

Polling Districts and Polling Places Review 2023
Public Consultation 31 July – 15 Sept 2023 - Representations Received

Ward	Representation Received	From	RO's Response
Barnet Vale	No representations received.	N/A	N/A
Brunswick Park	<i>Currently no change is required but officers should be aware that following the development of the site of the former North London Business Park, there is likely to be demand for an additional polling place in future.</i>	Barnet Labour Group	This representation is noted for reference at future Polling District and Polling Place (PDPP) reviews.
Burnt Oak	<p><i>Burnt Oak Ward has always had very low turnout numbers so it would help increase voting if there were six polling districts rather than the current five. This could be done by using Burnt Oak Leisure Centre as a new polling station and redrawing the boundaries of BOA and BOD polling districts to create a new sixth Polling district centred on the leisure centre.</i></p> <p><i>The current polling station for the BOB Polling District, Edgware Methodist Church, is at the north of the district and is not centrally located. This means many voters in the south of the polling district have a long walk to and from the polling station. It would be better to move the Polling station to either the Sangam Centre or North Road community centre, both of which are much more centrally located in the BOB polling district.</i></p>	RR (Ward Resident)	Following assessment visits to Burnt Oak Leisure Centre, North Road Community Centre and the Sangam Centre, a new proposal for the polling districts and polling places within Burnt Oak ward has been created for this review. The proposal creates a new polling district with Burnt Oak Leisure Centre as its polling place. In addition, the polling place in the BOB polling district is proposed to move to North Road Community Centre.
Burnt Oak	<p><i>I believe existing polling places are not located appropriately in order to be as accessible as possible to most electors in the ward.</i></p> <p><i>I would suggest the following locations as more geographically central locations, and therefore more suitable.</i></p> <p><i>Burnt Oak ward has always had very low turnout numbers. I believe it would therefore help increase voting if there were six polling districts rather than the current five.</i></p> <p><i>This could be easily done by using Burnt Oak Leisure Centre as a new polling station and redrawing the boundaries of BOA and BOD polling districts to create a new sixth polling district centred on the leisure centre.</i></p> <p><i>The current polling station for the BOB polling district, Edgware Methodist Church, is at the north of the district and is not centrally located. This means many voters in the south of the polling district have a long walk to and from the polling station. Coverage of public transport is not sufficient enough to mitigate this distance.</i></p> <p><i>It would be better to move the BOB district polling station to either the Sangam Centre or North Road community centre, both of which are much more centrally located in the BOB polling district.</i></p>	RJ (Ward Resident)	

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<p>Burnt Oak</p>	<p><i>I am writing this email to ask you additional polling district and some important changes to the previous polling districts. The additional polling district and the important changes of polling districts will make voters more convenient and encourage them to cast their votes.</i></p> <p><i>My proposals for Burnt Oak Ward are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Burnt Oak Ward has always had very low turnout numbers so it would help increase voting if there were six polling districts rather than the current five. This could be easily done by using Burnt Oak Leisure Centre as a new polling station and redrawing the boundaries of BOA and BOD polling districts to create a new sixth Polling district centred on the leisure centre.</i> • <i>The current polling station for the BOB Polling District, Edgware Methodist Church, is at the north of the district and is not centrally located. This means many voters in the south of the polling district have a long walk to and from the polling station. It would be better to move the Polling station to either the Sangam Centre or North Road community centre, both of which are much more centrally located in the BOB polling district.</i> 	<p>Kamal Gurung (Ward Councillor)</p>	<p>See RO's response above.</p>
<p>Burnt Oak</p>	<p><i>Burnt Oak Ward proposals</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The current polling station for the BOB Polling District, Edgware Methodist Church, is at the north of the district and is not centrally located. This means many voters in the south of the polling district have a long walk to and from the polling station. It would be better to move the Polling station to either the Sangam Centre or North Road Community Centre, both of which are much more centrally located in the BOB polling district.</i> • <i>Burnt Oak Ward has always had very low turnout numbers, so it would help increase voting if there were six polling districts rather than the current five. This could be easily done by using Burnt Oak Leisure Centre as a new polling station and redrawing the boundaries of BOA and BOD polling districts to create a new sixth Polling district centred on the leisure centre.</i> <p><i>I have attached a map to show my proposed changes visually.</i></p> <p><i>Along with the specific changes I have recommended for Burnt Oak Ward I also believe that there should be some general principles and assumptions that should guide the review across the whole of Barnet:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The main objective of the proposed changes to location and number of polling stations is to increase the number of residents who actually vote, especially in those Wards which have historically had very low and below average voting numbers.</i> 2. <i>Many elderly people and residents with disabilities still prefer to vote in person on the day. It should be assumed that they can walk at no more than two miles per hour and, ideally, no voter should need to take no more than fifteen minutes to walk to a polling station.</i> 3. <i>Polling stations should be as central as possible to the voting population in the Polling District.</i> 4. <i>Where possible parking should be available in close proximity to the Polling Station.</i> 	<p>MB (Ward Resident)</p>	

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Burnt Oak	<i>Burnt Oak is a geographically large ward with low turnout so increasing the number of polling places may address this. BOA and BOD districts could be redrawn to create a new polling district with the Burnt Oak Leisure Centre as its polling place. The Sangam Centre and the North Road Community Centre are more centrally located than BOB's current polling place, Edgware Methodist Church, and so such a replacement should be considered.</i>	Barnet Labour Group	See RO's response above.
Childs Hill	<i>Please can we consider moving the polling station from the Greek Orthodox Church Hall to the Chabad centre in what was previously part of Golders Green Library as that will eliminate the problem of those uncomfortable with the hall.</i>	Peter Zinkin (Ward Councillor)	Following an assessment visit to the Golders Green Chabad, the RO is proposing that the polling place for the CHA polling district is moved there from the Greek Orthodox Church Hall.
Colindale North	<i>In my role, I have seen first-hand the challenges the ward faces of low voter turnout. At the last local election, only 25% of eligible electors voted, the lowest turnout of any ward in Barnet. This problem of low turnout has been exacerbated by the lack of easy access to polling stations. Colindale North only has three polling stations and one of them are located at the edge of the community, in Colindale Library. This leaves many residents facing a long walk to get to the polling station. A number of pockets of the community-like those on Field Mead, Rivington or Kenley are particularly poorly served. The locations of the polling stations are also difficult to park near. To help address low turnout, Colindale North needs more polling stations. We need at least four and potentially five. At a minimum, on top of the current polling stations, we should add an extra polling station at St Margaret's and recut the polling districts accordingly. It would also be worth exploring setting up a fifth station at the Orion School to make it easier for people in the north of the ward to vote. But more polling stations are needed as a matter of urgency to reduce barriers to voting,</i>	Andreas Ioannidis (Ward Councillor)	Upon making contact with St Margaret's Church, they have informed us that they are not available to be used as a polling station. An assessment visit was made to Orion Primary School (which is actually located in the Burnt Oak ward) but it is clear that the school would have to close for polling as there were no areas identified that could be used whilst the school remained open to pupils. As assessment visit was made to Blessed Dominic Primary School and although it would be possible to use the Nursery classroom (which has its own separate and secure entrance) as a polling station, it is only a little closer than the Grahame Park Community Centre for approx. 640 electors. Saracens School have responded to correspondence by saying that they could not stay open if used for polling and that for most elections, there would
Colindale North	<i>Currently, the ward is fairly ill-served for polling places, and we only have three polling districts - one at St Augustine's Church, one at Grahame Park Community Centre, and one at Colindale Library. Colindale North currently has one of the lowest turnouts at elections in Barnet, and it is important to ensure the ward is adequately served by polling places to encourage better turnout. Furthermore, the population of Colindale North - already dense - is set to increase significantly with the regeneration of Grahame Park, and three polling districts will not be sufficient. I would suggest increasing districts by at least two. Additional polling places could be at St Margaret's Catholic Church and Blessed Dominic/ St James or Saracens Schools, to support the increase in population brought about by the development at Trinity Square and the upcoming development at Grahame Park Plot A (Heybourne Park).</i>	CD (Ward Resident)	

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Colindale North	<p>Colindale for its size is massively underserved by polling stations. Also, the current polling station locations fail to recognise significant changes in the area and significant new developments. As a result, turnouts in Colindale are not just the lowest in Barnet, but among the lowest in London. I am writing to ask for changes to polling stations in both wards covering Colindale</p> <p>Colindale North Ward proposals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colindale North Ward centres on Grahame Park and has been one of the lowest turnout Wards in Barnet and also in London. Many people face long walks to their polling stations that discourage voting. An increase in the number of Polling Districts and Stations could help increase the opportunity to vote in very low turnout Ward where many voters feel disenfranchised. At the very least, the number of Polling Stations should be increased from three to four and ideally to five to support efforts to improve participation. An additional polling district could be created centred on a new Polling station at St Margaret's Church and other Polling Districts could be redrawn to make each polling station more accessible in Grahame Park. 	NC (Resident of Colindale South ward)	<p>be extreme disruption upon the school within their critical exams period.</p> <p>The RO does not propose any changes to polling arrangements in Colindale North. Whilst future improvements are actively sought, none of the proposals received for changes to the polling districts or polling places within the ward are considered to offer any significant benefits over those currently in use.</p>
Colindale North	<p>Colindale North Ward centres on Grahame Park and has been one of the lowest turnout wards in Barnet and in London. An increase in the number of polling districts and places could help boost turnout. Potential new polling places, thereby generating new polling districts, could be located at St Margaret Church and Orion School.</p>	Barnet Labour Group	
Colindale South	<p>In 2002 Colindale lost some of Booth Rd and the former 'MOD' housing to Burnt Oak. The PD covering the remaining Colindale Avenue (PA) area was merged with the larger PB polling district - more recently this was designated HSC and had but one polling place.</p> <p>The formation of CSB for 2022 (and its Polling Place) was therefore an improvement, given a large number of residents in the Pulse and Edition developments.</p> <p>However the boundary between CSB and CSC is somewhat bizarre . This is because the boundary is in the middle of the road between Annesley Avenue/Cecil Road and the Edgware Road but behind the properties to the south of Colindale Avenue for the rest of the road. From memory Cecil Road (a cul de sac) was in the old PA. Making the boundary a line behind all the properties to the south of Colindale Avenue would mean all residents would go to the same Polling Place. I estimate this would be nearer for Cecil Road residents and mean they would not be tempted to go via the footpath that leads to Colindeep Lane. There is no clear line of vision on the path.</p> <p>CSC is a very large polling district. I would estimate that it needs a 15 minute walk from the end of Colin Drive, for example. CSC needs to be divided so that there is an extra polling place convenient for the residents in the southern area . (see below)</p> <p>CSA is already very populous and new building will make its electorate much greater. An obvious boundary between a CSA (North) and CSA (South) would be Aerodrome Road.</p> <p>3. Polling Places: I would suggest the following:</p> <p>(a) CSA (North) :Estate Office for Beaufort Park-this has been used before 2022.</p>	DB (Ward Resident)	<p>Following assessment visits to a number of venues across Colindale South ward, the RO is proposing new polling arrangements for the ward. This new proposal will introduce a new polling district, that will take a large portion of the current CSC polling district and use St Matthias Church Hall as its polling place.</p> <p>In addition the RO proposes to move the CSB polling place from the Pulse Community Flat to the 'Hybrid Meeting Room' venue at 4 Chronicle Avenue (just off Colindale Avenue).</p>

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	<p><i>(b) CSA (South) : Management office on Lismore Boulevard. (Other sites might emerge when building complete).</i></p> <p><i>(c) CSB : The existing Polling Place is reasonably convenient ,although 'off centre'. (Historically the old PA polling district used ,firstly, a community room and then a 'Terrapin' at Silk House)</i></p> <p><i>(d) CSC (existing) ; This is reasonably convenient but (understandable) double yellow lines in the cul de sac of Colin Close must make this difficult for anybody bringing those with mobility issues to the polling place.</i></p> <p><i>(e) CSC (Proposed) : St Mathias' Church Hall could offer a venue for a polling place for residents in roads such as Colin Drive, Colin Gardens, Colin Crescent, Crossway, Rushgrove Avenue, Silkfield Road and Hillfield Avenue. At a guestimate there are 600 houses in these roads so,perhaps , 1000 electors. No doubt there are smaller Polling Districts in Barnet-and elsewhere .I think the hall is accessible.</i></p>		<p>Other than the ground floor site at the Council Offices (trading as ITJL Café), there are currently no sites identified that have agreed to be available for use as polling places within the whole of the CSA polling district.</p> <p>At present, the Estate Management Office Suite in Beaufort Park (previously used as a polling place for elections up to 2019) remains unavailable for use. Should this site become available, it would be adopted as the preferred polling venue for Beaufort Park.</p>
<p>Colindale South</p>	<p><i>The population of Colindale has grown rapidly in recent years and centres of population in the wards have shifted somewhat. More polling stations that are more conveniently located would increase turnout and participation, which can only be a good thing.</i></p> <p><i>The polling station currently in Pulse Community Management Suite could be moved to a more central and accessible location like the Chandos Arms or perhaps the new Jain temple which will soon be completed. Both are on Colindale Avenue and are easily found. Moving all of Colindale Avenue into the same polling district (CSB?) would also make sense.</i></p> <p><i>In the west and south, many residents have to walk a long way from the Rushgrove Park area up to the polling station at the United Reformed Church Hall on Colin Close. Splitting this district in two, with a new polling station (St Mathias Church?) for the southern district would be helpful.</i></p> <p><i>A new polling district/station in Colindale Gardens would be helpful, given the substantial numbers of new residents there. I know people who live in this development and many of them don't like to move about the development on foot if they can avoid it, especially after dark. The same for Beaufort Park could also be useful.</i></p> <p><i>I'm also told that more polling stations in Grahame Park are needed. Again, many residents have to walk a long way to current locations.</i></p> <p><i>I do hope you can give the above points some consideration. All the best with the consultation.</i></p>	<p>ET (Ward Resident)</p>	<p>There is ongoing correspondence with the Estate Manager for the Colindale Gardens development, and it is hoped that the Colindale Gardens Function Room might be made available for use as a polling place. If so, this would allow a new polling district to be created to cover all of Colindale Gardens.</p>
<p>Colindale South</p>	<p><i>I very much appreciate the neighbourhood I live in, which is generally young (I am one of the older residents). The area around me is characterised by new developments which attract young people. Some are leasehold, some for rent. But, generally, the population is relatively new reflecting the age of the developments with some buildings still being constructed.</i></p> <p><i>At the risk of generalising, I find they are young enough and under economic pressure enough not to have become habitual voters. The pressures they are under, with high housing costs and an ongoing cost of living crisis, mean that they often have not had the presence of mind or foresight to have opted for postal votes. This does not mean they are not interested in voting, but it does mean</i></p>	<p>IR (Ward Resident)</p>	

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	<p><i>that obstacles in their way to voting on the day would have a disproportionately damaging effect on their propensity to vote.</i></p> <p><i>I am aware of suggestions that others are making for changed arrangements that would help encourage residents in these wards to vote. I am not close enough to the details to be able to comment authoritatively on the specific advantages of different arrangements. I would however urge you to consider alternatives seriously. I am concerned that this vibrant community may be underrepresented in the next general election, with the scope for both an unfair outcome and for longer term damage to the future participation of these deserving people in our democracy.</i></p>		See RO's response above.
Colindale South	<p><i>I write as a Colindale Gardens Resident.</i></p> <p><i>Colindale for its size is massively underserved by polling stations. Also, the current polling station locations fail to recognise significant changes in the area and significant new developments. As a result, turnouts in Colindale are not just the lowest in Barnet, but among the lowest in London. I am writing to ask for changes to polling stations in both wards covering Colindale</i></p> <p><i>Colindale South Ward proposals</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Colindale South is one of the fastest growing Wards in Barnet and also in London. The current spilt of the Ward into three polling districts and the poor location of each of the polling stations means many residents have long walks to vote. The current location and number of polling stations also fails to take into account how the geography of the ward has changed with a significant population now living in new developments in Colindale Gardens and Beaufort Park. As a result, turnouts are amongst the lowest in Barnet. To address this, Polling Districts should be redrawn and the number of Polling Stations increased from three to at least five.</i> <i>• In the CSB Polling District the Polling Station could be moved from Pulse Community management suite to a more central and accessible location like the Chandos Arms or perhaps the new Jain temple which will soon be completed. Both are on Colindale Avenue and are easily found. It would also help to redraw the CSB boundaries to include all of Colindale Avenue.</i> <i>• The CSC polling district is one of the largest in Barnet with long walks for residents from Colin Crecent or Colin Drive. It should be split into two. The Southern part of the CSC should be formed into a new Polling District with a Polling Station at St Mathias Church. Whilst it is in West Hendon Ward, St Mathias is right on the Ward Boundary with Colindale South and much nearer to many Colindale South residents than the current polling station. An added benefit would also be to use St Mathias as a new polling station in West Hendon and thereby reduce the number of residents needing to cross the busy A5 arterial road to vote as they have to do currently. The Northern areas of CSC should be included in a smaller Polling District with the polling station continuing to be at the United Reform Church Hall on Colin Close</i> <i>• The current location of the CSA polling station at Barnet Council offices right on the edge of the Polling District is clearly out of date with the rapidly expanding population of Beaufort Park and</i> 	NC (Ward Resident)	

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	<p><i>Colindale Gardens (where I live) at the other end of the Polling District. It should similarly be split in two. In the Southern half of the Polling District, a new Polling District for Colindale Gardens should be established with the Polling Station centrally located at the development's management suite. In the Northern half of CSA, a new smaller Polling District should be formed with its Polling Station moved from the Barnet Council offices, which are at the very northern tip of the Polling District to the Beaufort Park management suite where it would be much more centrally located and more easily accessible.</i></p>		See RO's response above.
Colindale South	<p><i>Please see below the response from Bina Omare to [Electoral Services Officer's] email regarding the Pulse flat. Hopefully, there is an alternative you have been considering already, if not Would you consider the Montrose Park hub as an alternative as it is at the bottom of Pulse. +++++ Dear Councillors Just for info in standard polling email we receive. Pulse is not appropriate as too small and we had damage of items last time.</i></p>	<p>Humayune Khalick (Ward Councillor) and Bina Omare (CEO Colindale Communities Trust)</p>	
Colindale South	<p><i>Colindale South is one of the fastest growing but lowest turnout wards in Barnet. The CSB polling place could be moved from Pulse Community management suite to a more central and accessible location like the new Jain temple which will soon be completed on Colindale Avenue. It would also help to redraw the CSB boundaries to include all of Colindale Avenue. The CSC polling district is one of the largest in Barnet with long walks for residents from Colin Crecent or Colin Drive. It should be split into two. The southern part of the CSC should be formed into a new polling district with a polling place at St Mathias Church. While it is in West Hendon Ward, St Mathias is right on the Ward Boundary with Colindale South and much nearer to many Colindale South residents that the current polling place. St Mathias is currently the Colindale. The northern areas of CSC should be included in a smaller polling district with the polling place continuing to be at the United Reform Church Hall on Colin Close. The current location of the CSA polling place at Barnet Council offices right on the edge of the polling district is clearly out of date with the rapidly expanding population of Beaufort Park and Colindale Gardens at the other end of the polling district. It should similarly be split in two. In the southern half of the polling district, a new polling district for Colindale Gardens should be established with the polling place centrally located at the development's management suite or in one of the communal facilities that several of the blocks within Colindale Gardens hosts. In the northern half of CSA, a new smaller polling district serving Beaufort Park should be formed with its polling place moved from the Barnet Council offices, which are at the very northern tip of the polling district to the Beaufort Park management suite where it would be much more centrally located and more easily accessible.</i></p>	<p>Barnet Labour Group</p>	

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Cricklewood	<i>There is currently a challenge to provide an accessible polling place in the southern part of the ward. Polling places and districts in the north of the ward need to be drawn up with regard to how ongoing Brent Cross South works may affect accessibility.</i>	Barnet Labour Group	This representation is noted for reference at future PDPP reviews.
East Barnet	No representations received.	N/A	N/A
East Finchley	<i>Steep steps at St Mary's Church Hall are a concern.</i>	Barnet Labour Group	Following the May 2022 elections, St Mary's Church informed Electoral Services that it was no longer available to be used for polling. The RO proposes to move the polling place for EFB polling district to Martin Primary School (which has an available out-building and does not need to close on polling days).
Edgware	No representations received.	N/A	N/A
Edgwarebury	<i>Re the polling stations suggestions - Can I suggest in the Edgwarebury Ward the following locations are considered: Mobray House - corner of Broadfields Ave / Edgware Way. Tashbar School - Mobray Road. Rosh Pinah Primary School - Glengall Road.</i>	Shuey Gordon (Edgware Ward Councillor)	
Edgwarebury	<i>I am writing on behalf of Cllrs L Gurung and S Wardle regarding the moving of the polling station at St Andrew's Church to any of the below venues: Mobray House - corner of Broadfields Ave / Edgware Way. Tashbar School - Mobray Road. Rosh Pinah Primary School - Glengall Road. Throughout the local election, we had residents saying that they were unwilling to go to that polling district because of religious reasons, especially the religious iconography within it. This, as I'm sure you can understand, disenfranchised a particular set of residents and we would like to request that this polling station be moved from St Andrews to the above schools or any neutral facilities in lieu of the ones above.</i>	Lachhya Gurung (Ward Councillor)	The RO has produced a proposal for Edgwarebury ward that moves the polling place in an amended EWD polling district, to Rosh Pinah Primary School. Although the school has indicated that it will need to close on polling days, evidence from the Local Government elections in May 2022 suggests that this

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Edgwarebury	<p><i>Further to Cllr Gordon's suggestions, I would like to reiterate the rationale for this request is so that the council prevents what I believe to be unintentional religious discrimination.</i></p> <p><i>Offering a polling venue that certain religious communities cannot enter is unacceptable. Offering stewards outside to fetch ballot papers is not ideal in inclement weather and the mitigation is difficult to communicate in advance. A church being listed on the polling card is enough to prevent many from bothering.</i></p> <p><i>This is only an issue in small pockets of the borough, I'm sure it is not beyond the capabilities of the council to resolve this issue for good, if it really wanted to.</i></p>	Daniel Thomas (Finchley Church End Ward Councillor)	<p>venue will better serve the needs of the local electorate.</p> <p>To accommodate the new polling place, the boundaries of the adjacent polling districts (EWA and EWE) have been amended to improve accessibility to polling stations for electors across all three districts.</p>
Edgwarebury	<p><i>I am making the following representation as a local resident of the Edgwarebury ward.</i></p> <p><i>As a 2 member ward, I do not believe that the Edgwarebury ward requires 5 polling districts. The ward is relatively geographically compact, West of the A1, as compared to other 2 member wards with the same number of polling districts. The costs involved in the provision of 3 polling places in the western part of the ward are untenable.</i></p> <p><i>My submission would be to extend the EWE polling district westward to Broadfields Avenue, and extend the EWA polling district southward to the ward boundary, thereby abolishing the EWD polling district. St Andrew's Church Hall would no longer be required to serve as a polling place. Whether a portion of the current EWA polling district ought to be included within EWE, for the purposes of equalising the resultant electorates of the 2 extended polling districts, I leave as a matter for determination by the ERO.</i></p>	Ammar Naqvi (Burnt Oak Ward Councillor)	
Finchley Church End	<p><i>I am happy with the Polling Station locations in the Polling Districts.</i></p> <p><i>For those voters who may not wish or be unhappy to attend inside a particular Faith building, what provision will be made for them to cast their vote?</i></p> <p><i>As some Polling Stations across the Borough will be near to CPZs, might provision be made via the relevant Council section to allow on Polling day only, a free parking opportunity for those who may need to utilise a motor vehicle. Just a thought as most PS are not centralised to PDs but are indeed very well known and identifiable.</i></p>	Jennifer Grocock (Ward Councillor)	<p>Electoral legislation already outlines the specific options available to electors that cannot or do not wish to attend a polling station.</p> <p>In addition additional staff are deployed at those polling stations where it is anticipated that a greater number of ballot papers may need to be taken to electors outside the polling station that are unable to enter the premises.</p> <p>The issue of CPZs is a question for the council and not the Returning officer and as such cannot be answered here.</p>
Friern Barnet	No representations received.	N/A	N/A
Garden Suburb	No representations received.	N/A	N/A

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Golders Green	No representations received.	N/A	The RO is proposing to change the polling place for GGB polling district and to amend the polling district boundaries within the ward. Following a representation from the Ward councillors made following the May 2022 elections, a number of assessment visits were conducted to potential polling venues across the ward. From these visits, the Jewish Family Centre at 2 Georges Road was identified as a better located polling location than the church hall of St Edwards the Confessor and allows for the polling districts to be better spread across the ward.
Hendon	<p><i>On behalf of the three Hendon ward councillors can we please suggest the following adjustments?</i></p> <p>HEC- <i>The current polling station is Hendon Baptist Church. We have received a significant number of complaints from residents that they were deterred from voting due to the location of the polling station on church grounds. We are concerned by perceived religious discrimination, and the deterrent to some religious communities of voting. This issue is particularly prevalent in a small number of wards across Barnet, with Hendon being one of them.</i></p> <p>HED- <i>The current polling station is Our Lady of Doloures Church. Due to the reasons outlined above, we wanted to suggest the erection of a marquee on the council's car park opposite the Town Hall or any other provision, similar to the one in Princes Park (Golders Green ward).</i></p> <p>HEE- <i>The current polling station is Hendon School (Green Lane entrance). Due to the expansion of this polling district following the ward boundary changes, the polling station is considerably further from residents in the former West Hendon area of this PD. Hasmonean Primary School had historically (for many decades) been used as a polling station for this PD but as of May 2022 was not used. We wanted to explore once again the option of using Hasmonean Primary School as a polling station it is a far more central location in the PD and parking provisions are significantly better than Hendon School.</i></p>	Alex Prager (Ward Councillor)	<p>Unfortunately, no alternative polling place has been identified or proposed within HEC.</p> <p>The RO proposes to amend the HED polling district boundaries so that it encompasses Hendon Library. It is then proposed that Hendon Library replaces Our Lady of Doloures as the polling place for HED.</p> <p>Whilst Hasmonean Primary School is closer to some electors within HEE, it is clear that the school has to close on polling days and the RO does not feel that this is proportionate, given that Hendon School is able to remain open to all pupils when being used as a polling place.</p>
High Barnet	<i>Barnet Labour group supports the arrangements for High Barnet as it voted for at the January 2022 Full Council for reasons of road safety.</i>	Barnet Labour Group	Data from the May 2022 local elections showed that HBD polling district (polling place at St Peter's Church Hall) had significantly lower turnout than the rest of the High Barnet ward. The RO

Ward	Representation Received	From	RO's Response
			therefore proposes to amend the polling districts within High Barnet ward and to move the polling place from St Peter's Church Hall to Whittings Hill School within the new boundaries of the HBD polling district.
Mill Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mill Hill is a geographically large and sprawling ward with clusters of residential streets separated by large areas of green belt. MHC and MHD polling districts have polling stations almost opposite each other on Pursley Road, a closeness that means many voters in both Polling Districts have long walks to vote. This makes it particularly hard for elderly people, or people with mobility restrictions to vote. • To address this issue, MHC and MHD should be reconstituted as three new Polling Districts with new boundaries. The creation of a fifth polling district at the Virgin Gym and a redrawing of MHC and MHD boundaries could significantly reduce the time taken by many residents to vote. In particular it would help the many elderly residents who live in sheltered housing and some in care homes to vote in person. The new Districts should be as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A reduced MHC, consisting of all roads in the current MHC to the East of Featherstone Road, with its Polling Station remaining at Mill Hill East Church b. A reduced MHD, consisting of all roads to the East of Grant's Close and the start of Devonshire Road with a Polling Station at the Virgin Gym c. A new Polling District, comprising the western ends of both MHC and MHD centred around Page Street, with its Polling Station at either Mill Hill Rugby Club or the Hampstead Football club site. Both are on Page Street and much closer to residential roads than the current polling station. 	NP (Ward Resident)	Following contact with the venues put forward within the representations received and assessment visits to Mill Hill Rugby Club (on Champions Way), the RO proposes to amend the polling district layout across the ward and to introduce Mill Hill Rugby Club as a polling place in the SW area of the ward. This improves the closeness to their polling station for approx. 2,300 electors in the ward.
Mill Hill	<p>Not everyone in Mill Hill has a car, so distance quite important, especially for the more elderly. So I hope you can increase the number of polling stations and spread them out. As you know, Mill Hill is a large area, and we are lucky to have chunks of greenery as well as suburban roads.</p> <p>My Suggestions are:</p> <p>Polling districts MHC and MHD have polling stations almost opposite each other on Pursley Road, a closeness that means many voters in both Polling Districts have long walks to vote. Spreading them out would make sense. My suggestion would be that MHC and MHD should be reconstituted as three new Polling Districts with new boundaries. The creation of a fifth polling district at the Virgin Gym and a redrawing of MHC and MHD boundaries could significantly reduce the time taken by many residents to get to their polling station and vote.</p>	JG (Ward Resident)	The Virgin Gym has declined to be used as a polling venue.
Mill Hill	I have been living and working in Mill Hill [redacted] for over 50 years and been happy and fortunate to have a polling station within easy walking distance of my home.	IB (Ward resident)	

Ward	Representation Received	From	RO's Response
	<p><i>I believe this is not the case for all residents of Mill Hill as it is spread over a large area. As I get older I appreciate how important it is to have a polling station within fairly easy reach and would like to add my support to the ideas you are receiving about changes to the boundaries and one additional polling station to make it easier for all residents to vote in person.</i></p>		
<p>Mill Hill</p>	<p><i>Mill Hill is large with clusters of residential streets separated by large areas of green belt. MHC and MHD polling districts have polling places almost opposite each other on Pursley Road, a closeness that means many voters in both polling districts have long walks to vote.</i></p> <p><i>To address this issue, MHC and MHD should be reconstituted as three new polling districts with new boundaries. The creation of a fifth polling district with a polling place at the Virgin Gym and a redrawing of MHC and MHD boundaries could significantly reduce the distance many residents have to travel to vote. In particular, it would help the many elderly residents who live in sheltered housing and some in care homes to vote in person.</i></p> <p><i>The new districts should be as follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>d. A reduced MHC, consisting of all roads in the current MHC to the East of Featherstone Road, with its polling place remaining at Mill Hill East Church</i> <i>e. A reduced MHD, consisting of all roads to the East of Grant's Close and the start of Devonshire Road with a polling place at the Virgin Gym</i> <i>f. A new polling district, comprising the western ends of both MHC and MHD centred around Page Street, with its polling place at either Mill Hill Rugby Club or the Hampstead Football club site (or indeed at Copthall School). All are on Page Street and much closer to residential roads than the current polling place.</i> 	<p>Barnet Labour Group</p>	<p>See RO's response above.</p>
<p>Totteridge and Woodside</p>	<p>No representations received.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Underhill</p>	<p>No representations received.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>West Finchley</p>	<p>No representations received.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>West Hendon</p>	<p><i>I write as a resident of Hendon. I am disabled which makes me aware that easy travel to a polling station is for many a vote-or-not issue. Another access deterrent is that the area is split by major transport routes. And there is the new obstacle - which I hope this process will take into account - that voting will only be allowed with ID.</i></p> <p><i>For all these reasons I urge that polling stations are sited as conveniently and frequently as possible. An additional station at St Matthias' Church, Rushgrove Avenue, would help residents in both Colindale and West Hendon. Another at the Waterside Community Centre or St Patrick's, West Hendon Broadway, would save residents from having to cross the A5 to vote.</i></p> <p><i>I hope everything possible will be done to allow as many as possible to vote.</i></p>	<p>CR (Ward Resident)</p>	<p>Following correspondence with the Community Hub at West Hendon, it is proposed for use as a polling place. A new polling district is proposed to cover the area to the west of the A5 and the</p>

Ward	Representation Received	From	RO's Response
West Hendon	<p><i>I am increasingly concerned about the lack of a polling station that can be reached easily by voters. I am a resident of West Hendon and I am increasingly concerned about the difficulty the A5, a very busy major road, poses to would-be voters.</i></p> <p><i>I am advised that there are two or more possible options for new polling stations in West Hendon: St Matthias Church, St Patrick's Church. and the Community Space in West Hendon Waterside. This strikes me as being an eminently sensible idea reducing the need to cross a dangerous, traffic-logged road to get to a polling station, particularly if it is after work and in the dark and possibly wintry conditions.</i></p> <p><i>I do urge you to consider these options.</i></p>	SR (Ward Resident)	<p>West Hendon Waterside development area.</p> <p>In addition, the RO proposes St Matthias Church Hall as a polling station in a new polling district in the northwest area of the borough (to the east of the A5). Whilst this would become the polling place for only approx. 500 electors in West Hendon, it will save potential elector confusion, due to the RO proposal that St Matthias Church Hall becomes a polling station for electors in Colindale South ward.</p>
West Hendon	<p><i>West Hendon is split in two by the A5, a major arterial road. To reduce the potential for traffic incidents, the WHA polling district could be split by residents east of the A5 using St Mathias's Church. The Church's proximity to the polling district boundary means it could then also be used by Colindale South residents for a new polling district in that Ward as well.</i></p> <p><i>Residents of WHA west of the A5 should continue to use the Children's Centre at Hyde School as their polling place.</i></p> <p><i>To ensure the WHB polling place which is currently at the extreme east end of the polling district is equidistant to all voters in the district, St Patrick's church nursery (or other locations such as the Community Space in Hendon Waterside,) could be used for all residents in WHB polling district as this will be equidistant. It currently takes about 20 minutes from the west end of WHB to the polling place at the West Hendon Baptist Church Because of the continued build of the West Hendon development there is likely to be considerably more new voters in this part of the polling district. This would be a more central polling place even for WHB residents east of the A5.</i></p>	Barnet Labour Group	<p>Given the specific geography of the ward boundaries between Colindale South and West Hendon, this is considered the most appropriate set of polling arrangements to serve electors in this specific part of West Hendon ward.</p>
West Hendon	<p><i>We live on [Redacted] which is at the west end of our Polling Distict WHB. The current Polling Station at the West Hendon Baptist Church is a long walk from us and most elderly residents in this area complain about the distance discouraging them from voting.</i></p> <p><i>Most of our neighbours complain that the polling station should be closer. Somewhere around the St Patrick's Church or the Community hub in West Hendon will be a more central location for all voters in this Polling District. It will also prevent elderly residents having to cross the A5 West Hendon Broadway and climb the Station Road Hill unnecessarily.</i></p> <p><i>We hope you give our proposal due consideration.</i></p>	JB & JB (Ward Residents)	
West Hendon	<p><i>I write on behalf of Cllr Bilbow and I.</i></p> <p><i>We would like to make proposals for Polling Stations in parts of West Hendon. Having studied the current proposal and spoken extensively with residents, community groups and community leaders we propose the following based on what we have heard on the ground:</i></p> <p>Polling District (PD) WHA</p> <p><i>This PD is divided into two by the A5 road. The area west of the A5 in this PD where the Polling Station (PS) is currently located at the Hyde Childrens Centre is has got the most electors in this PD.</i></p>	Ernest Ambe (Ward Councillor)	

Ward	Representation Received	From	RO's Response
	<p><i>Residents east of the A5 have complained about the distance to this PS and the challenges many elderly and disabled residents encountered in May 2022 crossing the A5 to go vote. They found the location of this PS not ideal and hence many decided not to vote.</i></p> <p><i>To solve this problem, another PS could be created at St Matthias Church which is in the PD. This new PS in St Matthias Church could also serve as a PS for Colindale South residents as St Matthias is the Colindale Parish Church.</i></p> <p>Polling District PD (WHB)</p> <p><i>This PD is again divided into two by the A5 road. The area west of the A5 in the PD has significantly more voters. The current PS is at West Hendon Baptist Church at the eastern end of the PD. The PS is therefore not equidistant to all voters in the PD. Residents from roads such as Woolmead Avenue and Cool Oak Lane complain of long travel time to the PS and the lack of parking in vicinity if they even want to drive. There is also the problem of elderly and disabled residents having to cross a busy A5 road before having to climb the hill on Station Road or Herbert Road. This PS could be moved to either the West Hendon Community Hub or St Patrick's Church on the Broadway. Whilst it is acknowledged that residents east of the A5 will still have to cross to vote, they'll be travelling a significantly shorter distance.</i></p>		See RO's response above.
West Hendon	<i>I would also like to support the proposals laid out below by Cllr Ernest Ambe</i>	Rishikesh Chakraborty (Ward Councillor)	
Whetstone	No representations received.	N/A	N/A
Woodhouse	No representations received.	N/A	N/A