

Birmingham City Council
Council Business Management Committee
29 August 2023



Subject: Review of Polling Districts and Places – Citywide

Report of: Robert Connelly

Acting Returning Officer

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential:

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Under the Representation of the People Act 1983, the Council must undertake a review of its Parliamentary Polling Districts, with such a review to be completed by 31 January 2025.
- 1.2 The earliest such a review can start is 1st October 2023 and the purpose of this report is to formalise any polling places (polling stations) where the polling station is located outside the polling district, prior to the commencement of the formal review.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To agree and note polling station venues that are currently located outside the relevant polling district.
- 2.2 Where agreement of Council Business Management Committee (CBMC) to locate a polling station outside the polling district cannot be obtained prior to a poll, this power be delegated to the Acting Returning Officer (ARO). The ARO will only exercises this power where a venue becomes unavailable at short notice, and where it is impracticable to obtain CBMC agreement prior to polling day. Any changes will be for a single poll unless subsequently agreed by CBMC.

3. Background

- 3.1 Section 18 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (the Act) places a duty on the Council to keep its Parliamentary Polling Districts under review with a view to giving all electors reasonable facilities for voting. Section 31 of the Act deals similarly with Polling Districts at Local Government elections.
- 3.2 The Council's powers and duties in this respect are delegated to Council Business Management Committee (CBMC).
- 3.3 Under the Act, the ARO must complete a polling district review prior to 31 January 2025 although no review can formally commence until 1st October 2023 at the earliest.
- 3.4 Polling places are designated buildings or areas within a polling district where a polling station is located. In Birmingham, the polling district will normally be designated as the polling place. As a result, it means the ARO can move a polling station within the polling district without having to seek prior agreement of CBMC.
- 3.5 However the ARO will always, where possible, seek to consult with appropriate stakeholders including elected members before relocating a polling station each at short notice.
- 3.6 Occasionally it may be necessary to locate a polling station outside the polling district, and where the ARO looks to do this the approval of CBMC is required.
- 3.7 Prior to starting the formal review, the ARO has identified 29 polling stations that are located outside the polling district, and these are set out in the table below.
- 3.8 In each case the usual consultation with elected members and interested parties took place prior to the change of venue. These were then reviewed post poll and the views of both elected members and electors were then considered. The decision was then taken to keep these arrangements in place.

Ward	Polling District	Current Polling Place	Proposed Polling Place
Acocks Green	ACG3	The polling district is the polling place	Fox Hollies Forum, Greenwood Avenue B27 7RA
Allens Cross	ALC3	The polling district is the polling place	Allens Cross Community Centre, 24 Tinkers farm Road B31 1RH
Bordesley & Highgate	BAH2	The polling district is the polling place	Lillian de Lissa Nursery School, Bellevue B5 7LX
Billesley	BIL1HG	The polling district is the polling place	Baptist Church, 299 Brook Lane B13 0TL
Billesley	BIL3HG	The polling district is the polling place	Common Room, Coleside Avenue B13 0BX

Bordesley & Highgate	BOH3	The polling district is the polling place	Wyndcliffe Infant School, Little Green Lane B9 5BG
Bordesley & Highgate	BOH4HH	The polling district is the polling place	Wyndcliffe Infant School, Little Green Lane B9 5BG
Bordesley Green	BOR2YA	The polling district is the polling place	Regents Park Community Primary School, Arthur Street B10 0NJ
Edgbaston	EDG6	The polling district is the polling place	St Mary and St Ambrose Church Hall, Pershore Road B5 7RL
Glebe Farm and Tile Cross	GFT3	The polling district is the polling place	Glebe Farm Library, 52 Glebe Farm Road B33 9NA
Harborne	HAR1	The polling district is the polling place	Moor Pool Hall, The Circle B17 9DY
Hall Green North	HGN2YA	The polling district is the polling place	Tyseley Community Centre, 280 Formans Road B11 3BY
Hall Green South	HGS2	The polling district is the polling place	St Peter's Church Hall, Highfield Road B28 0HS
Kings Norton North	KNN3SO	The polling district is the polling place	Kings Norton Primary School, Pershore Road South B30 2EU
Ladywood	LAD7	The polling district is the polling place	Birmingham Progressive Synagogue, 1 Roseland Way B15 1HD
Longbridge and West Heath	LWH8	The polling district is the polling place	St John Fisher Catholic Community Centre, 1 Cofton Road B31 3QT
Nechells	NEC5	The polling district is the polling place	St Matthew's CE Primary School, Duddeston Manor School B7 4JR
North Edgbaston	NED6ED	The polling district is the polling place	St Augustine's Church House, 9 Lyttleton Road B16 9JN
Newtown	NEW1PB	The polling district is the polling place	Wallace Lawlor Centre, 199 Wheeler Street B19 2EL
Northfield	NOR1	The polling district is the polling place	St Laurence Church Infant School, Bunbury Road B31 2DJ
Sparkbrook and Balsall Heath	SBH8YA	The polling district is the polling place	Shree Hindu Community Centre, Warwick Road B11 2JP
Sparkhill	SPH5	The polling district is the polling place	St Christophers Church, Woodlands Road B13 9NY
Sutton Roughley	SRO4	The polling district is the polling place	Lench's Trust Community Room, Tanners Close B75 6DP
Stirchley	STI1HG	The polling district is the polling place	The Ascension Church Hall, Pineapple Grove B30 2TJ

Stirchley	STI3	The polling district is the polling place	St Andrews Methodist Church, Cartland Road B30 2RD
Tyseley and Hay Mills	THM3HG	The polling district is the polling place	Yarnfield Primary School, Yarnfield Road B11 3PJ
Weoley and Selly Oak	WSO3SO	The polling district is the polling place	Avenue Members Club, Weoley Avenue B29 6PS
Yardley East	YAE1	The polling district is the polling place	St Edburgha's Church Hall, School Lane B33 8PD
Yardley East	YAE3	The polling district is the polling place	United Reform Church Room, Moat Lane B26 1TW

4 Legal Implications

4.1 None other than those stated above

5 Financial Implications

5.1 None.

6 Public Sector Equality Duty

6.1 None.