

Wiltshire Council

Full Council

26 November 2019

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## Polling District and Polling Place Review 2019

### Summary

This report sets out recommendations from the Electoral Review Committee for the Polling District and Polling Place Review conducted in 2019, and for arrangements for future Polling District and Polling Place Reviews.

### Proposals

**That Full Council approve the recommendations from the Electoral Review Committee for adjustments to polling stations, polling places and polling districts as set out in the Appendices to the report.**

**That Full Council approve the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference of the Electoral Review Committee to delegate approval of future Polling District and Polling Place Reviews to the Committee.**

### Reason for Proposals

To meet the requirements of the Electoral Registration and Administration Act.

**Dr Carlton Brand**

**Executive Director, Adult Social Care, Public Health and Digital (and Electoral Registration Officer)**

## **Polling District and Polling Place Review 2019**

### **Purpose**

1. To consider the recommendation to Council from the Electoral Review Committee in response to the consultation on the current Polling District and Polling Place scheme on the following matters:
  - Appendix A – Consultation responses – actions for consideration
  - Appendix B – Consultation responses – no action
  - Appendix C – Alternative sought – no responses
  - Appendix D – No Change – no responses
2. To consider the recommendation to Council from the Electoral Review Committee that approval of future Polling District and Polling Place Reviews be delegated to the Committee.

### **Background**

3. The Council is required by the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 to undertake a compulsory review of UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling places which must be started and completed between 1 October 2018 and 31 January 2020 (inclusive).
4. The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 amended the Representation of the People Act 1983 to require the Council to undertake regular reviews of both polling districts and polling places within its area. The differences between a district, place and station are:
  - A **polling district** is a geographical sub-division of an electoral area, (an electoral area being a UK Parliamentary constituency, a European Parliamentary electoral region, a parish, parish ward or an electoral division).
  - A **polling place** is the building or area in which polling stations will be selected by the Returning Officer. A polling place within a polling district must be designated so that polling stations are within easy reach of all electors from across the polling district.
  - A **polling station** is the actual area where the process of voting takes place, and must be located within the polling place designated for the particular polling district. The Returning Officer for the particular election must provide a sufficient number of polling stations, and allocate the electors to those polling stations in such manner as he or she thinks the most convenient.

5. The purpose of such a review is ensure that all electors have reasonably practicable facilities for voting and that polling places are reasonably accessible to electors who are disabled. The review will need to be completed by 31 January 2020.
6. The Act requires the Council to publish notice of a Polling District and Polling Place review and to consult both the Acting Returning Officer (ARO) for Parliamentary elections and persons whom the Council considers have particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for persons who have disabilities. In addition, anyone may comment on the review.
7. On 21 October 2019 the Electoral Review Committee was updated on actions taken by the ARO and recommended action following analysis of the consultation responses.

### **Main Considerations**

8. In relation to the 1 October 2018 – 31 January 2020 period, (Acting) Returning Officers will need to consider the following:

#### The annual canvass

Conducted between July and December 2019

#### Publication of the register

Revised electoral register scheduled to be published on 1 December 2019

#### Elections during the review period

There are no scheduled elections in 2019, and the programme of work should reflect the ability to be flexible with the dates in the event of a national poll.

#### Scheduling approval of the proposals

Implementation of any amendments to polling districts to co-ordinate with the publication of the revised register in December 2019.

Proposals to be submitted to Full Council in good time for approval prior to publication.

#### Changes to electoral boundaries

Anomalies created by previous Community Governance Reviews can be adjusted where possible to reduce the number of very small polling districts

**As the polling district and polling place review is to be carried out before the new electoral boundaries are fully in force, it will need to be based on the current electoral boundaries. A further review will be undertaken prior to the unitary and parish elections in 2021 to reflect the new boundaries.**

#### Preliminary review

9. The local authority should undertake a preliminary review of the current polling districts and polling places with a view to establishing their suitability, and identify any potential alternatives where required. This may be done before the start of the specified review period.

10. There is no requirement to change any of the polling districts and polling places if they are suitable, but any 'no change' decision must be fully justified as part of the overall proposals.

#### Formal review process

11. The Electoral Commission's guidance is attached at **Appendix E** which provides more detailed requirements on the Formal Review Process (para 4.5) and Considering Accessibility Issues (para 4.6).

12. In accordance with the guidance, when carrying out the review, local authorities must:

- publish a notice of the holding of a review
- consult the ARO for every parliamentary constituency which is wholly or partly in its area
- publish all representations made by an ARO within 30 days of receipt by posting a copy of them at the local authority's office and in at least one conspicuous place in their area and, if the authority maintains a website, by placing a copy on the authority's website
- seek representations from such persons as it thinks have particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for persons who have different forms of disability. Such persons must have an opportunity to make representations and to comment on the representations made by the AROs.
- on completion of a review, give reasons for its decisions and publish:
  - a. all correspondence sent to an (Acting) Returning Officer in connection with the review
  - b. all correspondence sent to any person whom the authority thinks has particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for persons who have different forms of disability
  - c. all representations made by any person in connection with the review
  - d. the minutes of any meeting held by the council to consider any revision to the designation of polling districts or polling places within its area as a result of the review
  - e. details of the designation of polling districts and polling places within the local authority area as a result of the review
  - f. details of the places where the results of the review have been published

13. The Electoral Review Committee determined a pattern of activity (formal meetings and workshops) for itself in order to achieve the deadline of the publication of the revised register (1 December 2019). Following the announcement of the European Parliamentary election and the change to the date of Full Council, the timetable was adjusted

14. The adjusted timetable is below:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Adjusted date</b>
Preliminary review commenced	December 2018
Information was gathered from:	December 2018

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Polling station venues</li> <li>• External reviews</li> <li>• Visiting Officers on 23 May 2019</li> </ul>	
Information was provided to all Area Boards	January / February 2019
Gather and analyse evidence, including representations from Area Boards and electoral forecasts.	January to July 2019
Report to the Committee on the outcome of the preliminary review, including boundary maps and electorates	8 July 2019
Publish a notice of the holding of the review	10 July 2019
Publish ARO representation	10 July 2019
Consultation period	12 July 2019 to 9 September 2019
Consultation materials forwarded for comment to key stakeholders including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wiltshire disability groups</li> <li>• Wiltshire Carers groups</li> <li>• Elected representatives and</li> <li>• Parish Councils</li> </ul>	15 July 2019
Committee to consider draft recommendations	21 October 2019
Full Council to consider recommendation from Committee	26 November 2019
Revised register	1 December 2019

### Consultation responses

15. There were 74 responses in total, 19 relating to the use of Redland School as a polling station and 50 from Parish and Town Councils.

16. For each polling district a summary of any response received and recommended action is contained in the Appendices A – D. Recommendations are made for each polling district in Wiltshire.

### **Appendix A**

17. The impact of the LGBCE boundary changes will significantly impact some of the response as the polling district boundaries will change, possibly providing an alternative solution within the new polling district or enable the redrawing of boundaries closer to existing polling districts.

18. Therefore, the Committee recommended to minimize alterations to current arrangement which may possibly only be in place for one year.

19. These included:

- 5 which are recommended to reviewed at the 2020 Polling District and Polling Places Review due to the LGBCE unitary changes which will impact on a wider

area that the response covers

- 9 changes to a different established polling venue are recommended
- 8 changes are recommended to designate the polling place as the polling district and for the ARO to identify suitable venues for the 2020 Polling District and Polling Place Review. This recommendation provides additional time for the ARO to investigate suitability and availability of alternatives and consider the cost and sites for temporary polling stations.

### Redland School

20. The consultation received nineteen responses detailing the negative impact on the schoolchildren, staff and the families affected. The unscheduled European Parliamentary Election in May 2019 caused significant challenges booking available polling stations. The LRO, unfortunately had to use the school as a polling station with very little notice to all concerned.

21. There are two polling districts, QF3 and QF4 totaling 1626 electors, currently designated to Redland School. The two districts could be aligned with two alternatives to reduce the increase in electorate for an existing venue, and this was recommended by the Committee.

22. Further detail from Appendix A is included on the next page:

Table from Appendix A

Map No	Polling district	Description of area	Polling Station	Accessibility survey responses	(Acting) Returning Officer's representation	Summary of consultation response	Recommendations for Committee
1	ZE1	Wilcot East Ward (Oare)	Oare Village Hall, Rudge Lane, Oare, SN8 4JH	No designated disabled parking.	No Change	Alternate polling places between Wilcot and Oare	<b>An expression of interest in a Community Governance Review has been received for this Parish. Recommend: that the polling district boundaries are reviewed in 2020 together with the polling station(s) for the electors.</b>
1	ZE2	Huish	Oare Village Hall, Rudge Lane, Oare, SN8 4JH	No designated disabled parking.	No Change		
1	ZF1	Wilcot West Ward (Wilcot)	Oare Village Hall, Rudge Lane, Oare, SN8 4JH	No designated disabled parking.	No Change		
2	EJ1	Bradford on Avon (South Ward) Part 1	Bradford on Avon Youth Development Centre, Frome Road, BA15 1LE	Accessible.	No Change	Not satisfied with current arrangements. Small car park. Not all residents can get there. An additional site should be considered I.E St Aldelms Court to help the elderly and infirm.	<b>Polling district EJ2 will be impacted by the LGBCE changes. Recommend: that all polling districts boundaries in Bradford on Avon South are reviewed in the Polling District and Polling Place Review 2020</b>
2	EJ3	Bradford on Avon (South Ward) Part 3	Bradford on Avon Youth Development Centre, Frome Road, BA15 1LE	Accessible.	No Change		
2	EJ4	Bradford on Avon (South Ward) Part 4	Bradford on Avon Youth Development Centre, Frome Road, BA15 1LE	Accessible.	No Change		
3	MO1	Calne (Calne Central Ward) Part 1	Calne Corn Exchange, Town Hall, The Strand, SN11 0EN	Accessible.	No Change	I would like to suggest that it would be helpful to redraw the polling district boundaries in Calne Central. There are currently two polling districts and two polling stations. One of the polling stations is at the Town Hall. Some residents live across the road from the town but have to vote some way, away at the Colmans Farm community centre. I would like to suggest that residents in Carnegie Mews, Bank Row, Church Street, Kerry Crescent, The Green, Kingsbury Street, and Horsebrook should be moved into the polling station at the town hall	<b>The LGBCE Unitary boundary changes will impact on this area. Recommended that the polling district boundaries are redrawn once the Order has been passed and in readiness for the Unitary and Parish Council elections in 2021.</b>
3	MO2	Calne (Calne Central Ward) Part 2	Coleman`s Farm Learning & Community Centre, 15 & 16 Angell Close, SN11 8PF	No designated disabled parking. No level entrance.	Seek accessible alternative		
3	MO3	Calne (Calne Central Ward) Part 3	Lansdowne Hall, Petty Lane, Derry Hill, SN11 9QY	Accessible.	Polling district to be adjusted after LGBCE Review. No Change		
4	XC2	Tidworth (Perham Down Ward)	Ludgershall Memorial Hall, Ludgershall, SP11 9LZ	Accessible.	No Change	1)I would like the voters of Perham Down to vote in Tidworth for both the County and Town Council elections. Perham Down is part of Tidworth but residents presently vote for the Town Council representatives in Ludgershall as it is presently part of the Ludgershall and Perham Down seat. Under the new arrangements they should vote for the East Tidworth and South Ludgershall seat in Tidworth. South Ludgershall should vote in Ludgershall. 2) Residents of Perham Down should vote in Tidworth for both their Town Councillors and the new Wilts Council seat that will include Perham, South Tidworth and South Ludgershall.	<b>There is significant housing development in the Ludgershall and Tidworth areas. The number of electors allocated to just 2 polling places will be 10,500 by 2024. The LGBCE Unitary boundary changes will impact on this area. Recommend that the polling district boundaries are redrawn and additional polling venues are identified to reduce the number of electors allocated to these venues in readiness for the Unitary and Parish Council elections in 2021.</b>

	Polling district	Description of area	Polling Station	Accessibility survey responses	(Acting) Returning Officer's representation	Summary of consultation response	Recommendations for Committee
2	EJ2	Bradford on Avon (South Ward) Part 2	The Swan Hotel, The Coach House, 1 Church Street, BA15 1LN	No disabled access.	Seek accessible alternative	Barton Close, Midland Close and Courtside Terrace, Bradford on Avon are split between polling districts, despite being part of the same cul-de-sac. It would make more sense from a polling district perspective, if they were consolidated into polling district EJ3, with the rest of the street (Frome Road) into which they disgorge.	<b>Polling district EJ2 will be impacted by the LGBCE changes. Recommend: that all polling districts boundaries in Bradford on Avon South are reviewed in the Polling District and Polling Place Review 2020</b>
5	FM4	Melksham (Melksham South Ward) Part 4	Melksham Assembly Hall, Market Place, Melksham, SN12 6ES	No external lighting.	Assess external lighting. No Change	Regarding residents on the East Melksham Estate it was felt the Assembly Hall in the centre of town was too far. Asked if a closer alternative could be found.	<b>Recommend: that the polling place and polling station is changed to Queensway Hall, Queensway, Melksham, SN12 7LE</b>
5	FR6	Melksham (Melksham Central Ward) Part 6	Melksham Assembly Hall, Market Place, Melksham, SN12 6ES	No external lighting.	Assess external lighting. No Change	Regarding residents on the East Melksham Estate it was felt the Assembly Hall in the centre of town was too far. Asked if a closer alternative could be found.	<b>Recommend: that the polling place and polling station is changed to Melksham Skills Centre, (Formerly St Andrew's Church Schoolroom), SN12 7EF</b>
6	FW1	Melksham Without (Blackmore Ward) Part 1	Melksham Assembly Hall, Market Place, Melksham, SN12 6ES	No external lighting.	Assess external lighting. No Change	Residents in the current Blackmore Ward and in the potential two new wards to cover the 100 dwellings at Sandridge Place and the 450 dwellings being built as the extension to the East of Melksham should be able to vote in the new community building being provided by the S106 for the 450 houses (14/10461/OUT). However, until this is constructed it is suggested that Forest & Sandridge School or the Skills Centre at St. Andrews Church is used so that parishioners do not have to go into the town to vote.	<b>The changes which will come into force from the LGBCE Unitary boundary impact upon this area. However, an interim proposal to alter the polling station could be effective. Recommend: that until the construction of the community building that the polling place and polling station is changed to the Skills Centre.</b>
6	FW2	Melksham Without (Blackmore Ward) Part 2	Melksham Assembly Hall, Market Place, Melksham, SN12 6ES	No external lighting.	Assess external lighting. No Change		
7	GR	Tisbury	Hinton Hall, Church Street, SP3 6NH	No designated disabled parking.	Request for Nadder Centre to be considered for future elections	Request for Nadder Centre to be considered for future elections	<b>The venues are within 0.5 mile of each other. Hinton Hall is more central to the two polling districts. The Nadder Centre has better parking facilities. S Recommend: That the Nadder centre is used at the next scheduled election (PCC elections in 2020) and a review of the change is provided for the Polling District and Polling Place Review 2020.</b>
7	IO	West Tisbury	Hinton Hall, Church Street, SP3 6NH	No designated disabled parking.	Request for Nadder Centre to be considered for future elections		
6	FZ1	Melksham Without (Berryfield Ward)	Melksham Assembly Hall, Market Place, Melksham, SN12 6ES	No external lighting.	Assess external lighting. No Change	Residents of Berryfield should be able to vote in the new village hall being provided by the S106 Agreement for the 150 dwellings on Semington Road (16/00497/OUT). However, until this is constructed it is suggested that the current village hall is used, and if this is deemed unsuitable that Canberra or the lounge area of Thornbank Sheltered Housing could be used.	<b>Recommend: that the polling place and polling station is changed to The Canberra centre until the community building is constructed</b>
8	HC3	Trowbridge (Trowbridge Central Ward) Part 3	St Johns Parish Centre, Wingfield Road, BA14 9EA	Accessible.	No Change	Advised St Johns Parish Centre no longer available for a polling station suggested alternative is Wesley Road Methodist Church	<b>Recommend: that the polling place and polling station for HL3 is changed to Wesley Road Methodist Church</b>



	Polling district	Description of area	Polling Station	Accessibility survey responses	(Acting) Returning Officer's representation	Summary of consultation response	Recommendations for Committee
9	HL3	Trowbridge (Trowbridge Lambrok Ward) Part 3	The Poplars Inn, Shop Lane, BA14 9LN	Accessible.	No Change	At a meeting of the Policy and resources Committee of Trowbridge Town Council on 3rd September 2019 it was RESOLVED: That voters in HL3 which is the part of the Broadmead estate which transferred from Wingfield to Trowbridge but is currently still in the Winsley and Westwood Division, but is expected to become part of the Trowbridge Lambrok Division, should have their polling station at Studley Green Community Centre and not at the Plough in Wingfield.	<b>Recommend: that the polling place and polling station for HL3 is changed to Studley Green Community Centre</b>
10	BF2	Landford Part 3	Nomansland Reading Room, North Lane, Nomansland, SP5 2BU	No wheelchair access.	Seek accessible alternative	The Parish Council is aware of Nomansland Reading Room restrictions and actions are planned in coming years to improve disabled access. In the meantime could Nomansland Methodist Chapel on Forest Road be approached as an alternative polling station, if needed.	<b>Recommend: the polling place is designated as the polling district. The (A)RO is requested to identify suitable venue within the polling district for the 2020 Polling District and polling place review.</b>
11	QF3	Chippenham (Cepen Park and Redlands) Part 3	Redlands School, Brook Street, SN14 0JE	Request for alternative to prevent disruption to school	To find suitable long term solution	Nineteen responses were received detailing the issues using this school presents to the community. Alternatives suggested: a) Scout Hut, Derriads Lane b) Audrey road scout hut, sir Audrey arms c) Barnardos Children's Centre Brook Street, Chippenham d) Chippenham Sports Club Church on woodlands road e) Chippenham evangelical church f) Ladyfield Evangelical Church g) a community hall h) Even putting a temporary building on the green outside Redland would be more suitable than closing the school i) The church on Hungerdown lane, the church on Woodlands rd. The Sir Audley Arms pub	<b>Recommend: the polling place is designated as the polling district. The (A)RO is requested to identify suitable venue for the polling district during the 2020 Polling District and polling place review.</b>
11	QF4	Chippenham (Cepen Park and Redlands) Part 4	Redlands School, Brook Street, SN14 0JE	Request for alternative to prevent disruption to school	To find suitable long term solution		
12	GB1	Monkton Farleigh	St Peters Church, The Street, Monkton Farleigh	No designated disabled parking.	No Change	Would like the village hall to be used	<b>Both venues are within the polling district and a very short distance of each other. Recommend: the polling place is designated as the polling district. The (A)RO is requested to identify suitable venue for the polling district during the 2020 Polling District and polling place review.</b>
13	QD3	Chippenham (Cepen Park and Derriads) Part 3	The Back Bar, The Pheasant, SN14 0AE	No level entrance.	Representation has been received asking to seek accessible alternative as electors have to go through a Public House	1) Previously at the Pheasant Pub there was separate Hall but for a number of years the polling station has been in a corner of the Bar and meant voters having to mix with clients. In my view this is not acceptable and would ask that a new location be provided. I hope that a review will incorporate this request to look at either possible locations or a mobile unit at Sainsburys car park or at other nearby locations. 2) Satisfied with arrangements at The Pheasant Pub.	<b>Recommend: the polling place is designated as the polling district. The (A)RO is requested to identify suitable venue for the polling district during the 2020 Polling District and polling place review.</b>
13	QD4	Chippenham (Cepen Park and Derriads) Part 4	The Back Bar, The Pheasant, SN14 0AE	No level entrance.	Representation has been received asking to seek accessible alternative as electors have to go through a Public House		

	Polling district	Description of area	Polling Station	Accessibility survey responses	(Acting) Returning Officer's representation	Summary of consultation response	Recommendations for Committee
14	DI	Wilton Part 1	Wilton Community Centre, West Street, SP2 0DJ	Accessible.	No Change	<p>One polling station for whole town, which is therefore congested. Wilton has three distinct areas of settlement –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the old Town,</li> <li>• Bulbridge to the South</li> <li>• the new development of 400 homes to the North at Wilton Hill (including Army veterans and elderly extra care units)</li> </ul> <p>Wilton Town Council would like to see a polling station at Bulbridge (the school was previously used) and at Wilton Hill (the new Veterans Unit may have suitable space).</p>	<b>Recommended: No change to current arrangements</b>
14	DP	Wilton Part 2	Wilton Community Centre, West Street, SP2 0DJ	Accessible.	No Change	<p>One polling station for whole town, which is therefore congested. Wilton has three distinct areas of settlement –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the old Town,</li> <li>• Bulbridge to the South</li> <li>• the new development of 400 homes to the North at Wilton Hill (including Army veterans and elderly extra care units)</li> </ul> <p>Wilton Town Council would like to see a polling station at Bulbridge (the school was previously used) and at Wilton Hill (the new Veterans Unit may have suitable space).</p>	<b>The use of schools as polling places can cause significant challenges for the school and families if separate accommodation cannot be provided for polling purposes. Recommended: the polling place is designated as the polling district. The (A)RO is requested to identify suitable venue within the polling district for the 2020 Polling District and polling place review.</b>
14	DQ	Wilton Part 3	Wilton Community Centre, West Street, SP2 0DJ	Accessible.	No Change	<p>One polling station for whole town, which is therefore congested. Wilton has three distinct areas of settlement –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the old Town,</li> <li>• Bulbridge to the South</li> <li>• the new development of 400 homes to the North at Wilton Hill (including Army veterans and elderly extra care units)</li> </ul> <p>Wilton Town Council would like to see a polling station at Bulbridge (the school was previously used) and at Wilton Hill (the new Veterans Unit may have suitable space).</p>	<b>Recommended: the polling place is designated as the polling district. The (A)RO is requested to identify suitable venue within the polling district for the 2020 Polling District and polling place review.</b>

## 23. Appendix B

The table contains the summary of positive responses to the current polling arrangements. The following four comments are highlighted to the Committee:

Polling Districts	Parish	Polling Station
<b>NY1</b>	Grittleton	Grittleton Village Hall, Grittleton, SN14 6AP
<b>Comment</b>		<b>Recommendation</b>
Village Hall committee have informed the Parish council that Disabled Parking signs have been purchased to designate an Accessible Parking Space.		No Change

Polling Districts	Parish	Polling Station
<b>PV1</b>	Royal Wootton Bassett (North Ward) Part 1	Lime Kiln Leisure Centre, Lime Kiln, SN4 7HG
<b>PV2</b>	Royal Wootton Bassett (North Ward) Part 2	Lime Kiln Leisure Centre, Lime Kiln, SN4 7HG
<b>PX1</b>	Royal Wootton Bassett (East Ward)	Lime Kiln Leisure Centre, Lime Kiln, SN4 7HG
<b>Comment</b>		<b>Recommendation</b>
Satisfied with the arrangements at Lime Kiln Leisure Centre. The main double door and internal double door are not wheelchair friendly. They open manually and should be either on automatic sensor or press button to open. Wheelchair bound people and people with pushchair won't be able to open the door at the same time pushing the wheelchair.		No Change

Polling Districts	Parish	Polling Station
<b>PU1</b>	Royal Wootton Bassett (South Ward) Part 1	Royal Wootton Bassett Memorial Hall, Station Road, SN4 8EN
<b>PU2</b>	Royal Wootton Bassett (South Ward) Part 2	Royal Wootton Bassett Memorial Hall, Station Road, SN4 8EN
<b>Comment</b>		<b>Recommendation</b>
Satisfied with RWB South - Memorial Hall. The internal double door is operated manually. People with pushchairs and wheelchair users will find it difficult to open door and push the chairs at the same time. The internal door should be operated with sensor or with push button to open it		No Change

Polling Districts	Parish	Polling Station
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Districts		
<b>HA3</b>	Trowbridge (Trowbridge Adcroft Ward) Part 3	St Thomas' Church Hall, St Thomas Road, Off Timbrell Street, BA14 8PT
<b>HA4</b>	Trowbridge (Trowbridge Adcroft Ward) Part 4	St Thomas' Church Hall, St Thomas Road, Off Timbrell Street, BA14 8PT
Comment		Recommendation
I want to make a general point about all Polling stations: They should provide simple but suitable arrangements for Tellers. Telling is a legitimate activity, but expecting Tellers (in many cases) to site outside a building is unreasonable. As our weather conditions become more extreme, expecting people to sit outside in very hot or very cold conditions is unreasonable. Buildings should have a suitable, entrance, lobby of separate room from the election room.		No Change

## 24. Appendix C

The table lists the polling district where an alternative is sought but the consultation provided no responses. The Committee recommended that the current arrangements remain in place with the caveats:

- for those venues without disabled access that enquiries are made into the feasibility of temporary measures to facilitate access, and
- the remaining venues are reviewed again during the 2020 Polling District and Polling Place Review

## 25. Appendix D

The table lists the polling arrangements in place where the ARO has recommended no change and there have been no responses to the contrary. The Committee recommended the current arrangements remain in place.

### **Role of Committee in Future Reviews**

26. Unlike an Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council which is undertaken by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, and unlike a Community Governance Review which is undertaken by Wiltshire Council and is a reserved responsibility of the Full Council to determine, a Polling District and Polling Place Review could be determined by the Electoral Review Committee if Full Council wished to delegate this responsibility.

27. At its meeting on 21 October 2019, and owing to the technical nature of the process and that, moving forward, it was intended to undertake annual reviews as a result of the establishment of the Committee by Full Council, the Electoral Review Committee resolved to recommend that it be provided authority from Full Council to determine any Polling District and Polling Place Review. The Terms of Reference of the Committee would be amended as detailed in **Appendix G**. All Unitary Members would continue to be kept informed of any review or proposed decisions.

### **Safeguarding Implications**

28. There are no safeguarding issues arising from this report.

### **Equalities Impact of the Proposal**

29. There are no equalities impacts arising from this report.

### **Risk Assessment**

30. There are no risk issues arising from this report.

### **Financial Implications**

31. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### **Legal Implications**

32. The recommendations in this report are consistent with the council's duties under relevant legislation.

### **Public Health Impact of the Proposals**

33. There are no public health impacts arising from this report.

### **Environmental Impact of the Proposals**

34. There are no environmental impacts arising from this report.

### **Proposal**

35. The Committee is asked to:

36. That Full Council approve the recommendations from the Electoral Review Committee for adjustments to polling stations, polling places and polling districts as set out in the Appendices to the report.

37. That Full Council approve the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference of the Electoral Review Committee to delegate approval of future Polling District and Polling Place Reviews to the Committee as detailed at **Appendix G**.

### **Ian Gibbons, Director of Legal, Electoral and Registration Services (and Monitoring Officer)**

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Report Author: Maggie Mulhall, [maggie.mulhall@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:maggie.mulhall@wiltshire.gov.uk)

### **Appendices**

Appendix A – Consultation responses – actions for consideration

Appendix B – Consultation responses – no action

Appendix C – Alternative sought – no responses

Appendix D – No Change – no responses

Appendix E – Electoral Commission; Guidance on the review of polling districts and

polling places

Appendix F – Maps

Appendix G – Terms of Reference amendment