

Appendix 3- Polling District and Polling Place Review Consultation Summary

The consultation ran from:

- 17 August 2021 – 25 August 2021 with the Returning Officer; and
- 31 August 2021 – 27 September 2021 with stakeholders and the public.

The consultation consisted of the following activities:

- Statutory consultation on the proposals with the Acting Returning Officer
- Publication on the Haringey Elections website of the proposals, including maps and a description of each proposed polling place – paper copies were made available on request
- A statutory notice posted at George Meehan House, the Council's website and emailed to an identified list of stakeholders
- An online briefing for Councillors on 31 August attended by 17 councillors
- Three drop-in sessions were held which were open to councillors and the public. These drop-in sessions allowed attendees to speak to the team about the proposals and provide feedback. In total, the drop-in sessions were attended by 10 Councillors and 1 member of the public. They were held on:
 - Thursday 9 September 2021 -
18.00 – 19.30 in the Training Room – Tottenham Green Leisure Centre, N15 4JA
 - Monday 13 September 2021
18.00 – 19.30 in The Family Centre, 145 Park Road, N8 8JN
 - Wednesday 22 September 2021
18.00 – 19.30 in Woodside Room, George Meehan House, N22 8YX
- It was publicised on the Council's website, in newsletters to community groups and on the consultation pages. There were also social media posts to promote engagement. The website stated that translations and information in other formats were available on request.

Responses were invited by post to the Elections team at George Meehan House, email to the Elections Team or via an online form.

Responses

We received:

- 19 via the online form
- Emails from 21 individuals (19 Councillors)
- 0 via post

Proposals resulting from the drop-in sessions were written up and sent to the Members of that ward for further comment. These proposals were then included in the report, alongside a recommendation

Wards	Councillor engagement (inward)	Public	Responses
Alexandra Park	Email from ward Councillors about the polling place agreeing that the portable should remain and asking that St Andrews Centre be used, at least as a contingency plan for library works overrunning	No responses	Proposal unchanged - comments noted
Bounds Green	Ward member at the drop-in session - no comments made on proposals	No responses	Proposal unchanged
Bruce Castle	No responses	No responses	Proposal unchanged
Crouch End	Councillor attendance at drop-in session and requested changes and proposed using Christ Church Crouch End in place of the school which were followed up with an email exchange	Three responses (including from the Chair of Governors) requesting that Coleridge School no longer be used due to the disruption. One response asked to retain Hornsey Library as a polling station	Revised proposal for the district boundaries and a change of polling place from Coleridge Primary School to Christ Church Crouch End Hornsey Library is retained as a polling station but with a different district boundary. No information was provided about the responder's location so no further comment can be made
Fortis Green	Councillor attendance at drop-in session followed up by an exchange of emails about their views on St James CE School and any potential alternatives	A submission was received from the Fortis Green Labour Party proposing a number of changes. St James CE School did not submit a response, but they are not keen to be used as a polling station	Minor changes to Fortis Green A proposed in response to comments received as part of the consultation. Alternatives to St James CE School have been sought but none have been found.
Harringay	Online form submission was received from a Councillor. A revised proposal was drafted and sent to the ward members for their comments. A positive response was received	Two responses received, both agreeing with the proposals	A revised proposal will be put forward for this ward, with four districts/polling places instead of the original three
Hermitage & Gardens	Councillor confirmed support for the proposals	No responses	Proposal unchanged

Highgate	Two responses were received from Highgate ward Councillors asking for alternatives to closing St Michael's CE School and expressing a preference of using Jackson's Lane in place of Highgate Library	One response was received from the CEO of Jackson's Lane asking that we retain that as a venue A response was received noting the close proximity of two polling stations and suggesting numerous alternatives, some of which were outside the borough. They also included Jackson's Lane and St Augustine's Church	No changes to the district boundaries proposals It is proposed that Jackson's Lane be used in place of the library - the library is unlikely to be available for the May 2022 election due to refurbishment. This is being considered by the school team. In the meantime, contact was made with Highgate School to request if it has space that could be used. It is an independent school and is therefore not covered by the legislation allowing schools to be used for elections. The school offered the use of its museum. However, the door was too narrow to allow access for a motorised wheelchair and there were no staff facilities - the mezzanine is the only space available but is part of the museum display and signage requests no food and drink. St Michael's CE School will have to be used as investigations have not found any other suitable alternative options. A follow up conversation has taken place with St Michael's CE School to explore if an area can be segregated to allow the majority of the school to remain open. St Augustine's Church is as far to the south of the boundary as the existing venue is to the north and we have an existing, known venue that is accessible, so it is not proposed to change this
Hornsey	Councillor attendance at drop-in session and requested changes drawn on a map	Two online responses, one saying they were happy with the new ward boundaries and the second asking to move the polling station	Email with revised proposal sent to Councillors for comment. This proposal also addressed the issues raised in the public response. The revised proposal increases the districts in this ward from 4 to 5 with Middle Lane Methodist Church becoming a new polling place

Muswell Hill	Councillor attendance at drop-in session - comments made in support of retaining the current portable due to distance and topography		Proposal unchanged
Noel Park	No responses	One unnamed response on online form stating that they do not support the proposal but making no specific comments on changes	Proposal unchanged Additional work has been carried out to explore other options to add capacity to the polling places in this area, including a visit to the Mall and contact made with a local church and the Chocolate Factory. Additional and better space has been secured at the library so this will meet the requirements, pending the development of more community space at the Chocolate Factory site
Northumberland Park	Meeting with Councillor who raised issues with the Neighbourhood Resource Centre being used as a double station, in place of Kenneth Robbins House		Proposal unchanged This proposal was explored but the Elections Team's recommendation was to keep the original proposal unchanged. This was sent to Ward Councillors for comment and, initially, was not well received, with an observation that the existence of the Neighbourhood Resource Centre was not well known. There is divided opinion between the ward Councillors, but the majority agree with the project team's recommendation that the NRC be used - and doing so will raise the local community's awareness of its existence. One Councillor stated her objection to this recommendation
Seven Sisters	No responses	No responses	Proposal unchanged
South Tottenham	Meeting with Councillor who noted concerns about the distance in the far part of the district to the polling station - this was confirmed in a written submission, requesting a portable	No responses	Proposal unchanged. The walking distances have been checked and are within the 10-15 minutes agreed as the target for walking distance and portable polling stations are only proposed where there is not a suitable fixed building

St Ann's	Councillor confirmed support for the proposals	No responses	Proposal unchanged
Stroud Green	No responses	No responses	Proposal unchanged
Tottenham Central	Councillor attendance at drop-in session and discussed moving one boundary to allow better access to the polling station due to cut throughs	No responses	Minor changes to one boundary proposed which is supported by two councillors
Tottenham Hale		One response was received, disagreeing with their move from Tottenham Hale into Northumberland Park	Proposal unchanged The respondent's move to a different ward is due to the changes to the ward boundaries which cannot be changed by this review
West Green	Email from ward Councillor commenting that there was not easy access to the proposed polling place at Broadwater Farm Community Centre from Somerset Close and Lido Square. They agreed with other changes		Alternative proposal prepared, moving those streets to a different polling place and changes to the boundary. St John Vianney confirmed as a replacement for West Green Primary School.
White Hart Lane	Email from ward Councillors and online form submission noting the long walking distances and lack of polling places in the east of the ward	A response was received asking for the Scout Hut to be retained as a polling place.	The Scout Hut is now in a different ward and is being used there so venues were sought within the new boundaries. An alternative proposal was developed changing the district boundaries and adding Risley Avenue School as a polling place. This increases the number of polling districts to 4 which works better than the original proposal and has been positively commented on by two Councillors
Woodside	Councillor attendance at drop-in session	One response received, agreeing with the proposals provided that the polling places are fully accessible	Proposal unchanged

Other responses:

- Four responders either did not agree or did not know if they agreed with the proposals but gave no further information
- One submission supported the proposals but without specifying an area