

Consultation response 001

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 27 July 2019 15:56

Subject: Re: Review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations

Dear Dr Ramewal

My ward is Northern Sevenoaks.

The Polling station at Sevenoaks Community Centre will not be available for use until 2021 as it is being rebuilt.

Perhaps the Bat and Ball Station building managed by the Sevenoaks Town Council might be suitable for that part of the Ward.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Consultation response 002

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 31 July 2019 15:02

Subject: Re: Review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations (Sevenoaks District) - Kent County Councillors

Many thanks for this. The proposed facilities in my division are fine.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

Kent County Council

Consultation response 003

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 01 August 2019 09:02

Subject: Re: Review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations - Sevenoaks District Councillors

Dear Richard,

I am happy with the proposed arrangements.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

Consultation response 004

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 01 August 2019 15:10

Subject: Consultation on polling stations

Dear Sir,

I don't think you can be aware that Fordcombe village hall is currently closed and is going to be demolished and rebuilt. Should an election be called in the next eighteen months, a different venue will be necessary.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

Consultation response 005

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 02 August 2019 16:04

Subject: Review of Polling Districts/Stations

Dear Team,

As ward member of Hextable, I thought I would share my thoughts on the current district polling station.

Hextable members have commented after this was looked at previously and given the well-known and existing central location of our polling station at St Peters church, I feel there would be no benefit from changing these arrangements.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Consultation response 006

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 05 August 2019 14:50

Subject: Review of polling districts and polling places and polling station

Dear Dr Pav Ramewal,

To respond to your letters dated 31st July regarding a review of polling stations.

Venue: Sevenoaks Town Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road - We can continue to offer our Chamber as a polling station

Venue: Sevenoaks Community Centre – This is now closed until late 2020 whilst refurbishment and extension works are carried out

In place of the Sevenoaks Community Centre, Sevenoaks Town Council can offer the Bat & Ball Station. The Station has 2 rooms and I attach some information about it. I would think that the Booking Hall would probably be the better sized room for you. The address is Bat & Ball Station, Chatham Hill Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN14 5AP

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Hall Hire

Sevenoaks Town Council | Town Council Offices | Bradbourne Vale Road | SEVENOAKS |
TN13 3QG

Consultation response 007

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 05 August 2019 18:39

Subject: Polling Stations : West Kingsdown Village Hall

Thank you for your letter re West Kingsdown Village Hall as a polling station.

I confirm that this venue will be available for future use and many local people have commented that it is convenient with good parking available.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Consultation response 008

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 09 August 2019 11:55

Subject: Re: Review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations - Sevenoaks District Councillors

Dear Richard

Thanks for this. An important fact which was apparent in the latest local elections in Eastern Ward was a significant difference in turnout on the day between the Hillingdon and Hollybush polling areas. The results were posted on the wall at the count, showing postal and non postal turnout. From memory the postal turnout was not that different, but the 'on the day' difference was large.

Could you please let me see the data, which should feed into this exercise? And have you kept the comparable information for the 2017 County elections?

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Consultation response 009

Review of Polling Stations. Consultation Response for Sevenoaks Eastern.

I note that the Consultation document states that each polling station should be accessible for all electors. I believe that in Sevenoaks Eastern this is not the case, and voters from the Hillingdon (BV) end of the ward are at a disadvantage.

The number of polling stations in Eastern ward is precisely 1 station for 3044 voters. Compare this with the other wards in Sevenoaks Town.

Kippington has 3 polling stations for 3740 votes, = **1246 voters per station.**

Northern ward has 3 polling stations for 3236 voters = **1078 voters per station.**

Town & St Johns has 4 polling stations for 4982 votes = **1245 voters per station.**

Eastern ward has 1 station for 3044 voters = **3044 voters per station.**

Although the polling station for Eastern ward is satisfactory for the BW (Hollybush) half of the Ward, it is an unreasonable distance for voters from the other half of the Ward. BV (Hillingdon). At the 2019 District Elections, 251 people from BV (Hillingdon) voted at the polling station, compared with 514 people from BW (Hollybush). This discrepancy clearly shows the need for a polling station in BV (Hillingdon). People living on the Hillingdon estate (a less affluent area of Sevenoaks) are less likely to have a car and if the weather inclement, less likely to want to walk the distance to St Johns Church in Quakers Hall Lane. Parking is difficult at the Church anyway which only has a small car park, and there are yellow lines on the nearby streets.

I would suggest that if the two new schools in Seal Hollow Road are unable to offer accommodation for a second polling station, a mobile polling station is sited on Hillingdon Green to cater for voters from the BV area. Everyone should be encouraged to vote. If it is made difficult because it entails a lengthy walk, maybe with toddlers in tow or they are elderly or have a disability, they are less likely to vote, as can be seen by the number of votes at the Count for BV (Hillingdon) as opposed to BW (Hollybush).

The present arrangement of polling stations clearly disadvantages voters in Eastern Ward, and in particular voters from the northern half (BV Hillingdon).

12 August 2019

Consultation response 010

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 13 August 2019 12:26

Subject: Review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations: Consultation

I have read the consultation document and am happy with the proposals for the wards in my KCC division – Sevenoaks Town.

[REDACTED]

Consultation response 011

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 14 August 2019 17:09

Subject: Swanley Youth Centre

Dear Elections Team,

Thank you for your letter dated 31st July enquiring about using the venue for a polling station. You are more than welcome to continue using Swanley Youth Centre for a polling station. Our main hall which is the space you normally used will at sometime be transformed into the Children's Centre (Swanley Children's Centre is being co-located into the Youth Centre). This will put this room out of use for elections as significant building works will take place to transform that area of the building. We have been waiting 18 months so far for this to happen and there are no immediate start dates for this to happen. I will make sure you know when this happens.

When the building work happens I can offer you different space within the building. Catch 22 who rented a room in the building have now vacated the room which was used as the Library when the Swanley Link was refurbished. This room is completely accessible and with its own entry door for gaining access to this building. Whilst smaller than the main hall it would still be big enough for the 2 different areas required for voting. Therefore once the Children's Centre move in and take over the area of the main hall I do have other facilities available which you can use as a polling station.

Basically, you are always able to use Swanley Youth Hub, but we will have to think of different space in the building which can be used once the Children's Centre moves into the building.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Youth Hub Delivery Manager (Sevenoaks) Early Help and Preventative Services 0-25 | Children, Young People and Education | Kent County Council | Swanley Youth Hub, St Mary's Road, Swanley BR8 7BU