

Governance and Ethics Committee

20 October 2022

Time 2.00 pm **Public Meeting?** Yes **Type of meeting** Advisory group

Venue Council Chamber - 4th Floor - Civic Centre

Membership

Chair Cllr John Reynolds (Lab)
Vice Chair Cllr Jonathan Crofts (Con)

Labour

Cllr Dr Paul John Birch J.P.
Cllr Celia Hibbert
Cllr Louise Miles
Cllr Phil Page
Cllr Milkinderpal Jaspal
Cllr Rita Potter

Conservative

Cllr Simon Bennett
Cllr Wendy Thompson

Quorum for this meeting is three Councillors.

Information for the Public

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact the Democratic Services team:

Contact Donna Cope
Tel/Email 01902 554452 or Email: donna.cope@wolverhampton.gov.uk
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Wolverhampton WV1 1RL

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Some items are discussed in private because of their confidential or commercial nature. These reports are not available to the public.

Agenda

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

- | <i>Item No.</i> | <i>Title</i> |
|-----------------|---|
| 1 | Apologies for absence |
| 2 | Declarations of interest |
| 3 | Minutes of the previous meeting (Pages 3 - 6)
[To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 1 September 2022 as a correct record]. |
| 4 | Matters arising
[To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting]. |
| 5 | Preparations for Elections Act Introduction (Pages 7 - 14)
[To note the timeline and key areas of the Elections Act]. |
| 6 | Appointing an Independent Member
[Report to follow]. |
| 7 | Final Polling District and Polling Place Proposals (Pages 15 - 152)
[To consider the final proposals for the polling district and polling place scheme for 2023]. |
| 8 | Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public (Pages 153 - 160)
[To consider the proposed protocol for questions by members of the public]. |

Attendance

Members of the Governance and Ethics Committee

Cllr John Reynolds (Chair)
Cllr Jonathan Crofts (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Dr Paul John Birch J.P.
Cllr Celia Hibbert
Cllr Louise Miles
Cllr Phil Page
Cllr Milkinderpal Jaspal
Cllr Rita Potter
Cllr Simon Bennett
Cllr Wendy Thompson

Employees

David Pattison	Chief Operating Officer
Laura Noonan	Electoral Services Manager
Anna Zollino-Biscotti	Information Governance Manager
Sarah Campbell	Customer Engagement Manager
Lukhvinder Sanger	Councillor Enquiries Manager
Jas Kaur	Democratic Services Manager
Donna Cope	Democratic Services Officer

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. *Title*

- 1 Apologies for absence**
There were no apologies for absence received.
- 2 Declarations of interest**
There were no declarations of interest.
- 3 Minutes of the previous meeting**
That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7 July 2022 be approved as a correct record.
- 4 Matters arising**
There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

5 **Information Governance - Annual SIRO Report 2021-2022**

David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer, introduced the Information Governance Annual SIRO Report 2021-2022. The report provided an update relating to the responsibilities of the Council's Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO) and outlined information governance activity and performance during the 2021-22 financial year.

Anna Zollino-Biscotti, Information Governance Manager, presented an overview of the Annual SIRO Report, and provided assurance that information risks were being effectively managed. An update on information governance performance was provided; key risks and areas of improvement were highlighted; and the Information Governance Work Plan for 2022-2023 was outlined.

Members of the Committee welcomed the report and thanked officers for their hard work.

Councillor John Reynolds moved the recommendation in the report. Councillor Jonathan Crofts seconded the recommendation.

Resolved:

1. That the contents of the Information Governance (IG) Annual Report for SIRO 2021-2022 be noted.

6 **Annual Social Care, Public Health, Corporate Complaints & Compliments Report 2021-2022**

David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer, introduced the Annual Social Care, Public Health, Corporate Complaints & Compliments Report 2021-2022. The report provided an overview of the complaints, including Local Government and Social Care/Housing Ombudsman enquiries, received during 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Sarah Campbell, Customer Engagement Manager, presented an overview of the Annual Report and responded to questions asked. A breakdown of the complaints received during 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 was provided along with the outcome of each case. Members were assured that all upheld complaints were considered thoroughly, and examples of the lessons learnt were noted.

Councillor John Reynolds moved the recommendation in the report. Councillor Jonathan Crofts seconded the recommendation.

The report was debated by Committee, and concerns were raised over the long waiting times for SEND assessments. In response to this, it was agreed that the Customer Engagement Manager would monitor the situation.

Resolved:

1. That the contents of the Annual Social Care, Public Health, Complaints and Compliments Report for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 be noted.

7 **Councillor Enquiries Unit Update**

David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer, introduced the Councillor Enquiries Unit (CEU) Update.

Lukhvinder Sanger, Councillor Enquiries Manager, outlined the CEU processes and presented a breakdown of the cases received.

Members of the Committee discussed their individual experiences of the CEU, and the Councillor Enquiries Manager replied to questions asked. Overall, it was agreed that the CEU was helpful and efficient, and that the delays experienced by members were due to individual service areas.

In response to comments made it was agreed that the delay in response time would be raised with Service Directors, and an update on the matter would be brought back to Committee.

It was further agreed that a report detailing CEU data per ward would be presented to members at a future meeting.

Resolved:

1. That the Councillor Enquiries Unit Update be noted.

8 **Democratic Engagement Update**

David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer, introduced the report: Democratic Engagement Update. The report provided an update on the democratic engagement activities for 2022-2023.

It was noted that the Chief Executive had written to the Secretary of State requesting that the fallow year of 2025 be brought forward to 2024. A response on the matter had not been received so a reminder of the request would be issued by the Chief Operating Officer.

Laura Noonan, Electoral Services Manager, outlined the report and noted that the councillor briefing session on the Elections Act and Local Implementation Plan was now scheduled for 10 October 2022.

Councillor John Reynolds moved the recommendation in the report. Councillor Jonathan Crofts seconded the recommendation.

The report was debated by Committee, and it was acknowledged that some students were at a disadvantage with the Youth Elections taking place once every two years. The Electoral Services Manager responded to questions asked and agreed to raise the issue with Youth Services.

Following further consideration of the report Councillor Reynolds made the following suggestions:

1. That a letter be written to the Local Government Association (LGA) regarding the electoral registration process.
2. That future election campaign leaflets be produced in Romanian.

Resolved:

1. That the update on the democratic engagement activities for 2022-2023 be noted.

9 **Update on Polling District and Polling Place Review**
David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer, introduced the report: Update on Polling District and Polling Place Review. The report provided an update on the outcomes of the public consultation and detailed the next steps to the review.

It was noted that the public consultation had ended on Friday 26 August 2022 and the final proposals would be presented to Committee in October.

Laura Noonan, Electoral Services Manager, summarised the responses received and thanked members for their feedback. It was reported that a number of changes had been made following the feedback and the Electoral Services Manager outlined the key changes. It was proposed that 17 schools would be used as polling stations instead of the initial 14, and members were reminded that this was a reduction to the 24 schools previously used.

Councillor John Reynolds moved the recommendations in the report. Councillor Jonathan Crofts seconded the recommendations.

The report was debated by Committee, and some members were concerned that the number of proposed schools had risen from 14 to 17. Concerns were also raised around accessibility issues, the distance residents had to travel to vote, and the number of polling stations located outside the ward.

The Committee requested that a report detailing the proposed Blakenhall ward polling stations be brought before Committee for proper consideration.

The Chief Operating Officer responded to concerns raised and stated that the proposed number of schools was not guaranteed at this stage. He explained that other options were being explored to avoid the use of schools and that a detailed report would be presented to Committee at the next meeting on the number of schools to potentially be used and the number of schools used by neighbouring authorities.

Resolved:

1. That the outcome of the public consultation be noted.
2. That the next steps for the polling district and polling place review be noted.

10 **Update on the 2022 Annual Canvass**
David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer, introduced the report: Update on the 2022 Annual Canvass. The report outlined the progress made on the annual canvass and detailed the responses received.

Laura Noonan, Electoral Services Manager, summarised the report and responded to questions asked. She noted that contact with care homes hadn't commenced yet and reassured members that the electoral register was updated regularly.

Resolved:

1. That the progress of the 2022 annual canvass be noted.

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Governance and Ethics Committee 20 October 2022
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Report title	Preparations for Elections Act Introduction	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Paula Brookfield Cabinet Member for Governance and Equalities	
Accountable director	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer	
Originating service	Electoral Services	
Accountable employee	Laura Noonan	Electoral Services Manager 01902 55 4939 Laura.noonan@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report has been considered by	Election Board	30 September 2022

Recommendations for noting:

The Governance and Ethics Committee is asked to note:

1. The timeline and key areas of the Elections Act.

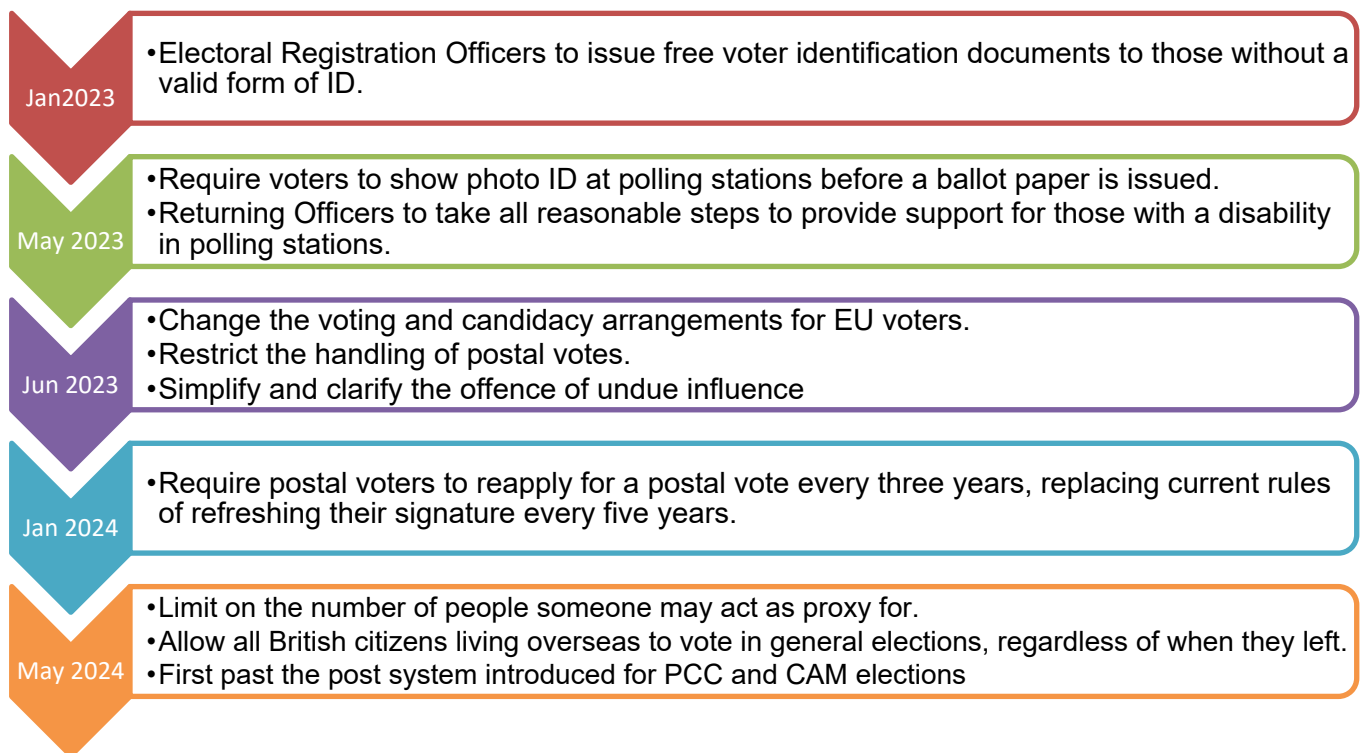
1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an overview of the Elections Act and to outline initial preparations for implementing the Voter ID and Accessibility arrangements in May 2023.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Elections Act received Royal Assent in April 2022. This Act has significant implications on the running of elections. The changes will be implemented over an 18-month period.
- 2.2 Electoral Services delivered a briefing session to all Councillors on the Elections Act on 10 October.

3.0 Areas of Act and Timeline



4.0 Statutory Instruments

- 4.1 The detail for each area of the Act will be set out in secondary legislation. The Statutory Instrument for Voter ID is scheduled for early November, and the Statutory Instrument for Accessibility is scheduled for December.
- 4.2 The Electoral Commission will produce their guidance to electoral administrators and candidates and agents once the secondary legislation has been passed.
- 4.3 Electoral Services will hold another councillor briefing session when the secondary legislation is produced.

5.0 Election Act Impact in Wolverhampton

5.1 National research has indicated that around 98% of the public have some form of suitable ID. Therefore, in Wolverhampton, it is expected that approximately 3,700 electors would not have suitable ID and would need to apply for voter ID.

5.2 As at 1 August 2022, Wolverhampton had 12,764 EU nationals registered to vote – nearly 7% of the electorate. Two groups of EU citizens will retain their voting and candidacy rights and remain registered:

- Qualifying EU citizens – a list of countries with which the UK has bilateral voting and candidacy right treaties. Currently there are four countries, and the number of electors are as follows: Poland (2,364), Spain (380), Portugal (1,015) and Luxembourg (2).
- EU citizens with retained rights – those persons who were already resident in the UK at the end of the Implementation Period following our exit from the EU (31/12/20). Such persons are also required to have maintained lawful immigration status. All EU citizens will therefore need to have their eligibility to be registered reviewed when legislation comes in.

6.0 Voter ID

6.1 There will be a range of photo ID that electors can use such as:

- Passport (UK, EU or Commonwealth)
- Driving License
- Immigration Document
- PASS card.

6.2 The ID must be original, it cannot be a photocopy. Expired photo ID will also be accepted as long as the photo remains a good enough likeness to be able to identify the elector.

6.3 Work/student passes will not be an acceptable form of ID.

6.4 For electors who do not have an acceptable form of Photo ID, they can apply for a voter authority certificate. Applications can be made from January 2023 on the 'Get ready to vote in person' service on the government website. Applications will be downloaded by Electoral Services from a national Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) portal. Photos will be individually approved or rejected (making follow up enquiries where necessary), and then they will be released to a national printer for posting.

6.5 For electors who are not able to access the internet to make their application or upload a photo, they will be supported by Electoral Services in the Civic Centre to do this.

6.6 The deadline to apply for a voter authority certified will be 6 days before poll.

- 6.7 Electoral Services will be able to produce temporary voter certificates where an application has been made in time but not received. These will be available to collect from the Civic Centre up to 5pm on polling day.
- 6.8 The voter authority certificate will have a 10-year validity and electors will be advised to change it when it is no longer a true likeness.
- 6.9 The poll card will be changing to an A4 enveloped letter which will list all of the Valid ID that electors can bring and information on how to apply for a voter certificate.
- 6.10 Only the presiding officer and poll clerk can inspect ID unless permitted by elector. There will be comprehensive training given to polling staff and support available on day from Polling Station Inspector and Electoral Services.
- 6.11 The Presiding Officer must refuse an elector a ballot paper if they have reasonable doubt the ID does not look like the elector or suspect the documents are forged.
- 6.12 Privacy screens will need to be provided to all polling stations where there is not a separate space for checking ID for removal of face coverings etc. More queues can be expected at polling stations as a result of the additional step to check ID.

7.0 Accessibility

- 7.1 Returning Officers will have a general responsibility to take all reasonable steps to support voters with disabilities. The Electoral Commission's guidance will recommend a range of support that should be made available to voters with disabilities, and this will be developed in conjunction with organisations representing disabled voters and those from the electoral sector. The draft guidance makes clear that the RO has a legal obligation to provide:
 - A notice inside and outside the polling station providing instructions on how to vote at the election
 - A notice in each polling booth providing information on how to mark the ballot paper at the election
 - At least one large sample copy of the ballot paper must be displayed inside the polling station
 - An enlarged hand-held copy of the ballot paper
- 7.2 It also states that the following equipment should, as a minimum, be provided to all polling stations:
 - Chair/seating – this provides a place to rest for voters who cannot stand for long periods and a seat for voters who would like to take some time to think before entering the polling booth.
 - Magnifiers – these increase the size of the text on a document providing support for voters who are visually impaired to vote independently.
 - Tactile voting device –this provides support for voters who are visually impaired to mark their vote on the ballot paper in the correct place.

- Polling booth at wheelchair level –helps to ensure that voters who use a wheelchair are able access a lower writing surface to ensure they can cast their vote in secret in a booth that is accessible.
- Staff name badges – these help voters more easily identify that a person is a member of staff in the polling station and is someone they can approach for assistance.
- Pencil grip – these can help voters with dexterity impairments to more easily hold and use a pencil independently.
- Ramps (for buildings with steps) – these support access to a polling station for voters who use a wheelchair or have difficulty using steps.
- Temporary alerters or doorbells for any doors that are required to remain shut during the day (for example, fire doors) – these provide a way for voters to let polling station staff know that they need assistance to open the door so they can access the polling station.
- Appropriate lighting – some polling station venues have good lighting but others may need additional lighting at the desk; to ensure that voters can clearly see the faces of staff, and in the polling booths; to support voters with visual impairments to be able to read and complete the ballot paper.
- Reserved parking spaces reserved for voters with disabilities (where parking is available at the venue) – this ensures that disabled voters can park as close as possible to the polling station

7.3 The draft guidance also states that Returning Officers should provide accessibility awareness training for all staff who interact with voters, including staff who support electoral services, to help improve their understanding of the needs of those with disabilities and the importance of clear communication. It is also vital that training for polling station staff addresses the importance of being aware of accessibility needs of voters at the polling station and what steps they should take to support them.

7.4 An accessibility working group has been set up to discuss the improvements that can be made in Wolverhampton. The membership of this group includes Electoral Services, Equalities, Adult Social Care. Local disability organisations have been invited to join.

8.0 Funding

8.1 The Electoral Commission is to produce guidance for electoral administrators and candidates and agents once the secondary legislation has been passed. The Government has indicated that additional new burdens funding will be provided to support the implementation of the Elections Act, though the level of funding is yet to be confirmed.

9.0 Communications

9.1 All local communication channels will be utilised including council website, Facebook, twitter and the resident's newsletter.

9.2 The following key messages will be covered:

- There will be a private area in polling stations to check ID
- You may have to remove veil/face coverings if asked
- The deadline to apply for voter cert is 5pm 6 days before poll
- Ensure you are registered to vote first before you apply for voter cert
- You can apply for a voter cert online, or contact electoral services if you need assistance
- You only need to apply for a voter ID card if don't have acceptable ID
- The poll card has changed. It will now be an A4 envelope letter. It will list all of the Valid ID
- Your polling station may have changed due to boundary changes. You can check where your polling station will be online. It will also be on your poll card
- There will be an FAQ page on the Council website for all other queries.

9.3 All candidates will be encouraged to share the council and Electoral Commissions posts about Voter ID.

9.4 Candidates and agents will also be encouraged to include voter ID reminders in campaign literature and on elector's doorsteps.

10.0 Financial implications

10.1 The Government has indicated that additional new burdens funding will be provided to support the implementation of the Elections Act, though the level of funding is yet to be confirmed. A full assessment of financial implications will be undertaken when this information has been provided and details of costs and funding incorporated in future reports. [GE/11102022/F]

11.0 Legal Implications

11.1 All preparations outlined in this report are in line with the Elections Act. The next stage in our planning rests on the statutory instruments being made. [DP/12102022/A]

12.0 Equalities implications

12.1 Local authorities have a duty to review the accessibility of all polling places to disabled voters and ensure that every polling place, and prospective polling place, for which it is responsible is accessible to disabled voters 'so far as is reasonable and practicable'. All polling stations are accessible for disabled voters or provisions will be made to make them accessible for disabled voters on polling day.

12.2 The accessibility working group has been set up to ensure compliance with the new requirements relating to accessibility.

13.0 All other Implications

13.1 There are no other implications arising from the report at the current time.

14.0 Schedule of background papers

14.1 Democratic Engagement Update, Governance and Ethics Committee, 1 September 2022

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Governance and Ethics Committee 20 October 2022
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Report title	Final polling district and polling place proposals	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Paula Brookfield Cabinet Member for Governance and Equalities	
Accountable director	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer	
Originating service	Electoral Services	
Accountable employee	Laura Noonan	Electoral Services Manager
	Tel	01902 554939
	Email	Laura.noonan@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Council	2 November 2022
	Election Board	7 November 2022

Recommendations for decision:

The Governance and Ethics Committee recommends that Council:

1. Approve the polling district and polling place scheme contained in Appendix 1 to be adopted in relation to all elections.
2. Approve the necessary amendments to polling districts for the publication of the 1 December 2022 electoral register.
3. Approve the delegation of authority to the Returning Officer and Chief Operating Officer in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Governance, Leader and Leader of the Opposition to make minor alterations to the polling station scheme prior to the next compulsory review (October 2023 to January 2025).

Recommendations for noting:

The Governance Committee is asked to note:

1. The submissions made to the Council as part of the consultation on the review of polling districts and polling place, along with the Acting Returning Officer Response are set out in Appendix 5.

2. That a double polling station in Bilston South is yet to be confirmed. A site visit is required to assess the suitability of alternative venues in place Lower Bradley Community Centre. Assets confirmed that the Council are currently in the process of disposing this asset, and that all ward Councillors have been consulted on this project.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 This report presents the final proposals for the polling district and polling place scheme for 2023 for approval by the Council. It is recommended that the Council approves this scheme.

2.0 Background

2.1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) Order for the Wolverhampton Electoral Review was laid before parliament on 15 June 2022. The Order was made on 20 September 2022 which confirms the creation of new ward boundaries in Wolverhampton effective from May 2023. This will result in changes to the majority of ward boundaries, but the number of wards and the number of councillors will remain the same. A new polling district and polling place scheme is required to reflect the new boundaries at the revision of the electoral register on 1 December 2022.

2.2 All councillors will be up for election in May 2023. The council will then return to a cycle of election by thirds with elections in 2024, 2026 and 2027. The councillor with the highest number of votes will be elected to the four-year term, the second highest to the three-year term and the lowest to the one-year term. The Chief Operating Officer has written to DLUCh to request that the fallow year be in 2024 instead of 2025. The outcome of this request is yet to be received.

2.3 The differences between a polling district, place and station are as follows:

- A polling district is a geographical sub-division of an electoral area (ward in this instance), as well as parliamentary constituency boundaries.
- A polling place is the building or area in which polling stations will be selected by the Returning Officer. A polling place within a polling district must be designated so that polling stations are within easy reach of all electors from across the polling district.
- A polling station is the room or area within the polling place where voting takes place. Unlike polling districts and polling places which are fixed by the local authority, polling stations are chosen by the relevant Returning Officer for the election. The Returning Officer for the particular election must provide a sufficient number of polling stations and allocate the electors to those polling stations in such manner as they think the most convenient.

3.0 Review process 2022

3.1 The Governance and Ethics Committee approved the timetable for the formal review process at its meeting on 7 July 2022, and this is set out below:

Activity	Date
Publish notice of holding review and start of public formal consultation	18 July 2022

Drop-in sessions with ward Councillors to share feedback on proposals	18 July 2022 – 26 August 2022
End of formal consultation	26 August 2022
Collate results from consultation and prepare final scheme of polling districts and stations	29 August 2022 – 30 September 2022
Attend political group meeting to share final scheme of polling district and stations for comment	September 2022
Final scheme of polling districts and stations taken to Governance and Ethics Committee for recommendation to full council	20 October 2022
Final recommendations presented to the council	2 November 2022
Publish electoral register on new boundaries	1 December 2022
Poll cards will be sent to electors with polling station details on	March 2023

3.2 In accordance with the requirements set out in the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013, the following steps were carried out for the formal review:

- Publish a notice of the holding of a review.
- Consult the ARO for every parliamentary constituency which is wholly or partly in its area.
- Publish all representations made by an ARO within 30 days of receipt by posting a copy of them at the local authority's office and in at least one conspicuous place in their area and, if the authority maintains a website, by placing a copy on the authority's website.
- Seek representations from such persons as it thinks have particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for persons who have different forms of disability. Such persons must have an opportunity to make representations and to comment on the representations made by the AROs.
- On completion of a review, give reasons for its decisions and publish:
 - all correspondence sent to an (Acting) Returning Officer in connection with the review.

- all correspondence sent to any person whom the authority thinks has particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for persons who have different forms of disability.
- all representations made by any person in connection with the review.
- the minutes of any meeting held by the council to consider any revision to the designation of polling districts or polling places within its area as a result of the review.
- details of the designation of polling districts and polling places within the local authority area as a result of the review.

3.3 To comply with Electoral Commission guidance, the number of electors allocated to each polling station should not exceed 2,500.

3.4 To facilitate the consultation process, a draft scheme was launched for comment, and the following information and principles were used to propose the draft scheme:

- Data provided to the LG BCE detailing proposed areas of new development, the approximate number of dwellings and expected population numbers for those areas.
- Details of current polling places and an indication as to their overall suitability for purpose.
- Presiding Officer/Polling Station Inspector comments from May 2021 and May 2022 local elections.
- Alternative venues to schools to minimise the impact on children's education.
- Alternative venues to temporary polling stations (portacabins).
- Polling places should be within one mile of each elector.
- Site visits were undertaken to assess the suitability of alternative venues.

4.0 Consultation approach and responses received.

4.1 The consultation was published on the council's main consultation page. Representations could be made via the online questionnaire, or in writing via email or post.

4.2 As part of the consultation process, all ward councillors were invited to drop-in sessions during the period 18 July – 25 August, to offer information and local knowledge to aid the Returning Officer when considering proposals for both polling districts and polling places.

4.3 All Members of Parliament for Wolverhampton's three parliamentary constituencies, and candidates and agents who stood in the May 2022 elections were invited to respond to the consultation via email.

4.4 The consultation was forwarded on to around 50 key stakeholders including community centres, resident's groups, faith groups and charities.

4.5 The public consultation was advertised on the Council website, the Council's social media channels, resident's newsletter, in local newspapers and internal staff channels. A leaflet was included in canvass letters to all households as part of the annual canvass.

- 4.6 The councils staff disability group were also invited to comment on the accessibility of polling stations.
- 4.7 In total, 72 responses were received. All responses are summarised in Appendix 5.
- 4.8 A large number of suggestions were taken on board and further changes were made to 13 wards with the majority being changes to polling station venues.
- 4.9 In September, meetings were held with both Labour and Conservative Group to discuss the representations received, and in the main both groups supported the Acting Returning Officer's amendments as a result, with only a few minor amendments made.

5.0 Changes to the draft scheme

- 5.1 The table below details the changes that have been made to the draft scheme which was presented to Governance and Ethics Committee on 7 July 2022:

Ward	Polling District/Polling Station Draft proposal	Comments received during consultation	Amendment proposed in final scheme
Bilston North	BN1 - Tenants Meeting Room, Hugh Gaitskell Court	Councillors were concerned about the vulnerable residents at the tenants meeting room and having this building open for public access. They also said that there is restricted access to parking because it is used by the residents, and it is not as central to the polling district.	Return to Stowlawn Primary School
Bilston North	BN4 and BN5 – Bilston Methodist Church	Feedback was received from ward councillors that this would not be suitable as the entrance is too close to traffic lights and would cause congestion. A concern for parking was also raised and that it would double the distance for electors to travel.	Return to Villiers Primary School
Bilston North	BN5 boundary to include the take in area from Ettingshall and Bilston South	Councillors said it was a busy junction and it would be more convenient for these electors to vote at the excel church as it has a better fit for this community.	Split in to two polling districts along the Wellington Road to create an additional polling district. The polling station for the new polling district will be at the excel church.

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[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Bilston South	Merge original BEH and BEA to become BS1 and to vote at Bert Williams	The horning drive polling station was closer for these electors, and it will also be the polling station to serve the new bilston urban village.	Return to Temporary Station, Horning Drive, WV14 0RR
Bilston South	BS6 and BS7	Assets have advised that Lower Bradley Community Centre will no longer be available as a polling station.	A site visit will be arranged to assess the suitability of Rocket Pool Strengthening Families Hub.
Blakenhall	BO3 – Temporary station, Colton Hills school BO4 – St Johns Methodist Church	Ward councillors said that a large proportion of the residents are elderly who could not travel to the polling station, and many did not know where it was. They felt the polling station would be more suitable returning to Goldthorn Park Primary School.	Return to double polling station at Goldthorn Park Primary School.
Bushbury North	BUC - Northcote Farm, Underhill Lane, Bushbury, WV10 7JF	Northcote farm is too far away from the residential area	Temporary Station on park next to Mayfield Medical Practice, Cromwell Road, Wolverhampton, WV10 8UT.
Bushbury North	BUD - St Mary's Church, Bushbury Ln, WV10 8JP	Ward councillor fed back that this would not be suitable due to lighting concerns and the lack of parking available, whereas the library is closer and more suitable.	Return to Collingwood Library, Broadway, WV10 8EA
Ettingshall South and Spring Vale	ES1 – to take in the previous ETF (overfield drive) to vote at Hilton Hall.	Response to public consultation said that merging these districts would be unacceptable and too far for people to access from Overfield Drive area.	New polling district and return to Temporary Polling Station, Overfield Drive, WV14 9XW
Graiseley	GR2 – Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain.	This would not be suitable due to the polling station being outside the district.	Bingley Strengthening Families Hub, Norfolk Road, Pennfields, WV3 0JE

This report is PUBLIC
[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Heath Town	HT1 – Woden Primary School	Reduces need for a school and it is in the same polling district	Double polling station at NTCG Harvest Temple Church, 1 Wolverhampton Road, WV10 0PD
Merry Hill	MH4 - St Josephs Church Hall, Coalway Road, WV3 7LF – existing PD boundary lines	Ward councillors commented that this change would make it easier for electors to travel to vote from this area as the polling station is located in this area.	Same station but to give away Pinfold Grove to MHE
Merry Hill	MH5 - Warstones Library, Pinfold Grove, WV4 4PT – existing PD boundary lines	Ward councillors commented that this change would make it easier for electors to vote from this area	Same station but to move boundary lines to follow Warstones road and Stourton drive
Oxley	OX4 - Rakegate primary school	Ward councillor fed back that these electors used to be in this district, and it is more convenient for them to vote here.	Polling district boundary change to take in the area north of lodge road from OX5
Oxley	OX5 - Polish catholic centre	Ward councillor fed back that these electors used to be in this district – as its lost some of St Annes area, and these electors did use to vote at this school.	Polling district boundary change to give away area north of lodge road to OX4.
Oxley	OX7 - Goodyear Sports and Social Club The Pavillion, Stafford Rd, WV10 6AJ	Ward councillor fed back that it is quite far for people to travel . Too difficult to come across the Stafford road. Bushbury Lane academy doesn't have much connection for the Akron estate and the southside is currently being developed.	Temporary polling station on Gatehouse Pub Cark Park, Donnington Grove, WV10 6EE
Penn	PN6 - Penn United Reformed Church	Ward councillor fed back that there was a high electorate for Penn United Reformed Church and this is more central to this area. Redraw the boundary so that electors in the area	Penn Bowling and Social Club, Manor Road, WV4 5PY

		immediately next to the church in PN6 can vote at this church.	
St Peters	SP3 - University Chaplaincy building	Ward councillor commented that this is too far for elector to get to university chaplaincy due to city centre navigation and lack of parking	Reinstate the boundary line and for these electors to vote at Newhampton Arts Centre
St Peters	SP5 - University Chaplaincy building	Ward councillors commented that this is too far and difficult to get to for the 28 electors coming from Heath Town	For these electors to stay at a polling station in the Heath Town ward – NTCG Harvest Temple Church
Tettenhall Regis	TR2 – Claregate Primary School	A response from the public consultation said that we can avoid use of school by using the Pavilion building	Pavilion building, Claregate playing fields
Wednesfield North	WN4 – to remain as is	Ward councillors commented that it is difficult for people in these areas to get to polling stations. This location is easier for electors to travel, as it is on a local bus route that is used frequently by voters.	Temporary Station on Griffiths Road, Top of Higgs Road, WV11 2PD

6.0 Final polling district and polling place proposals

6.1 The scheme is set out in detail in Appendix 2. It includes the following details:

- Map showing the polling district boundaries and location of polling place.
- Polling district reference letters
- Parliamentary constituency
- Polling place
- Estimated electorate
- Justification for proposal.

6.2 The following labelling convention for polling district references has been used:

- First two letters denote the ward (e.g. BN for Bilston North).
- Second letter denotes the polling district (e.g. 1, 2, 3)

6.3 A map to show the proposals across the city is set out in Appendix 3.

7.0 Summary of final proposal

7.1 The final proposal recommends a total of:

- 125 polling districts and polling places
- 106 venues (19 double polling stations)
- 15 schools
- 6 temporary polling stations

7.2 The following 6 polling stations are outside of the ward boundary, but they are in close proximity to the boundary line and there have been no negative comments received in relation to these during the consultation period as they are more convenient for electors to get to:

- Bilston North – (BN2 – Portobello Community Centre is in East Park ward and is a double polling station with EP4)
- Bilston North – (BN6 – Bilston’s People Centre, Excel Church is in Ettingshall North ward and is a double polling station with EN5).
- Ettingshall North – (EN1 - All Saints Community Centre is in St Peters ward)
- Merry Hill – (MH6 – Springdale Methodist Church is in Penn ward and is a double polling station with PN2).
- St Peters – (SP5 – NTCG Harvest Temple Church is in Heath Town Ward. This is for 28 electors who will share a polling station with HT1 and HT2).
- Tettenhall Regis – (TR4 – St Michaels Parish Centre is in Tettenhall Wightwick ward)

7.3 Temporary polling stations can only be used where there are no suitable alternatives. They cannot be used instead of schools because the legislation states that the Returning Officer can use schools free of charge, so therefore any costs for temporary polling stations in place of schools would not be reimbursed by the Elections Claims Unit for national elections. Each temporary polling station unit costs around £2,000 and some sites would need two units so the additional costs would reach £64,000 if they were in place of each school. In addition to the financial implications, there are also significant health and safety risks as there needs to be parking nearby and a safer space for electors to queue, which will be an even greater need with the introduction of voter ID.

8.0 Schools as Polling Stations

8.1 This proposed polling scheme reduces the number of schools by a further 8 to 15. Two of these schools remain open and 7 plan for it to be used as an inset day. We will work closely with the schools identified as polling places to support them to keep the majority of their building open on polling day wherever possible, or to plan to use polling day as one of the inset days.

8.2 The number of schools has significantly reduced over the last five years:

Year – Election	Number of schools used
2017 - Combined Authority Mayoral Election	37
2017 – General Election	38
2018 – Local Election	38
2019 – Local Election	34
2019 – European Parliamentary Election	33
2019 – General Election	33
2021 – Local, PCC and CAM election	28
2022 - Local Election	24
2023 – Local Election (Proposed)	15

8.3 The number of schools used by the other metropolitan councils in the region (correct as of September 2022):

Authority	Number of Schools Used
Birmingham	170+
Coventry	36
Dudley	60
Sandwell	25
Solihull	27
Walsall	26

9.0 Parliamentary boundaries

9.1 The parliamentary boundaries are affected by the ward boundary changes coming into effect in May 2023. Oxley and St Peter Wards are no longer coterminous with the parliamentary constituency boundaries. Therefore, it is required to retain a separate polling district to enable the electors to be registered within the existing parliamentary constituency boundary, which is why there are a number of small electorate polling districts in these wards.

10.0 Financial implications

10.1 Whilst legislation states that Returning Officers can use schools free of charge, they have been paid £275 to cover the costs of heating, lighting and caretaking duties. Non-school venues typically charge much more for hire. Total polling station hire costs have been in

the region of £40,000, with the proposed reduction in schools and use of temporary polling stations now estimated to add a further £10,000. This estimated total cost will be kept under review as polling station hire charges may also increase against a background of rising energy prices.

- 10.2 There is a £192,000 budget currently set aside to cover the cost of local elections each year. In the event of combined elections or fallow years significant underspends against the local elections budget are expected and provide scope for contributions to the Elections Reserve. Standalone election costs are conversely expected to exceed the local elections budget. In these years the additional costs are to be funded from the Elections Reserve.
- 10.3 The Elections Reserve currently stands at just over £183,000. It is currently anticipated that part of this funding will be utilised in 2022-2023 for the standalone local election costs incurred in excess of budget, inclusive of increased polling station costs.
[GE/29092022/P]

11.0 Legal implications

- 11.1 The process undertaken and all recommendations arising from this report are in line with the statutory provisions covering the review of polling districts and polling places. Electoral Commission guidance for conducting polling district and polling place reviews has been complied with. [DP/12102022/B]

12.0 Equalities implications

- 12.1 Local authorities have a duty to review the accessibility of all polling places to disabled voters and ensure that every polling place, and prospective polling place, for which it is responsible is accessible to disabled voters 'so far as is reasonable and practicable'. All polling stations that have been proposed are either accessible for disabled voters or provisions will be made to make them accessible for disabled voters on polling day.
- 12.2 An equalities analysis has been undertaken to identify the positive and negative impacts against the key equality themes and solutions identified to mitigate against negative impacts. The analysis is in Appendix 4.
- 12.3 Groups and individuals with expertise in access issues within Wolverhampton were invited to respond to the ARO's representations during the public consultation phase.

13.0 All other implications

There are no other implications arising from this report at the current time.

14.0 Schedule of background papers

- 14.1 Local Government Boundary Commission for England report Implementation Plan, Governance and Ethics Committee, 25 February 2022.
- 14.2 Boundary Review Implementation Plan and Polling District and Polling Place Review, Governance and Ethics Committee, 7 July 2022.
- 14.3 Update on polling district and polling station review, Governance and Ethics Committee, 1 September 2022.

- 14.4 Electoral Commission, Reviews of polling districts, polling places and polling stations
https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/sites/default/files/word_doc/Pollingdistrict-review-guidance.do

15.0 Appendices

- 15.1 Appendix 1: Polling district and polling place scheme 2023
- 15.2 Appendix 2: Detailed polling district and polling place scheme 2023
- 15.3 Appendix 3: Polling scheme 2023 (Map of whole city)
- 15.4 Appendix 4: Equality Analysis
- 15.5 Appendix 5: Summary of representations received in the polling district and polling place review consultation.

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Polling district	Polling Place	Ward	Double polling station	Outside of ward boundary	School	Inset day	Temporary
BN1	Stowlawn Primary School, The Willows Campus, Green Park Avenue, WV14 6EH	Bilston North			yes	No	
BN2	Portobello Community Centre, Hill Road, WV13 3TT	Bilston North	with EP4	Yes			
BN3	St Chad's Church Hall, Connaught Road, WV14 6NY	Bilston North					
BN4	Villiers Primary School, Prouds Lane, WV14 6PR	Bilston North	with BN5		Yes	No	
BN5	Villiers Primary School, Prouds Lane, WV14 6PR	Bilston North	with BN4		Yes	No	
BN6	Bilston People`s Centre, Excel Church, Wolverhampton Street, WV14 0LT	Bilston North	with EN5	Yes			
BS1	Temporary Polling Station, Horning Drive, (Off Broadmoor Road), WV14 0RR	Bilston South					Yes
BS2	Bert Williams Leisure Centre, Nettlefolds Way, WV14 0EF	Bilston South					
BS3	Bilston Methodist Church, Bow Street, Bilston, WV14 7NB	Bilston South					
BS4	The Lunt Community Centre, Lunt Road, WV14 7BH	Bilston South					
BS5	Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, Oxford Street, Bilston, WV14 0PX	Bilston South					
BS6	TBC (alternative for Lower Bradley Community Centre, Wallace Road, Bilston, WV14 8BW)	Bilston South	with BS7				
BS7	TBC (alternative for Lower Bradley Community Centre, Wallace Road, Bilston, WV14 8BW)	Bilston South	with BS6				
BS8	Bradley Senior Citizens Centre, Wilkinson Avenue, Bilston, WV14 8PS	Bilston South					
BO1	Bob Jones Community Hub, Bromley Street, WV2 3AS	Blakenhall					
BO2	Royal Air Force Association Club, 26 Goldthorn Road, Near Junction with Grange Road, WV2 4PN	Blakenhall					
BO3	Goldthorn Park Primary School, Ward Road, WV4 5ET	Blakenhall	with BO4		Yes	No	
BO4	Goldthorn Park Primary School, Ward Road, WV4 5ET	Blakenhall	with BO3		Yes	No	
BO5	St Johns Methodist Church, 558 Wolverhampton Road East, WV4 6AA	Blakenhall					

BU1	Fordhouses Baptist Church, Winchester Road, WV10 6EJ	Bushbury North	with BU6				
BU2	St James Church Hall, Taunton Avenue WV10 6PN	Bushbury North					
BU3	Temporary Station on park next to Mayfield Medical Practice, Cromwell Road, Wolverhampton, WV10 8UT.	Bushbury North					Yes
BU4	Collingwood Library, Broadway, WV10 8EA	Bushbury North					
BU5	Temple Baptist Church, 30 Three Tuns Lane, WV10 6BD	Bushbury North					
BU6	Fordhouses Baptist Church, Winchester Road, WV10 6EJ	Bushbury North	with BU1				
BY1	Bushbury Triangle Management Centre, 74 Stanley Road, WV10 9EL	Bushbury South & Low Hill					
BY2	Low Hill Community Hub, Kempthorne Avenue, WV10 9JJ	Bushbury South & Low Hill	with BY3				
BY3	Low Hill Community Hub, Kempthorne Avenue, WV10 9JJ	Bushbury South & Low Hill	with BY2				
BY4	Good Shepherd Centre, Second Avenue, Low Hill, WV10 9PE	Bushbury South & Low Hill	with BY5				
BY5	Good Shepherd Centre, Second Avenue, Low Hill, WV10 9PE	Bushbury South & Low Hill	with BY4				
BY6	Tenants Meeting Room, Coven Lodge, Coven Street, WV10 9AX	Bushbury South & Low Hill					
EP1	East Park Methodist Church Hall, Brooklands Parade, WV1 2ND	East Park	with EP3				
EP2	Eastfield Community Centre, Colliery Road, WV1 2QY	East Park					
EP3	East Park Methodist Church Hall, Brooklands Parade, WV1 2ND	East Park	with EP1				
EP4	Portobello Community Centre, Hill Road, WV13 3TT	East Park	with BN2				
EP5	East Park Library & Neighbourhood Centre, Hurstbourne Crescent, WV1 2EE	East Park					
EP6	Stowheath Day Training Centre, Stowheath Lane, WV1 2TW	East Park					
EN1	All Saints Community Centre, All Saints Road, WV2 1EL	Ettingshall North			Yes		
EN2	St Martin`s Church Hall, Parkfield Grove, WV2 2BG	Ettingshall North					
EN3	Memorial Hall, George Street, WV2 2LY	Ettingshall North					

EN4	Parkfield Primary School, Dimmock Street, Parkfield, WV4 6HB	Ettingshall North			Yes	No	
EN5	Bilston People`s Centre, Excel Church, Wolverhampton Street, WV14 0LT	Ettingshall North	with BN6				
ES1	Hilton Hall Community Centre, Hilton Road, WV4 6DR	Ettingshall South and Spring Vale					
ES2	Springvale Library, Bevan Avenue, WV4 6SG	Ettingshall South and Spring Vale					
ES3	Holy Trinity Church Hall, Farrington Road, WV4 6QH	Ettingshall South and Spring Vale					
ES4	Lanesfield Methodist Church, Laburnum Rd, WV4 6PG	Ettingshall South and Spring Vale					
ES5	Hurst Hill Methodist Church, Hurst Road, WV14 9EU	Ettingshall South and Spring Vale	with SV6				
ES6	Hurst Hill Methodist Church, Hurst Road, WV14 9EU	Ettingshall South and Spring Vale	with SV5				
ES7	Temporary Polling Station, Overfield Drive, WV14 9XW	Ettingshall South and Spring Vale					Yes
FP1	Neil Dougherty Education and Resource Centre, Masefield Road, WV10 8SA	Fallings Park					
FP2	Long Knowle Community Hub, Wood End Road, WV11 1YG	Fallings Park	with FP3				
FP3	Long Knowle Community Hub, Wood End Road, WV11 1YG	Fallings Park	with FP2				
FP4	D`Eyncourt Primary School, Mullett Road, Wednesfield, WV11 1DD	Fallings Park			Yes	Yes	
FP5	Fallings Park Methodist Church, Wimborne Road, WV10 0NN	Fallings Park					
FP6	Old Fallings United Reformed Church, Old Fallings Lane, Wolverhampton, WV10 8BH	Fallings Park					
GR1	Brickkiln Community Centre, Cherry Street, WV3 0QW	Graiseley					
GR2	Bingley Strengthening Families Hub, Norfolk Road, Pennfields, WV3 0JE	Graiseley					
GR3	Lea Road Community Church URC, Lea Road community Centre URC, Lea Road, WV3 0LW	Graiseley					
GR4	Bradmore Community Centre, Birches Barn Road, WV3 7BN	Graiseley					
GR5	Beckminster Methodist Church, Birches Barn Road, Penn Fields, WV3 7BQ	Graiseley					

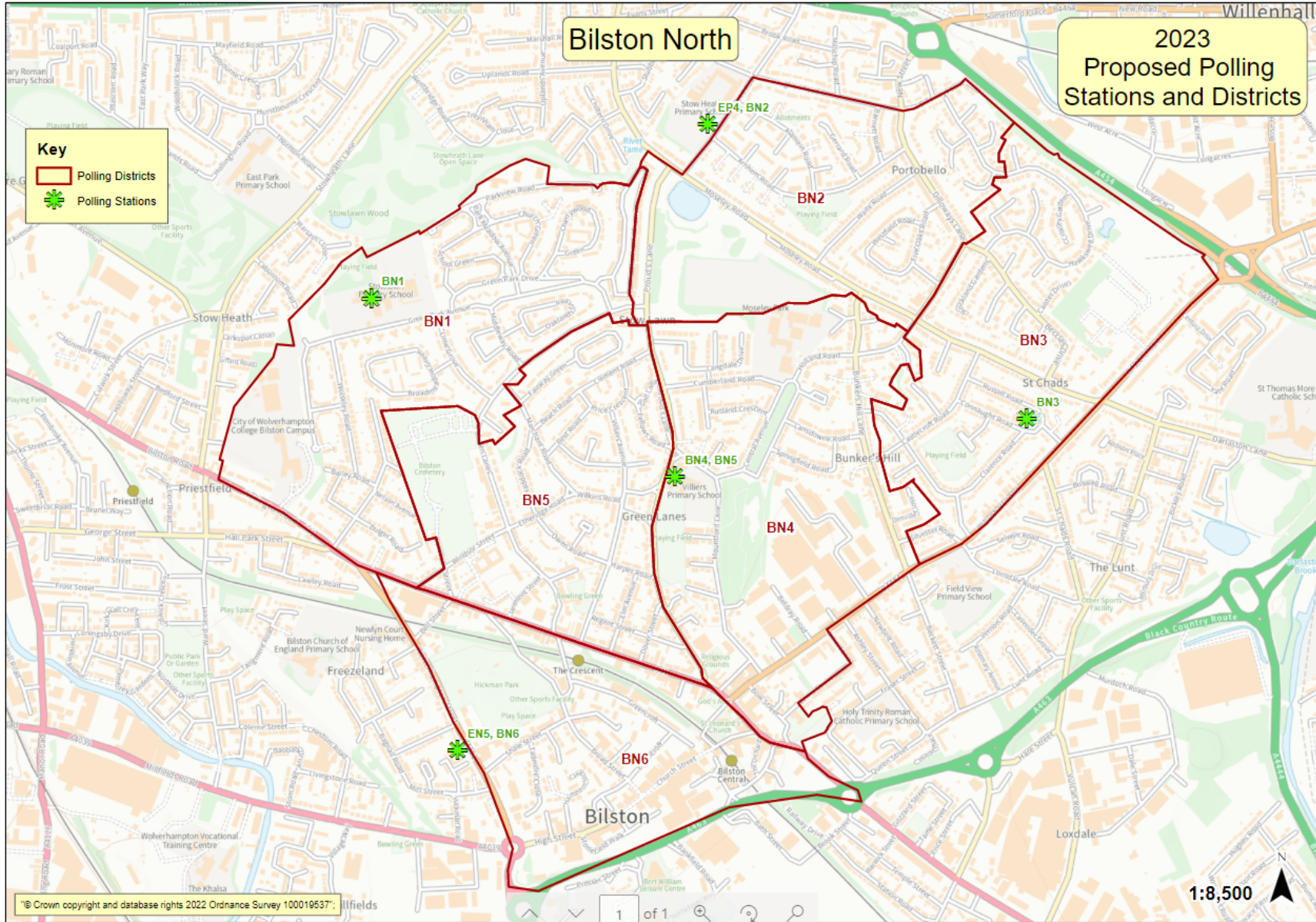
GR6	St Philip`s Church, Church Road, Bradmore, WV3 7EN	Graiseley					
HT1	NTCG Harvest Temple Church, 1 Wolverhampton Road, WV10 0PD	Heath Town	with HT2				
HT2	NTCG Harvest Temple Church, 1 Wolverhampton Road, WV10 0PD	Heath Town	with HT1				
HT3	Holy Trinity Church Hall - Heath Town, Bushbury Road, WV10 0LY	Heath Town					
HT4	St Patrick's RC Church Hall, Rear of St Patrick's RC Church, Wolverhampton Road, WV10 0QQ	Heath Town					
HT5	The Royal British Legion, Vicarage Road, Wednesfield, WV11 1SF	Heath Town					
MH1	Uplands Junior School, Finchfield Road West, WV3 8BA	Merry Hill			Yes	No	
MH2	Swanmore Community Centre, Swanmore Close, WV3 7JY	Merry Hill					
MH3	St Joseph`s Church Hall, Coalway Road, WV3 7LF	Merry Hill	with MH4				
MH4	St Joseph`s Church Hall, Coalway Road, WV3 7LF	Merry Hill	with MH3				
MH5	Warstones Library, Pinfold Grove, WV4 4PT	Merry Hill					
MH6	Springdale Methodist Church and Community Centre, Warstones Road, WV4 4LF	Merry Hill	with PN2	Yes			
OX1	Pendeford Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Ryefield, WV8 1UD	Oxley					
OX2	Pendeford Community Hub, Whitburn Close, WV9 5NJ	Oxley	with OX3				
OX3	Pendeford Community Hub, Whitburn Close, WV9 5NJ	Oxley	with OX2				
OX4	Rakegate Primary School, Rakegate Close, Pedestrian access Sandwell Road, WV10 6US	Oxley			Yes	No	
OX5	Polish Catholic Centre, Stafford Road, WV10 6DQ	Oxley	with OX6				
OX6	Polish Catholic Centre, Stafford Road, WV10 6DQ	Oxley	with OX5				
OX7	Temporary polling station on Gatehouse Pub Car Park, Donnington Grove, WV10 6EE	Oxley					Yes
PK1	Cranmer Methodist Church, 289 New Hampton Road West, WV6 0RS	Park					
PK2	St Judes Church Hall, St Judes Road, WV6 0EB	Park					
PK3	St Judes CE Primary Academy, Paget Road, WV6 0DT	Park			Yes	Yes	
PK4	Bantock House, Bantock Park, WV3 9LQ	Park					

PK5	Zion City Tabernacle, Compton Road, WV3 9QB	Park					
PK6	Tenants Meeting Room, Upper Vauxhall, WV1 4SX	Park					
PN1	St Michael`s Church, 173 Coalway Road, Penn, WV3 7ND	Penn					
PN2	Springdale Methodist Church and Community Centre, Warstones Road, WV4 4LF	Penn	with MH6				
PN3	Penn United Reformed Church Hall, Penn Road, WV4 5QF	Penn					
PN4	Woodfield Sports and Social Club, Woodfield Avenue, WV4 4AD	Penn					
PN5	St Aidan`s Church, Mount Road, WV4 5SW	Penn					
PN6	Penn Bowling and Social Club, Manor Road, WV4 5PY	Penn					
PN7	St Bartholomew`s Church Hall, Vicarage Road, WV4 5HU	Penn					
SP1	Christian Pentecostal Church Hall, Gorsebrook Road, WV6 0PB	St Peters					
SP2	Gloucester Street Community Centre, Gloucester Street, WV6 0PT	St Peters					
SP3	Newhampton Arts Centre, Dunkley Street, WV1 4AN	St Peters					
SP4	University of Wolverhampton, Chaplaincy Building, Molineux Street, WV1 1DT	St Peters					
SP5	NTCG Harvest Temple Church, 1 Wolverhampton Road, WV10 0PD	St Peters	with HT1 and HT2	Yes			
SP6	Wolverhampton Central Seventh Day Adventist Church, Oxford Street, WV1 3SA	St Peters	with SP8				
SP7	Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Lichfield Street, WV1 1DU	St Peters					
SP8	Wolverhampton Central Seventh Day Adventist Church, Oxford Street, WV1 3SA	St Peters	with SP6				
TR1	Christ The King Church, Pendeford Avenue, WV6 9EJ	Tettenhall Regis					
TR2	Claregate Pavillion, Claregate Playing Fields, WV6 9PZ	Tettenhall Regis					
TR3	St Michael`s CE School, Lower Street, Tettenhall, WV6 9AF	Tettenhall Regis			Yes	Yes	
TR4	St Michael`s Parish Centre, Room Behind Tettenhall	Tettenhall Regis		Yes			

	Library, Off Upper Street, WV6 8QF						
TR5	The Kings School, Regis Road, WV6 8XF	Tettenhall Regis	with TR6		Yes	Open	
TR6	The Kings School, Regis Road, WV6 8XF	Tettenhall Regis	with TR5		Yes	Open	
TW1	Church Hall Newman Centre, St Thomas of Canterbury RC Church, Haywood Drive, WV6 8RF	Tettenhall Wightwick					
TW2	Temporary Polling Station, Sainsbury's Local (on car park), 24 Bridgnorth Road, WV6 8AA	Tettenhall Wightwick	Split in to two stations				Yes
TW3	Tettenhall Wood United Reformed Church, Mount Road, WV6 8HT	Tettenhall Wightwick					
TW4	Endeavour Academy, Tinacre Hill, WV6 8DA	Tettenhall Wightwick			Yes	Open	
TW5	Church of Good Shepherd, Church hall, Windmill Lane, WV3 8HJ	Tettenhall Wightwick					
TW6	St Columbas Church Hall, St Columbas Church, Castlecroft Road, WV3 8BZ	Tettenhall Wightwick					
WN1	Wood End Primary School, Wood End Road, WV11 1YQ	Wednesfield North			Yes	No	
WN2	Ashmore Park Community Hub, 82 Griffiths Drive, WV11 2LH	Wednesfield North	with WN5				
WN3	Ashmore Park Baptist Church, Griffiths Drive, Ashmore Park, WV11 2JW	Wednesfield North					
WN4	Temporary Station on Griffiths Road, Top of Higgs Road, WV11 2PD	Wednesfield North					Yes
WN5	Ashmore Park Community Hub, 82 Griffiths Drive, WV11 2LH	Wednesfield North	with WN2				
WN6	Oak Meadow Primary School, Ryan Avenue, WV11 2QQ	Wednesfield North			Yes	No	
WS1	Seventh Day Adventist Church, Lichfield Road, WV11 1TP	Wednesfield South					
WS2	St Thomas's CE Primary School, Mattox Road, WV11 3TG	Wednesfield South			Yes	Yes (remote learning day)	
WS3	Moathouse Community Centre, 52 Moathouse Lane East, Wednesfield, West Midlands, WV11 2BB.	Wednesfield South					
WS4	Perry Hall Primary School, Colman Avenue, WV11 3RT	Wednesfield South			Yes	Yes	
WS5	Redeemed Christian Church of God, Stubby Lane, off Lichfield Road, WV11 3NF	Wednesfield South					
WS6	Wednesfield Christian Centre, Broad Lane South, WV11 3RY	Wednesfield South					

WS7	Wednesfield Community Centre, Well Lane, WV11 1XT	Wednesfield South					
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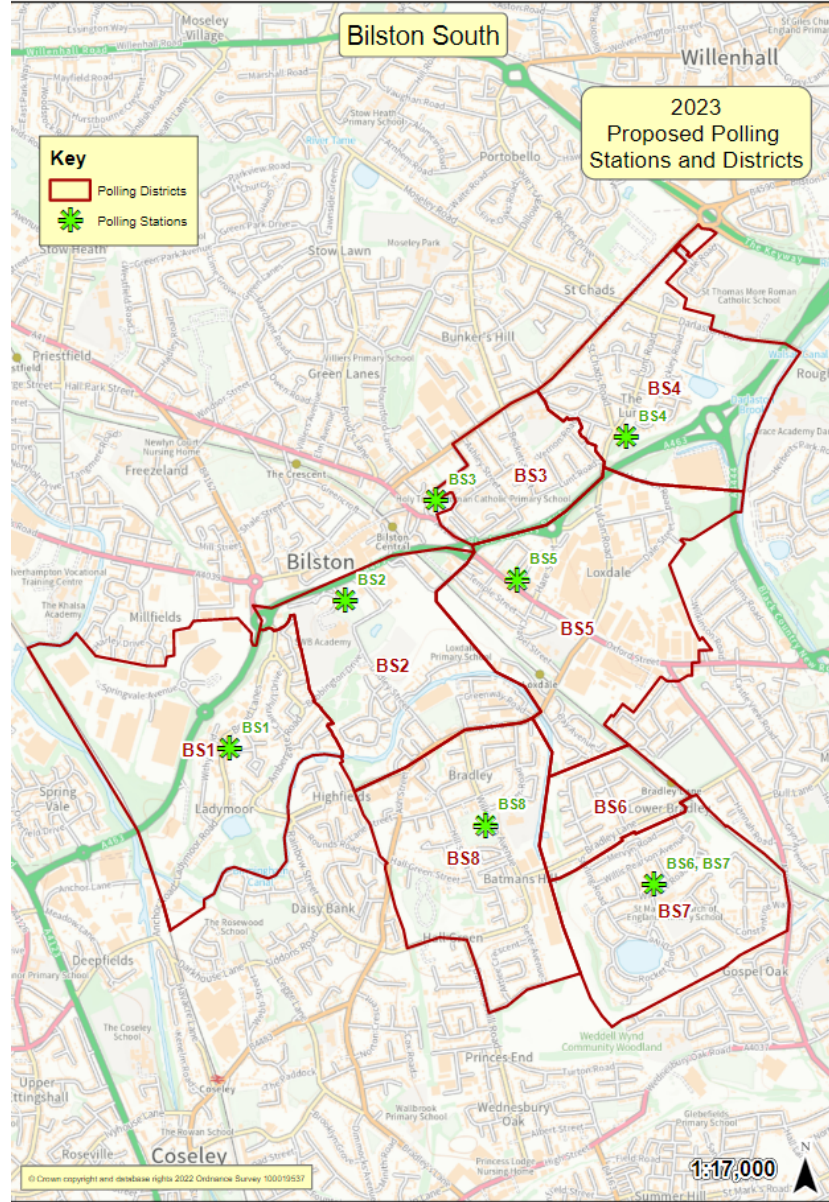


Bilston North

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
BN1	Wolverhampton South East	Stowlawn Primary School, Green Park Avenue, WV14 6EH	2,090	Yes	The initial proposal was for this station to be at the Tenants Meeting Room, Hugh Gaitskell Court, Parkfield Road. However feedback was received from ward councillors that this would not be suitable due to safeguarding concerns.
BN2 - (Previously BN3)	Wolverhampton South East	Portobello Community Centre, Hill Road, WV13 3TT	1,743	Yes	This polling district has reduced in size as an area has been given away to East Park ward. However there is no change to this polling station venue. This is a double polling station with EP4 and is based in the East Park ward but is very close and accessible.
BN3 – (Previously BN5)	Wolverhampton South East	St Chad's Church Hall, Connaught Road, WV14 6NY	2,061	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district or polling station. Positive feedback was received from ward councillors on this proposal.

BN4	Wolverhampton South East	Villiers Primary School, Prouds Lane, WV14 6PR	1,378	Yes	<p>There were originally boundary changes to this district as it has taken in an area from the Bilston South ward.</p> <p>The initial proposal was for this station to be at Bilston Methodist Church. However, feedback was received from ward councillors that this would not be suitable due as the entrance is too close to traffic lights and would cause congestion. A concern for parking was also raised and that it would double the distance for electors to travel.</p>
BN5 (Previously BN2)	Wolverhampton South East	Villiers Primary School, Prouds Lane, WV14 6PR	1,580	Yes	<p>There were originally boundary changes to this district as it has taken in an area from the Ettingshall and Bilston South wards. This district was previously proposed as BNB, however, due to ward councillor responses, the district has been split to create BN5 and BN6.</p> <p>The initial proposal was for this station to be at Bilston Methodist Church. However, feedback was received from ward councillors that this would not be suitable due as the entrance is too close to traffic lights and would cause congestion. A concern for parking was also raised and that it would double the distance for electors to travel.</p>

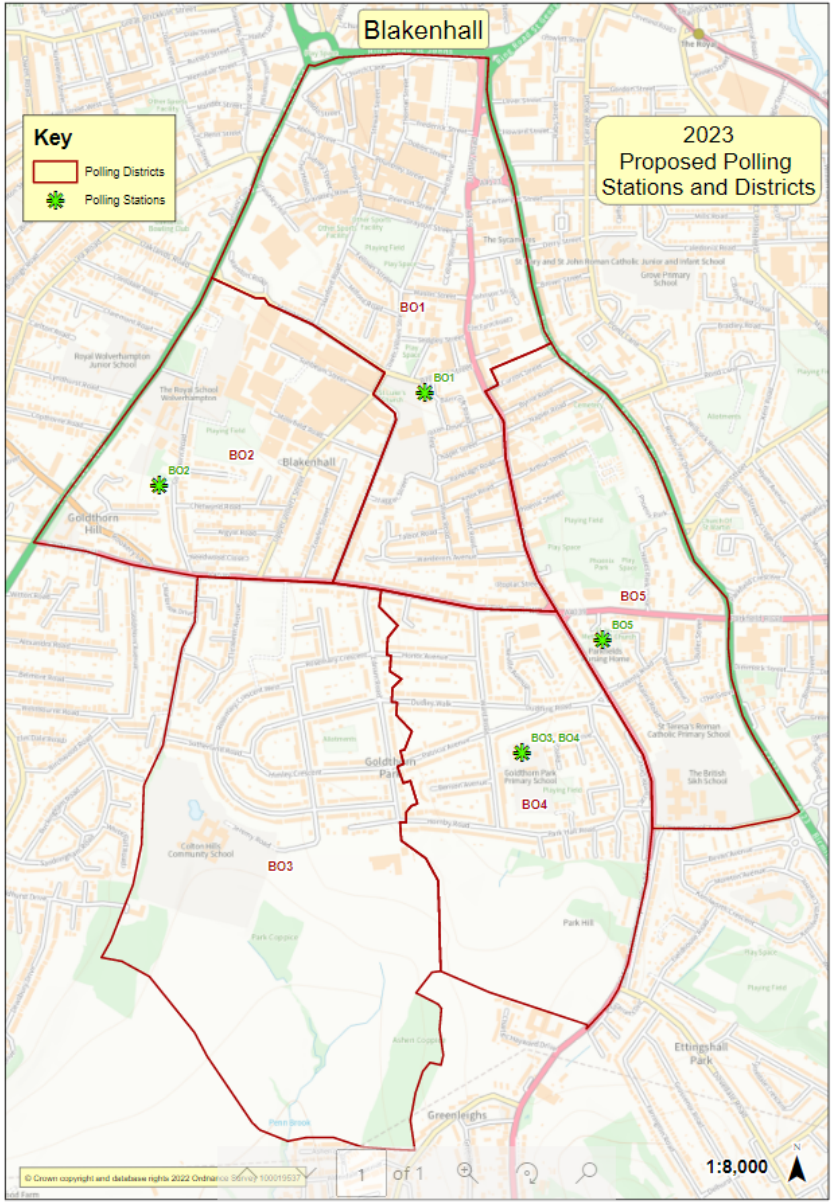
<p>BN6 (New District)</p>	<p>Wolverhampton South East</p>	<p>Bilston Peoples Centre, Excel Church, Wolverhampton Street, WV14 0LT</p>	<p>874</p>		<p>This district was previously proposed as BNB, however, due to ward councillor responses, the district has been split to create BN5 and BN6. The new BN6 is now proposed to vote at the Excel Church.</p>
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Bilston South

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
BS1 (New District split original BS1 in two)	Wolverhampton South East	Temporary Station, Horning Drive, WV14 0RR	407		The initial proposal was to merge the original BEH and BEA to become BSA and for them to vote at Bert Williams. However, feedback was received from ward councillors that this would not be suitable and has been proposed to split this district and to have the temporary polling station at horning drive as this is closer for electors in this area.
BS2 (Split original BS1 in two)	Wolverhampton South East	Bert Williams, Nettlefolds Way, WV14 0EF	1,039	Yes	<p>The initial proposal was for the previous BEH polling district to merge with the temporary polling station on horning drive, as both districts make up a suitable polling district electorate, along with the take in from Ettingshall. The polling station was also proposed to be held at Bert Williams Leisure Centre.</p> <p>The Presiding Officer report from the local elections held on 5 May noted 'many voters commented on the situation of the voting pod. In an out of the way place'.</p> <p>Due to ward councillor responses, the final proposal is for the district boundary lines between BS1 and BS2 to be reinstated into two separate districts.</p>
BS3	Wolverhampton South East	Bilston Methodist Church, Bow	1,296	Yes	There are minor boundary changes to this polling district as an area has been given away to the Bilston North Ward.

(Previously BSB / BS2)		Street, WV14 7NB			There have been no changes to the polling station.
BS4 (Previously BS3)	Wolverhampton South East	The Lunt Community Centre, Lunt Road, WV14 7BH	1,869	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district and polling station.
BS5 (Previously BS4)	Wolverhampton South East	Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, Oxford Street, WV14 OPX	946	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district and polling station.
BS6 (Previously BS5)	Wolverhampton South East	Lower Bradley Community Centre, Wallace Road, WV14 8BW	926	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district and polling station. There are no other suitable alternative venues in the polling district, and this polling station has always been located outside of the district. This is a double polling station with BS7.
BS7	Wolverhampton South East	Lower Bradley Community Centre, Wallace Road, WV14 8BW	2,007	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district and polling station. This is a double polling station with BS6.
BS8 (Previously BS6)	Wolverhampton South East	Bradley Senior Citizens Centre, Wilkinson Avenue, WV14 8PS	1,851	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district and polling station.



Blakenhall

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
BO1	Wolverhampton South East	Bob Jones Community Hub, Bromley Street, WV2 3AS	2,326	Yes	The forecasted electorate for existing BO1 polling district was too high, so Curzon Street has been moved to BO5 polling district. There are no changes to this polling station.
BO2	Wolverhampton South East	The Royal Air Force Association Club, 26 Goldthorn, WV2 4PN	1,352	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district and polling station.
BO3	Wolverhampton South East	Goldthorn Park Primary School, Ward Road, WV4 5ET	1,606	No	<p>The initial proposal was for this station to be Temporary Polling Station - Colton Hills Community School.</p> <p>However, feedback was received from all ward councillors that this would not be suitable due to a large proportion of the residents being elderly who could not travel or did not know where it was and the polling station would be more suitable returning to Goldthorn Park Primary School.</p> <p>The Presiding Officer report from the local election noted that a lot of voters were not happy that their polling station was not at Goldthorn Park Primary School where it had been for many years.</p> <p>Other venues explored:</p>

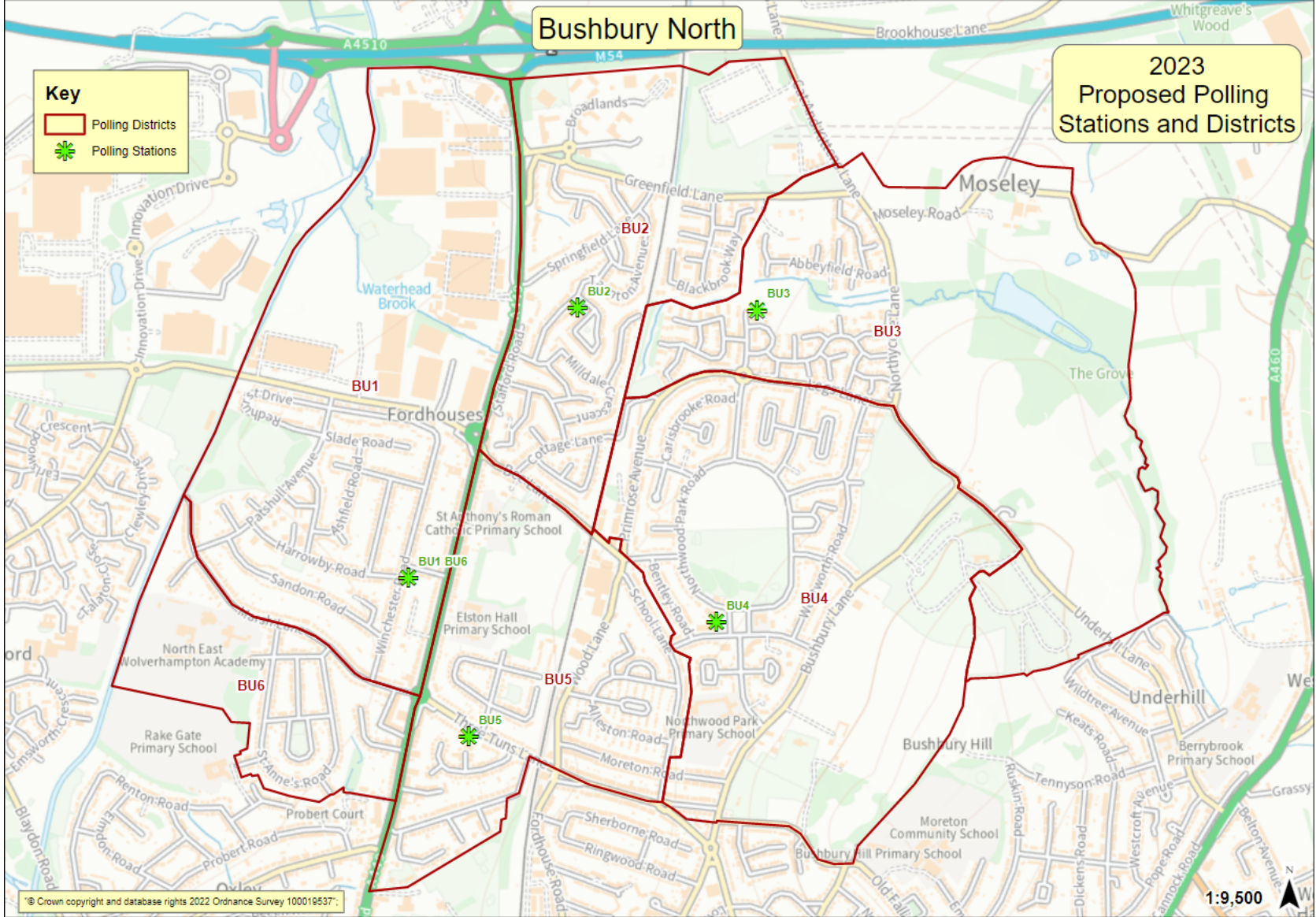
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park Hall Hotel were contacted and are unavailable to use due to being fully booked for over a year in advance. • Goldthorn Park Assembly Hall in Himley Crescent - there is a lack of parking and this would be difficult to access for a high electorate. After discussions, the venue were not willing to host a polling station.
BO4	Wolverhampton South East	Goldthorn Park Primary School, Ward Road, WV4 5ET	1,865	Yes	The initial proposal was for this station to be St Johns Methodist Church. However, feedback was received from all ward councillors that this would not be suitable due to a large proportion of the residents being elderly who could not travel to the church or did not know where it was and the polling station would be more suitable returning to Goldthorn Park Primary School.
BO5	Wolverhampton South East	St Johns Methodist Church, 558 Wolverhampton Road East, WV4 6AA	1,628	Yes	<p>The current polling station for this district is St Theresa's Primary School, which does have to close but they do plan for polling day as an inset day.</p> <p>This venue was a double polling station for BO3 and BO4 in the 2022 local elections, but it is located in BO5 so would better serve this community and reduces the need to use schools in Blakenhall ward.</p>

Bushbury North

2023
Proposed Polling
Stations and Districts

Key

-  Polling Districts
-  Polling Stations

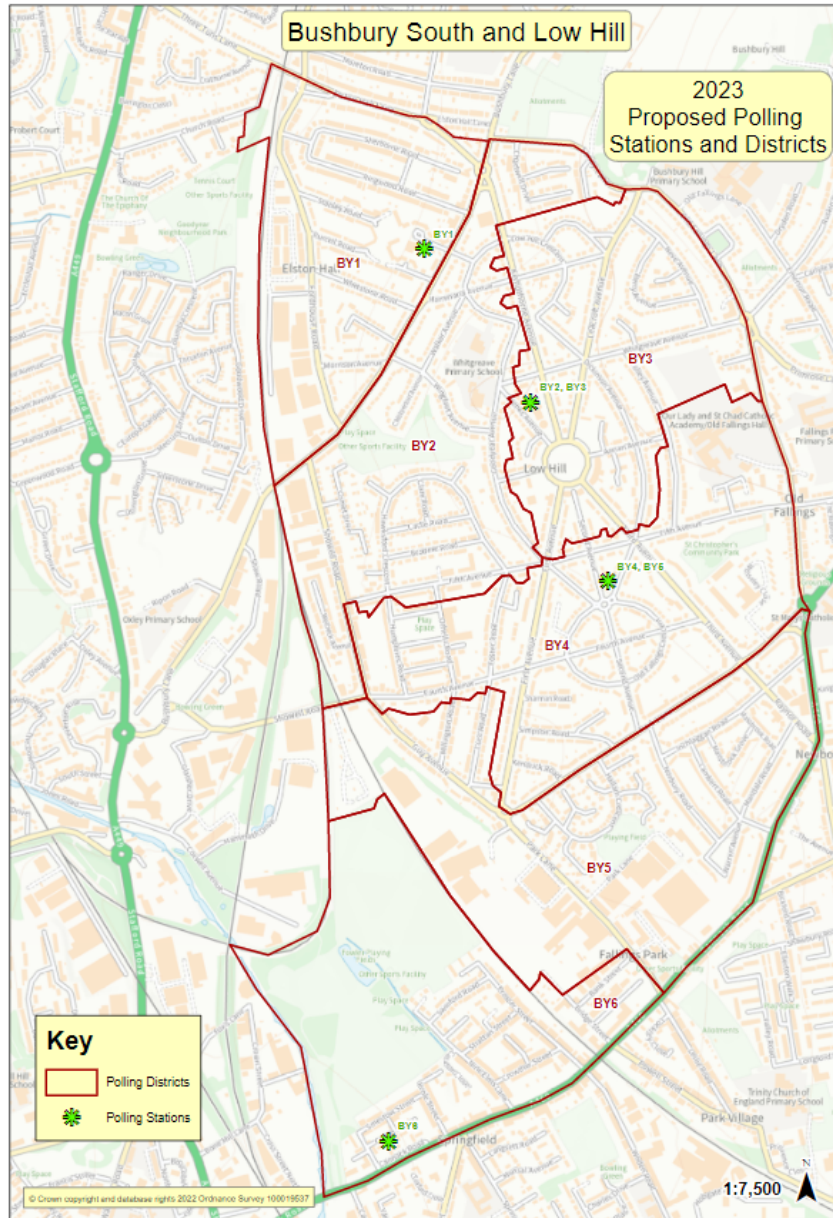


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Bushbury North

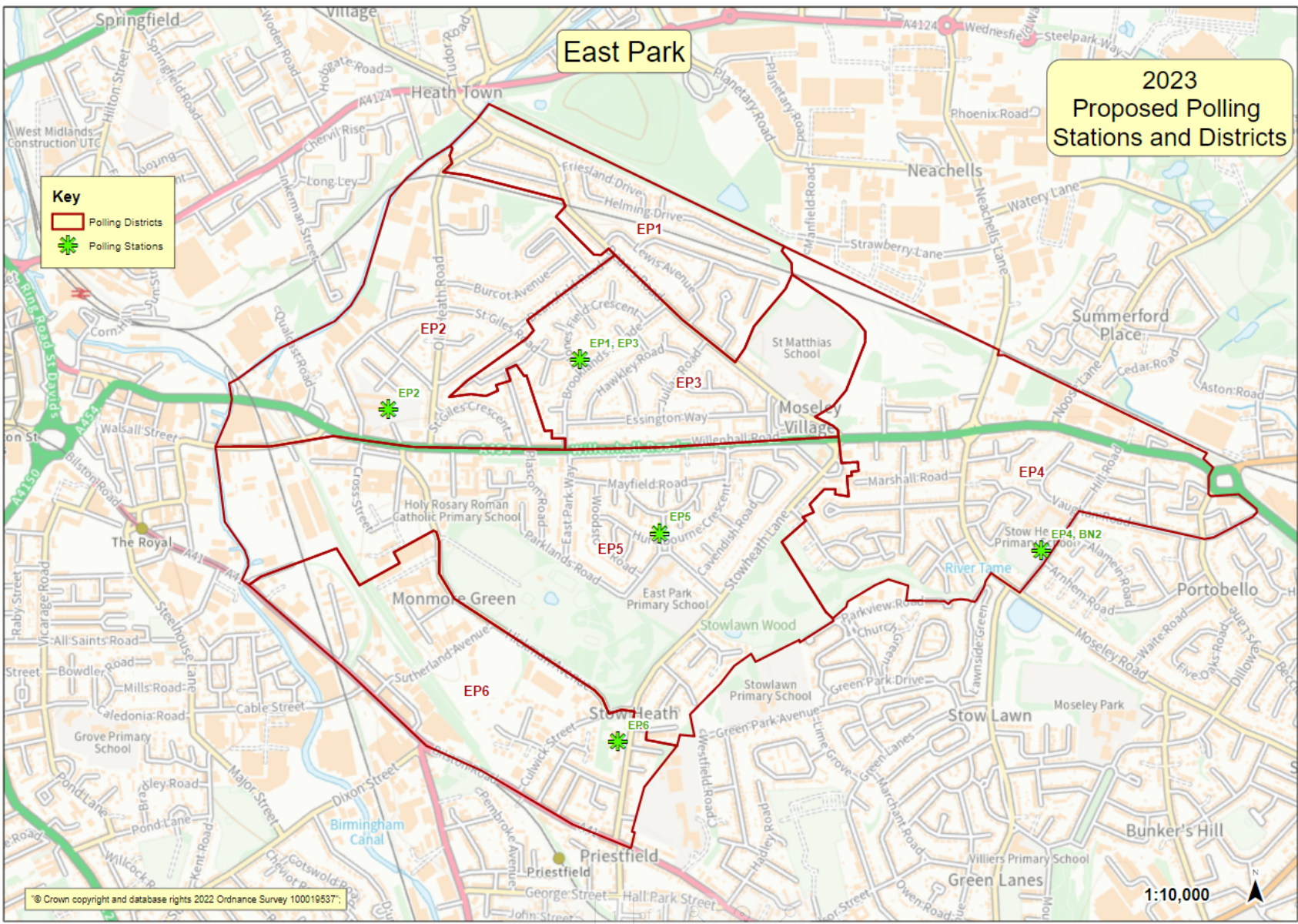
Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
BU1	Wolverhampton North East	Fordhouses Baptist Church, Winchester Road, WV10 6EJ	2,110	Yes	There are no changes to this polling station. It is proposed this will now be a double polling station with BU6.
BU2	Wolverhampton North East	St James Church Hall, Taunton Avenue WV10 6PN	1,921	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district and polling station.
BU3	Wolverhampton North East	Temporary Station on park next to Mayfield Medical Practice, Cromwell Road, Wolverhampton, WV10 8UT.	1,116	Yes	<p>There is a small change to the district due to BU3 taking in from FP1.</p> <p>There are no changes to this polling station.</p> <p>Other venues explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayfield surgery and medical centre said they are not able to assist as they do not have a separate room and the car park is not big enough for a temporary. • The green land would not be practical from a health and safety perspective as there is no where safe for electors to park and queue. It would also be impractical to place a site on the grass especially in wet conditions. <p>It is felt that Northycote Farm remains the best option for this polling district.</p>

BU4	Wolverhampton North East	Collingwood Library, Broadway, WV10 8EA	2,268	Yes	<p>The initial proposal was for this station to be St Mary's Church. However, feedback was received from all ward councillors that this would not be suitable due to lighting concerns and the lack of parking available, whereas the library is closer and more suitable.</p> <p>There is a minor change to this polling district due to the ward boundary changes and the take in of Elston Hall Lane from Bushbury South and Low Hill Ward.</p>
BU5	Wolverhampton North East	Temple Baptist Church, 30 Three Tuns Lane, WV10 6BD	1,753	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district and polling station.
BU6	Wolverhampton North East	Fordhouses Baptist Church, Winchester Road, WV10 6EJ	899	Yes	Bushbury North is gaining one additional polling district due to taking in part of Oxley. Fordhouses Baptist Church is a large room which will accommodate a double station with BU1.



Bushbury South and Low Hill

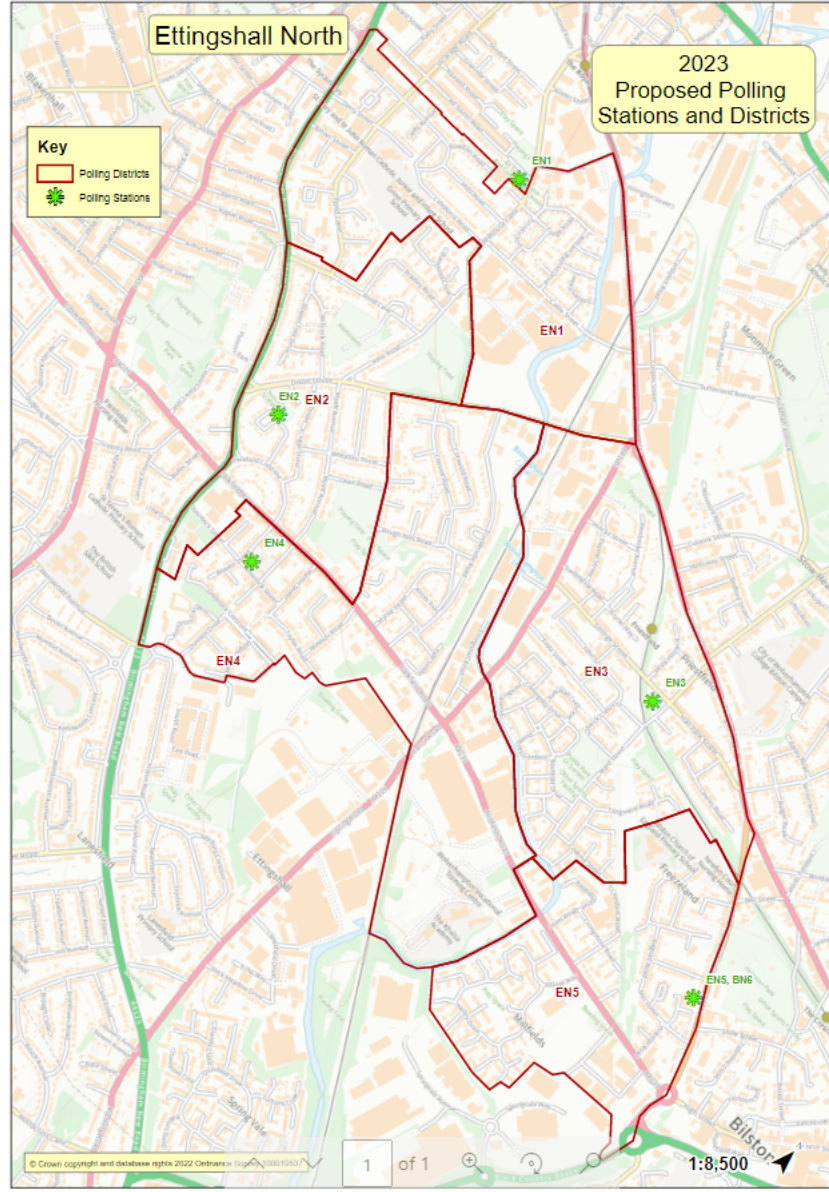
Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
BY1	Wolverhampton North East	Bushbury Triangle Management Centre, 74 Stanley Road, WV10 9EL	1,231	Yes	There are minor changes to this polling district due to ward boundary changes as BY1 gives away to BU4. There are no changes to the polling station.
BY2	Wolverhampton North East	Low Hill Community Hub, Kempthorne Ave, WV10 9JJ	1,594	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district and polling station. This is located in BY3 polling district as there are no suitable venues in BY2. This arrangement has worked well for a number of years.
BY3	Wolverhampton North East	Low Hill Community Hub, Kempthorne Ave, Wolverhampton WV10 9JJ	1,674	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district and polling station. This is a double polling station with BY2.
BY4	Wolverhampton North East	Good Shepherd Centre, Second Avenue, WV10 9PE	2,239	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district and polling station. This is a double polling station with BY5.
BY5	Wolverhampton North East	Good Shepherd Centre, Second Avenue, WV10 9PE	1,580	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district and polling station. This is located in BY4 polling district as there are no suitable venues in BY5. This arrangement has worked well for a number of years.
BY6	Wolverhampton North East	Tenants Meeting Room Coven Lodge, Coven Street, WV10 9AX	1,425	Yes	There are no changes to the polling station. This district has changes as some of it has moved to the Oxley and St Peter's wards.



East Park

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
EP1	Wolverhampton South East	East Park Methodist Church Hall, Brooklands Parade, WV1 2ND	1,374	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district and polling station. There are no suitable venues in EP1 so this is a double station with EP3. This arrangement has worked well over the past few years.
EP2	Wolverhampton South East	Eastfield Community Centre, Colliery Road, WV1 2QY	1,436	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district and polling station.
EP3	Wolverhampton South East	East Park Methodist Church Hall, Brooklands Parade, WV1 2ND	1,618	Yes	There are no changes to this polling station or polling district. This is a double polling station with EP1.
EP4	Wolverhampton South East	Portobello Community Centre, Hill Road, WV13 3TT	2,361	Yes	There are boundary changes to this district as EP4 is taking in an area from Bilston North. This is a double polling station with BN3.
EP5	Wolverhampton South East	East Park Library and Neighbourhood Centre, Hurstbourne Crescent, WV1 2EE	1,833	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district and polling station.

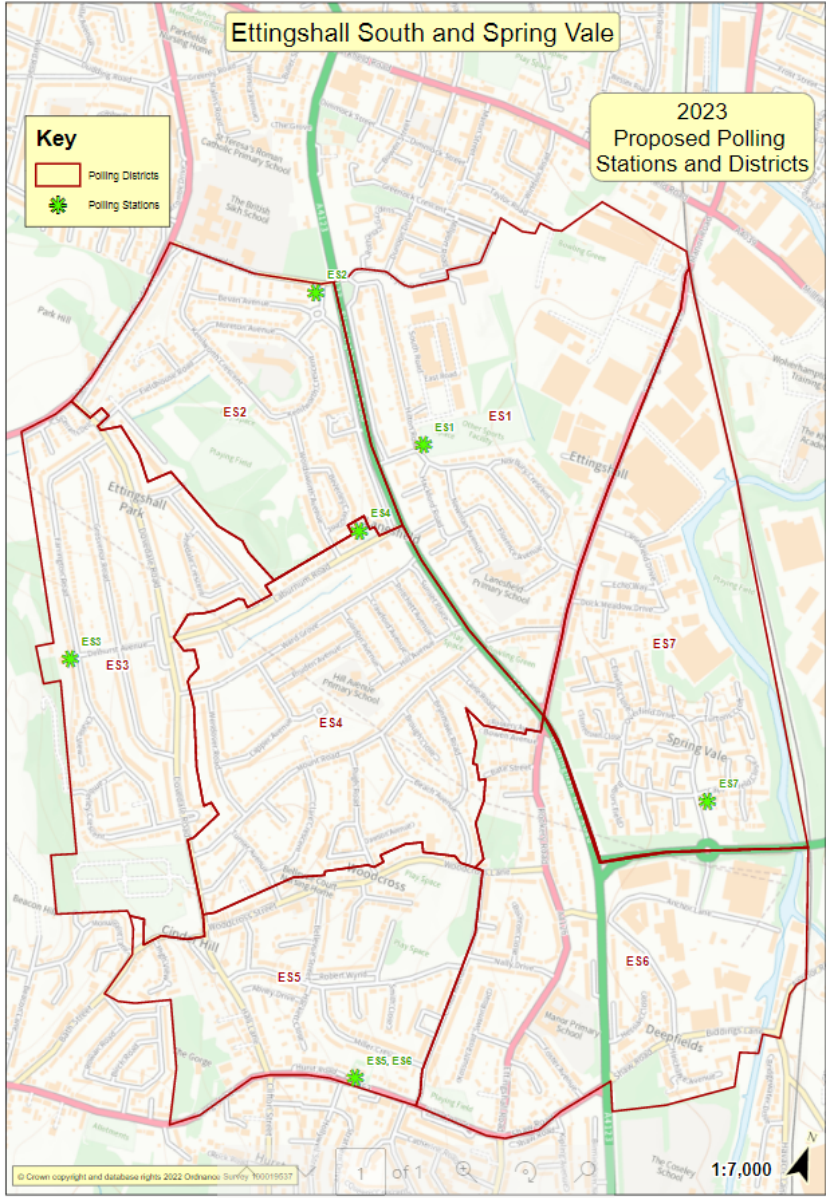
EP6	Wolverhampton South East	Stowheath Day Training Centre, Stowheath Lane, WV1 2TW	737	Yes	<p>Historically EP6 have voted at Memorial Hall which is in the Ettingshall Ward and electors have to cross the Bilston Road to access this polling station.</p> <p>This proposal is in the polling district.</p> <p>Other venues explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no suitable alternative venues. • Temporary station on Wolverhampton Wholesale Market car park is deemed not suitable from a health and safety perspective by Facilities as the car park is heavily used in the morning with traders purchasing goods and there are barriers controlling access to the site. • Monmore Stadium would not be suitable due to racing every Thursday night. • Chillington Social Club were contacted and they cannot make the venue available on Thursday due to a regular group using this room. • Mount Shiloh Apololistic Church - unable to get in contact with venue, but this is based in the EP5 polling district. • Hickman Avenue - unsuitable
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Ettingshall North

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
EN1	Wolverhampton South East	All Saints Community Centre, All Saints Road, WV2 1EL	1,553	Yes	<p>There are changes to this polling district as EN1 has given away to St Peters.</p> <p>There are no changes to this polling station. This was a double polling station in the past with East Park, but this will now be a single polling station.</p>
EN2	Wolverhampton South East	St Martin's Church Hall, Parkfield Grove, WV2 2BG	1,695	Yes	There are no changes to this polling station or polling district.
EN3	Wolverhampton South East	Memorial Hall, George Street, WV2 2LY	2,249	Yes	There are no changes to this polling station or polling district.
EN4	Wolverhampton South East	Parkfield Primary School, Dimmock Street, WV4 6HB	2,423	Yes	<p>This polling district has changed due to ward boundary changes. This polling district currently uses Parkfield Primary School which does have to close, and they may forward plan it as an inset day.</p> <p>Other venues explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Teresa's Church on Birmingham New Road is now closed so unable to contact. However, they do not have a separate church hall. This may be a suitable option to explore in future. • Bethel All Saints Apostolic Church do not want to be a polling station. It is also not accessible via the front access.

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Memorial Hall is in the middle of the adjacent EN3 polling district and is 1.1 miles from Parkfield Primary School which is considered a reasonable distance for electors to travel.
EN5	Wolverhampton South East	Bilston People's Centre, Excel Church, Wolverhampton Street, WV14 0LT	1,398	Yes	This polling district has changed due to ward boundary changes. There are no changes to this polling station.



Ettingshall South and Spring Vale

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
ES1	Wolverhampton South East	Hilton Hall Community Centre, Hilton Road, WV4 6DR	1,158	Yes	<p>The initial proposal for this district was for the ward boundary to change, as it has taken in a part of the previous ET6 polling district where the polling station is located on Overfield Drive as a temporary station.</p> <p>Due to political party responses, the final proposal is for the district to be split along Spring Road to create the new ES1 and ES7.</p>
ES2	Wolverhampton South East	Spring Vale Library, Bevan Ave, WV4 6SG	1,222	Yes	This polling district has no changes and there are no changes to this polling station.
ES3	Wolverhampton South East	Holy Trinity Church Hall, Farrington Road, WV4 6QH	1,548	Yes	This polling district has changed, as it has given away the Laburnum Road to ES4. There are no changes to this polling station.
ES4	Wolverhampton South East	Lanesfield Methodist Church, Laburnum Rd, WV4 6PG	2,308	Yes	The current polling station for this district was Hill Avenue Academy. This polling district takes in Laburnum Road from ES3, as this is on the same road as Lanesfield Methodist Church, and this is a suitable venue to use within the polling district.
ES5	Wolverhampton South East	Hurst Hill Methodist Church, Hurst Road, WV14 9EU	1,215	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station. It is a double with ES6.

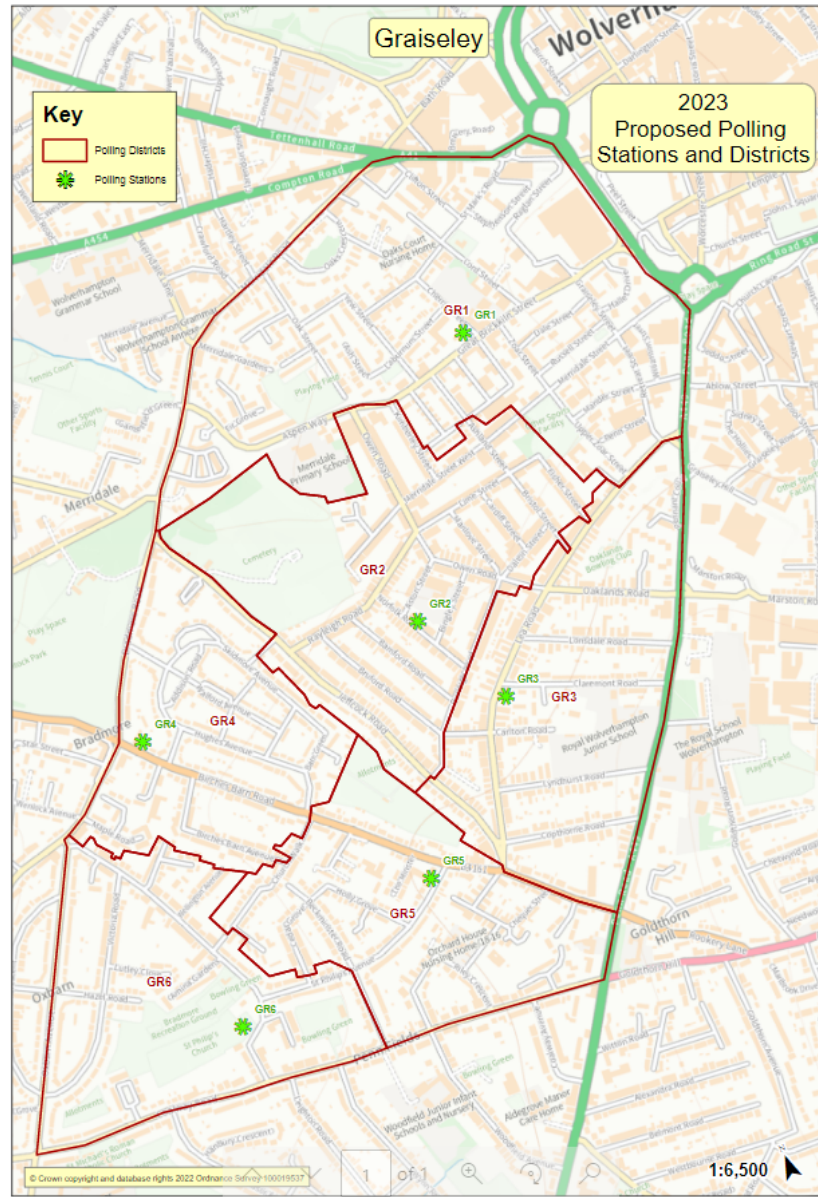
ES6	Wolverhampton South East	Hurst Hill Methodist Church, Hurst Road, WV14 9EU	1,384	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station. It is a double with ES5. There are no suitable alternatives within ES6. This arrangement has worked well for the last few elections.
ES7 (New District)	Wolverhampton South East	Temporary Polling Station, Overfield Drive, WV14 9XW	1,233	Yes	<p>The initial proposal for this district was for the ward boundary to change, as it has taken in a part of the previous ET6 polling district where the polling station is located on Overfield Drive as a temporary station.</p> <p>Due to political party responses, the final proposal is for the district to be split along Spring Road to create the new ES1 and ES7.</p>



Fallings Park

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
FP1	Wolverhampton North East	Neil Dougherty Resource Centre, 34 Pope Rd, WV10 8LX	1,874	Yes	This polling district has changed due to ward boundary changes. There are no changes to this polling station.
FP2	Wolverhampton North East	Long Knowle Community Hub, Wood End Rd, WV11 1YG	1,570	Yes	There are no changes to this district and station. It is a double with FP3. These arrangements have worked well in the past.
FP3	Wolverhampton North East	Long Knowle Community Hub, Wood End Rd, WV11 1YG	1,451	Yes	This polling district has changed due to ward boundary changes. There are no changes to polling station. It is a double with FP2. These arrangements have worked well in the past.
FP4	Wolverhampton North East	D'eyncourt Primary School, Mullett Road, WV11 1DD	1,673	Yes	<p>This polling district has changed due to ward boundary changes. The current polling station for this district is D'eyncourt Primary School. The school has to close and they use polling days as inset days so this has minimal impact.</p> <p>Other venues explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the polling station in the adjacent polling district as this is just 0.9 miles away which is a reasonable distance for electors to travel. • The car park at the Methodist church is quite small but the room is very large and would easily accommodate a double polling station, and there is plenty of off-road parking.

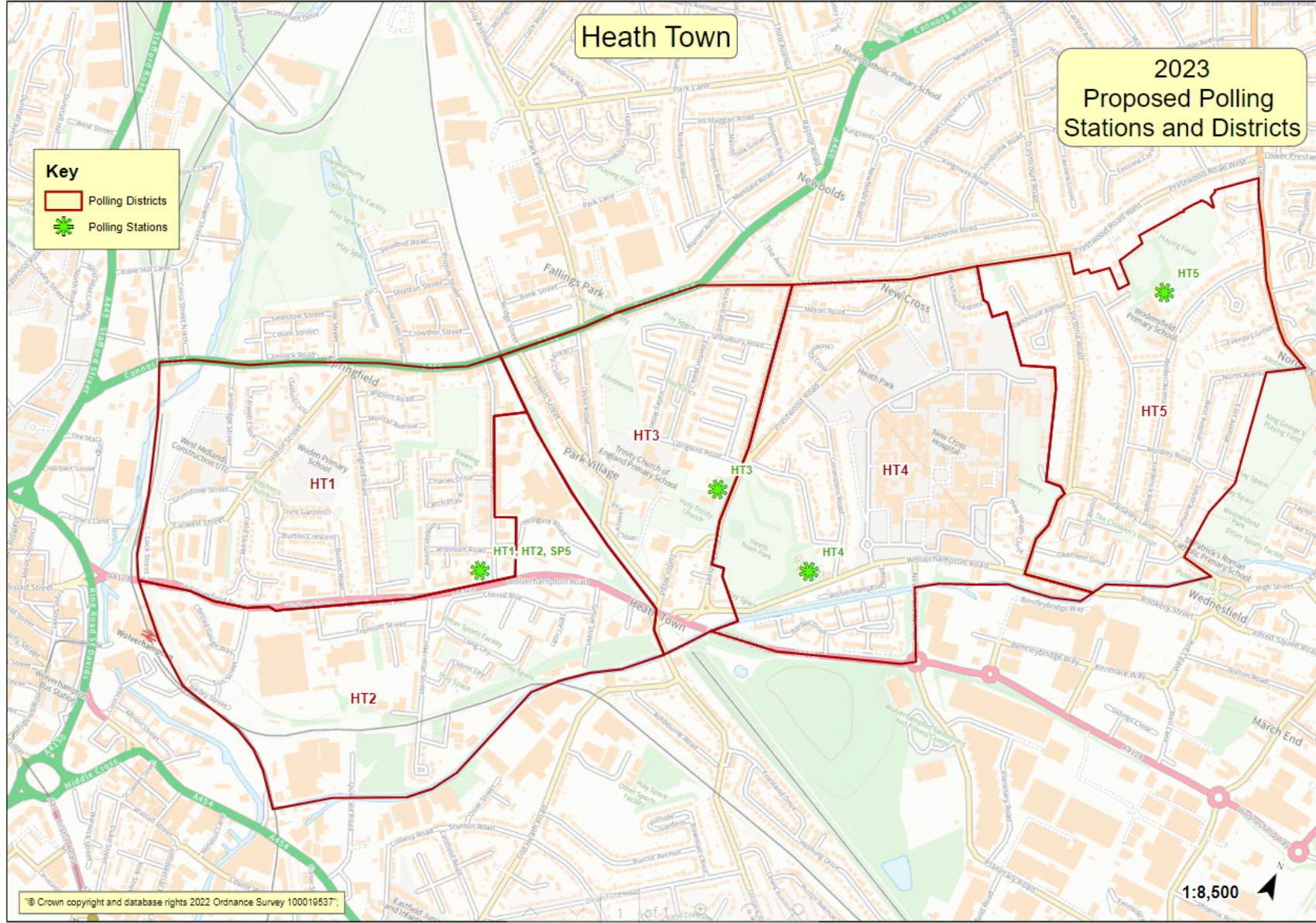
FP5	Wolverhampton North East	Fallings Park Methodist Church, Wimborne Road, WV10 0NN	1,333	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
FP6	Wolverhampton North East	Old Fallings United Reformed Church, Old Fallings Lane, Wolverhampton, WV10 8BH	1,234	Yes	<p>This polling district has no ward boundary changes. The current polling station for this area is Fallings Park Primary School and the school does have to close. Oldfallings Church is in the polling district and has good parking, the building is accessible, and they are willing to host a polling station.</p> <p>Another option to use Neil Dougherty as a double polling station as this is in the adjacent polling district as this is just 0.7 miles away which is considered a reasonable distance for electors to travel. Neil Dougherty has a room large enough to accommodate a double polling station.</p> <p>Councillor suggested potential to use fire station opposite if the church becomes unavailable. Fire station has a community room and good parking.</p>



Graiseley

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
GR1	Wolverhampton South West	Brickkiln Community Centre, Cherry Street, WV3 0QW	1,778	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
GR2	Wolverhampton South West	Bingley Strengthening Families Hub, Norfolk Road, Pennfields, WV3 0JE	1,984	Yes	<p>There are no changes to this polling district, just the station. For the last 2 elections, Bingley Strengthening Families Hub has been used as an alternative to Bantock Primary School. However, the room used at Bingley Strengthening Families Hub is quite small for such a large electorate. Not using this venue would mean that Bingley Strengthening Families Hub would not have to close.</p> <p>The initial proposal was for this station to be The Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain. However, feedback was received from all ward councillors that this would not be suitable due to the polling station being outside the district. St Chads Church Hall is in a much better location in the middle of the polling district. The church have said they are not available to host a polling station.</p>
GR3	Wolverhampton South West	Lea Road Community Church, Lea Road, WV3 0LW	1,505	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.

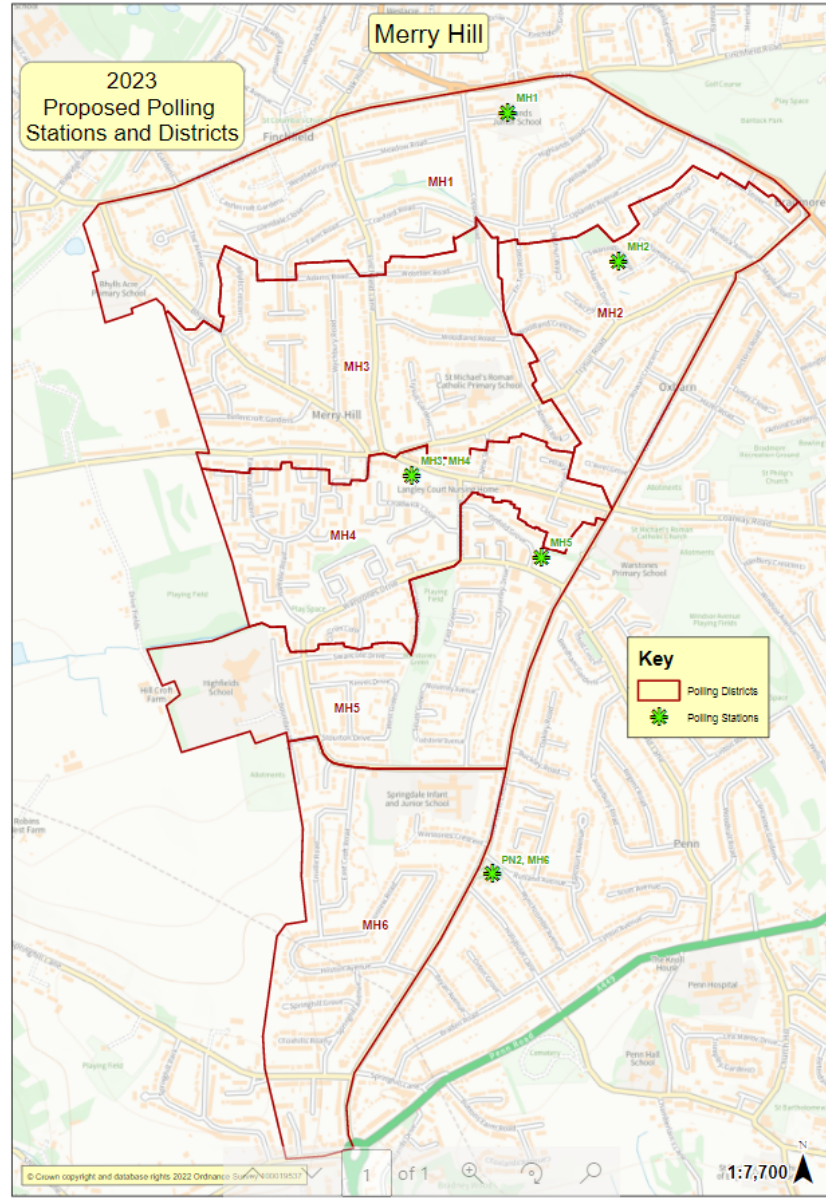
GR4	Wolverhampton South West	Bradmore Community Centre, Birches Barn Rd, WV3 7BW	1,129	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
GR5	Wolverhampton South West	Beckminster Methodist Church, Birches Barn Road, WV3 7BQ	1,047	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
GR6	Wolverhampton South West	St Phillips Church, Church Road, WV3 7EN	1,128	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.



Heath Town

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
HT1	Wolverhampton North East	NTCG Harvest Temple Church, 1 Wolverhampton Road, WV10 0PD	2,055	Yes	<p>There are changes to this polling district and station. The initial proposal for the HT1 polling station was Woden Primary School. Woden Primary School does have to close but they do plan inset days for polling days.</p> <p>However, following Councillor responses, it has been proposed for HT1 to vote at NTCG Harvest Temple Church as a double station with HT2 as it is within the district and makes a good double polling station.</p>
HT2	Wolverhampton North East	NTCG Harvest Temple Church, 1 Wolverhampton Road, WV10 0PD	2,133	Yes	<p>There are changes to this polling district. There are no changes to the polling station. The polling station is located in the adjacent polling district – HT1 as there are no other suitable venues in HT2. This arrangement has worked well for a number of years.</p>
HT3	Wolverhampton North East	Holy Trinity Church Hall, Bushbury Road, WV10 0LY	1,766	Yes	<p>There are no changes to this district and polling station.</p>
HT4	Wolverhampton North East	St Patricks Roman Catholic Church Hall, Wolverhampton Road, WV10 0QQ	1,418	Yes	<p>There are changes to this district due to ward boundary changes. There are no changes to the polling station.</p>
HT5	Wolverhampton North East	The Royal British Legion, Vicarage	2,282	Yes	<p>There are changes to this district due to ward boundary changes. The old HT5 and HT6</p>

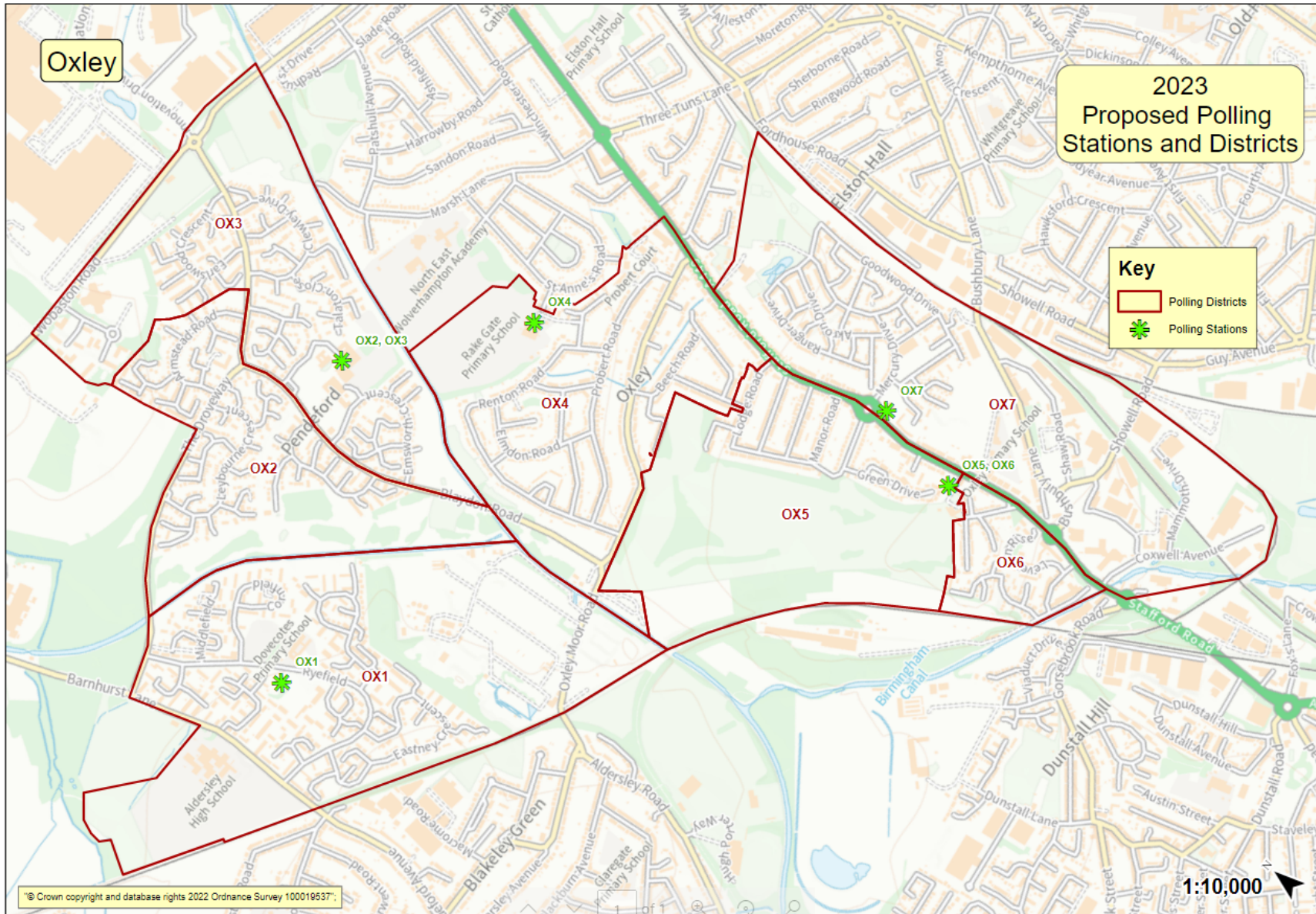
		<p>Road, Wednesfield, WV11 1SF</p>		<p>polling districts have been merged to keep the polling station within the district boundary. The current polling station for this area is Wodensfield Primary School. The school does close but they use it as an inset day.</p> <p>Other venues explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesfield Community Centre is out of the ward, but it has been used historically for part of this district and has worked well. The distance from Wednesfield Primary School to Wednesfield Community Centre is 0.7 , which is considered a reasonable distance for electors.
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Merry Hill

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
MH1	Wolverhampton South West	Uplands Junior School, Finchfield Road West, WV3 8BA	1,833	Yes	<p>There are no changes to this district and polling station. The current polling station for this area is Uplands Junior School. The school does have to close. They do not currently plan for this as an inset day.</p> <p>Other options explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St columbas church hall is 0.4 miles away from Uplands Junior School. However it is out of the ward in the Tettenhall Wightwick ward. This station is already a polling station but could accommodate a double polling station. • Bantock House is 0.5 miles away from Uplands Junior School. However it is out of the ward in the Park ward. This station is already a polling station but could accommodate a double polling station. • Option to split MH1 between MH2 and MH3 to avoid using the school.
MH2	Wolverhampton South West	Swanmore Community Centre, Swanmore Close, WV3 7JY	1,301	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
MH3	Wolverhampton South West	St Josephs Church Hall,	1,806	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station. This is a double station with MH4.

		Coalway Road, WV3 7LF			
MH4	Wolverhampton South West	St Josephs Church Hall, Coalway Road, WV3 7LF	1,724	Yes	There are no changes to this polling station. However, there are changes to the boundary lines following Councillor feedback it has been proposed that MH4 to give away Pinfold Grove to MH5 to make it easier for electors to travel to vote following the concerns raised.
MH5	Wolverhampton South West	Warstones Library, Pinfold Grove, WV4 4PT	1,127	Yes	There are no changes to this polling station. However, there are changes to the boundary lines following Councillor feedback it has been proposed that the boundary lines for MH5 are moved to follow Warstones road and Stourton Drive to make it easier for electors to vote from MH5 and MH6 districts. Also, MH5 will take in Pinfold Grove from MH4.
MH6	Wolverhampton South West	Springdale Methodist Church, Warstones Road, WV4 4LF	1,578	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station. This is a double station with PN2, and these arrangements have worked well in the past.

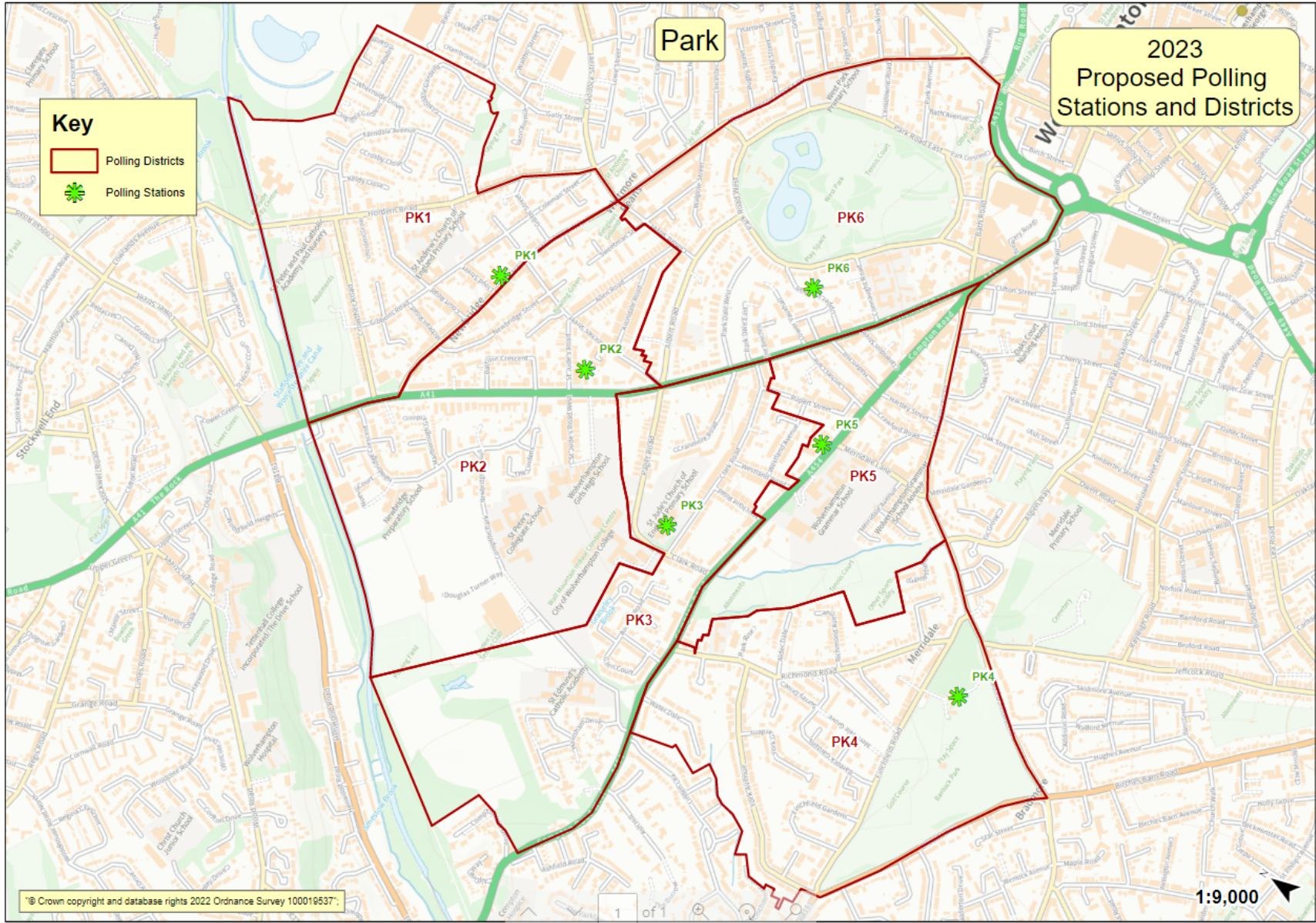


Oxley

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
OX1	Wolverhampton North East	Pendeford Seventh Day Adventist Church, Ryefield, WV8 1UD	2,361	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
OX2	Wolverhampton North East	Pendeford Community Hub, Whitburn Close, WV9 5NJ	1,417	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station. This is a double station with OX3 and these arrangements have worked well previously.
OX3	Wolverhampton North East	Pendeford Community Hub, Whitburn Close, WV9 5NJ	1,624	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station. This is a double station with OX2 and these arrangements have worked well previously.
OX4	Wolverhampton North East	Rakegate Primary School, Rakegate Close, WV10 6US	1,616	Yes	<p>There are changes to the district due to ward boundary changes and following feedback from Councillors. OX4 will take in the area North of Lodge Road from OX5. This area currently votes at Rakegate Primary School. Rakegate School has to close, and they do not currently plan for this to be an inset day.</p> <p>Other venues explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rakegate Methodist church - it is difficult to find as it is in the middle of a housing estate and access is via the rear of community housing. There is a lack of parking (4 spaces), the room is small and

					<p>the building is not accessible for wheelchair users. There is off road parking but dangerous as on a bend.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Polish Catholic Centre is 1.1 miles from Rakegate Community Centre. Electors would need to travel down the Stafford Road to attend the polling station. The Polish Catholic Centre is suitable for a double polling station as has been used by St Peters ward historically.
OX5 (Previously OXE1)	Wolverhampton North East	Polish Catholic Centre, Stafford Road, WV10 6DQ	1,070	Yes	There are changes to the district due to ward boundary changes and following feedback from Councillors. The area North of Lodge Road will be merged with OX4 to allow electors to vote at Rakegate Primary School. There are no changes to the polling station.
OX6 (Previously OXE/2)	Wolverhampton South West	Polish Catholic Centre, Stafford Road, WV10 6DQ	525	Yes	This is the old SP1 polling district. With the ward boundary changes, this is still in the Wolverhampton South West Constituency. It is proposed that this would be a double polling station with OX5. If the new parliamentary boundaries align with the new ward boundaries, then it is proposed this would be one polling district – OX5. In the latest parliamentary boundary proposals, OX5 and OX6 are in the same constituency – Wolverhampton West.
OX7 (Previously OX6)	Wolverhampton North East	Temporary polling station on Gatehouse Pub Cark Park, Donnington	1,505	Yes	This is a new polling district due to the ward boundary changes which is largely the current BY7 from Bushbury South and Low Hill where the initial polling station was Goodyear Sports and Social Club in place of Bushbury Lane

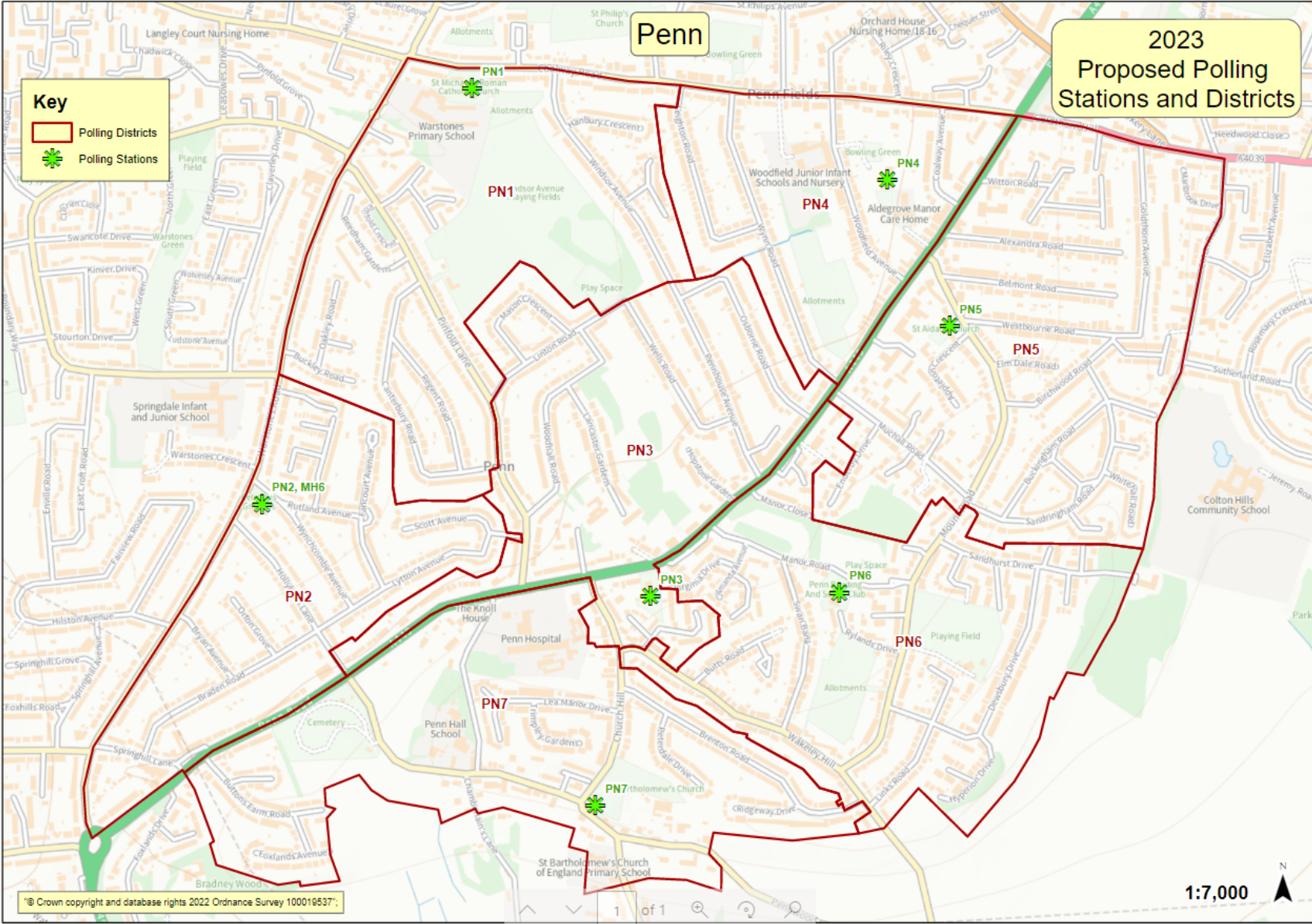
		Grove, WV10 6EE OR Bushbury lane academy			<p>Academy. The school close but they do plan polling day as an inset day.</p> <p>Following feedback from Councillors the proposed polling station is the Gatehouse Car Park. This is due to Bushbury Lane Academy being too far to travel and concerns raised about crossing the Stafford Road.</p> <p>This is a good alternative venue to the school.</p>
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Park

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
PK1	Wolverhampton South West	Cranmer Methodist Church, 289 New Hampton Road West, WV6 0RS	2,296	Yes	<p>There are changes to this polling district because it is taking in part of St Peters – existing SP2 area as part of the boundary review. The current polling station is St Andrews Primary School. The school is open for year 6 students and staff only.</p> <p>Cranmer Methodist Church has a small car park and the room is a good size for a polling station.</p> <p>Other venues explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double polling station at St Judes Church Hall in the adjacent polling district PK2 This is 0.4 miles from St Andrews Primary School which is considered a reasonable distance for electors to travel. This is just before the Tettenhall Road so electors would not have to cross any busy main A roads.
PK2	Wolverhampton South West	St Judes Church Hall, St Judes Road, WV6 0EB	2,029	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
PK3	Wolverhampton South West	St Judes CE Primary Academy, Paget Road, WB6 0DT	1,445	Yes	There are no changes to this district. The current polling station for this district is St Judes Primary School. The school close but they do plan polling day as an inset day.

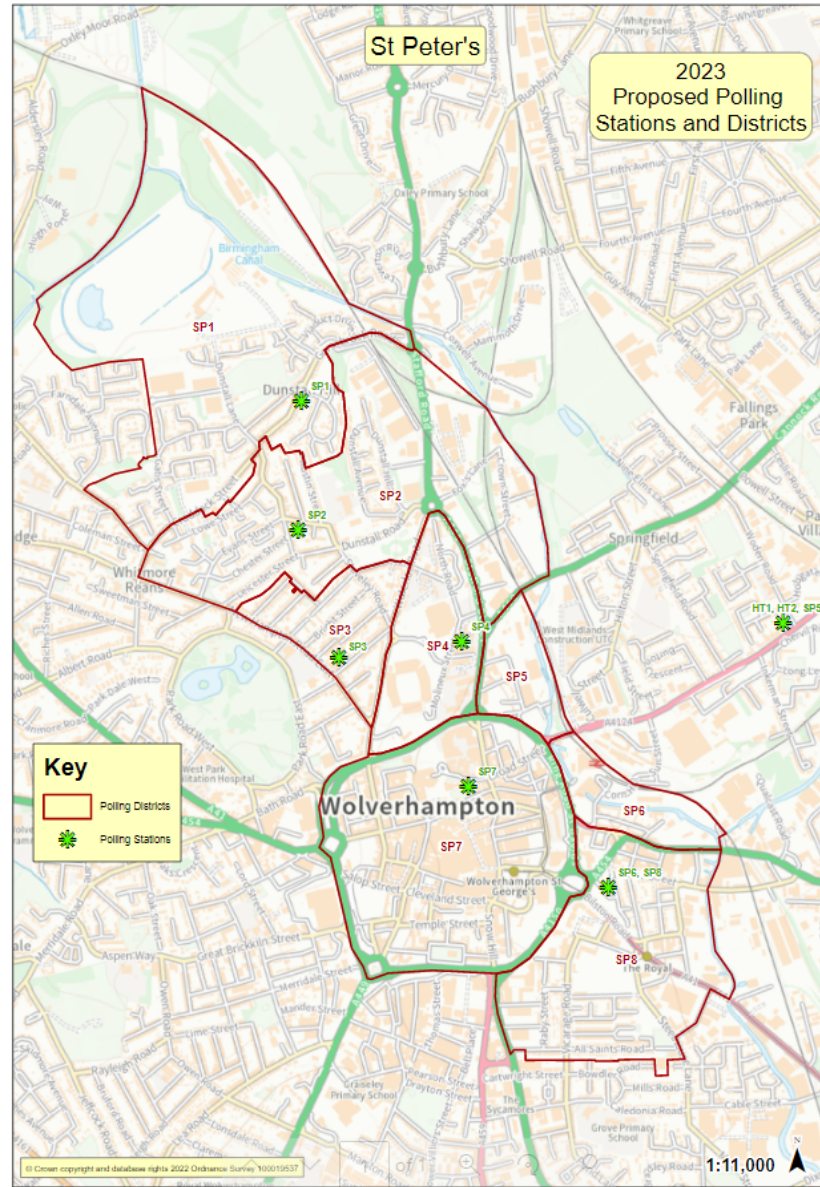
					<p>Other options explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary Polling Station at Wolverhampton College, Paget Road. The college would remain open. This is within the polling district and is on the same road as the current polling station at St Judes. However as the school use it as an inset day it would be best to use the school venue and facilities over a portacabin. • To merge with PK5 and use Zion City as the Polling Station. Electors would have to cross the Compton Road but there are pedestrian crossings on this road. This is 0.5 miles away from St Judes Primary School, which is considered a reasonable distance for electors to travel.
PK4	Wolverhampton South West	Bantock House, Finchfield Rd, WV3 9LQ	1,262	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
PK5	Wolverhampton South West	Zion City Tabernacle, 126 Compton Rd, WV3 9QB	1,183	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
PK6	Wolverhampton South West	Tenants Meeting Room, Upper Vauxhall, WV1 4SX	1,682	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.



Penn

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
PN1	Wolverhampton South West	St Michaels Church, 176 Coalway Road, WV3 7ND	1,524	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
PN2	Wolverhampton South West	Springdale Methodist Church, Warstones Road, WV4 4LF	1,386	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station. This is a double station with MH6, and these arrangements have worked well in the past.
PN3	Wolverhampton South West	Penn United Reformed Church Hall, Penn Road, WV4 5QF	1,590	Yes	There are no changes to this polling station. There are changes to the boundary, as part of PN6 has been taken in by PN3 to keep the polling station within the district.
PN4	Wolverhampton South West	Woodfield Sports and Social Club, Woodfield Ave, WV4 4AF	896	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
PN5	Wolverhampton South West	St Aidan's Church, Mount Road, WV4 5SW	2,311	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
PN6	Wolverhampton South West	Penn Bowling and Social Club, Manor Road, WV4 5PY	1,518	Yes	There are changes to the boundary, as part of PN6 has been given away to PN3. The initial polling station for this district was Penn United Reformed Church as a double with PN3. However, following Councillor feedback it has been proposed for PN6 to vote at Penn Bowling and Social Club due a high electorate at the double station with PN3.

PN7	Wolverhampton South West	St Bartholomew's, Vicarage Road, WV4 5HU	965	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
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St Peters

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
SP1	Wolverhampton South West	Christian Pentecostal Church Hall, Gorsebrook Road, WV6 OPB	2,153	Yes	There are changes to this polling district due to ward boundary changes. This is the usual polling station for the current SP3 polling district which works well for this community.
SP2	Wolverhampton South West	Gloucester Street Community Centre, Gloucester Street, WV6 OPT	2,417	Yes	There are changes to this polling district due to ward boundary changes. This is the usual polling station for the current SP4 polling district which works well for this community. This polling district takes in part of the previous BY5 polling district. With the ward boundary changes, part of this polling district is in the Wolverhampton North East Constituency. However, this is a trading estate and there are no residential properties or registered electors here. Therefore, it is proposed to remain part of the same polling district to be kept under review with the final parliamentary constituencies.
SP3 (Previously SPC/1)	Wolverhampton South West	Newhampton Arts Centre, Dunkley Street, WV1 4AN	1,220	Yes	There are changes to this polling district due to ward boundary changes. The initial proposal was for this district and the new SP4 to merge and electors to vote at the University Chaplaincy Building. However, due to councillor responses, the final proposal is for the original boundary line to be reinstated, and electors to vote at Newhampton Arts Centre.



SP4 (previously SPC/1)	Wolverhampton South West	University Chaplaincy building, Molineux Street, WV1 1DT	594	Yes	There are changes to this polling district due to ward boundary changes. The initial proposal was for this district and the new SP3 to merge and electors to vote at the University Chaplaincy Building. However, due to councillor responses, the final proposal is for the original boundary line to be reinstated, and electors to vote at the University Chaplaincy Building.
SP5 (Previously SPC/2)	Wolverhampton North East	NTCG Harvest Temple Church, 1 Wolverhampton Road, WV10 0PD	28	Yes	This is the part of the old HT1 polling district. With the ward boundary changes, this is still in the Wolverhampton North East Constituency. It is proposed that this is a double polling station with the new SP4. If the new parliamentary boundaries align with the new ward boundaries, then it is proposed this would be one polling district. However, in the latest parliamentary constituency proposals, this area is still in the Wolverhampton North East constituency. This is an industrial area. There are a small number of registered electors on Faulkland Crescent so in practice this would be managed as one polling station with two electoral registers for the relevant constituencies/polling districts.
SP6 (Previously SPE/2)	Wolverhampton South East	Wolverhampton Central Seventh Day Adventist Church, Oxford Street, WV1 3SA	272	Yes	This is part of the old HT1 polling district. With the ward boundary changes, this is still in the Wolverhampton North East Constituency. It is proposed that this is a double polling station with SP8. If the new parliamentary boundaries align with the new ward boundaries then it is proposed this would be one polling district. However in the latest parliamentary constituency proposals, this area is still in the Wolverhampton South East

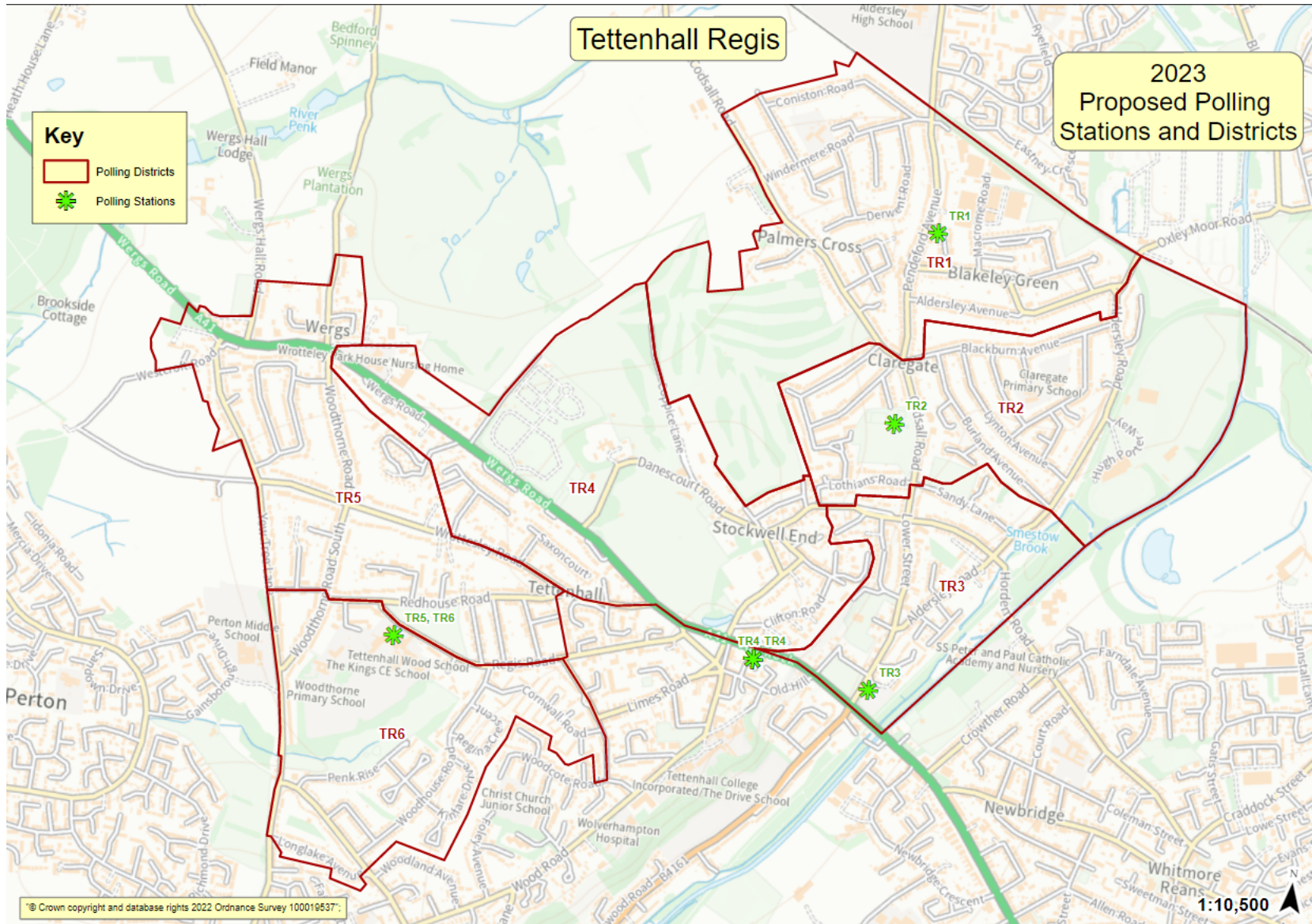
					ward. There is a relatively small electorate, so in practice would be managed as one polling station with two registers for the respective constituencies/polling district.
SP7 (Previously SPD / SP4)	Wolverhampton South West	Art Gallery, Lichfield Street, WV1 1DU	710	Yes	The initial proposal was for the district to be renamed as SP4, however, this is the usual polling station for the current SP8 polling district which works well for this community.
SP8 (Previously SPE/1)	Wolverhampton South East	Wolverhampton Central Seventh Day Adventist Church, Oxford Street, WV1 3SA	1,471	Yes	This is a new polling district due to ward boundary changes. This makes a good polling station due to accessibility, parking and has a large room to accommodate.

Tettenhall Regis

2023 Proposed Polling Stations and Districts

Key

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Tettenhall Regis

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
TR1	Wolverhampton South West	Christ the King Church, Pendeford Avenue, WV6 9EJ	2,223	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
TR2	Wolverhampton South West	Claregate Pavillion, Claregate Playing Field, WV6 9PZ	2,064	Yes	<p>There are no changes to this district. The current polling station used by this district is Claregate Primary School. It does have to close, and they do not currently plan for polling day as an inset day.</p> <p>Other venues explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No other suitable venues have been identified in the polling district. The options are to make a double polling station in the adjacent polling district TR1. • The closest polling station is Christ the King Church. This is 0.7 miles away from Claregate Primary School which is considered a reasonable distance for electors to travel. The room is large enough at the church to accommodate a double polling station. <p>The final recommendations are for the Pavilion building on Claregate Playing Field to be used alternatively to Claregate Primary School following feedback from Claregate Primary School and local voters.</p>


TR3	Wolverhampton South West	St Michaels School, Lower Street, WV6 9AF	1,146	Yes	<p>There are no changes to this district and polling station. The school does have to close but they do plan it as an inset day.</p> <p>Other venues explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merge district with TR4 and use St Michaels Parish Centre as the polling station. This polling station is just outside of the ward in Tettenhall Wightwick, but it has been used as the polling station for TR4 for a number of years due to a lack of suitable alternatives in the TR4 polling district. St Michaels Parish Centre is just 0.3 miles from St Michaels School which is considered a reasonable distance for electors to travel.
TR4	Wolverhampton South West	St Michaels Parish Centre, Off Upper Street, WV6 8QF	1,017	Yes	<p>There are no changes to this district and polling station.</p>
TR5	Wolverhampton South West	The Kings School, Regis Road, WV6 8XF	1,727	Yes	<p>There are no changes to this district and polling station. There are no suitable alternatives in the polling district. Tettenhall Wood School does have to close. However the Kings School does not have to close as they can lock down that side of the school. Therefore it is proposed that The Kings School becomes the permanent station for this polling district every year. The polling district is located in TR6 but is very close to the border and there are no other alternatives in the polling district.</p>

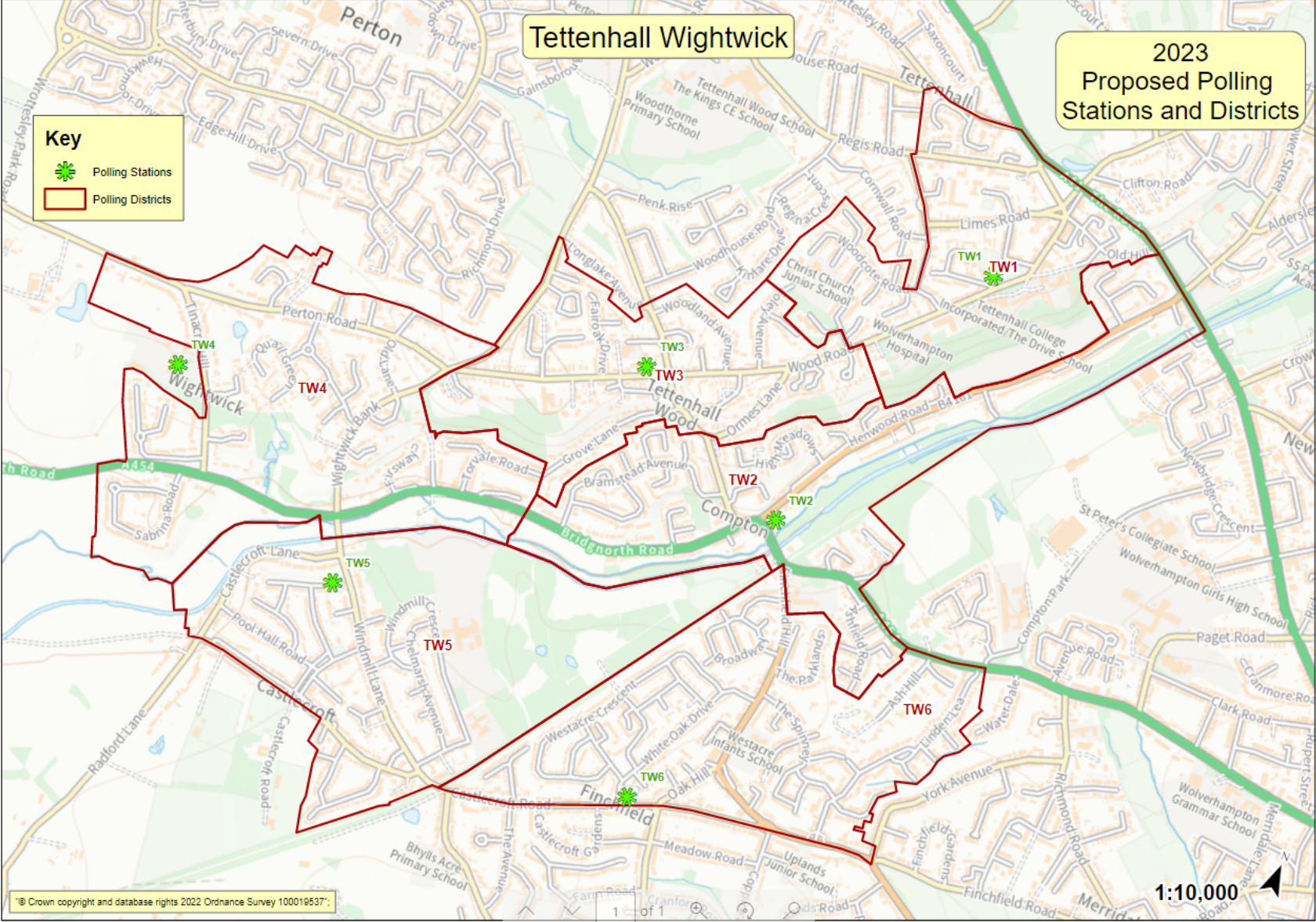
TR6	Wolverhampton South West	The Kings School, Regis Road, WV6 8XF	1,617	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station. There are no suitable alternatives in the polling district. Tettenhall Wood School does have to close. However, the Kings School does not have to close as they can lock down that side of the school. Therefore, it is proposed that The Kings School becomes the permanent station for this polling district every year. The polling district is located in TR6 but is very close to the border and there are no other alternatives in the polling district.
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Tettenhall Wightwick

2023 Proposed Polling Stations and Districts

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Tettenhall Wightwick


Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
TW1	Wolverhampton South West	Church Hall Newman Centre, Haywood Drive, WV6 8RF	1,183	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
TW2	Wolverhampton South West	Temporary polling station – Sainsburys Car Park, 24 Bridgnorth Road, WV6 8AA	1,701	No	<p>There are no changes to this district and polling station. There are no suitable alternative venues in this polling district. This arrangement has worked well over the last few years. An accessible ramp would need to be provided to make these stations accessible.</p> <p>Due to the large electorate and turnout and lack of suitable venue, this polling district is split in to two temporary stations. 338 electors turned out to vote in this polling station in the local election, compared to 979 for a general election. The other polling station in Ettingshall had a 334 turnout and managed with one unit. Therefore, for a standalone local election, it is proposed that just one unit is used and for a national election – two units to accommodate the greater turnout.</p> <p>This site is prone to flooding and is on the risk assessment to sort out blocked drains ahead of each election.</p>
TW3	Wolverhampton South West	Tettenhall Wood United Reformed Church, Mount Road, WV6 8HT	1,282	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.

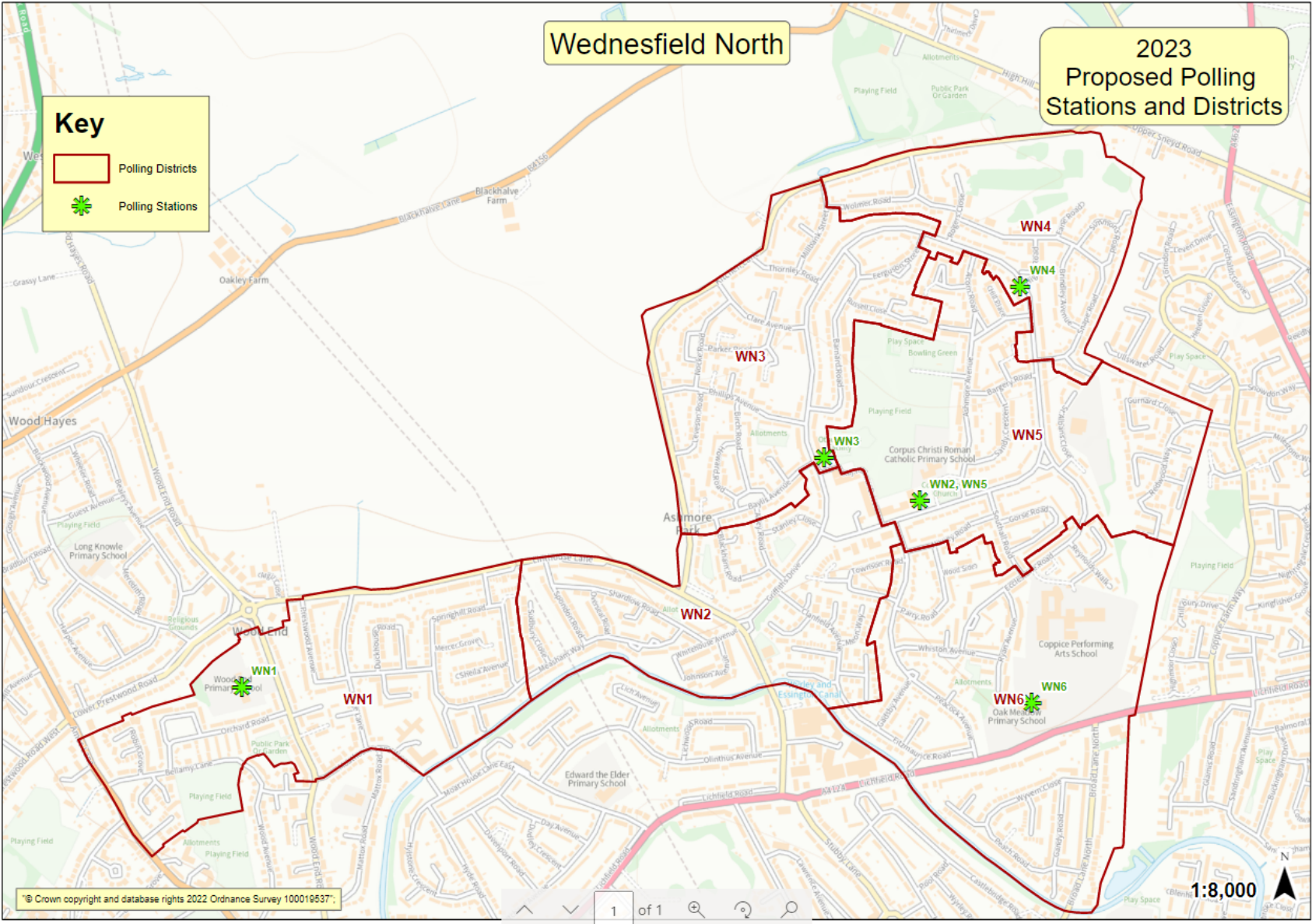
TW4	Wolverhampton South West	Endeavour Academy, Tinacre Hill, WV6 8DA	1,155	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station. There are no suitable alternatives to this venue. This school stays open. A security guard works on the gates controlling access to the polling station during school hours.
TW5	Wolverhampton South West	Church of Good Shepherd, Windmill Lane, WV3 8HJ	1,622	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
TW6	Wolverhampton South West	St Columbus Church Hall, Castlecroft Road, WV3 8BZ	2,434	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.

Wednesfield North

2023 Proposed Polling Stations and Districts

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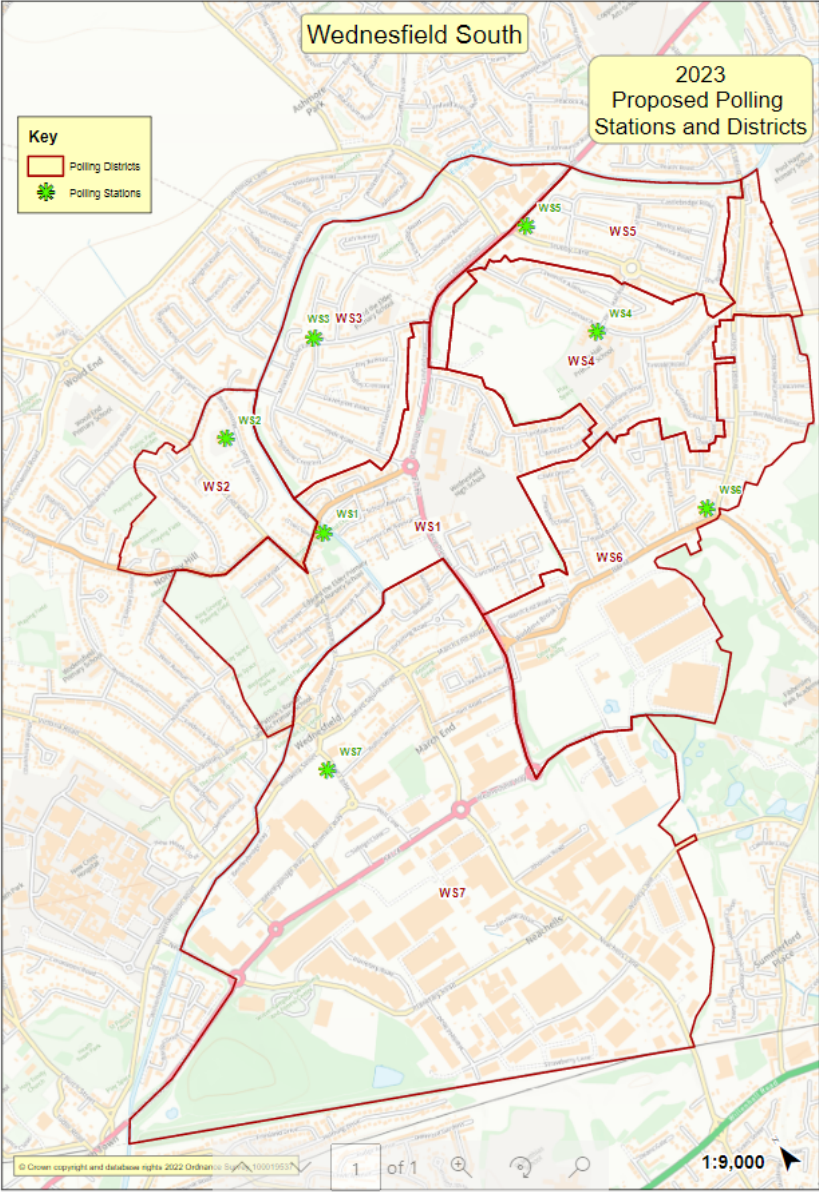


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Wednesfield North

Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
WN1	Wolverhampton North East	Wood End Primary School, Wood End Rd, WV11 1YQ	1,707	Yes	<p>There are changes to this district due to taking in from Wednesfield South and giving away to Fallings Park. There are no changes to the polling station. The school does have to close and they do not currently plan for this to be an inset day.</p> <p>Other venues explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesfield Methodist Church - told it could not be used as it is currently up for sale. This may be a suitable community space in the future which we could use. • Temporary polling station on the Castle Inn pub car park.
WN2	Wolverhampton North East	Ashmore Park Community Hub, 82 Griffiths Drive, WV11 2LH	1,378	Yes	<p>There are no changes to this district and polling station as it has worked well as a double in the past with WN5.</p> <p>Other venues explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Albans Church is in WN2 so this could make a suitable alternative if required.
WN3	Wolverhampton North East	Ashmore Park Baptist Church, Griffiths Drive, WV11 2JW	1,684	Yes	<p>There are no changes to this district and polling station.</p>
WN4 (Previously WN5)	Wolverhampton North East	Temporary Station, Griffiths Drive, Top of	890	Yes	<p>The final proposal is to create a new polling district at the top of Wednesfield North, as there was previously a temporary polling station at the</p>

		Higgs Road, WV11 2PD			top of Higgs Road, and the location is easier for electors to travel, as it is on a local bus route that is used frequently by voters.
WN5 (Previously WN6)	Wolverhampton North East	Ashmore Park Community Hub, 82 Griffiths Drive, WV11 2LH	1,502	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
WN6 (Previously WN4 split)	Wolverhampton North East	Oak Meadow Primary School, Wolverhampton, WV11 2QQ	1,502	Yes	<p>There are no changes to this district and station. Oak Meadow Primary School does have to close and they do not currently plan for this to be an inset day.</p> <p>Other venues explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double polling station at Ashmore Park if WNB use St Albans Church. The distance between Oak Meadow Primary School and Ashmore Park Community Hub is 0.5 miles, which is considered a reasonable distance for electors to travel.





Wednesfield South

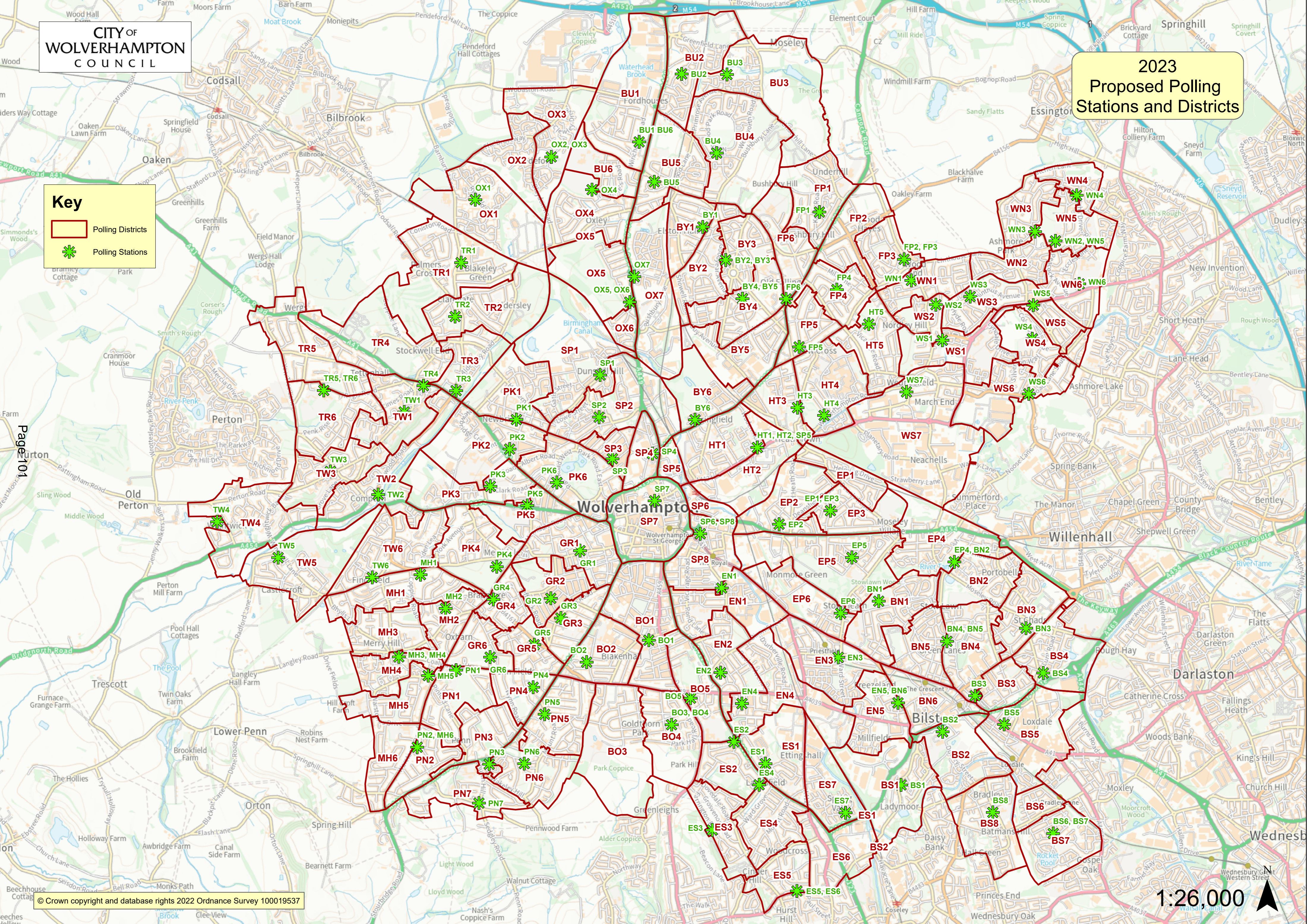
Proposed polling district	Parliamentary constituency	Proposed polling place	Estimated electorate	Disabled access	Justification
WS1	Wolverhampton North East	Seventh Day Adventist Church, Lichfield Road, WV11 1TP	1,866	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
WS2	Wolverhampton North East	St Thomas Primary School, Mattox Road, WV11 3TG	764	Yes	<p>There are changes to this district as WS2 is giving away to Wednesfield North. There are no changes to the polling station. The school have identified that this is a remote learning day so there is minimal impact on children's education. No other suitable alternatives have been identified in the polling district.</p> <p>Other venues explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A double polling station with WS1 at the Seventh Day Adventist Church was proposed in 2021 as this is 0.3 miles away and would make a suitable double polling station. Feedback was received by ward councillors that this was not suitable as many elderly residents in this area do not own vehicles and it would be difficult to access this venue.
WS3	Wolverhampton North East	Moathouse Community Centre, 52 Moathouse Lane	1,449	Yes	There are no changes to this polling district. The current polling station is Edward the Elder School which does have to close to students, but teachers are still on site. Moathouse Community

		East, Wednesfield, West Midlands, WV11 2BB.			Rooms has a large car park around the rear and they are fitting a disabled access ramp to enter via the rear of the building. The room and the facilities make a good polling station venue, and it is on the same road as the school.
WS4	Wolverhampton North East	Perry Hall Primary School, Colman Avenue, WV11 3RT	1,435	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station. They do have to close and they do use it as an inset day. Other options explored: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merge WS4 and WS5 polling districts to make up an electorate of 2,500. The distance from Perry Hall Primary School to the Redeemed Christian Church of God is 0.3 miles which is considered a reasonable distance to travel.
WS5	Wolverhampton North East	Redeemed Christian Church of God, Stubby Lane, off Lichfield Road, WV11 3NF	971	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
WS6	Wolverhampton North East	Wednesfield Christian Centre, Broad Lane South, WV11 3RY	1,561	Yes	There are no changes to this district and polling station.
WS7	Wolverhampton North East	Wednesfield Community Centre, 34 Well Lane, WV11 1XT	1,294	Yes	There are boundary changes to this district due to an area been given away to Heath Town. There are no changes to this polling station.

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Equality Analysis

Directorate: Governance Service Area: Electoral Services	Lead Officer: Laura Noonan, Electoral Services Manager Date completed: January 2022, updated 16 June 2022
Service / Function / Policy / Procedure to be assessed: Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places	
Is this: New / Proposed X Existing/Review X Changing ✓ (Please tick appropriate box)	Review date: Ongoing

Part A – Initial Equality Analysis to determine if a full Equality Analysis is required.

What are the aims and objectives/purpose of this service, function, policy or procedure?

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England Order for Wolverhampton will create new ward boundaries to be effective from May 2023. The arrangements will introduce changes to 14 wards. The six wards that are staying the same are Blakenhall, Graiseley, Merry Hill, Penn, Tettenhall Regis and Tettenhall Wightwick. There are also ward name changes proposed for 3 wards. Bilston East will become Bilston South, Ettingshall will become Ettingshall North and Spring Vale will be Ettingshall South and Spring Vale.

A polling district and polling place review is required to reflect the new boundaries at the revision of the electoral register on 1 December 2022. The Polling District and Polling Place Review will subdivide the new ward areas, allocate a polling place, calculate the electorate for each polling venue and recommend the number of polling stations within the polling place. The Council has a statutory responsibility to review polling districts and polling places. The purpose of such a review is to ensure that all electors have reasonably practicable facilities for voting and that polling places are reasonably accessible to electors who are disabled. The review is an opportunity for electors, community groups and any other interested parties in Wolverhampton to express their views on the polling district boundaries and polling places through an online questionnaire, and where possible make alternative suggestions for consideration.

Please indicate its relevance to any of the equality duties (below) by selecting Yes or No?

	Yes	No
Eliminating unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment		X
Advancing equality of opportunity	X	
Fostering good community relations		X

If not relevant to any of the three equality duties and this is agreed by your Head of Service, the Equality Analysis is now complete - please send a copy to the Equality & Diversity Team. If any of the three equality duties are relevant, a Full Equality Analysis will need to be undertaken (PART B below).

PART B: Full Equality Analysis.

Step 1 – Identifying outcomes and delivery mechanisms (in relation to what you are assessing)

What outcomes are sought and for whom?	To give electors, community groups and other interested parties in Wolverhampton an opportunity to express their views on the polling district boundaries and polling stations
Are there any associated policies, functions, services or procedures?	Electoral Commission Guidance on Reviews of polling districts, polling place and polling stations: Polling place reviews Electoral Commission
If partners (including external partners) are involved in delivering the service, who are they?	Hire of various venues as polling stations

Step 2 – What does the information you have collected, or that you have available, tell you?

What evidence/data already exists about the service and its users? (in terms of its impact on the ‘equality strands’, i.e. race, disability, gender, gender re-assignment, age, religion or belief, sexual orientation, maternity/pregnancy, marriage/civil partnership and other socially excluded communities or groups) and **what does the data tell you?** e.g. are there any significant gaps?

Age – 22% of the population are aged 0-15, and 17% aged 65 and over. The city is younger than the English average but the 65+age group is expected to rise faster than younger cohorts.

24 schools are currently used as polling stations. Of these, 10 schools close which results in a loss of school days for young people of school age (4-18). 12 of them plan it as a teacher training/inset day and 2 of them are open for remote learning.

Disability - It is estimated that around 20.5% (51,258) of people in Wolverhampton are affected by a disability which limits their day-to-day activity – 10% of the population are affected by a disability which impacts them a lot.

Religion - According to the 2018 ONS Annual Population Survey by religion, Christianity is the most common religion in the city with 55 % (138,394) of residents. Followed by 9% (22,689) Sikh – Wolverhampton has the second highest proportion of Sikh residents in the Country. 4% (9292) are Hindu and 4% (9062) Muslim, and 20% (49,821) of the population hold no religion or belief.

There are currently 39 out of 103 buildings in use which belong to a particular faith group. For the majority of these, the voting takes place in a function room / church hall.

Race – The top three ethnicity groups in Wolverhampton are White, Asian/Asian British and Asian/ Indian. 65% of Wolverhampton are White British. 89% of the population speak English as a main language. The most commonly spoken main languages after English are Punjabi (11,055), Polish (2,458) and Kurdish (1,386).

Has there been any consultation with, or input from, customers / service users or other stakeholders? If so, with whom, how were they consulted and what did they say? If you haven't consulted yet and are intending to do so, please list which specific groups or communities you are going to consult with and when.

We are going to consult with all groups on Equalities stakeholder database. All electors will be informed of the review.

Are there any complaints, compliments, satisfaction surveys or customer feedback that could help inform this assessment? If yes, what do these tell you? Feedback from Presiding Officer report on polling day will demonstrate the suitability of the station and whether there are any comments from electors.

Step 3 – Identifying the negative impact.

a. **Is there any negative impact on individuals or groups in the community?**

<p>Barriers:</p> <p>What are the potential or known barriers/impacts for the different 'equality strands' set out below? Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where you provide your service, e.g. the facilities/premises; • Who provides it, e.g. are staff trained and representative of the local population/users? • How it is provided, e.g. do people come to you or do you go to them? Do any rules or requirements prevent certain people accessing the service? • When it is provided, e.g. opening hours? • What is provided, e.g. does the service meet everyone's needs? How do you know? <p>* Some barriers are justified, e.g. for health or safety reasons, or might actually be designed to promote equality, e.g. single sex swimming/exercise sessions, or cannot be removed without excessive cost. If you believe any of the barriers identified to be justified then please indicate which they are and why.</p> <p>Solutions:</p> <p>What can be done to minimise or remove these barriers to make sure everyone has equal access to the service or to reduce adverse impact? Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other arrangements that can be made to ensure people's diverse needs are met; • How your actions might help to promote good relations between communities; • How you might prevent any unintentional future discrimination. 			
Equality Themes	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts identified	Solutions (ways in which you could mitigate the negative impact)

<p>Age (including children, young people and older people)</p>	<p>Schools used as polling stations could plan for those days in advance and use it as an inset day, which could be used to demonstrate importance of voting and democracy for young people. The proposed scheme eliminates the use of schools</p>	<p>If proposed venues become unavailable, especially at short notice, schools may need to be used in some circumstances which impacts on school aged children education as the school is likely to close.</p>	<p>Schools have been asked if they have to close, or whether they use polling day as an inset day to minimise impact on education. We will ask councillors and other community groups for alternatives venues to schools which could be explored. All representations will be considered by the Governance and Ethics Committee who will then put forward recommendations to the Council.</p>
<p>Disability (including carers)</p>	<p>Ahead of every election, electors are made aware of the option of applying for a postal or proxy vote. In 2021, all electors without a postal vote were sent an application form to give them the choice ahead of the first election to be held during the pandemic.</p> <p>Local authorities have a duty to review the accessibility of all polling places to disabled voters and ensure that every polling place, and prospective polling place, for which it is responsible is accessible to disabled voters</p>	<p>Some stations such as temporary stations are not ideal venues however all venues are made wheelchair accessible with temporary ramps.</p>	<p>All proposed new polling places will be evaluated against the Electoral Commission checklist for polling places with a particular emphasis on the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level access at entrance and within polling place (or space for temporary ramp) • Wide enough doorways and corridors • Sufficient space within the polling place to enable motorised wheelchair manoeuvrability.

	<p>'so far as is reasonable and practicable'.</p> <p>Presiding Officers and companions of voters with disabilities can assist electors with marking the ballot paper.</p>		Continue to work with disability groups such as Beacon Centre for Blind and Zebra Access.
Gender (men and women)	No impact anticipated	No impact anticipated	No action required
Race (including Gypsies & Travelers and Asylum Seekers)	People with no fixed address can register by declaration of local connection.	Those whose first language is not English may find it more difficult to participate in the consultation and provide their views on the proposed polling districts and places.	The invitation to respond to the consultation can be translated in to the top 10 most spoken languages in the city.
Religion or belief (including people of no religion or belief)	Many faith buildings are used for voting.	The use of religious or consecrated buildings may discourage other faith groups from voting.	Due to the requirement to provide polling stations in a specified area (a polling district) and the requirement to make them accessible to all, it is often not possible to secure the use of a more generic facility. Where the main church is used as the polling station, this is clearly stated on the poll card. Electors are also made aware of the option of applying for a postal or proxy vote. The consultation will be shared with faith groups to secure their views.

Gender Re-assignment (those that are going or have gone through a transition: male to female or female to male)	No impact anticipated	No impact anticipated	No action required
Pregnancy and Maternity	The layout of polling stations is such that access for pushchairs is considered	No impact anticipated	No action required
Sexual orientation (including gay, lesbian, bisexual and heterosexual)	No impact anticipated	No impact anticipated	No action required
Marriage and Civil Partnership	No impact anticipated	No impact anticipated	No action required
Human Rights	No impact anticipated	No impact anticipated	No action required

Step 4 – Changes or mitigating actions proposed or adopted

Having undertaken the assessment are there any changes necessary to the existing service, policy, function or procedure? What changes or mitigating actions are proposed?

This is a statutory process so there are no changes to process, but this analysis will ensure that we engage with all of the relevant stakeholders to ensure equality of opportunity to taking part in the consultation.

Step 5 – Monitoring

How are you going to monitor the existing service, function, policy or procedure?

The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 amended the Representation of the People Act 1983 to require the Council to undertake full reviews of polling districts and polling places at least every five years within a specific timeframe. In addition, the Council reviews its polling scheme following an election to ensure ongoing suitability of location and accessibility of the premises. The responsibility to provide recommendations to Full Council on electoral arrangements in the city relating to the designation of polling districts and polling places lies with the Governance and Ethics Committee.

Part C - Action Plan

Barrier/s or improvement/s identified	Action Required	Lead Officer	Timescale
Impact on schools	Reduce use of schools and inform schools of election dates years in advance so that they can plan inset days	Laura Noonan	Ongoing

Equality Analysis approved by:

Head of Service: Laura Gittos – Head of Governance <i>L. Gittos</i>	Date: 9 February 2022
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Please send an electronic copy of the Equality Analysis to the Equality & Diversity Team:

Summary of representations received in the polling district and polling place review consultation

A summary of the representations received in the polling district and polling place review has been provided below, organised in alphabetical ward order. Additional responses that were outside the scope of the consultation have been provided at the end.

Bilston North

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
BN1	Ward Councillors: Councillor Phil Page, Councillor Linda Leach and Councillor Olivia Birch	Councillors were concerned about the vulnerable residents at the tenants meeting room and having this building open for public access. They also said that there is restricted access to parking because it is used by the residents, and it is not as central to the polling district.	This is a reasonable concern and given the safeguarding concerns, the Acting Returning Officer proposals will include the return to Stowlawn Primary School. A site visit was conducted to the college sports hall as an alternative, however the councillor's feedback said that this is an extremely busy site and it is also difficult for residents of BNA to access.
BN1	Voter	I accept that the LGBCE will have accurately redefined the ward boundaries based upon appropriate criteria and using the census data it had available. I further accept that this work was done without any political bias, simply to allow council wards (like the necessary changes to MP constituency boundaries) to	Feedback noted and echoed the points raised by Councillors regarding the lack of parking and it being more on the edge of the boundary. Therefore, this will be moved back to Villiers Primary School.

		<p>reflect where people live now, rather than where they lived historically. This site is not located on a main road, on the local (little) bus route, on a road people use to travels the area nor is it located near the centre of the district. Instead, it has been placed on the extreme edge of the district, well off the beaten track I do wonder where people are expected to park, if they have a car, or do you just intend to waste council tax payers money 'compensating' people when you highjack tenants' parking spaces. I also presume the location was chosen to discourage the elderly from voting, possibly as a petty bourgeois reaction to the Brexit vote, probably on the assumption that normally there are sufficient sheep to ensure that election results are a foregone conclusion, ergo why waste effort finding a central location e.g. the old Methodist Church. We had a youth club that would have</p>	
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		been convenient but you lot subsumed it into the school.	
BN2	Councillor Phil Page, Councillor Linda Leach and Councillor Olivia Birch (ward councillors for Bilston North)	BNB is taking in from Bilston East ward. Councillors said that this part of the ward needs to be a separate polling district. These voters currently vote at Bert williams, but this is a busy junction, and it would be more convenient for them to vote at the Excel Church. This is out of the ward, but councillors agreed that this has a better fit for this community. The rest of BNB should vote back at Villiers Primary School as per the comments below.	The Acting Returning Officer proposed that BNB polling district will be split in to two along the Wellington to create an additional polling district and polling station in the ward. It is proposed that they will vote at the excel church as this is closer for these electors and it makes a good polling station venue.
BN2	Voter	I live on Shale Street. previously the street came under Bilston East and Ettingshall wards. All Saints Primary School was used, but I think the Excel Church would be more It has a large car park, served by the 23 bus service.	This is in line with the feedback provided by Ward Councillors and it is proposed that this polling district will be split and the polling station will be the Excel Church.
BN4	Councillor Phil Page, Councillor Linda Leach and Councillor Olivia Birch (ward councillors for Bilston North)	Villiers Primary School is a better polling station for BNB and BND residents. The proposed polling station of Bilston Methodist Church	The Acting Returning Officer proposed that the polling station is at Villiers Primary School given the concerns

		entrance is too close to the traffic lights and would cause congestion. The car park is too small. This would double the distance for electors compared to Villiers. Electors are used to voting at Villiers and they do not want to create too much change as the ward boundary changes are enough change.	raised by all three ward councillors.
BN4	Bilston Methodist Church	Proposals make sense – large car park, disabled toilets, disabled ramp access	The Acting Returning Officer visited the venue and agrees that it is a suitable polling station, however it will not be used for May 2023 given the concerns raised above.
BN3 and BN5	Councillor Phil Page, Councillor Linda Leach and Councillor Olivia Birch (ward councillors for Bilston North)	Happy with these proposals	Feedback noted. No further action required.
All	Wolverhampton Liberal Democrats	Bilston North has 5 polling districts of a similar physical size, with electorates of 2,090, 2,454, 1,743, 1,378 and 2,061: an ideal standard that should be replicated elsewhere!	Feedback noted. No further action required.

Bilston South

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
BS1	Councillor Stephen Simkins	The horning drive polling station was closer for these electors, and it will also be the polling station to serve the new Bilston urban village.	The Acting Returning Officer accepts this feedback and proposes to split this district and to have the temporary polling station at horning drive as this is closer for electors in this area.
All	Wolverhampton Liberal Democrats	Bilston South is one of the wards that has changed, hence the change of name from Bilston East. It has a mixture of size and electorate in its 7 polling districts, and these could be reduced to the 'standard' 5 by combining BSB and BSD to give a total of 2,242, keeping the BS4 polling station for both; and combining BSE with BSF rather than the adjacent BSG which already has 2,007 electors. Although that combination would total 2,777, the northern boundary of BSF could be moved down to align with the northern boundary of BSE, with the electors north of	The Acting Returning Officer notes the feedback and appreciates the effort to equalise the polling district numbers from an administrative perspective, however unlike the ward boundary review this is not the aim with the polling district review. These proposals would reduce the number of polling stations and increase the distance that some electors would have to travel. It is inconvenient for electors in BSB to have to cross the A463 main road to get to the BS4 polling station. Abiding by the Electoral Commission guidance, we cannot plan for a polling station to have more

		King Street joining BSA which currently has only 1,446.	than 2,500 electors. The proposal to move the BSF line down to gain a more even electorate would not benefit the electors as their polling station would be further away and more awkward to get to.
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Blakenhall

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
BO1, BO2, BO5	Councillor Jas Dehar, Councillor Paul Birch (Ward Councillors)	These polling stations are working fine.	Feedback noted, no further action required.
BO1	Wolverhampton Liberal Democrats	Blakenhall meets the standard 5, but has the polling districts with the highest and lowest electors next to each other with 2,326 and 1,352, compared to the other 3 with 1,606, 1,865 and 1,628. If ~400 electors were moved from the south of BOA to BOB, this would even things up and reduce the pressure on the BO1 polling station.	Both electorates are still within an acceptable scope. The Royal Air Force Association in BOA is a small room so the Acting Returning Officer would not recommend that more electors are moved here. The existing arrangements for these polling districts have worked well and are convenient for electors.
BO5	Cllr Tersaim Singh	It is difficult to get to St Theresa's too as it's a cul de sac, very narrow road	Feedback noted and will change to St Johns Methodist Church.

BO3	Councillor Jas Dehar	This is a south Asian community with a lot of elderly residents who could not get to St Johns Methodist Church, and some do not know where it is. They always go to Goldthorn Park.	The Acting Returning Officer accepts this feedback and proposes that the polling station is at Goldthorn Park Primary School.
BO3	Councillor Paul Birch	Would like to retain Goldthorn Park School as Double for BOC/BOD	As above
BO4	Councillor Jas Dehar	This is where they have always voted. It caused confusion changing it last year.	The Acting Returning Officer accepts this feedback and proposes that the polling station is at Goldthorn Park Primary School.
BO4	Voter	it looks like it will make little difference to my wife and myself just a little bit more walking.	Feedback noted, no further action required. The final proposal will revert back to the ordinary polling station.
BO4	Councillor Paul Birch	Would like to retain Goldthorn Park School as Double for BOC/BOD	As above
BO5	Voter	It is more convenient from a parking and traffic point of view than St Teresa's School	Feedback noted, no further action required.
BO5	Voter	Within the local area of Blakenhall, there are plenty of community locations that could be used instead of St Teresa's primary school.	Feedback noted, no further action required.

		I think it is a very positive step forward to remove the need for schools to close to pupils and am grateful for the proposed changes – removes the negative impact on education.	
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Bushbury North

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
BU3	Councillor Andrew McNeil (ward councillor)	Northycote farm is too far away from the residential area. There aren't any other suitable buildings in the area. Need to look at temporary stations. Suggest Mayfield surgery and medical practice or the green land on northycote lane/abbeyfield road	The Acting Returning Officer agrees that this polling station is located further away from the residential area than is the norm. This has been the arrangement for many years and no negative feedback has been received from electors. Mayfield surgery and medical centre said they are not able to assist as they do not have a separate room and the car park is not big enough for a temporary. The concern is that the green land would not be practical from a health and safety perspective as there is nowhere safe for electors to park and queue. It would also be impractical to place a site

			on the grass especially in wet conditions. However a site visit was arranged to assess this further with the supplier and health and safety and a suitable area was found on the park next to Mayfield Medical Practice.
BU3	Voter	This site is totally unsuitable . It is too far from the housing estates . People who have mobility issues or don't have a car have a real problem if they want to vote in person. Given the physical area that the ward covers two polling stations are needed. Bus services are inadequate to get to Northycote Farm. The polling station needs to be far more central, say by the doctor's surgery in Cromwell Road, A smaller ward area or restricted to estates south of Northycote Lane would be more appropriate . There used to be a mobile polling station by the former King Charles pub. There is space on the open land central to where people live or even on the Surgery carpark.	As above.

BU4	Councillor Andrew McNeil (ward councillor)	Access and site isn't accessible at St Mary's Church. Would like to go back to the primary school	The Acting Returning Officer accepts this feedback as one of the concerns noted at the site visit was that it could be difficult to find especially at night. Northwood Primary school was an alternative to Collingwood library. The library service have confirmed that this will be opened again this year so can be used as a polling station again.
BU4	Presiding Officer	Library was more suitable - comments by several voters. Several people stated they had not received their postal votes. Station was too far and not suitable for people who are not able bodied. One member unable to vote due to lack of close parking. Library was closer and more suitable, this station is more uphill and electors may have health issues.	The Acting Returning Officer accepts this feedback and it echoes the feedback above, so it is proposed the polling station goes back to the library.
All	Wolverhampton Liberal Democrats	Bushbury North has 6 polling districts, one of which is under 1,000. If this is combined with BUE it would total 2,652 just over the 2,500 maximum, so a solution would be to transfer the School Lane area to BUD	This would make the polling station over the Stafford Road a significant logistical boundary – it is incredibly busy and difficult to cross so these are best kept as two separate districts.

		which would fit in well, and enable both electorates to be under 2,500. BU5 would then serve the existing BUF, and not BU1 with BU6.	
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Bushbury South and Low Hill

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
All	Councillor Ian Brookfield, Councillor Paula Brookfield, Councillor Paul Sweet (ward councillors)	Happy with the arrangements as there are no changes to the existing arrangements	Feedback noted, no further action required.
All	Wolverhampton Liberal Democrats	Bushbury South and Low Hill has 6 polling districts, and it would be difficult to reduce these to 5 conveniently although electors in BYE have some distance to go to vote in BYD.	Feedback noted, no further action required.

East Park

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
EP1, EP2, EP3, EP4, EP5	Councillor Anwen Muston (ward councillor)	Happy with these polling stations. Happy if security guard is on gate of EPB.	Feedback noted, no further action required. A security guard will be placed on EPD to operate the gate for access to the station.

EP6	Councillor Anwen Muston (ward councillor)	The polling station needs to be in the ward, not happy to go over to Ettingshall. The other alternatives proposed are too far. It would be good if the temporary station could be put on the car park if the building cannot be used.	The Acting Returning Officer accepts this feedback and has confirmed that it is possible to use stowheath training centre for next year.
All	Wolverhampton Liberal Democrats	East Park has 6 polling districts, one of which has only 737 electors. This splits Stow Heath from EPE and should be combined with it to reduce the number to 5 polling districts. This would be just over the 2,500 with 2,570, but redrawing the boundary in the east would transfer a small number of electors to EPB, which only has 1,436 currently, and bring the combined EPE and EPF below 2,500.	This works from a numbers perspective however this is incredibly inconvenient for the electors in EPF who would have to travel much further to get to their polling station. Therefore it is proposed that a temporary polling station is placed in the more residential area of EPF in Stow Heath area.
EP4	Voter	Disagree cost cutting exercise yet again. east park library as all access you need car park walking distance to vote. portobello voting too far to walk if gets passed not bother voting	Feedback noted. Portobello community hub is located on the edge of EPD but is still within a mile of the furthest elector which is considered reasonable. There may be some houses that are slightly closer to EPE - east park library. However, there is not

			much in the difference and these arrangements have worked well.
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Ettingshall North

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
EN1, EN3, EN4, EN5	Councillor Zee Russell	Happy with these proposals.	Feedback noted, no further actions required.
EN2	Councillor Zee Russell	Happy with this proposal, however, there is a risk of church closing in the near future.	This polling station will remain in the proposal, however, will be reviewed in future if the church closes.
All Districts	Liberal Democrats	Ettingshall North is another standard with 5 polling districts and doesn't need change.	Feedback noted, no further actions required.

Ettingshall South and Spring Vale

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
All Districts	Councillor McGarrity	Happy with these proposals.	Feedback noted, no further actions required.
ES1	Liberal Democrats	Unacceptable that the Overfield Drive estate no longer has a temporary polling station in the local car park and it would certainly discourage electors there from	The Acting Returning Officer accepts this feedback and will propose to split this polling district in to two along the spring road and have a

		voting, as it is a long way round to get to the one at ES1. Alternatively, give them all postal votes!	temporary polling station at Overfield drive.
ES1, ES2	Liberal Democrats	ESA and ESB are next to each other with the highest (2,391) and lowest (1,222) and it would seem sensible to add the northern part of ESA to ESB and use the polling station ES1 for both.	Although next to each other, there are separated by the Birmingham New Road which is a natural boundary between the two polling districts, and it would make it more difficult for some electors to move from Spring Vale Library to Hilton Hall.
ES5, ES6	Voter	Seems fine & well thought out. Very good access & Parking. Good site saves using a school helps education, very content.	Feedback noted, no further actions required.
ES6	Liberal Democrats	ESF is split either side of the A4123 so should not be a problem.	Feedback noted, no further actions required.

Fallings Park

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
FP2	Voter	The polling station in the Church on Blackhalve Lane had easy access, and on the flat for disabled voters. It was central to the ward, easy parking and very easy to find.	This is referring to St Gregory the Great Church. The church is closing and they are not able to host a polling station or temporary on this site so it

		<p>The loss of the polling station to Fallings Park ward which had been sited on Blackhalve Lane is wrong. This polling station should be re-instated.</p> <p>I do not know if the boundary changes have altered the Fallings Park ward, but the shape of the ward seems a little odd, but I do not know the criteria for assessing the polling district.</p>	will need to stay at Long Knowle Community Hub.
FP1, FP3 and FP4	Councillor Steve Evans	Happy with the proposals.	Feedback noted, no further action.
FP2	Councillor Steve Evans	Ok with current proposal as a second choice. Has suggested a temporary on St Gregory's Church car park (as more central for residents) and suggests putting sign on St Gregory's to say where polling station has moved to.	The church is closing and they are not able to host a polling station or temporary on this site so it will need to stay at Long Knowle Community Hub.
FP6	Councillor Steve Evans	Happy with the proposal, however, if venue cannot be used in future, recommends the fire station opposite. Has community room and good parking behind.	Feedback noted, and the polling station will be reviewed in future if the venue closes.
FP4, FP5, FP6	Liberal Democrats	Would be good to combine the two with the lowest electorates FPE (1,333) and FPF (1,234);	The Acting Returning Officer acknowledges this from an administrative point of view

		but a part of FPD along the A460 is in the way, so it would mean redrawing the boundary to make just 2 new polling districts out of 3. The A460 area would go to the new FPE which would use the FP6 polling station instead of the FP5. The SE of the existing FPE (Sambrook Road, part of Kingsway, Wimborne and Prestwood Road West) would transfer to the revised FPD to bring the electorate of the new FPE below 2,500.	but logistically this makes it much further for some electors to travel so will not be taking this forward.
FP5	Voter	I consider there to be ample parking in the vicinity; there is an access ramp; location is 'safe'.	Feedback noted, no further actions required.

Graiseley

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
All Districts	Liberal Democrats	Graiseley has 6 polling districts, with 3 of them between 1,047 and 1,129. Again, these 3 adjacent wards could be combined into 2. Any 2 of them would be under 2,500 but leave one low one behind. If all were added	The Acting Returning Officer notes the feedback and appreciates the effort to equalise the polling district numbers from an administrative perspective, however unlike the ward boundary review this is not the

		together and divided by 2, that would provide 2 new polling districts with an average of 1,652, similar to the other 3 Graiseley ones. So although Graiseley ward hasn't been revised, it now has the lowest electorate in the whole of the city with 8,571 and certainly doesn't deserve 6 polling districts!	aim with the polling district review. These proposals would reduce the number of polling stations and increase the distance that some electors would have to travel.
All Districts	Voter	All polling stations are suitable.	Feedback noted, however, as a result of Councillor feedback, there are currently investigations into altering the polling station for GRB.
GR1, GR3, GR4, GR5, GR6	Councillor John Reynolds, Councillor Asha Mattu	Happy with these proposals.	Feedback noted, no action required.
GR2	Councillor John Reynolds	Not happy with Association of Ukrainians. Suggests Bingley Strengthening Families Hub or St Chad's Church. The fire damage at Bingley SFH has been repaired, and the building to the right of St Chad's Church is council owned.	The Acting Returning Officer has contacted St Chad's Church on numerous occasions. It is recommended that this moves back to Strengthening Families Hub.
GR5	Beckminster Methodist Church	Happy with the proposals.	Feedback noted, no further action.
GR6	Voter	I think my polling station should stay where it is, there's no issue for people to get to	Feedback noted, no further action.

		and access the polling station. I believe that if the polling station was to be moved it would cause issues for residents to get to.	
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Heath Town

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
All Districts	Liberal Democrats	Heath Town has 5 polling districts, all similarly sized, and matches the ward standard.	Feedback noted, no further action.
HT1	Councillor Milkinder Jaspal	Happy with revised proposal to use Harvest Temple Church as polling station for HTA and stand down Woden Primary School as it is in the same polling district and makes a good double polling station.	The Acting Returning Officer accepts the feedback and will move the polling station to become a double station at Harvest Temple Church.

Merry Hill

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
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MH1	Councillor Dalton, Councillor Hyatt and Councillor Haynes (ward councillors)	Happy with the polling station.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
All	Liberal Democrats	Merry Hill has 6 polling districts, the lowest down in the south being 1,160. Combining it with MHE would seem logical, but that takes it just over the 2,500. So the houses north of Highgate Avenue would need to be transferred to MHD, giving it an almost horizontal southern boundary. Although it is intended to avoid using schools as polling stations where possible, both MHE and MHF had polling stations outside their area, and I am sure it could be possible to use the Springdale Infant or Junior School as a replacement for these two.	Feedback noted. Given the strong arguments presented by ward councillors on communities of identity and polling station locations these polling districts will be proposed to be redrawn which will still avoid the need to use the school.
MH1	Voter	Fine, no issues. Have used for years and never had a problem, it is in walking distance	Feedback noted. No further action required.
MH1		The boundaries are suitable. The polling station is ideally situated within the ward with safe, spacious	Feedback noted. St Columbas Church has been visited and is suitable however will not be

		accommodation for your staff with adequate parking and disability access for all.	used in May 2023 elections following feedback received.
MH2	Councillor Dalton, Councillor Hyatt and Councillor Haynes	Happy with the polling station.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
MH3	Councillor Dalton, Councillor Hyatt and Councillor Haynes	Happy with the polling station. St Joseph's church is great for this area.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
MH3/MH4	Voter	suitable, no issues.	Ample parking at church and nearby.
MH4	Councillor Dalton and Councillor Haynes	Nursing home needs to stay at MH3. Could be split down Leasowes drive to take in Pinfold Grove. Redraw the boundary line along Leasowes drive and up to new street because people living in that area – pinfold grove live right next to Warstones but do not go to that polling station.	The Acting Returning Officer accepts this feedback and proposed that MHD to give away Pinfold Grove to MHE to make it easier for electors to travel to vote following the concerns raised.
MH5	Councillor Dalton	Proposed to follow Warstones drive and down the road opposite Stourton drive to make make it easier for electors from MHE and MHF. walk ways are available through east croft road to make it easier for electors to	The Acting Returning Officer accepts this feedback and proposed that the boundary lines for MHE are moved to follow Warstones road and Stourton Drive to make it easier for electors to vote from MHE and MHF districts. Also,

		walk through to Springdale Methodist. Springdale have put restriction in the road and there are problems parking.	MHE will take in Pinfold Grove from MHD.
MH5	Councillor Hyatt	This is a low voting area. IT would be better if people went to Springdale infant school as people know where the school is and not where the library is. However on reflection we are trying to do more things at the library so it might be ok.	The Acting Returning Officer visited the venue and agrees that it is a suitable polling station, however it will not be used for May 2023 given the concerns raised.
MH5	Voter	Doesn't seem to have changed and Warstones Library is fine. Plenty of parking and quite local.	Feedback noted. Boundary lines changes to be made following the above concerns raised.
MH6	Councillor Dalton and Councillor Hyatt	Happy with this polling station. The church has great parking.	Feedback noted. No further action required.

Oxley

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
OX1	Councillor Collinge and Councillor Roberts	Happy with this polling station.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
All Districts	Liberal Democrats	Oxley has seen a fair bit of change, and has 6 polling districts, one split 1,070/525 to	Legally the polling districts have to align to parliamentary constituencies so it is not

		accommodate part of what was St Peter's ward. This does seem unnecessary, although new constituency boundaries will not concur in some minor areas with the new wards, but it will be 8 years before another constituency review (instead of 5) whereas the wards are likely to remain the same. One OXE with 1,595 would get people used to the new Oxley.	possible to merge the areas as suggested.
OX2	Councillor Collinge and Councillor Roberts	Happy with this polling station.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
OX3	Councillor Collinge and Councillor Roberts	Happy with this polling station.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
OX4	Councillor Collinge and Councillor Roberts	Happy with this polling station.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
OX5	Councillor Collinge	OXE/1 - to move some to OXD. Area north of lodge road to go back to Rakegate. As its lost some of St Annes area.	The Acting Returning Officer accepts this point and will redraw OXE/1 to move the areas north of lodge road to OX4 so that these voters vote at Rakegate school.
OX7	Councillor Roberts	OXF - seems quite far for people to travel . Too difficult to come across the Stafford road. Would have to be Bushbury lane academy really. They have enough to	The Acting Returning Officer is currently investigating the use of the Gatehouse car park for a temporary station. If this is not suitable then the recommendation would be to

		get their head around different ward and three members. Maybe we look at it in the future.	used Bushbury Lane Academy based on this.
OX7	Councillor Collinge	Bushbury Lane academy doesn't have much connection for the Akron estate and the southside is currently being developed. Due to building work near the academy not ideal for walking path. Potential for Temporary polling station either on the the communal area near Aldi or the gatehouse car park. Issue with little oaks nursery potentially....but it's quite a dark. Not ideal for the residents south of OXF to go vote at a temporary station however this is still a better option than the Pavillion.	The Acting Returning Officer agrees that the Gatehouse car park may be suitable for a temporary station and is currently investigating into this temporary station.
OX7	Liberal Democrats	It appears that the residents of the 'Goodyear estate' will be made to travel to a polling station outside their district. Polling numbers were low last time, and the use of Ripon Road School was unsuitable, so it is good that that has been deleted from the list.	The Acting Returning Officer agrees that the Gatehouse car park may be suitable for a temporary station and is currently investigating into this temporary station.

		<p>However, the use of the Church of the Epiphany is also unsuitable, as it is unknown to most residents on the estate, and too far from the houses concerned. I would suggest, though I am aware you don't like them, a portakabin on the estate, preferably on the Car Park of the Gatehouse pub. The Church of the Epiphany is awful for access, even when group activities take place in the hall, owing to the narrow entrance and the one-way system in Lymer Road/Church Road. The boundary changes are sensible especially bringing in Mercury Drive estate into Oxley.</p>	
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Park

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
PK1	Councillor Collingswood and Councillor Darke	Happy with using Cranmer Methodist church is it prevents a school closing it is a positive. Potential to put signs on the building to inform electors the building has	Feedback noted. No further action required.

		changed to tell them where the new polling station is.	
All Districts	Liberal Democrats	<p>Park has 6 polling districts, and a better arrangement would provide benefits while at the same time reducing the number to 5. PKA, PKB and PKF would stay the same, but PKF would become the new PKE. The zigzagging boundary between PKC and PKE would be removed, and this area would become the new PKC. A new boundary line would be created below Clark Road on the map, across and along the A454 west a short distance, than across to the corner of the boundary between the existing PKE and PKD below it on the map. PKD will now combine with the other half of PKC to create a new larger PKD. The sum of the existing PKC, PKD and PKE is 3,590, so the average for 2 polling districts will be 1,795, similar to the other 3 polling districts, but groups them in a much better way. Electoral services will have the electorates for the</p>	<p>The Acting Returning Officer considered this proposal as it is a good suggestion to reduce use of school. However it then creates a large electorate at the church and there is limited parking and it is a very busy road. Therefore this proposal will not be taken further forward at this stage.</p>

		split of PKC to determine the new totals.	
PK2	Councillor Collingswood and Councillor Darke	Happy with this polling station.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
PK2	Voter	Seems to be a fair reflection of the area and logical boundaries. Very convenient for our house to walk to and although some people do choose to drive there it has not caused any problems as there is a car park and some street parking. Mostly people seem to walk there so the few vehicles are ok to put up with.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
PK3	Councillor Collingswood and Councillor Darke	Happy with this polling station.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
PK4	Councillor Collingswood and Councillor Darke	Happy with this polling station.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
PK5	Councillor Collingswood and Councillor Darke	Happy with this polling station.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
PK6	Councillor Collingswood and Councillor Darke	Happy with this polling station.	Feedback noted. No further action required.

Penn

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
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PN1	Councillor Hibbett	Happy that it was moved from the library and the church is now in penn ward. Church has all the facilities needed and better than the library.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
All Districts	Liberal Democrats	Penn has 7 polling districts, 2 of which are below 1,000. In this case there is a fairly simple solution to reduce them to 5, without exceeding the nominal 2,500 maximum. PNB joins with PNG to give a total of 2,351, and PNC and PND combine with a total of 2,331. The bit of PNC which projects between PNB and PNG can be added to the new PNB, and the other polling districts PNE and PNF can be re-named PND and PNE appropriately.	<p>The Acting Returning Officer notes the feedback and appreciates the effort to equalise the polling district numbers from an administrative perspective, however unlike the ward boundary review this is not the aim with the polling district review. These proposals would reduce the number of polling stations and increase the distance that some electors would have to travel. It is inconvenient for electors in PNB to cross the main Penn Road to vote at PNG polling station and vice versa. The bit of PNC has households with fronts of penn road so it is easier for them to get to the station in the current polling district, to so this will not be taken forward.</p> <p>There is currently not a polling station in PNC so if PNC and</p>

			PND were merged the polling station would be woodfield social club which is too far for some electors in PNC to get to over a mile away. Therefore it is felt that PNC is best served by penn bowling club and PND to remain at woodfield sports and social club so it is proposed these will remain as two separate
PN2	Councillor Hibbett	Happy with that polling station and has always been there.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
PN3	Councillor Hibbett	The stations are okay it is not an ideal place. Has good parking space but is right in the middle of the road so can't walk there. Dangerous to get to the church and could even walk there. Proposed to use Penn united reformed church for PNC and Penn bowling Club for PNF due to high electorates.	The Acting Returning Officer accepts this feedback and proposed that PNC will continue to vote at Penn United reformed church.
PN4	Councillor Hibbett	Happy with the polling station. Facilities are good for the polling station.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
PN5	Councillor Hibbett	Happy with the polling station, Polling station works well, high electorate but that is due to	Feedback noted. No further action required.

		high amount of houses in each street.	
PN6	Councillor Hibbett	PNF to vote at Penn Bowling Club due to high electorate instead of a double station with PNC at Penn united reformed church.	The Acting Returning Officer accepts this feedback and proposed that PNC will continue to vote at Penn United reformed church.
PN7	Councillor Hibbett	Happy with the polling station.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
PN7	Voter	No change to either the boundary or my polling station both of which I am happy with and Excellent provision of parking, location and facilities.	Feedback noted. No further action required.

St Peters

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
SP3	Councillor Qaiser Azeem (ward councillor) in consultation with fellow ward councillors Councillor Lynne Moran and Councillor Obaida Ahmed.	This area needs to go back to how it was before as it is too far for elector to get to university chaplaincy due to city centre navigation and lack of parking	The Acting Returning Officer accepts this feedback and proposes to split this district in to two and to use the Newhampton Arts Centre aswell.
SP5	Councillor Qaiser Azeem, Councillor Lynne Moran	On the basis that the boundary change should not cause them to walk further to their polling station.	The affected 28 electors will vote at the NTCG Harvest Temple Church.

SP1, SP4, SP6, SP7	Councillor Qaiser Azeem	Fine with these proposals	Feedback noted. No further action required.
All	Wolverhampton Liberal Democrats	<p>St Peter's has 5 polling districts, although the one representing the City centre only has 710 electors. Although it could be combined with SPE and still be within range (2,453) it could be the exception to prove the rule, with the likelihood of new apartments being built in the centre over the next decade. There seems no point in splitting SPC and SPE so as to accommodate in one case, 28 electors from Heath Town, and in the other case, 272 from East Park. It won't affect local elections and would have a minimal effect on general elections where there are slight discrepancies between the two boundaries! However, electors from the All Saints area will now have to cross the busy Bilston Road to get to their new polling station, (although there is an underpass) rather than sharing their existing polling station with Ettingshall North</p>	<p>Legally the polling districts have to align to parliamentary constituencies which is why there are small electorates in some of the polling districts. The Acting Returning Officer accepts the point it being difficult for electors from the All Saints area. This polling station is close for electors to get to so on balance it is felt that this is best kept in the St Peters ward to avoid further confusion for electors.</p>

		at the ASAN centre. This might confuse people voting.	
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Tettenhall Regis

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
TR1	Voter	It hasn't changed. It's absolutely fine. Convenient for many. Near the shops. Level ground. Parking available.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
ALL	Liberal Democrats	Tettenhall Regis has 6 polling districts with two adjacent ones, TRC with 1,146 and TRD with 1,017. It would seem sensible to combine these 2 to give a new total of 2,163 and keep just the one polling station as TR3 or TR4. TRE and TRF which share a polling station, would be re-named TRD and TRE. (TRA and TRB are both over 2,000 electors).	This proposal was investigated further. Insight from ward councillors revealed that a lot of residents in this area are elderly and would not be ideal for them to move further to their polling station. No further action will be taken.
TR2	Voter	A stupid idea!! The local primary school is inefficient. At the last election the car park was full and the entrance	The Acting Returning Officer visited the Pavilion and will propose that this is used as

		<p>blocked by a huge police van. I remonstrated with the police officer but just received obscene language as a reply. The adjacent street was packed with cars and so anyone who was disabled could only do one thing. That is not vote. I believe the reason for choosing this station is politically driven. That is enough.</p> <p>Why not use what we used to use -that large building on the Claregate Playing Field?</p>	<p>the polling station as it is a good alternative to a school.</p>
TR2	Polling Station – Claregate Primary School	<p>Being shortly before SATS and in a bank holiday weekend makes revision very difficult so if it could be moved to Christ the King, that would help us immensely.</p>	As above
TR3	Voter	<p>St Michael's c of e primary school. We have no choice but to close the school at the disruption to pupils and staff. Always near SATS week! Bring back a portable polling station or pay the school more for the disruption!</p>	<p>The Acting Returning Officer takes this feedback on board and it is the aim of this review to reduce the need for schools, but also to only use temporary stations where there are no suitable alternative venues.</p>

Tettenhall Wightwick

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
TW1	Councillor Crofts and Councillor Turrell		Feedback noted. No further action required.
All Districts	Liberal Democrats	Tettenhall Wightwick also has 6 polling districts with the three smallest being TWA, (1,183), TWC (1,282), and TWD (1,155). These 3 are all in line across the top of the ward and could make two polling districts averaging 1,810 by splitting TWC between TWA and TWD and re-naming TWE and TWF as TWD and TWE.	The Acting Returning Officer notes the feedback and appreciates the effort to equalise the polling district numbers from an administrative perspective, however unlike the ward boundary review this is not the aim with the polling district review. These proposals would reduce the number of polling stations and increase the distance that some electors would have to travel.
TW2	Councillor Crofts and Councillor Turrell	There have been large queues on both temporaries before. The space is not used very often. Contact the supplier to see if there is anything more substantial for this site from the rain.	The supplier is not able to offer another type of unit as they would also need to supply a separate generator and chemical toilet which would be problematic to get hold of the generators for a short period of time.

TW3	Councillor Crofts and Councillor Turrell	Access for turning into this station can be quite tight due to the walls and there is not much parking so electors have to park elsewhere. In the past we have had road works on the day which has caused issues with traffic on the day, which could put people off from voting.	Feedback noted. This can be a busy station. The Acting Returning Officer does always check if there are any significant road works near any of the polling stations and will mitigate this as necessary.
TW4	Councillor Crofts and Councillor Turrell	Security guard on the school works well. Polling station is out the ward but nothing really in arear and have received no complaints from electors.	Feedback noted. No further action required.
TW5	Councillor Crofts and Councillor Turrell		Feedback noted. No further action required.
TW5	Voter	With regards to the boundary it cuts right through Finchfield and therefore some of the less mobile residents may struggle to get to the appropriate Merry Hill polling stations. The venue is unchanged for myself so I am pleased to see that it is still accessible. The one comment I would make regarding the polling station is at night it can be very dark. This could lead to issues for pedestrians arriving	Feedback noted. The Acting Returning Officer will liaise with the polling station venue around lighting to further assess the arrangements to see if additional lighting is required.

		at night on foot as you can walk through the alley by the houses from one end, but the other requires you to walk across the carpark as cars are pulling into the carpark from the main road and with the hedges drivers are going to struggle to see people walking across in the dark until they are very close.	
TW5	Voter	<p>The polling district boundaries for Castlecroft do not seem to have changed. They fit our community.</p> <p>Parking at the church is good, though exiting by car is not good. The brow of the hill on Windmill Lane obscures sight of oncoming vehicles as one leaves the parking site by car. It is a blind summit.</p>	Feedback noted. The Acting Returning Officer will liaise with the polling station venue around this issue to see if any additional signs can be produced to help mitigate this risk.
TW6	Councillor Crofts and Councillor Turrell		Feedback noted. No further action required.

Wednesfield North

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
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WN1	Voter	I would like schools to be discontinued from being used as polling station. With reference to Woodend school, the Methodist Church in Woodend Road is also used as a polling station. Is that necessary with so little distance between them? Let the children go to school.	The Acting Returning Officer accepts the feedback; however, Wednesfield Methodist Church is currently in the process of being sold, and will therefore, not be available as a polling station in the future.
WN1	Councillor Philip Bateman	Woodend school goes to the Methodist Church, which is the best alternative as on the other side of the road. Church is being sold but hasn't been sold. Loosing shops at wood end is not an issue. Still happy with WNA.	Feedback noted, no further action required.
WN2	Councillor Phillip Bateman	Happy with the proposal.	Feedback noted, no further action required.
WN3	Councillor Mary Bateman	Problem is there is a lot of elderly people, and it is not flat. Lost a lot of voters and get a lot of complaints. It is too steep for elderly voters.	Feedback noted, and action addressed in point below. The furthest area away from the polling station in this district is Wolmer Road which is 0.6 miles away from Ashmore Park Baptist Church. Same for WNE and . WND
WN3	Councillor Phillip Bateman	Used to have a temporary station at the top of Higgs Road by shops and bus stop	The Acting Returning Officer accepts the feedback and a temporary polling station will

		and Griffiths Drive. Used to have a better turn out with a temporary. Glad it is back in. Best consultation we have had and is detailed. There is also a big piece of land at the true Britain on snape road, however, will not be as visible.	be placed at the top of Higgs Road, and the boundary lines will be redrawn to accommodate merging parts of WNC, WND, and WNE.
WN4	Councillor Mary Bateman	Top half of WND and top half of WNC previously voted at the temporary station on Higgs Road. Bus route is used frequently which runs right by the polling station.	This feedback has been noted and echoes the points raised by other Councillors. Therefore, temporary station will be placed at the top of Higgs Road subject to risk assessment.
WN4 and WN5	Liberal Democrats	2 districts with the lowest electorates are adjacent to each other (WND and WNE) and can be combined by removing the crinkly line between them, resulting in a new total of 2,260. Adjustments could be made to the boundaries to even up the electorates between WNA, WNB and WNC, but not strictly necessary here.	This feedback has been noted and echoes the points raised by Councillors. Therefore, parts of WNC, WND, and WNE will be merged, and a temporary station will be placed at the top of Higgs Road.
WN6	Councillor Mary Bateman	Would prefer for Oak Meadow to still be used due to	Feedback noted, no further action required.

		travelling too far for St Albans. Busy roads to cross if it is changed.	
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Wednesfield South

Polling District	Respondent type	Representation	Returning Officer response to representation
All Districts	Liberal Democrats	Wednesfield South has 7 polling districts, not justified by its ward total of 9,344. Again it has 2 under 1,000 electors, which could be combined with adjacent polling districts, and still keep the combined total below 2,500. Combining WSB and WSC together, with WS3 as the only polling station gives a total of 2,217 electors; and combining WSD and WSE, a total of 2,406, keeping WS4 as the polling station for both areas. At present there is a very strange boundary between WSD and WSE so removing it simplifies the shape of the polling district as a new WSC. WSF and WSG would be	The Acting Returning Officer has previously proposed combining WSB and WSC together, but feedback was received from ward councillors and electors that this is too far for many elderly residents who live in the area to travel. This will not be taken further at this time.
WS3	Edward the Elder Primary School	Previously Edward the Elder Primary has been used as a polling station, The map now	Feedback noted, no further action.

		looks like it would not need to be used. If this is the case, I would support this. It would be preferable for the pupils not to miss a day of learning at school if possible.	
WS6	Voter	Happy with the proposed boundaries and polling station is centrally located, within walking distance.	Feedback noted, no further actions.

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Governance and Ethics Committee 20 October 2022
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Report title	Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Paula Brookfield, Governance and Equalities	
Accountable director	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer	
Originating service	Democratic Services	
Accountable employee	Jaswinder Kaur	Democratic Services Manager
	Tel	01902 550320
	Email	Jaswinder.kaur@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be considered by	Council	2 November 2022

Recommendation for decision:

The Governance and Ethics Committee is recommended to recommend that Council:

1. Approves the Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public and implement from December 2022.
2. Authorise the Chief Operating Officer to publicise the Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public on the Council's website.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to propose a Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public.

2.0 Background

2.1 The Council, at its meeting on 20 July 2022, agreed revisions to the constitution which permitted questions by members of the public. It was noted that a protocol would be drafted to detail the practicalities of how questions by members of the public will be dealt with.

2.2 As set out in the Full Council Meetings Procedure Rules, Questions by Members of the Public can currently be asked to the Leader or member of the Cabinet.

2.3 15 minutes are set aside for questions from members of the public.

3.0 Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public

3.1 The proposed protocol for questions by members of the public is enclosed at Appendix 1.

3.2 The purpose of this protocol is to provide guidance to members of the public, Councillors and officers on how the public can submit and ask questions at Full Council meeting and how questions at Council meetings shall be dealt with.

3.3 It is intended the protocol be read alongside, and to be complementary to, Part 4 of the Constitution – Full Council Meetings Procedure Rules.

4.0 Financial implications

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendation within this report.
[GE/11082022/Q]

5.0 Legal implications

5.1 There are no legal implications arising the recommendation within this report.
[SZ/12082022/P]

6.0 Equalities implications

6.1 There no equalities implications arising from the recommendation within this report.

7.0 All other Implications

7.1 There are no other implications arising from the recommendation within this report.

8.0 Schedule of background papers

8.1 [Agenda for Council on Wednesday, 20th July, 2022, 6.00 pm :: Wolverhampton City Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](https://www.moderngov.co.uk/Agenda/2022/07/20/Agenda-for-Council-on-Wednesday-20th-July-2022-6.00-pm)

9.0 Apprentices

9.1 Appendix 1: Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public

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Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public

Ask a question at a city council meeting

The City of Wolverhampton Full Council meetings includes an allocated time of 15 minutes for members of the public to ask questions (excluding the budget meeting and Annual General Meeting).

Who may ask questions at Council?

Each member of the public (residents and persons who work or study in Wolverhampton) are allowed to ask one question per council meeting.

Who must my question be addressed to?

You must address your question to one of the members of the Executive. Each Executive Member holds different portfolios. You can read about the Executive Members and their roles [here](#).

How to submit a question:

To submit a question, it must be submitted in writing in one of the following ways:

- Completing the Online Form below
- Via email to Democratic.Services@wolverhampton.gov.uk
- Or by post in writing to: Chief Operating Officer & Monitoring Officer, City of Wolverhampton Council, Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton, WV1 1RG

Deadline for submitting a question

The deadline for questions to be submitted to be asked at a Full Council meeting is, no later than noon seven clear working days before the meeting (e.g. Friday for a meeting on the Wednesday – 12 days later) – **e.g. Friday 3 June for a meeting on Wednesday 15 June**. If you can give us more notice than this, we can help you to prepare your question as well as offering general advice and information.

If your question has been approved, the question will be read out to the Council meeting by an officer from Democratic Services. (You are welcome to attend the meeting and observe from the public gallery, alternatively you can watch the live stream.)

When submitting your question you must give your name, address, and email address. The address must be the address at which you live or your business/work address and be within the City boundary.

Before submitting a question, please note the following:

- We will process your question as set out in the Council's Constitution.
- We will publish your name along with your question.
- By submitting your question, you are indicating your consent for your personal data to be used for this purpose.
- Questions will be taken in the order received, within the time available.

Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public

- They will be asked exactly as submitted.
- It is assumed that you wish the question to be answered at the next meeting of the Council unless otherwise stated.

Questions must also fit the following criteria:

- No question must exceed 1 minute (no answer will exceed 2 minutes)
- The question must refer to an issue which affects wards in Wolverhampton or falls within the council's responsibilities.
- The question must not be substantially the same as a question which has been asked at a meeting of the council in the past 6 months
- The question must not be defamatory, frivolous, vexatious or offensive. (It must not insult anyone and must be serious in nature)
- The question must not require the disclosure of confidential or exempt information
- The question must not refer to individual planning or licensing matters, or any matter of a personal nature
- The question must not relate to complaints made under statutory provisions which have not been finally dealt with.
- The question must not be a matter subject to litigation or could place the Council at risk of litigation.

The Monitoring Officer has the power to reject a question if it fails to meet the above criteria.

Order of questions

Questions will be taken in the order received, within the time available. They must be asked exactly as submitted.

How will questions not answered at the meeting be dealt with?

Any question that cannot be dealt with during public question time (either because of lack of time or because of the councillor who is required to answer the question is unable to attend the meeting) will be dealt with by a written reply.

What should I do on the day of the meeting if you plan to attend?

Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting so that you can be shown to the public gallery.

You are welcome to stay for the remainder of the meeting that is open to the public or you may leave after your question has been dealt with.

The agenda and papers will be published on the Council's website five clear working days before the meeting.

Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public

Will the meeting be recorded or videoed when public questions are asked?

Members of the public or journalists attending any public meetings may record the meeting, including either audio or video recordings. This will include any public questions. The Council cannot prevent the recording taking place so please consider this possibility before submitting your question.

The Council also webcasts the meeting live and a copy is available on the Council's website for up to six months.

How will my question and personal information be recorded

Your name will be included in the agenda pack with your question, which will be publicly available information.

Your name will also be included in the minutes, along with the question asked and who responded.

Your address and contact details will not be given out but will be stored by the Democratic Services Team at the Council for up to one year.

Data Protection

By submitting a question for a meeting, you are giving your consent that your name, address and postal town and any other personal details will only be used by the Democratic Services Team to process a question you have asked and shall appear in the minutes of the meeting. This is under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

You are not obliged either by statute or by contract to provide your contact details, but we will be unable to process your question without them.

If you submit a question, we will email you the updates and responses relating to that question only. For more information, please refer to our [detailed privacy notice](#).

All other information you provide will only be shared with Democratic Services staff dealing with the Committee. Following the approval of the minutes, any additional information - other than your name and postal address - will be destroyed.

The Data Controller is The City of Wolverhampton Council, and its Data Protection Officer is Anna Zollino-Biscotti who can be contacted at dpo@wolverhampton.gov.uk.

Please note that if you are unhappy with the handling of your data you have the right to complain to the [Information Commissioners Office](#).

Protocol for Questions by Members of the Public

Question Submission Form

- Full Name
- Address
- Place of work/study if you live outside of Wolverhampton
- Email Address
- Date of the meeting at which you wish your question to be asked
- Question
- Who is the question submitted to (which member of the Executive)?
- Submit

Future Meetings

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting to observe proceedings online via the webcast where you will be able to watch questions submitted by the public. You can find a list of upcoming full council meetings, as well as questions and responses from previous meetings, on our [City of Wolverhampton Council meetings page](#).

Contact details for Democratic Services

You can contact the Democratic Services Team if you would like to discuss submitting questions to the Council by:

Email: Democratic.Services@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Democratic Services,

City of Wolverhampton Council,

Civic Centre,

St Peter's Square,

Wolverhampton,

WV1 1RG