Parking for voters is available in the school grounds. A CPZ operates locally only between 10 30 a.m. and 11 30 a.m. on weekdays.

Polling District WCB (electorate 2,473)

Polling Place - Battersea Ironsides Sports and Social Club, Openview (by junction with Burntwood Lane)

Comment: These premises are located on the south-western edge of the polling district. The accommodation is adequately sized and the facilities are good, although at times of elections it is necessary for the Council to provide a temporary ramp over a shallow step into the hall; and - if necessary - supplementary electric lighting. Parking for voters is available in the Club's car park.

Polling District WCC (electorate 126)

Polling Place - One O'Clock Centre, Heathfield Road

Comment: These premises are located at the southern end of the polling district. The accommodation is adequately sized and the facilities are good, although the Council provides adult-sized furniture and supplementary external electric lighting at times of elections. Access is level. A CPZ operates locally only between 10 30 a.m. and 11 30 a.m. on weekdays.

(For Parliamentary elections, the Polling Place for this Polling District is combined with WCA above)

Polling District WCD (electorate 1,271)

Polling Place - Trinity Road Chapel, Trinity Road (entrance next to 207 Trinity Road)

Comment: These premises are located on the north-eastern edge of the polling district. The accommodation is adequately sized and the facilities are good, although the Council may need to provide supplementary internal electric lighting at times of elections. Access is via a level path and a gentle gradient ramp; guard rails are provided at the entrance. Trinity Road is a Red Route. A CPZ operates locally only between 11 30 a.m. and 12 30 p.m. on weekdays.

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Some Red Route disabled parking bays are provided nearby and limited car parking is available in the Chapel grounds.

Polling District WCE (electorate 1,884)

Polling Place - Fitzhugh Community Clubroom, Fitzhugh Estate, Trinity Road

Comment: These premises are located in a housing estate on the north-western edge of the polling district. The accommodation is adequately sized and has good facilities. Access is level, through a wide doorway. Although car parking on the housing estate is controlled, voters can park in front of the polling place whilst they are voting.

Polling District WCF (electorate 1,450)

Polling Place - One O'Clock Centre, Heathfield Road

Comment: See Polling District WCC above. Polling District WCF is included in the Battersea Constituency for Parliamentary elections, and in the Tooting Constituency for other elections.

CONCLUSION - No changes are proposed to the locations of any of the existing polling places for this Ward.

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