

Report of the Chief Executive

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. Between June and September 2019, a periodic review of the Council's Polling Places was undertaken as required by the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013. This report sets out proposals for revised polling places following that review.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that:

- a) Council approves the:
- (i) proposals setting out changes to polling districts, polling places and polling stations, and
 - (ii) revised schedule of polling districts and polling places as set out in Appendix 2.
- b) Council requests the Chief Executive to formally publish the notice of the conclusion of the review and its findings.
- c) The (Acting) Returning Officer be given authority to select an appropriate alternative polling place (if required). Formal retrospective approval be sought by Council following the election if appropriate.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1. To comply with the legislation requiring the Council to undertake periodic reviews of polling districts and polling places.
- 3.2. To ensure that all electors have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances and that, as far as is reasonable and practicable, polling places are accessible to disabled electors.

4. Supporting Information

Reason for review

- 4.1. In accordance with the Representation of the People Act 1983, the Council has a duty to divide the Borough into polling districts and to designate a polling place for each of these districts. The legislation also requires every local

authority to start and complete a review of its polling districts and polling places between 1 October 2018 and 31 January 2020 (inclusive).

Review Process

- 4.2. As required by the legislation, a public consultation period was held from Monday 24 June 2019 until Monday 19 August 2019 seeking the views and comments of electors, interested persons and any persons or bodies with expertise in access to premises or facilities for persons with any type of disability. The consultation also included all Borough Councillors, all Parish/Town Councils, and the Acting Returning Officer (ARO) for the Newark Parliamentary Constituency which includes some electoral areas within the Rushcliffe Borough.
- 4.3. During this period the Acting Returning Officer's proposals were published on the Council's website. These proposals contained the following suggested changes to the existing polling districts and polling places:
- The two letter prefix for Cropwell Ward be changed from CR to CW to avoid confusion with Cranmer Ward which also has the same two letter prefix of CR to its polling districts
 - In East Bridgford Ward Newton ATC Building is recommended as a replacement polling station for the Mobile Station for Newton Parish
 - In Keyworth and Wolds Ward the ARO asked for suggestions for an alternative polling place for Keyworth North (KWKN) polling district which is fully accessible to electors or a solution which enables Crossdale Drive Primary School to remain open whilst also facilitating voting
 - In Lady Bay Ward the ARO suggested a redrawing of the polling district boundaries to make best use of the polling places now used in this ward and to improve their accessibility by the electors.

Requirements of the Review

- 4.4. When undertaking a review, the Council is required to give due regard to the following considerations:
- It must seek to ensure that all electors have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances
 - It must seek to ensure that so far as is reasonable and practicable every polling place is accessible to electors who are disabled
 - Where possible, the polling place should be in its own polling district
 - Where possible, each parish should be a separate polling district
 - No polling place should be shared by two wards
 - Where possible, "natural" boundaries should be used, e.g. railways, major roads, etc.

- All properties in a minor road or estate should, ideally, be in the same polling district
- Polling places should be “logical”; that is, electors should not have to pass another polling place to get to their own.

Consultation Responses

- 4.5. A summary of the consultation comments requesting changes to the polling places and polling districts is attached at Appendix 1.
- 4.6. A total of 14 responses were received during the consultation period.
- 4.7. 6 of the 14 responses requested the retention of an existing polling place which is already included in the revised schedule of polling stations (see Appendix 2) and no further comment is made in respect of these responses.
- 4.8. One response relates to retaining the use of a polling place but has concerns over parking provision and lighting. This response has been evaluated and proposals have been included in Appendix 3.
- 4.9. The remaining 7 responses requested changes to the polling place for Keyworth North (KWKN) polling district. These responses have been evaluated to determine if changes are necessary as part of the review process by the Chief Executive taking into account her duties as a Returning Officer and proposals added in the Appendix 3.

Schedule of Polling Stations

- 4.10. If the proposed changes, as set out in the report, are agreed then it is necessary to revise the schedule of polling stations. As such, a revised schedule of polling districts and polling stations is attached at Appendix 2 for approval.

5. Risks and Uncertainties

- 5.1. The Council is required by legislation to undertake periodic reviews of polling districts and polling places. Failure to undertake the review risks a legal challenge to future elections.
- 5.2. The completion of the review enables effective planning and organisation of future elections and allows the acting returning officer to incorporate the alterations to the polling districts in the new register of electors to be published on 1 December 2019.

6. Implications

6.1. Financial Implications

If changes are made to the polling districts and polling places then there could be a resource implication depending on the nature of the change. It is anticipated that these costs would be met from existing budgets.

6.2. Legal Implications

There are no direct legal implications. The report supports compliance with legislation.

6.3. Equalities Implications

There is a requirement under the Act for authorities to give due regard to the accessibility of polling places to ensure electors who are disabled can vote in person should they desire to do so.

6.4. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Implications

There are no direct Section 17 implications.

7. Link to Corporate Priorities

7.1. Undertaking the review of polling districts and polling places contributes to the Council's Corporate Priority "Maintaining and enhancing our residents' quality of life" by enabling them to effectively engage in the democratic processes.

8. Recommendations

It is RECOMMENDED that:

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 - (i) proposals setting out changes to polling districts, polling places and polling stations, and
 - (ii) revised schedule of polling districts and polling places as set out in Appendix 2.
- b) Council requests the Chief Executive to formally publish the notice of the conclusion of the review and its findings.
- d) The (Acting) Returning Officer be given authority to select an appropriate alternative polling place (if required). Formal retrospective approval be sought by Council following the election if appropriate.

For more information contact:	Kath Marriott Chief Executive Tel: 0115 9148291 kmarriott@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers available for Inspection:	Notice of Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places guidance Acting Returning Officers Proposals Submissions to consultation received
List of appendices:	Appendix 1. Summary of Consultation Comments

Appendix 2. Proposed Revised Schedule of Polling Districts and Polling Places

Appendix 3. Proposals in Respect of Responses Received

Polling District & Polling Places Review 2019

Summary of Consultation Comments

Response No.	Respondent	Polling Station/Polling District	Comments
1.	Resident	Crossdale Drive Primary School	Highlighted concerns about the use of Crossdale Drive Primary School as a polling place and the consequent disruption to education and inconvenience to parents with the closure of school on polling day. Keyworth Village Hall was suggested as an alternative polling place, given that it is easier to reach for many voters, including those at the north end of the village.
2.	Colston Bassett Parish Council	Colston Bassett Village Hall	Response from parish council requesting that Colston Bassett Village Hall be retained as a polling place.
3.	Resident	Crossdale Drive Primary School	Requested a review of the use of Crossdale Primary School as a polling station given the disruption to education with its closure and the added burden placed upon parents to take leave from work or pay for childcare.
4.	Resident	Crossdale Drive Primary School	Requests Rushcliffe Borough Council to reconsider the use of Crossdale Primary School as a polling station due to the loss of education and the impact of having to find alternative childcare arrangements. Additionally, Crossdale Drive is not in a particularly accessible location within Keyworth.
5.	Cropwell Bishop Parish Council	The Old School, Fern Road, Cropwell Bishop	Response from parish council requesting that The Old School be retained as a polling place.

6.	Resident	West Bridgford Sports Club, Stamford Road, West Bridgford	<p>The respondent was satisfied with the location of the polling place but was concerned regarding the very rough car park surface which goes from the gates into the sports ground right up to the door of the polling station. The respondent was of the opinion that it may prove difficult for people to negotiate with wheelchairs or mobility scooters.</p> <p>Additionally, the resident was concerned regarding the poor natural lighting in the building making it difficult to vote in the polling booths due to the lack of lighting.</p>
7.	Gotham Parish Council	Gotham Memorial Hall	Response from parish council requesting that Gotham Memorial Hall be retained as a polling station.
8.	Resident	Crossdale Drive Primary School	Highlighted concerns about the use of Crossdale Drive Primary School as a polling place and the consequent disruption to education and inconvenience to parents with the closure of school on polling day.
9.	Radcliffe on Trent Parish Council	Parish of Radcliffe on Trent	Response from parish council requesting that the 5 polling places currently used in Radcliffe on Trent be retained.
10.	Keyworth Parish Council	Crossdale Drive Primary School	<p>Following representation to Keyworth Parish Council by representatives from the Equals Trust on behalf of Crossdale Drive Primary School regarding the use of the building as a polling station due to its effect on education to students, the Parish Council supports the request from the Equals Trust for an alternative venue to be used.</p> <p>The Parish Council has suggested the following alternative premises that could be used as a polling place instead of Crossdale Drive Primary School.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Centenary Lounge at the Village Hall 2. Platt Lane Playing Fields Pavilion – football club house or cricket pavilion 3. The Methodist Church on Selby Lane

			4. The St Mary's Church parochial hall on Elm Avenue
11.	Resident	Crossdale Drive Primary School	Highlighted concerns about the use of Crossdale Drive Primary School as a polling place and the consequent disruption to education and inconvenience to parents with the closure of school on polling day.
12.	Kinoulton Parish Council	Kinoulton Village Hall	Response from parish council requesting that Kinoulton Village Hall be retained as a polling place.
13.	Orston Parish Council	Orston Village Hall	Response from parish council requesting that Orston Village Hall be retained as a polling place.
14.	Keyworth Labour Party	Crossdale Drive Primary School	Highlighted concerns about the use of Crossdale Drive Primary School as a polling place and the consequent disruption to education and inconvenience to parents with the closure of school on polling day.

Rushcliffe Borough Council

Proposed Revised Schedule of Polling Districts and Polling Places

Ward	Polling District	Polling Place	Polling District Area	
ABBEY	ABB1	Abbey Park Community Centre Buckfast Way West Bridgford	Map 1 Abbey Ward	
	ABB2	West Bridgford Sports Club Stamford Road West Bridgford		
BINGHAM EAST These two Polling districts comprise the East Ward of Bingham Parish	BIE1	Bingham Methodist Centre Union Street Bingham	Map 2 Bingham East Ward	
	BIE2	Bingham Methodist Centre Union Street Bingham		
BINGHAM WEST Saxondale Parish	BISA	Town Pavilion Brendon Grove Bingham	Map 3 Bingham West Ward	
	These two Polling districts comprise the West Ward of Bingham Parish	BIW1		Town Pavilion Brendon Grove Bingham
		BIW2	Town Pavilion Brendon Grove Bingham	
BUNNY Bradmore Parish	BUBR	Bradmore Methodist Community Hall, Bradmore	Map 4 Bunny Ward	
	Bunny Parish	BUBU		Bunny Village Hall Bunny
	Costock Parish	BUCO		Costock Village Hall Costock
	Rempstone Parish	BURE		Rempstone Village Hall Main Street, Rempstone
	Thorpe in the Glebe	BUTH		Wysall Village Hall Wysall
	Wysall Parish	BUWY		Wysall Village Hall Wysall

Ward	Polling District	Polling Place	Polling District Area	
COMPTON ACRES	CAB1	Gresham Sports Park Gresham Park Road, Off Wilford Lane, West Bridgford	Map 5 Compton Acres Ward	
	CAB2	Rushcliffe Arena Rugby Road, West Bridgford		
	CAB3	Mobile Station Compton Acre Shopping Centre, Compton Acres, West Bridgford		
COTGRAVE This Polling district comprises the Ash Lea Ward of Cotgrave Parish	COAS	Cotgrave Leisure Centre Wood View, Cotgrave	Map 6 Cotgrave Ward	
	This Polling district comprises the Manor Ward of Cotgrave Parish	COMA		Cotgrave Methodist Church, Bingham Road, Cotgrave
CRANMER Aslockton Parish	CRAS	Thomas Cranmer Centre Main Street, Aslockton	Map 7 Cranmer Ward	
	Car Colston Parish	CRCA		Car Colston & Screveton Village Hall, Car Colston
	Scarrington Parish	CRSCA		Thomas Cranmer Centre, Main Street, Aslockton
	Screveton Parish	CRSCR		Car Colston & Screveton Village Hall, Car Colston
	Whatton-in-the- Vale Parish	CRWHA		Jubilee Hall, Whatton in the vale
CROPWELL Cropwell Bishop Parish	CWCBI	Cropwell Bishop Community Building, Fern Road, Cropwell Bishop	Map 8 Cropwell Ward	
	Cropwell Butler Parish	CWCBU		Cropwell Butler Village Hall, Main Street, Cropwell Butler
	Tithby Parish	CWTI		Cropwell Butler Village Hall, Main Street, Cropwell Butler
	Wiverton Hall Parish	CWWH		Cropwell Butler Village Hall, Main Street, Cropwell Butler

Ward	Polling District	Polling Place	Polling District Area
EAST BRIDGFORD East Bridgford Parish	EBEB	East Bridgford Methodist Chapel, Main Street, East Bridgford	Map 9 East Bridgford Ward
Kneeton Parish	EBKN	East Bridgford Methodist Chapel, Main Street, East Bridgford	
Newton Parish	EBNE	RAFAC Building, Trenchard Close, Newton	
Shelford Parish	EBSH	Shelford Village Hall, Church Street, Shelford	
EDWALTON	EDB1	St Lukes Church Hall, Leahurst Road, West Bridgford	Map 10 Edwalton Ward
	EDB2	Edwalton Church Hall, Vicarage Green, Edwalton	
GAMSTON NORTH (Unparished area)	GNB	n/a	Map 11 Gamston North Ward
Gamston Parish	GNGA	Gamston Village Hall, also known as The Institute, Main Rd, Gamston	
This Polling District comprises the Holme Pierrepont Ward of Holme Pierrepont Parish	GNHP	Gedling & Sherwood Cricket Club, Regatta Way, Holme Pierrepont	
GAMSTON SOUTH	GSB1	Gamston Community Hall, Ambleside, West Bridgford	Map 12 Gamston South Ward
	GSB2	Gamston Community Hall, Ambleside, West Bridgford	
GOTHAM Barton in Fabis Parish	GOBA	Barton in Fabis Village Hall, Barton in Fabis	Map 13 Gotham Ward
Gotham Parish	GOGO	Gotham Village Memorial Hall Nottingham Road, Gotham	

Ward	Polling District	Polling Place	Polling District Area
Kingston on Soar Parish	GOKI	Kingston on Soar Village Hall, Kingston on Soar	
Ratcliffe on Soar Parish	GORA	Kingston on Soar Village Hall, Kingston on Soar	
Thrumpton Parish	GOTH	Thrumpton Village Hall, Church Lane, Thrumpton	
KEYWORTH AND WOLDS This polling district comprises the North ward of Keyworth Parish	KWKN	Keyworth Cricket Club Pavilion, Platt Lane, Keyworth	Map 14 Keyworth and Wolds Ward
These two polling districts comprise the South Ward of Keyworth Parish	KWKS1	Keyworth Village Hall, Elm Avenue, Keyworth	
	KWKS2	Keyworth Village Hall, Elm Avenue, Keyworth	
Stanton on the Wolds Parish	KWST	The Clubhouse, Stanton-on-the-Wolds Golf Club	
Widmerpool Parish	KWWI	Keyworth Rugby Club Pavilion, Willoughby Road, Widmerpool	
Willoughby on the Wolds Parish	KWWW	Willoughby on the Wolds Village Hall, London Lane, Willoughby on the Wolds	
LADY BAY Adbolton Ward, Holme Pierrepont Parish	LBAD	All Hallows Halls, Pierrepont Road, West Bridgford	Map 15 Lady Bay Ward
	LBB1	All Hallows Halls, Pierrepont Road, West Bridgford	
	LBB2	Lady Bay Scout Hall, adjacent to 53 Mona Road, West Bridgford	
LEAKE This Polling District comprises the Castle ward of East Leake Parish	LEELC	East Leake Village Hall, Main Street, East Leake	Map 16 Leake Ward

Ward	Polling District	Polling Place	Polling District Area
This Polling District comprises the Stonebridge ward of East Leake Parish	LEELS	East Leake Leisure Centre, Lantern Lane, East Leake	
This Polling District comprises the Woodgate ward of East Leake Parish	LEELW	East Leake Village Hall, Main Street, East Leake	
Normanton on Soar Parish	LENS	The Hall, Main Street, Normanton on Soar	
Stanford on Soar Parish	LESS	The Hall, Main Street, Normanton on Soar	
West Leake Parish	LEWL	East Leake Village Hall, Main Street, East Leake	
LUTTERELL	LUB1	Social Centre, Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Victoria Road, West Bridgford	Map 17 Lutterell Ward
	LUB2	Walcote Drive Community Centre Walcote Drive, West Bridgford	
	LUB3	Mobile Station, Car Park, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Stanhome Square, West Bridgford	
MUSTERS	MUB1	West Bridgford Baptist Church, Melton Road, West Bridgford	Map 18 Musters Ward
	MUB2	St Pauls Church Hall, Boundary Road, West Bridgford	
NEVILE AND LANGAR	NLCB	Colston Bassett Village Hall,	Map 19 Nevile and Langar Ward
Colston Bassett Parish			
Hickling Parish	NLHI	Hickling Village Hall, Main Street, Hickling	

Ward	Polling District	Polling Place	Polling District Area
Kinoulton Parish	NLKI	Kinoulton Village Hall, Kinoulton	
This polling district comprises the Langar ward of Langar cum Barnstone Parish	NLLA	Langar C of E Primary School, (Langar Room) Barnstone Road, Langar	
Owthorpe Parish	NLOW	Kinoulton Village Hall, Kinoulton	
Upper Broughton Parish	NLUB	Upper Broughton Village Hall, Upper Broughton	
RADCLIFFE ON TRENT	RTM1	ROT Sports Association Pavilion, Bingham Road, Radcliffe on Trent	Map 20 Radcliffe on Trent Ward
These three Polling districts comprise the Manvers Ward of Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish	RTM2	British Legion Hall, Radcliffe Hall, 17 Main Road, Radcliffe on Trent	
	RTM3	Catalyst Church, Westminster Drive, Upper Saxondale,	
	RTT1	Craig Moray Community Centre, 42 Shelford Road, Radcliffe on Trent	
These two Polling districts comprise the Trent Ward of Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish	RTT2	The Grange, Vicarage Lane, Radcliffe on Trent	
RUDDINGTON	RUCA	Ruddington Village Hall, Wilford Road, Ruddington	Map 21 Ruddington Ward
This Polling district comprises the Camelot Ward of Ruddington Parish			
This Polling district comprises the Easthorpe Ward of Ruddington Parish	RUEA	Ruddington Village Hall, Wilford Road, Ruddington	
This Polling district comprises the Flawford Ward of Ruddington Parish	RUFL	St. Peter's Rooms, Church Street, Ruddington	

Ward	Polling District	Polling Place	Polling District Area
This Polling district comprises the Manor Ward of Ruddington Parish	RUMA	St. Peter's Rooms, Church Street, Ruddington	
SUTTON BONINGTON Sutton Bonington Parish	SB	Sutton Bonington Village Hall, St. Annes Lane, Sutton Bonington	Map 22 Sutton Bonington Ward
THOROTON This Polling district comprises the Barnstone Ward of Langar cum Barnstone Parish	THBA	The Institute (Barnstone) Barnstone	Map 23 Thoroton Ward
Elton on the Hill Parish	THEL	Orston Village Hall, Orston	
Flawborough Parish	THFLA	Orston Village Hall, Orston	
Flintham Parish	THFLI	Flintham Village Hall, Inholms Road, Flintham	
Granby Parish	THGR	Granby Village Hall, Granby	
Hawksworth Parish	THHA	Hawksworth Church Hall, Hawksworth	
Orston Parish	THOR	Orston Village Hall, Orston	
Shelton Parish	TSHS	Hawksworth Church Hall, Hawksworth	
Sibthorpe Parish	THSI	Hawksworth Church Hall, Hawksworth	
Thoroton Parish	THTH	Orston Village Hall, Orston	
TOLLERTON Clipston Parish	TOCL	Tollerton Methodist Church Hall, Burnside Grove, Tollerton	Map 24 Tollerton Ward
Normanton on the Wolds	TONO	Burnside Memorial Hall, Church Hill, Plumtree	
Plumtree Parish	TOPL	Burnside Memorial Hall, Church Hill, Plumtree	
Tollerton Parish	TOTO	Tollerton Methodist Church Hall, Burnside Grove, Tollerton	

Ward	Polling District	Polling Place	Polling District Area
TRENT BRIDGE	TBB1	West Bridgford Methodist Church, Musters Road, West Bridgford	Map 25 Trent Bridge Ward
	TBB2	Test Match Hotel, Gordon Square, West Bridgford	

Proposals in respect of responses received

a) ***Responses 1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 11 and 14 – Keyworth North Polling District (KWKN) – Crossdale Drive Primary School***

These responses highlighted issues regarding the disruption caused by closing Crossdale Drive Primary School, with the effects this had on students' education and also on parents needing to make child care arrangements.

The following alternative venues were suggested for use as a polling place instead of the school:

- Keyworth Village Hall
- Platt Lane Playing Fields Pavilion
- The Methodist Church on Selby Lane
- The St Mary's Church Parochial Hall on Elm Avenue

The previous Chief Executive has met with the head teacher at Crossdale Drive Primary School on more than one occasion in the past to try to find a long term solution to the use of the school as a polling station whilst satisfying the Head's safeguarding concerns so that he felt able to keep the school open on polling day. Unfortunately, however, no solution could be found that the Head felt comfortable with.

As recently as July, a meeting also took place with the Equals Trust to discuss the same issue and to try and find a solution, whether this be to retain the use of the school or investigate an alternative premise that was suitable.

Having regard to the requirements of the review and particularly the fact that where possible, the polling place should be in its own polling district, an exercise has been undertaken to establish any other premises in the KWKN polling district which may be a suitable alternative venue to Crossdale Drive Primary School.

Of the four polling places suggested above, only Platt Lane Playing Fields Pavilion is situated in the polling district. The other three venues are situated in KWKS1 polling district.

Keyworth Cricket Club Pavilion on Platt Lane has been assessed and would be a suitable venue as a polling station and the Cricket Club have confirmed that it would be willing to make the building available as a polling place. The building is fully accessible and has a large car park. The disadvantage of this location is that it is on the edge of the polling district and away from the main residential area.

The only other venue in the KWKN polling district which may have been suitable as a polling place is the Pear Tree Pub on Nottingham Road. However having assessed the venue, it does not have a separate function room and, therefore, the building itself is unsuitable. A further option may be to site a porta cabin in the car park although the car park slopes and is not ideal for siting a portable unit. The landlord did not discount the possibility of

siting a porta cabin in the car park and was open to this being explored should the council wish to pursue this option.

Proposal

To trial the use of Keyworth Cricket Club Pavilion, Platt Lane, for all elections taking place in 2020 and then evaluate its success as a long term polling place for this polling district. If a further change is necessary following feedback then a further report should be brought back to Council to enable a change to be made for any election taking place from 2021 onwards.

b) ***Response 6 – Abbey Ward Polling District (ABB2)***

This response had concerns regarding the rough car park surface and also the poor lighting within the building when voting in the polling booths

The car parking surface has recently been resurfaced with tarmac and disabled parking bays are also marked out. The surface is now level and there are no issues with access from the car park to the venue.

In terms of the lighting in the booths, it is possible to use portable lights that fix to the polling booths to ensure adequate lighting is available when voting.

Proposal

It is recommended that portable lights that fix to the polling booths are provided for all elections in the future to ensure that there is adequate lighting available to electors when casting their vote.