

**Initial Consultation Comments by Fareham Borough Council Returning Officer (Peter Grimwood)**

The 2017 Interim Polling Place review was necessitated by a number of national electoral events being held with diminished timeframes for planning and in quick succession following existing planned local and national elections. It should not be underestimated how difficult it can be to secure venues for polling stations at short notice and the interim review was conducted to ensure that the lessons learnt from that experience were captured and implemented.

In keeping with the Council's commitment to focussing on customer needs, it is imperative that we continue to avoid the closure of schools as a consequence of being used as polling stations, particularly as we have demonstrated that alternatives can be found and be used successfully.

It should be recognised that the use of joint polling places which contain multiple polling stations provides additional resilience for staffing in terms of mutual support and cover for busy periods. It is also of benefit to campaigning parties who have reduced locations to cover.

In summary, I am satisfied that the existing polling places, as listed in the draft scheme are suitable. I have instructed officers to carry out further reviews for PG2 and ST2 to establish if alternative venues can be found.

**Initial Consultation Comments by Fareham Borough Council Elected Members**

Ward & Member	Comment
Park Gate – Councillor S D Martin	<p>Further to the invitation for consultations on the location of polling stations I would like to comment on the ones in the Park Gate Ward.</p> <p>I feel that we should consider having the polling station relocated at Brookfield School for the surrounding area rather than having the residents vote at the working men's club or at the last election at the Catholic Church in Middle Road.</p> <p>If this can't be undertaken then I would suggest that a second polling station is established at Priory Park community centre.</p>
Stubbington/Hill Head – Councillor J Forrest	<p>I note that the Methodist Church Hall in Mays Lane will be the polling place for ST2 for the European election "to reduce congestion at Crofton Community Centre".</p> <p>I would advise against making this a permanent arrangement: the small car park at the church hall would be under severe pressure in the evening rush hour during local and general elections when we would expect a higher turnout than for the EU elections. This could result in dangerous congestion in Mays Lane.</p> <p>I believe efforts should be made to ensure continued use of at least one of the Crofton Primary schools for Hill Head polling stations.</p>

**First Round Polling District Consultation Responses:**

Ward	Polling Place	Comment	Would you like to provide any additional comments?
Fareham East	United Reformed Church, 18 Osborn Road South, PO16 7DG	Hard to park near by	
	Wallington Village Hall, Broadcut, Wallington, PO16 8ST	An ideal venue	Please avoid using schools where possible
Titchfield	St Philip Howard Church Hall, Bishopsfield Road, PO14 1NA	Resident of Sandringham Road. Previously have used Ranvilles school, have not used this church hall before. It seems quite a distance for residents to travel? A real shame it's not a closer or more convenient polling station as I fear this may put off some of the electorate from voting. Definitely ensure residents are aware of postal voting, this is the way I will be voting from now on.	
	Holiday Inn, Cartwright Drive, Titchfield, PO15 5RJ	As long as the parking restriction is lifted for the day I think it is fine- I am not keen if they don't lift the parking restriction as I don't want a third party to have access to details on whether I have voted or not which would need to happen if we had to put registrations in some system	
Portchester East	Portchester Fire Station, Kelvin Grove, Portchester, PO16 8LF	Parking is difficult for those unable to walk there. Obviously preferable to use a postal as it is quite a walk from eg Anson Grove.	

## Appendix B – Consultation Responses

Fareham North	Fareham Leisure Centre, Park Lane, PO16 7JU	Convenient	
	Fareham Fire Station, Station Roundabout, PO16 0UT	We have to vote at the Fire Station when we live in sight of the Leisure Centre - having to take your 86 year old mother to vote is not a fun expedition!	
Fareham North-West	Hill Park Working Men's Club, 78 Highlands Road, PO15 6JD	Problem to park, but not really an issue for well bodied people that should walk	
Fareham West	St Philip Howard Church Hall, Bishopsfield Road, PO14 1NA	Close by and suitable. Parking not always easy	
Sarisbury	Whiteley Community Centre, Gull Coppice, PO15 7LA	Fantastic well organised never been an issue in 18yrs	
	Whiteley Community Centre, Gull Coppice, PO15 7LA	Very convenient location, easy to park and walk to.	I would hope this facility is not changed
Stubbington	Crofton Community Centre, Stubbington Lane, Stubbington, PO14 2PP	Very well organised and accessible	
Warsash	Victory Hall, 27 Warsash Road, SO31 9HW	Good central area for Warsash	
Park Gate	St Margaret Mary Church Hall, Middle Road, SO31 7GH	I would prefer priory park centre to vote as st Margaret Mary, park gate is to congested, the Salisbury green club has always been suitable, why change?	
Fareham South	St Johns Church Hall, St Johns Church, 1a Upper St Michaels Grove, PO14 1DN	Easy access for all and very convenient	

**Second Round Polling District Consultation Responses:**

Ward	Polling Place	Comment	Would you like to provide any additional comments?
Fareham East	United Reformed Church, 18 Osborn Road South, PO16 7DG	Not ideal location. Tricky to park near	
	United Reformed Church, 18 Osborn Road South, PO16 7DG	I am pleased with this choice as it is accessible and helpful. Much better than previous where Harrison Primary School was the venue. No school should be closed or partly closed as an election or voting venue	no thank you
	Wallington Village Hall, Broadcut, Wallington, PO16 8ST	Its a good location with free parking available at the venue	I am pleased to see there are no current plans to change this site
	United Reformed Church, 18 Osborn Road South, PO16 7DG	Great venue.	Please dont use Harrison School again. It's so irritating having to find additional childcare for the extra days off, because they feel the need to close the school. Thank you.
	United Reformed Church, 18 Osborn Road South, PO16 7DG	I preferred going to Harrison School to vote as there was more parking.	no
Locks Heath	Lockswood Community Centre, Locks Heath District Centre, Centre Way, SO31 6DX	Very satisfactory, easy access by foot or car and plenty of room in the ballot room.	
	St John's Church Centre, Church Road, SO31 6LW	This venue is very convenient for us and the facilities are fine. I would not like it to change.	
Titchfield	Titchfield Parish Rooms, High Street, Titchfield, PO14 4AB	Very good and central to the village	

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	Holiday Inn, Cartwright Drive, Titchfield, PO15 5RJ	Good Venue easy to get to	The Previous venue at the Abbey Croft Garden Garden was more convenient than the Holiday Inn especially for more mature people or those who have other mobility needs
	Holiday Inn, Cartwright Drive, Titchfield, PO15 5RJ	Was better in the garden centre car park up the road	
Portchester West	Portchester Community Centre, Westlands Grove, Portchester, PO16 9AD	No problems, easy for all to get to and plenty of parking	
Hill Head	Crofton Community Centre, Stubbington Lane, Stubbington, PO14 2PP	A very helpful station and staff	
	Crofton Community Centre, Stubbington Lane, Stubbington, PO14 2PP	Excellent. No need for any change	No thank you
Portchester East	Portchester Fire Station, Kelvin Grove, Portchester, PO16 8LF	It's a convenient location	
	Portchester Community Centre, Westlands Grove, Portchester, PO16 9AD	It is a suitable venue but Castle Street Centre is nearer to my home.	No
Fareham North	Fareham Fire Station, Station Roundabout, PO16 0UT	Improved car parking or arrangements to secure a bike at the venue would be good.	
	Fareham Leisure Centre, Park Lane, PO16 7JU	Good location. Good access and plenty of parking	
	Funtley Social Club, Funtley Road, Funtley, PO17 5EE	Seems to work well for us!	
Fareham North-West	Hill Park Working Men's Club, 78 Highlands Road, PO15 6JD	Do not like using this site as it is a working mans club which has connotations of labour party	

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	Frosthole Close Communal lounge, Frosthole Close, PO15 6DD	Easily accessed	
Stubbington	Stubbington Baptist Church, Jay Close, Stubbington, PO14 3TA	This Polling Station is currently allocated to 46 Titchfield Road, but it would be far more convenient and preferable to use the Methodist Church Hall, Mays Lane, Stubbington, PO14 2ER for this address.	Please re- allocate
	Crofton Community Centre, Stubbington Lane, Stubbington, PO14 2PP	Have always been very happy in the past using this venue. However, I have now opted for a postal vote as I tend to be away from Stubbington fairly regularly these days	No
Fareham West	The Heathfield Arms, 116 Blackbrook Road, PO16 5BZ	Venue is handy, booths are too close to each other, Pub is not very clean, but I suppose as you are only in there for a minute or two it serves the purpose!	
	The Heathfield Arms, 116 Blackbrook Road, PO16 5BZ	Well known location, easy to access on foot, and with good car parking.	No
Fareham South	Trafalgar Court Communal Lounge, Trafalgar Court, Fairfield Avenue, PO14 1ET	This is too far for people who live in Cambrian Walk go , the West end chapel is approximately 150 yards away. Please could this be looked into?	
	St Johns Church Hall, St Johns Church, 1a Upper St Michaels Grove, PO14 1DN	Perfectly adequate	No
Warsash	Victory Hall, 27 Warsash Road, SO31 9HW	The Victory Hall is an excellent venue for polling as far as I am concerned.	

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	Victory Hall, 27 Warsash Road, SO31 9HW	excellent location thank you, we can walk there, well organised	when polling cards arrived for the European elections, it was only luck that I noticed the polling station had changed. It is normally ALWAYS Victory Hall, but this time it was at St Mary's church hall. I can get to either, but some old people who might have made their way to Victory Hall by mistake, may not then have doubled their journey back to St Mary's. Could it be highlighted more "NOTE: CHANGE OF VENUE" in future?
Sarisbury	Whiteley Community Centre, Gull Coppice, PO15 7LA	excellent point for a Poling station as close to P.O/Coop etc	
Titchfield Common	Locks Heath Free Church, 255 Hunts Pond Road, Titchfield Common, PO14 4PG	Would prefer a closer venue	We used to vote at the memorial hall which was closer and would prefer a closer venue in future.
	Abshot Community Centre, Kelsey Close, Titchfield Common, PO14 4NR	Decent	Needs refreshments
Park Gate	St Margaret Mary Church Hall, Middle Road, SO31 7GH	Too far away for those living in Electoral Polling District PG3. Residents from the southern part of PG3 have to cross and walk past roads which have	Account should be taken of walking distances to polling stations from Electoral Polling Districts.

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		a closer polling station at Locks Heath Centre. Priory Park Community Hall would be more suitable venue for PG3 - eg from Peters Close to Priory Park is 0.4 mile, St Mary Margaret is 1.3 miles each way; from Strawberry Hill to Priory Park is 0.5 miles, whereas it is 1.1 miles each way to St Mary Margaret.	Voting needs to be local and from various standpoints is preferable not to drive to vote. Current distances from PR3 to polling station make driving the only option for some people and certainly in poor weather or with limited time. This must surely affect turnout.
	St Margaret Mary Church Hall, Middle Road, SO31 7GH	We have always been under Sarisbury ward and used to go to Sarisbury Green social club however over recent years we have been moved to this venue which is quite a distance away. I have never been to this venue as it is too far away.	As already explained, we always used to go to Sarisbury Green social club as we live in Sarisbury Green. However it appears our ward has changed and looking at the mapping it says we are under park gate ward. I am not sure how this can be and it makes no sense that the map is literally drawn around my road, surrounding roads are in Sarisbury Green but mine is not
	St Margaret Mary Church Hall, Middle Road, SO31 7GH	Good parking access, easy to find	