

Public Document Pack



**WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

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To:- All Council Members

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

COUNCIL - THURSDAY, 18TH JANUARY, 2024

Please find attached supplementary papers which relate to a number of Council agenda items as detailed below:

Agenda No Item

99. **Polling Places Review 2023-24 (Pages 3 - 38)**

- A supplementary paper to Appendix 1 which sets out comments submitted in the consultation against each polling station.
- A revised Appendix 2 which corrects some of the proposed Polling District codes.

102. **Member Question Time (Pages 39 - 40)**

102.6: Councillor Andrew Gray has submitted a question for the Executive Member for Children's Services, following the publication of the agenda.

106.2 Motion 512 submitted by Rebecca Margetts (Pages 41 - 42)

An altered Motion has been submitted; the alterations are shown in bold type.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Parsonage'.

Susan Parsonage
Chief Executive

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Table of New & Existing Polling Districts with Current and Proposed Polling Stations based on New Warding Arrangements:

New Borough ward	Old Polling District	New PD Code	Old Parish ward	New Parish Ward	Current Polling Station	Proposed Polling Station
Barkham & Arborfield	AAW	AAW	Arborfield Cross Ward	Arborfield Cross Ward	Arborfield Village Hall	No Change
Barkham & Arborfield	ABW	ABW	Arborfield Green Ward	Arborfield Green Ward	Barkham Village Hall	Arborfield Village Hall ¹
Barkham & Arborfield	BAW	BAW	Barkham	Barkham	Barkham Village Hall	No Change
Barkham & Arborfield	FBB1	FBW1a	South Ward	Finchampstead West	FBC Centre	Arborfield Green Community Centre#
Barkham & Arborfield	FBB2	FBW2b	South Ward	Finchampstead West	Finchampstead Sports Pavilion	Arborfield Green Community Centre#
Barkham & Arborfield Ω	SWW2	SWW2b	Swallowfield	East Ward	The Victory Hall	Arborfield Green Community Centre#
Bulmershe & Coronation	KBM	KBE	Coronation Central Ward	Coronation Central Ward	Coronation Hall	No Change
Bulmershe & Coronation	KGM	KGE	Warren Ward	Warren Ward	Woodford Park Leisure Centre	No Change
Bulmershe & Coronation	KAR	KAEc	Bulmershe Ward	Bulmershe West	Christchurch Hall	Coronation Hall
Bulmershe & Coronation	KCM	KCEb	Coronation East Ward	Coronation East PW	St Johns Ambulance HQ	No Change
Bulmershe & Coronation	KDR	KDEb	Loddon Airfield Ward	Coronation East PW	Woodley Baptist Church Hall	St Johns Ambulance HQ
Emmbrook	WAW	WAW	Emmbrook North Ward	Emmbrook North Ward	Emmbrook Village Hall	No Change
Emmbrook	WBW	WBW	Emmbrook South Ward	Emmbrook South Ward	St Paul's Parish Rooms	No Change
Evendons	WCW	WCW	Evendons East Ward	Evendons East Ward	Civic Offices (Shute End)	No Change
Evendons	WDW1	WDW1	Evendons West Ward	Evendons West Ward	Woosehill Community Church	No Change

¹ Changed following consultation.

Evendons	WDW2	WDW2	Evendons West Ward	Evendons West Ward	Civic Offices (Shute End)	No Change
Finchampstead	FAB	FAW	North Ward of the Parish of Finchampstead	Finchampstead North	California Ratepayers Hall	No Change
Finchampstead	FBB1	FBW1b	North Ward of the Parish of Finchampstead	Finchampstead South	FBC Centre	No Change
Finchampstead	FBB2	FBW2a	South Ward of the Parish of Finchampstead	Finchampstead South	Finchampstead Sports Pavilion	No Change
Hawkedon	EBW	EBE	Cutbush Ward	Cutbush Ward	Earley Crescent Resource Centre	No Change
Hawkedon	ECW	ECE	Hawkedon Ward	Hawkedon Ward	Maiden Place Community Centre	No Change
Hawkedon	EHW	EHEb	St Nicolas Ward	Hawkedon Ward	St Nicolas Church Hall	Maiden Place Community Centre
Hillside	EDW	EDE	Hillside Ward	Hillside Ward	Lower Earley Library	No Change
Hillside	EEW	EEE	Radstock Ward	Radstock Ward	Radstock Community Centre	No Change
Hillside	EFW	EFEb	Redhatch Ward	Radstock Ward	Earley St Peters Church Hall	Radstock Community Centre
Hillside	EHW	EHEc	St Nicolas Ward	Radstock Ward	St Nicolas Church Hall	Radstock Community Centre
Hillside	SAW2	SAE2b	Shinfield North Ward	Shinfield North East	Whiteknights Primary School	Lower Earley Library
Loddon	KER	KEE	Loddon South Ward	Loddon South	Emmanuel Church Centre	Woodley Baptist Church Hall
Loddon	KAR	KAEa	Bulmershe Ward	Loddon South	Christchurch Hall	Woodley Baptist Church Hall
Loddon	KCM	KCEa	Coronation East	Loddon Airfield	St Johns Ambulance HQ	Woodley Airfield Centre#~
Loddon	KDR	KDEa	Loddon Airfield Ward	Loddon Airfield	Woodley Baptist Church Hall	Woodely Airfield Centre~ ²
Maiden Erlegh & Whitegates	EAR	EAE	Whitegates Ward	Whitegates Ward	Earley Home Guard	No Change

² Changed following consultation.

Maiden Erlegh & Whitegates	EFW	EFEa	Redhatch Ward	Maiden Erlegh Ward	Earley St Peters Church Hall	No Change
Maiden Erlegh & Whitegates	EGW	EGEa	Maiden Erlegh Ward	Maiden Erlegh Ward	Earley St Peters Church Hall	No Change
Maiden Erlegh & Whitegates	EHW	EHEa	St Nicolas Ward	St Nicolas Ward	St Nicolas Church Hall	No Change
Norreys	WGW1	WGW1	Norreys West Ward	Norreys West Ward	Norreys Evangelical Church Hall	No Change
Norreys	WGW2	WGW2	Norreys West Ward	Norreys West Ward	Wokingham Methodist Church Hall	No Change
Norreys	WFWb	WFWb	Norreys East Ward	Norreys East	Norreys Evangelical Church Hall	No Change
Norreys	WIW	WIWb	Wescott West Ward	Norreys West Ward	Salvation Army Hall	Wokingham Methodist Church Hall
Shinfield	SAW1	SAE1	Shinfield North Ward	Shinfield North Ward	Shinfield Players Theatre	No Change
Shinfield	SCW	SCE	Shinfield Village Ward	Shinfield Village Ward	School Green Centre	No Change
Shinfield	SAW2	SAE2a	Shinfield North Ward	Shinfield North Ward	Whiteknights Primary School	No Change
Shinfield	SDW1	SDE1a	Spencers Wood & Three Mile Cross Ward	Shinfield Village Ward	Spencers Wood Pavilion	School Green Centre
Shinfield	SDW2	SDE2a	Spencers Wood & Three Mile Cross Ward	Shinfield Village Ward	Three Mile Cross Church Centre	School Green Centre
South Lake	KFR	KFE	Loddon West Ward of the Parish of Woodley	Loddon West Ward of the Parish of Woodley	Emmanuel Church Centre	No Change
South Lake	KHR	KHE	South Lake North Ward of the Parish of Woodley	South Lake North Ward of the Parish of Woodley	St James Church Centre	No Change
South Lake	KIR	KIE	South Lake South Ward of the Parish of Woodley	South Lake South Ward of the Parish of Woodley	St James Church Centre	No Change
South Lake	KAR	KAEb	Bulmershe Ward	Bulmershe East PW	Christchurch Hall	No Change
Spencers Wood & Swallowfield	SBW	SBE	Grazeley Ward of the Parish of Shinfield	Grazeley Ward of the Parish of Shinfield	Three Mile Cross Church Centre	No Change

Spencers Wood & Swallowfield	SEW	SEW	Spencers Wood South Ward of the Parish of Shinfield Swallowfield	Spencers Wood South Ward of the Parish of Shinfield West Ward	Swallowfield Village Hall	No Change
Spencers Wood & Swallowfield	SWW1	SWW1	Swallowfield	West Ward	Swallowfield Village Hall	No Change
Spencers Wood & Swallowfield	SWW3	SWW3	Swallowfield	West Ward	Riseley Memorial Hall	No Change
Spencers Wood & Swallowfield	SDW1	SDE1b	Spencers Wood & Three Mile Cross Ward of the Parish of Shinfield	Spencers Wood & Three Mile Cross PW	Spencers Wood Pavilion	No Change
Spencers Wood & Swallowfield	SDW2	SDE2b	Spencers Wood & Three Mile Cross Ward of the Parish of Shinfield	Spencers Wood & Three Mile Cross PW	Three Mile Cross Church Centre	No Change
Spencers Wood & Swallowfield	SWW2a	SWW2a	Swallowfield	West Ward	The Victory Hall	No Change
Thames	CAM1	CAW1	Charvil	Charvil	Charvil Village Hall	No Change
Thames	CAM2	CAW2	Charvil	Charvil	Charvil Village Hall	No Change
Thames	RAM	RAW	Remenham	Remenham	Remenham Village Hall	No Change
Thames	RBM	RBW	East Ward of the Parish of Wargrave	East Ward of the Parish of Wargrave	Hare Hatch Village Hall	Wargrave Pavilion
Thames	RCM	RCW	North Ward of the Parish of Wargrave	North Ward of the Parish of Wargrave	Crazies Hill Village Hall	No Change
Thames	RDM	RDW	West Ward of the Parish of Wargrave	West Ward of the Parish of Wargrave	Wargrave Pavilion	No Change
Thames	SNM	SNE	Sonning	Sonning	Beech Lodge	No Change
Twyford, Hurst & Ruscombe	HAM	HAW	Ashridge Ward of the Parish of St Nicholas Hurst	Ashridge Ward of the Parish of St Nicholas Hurst	Mobile Unit - Warren Public House	Hurst Village Hall
Twyford, Hurst & Ruscombe	HBM	HBW	Davis Street Ward of the Parish of St Nicholas Hurst	Davis Street Ward of the Parish of St Nicholas Hurst	Hurst Village Hall	No Change
Twyford, Hurst & Ruscombe	HCM	HCW	The Village Ward of the Parish of St Nicholas Hurst	The Village Ward of the Parish of St Nicholas Hurst	Hurst Village Hall	No Change
Twyford, Hurst & Ruscombe	REM	REW	Ruscombe	Ruscombe	Twyford Room, Loddon Hall	No Change

Twyford, Hurst & Ruscombe	TAM1	TAW1	Twyford North Ward of the Parish of Twyford	Twyford North Ward of the Parish of Twyford	Loddon Hall	No Change
Twyford, Hurst & Ruscombe	TAM2	TAW2	Twyford North Ward of the Parish of Twyford	Twyford North Ward of the Parish of Twyford	Stanlake Pavilion	No Change
Twyford, Hurst & Ruscombe	TBM	TBW	Twyford South Ward of the Parish of Twyford	Twyford South Ward of the Parish of Twyford	Hurst Village Hall	Stanlake Pavilion ³
Wescott	WHW	WHW	Wescott East Ward of the Parish of Wokingham	Wescott East Ward of the Parish of Wokingham	St Crispin's Sports Centre	No Change
Wescott	WFW	WFWa	Norreys East Ward of the Parish of Wokingham	Wescott North PW	Norreys Evangelical Church Hall	St Crispin's Sports Centre
Wescott	WIW	WIWa	Wescott West Ward of the Parish of Wokingham	Wescott West PW	Salvation Army Hall	No Change
Winnersh	JAW	JAW	North Ward of the Parish of Winnersh	North Ward of the Parish of Winnersh	St Mary's Church Hall	No Change
Winnersh	JBW	JBW	South Ward of the Parish of Winnersh	South Ward of the Parish of Winnersh	Winnersh Community Hall	No Change
Wokingham Without	FCB	FCW	Lower Wokingham Ward of the Parish of Finchampstead	Lower Wokingham Ward of the Parish of Finchampstead	Oaklands Junior School	St Sebastian's Memorial Hall"
Wokingham Without	XWB	XWW	Wokingham Without	Wokingham Without	Oaklands Junior School	St Sebastian's Memorial Hall"

There are three new proposed polling stations:

- # Arborfield Green Community Centre, Sheerlands Rd, Arborfield, Reading, RG2 9ND, <https://maps.app.goo.gl/4VPhVXbb12Pk1RtFA>
- ~ Woodley Airfield Centre, Hurricane Way, Woodley, RG5 4UX, <https://maps.app.goo.gl/2acoV2UGYTe894NCA>
- “ St Sebastian’s Memorial Hall, Nine Mile Ride, RG40 3BA, <https://maps.app.goo.gl/MUGYSdSKqZ8LVDUH6>

³ Changed following consultation.

List of changes

Details of existing and proposed borough ward and polling district boundaries and existing polling stations can be found here: [Boundary Review \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com). The current Ward Boundaries are in red, the new ward boundaries that come into effect in May 2024 are blue dashed line, and the grey line is the proposed polling district boundary.

New Polling Districts: The Boundary Commission Review has necessitated splitting the following existing polling districts. Where an existing polling district has been split, an (a), (b) or (c) has been added to the polling district name.

Parish Ward	Polling District
Finchampstead West	FBW1b
Finchampstead West	FBW2b
Swallowfield East	SWW2b
Bulmershe West	KAEc
Coronation East	KCEb
Coronation East	KDEb
Finchampstead South	FBW1a
Hawkedon	EHEb
Radstock	EFEb
Radstock	EHEc
Shinfield North East	SAE2b
Loddon South	KAEa
Loddon Airfield	KCEa
Loddon Airfield	KDEa
Maiden Erlegh	EFEa
Maiden Erlegh	EGEa
St Nicolas	EHEa
Norreys East	WFWb
Norreys West	WIWb
Shinfield North	SAE2a
Shinfield Village	SDE1a
Shinfield Village	SDE2a

Bulmershe East	KAEb
Spencers Wood & Three Mile Cross	SDE1b
Spencers Wood & Three Mile Cross	SDE2b
West	SWW2a
Wescott North	WFWa
Wescott West	WIWa

The following Polling Districts have new Polling Places:

Parish Ward	Polling District
Finchampstead West	FBW1b
Finchampstead West	FBW2b
Swallowfield East	SWW2b



Bulmershe West	KAEc
Coronation East	KDEb
Hawkedon	EHEb
Radstock	EFEb
Radstock	EHEc
Shinfield North East	SAE2b
Loddon South	KAEa
Loddon Airfield	KCEa
Loddon South	KEE
Norreys West	WIWb
Shinfield Village	SDE1a
Shinfield Village	SDE2a
Wargrave East	RBW
Ashridge	HAW
Wescott North	WFWa
Lower Wokingham	FCW
Wokingham Without	XWW

The following Polling Districts have no changes proposed to their Polling Place:

Parish Ward	Polling District
Arborfield Cross	AAW
Arborfield Green	ABW
Barkham	BAW
Coronation Central	KBE
Coronation East	KCEb
Warren	KGE
North Wokingham	WAW
South Wokingham	WBW
East Wokingham	WCW
West Wokingham	WDW1
West Wokingham	WDW2
Finchampstead North	FAW
Finchampstead South	FBW1a
Finchampstead South	FBW2
Cutbush	EBE
Hawkedon	ECE
Hillside	EDE
Radstock	EEE
Loddon Airfield	KDEa
Whitegates	EAE
Maiden Erlegh	EF Ea
Maiden Erlegh	EG Ea
St Nicolas	EHEa
Norreys East	WFWb
Norreys West	WGW1
Norreys West	WGW2
Shinfield North	SAE1
Shinfield North	SAE2a
Shinfield Village	SCE

Bulmershe East	KAEb
Loddon West	KFE
Southlake North	KHE
Southlake South	KIE
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Grazeley	SBE
Spencers Wood & Three Mile Cross	SDE1b
Spencers Wood & Three Mile Cross	SDE2b
Spencers Wood South	SEW
West	SWW1
West	SWW2a
West	SWW3
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Charvil	CAW1
Charvil	CAW2
Remenham	RAW
Wargrave North	RCW
Wargrave West	RDW
Wargrave West	SNE
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Davis Street	HBW
The Village	HCW
Ruscombe	REW
Twyford North	TAW1
Twyford North	TAW2
Twyford South	TBW
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Wescott East	WHW
Wescott West	WIWa
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Winnersh North	JAW
Winnersh South	JBW
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Comments submitted relating to each Polling Station (with the exception of St. Sebastian's Memorial Hall)

Polling Place	Support	Accessible	Q6. Tell us why you don't think this polling place is suitable.	Q7. What alternative venue would you suggest?	Q8. Do you have any other comments on the polling district scheme?
Arborfield Green Community Centre	No	No	It's more than twice the distance from my house than my current polling place. There aren't clear enough directions to this new polling place for people who don't live in Arborfield Green	Keep current polling place - Finchampstead Sports Pavilion	I made comments on the boundary changes, but these were ignored
Barkham Village Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Barkham Village Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Barkham Village Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	All places should have easy access and adequate parking.
Beech Lodge	Yes	Yes	-	-	No
California Ratepayers Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	No
California Ratepayers Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
California Ratepayers Hall	Yes	No	-	-	It does confuse some residents who live very close but vote at FBC, but there is really no other sensible alternative.
California Ratepayers Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-

California Ratepayers Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Charvil Village Hall	Yes	-	-	-	The more places there are to be able to vote, the higher the turnout is likely to be. Wish it was compulsory to vote - many fought for this in the past.
Charvil Village Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	Do more online
Christchurch Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	We have a Reading address yet are part of Wokingham. Means we will lose a great MP
Christchurch Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Christchurch Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
14 Civic Offices (Shute End)	Yes	Yes	-	-	Though I 'approve' of using Shute End as a polling station & agree it's accessible, (assuming you mean wheelchair friendly) which are the only questions I've been asked, I feel it's too far away from the southern wards such as Evendons. Maybe the fact that there isn't a suitable closer alternative needs to be addressed. It's why my husband and I have moved to postal voting.
Civic Offices (Shute End)	Yes	No	-	-	Shute End is always a long trek to get to,
Crazies Hill Village Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Earley Crescent Resource Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	No

Earley Crescent Resource Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	No
Earley Crescent Resource Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Earley Crescent Resource Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Earley Crescent Resource Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Earley Home Guard	No	No	lighting	Earley St Peter's church hall	No
Earley St Peters Church Hall	No	No	Parking is awful	Any	No

Earley St Peters Church Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	I think some of the moves whilst may be more efficient financially and operationally, will deter people from voting as having polling stations near to your home is the easiest way for the community to vote. This could also lead to parking issues as most people currently can walk or travel to their polling stations sustainably. It risks putting people off voting unless it is well promoted along with postal voting and making these options more accessible.
Earley St Peters Church Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Earley St Peters Church Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	Avoid using schools!
Emmanuel Church Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Emmanuel Church Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Emmbrook Village Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	Why change what works just fine?
Emmbrook Village Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Emmbrook Village Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Emmbrook Village Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Emmbrook Village Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-

FBC Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	
FBC serves the Finchampstead area well. Asking voters to travel to Arborfield would discourage people from voting, particularly the elderly, disabled or disadvantaged residents in the area surrounding FBC. Gorse Ride is not an affluent area and many residents would struggle to get to Arborfield to vote.						
FBC Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	
Loddon Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	
The Lower Earley library is suitable for Hillside parish but not Shinfield North East as it is a not with in walking distance for many. Not just the elderly but mothers with young children.						
Lower Earley Library	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	
Maiden Place Community Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	
Norreys Evangelical Church	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	
Norreys Evangelical Church	No	Yes	Want it in Keephatch, feel very vulnerable walking to this polling station. St crispins leisure centre or All Saints church would be better	All Saints Church new hub		Yes, take Keephatch out of Norreys
Norreys Evangelical Church	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	
Norreys Evangelical Church	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	

Norreys Evangelical Church	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Norreys Evangelical Church	Yes	Yes	-	-	No
Radstock Community Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	No
Radstock Community Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	No
Radstock Community Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	I think you should limit the use of school premises as much as possible. Children have had enough disruption to their schooling over the last few years; finding alternative premises would help them.
Radstock Community Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Radstock Community Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	No, just glad to no longer be within Wokingham constituency
Radstock Community Centre	No	Yes	Close to electorate good parking	None	Encourage postal voting and bring online voting over a secure Internet portal. The internet is potentially more secure than postal or polling centres.
Radstock Community Centre	-	-	It's not suitable for students on the university campus, who live in EFWb, because it is too far away.	One of the university's buildings on the campus.	The polling station at early St Peter 's church hall is not located in a central or easily accessible place for residents in EFWa and EGWa. It would be better to use Maiden Erleigh School or Aldryngton School.

Riseley Memorial Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Riseley Memorial Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Riseley Memorial Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	Polling stations need to be as local as possible to encourage as many people as possible to vote
Salvation Army Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Salvation Army Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Salvation Army Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Salvation Army Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Shinfield Parish Hall (School Green Centre)	Yes	Yes	-	-	none
Shinfield Parish Hall (School Green Centre)	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Shinfield Parish Hall (School Green Centre)	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Shinfield Parish Hall (School Green Centre)	Yes	Yes	-	-	-

Shinfield Parish Hall (School Green Centre)	Yes	Yes	-	-	There should be parking restrictions of one hour in the school green carpark to allow access for people to vote.
Shinfield Player's Theatre	Yes	Yes	-	-	I found myself in the survey, without any means to get to a description of the proposed scheme, so I doubt my completion of the survey has any use.
Shinfield Player's Theatre	Yes	Yes	-	-	Your new ward boundaries appear to exclude me from the ward of Shinfield North - I live at the motorway end on Whitley Wood Lane (RG2 8PX). Although the constituency boundaries are changing, I was not aware that I would be leaving Wokingham Borough. Is this a mistake?
Spencers Wood Pavilion	Yes	Yes	-	-	It is important that polling stations have adequate parking especially for those with disabilities seen or unseen and also can accommodate the likely peak of voters during the evening.
Spencers Wood Pavilion	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
St Crispin's Sports Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	None
St Crispin's Sports Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
St Crispin's Sports Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
St Crispin's Sports Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	No, I think they are for the local people to decide

St John Ambulance HQ	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
St Mary's Hall	No	Yes	Because it's in the Church, not the hall and some people (probably for religious reasons) don't want to go into an Anglican Church.	St Mary's Church HALL	No
St Mary's Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	O change so no personal impact and I am currently a postal voter
St Nicholas Church Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	Very convenient & doesn't mean school.children have to miss a day at school
St Nicholas Church Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
St Nicholas Church Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
St Nicholas Church Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	As a family with disabled members we find St Nicholas has the parking and building access that we need.
St Paul's Parish Rooms	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
St Paul's Parish Rooms	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
St Paul's Parish Rooms	Yes	Yes	-	-	no
Stanlake Pavilion	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Stanlake Pavilion	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Stanlake Pavilion	Yes	Yes	-	-	-

Stanlake Pavilion	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
			The polling place is fine for voters who live in SWW1 but less so for voters who live in SEW. The longest walking time for voters in SEW is 33 minutes, much of it along the Basingstoke Rd, where the pavement is narrow. Only 2 houses are within 20 minutes' walk. So I imagine that almost every voter drives to this polling place, unless they have a postal vote.	Spencers Wood Library. Although it is not quite within SEW, it is very close. I would say there are at least 240 properties within a 10-minute walk. The longest walking time from most properties in SEW would be 16 minutes. There are about 9 properties from which it would take 19 minutes. People voting on their way somewhere else would be more likely to pass this place. There is parking; the building is owned by WBC. The only inconvenience is that the Library is normally open on a Thursday. I would like to see more use of this public building.	Only on the 'naming' of the districts. I don't see the need for SDW1a and b, and SDW2a and b. Can't the 'a' areas be moved into SCW? If we must have 'a' and 'b', could they be switched round so that the Spencers Wood parts of SDW have the 'a' at the end. (Most voters won't care, but I can already see confusion for campaigners.)
Swallowfield Village Hall	No	Yes			
The Victory Hall	No	No	-	-	-
Twyford Room, Loddon Hall	Yes	-	-	-	No
Twyford Room, Loddon Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Winnersh Community Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Winnersh Community Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-

Winnersh Community Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	I would not like to see our polling station disappear as it is convenient and we use it as good reason to go for an evening walk on election days
Wokingham Methodist Church Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Wokingham Methodist Church Hall	Yes	Yes	-	-	To be honest it really does not affect me as I have a postal vote due to my disability
Woodley Airfield Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Woodley Airfield Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Woodley Airfield Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	Would be great if KCMA was added to this centre as well because it is nearer than other locations.
Woodley Airfield Centre	Yes	Yes	-	-	My concern lies with the issue that voters in Loddon Airfield would be better served by using The Woodley Airfield Community Centre rather than Woodley Baptist Church. In particular it is a long way for residents of Loddon Park to travel to the Baptist Church especially if they have no means of transport. The Airfield Centre is more convenient. Similarly Residents of Loddon South would probably be better served by Woodley Baptist Church rather than the Airfield Centre.
Woodley Baptist	Yes	Yes	-	-	-

Woodley Baptist	Yes	Yes	-	-	no
Woodley Baptist	Yes	Yes	-	-	No
Woodley Baptist	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Woosehill Community Church	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Woosehill Community Church	Yes	Yes	-	-	-

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Comments Relating to St Sebastian's Memorial Hall

Q6. Tell us why you don't think this polling place is suitable.	Q7. What alternative venue would you suggest?	Q8. Do you have any other comments on the polling district scheme?
Local places are vital to polling numbers		
This is better than closing the Oaklands Junior school every year. The road to cross to the Memorial Hall can get quite busy though. I would still pick the Memorial Hall over the school.		
Disrupting children's education by using schools as a polling station should not be part of a plan or scheme. There are always other options		
-		
I have always been concerned about local, schools closing for polling . Not only does the junior school so lose, but also the infants this is one of the larger infant junior schools in the area and a large amount of children lose a teaching day on a regular basis		
Stop using Oaklands my Children have missed enough school days!!!! If people can't get there then they need to learn how to complete a postal vote!		
The st sebs hall would work if all internal parking is set aside for disabled & infirm but there is very little of it. I'm not sure if you'd get the same turn out as currently when using Oaklands school. If the field next to the hall is turned into a car park - then it would be great 👍 If not, Pinewood site would be much better for parking facilities but further for people to walk to.		
Very glad that after 15 years of asking and numerous petitions it's actually going to happen.		
We where told by previous ward councillors that St.Seb's wasn't possible!		
Either Pinewood or the Howard Palmer Room, rear of St Sebastian's Memorial Hall		
Stop using Oakland's school please.		

It is unacceptable to keep closing Oaklands Schools. Local children have missed so much school over the last few years, it is indefensible to make them miss even more, when reasonable alternatives exist for the polling station. I believe this factor should be considered ahead of all others - especially 'convenience'. Throughout history people have died in their fight for the vote. I don't feel it's unreasonable to ask current residents to 'maybe walk a bit further' to exercise their democratic duty, in order that children may get the most from their education.

Why not use village hall or Pinewood? No more schools please

I feel incredibly strongly that our children should not be losing education particularly after the lost learning in the pandemic. St Sebastian not a great option but better than a school.

Pinewood Activity Centre would be a much better choice as it has more parking & is not so close to a busy/dangerous junction. Oaklands, & no other schools, should not be closed for this purpose. Children missed enough education through Covid & subsequent strikes but parents get penalised for taking their children out of school for any reason!

We definitely need Oaklands School removing as a polling station. It is so detrimental to the children's education after the disruption of both covid and strikes. For once, we need to prioritise education and put children first. There are many other suitable public buildings which should be used instead.

No

-

Closing schools down for government polling had a drastic effect on children's education, especially post covid. I don't understand why schools should be affected in polling stations.

I would wish for Oaklands schools to be no longer used for polling as this interferes with my children's schooling

No

It would be great for this to no longer impact the schools and children after Covid and strike days it is important for children to not miss extra school days.

No

-

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I am worried that St Sebastians will not offer enough parking plus there is little opportunity to access it on foot

I am delighted to see that there is a proposed move from using Oaklands Junior school to st Sebastian's memorial hall. I still don't understand why in this modern age - voting online or postal system is not used.

Sustainability and education are the most important things to consider.

Please cut down on missed school days, missed work days (having to look after children) and excess traffic / pollution by considering postal / online systems..

This community has lost enough school time for our children from using Oaklands Infant and Junior schools as the polling station for so many years. This is no longer practical - and the education of the children is far more important given how much schooling they have lost due to the pandemic. St Sebastian's is more than adequate to serve as an alternative location for this area.

An even better alternative might be the Church of the Holy Ghost on New Wokingham Road. Using our schools must be avoided wherever possible.

Please approve additional car parking spaces around ST Sebs Memorial Hall to make it accessible.

Oaklands Junior School was not available to select on the previous page.
Why is this the case?

As a parent and a local resident, the use of this school is detrimental to the to the local community. It is unbelievable that the local officials feel that it is acceptable for our children to loose out on vital learning when their education has been so disrupted over the last 3 years. The staff, parents and children are doing so much to "catch-up" from the disruption and should not be penalised just because the local elected officials fail to consider an appropriate alternative. It is not just one school that is disrupted, it is 3, the Juniors, the Infants and the Nursery. This is around 400-450 pupils, which easily means over 600 families are impacted by continued use of this venue (number of which are being financially penalised, including myself, as they are having to take time off work for childcare - how is this acceptable?). I'm certain that I read something from the Education Secretary advising that local authorities needed to examine use of school venues and take all steps to avoid disruption to pupils. Feels like this has fallen on deaf ears?!

I understand that the venue has to have easy access however, have any of you checked the local roads on election days? It is absolute carnage. The school is too close to a parade of local shops, so the congestion in the area is horrific. This is a safety aspect that is being ignored and again poses a risk to our children, as they are likely to be outside playing because they cannot attend school due to this exercise.

I fail to understand why other central, easy access venues such as venues at Pinewood (like Scout huts) could not be used. Equally venues in the village, such as Crowthorne Parish Hall, or the hall connected to St John the Baptist Church cannot be used.

If these are not big enough (although I would say that they are equal to the hall at the Junior School), then why cannot funding be assigned to hold this at a venue such as Wellington Sports Centre.

All of these venue have step free access and there is parking available.

Whilst my comments are specific to our school, I believe that alternatives should be sourced for all impacted schools in the borough.

Why is Oaklands Junior School not available for selection?

I have lived in Crowthorne for over 30 years however, for the last 7 years (although I suspect it has been longer), the local authority has chosen to use our local school as a polling station. This is unacceptable due to the significant disruption it causes for our children. They have lost out on a tremendous amount of education time over the last 3 years and adding to this disruption for the benefit of local counsellors is completely unacceptable. Over 400 children have to miss out on a days education and I fail to see why an alternative venue cannot be sourced - the school was never used when I was a pupil.

I also live close to the school - adjacent road to Butler Road, and the traffic chaos on polling day is absolutely horrific. I've not been able to exit my drive on a number of occasions and I've seen a number of near miss collisions over the years. The roads around the school are congested on a normal school day, but add to this with the number of local residents, all of which tend to drive and not walk to the venue creates sheer carnage.

This is so disruptive to the children not being able to attend the school. After Covid every school day matters. There is very limited parking which means the streets are very congested.

Oaklands Junior school is not suitable as it means closing 3 educational facilities each time, Acorns under 5's, Oaklands Infants & Oaklands Juniors.

This is outside of the population centre.
To access requires a significant walk by most voters and the crossing of a very busy nine mile ride junction.
Driving- severe lack of parking places.

Morgan Rec was used when I was younger. Whilst I accept that it has steps to the hall, I fail to see why a temporary ramp could not be installed. This has parking directly to the venue. Other venues in the village such as the Parish Hall of one of the church halls could also be considered as they could easily accommodate this exercise. A number of venues at Pinewood would provide a suitable alternative. There is an abundance of parking and all of these venues have step free access.

Share across the various school, for example Hatch Ride. Could venues such as St Sebastian Hall be used or the unused community hall at Bucklers Park which is very close to the polling area.

Pinewood scout Hall, or at the very least alternative with Hatchride school.

Bigshotte park pavillion.
This is at the centre of the population.
There is a car park.
Most will walk.
Large enough and accessible. Already owned by WBC and vacant.

Stop penalising our children

There needs to be more consideration the area, ensure fairness across all of the children to ensure the same children are not being impacted each year by using the same school

Try aiming for community spaces like church Halls or encourage postal votes more.

-

because I walk and it means crossing the nine mile ride where there are no crossings and the road is busy and will be even more busy on polling day. As a pedestrian you cannot see the traffic coming from Wokingham as its obscured by the bend in the rd by the roundabout. I should be able to walk to my polling station especially if we are reducing our carbon footprint as a borough.	The existing venue of Oaklands school. It always has been used is walkable and I don't understand why the school has to close as it didn't close for polling when I was there.	Polling should be accessible to all not just those who drive. Unless you install a crossing outside on the nine mile ride neither St Sebs or Pinewood are safely accessible on foot due to the huge volume of traffic now using that rd due to housebuilding/ developments
The hall is on a busy nine mile ride junction with limited parking and right on the outskirts of the village meaning many people will not walk there.	Continue to use Oaklands School (or use Hatch Ride School perhaps)	-
Insufficient parking and remote from bulk of residents	St Sebastians Playing Field Hall	-
Not enough parking	Oaklands School	-
This is on the edge of the area and very few people are in a sensible walking distance of it. Access by car is difficult with access from a busy main road and egress onto a country lane with a poor junction back onto the same busy road. There is insufficient parking and what there is cramped so not suitable for the number of people that will need to come and go during the day.	Until a better location is found then use of Oaklands school should continue. School have been used as polling stations for many years and I would suggest that issues which have been tolerated are only now becoming difficult due to other issues caused by lack of funding and shortage of staff at the school.	-
Not enough parking, will result in parking on a dark country lane which is not wide enough for two cars to pass comfortably. HGVs also drive down this road regularly	At Sebastians cricket club	Leave it where it is - has been at Oaklands for years.
Honey Hill running down the side of the hall is totally unsuited for parking and will cause a traffic jam.	St Sebastians Cricket Pavilion	No
Oaklands school is within walking distance of a large portion of Crowthorne residents. St sebs does not have the same catchment, ultimately I would expect that fewer people will turn out and vote.	Oaklands school.	-
Not centrally located which means more people will have to drive, there's very little parking to accommodate this and Honey Hill can be a road with limited visibility	Stick with Oaklands school	The relocation to st sebs memorial hall is a terrible idea

On the edge of the heavily populated part of the borough rather than in the centre. Many will drive to get there and there is insufficient parking.	Oaklands School.	-
This is removed from the population centre. Access is limited. Walking you have to cross the busy nine mile ride by a busy junction. The venue has limited parking spaces.	Bigshotte Park Pavilion. It is currently vacant. Has a car park. Near the population centre. Easily accessible.	-
this location is poorly lit, is difficult to use if you have any mobility issues as the car park is uneven, often floods and is full of pot holes and trip hazards and has limited parking available. Events at the church, school and collection from after school clubs causes frequent problems with parking. I collect my children from brownies and guides at this location and frequently have issues with access and parking	Pinewood scout hut - lots of parking, good access and level, easy access	-

The Quinquennial Review of Polling Places held in 2018 exhaustively considered every possible alternative to using Oaklands Junior School Hall and reluctantly concluded that no other location met the requirements of the Electoral Commission for polling places. As basically nothing has changed in the Electoral Commission requirements, or the various halls in the ward, it is difficult to understand why this change is proposed apart from the wish not to close schools for elections, something that I am very willing to endorse in principle.

St Sebastian's Memorial Hall is on the fringe of the mass of housing in the Wokingham Without ward where well over 95% of the electorate lives south of Nine Mile Ride. Although the Memorial Hall has step free access it located in an awkward position on the north side of Nine Mile Ride which is a busy east-west route through the ward and has no street lighting to the east of the hall.

Vehicle parking is restricted and any polling place should be able to cope with the greater turnout at a general election as well as being suitable for one held in winter with short hours of daylight. For a general election, 3 polling stations would be required for the current electorate in Wokingham Without, each having a Presiding Officer and 2 polling clerks who are all likely to have cars making 9 in total that would then fill half the parking spots.

The busiest time (late afternoon and early evening) for polling coincide with the heaviest traffic on the roads and that is particularly true on Nine Mile Ride. All it needs is to have one car manoeuvring to park in the limited spaces and traffic will be held up in both directions on Nine Mile Ride, with cars waiting access to park. This even applies to those turning up for a Pilates class so illustrates what is likely to happen if used as a polling place.

There is no convenient on street parking adjacent to the hall; Honey Hill

The obvious solution is to retain the Oaklands Junior School Hall as the polling place for the ward. It is central to the mass of housing in the ward, it is residential roads with on-street parking (even though there are school hour parking restrictions in Butler Road that could be lifted on polling days) and all the roads have streetlighting with 30 mph limits. Being central this encourages walking and cycling to access the polling place.

I appreciate that Wokingham Without is unusual in only having a single polling place for what was and will be a 3 councillor ward with some 6,300 electors currently. It would be possible to split the ward into 3 or more PDs to enable other polling places to be used. But this has not been carried out because, quite simply, it has previously been decided that there is no other location suitable for use as a polling place.

There are currently planning permissions granted for some 1,750 in the South Wokingham SDL area south of the Wokingham to Bracknell railway and it is understood that there are plans for about another 1,000 within the SDL. It is also understood that there are plans for

There is no change to PDs FCB or XWB or the Wokingham Without ward boundaries as a result of the Electoral Review. As mentioned earlier, when house building begins in the SDL area south of the railway, the SDL area could be designated as a separate PD (and warding considered for Wokingham Without Parish Council) although electors would either vote by post or at the polling place that should be retained in Oaklands Junior School until a hall is constructed and available for use as a polling place within the PD/SDL.

has no street lighting and is narrow. The speed limit at that point on Nine Mile Ride is 40 mph and eastbound cars on Nine Mile Ride often approach the Honey Hill junction indicating left with the indicators not cancelling after the New Wokingham Road roundabout, when in fact they are continuing along Nine Mile Ride, making a hazard for the unwary trying to turn out of Honey Hill.

Being on the fringe of the housing area in the ward will reduce the numbers walking and cycling to the polling place, increase those trying to drive to it and is likely to reduce turnout in elections contrary to Electoral Commission aims.

There are footpaths through to Royal Oak Drive, Queens Ride, Hatch Ride and Holmbury Avenue but all are unlit, mainly through woodland, which will largely negate use after dark.

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In summary if a Risk Assessment were to be carried out this is likely to identify 4 risks as follows:

Congestion in parking leading to hold-ups in Nine Mile Ride and the possibility of minor bumps in parking -especially after dark.

Congestion and a higher risk of collision resulting from turning into the St Sebastian's Memorial Hall car park and in turning out of Honey Hill.

Increased hazards to voters crossing Nine Mile Ride twice - particularly with increased car movements.

A reduced turnout of voters primarily because of the location on the fringe of housing in the ward (compared with the central position of Oaklands Junior School) although I appreciate that there are many variables affecting turnout so that judgement will be subjective. However, as the aim of a Polling Station Review is to identify the most suitable locations to

a community centre which will presumably have a hall suitable as a polling place and it would seem then to be logical to designate that as a separate PD. However, as houses are likely to be occupied well ahead of the construction of any community centre they would need to use the existing polling place and, while Oaklands Junior School could take extra electors arguably St Sebastian's Memorial; Hall could not without causing gridlock on Nine Mile Ride.

Parking within the school grounds is adequate for those voting and for polling staff. I appreciate that the closure of the schools for polling day is unpopular particularly with working parents and that the additional bank holiday this year for the King's Coronation meant that there were 3 bank holidays in May plus a closure for use as a polling place. I see no reason why the Acorns Pre--school need close: that could use the Ellis Road entrance. The schools could mitigate the inconvenience for parents by holding Inset days concurrent with polling days with the Infant School playground being used for school staff parking.

help drive up turnout, the Council's recommendation to move from
Oaklands Junior School is surely wrong

<p>St Sebastian's Hall is on the very edge of the population centre of the ward and for many voters is a considerable walk which ends with having to cross the busy Nine Mile Ride where there's no crossing provision. The result of this is that more voters will drive, there is limited parking and potential traffic congestion making crossing the road even more dangerous. I think it is also likely that turnout will be reduced as some voters will not bother or be able to make the journey.</p>	<p>Oaklands School appears to be the only alternative available. I realise that it is not ideal as it causes a school closure for the day but due to the unusual nature of Wokingham Without, almost all the community facilities are outside the Ward. The Pinewood Centre is another option, but is arguably less accessible than St Sebs, although the parking wouldn't be an issue.</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>St Sebastians Hall is on the edge of the polling area. Whilst it is good to remove it from Oaklands school, to keep it open, most people will have to use a car to access this. There will not be enough parking at St Sebastian's.</p>	<p>It might need to stay at Oaklands. Both my daughters went to this school and it did not impact their education.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Not enough parking: There just aren't enough parking spaces. When it gets busy voters might struggle to find a spot. With parking restrictions on the Nine Mile Ride, some might end up parking far from the polling station, or they might not vote at all because it's just too much trouble.</p> <p>Too much traffic: The polling station is near a road that gets really busy, especially during rush hour. More cars coming in for voting could make the traffic jams even worse.</p> <p>It could be dangerous: The increase in cars could make the roads around the polling station more dangerous. The roads aren't built for a continuous stream of voters driving in and out all day. Plus, with folks needing to walk and cross the street from nearby houses, the risk of accidents is higher.</p> <p>In a nutshell, the chosen spot could lead to parking problems, bad traffic, and safety risks. Finding a different place with more parking and away from the busy roads, or improving the current spot by managing traffic better and adding more parking, would make voting easier and safer for everyone.</p>	<p>Maintaining the current school as the polling station is a sensible choice. It's positioned away from the busier main roads in a residential area, providing a safe and quiet environment that reduces the risk of traffic-related issues. The parking facilities are ample and similar to those at the proposed new location, which ensures convenience for voters. Additionally, the school's easy accessibility could encourage a higher voter turnout among local residents.</p> <p>If we could align voting day with an Inset day, it would prevent any disruption to children's education. This approach offers a balanced solution that prioritises both community safety and educational needs.</p>	<p>I only found out through email, I don't understand fully why it needs to move 1 mile away, why can't the council ensure that the write ballots end up in the correct location, sure this is simple process, location and postcodes for that location, or am I simply looking at it too simply? If voting wants to be encouraged, then it needs to be even easier to access.</p>

Lacking of parking and in a dangerous accessible location	Oaklands school or Hatchride school	-
There is insufficient parking, which means some people will park in the small access road at the top of New Wokingham Road. They and the people who walk will have to cross the busy Nine Mile Ride at a point where visibility is limited. Also, as the aim is to have the maximum participation at elections, this site is on the edge of the polling area, well removed from the main housing areas. This does not encourage participation.	Either continue to use Oaklands School, which is around the middle of the housing area and has served the area well for many years. Alternatively, put a temporary polling station building on one of the roads around Oaklands School.	This recommendation is obviously totally flawed and should not be considered further.

QUESTION NUMBER CM6

**WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEMBER QUESTION TIME
COUNCIL MEETING**

ON 18 JANUARY 2024

Councillor Andrew Gray has asked the Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Children's Services the following question relating to agenda item 106.4:

Question

Earlier in the year it was confirmed that the leaving care allowance was being increased from £2,000 to £3,000. Can the executive member clarify how care leavers receive the £3,000 they are entitled to?

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WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

**NOTICE OF ALTERED MOTION
18 JANUARY 2024**

Date of Submission
16 November 2023

Name of Mover
Rebecca Margetts

Particulars Of Motion 512

Decision

(Alterations to this Motion are shown in bold type)

This Council believes that residents should receive the infrastructure and amenities they are promised when they buy a new home and that developers and this council should be held accountable for their legal obligations within **major** S106 agreements. **For clarity, the major sites refer to SDL sites and other large sites only.**

This Council will produce a **biannual** report detailing performance against financial, programme and other obligations of all parties within **major** S106 agreements of which this Council is a party. The report will be issued to all members of this council and relevant community groups.

Increasing transparency on performance against commitments will provide confidence to communities that promises will be delivered on. This Council will learn the lessons from delays in the delivery of the Arborfield Green Village Centre and other facilities and amenities across the SDL.

REVISED Chief Finance Officer Comment:

There are no direct financial implications arising from this Motion.

The Chief Finance Officer comments are purely an assessment of the Financial Implications associated with the Motion as written and are not an opinion on the policy direction or intention contained within them.

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