

**Public Document Pack
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL**

General Purposes Committee

Date: Thursday, 9th January, 2020

Time: 6.00 pm

Place: Committee Room 4 - Civic Suite

Contact: Tim Row - Principal Democratic Services Officer

Email: committeesection@southend.gov.uk

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for Absence**
- 2 Declarations of Interest**
- 3 Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 14th October, 2019**
- 4 Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (Pages 3 - 32)**

TO: The Chair & Members of General Purposes Committee:

Councillor M Dent (Chair),

Councillors N Ward (Vice-Chair), A Chalk, F Evans, M Flewitt, N Folkard, M Kelly,

M Stafford and A Thompson

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SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

Meeting of General Purposes Committee

Date: Monday, 14th October, 2019

Place: Committee Room 7 - Civic Suite

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Present: Councillor M Dent (Chair)
Councillors N Ward (Vice-Chair), *C Walker, F Evans, N Folkard,
M Kelly, A Thompson and P Van Looy

*Substitute in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 31.

In Attendance: R Harris

Start/End Time: 6.00 - 6.25 pm

414 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Flewitt (substitute: Cllr Walker) and Councillor Chalk (no substitute).

415 Declarations of Interest

Councillors Dent, Ward, Evans, Folkard, Kelly, Thompson, Van Looy and Walker – non-pecuniary interest – The Nominees for Honorary Aldermen and Alderwoman were known to them.

416 Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 29th March 2018

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 29th March 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed.

417 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved:-

That, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the item of business set out below, on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

418 Honorary Aldermen/Alderwomen Nominations 2019

The Committee considered a report from the Executive Director (Legal & Democratic Services) relating to the Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman nominations received from the Group Leaders.

Resolved:

That, pursuant to Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council be recommended to confer the title of Honorary Alderman and Honorary Alderwoman to the past Councillors listed below at a Special meeting of the Council convened for this purpose on Thursday 12th December 2019, immediately prior to the ordinary Council meeting taking place on that same day:

Mr David Norman MBE
Mrs Ann Holland

Chair: _____

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

4

Report of Chief Executive
to
General Purposes Committee
on
9th January 2020

Report prepared by:
Colin Gamble – Head of Democratic Services
Tim Row – Principal Democratic Services Officer

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

A Part 1 Public Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report proposes amendments to polling districts and polling places in the parliamentary constituencies of Southend West and Rochford and Southend East that fall within the Borough.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the comments received in response to the public consultation exercise on the polling districts and polling places, as set out in Appendices 2 and 5 to this report, be noted.
- 2.2 That the proposed amendments to the polling districts and polling places, as set in the Report of the Returning Officer (Appendix 3), be approved.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Representation of the People Act 1983 ('1983 Act') places a duty on the Council to divide the Borough into polling districts and designate polling places for the districts. The Council has a duty to keep these polling arrangements under review.
- 3.2 The Electoral Administration Act 2006 introduced a number of changes to the 1983 Act in respect of the way reviews must be undertaken. Under the 2006 Act, the Council was required to undertake a review of polling districts and polling places within their area on a four yearly cycle. The last general review in Southend was completed on 18th November 2014.
- 3.3 The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 introduced a change to the timing of the statutory reviews. The next compulsory review has to be completed by 31st January 2020.

3.4 An explanation of the terms used in the review is set out below:

- i) A **polling district** is a geographical area created by the sub-division of a constituency into smaller parts. For voting purposes, each parliamentary constituency and every local government ward is divided into one or more polling districts. The polling districts for the Borough elections mirror those for the parliamentary elections.

The review can only address issues within the current ward structure of the Borough. It cannot make changes to the ward (or Borough) boundaries. There are some areas where moving a ward boundary might resolve an anomaly concerning the allocation of voters to polling stations, but this cannot be achieved as part of the review.

- ii) A **polling place** is an area within a polling district in which a polling station is located. There is no legal definition of a polling place which could be as large as a polling district or as small as a particular building. The Electoral Commission is aware that some authorities designate the entire polling district as the polling place. However, Section 18 of the 1983 Act states that 'the polling place must be small enough to indicate to electors in different parts of a district how they will be able to reach the polling station'. The Commission therefore recommends that the polling place should always be defined. It was agreed at the meeting of the General Purposes Committee on 16th November 2011 that a polling place be defined as the building (including the surrounding grounds) within which the voting may take place.
- iii) 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 determined by the Returning Officer for the election.

3.5 The aims of the review were to seek to ensure that:

- all electors have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances.
- as far as is practicable, every polling place is accessible to electors who are disabled.
- the polling place(s) for a polling district is within the area of the polling district unless special circumstances make it desirable for the polling place to be outside the polling district area (i.e. because suitable alternative buildings are not available in the area).

3.6 In an ideal world, the Returning Officer would have the choice of a range of fully accessible buildings, conveniently located for the electors. The Electoral Commission recognises that, in practice, this is not the case and there may actually be little choice available. Where it is necessary to use a polling place where the access is not ideal, the Commission expects the Council to make reasonable adjustments to provide access to all electors.

- 3.7 The Commission also recognises that in reality the choice of polling place will often be the balance between the quality (access, facilities etc) of a building and the distance between the residents and that building compared to other options for polling places.
- 3.8 The law makes provision for the Returning Officer to use schools (including academies) free of charge for the purposes of an election, subject to covering certain costs including heating, lighting and caretaking charges. Returning Officers do use schools because they are well known venues within the community and can be provided at less cost to the public purse. In the Borough, the use of the smaller schools are generally avoided where possible as this could result in the closure of a school or part of a school on polling day. However, it must be emphasised that there are areas in the Borough where there are no suitable alternatives available.
- 3.9 The use of portable buildings as polling stations are also avoided where possible, primarily because of the additional costs to the public purse that arise from the hire, delivery, siting, setting up and equipping of a portable unit. The number of suppliers in this region have reduced, putting pressures on the availability of suitable units. This form of accommodation is less than satisfactory in comparison with most of the buildings used as polling stations and problems are often experienced with the use of portable buildings at election time, such as:
- limited in size and location;
 - limited facilities for polling staff;
 - suitability in cold/wet/inclement weather;
 - poor public perception;
 - power supply limitations;
 - prone to vandalism
- 3.10 The Electoral Commission recommends that there should be a minimum of one polling station for every 2,500 electors voting in person. Generally, where elector numbers are of concern and exceed the recommended threshold, the best solution is the addition of a further polling station within the same polling place. In the case of the last election, 16 out of the 65 buildings used were double polling stations.

4. The Review Process

- 4.1 In undertaking the review, local authorities are required to:
- Publish a notice of holding a review.
 - Seek representations from such persons that it thinks have particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for persons with any type of disability.
 - Publish the report of the Returning Officer setting out their proposals.
 - On completion of the review, complete and adopt a revised scheme, which must be published.

- 4.2 The formal consultation on existing polling districts and polling places ([Appendix 1](#)) commenced on 9th August 2019 upon the publication of a notice seeking comments by 16th September. Details of the review were publicised through the Council's website, libraries and the press and comments were sought from the local Members of Parliament, Southend Councillors and a number of other individuals/organisations. The representations received in response to the initial consultation exercise are set out in [Appendix 2](#) to the report.
- 4.3 Following the conclusion of the exercise, the report of the Returning Officer setting out her proposals was also published for consultation ([Appendix 3](#)) and comments were invited by 1st November 2019.
- 4.4 A number of responses were received in respect of the consultation on the Returning Officer's report on her proposals. These are set out at [Appendix 5](#).
- 4.4 Councillors are asked to be mindful that over the years, much work has been undertaken to ensure that the polling arrangements are convenient to electors across the Borough. The boundary changes to Borough and Parish wards and changes implemented following the previous reviews of polling districts have improved the arrangements. The proposed changes to the polling district boundaries are set out in the Report of the Returning Officer ([Appendix 3](#)).
- 4.5 An access survey was undertaken in respect of all of the buildings used as polling stations as part of a previous review. The findings resulted in some accessibility improvements to a number of the buildings. There have also been a number of improvements made to polling places/stations following the previous reviews. After each election, observations received from the Returning Officer, polling station inspectors and presiding officers are considered and used to implement changes. This feedback has helped to highlight premises where additional measures are required from the simple provision of more direction signage to the installation of ramps, or even a change in a polling place.
- 4.6 The proposed changes to the polling districts and polling places are set out in the Report of the Returning Officer ([Appendix 3](#)). Maps showing the proposed changes are included in the paperwork at [Appendix 4](#).

5. Other Options

A number of alternative premises have been considered for use as polling places and recommendations made accordingly where it is felt that an alternative would provide better voting arrangements or the premises concerned would improve accessibility.

6. Corporate Implications

6.1 Contribution to the Southend 2050 Road Map

This report is relevant to the 2050 'Active and Involved' theme and the associated Outcome Delivery Plan (Electoral Registration Initiative) which aims to improve wider participation in elections.

6.2 Financial Implications

There is no separate budget provision for the costs of carrying out the review. These have been met from existing budgets.

6.3 Legal Implications

These are addressed in paragraphs 3.1 to 3.3 of the report.

6.4 People Implications

None

6.5 Property Implications

None

6.6 Consultation

As required by the relevant statutory requirements, the Council undertook a consultation exercise on its polling districts and polling places. A public notice of the review was displayed at the Council offices and full details of the review were placed on the Council's website. All Councillors were notified of the review process and a number of individuals/organisations were invited to submit their representations to the Council.

The Council's Returning Officer has produced her report setting out suggested changes to polling districts and polling places. The report was publicised and comments were sought from a range of interested parties.

6.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications

The Council reviews its polling places/stations on a regular basis with a view to ensuring that they are all fully accessible as far as is reasonably practicable. In some cases the polling stations are not accessible to the extent that would ideally be desired, but much work has been undertaken to identify the most suitable premises for use as polling stations and to minimise use of mobile polling stations. An equality analysis has been undertaken as part of the review.

6.8 Risk Assessment

The Council is required by law to undertake a review of polling districts and polling places within its area. Failure to do so would constitute a breach of the relevant statutory requirements and adversely affect the reputation of the Council.

6.9 Value for Money

See comment under Financial Implications.

6.10 Community Safety Implications

None

6.11 Environmental Impact

None

7. Background Papers

Electoral Commission guidance – Reviews of polling districts, polling places and polling stations
Guidance from Association of Electoral Administrators

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Existing polling districts and polling places/polling stations

Appendix 2 – Representations received in response to the initial consultation

Appendix 3 – Report of the Returning Officer identifying changes to polling districts and polling places

Appendix 4 – Maps showing proposed changes to polling districts and polling places

Appendix 5 – Responses received to consultation on Returning Officer's report on her proposals

Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013
Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2019

Ballot Box No.	Ward Name	Polling District	Polling Place	Elector Count	No. of Postal Votes	Net No. of Voters
1	Belfairs	WCZ-1	Booth 1, John Wesley Hall, Belfairs Methodist Church, Eastwood Road North	1623	232	1391
2	Belfairs	WCZ-2	Booth 2, John Wesley Hall, Belfairs Methodist Church, Eastwood Road North	1269	172	1097
3	Belfairs	WDZ-1	Booth 1, St. Aidans Church Hall, The Fairway	1586	247	1339
4	Belfairs	WDZ-2	Booth 2, St. Aidans Church Hall, The Fairway	1208	186	1022
5	Belfairs	WW	Portable Polling Station, Bonchurch Park, Manchester Drive	619	91	528
6	Belfairs	WZ	The Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG), Throne of Grace, 39 Elmsleigh Drive	1185	151	1034
7	Blenheim Park	WT	Chalkwell Park Methodist Church Hall, Eastwood Lane South	1770	229	1541
8	Blenheim Park	WU	Darlinghurst Primary School, Pavilion Drive	1650	200	1450
9	Blenheim Park	WV	St James the Great Church, Elmsleigh Drive	1497	220	1277
10	Blenheim Park	WX	Blenheim Children`s Centre, Willow Room, Blenheim Chase	1022	182	840
11	Blenheim Park	WY	St Cedds Church, Bridgwater Drive	2112	174	1938
12	Chalkwell	WEZ	Booth 1, St. Saviours Church, Chadwick Road	2083	241	1842
13	Chalkwell	WFZ	Booth 2, St. Saviours Church, Chadwick Road	1240	196	1044
14	Chalkwell	WGZ	St Michaels Room, Church Centre, Rear of St Michael's Church Hall, Leigh Road	2402	298	2104
15	Chalkwell	WHZ	Portable Polling Station, Chalkwell Esplanade Car Park (Western End)	1581	229	1352
16	Eastwood Park	WA	Booth 1, St. David`s Church Hall, Rayleigh Road	1639	271	1368
17	Eastwood Park	WB	Eastwood Baptist Church, Nobles Green Lane	1699	287	1412
18	Eastwood Park	WC	Booth 1, Studio Theatre, Eastwood Academy, Rayleigh Road	1755	285	1470
19	Eastwood Park	WD	Booth 2, St David's Church Hall, Rayleigh Road	2437	356	2081
20	Kursaal	EO	Booth 1, Southend Adult Community College (Room 7), Ambleside Drive	1922	241	1681
21	Kursaal	EP	Booth 2, Southend Adult Community College (Room 7), Ambleside Drive	1178	104	1074
22	Kursaal	EQ	Southend Unitarian Meeting House, Grange Gardens	1701	148	1553
23	Kursaal	ER	Sacred Heart Church Hall, 418 Southchurch Road	1683	205	1478
24	Kursaal	ES	Belle Vue Baptist Church, Belle Vue Avenue	1572	144	1428
25	Leigh	WJZ	The Stables, Leigh Road Baptist Church, Chalkwell Park Drive	2330	351	1979
26	Leigh	WKZ	Booth 1, Leigh Wesley Church Hall, Elm Road	1627	218	1409
27	Leigh	WLZ	New Road Methodist Church Hall, New Road	378	52	326
28	Leigh	WMZ	Booth 2, Leigh Wesley Church Hall, Elm Road	2043	248	1795
29	Leigh	WNZ	Glendale Room, West Leigh Baptist Church, 1150 London Road	1238	143	1095
30	Milton	ELZ	St. Johns Church, Church Road, Southend-on-Sea	837	65	772
31	Milton	ET	Salvation Army Hall, Clarence Road/Clarence Street	1078	117	961
32	Milton	EU	Booth 1, Room at rear of Avenue Baptist Church, Milton Road (Access from Car Park)	1660	270	1390
33	Milton	EV	Trinity Methodist Church, Argyll Road	1135	161	974
34	Milton	EW	Booth 2, Room at Rear of Avenue Baptist Church, Milton Road (Access from Car Park)	1334	141	1193
35	Milton	EX	St Marks Church Hall, Princes Street	2179	205	1974
36	Prittlewell	WK	The Bridgwater Drive Church, (United Reformed Church), Junction of Bridgwater Drive & Cockethurst Close	1706	267	1439
37	Prittlewell	WL	Booth 1, Earls Hall Primary School, (Coleman's Avenue Entrance)	1350	215	1135

Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013
Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2019

38	Prittlewell	WM	Earls Hall Baptist Church, Hoblethick Lane	1787	269	1518
39	Prittlewell	WN	The Guild Hall, Hill Road	1809	200	1609
40	Prittlewell	WO	Booth 2, Earls Hall Primary School, (Coleman's Avenue Entrance)	1203	174	1029
41	Shoeburyness	EA	St. Peters Church, Small Hall, Hinguar Street	2692	388	2304
42	Shoeburyness	EB-1	Booth 1, Friars Baptist Church, Eagle Way	1002	103	899
43	Shoeburyness	EB-2	Booth 2, Friars Baptist Church, Eagle Way	1233	149	1084
44	Shoeburyness	EC	Salvation Army Hall, Frobisher Way	2480	273	2207
45	Shoeburyness	ED	St Georges School, Eagle Way	1334	127	1207
46	Southchurch	EGZ	Hamstel Children & Family Centre, Hamstel Road	998	117	881
47	Southchurch	EHZ	Thorpe Bay Bridge Club, Old School House, 62 Southchurch Boulevard	1984	308	1676
48	Southchurch	EJZ	United Methodist Church, Whittingham Avenue	1978	271	1707
49	Southchurch	EKZ	Bournes Green Junior School, Entrance via Ladram Road	2651	539	2112
50	St Laurence	WE	Eastwood Community Centre, Western Approaches	1782	218	1564
51	St Laurence	WF	St Stephens Church, 90 Alton Gardens	1510	181	1329
52	St Laurence	WG	Ekco Social & Sports Club, Thornford Gardens	1989	269	1720
53	St Laurence	WH	Prince Avenue Academy, Hornby Avenue	1478	210	1268
54	St Laurence	WJ	Booth 2, Studio Theatre, Eastwood Academy, Rayleigh Road	1135	204	931
55	St Luke's	ECZ	Room at Army Reserve Centre, East Street	1546	186	1360
56	St Luke's	EDZ	St Edmunds Community Centre, St Edmunds Close	2318	255	2063
57	St Luke's	EEZ	Booth 1, Ferndale Road Baptist Church Hall, Ferndale Road	2270	254	2016
58	St Luke's	EFZ	Booth 2, Ferndale Road Baptist Church Hall, Ferndale Road	2100	331	1769
59	Thorpe	EJ	Booth 1, Thorpe Bay Methodist Church, Johnstone Road/The Broadway	1525	283	1242
60	Thorpe	EK	Booth 2, Thorpe Bay Methodist Church, Johnstone Road/The Broadway	1168	226	942
61	Thorpe	EL	Christ Church, Colbert Avenue	1338	177	1161
62	Thorpe	EM	Greenways Primary School, Community Room, Greenways	1447	291	1156
63	Thorpe	EN	Scout Hut, Southchurch U R Church, Kensington Road	1979	216	1763
64	Victoria	EAZ	St. Mellitus Centre, Oakhurst Road	1845	151	1694
65	Victoria	EBZ	Cornerstone Church, Junction of Central Avenue/Bournemouth Park Drive	2075	222	1853
66	Victoria	EY	Lounge at rear Balmoral Community Centre, Salisbury Avenue	2523	236	2287
67	Victoria	EZ	Jubilee Room at the Civic Centre, Entrance via Car Park, Carnarvon Road	1884	204	1680
68	West Leigh	WAZ	Portable, Marine Parade, Opp Theobalds Rd	801	103	698
69	West Leigh	WOZ	Elim Church, Glendale Gardens	1037	206	831
70	West Leigh	WPZ	Portable, Marine Parade, Opp Canvey Road	1253	162	1091
71	West Leigh	WQZ	Polling Station 2, Highlands Methodist Church Hall, Olive Avenue	1043	203	840
72	West Leigh	WRZ	Adult Community College, Belfairs High School, Highlands Boulevard	1239	176	1063
73	West Leigh	WSZ	Polling Station 1, Highlands Methodist Church Hall, Olive Avenue	1802	241	1561
74	West Shoebury	EE	Portable Polling Station, Maplin Way North/Bishopsteignton	2125	324	1801
75	West Shoebury	EF	Booth 1, Youth Hall, St Andrews Methodist Church,	1900	215	1685
76	West Shoebury	EG	Booth 2, Youth Hall, St Andrews Methodist Church, St Andrews Road	2164	307	1857

Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013
Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2019

77	West Shoebury	EH	Shoebury Leisure Centre, Delaware Road	1282	105	1177
78	Westborough	WP	Westborough Primary School, MacDonald Avenue	1559	180	1379
79	Westborough	WQ-1	Booth 1, St Andrews Parochial Church Hall, Southview Drive	1284	129	1155
80	Westborough	WQ-2	Booth 2, St Andrews Parochial Church Hall, Southview Drive	1503	157	1346
81	Westborough	WR	Booth 1, Westcliff Free Church, Ronald Park Avenue	1357	120	1237
82	Westborough	WS	Booth 2, Westcliff Free Church, Ronald Park Avenue	1995	222	1773
			Total	132735	17424	115311

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ELECTORAL ADMINISTRATION AND REGISTRATION ACT 2013

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2019

Representations made in response to initial consultation exercise

No.	From	Date Received	Comments submitted/Recommendations of Returning Officer
1.	Councillor Dear	17 February 2019	<p>Relocate polling Station for polling district WZ from the Redeemed Christian Church of God, Elmsleigh Drive to Portable Polling Station at Bonchurch Park.</p> <p>Recommendation of Returning Officer That no further action be taken in respect of this suggestion as it would result in the provision of a mobile polling unit. (One of the main aims of the review is to reduce the number of mobile polling units which are expensive to hire and the units are only used in circumstances where there is no other suitable alternative in the vicinity). A similar request was rejected at the time of the last review.</p>
2.	Residents	7 August 2019	<p>Relocation of Polling Station for residents in WN back to Westborough School.</p> <p>Recommendation of Returning Officer That WN be split into two with one polling station located at the Westborough School and the other be retained at the Guild Hall as illustrated in <i>Proposals Map 2</i>.</p>
3.	Presiding Officers	9 August 2019	<p>Amend polling district boundary between WR and WS to create a better balance of electorate within the two polling districts.</p> <p>Recommendation of Returning Officer Modify the polling district boundary between WR and WS as illustrated in <i>Proposals Map 5</i>.</p>
4.	Councillors McDonald and Dent	4 September 2019	<p>Relocate Polling Station for Polling District EO from a double station at Southend Adult Community College (outside polling district) to Centre Place Community Centre, Prospect Close</p> <p>Recommendation of Returning Officer Investigate the use potential use of the Centre Place Community Centre and if possible relocate the polling station as requested. In the event that the premise is not available, retain the existing polling station.</p>
5.	Councillors Collins and Walker	9 September 2019	<p>Relocate polling station for polling district WD from a double station at St David's Church (located outside the polling district) to The Oakwood Public House.</p> <p>Recommendation of Returning Officer Relocate the polling station as suggested.</p>
6.	Rochford and Southend East Conservative Association	15 September 2019	<p>The Association has submitted a detailed request requesting amendments to the location of polling stations in Milton Ward.</p> <p>Recommendation of Returning Officer That some amendments be made to the polling district boundaries, reducing the number of polling districts from 6 to 5, and the polling stations as illustrated in <i>Proposals Map 1</i>.</p>

7.	Rochford and Southend East Conservative Association	15 September 2019	<p>The Association has submitted a detailed request requesting amendments to the polling district boundaries reducing the number of polling districts from 4 to 3 in Southchurch Ward.</p> <p>Recommendation of Returning Officer That the polling districts within Southchurch Ward be reconfigured as set out illustrated in <i>Proposals Map 4</i>.</p>
8.	Councillor Jarvis and Rochford and Southend East Conservative Association	17 September 2019	<p>Split polling district EA into two Polling Districts to create a new Polling District for the Garrison.</p> <p>Recommendation of Returning Officer That polling district EA be split into two Polling Districts to create a new Polling District for the Garrison as shown on <i>Proposals Map 3</i>. The polling station for this new polling district be located at a room within the Hinguar School.</p>

Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013
Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2019
Report of Returning Officer

Ward Name	Polling District	Polling Place	Recommendations of Returning Officer
Belfairs	WCZ1	Booth 1, John Wesley Hall, Belfairs Methodist Church, Eastwood Road North, SS9 4NG	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Belfairs	WCZ2	Booth 2, John Wesley Hall, Belfairs Methodist Church, Eastwood Road North	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Belfairs	WDZ1	Booth 1, St. Aidans Church Hall, The Fairway, Leigh-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Belfairs	WDZ2	Booth 2, St. Aidans Church Hall, The Fairway, Leigh-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Belfairs	WW	Portable Polling Station, Bonchurch Park, Manchester Drive	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Belfairs	WZ	The Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG), Throne of Grace, 39 Elmsleigh Drive	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Blenheim Park	WT	Chalkwell Park Methodist Church Hall, Eastwood Lane South, Leigh-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Blenheim Park	WU	Darlinghurst Primary School, Pavilion Drive, Leigh-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Blenheim Park	WV	St James the Great Church, Elmsleigh Drive, Leigh-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Blenheim Park	WX	Blenheim Children's Centre, Willow Room, Blenheim Chase	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Blenheim Park	WY	Saint Cedds Church, Bridgwater Drive, Westcliff-on-Sea, SS0 ODS	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Chalkwell	WEZ	Booth 1, St. Saviours Church, Chadwick Road, Westcliff-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Chalkwell	WFZ	Booth 2, St. Saviours Church, Chadwick Road, Westcliff-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Chalkwell	WGZ	St Michaels Room, Church Centre, Rear of St Michaels Church Hall, Leigh Road	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Chalkwell	WHZ	Portable Polling Station, Chalkwell Esplanade Car Park, Westcliff-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Eastwood Park	WA	Booth 1, St. David's Church Hall, Rayleigh Road, Eastwood	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Eastwood Park	WB	Eastwood Baptist Church, Nobles Green Road, Leigh-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Eastwood Park	WC	Booth 1, Studio Theatre, Eastwood Academy, Rayleigh Road	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Eastwood Park	WD	Booth 2, St David's Church Hall, Rayleigh Road, Eastwood	Relocate polling station to the Saloon bar at the Oakwood Public House, Rayleigh Road
Kursaal	EO	Booth 1, Southend Adult Community College (Room 7), Ambleside Drive, Southend-on-Sea	Investigate the use of Centre Place Community Centre
Kursaal	EP	Booth 2, Southend Adult Community College (Room 7), Ambleside Drive, Southend-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Kursaal	EQ	Southend Unitarian Meeting House, Grange Gardens, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 2LL	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Kursaal	ER	Sacred Heart Church Hall, 418 Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 2QB	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Kursaal	ES	Belle Vue Baptist Church, Belle Vue Avenue, Southend-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Leigh	WJZ	The Stables, Leigh Road Baptist Church, Chalkwell Park Drive	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Leigh	WKZ	Booth 1, Leigh Wesley Church Hall, Elm Road, Leigh-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Leigh	WLZ	New Road Methodist Church Hall, New Road	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Leigh	WMZ	Booth 2, Leigh Wesley Church Hall, Elm Road, Leigh-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Leigh	WNZ	Glendale Room, West Leigh Baptist Church, 1150 London Road	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Milton	ELZ	St. Johns Church, Church Road, Southend-on-Sea	SEE NOTE 1 BELOW
Milton	ET	Salvation Army Hall, Clarence Road/Clarence Street, Southend-on-Sea	SEE NOTE 1 BELOW
Milton	EU	Booth 1, Room at rear of Avenue Baptist Church, Milton Road, Southend-on-Sea (Access from Car Park)	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Milton	EV	Trinity Methodist Church, Argyll Road, Westcliff-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Milton	EW	Booth 2, Room at Rear of Avenue Baptist Church, Milton Road, Southend-on-Sea (Access from Car Park)	SEE NOTE 1 BELOW
Milton	EX	St Marks Church Hall, Princes Street, Southend-on-Sea	SEE NOTE 1 BELOW
Prittlewell	WK	The Bridgwater Drive Church, (United Reformed Church), Junction of Bridgwater Drive & Cockethurst Close, SS0 ODU	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Prittlewell	WL	Booth 1, Earls Hall Primary School, (Colemans Avenue Entrance), Westcliff-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate

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Prittlewell	WM	Earls Hall Baptist Church, Hogleythick Lane, Westcliff-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Prittlewell	WN	The Guild Hall, Hill Road, Southend-on-Sea	SEE NOTE 2 BELOW
Prittlewell	WO	Booth 2, Earls Hall Primary School, (Colemans Avenue Entrance), Westcliff-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Shoeburyness	EA	St. Peters Church, Small Hall, Hinguar Street	SEE NOTE 3 BELOW
Shoeburyness	EB1	Booth 1, Friars Baptist Church, Eagle Way, Shoeburyness	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Shoeburyness	EB2	Booth 2, Friars Baptist Church, Eagle Way, Shoeburyness	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Shoeburyness	EC	Salvation Army Hall, Frobisher Way, Shoeburyness, SS3 8UT	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Shoeburyness	ED	St Georges School, Eagle Way, Shoeburyness	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Southchurch	EGZ	Hamstel Children & Family Centre, Hamstel Road, Southend-on-Sea	SEE NOTE 4 BELOW
Southchurch	EHZ	Thorpe Bay Bridge Club, Old School House, 62 Southchurch Boulevard	SEE NOTE 4 BELOW
Southchurch	EJZ	United Methodist Church, Whittingham Avenue	SEE NOTE 4 BELOW
Southchurch	EKZ	Bournes Green Junior School, Entrance via Ladram Road, Southend-on-Sea	SEE NOTE 4 BELOW
St Laurence	WE	Eastwood Community Centre, Western Approaches, Southend-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
St Laurence	WF	St Stephens Church, 90 Alton Gardens, Southend-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
St Laurence	WG	Ekco Social & Sports Club, Thornford Gardens, Southend-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
St Laurence	WH	Prince Avenue Academy, Hornby Avenue, Westcliff-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
St Laurence	WJ	Booth 2, Studio Theatre, Eastwood Academy, Rayleigh Road	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
St Luke's	ECZ	Room at Army Reserve Centre, East Street, Southend-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
St Luke's	EDZ	St Edmunds Community Centre, St Edmunds Close, Southend-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
St Luke's	EEZ	Booth 1, Ferndale Road Baptist Church Hall, Ferndale Road, Southend-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
St Luke's	EFZ	Booth 2, Ferndale Road Baptist Church Hall, Ferndale Road, Southend-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Thorpe	EJ	Booth 1, Thorpe Bay Methodist Church, Johnstone Road/The Broadway, Thorpe Bay	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Thorpe	EK	Booth 2, Thorpe Bay Methodist Church, Johnstone Road/The Broadway, Thorpe Bay	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Thorpe	EL	Christ Church, Colbert Avenue, Southend-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Thorpe	EM	Greenways Primary School, Community Room, Greenways, Southend-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Thorpe	EN	Scout Hut, Southchurch U R Church, Kensington Road, Southend-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Victoria	EAZ	St. Mellitus Centre, Oakhurst Road, Southend-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Victoria	EBZ	Cornerstone Church, Junction of Central Avenue and Bournemouth Park Rd	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Victoria	EY	Lounge at rear Balmoral Community Centre, Salisbury Avenue, Westcliff-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Victoria	EZ	Jubilee Room at the Civic Centre, Entrance via Civic Centre Car Park, Carnarvon Road	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
West Leigh	WAZ	Portable, Marine Parade, Opp Theobalds Rd, Leigh-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
West Leigh	WOZ	Elim Church, Glendale Gardens, Leigh-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
West Leigh	WPZ	Portable, Marine Parade, Opp Canvey Road, Leigh-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
West Leigh	WQZ	Polling Station 2, Highlands Methodist Church Hall, Olive Avenue, Leigh-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
West Leigh	WRZ	Adult Community College, Belfairs High School, Highlands Boulevard	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
West Leigh	WSZ	Polling Station 1, Highlands Methodist Church Hall, Olive Avenue, Leigh-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
West Shoebury	EE	Portable Polling Station, Maplin Way North, Junction of Maplin Way North & Bishopsteignton, Thorpe Bay	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
West Shoebury	EF	Booth 1, Youth Hall, St Andrews Methodist Church, St Andrews Road, Shoeburyness	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate

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West Shoebury	EG	Booth 2, Youth Hall, St Andrews Methodist Church, St Andrews Road, Shoeburyness	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
West Shoebury	EH	Shoebury Leisure Centre, Delaware Road, Shoeburyness	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Westborough	WP	Westborough Primary School, Macdonald Avenue	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Westborough	WQ1	Booth 1, St Andrews Parochial Church Hall, Southview Drive, Westcliff-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Westborough	WQ2	Booth 2, St Andrews Parochial Church Hall, Southview Drive, Westcliff-on-Sea	No change - this polling station is considered appropriate
Westborough	WR	Booth 1, Westcliff Free Church, Ronald Park Avenue, Westcliff-on-Sea	SEE NOTE 5 BELOW
Westborough	WS	Booth 2, Westcliff Free Church, Ronald Park Avenue, Westcliff on Sea	SEE NOTE 5 BELOW

NOTE 1: The Association has submitted a detailed request requesting amendments to the location of polling stations in Milton Ward. This includes the cessation of the St Johns Church and the return of the Foyer at the Cliffs Pavilion. It is accepted that the location of the polling station at St Johns Church is not ideal. The Cliffs Pavilion is however, no longer considered appropriate given the nature of some of the events and the location of a bar in the foyer. It is therefore proposed to review some of the polling district boundaries with Milton Ward, reducing the number of polling districts from 6 to 5, and the relocate the polling station from the St Mark's Church Hall to the Forum as illustrated in Proposals Map 1.

NOTE 2: Residents in MacDonald Avenue have requested that their polling station be relocated back to the Westborough School. The polling station for this polling district is The Guild Hall, Hill Road. The polling station at Westborough School, MacDonald Avenue is for the neighbouring polling district WP. It is evident that the current arrangements are unclear for voters particularly for those electors residing in very close proximity to the School. Looking to the future, the former Prospects College site is currently being redeveloped as residential and there are proposals for the redevelopment of the Roots Hall Stadium. It would therefore seem appropriate to split the polling district WN (as illustrated in Proposals Map 2). The electors in the western half could be directed to a double polling station at the Westborough School and those in the eastern half could retain the Guild Hall as the polling station.

NOTE 3: The Garrison is a walled enclave to the north with only one small pedestrian exit into Shoebury High Street and a cycle path into Rampart Terrace at East Beach. Access to St Peter's Church Hall, the current polling station for this polling district is therefore quite difficult for a number of voters from the Garrison site. The electorate in EA is 2709 (2326 net of postal voters) which is very high and is likely to increase with the potential of development of new homes within the Garrison site. It is therefore proposed that the Polling District be divided as shown on Proposals Map 3. One Polling Station be retained at St Peter's Church Hall and the new polling station be located within a room at Hinguar School.

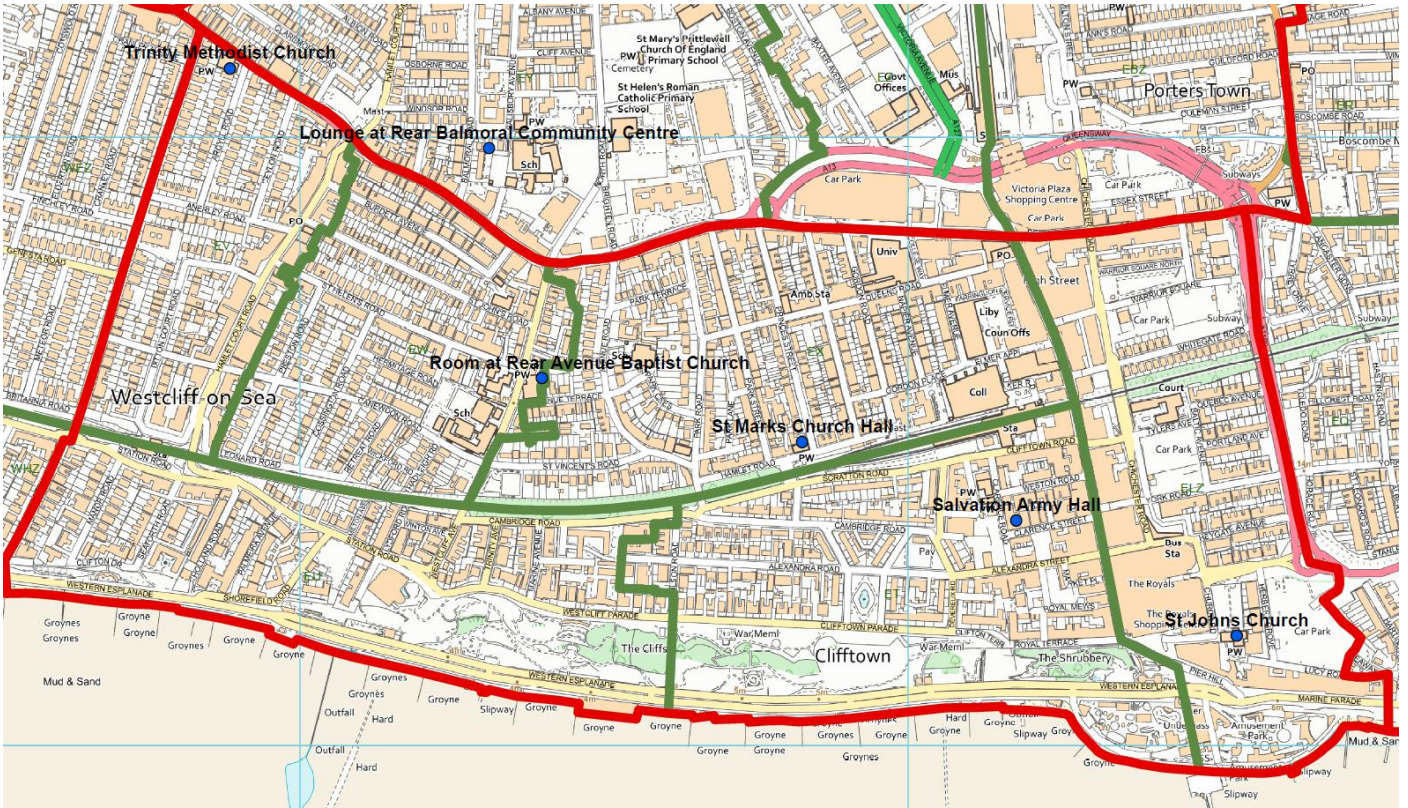
NOTE 4: The Association has submitted a detailed request requesting amendments to the polling district boundaries and the number of polling districts in Southchurch Ward. It is recommended to amend the polling district boundaries and polling stations as illustrated in Proposals Map 4.

NOTE 5: Both WR and WS share the use of the Westcliff Free Church as a polling station. The electorate in these polling districts are substantially different. It is therefore proposed to review the polling district boundary between WR and WS (as illustrated on Proposals Map 5) to ensure the electors are more equally balanced within these polling districts. The polling station will remain the same for both polling districts.

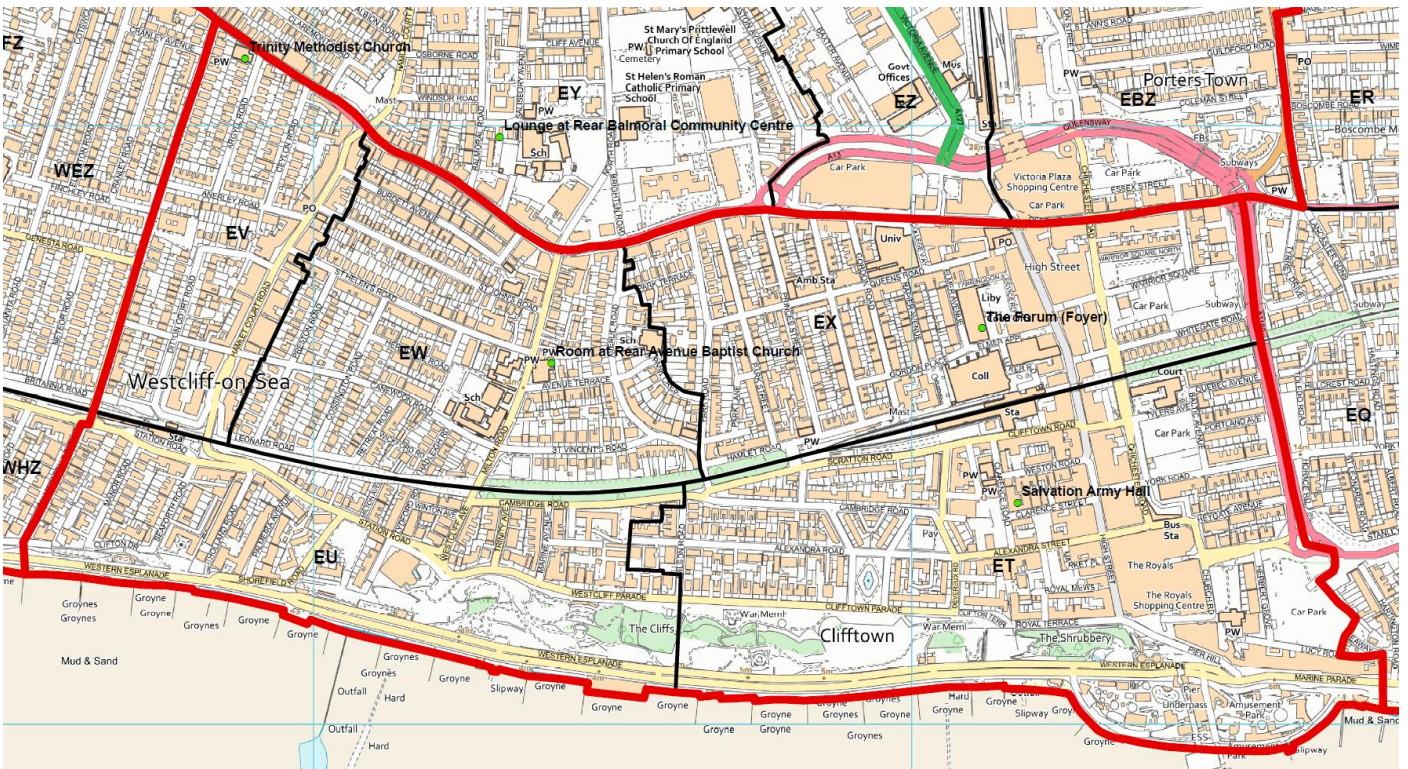
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PROPOSALS MAP 1 MILTON WARD

Existing arrangements for Polling Districts within Milton Ward



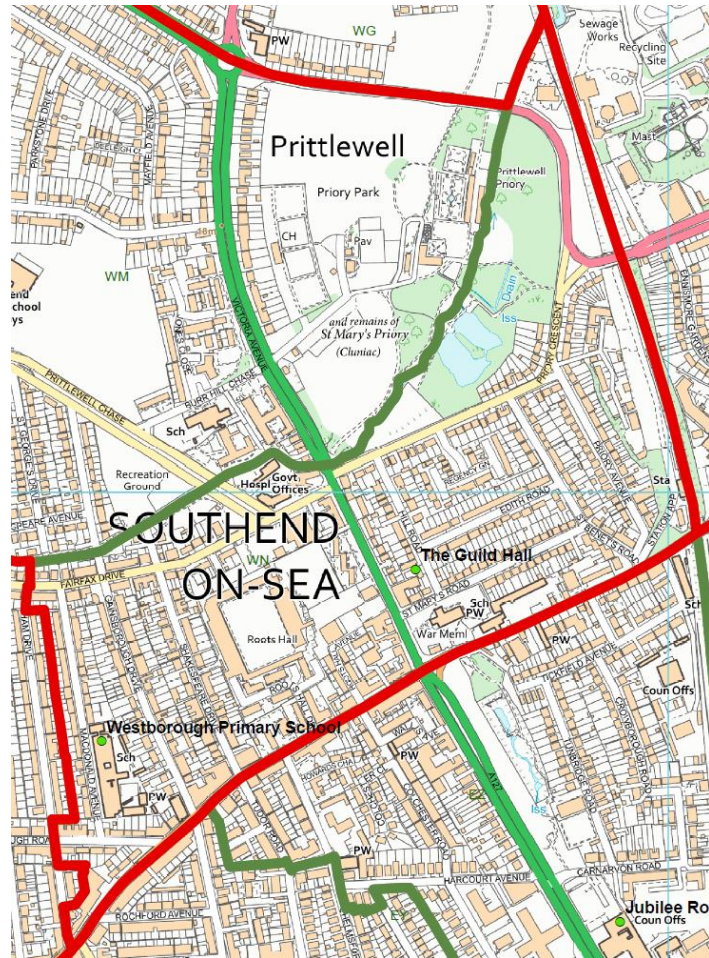
Proposed arrangements for Polling Districts within Milton Ward



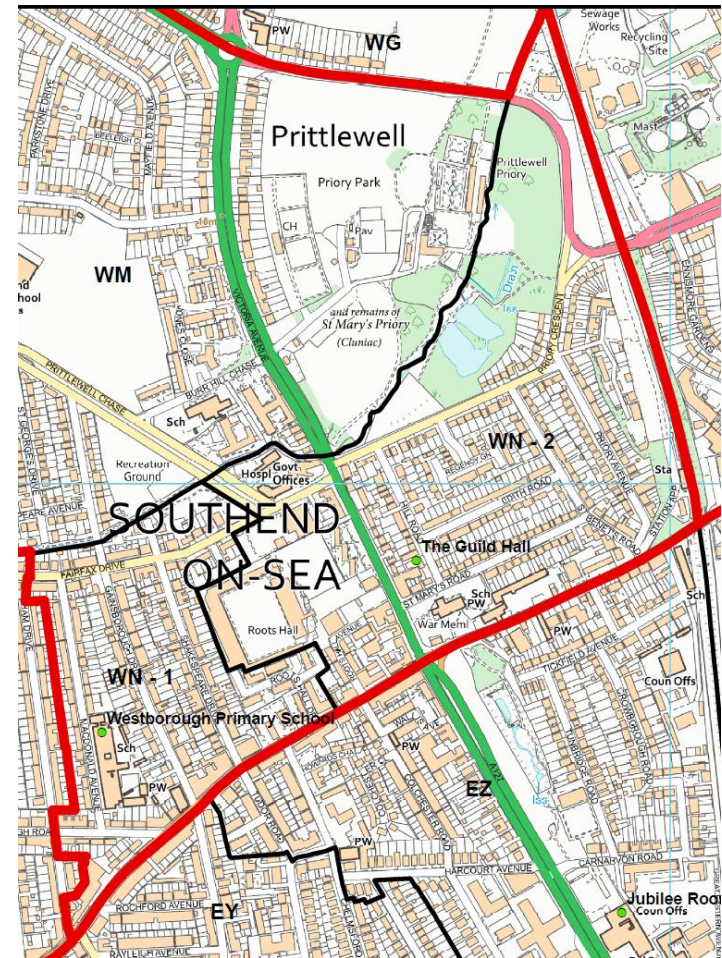
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PROPOSALS MAP 2 PRITTLEWELL WARD

Existing arrangements for Polling District WN



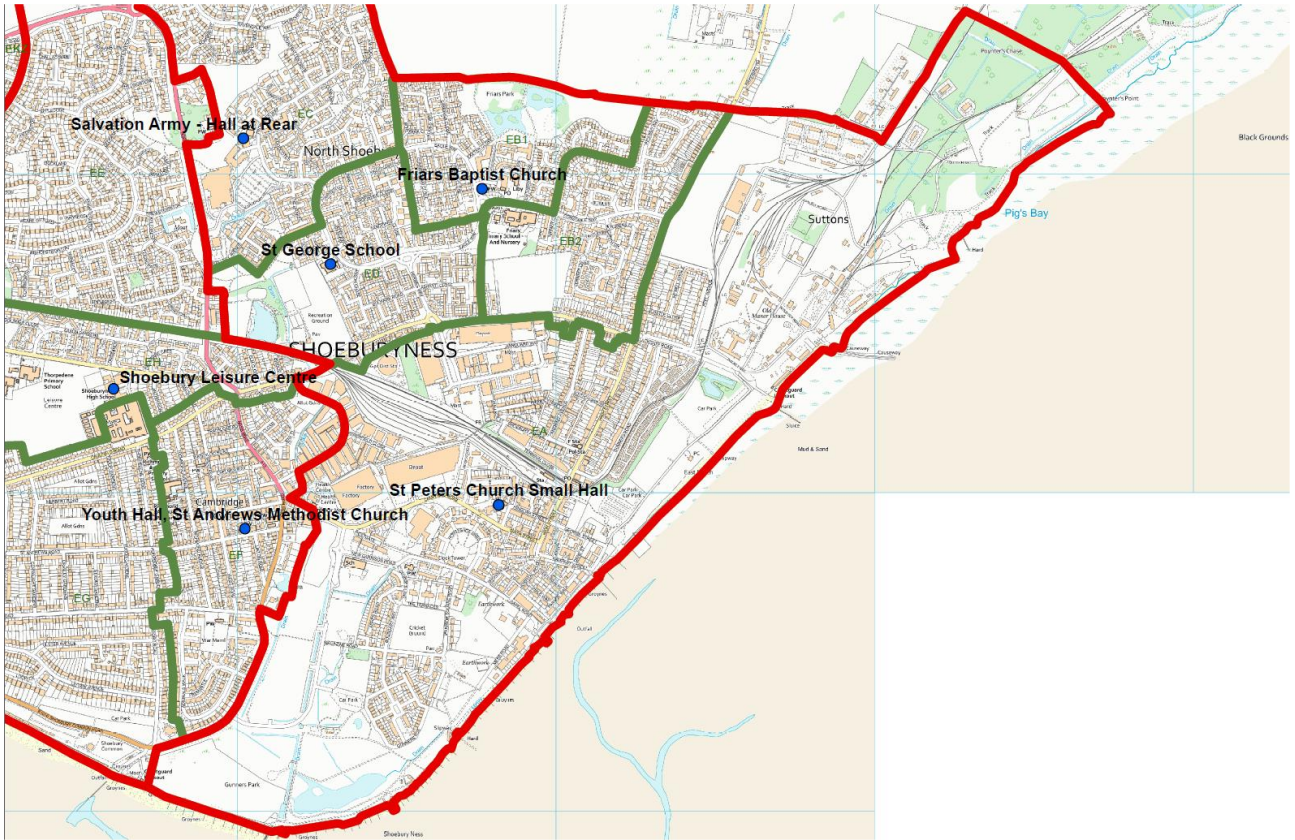
Proposed arrangements for Polling District WN



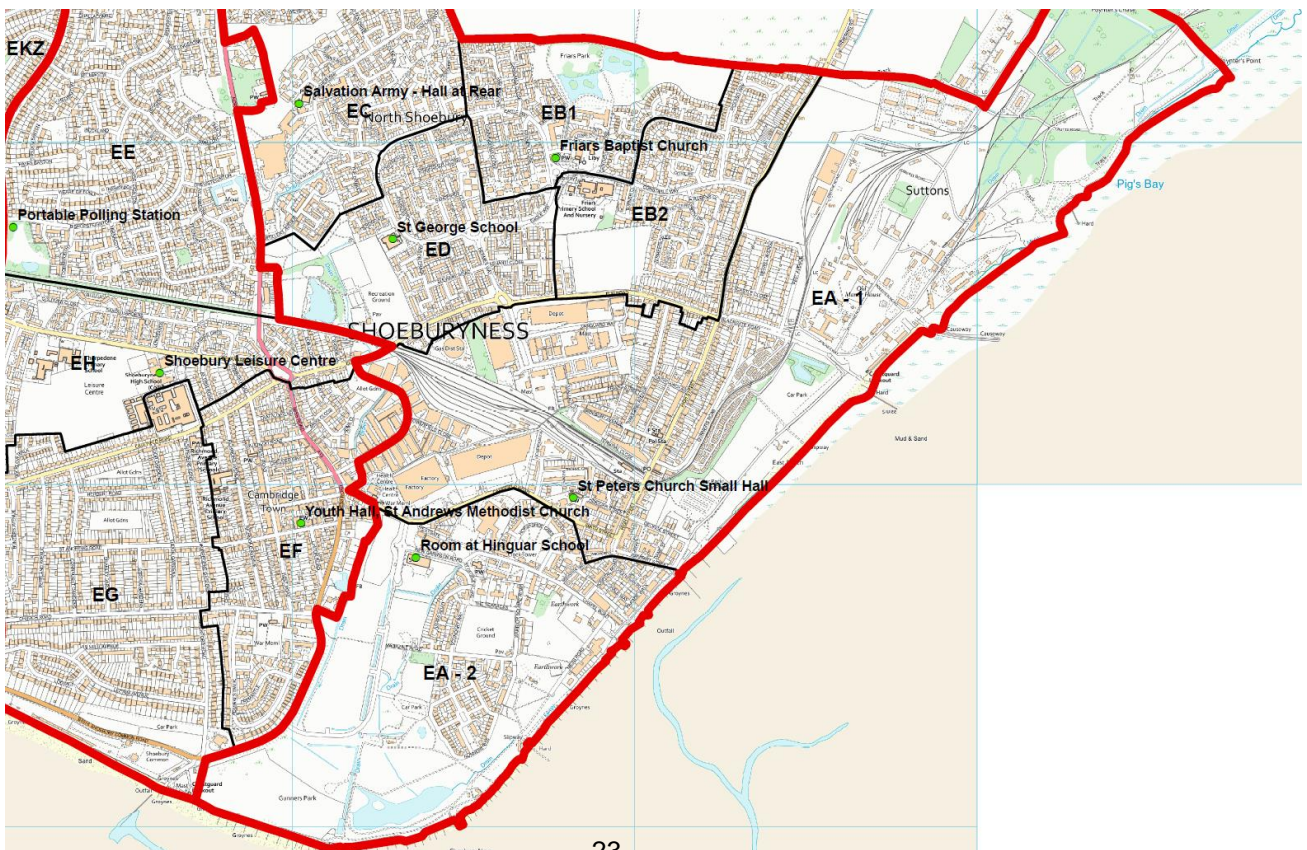
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PROPOSALS MAP 3 SHOEBURYNNESS WARD

Existing arrangements for Polling District EA



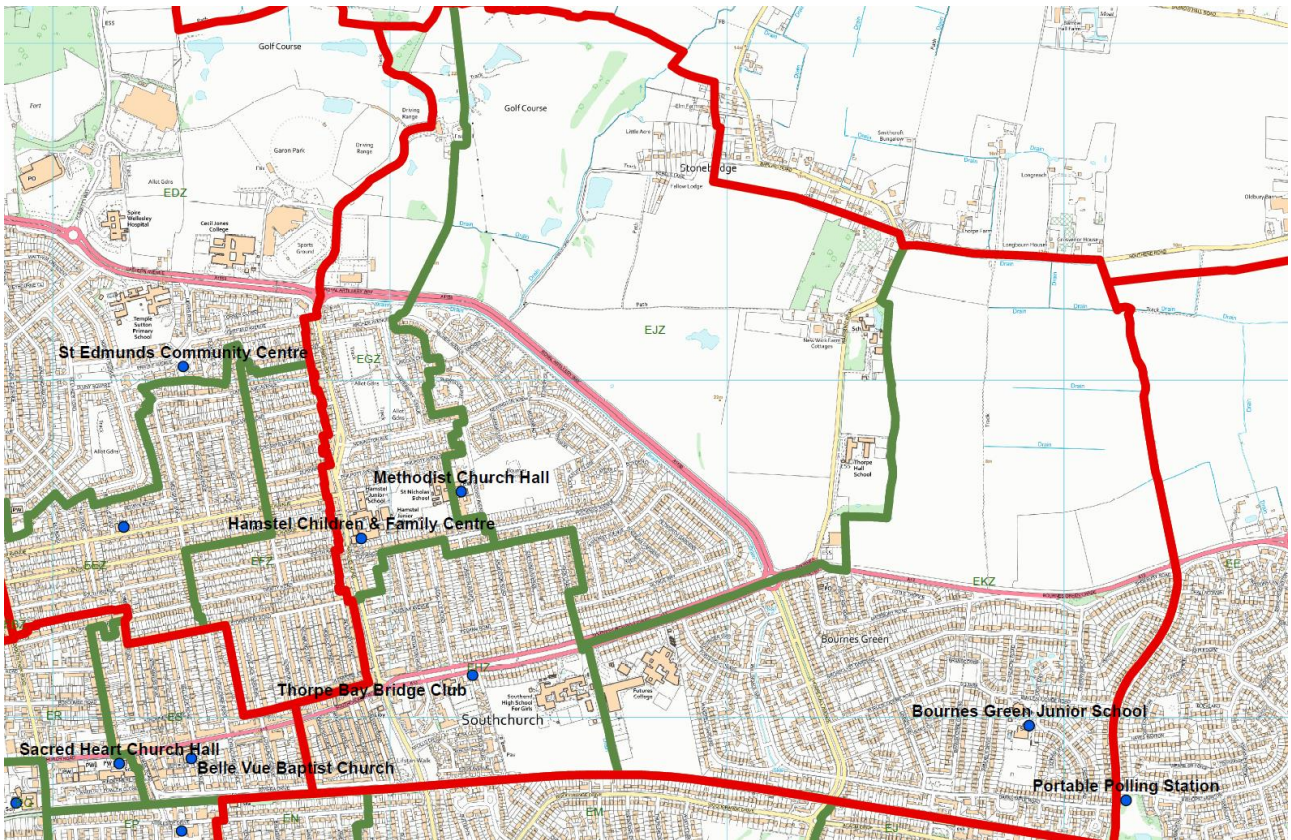
Proposed arrangements for Polling District EA



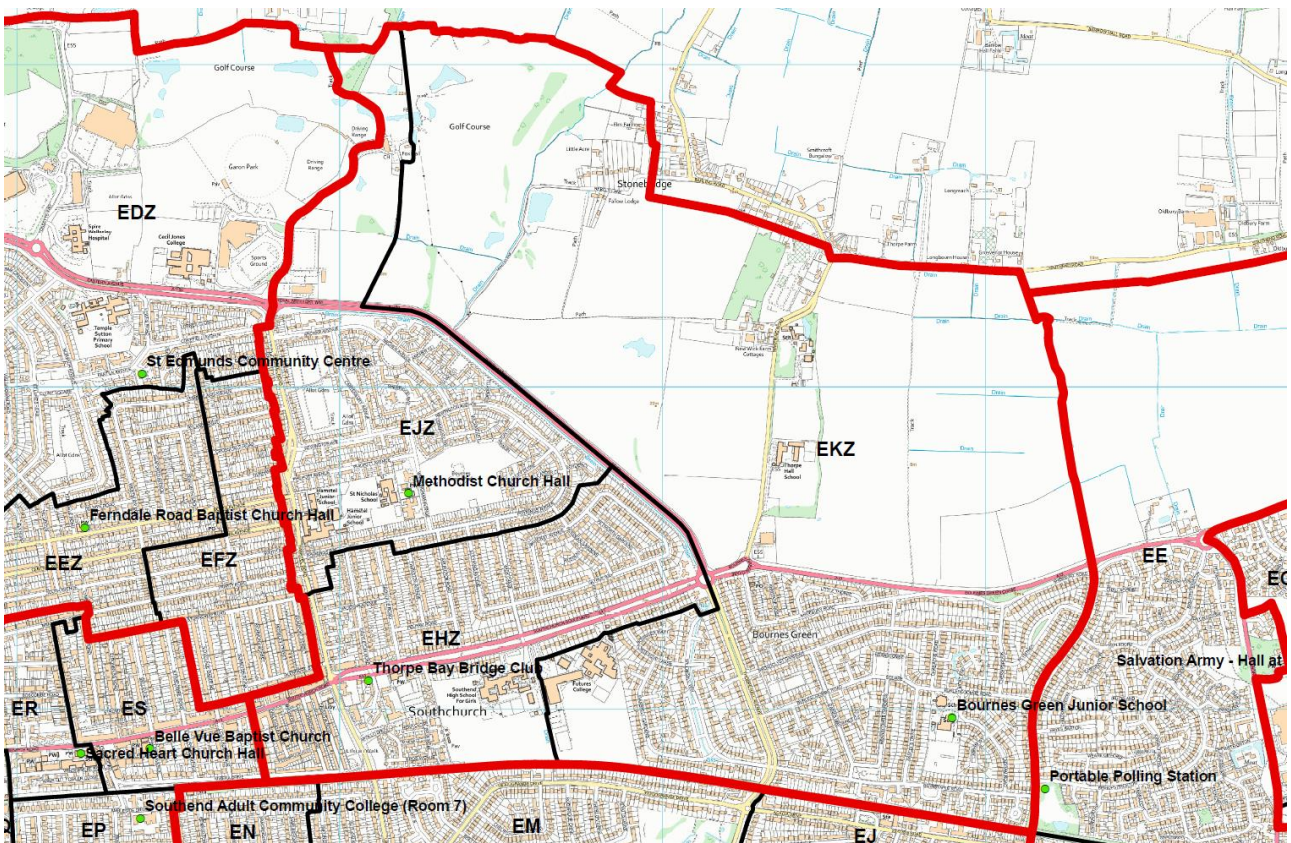
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PROPOSALS MAP 4 SOUTHCHURCH WARD

Existing arrangements for Polling Districts within Southchurch Ward



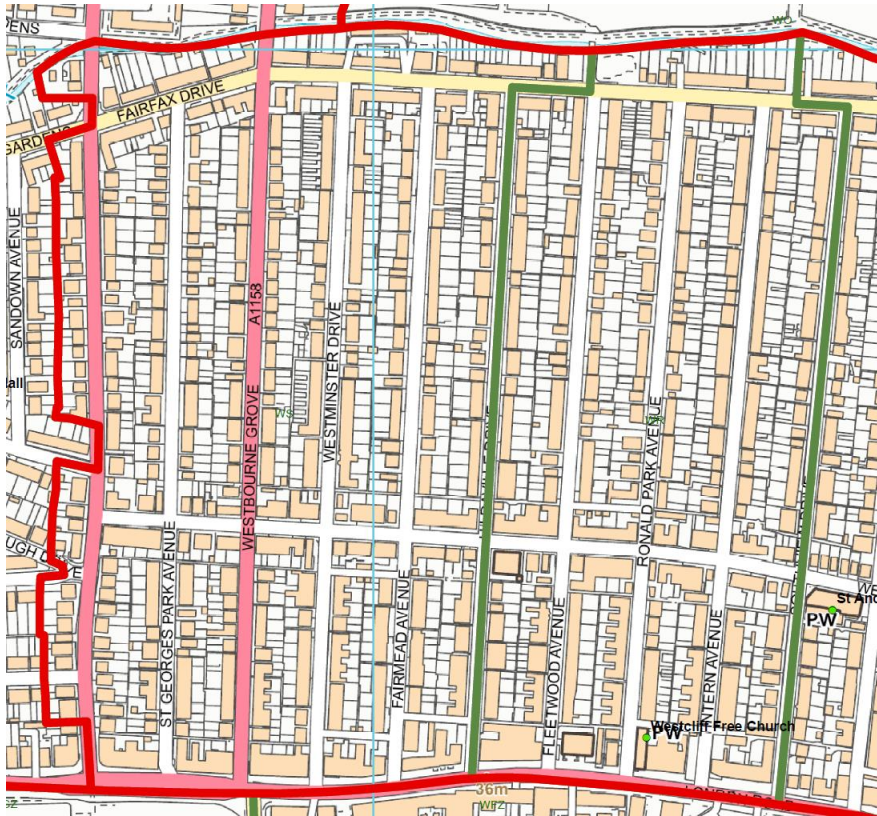
Proposed arrangements for Polling Districts within Southchurch Ward



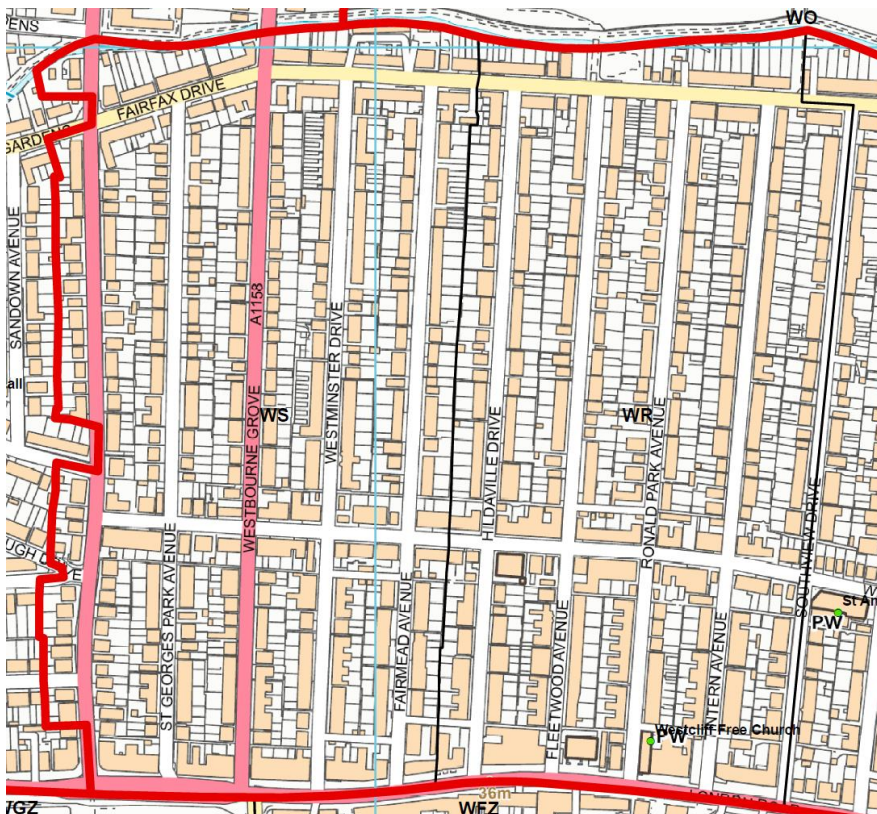
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PROPOSALS MAP 5 WESTBOROUGH WARD

Existing arrangements for Polling Districts WR and WS



Proposed arrangements for Polling Districts WR and WS



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ELECTORAL ADMINISTRATION AND REGISTRATION ACT 2013

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2019

Representations made in response to Proposals of Returning Officer

Proposal: Relocate Polling Station from a double station at Southend Adult Community College (outside polling district) to Centre Place Community Centre, Prospect Close			
No.	From	Date Received	Comments submitted
1.	Councillor Jones	29 th October 2019	Please reinstate Centre Place as a polling station.
2.	Councillor McDonald	29 th October 2019	Supports a polling station to be located at Centre Place on the Woodgrange Estate. This location will serve the immediate locality better than the existing location at the Adult Community College, as its location on Ambleside Drive requires residents to walk a significant distance uphill which is challenging for those with children or mobility issues.
3.	Resident	29 th October 2019	There should be a polling station at Centre Place on the Kursaal Estate for the residents. I live on the estate and do not enjoy having to go out of my way to vote.
4.	Resident	29 th October 2019	Supports the polling station to be moved to Centre Place as parents are disabled and it would make it a lot easier for people like them on the estate.

Proposal: Amend Locations of Polling Stations (Milton Ward)			
No.	From	Date Received	Comments submitted
1.	Councillor George	22 nd October 2019	<p>Disappointed at the suggestion that the number of Polling Districts should be reduced from six to five and that these should be served by only four polling stations. The loss of the ELZ polling district and the St Johns polling station will be disruptive to several voters who will be deterred from using the new polling stations, whether we like it or not Chichester Road and the High Street act as a double barrier to the electorate in this area and I am concerned that this change will lower voter turnout further. I believe that the current arrangement whilst not ideal is better than the one being proposed.</p> <p>Also concerned that under these proposals a very large geographic area is being served by only four polling districts and further that the change of venue from St Marks Church to The Forum will add to the creation of a democratic deficit as several voters will be deterred from using the 'new' polling station at The Forum.</p> <p>Prefers the current arrangement of six polling districts and five polling stations and strongly feel that the proposals will lead to lower voter turnout and the creation of an even greater democratic deficit.</p>
2.	Councillor Nevin	22 nd October 2019	<p>Would rather keep the polling arrangements as they are. EU & EW arrangements are adequate at Avenue Road Baptist Church in Milton Road, but adding more voters to these 2 sizeable registers would put undue pressure on this polling station, with young children being dropped off at playgroup and other activities as well.</p>

			<p>Moving St. John's would worsen electoral representation in ELZ, Chichester Road and the High Street does act as a barrier.</p> <p>Unhappy to move St. Marks which is well known and well used and central to the largest register.</p>
3.	Councillor Mitchell	22nd October 2019	<p>Having already lost a polling station and therefore Avenue Baptist Church managing two registers, it would create more confusion and greater pressure to make further changes to the boundary of polling district of EW.</p> <p>The polling district of ELZ has an identity with a physical boundary formed by the High Street and as has been said, this district needs to be retained with St John's continuing to offer the polling station.</p> <p>I do not think it is in the best interest of voters to move the Polling Station from St Marks which is central to the district of EX, whereas a polling station at the forum would be daunting for some people to access given its proximity to the town centre and college, in a busy pedestrian thoroughfare with no vehicle access for the less mobile.</p> <p>In order to avoid a democratic deficit we need to continue to give Milton voters the greatest opportunity to access a polling station and therefore retain six polling districts.</p>
4.	Resident	27th October 2019	<p>The loss of a convenient, polling station for that part of the ward that is between the ring road and high street, is vital for democracy, as most of the residents there do not have their own vehicles and Avenue road is a good walk away.</p> <p>The current system works reasonably well. Why change for it's own sake.</p>
5.	Resident	28th October 2019	<p>Objects to the proposed merging of ELZ and EX polling districts in Milton on two counts.</p> <p>The present locality of the EX polling station at St Mark's is easily accessible for disabled and infirm voters to be dropped off directly outside to go and vote. If this is moved to the Forum that would no longer be the case, bearing in mind it is a pedestrianised area. For people who live in the South part of ELZ, this would mean some considerable extra distance to walk to the Forum instead of St John's church if they have difficulty walking.</p> <p>With relation to the elector count, the merging of the two polling stations would make it needlessly over twice the size of the other polling stations in Milton.</p>

Proposal: Split EA into 2 Polling Districts to create a new Polling District for the Garrison

No.	From	Date Received	Comments submitted
1.	Resident	30th October 2019	<p>Has considered the proposed polling station at Hinguar school in Shoeburyness Ward and has sought opinions from local residents via social media. I would make the following comments/observations to be considered as part of the consultation process:</p>

			<p>1. The reviews assessment of the Garrison area is accurate and the need for an additional polling station to serve residents on the Garrison is clear.</p> <p>2. Concerns raised that by locating the polling station in a school would mean school closure on polling days have been assuaged by Cllr Matt Dent who informs me that the school will not need to close, having a dedicated room which can be used.</p> <p>3. There is no public transport to this site, therefore, if intended for residents outside of the Garrison, this would cause significant difficulties for those less mobile.</p> <p>However, generally the proposal of an additional polling station to serve the Garrison has been well received and should be considered.</p>
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