

LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

2022 NEW POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Introduction

1. Every four years the Council must carry out a full review of its Parliamentary polling districts and polling places within its boundaries. The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 changed the timing of compulsory reviews of UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling places. The last compulsory review was completed on 31 January 2020.

Since then the Local Government Boundary Commission has undertaken a Ward Review which will increase the number of Wards from 18 to 20 and consequently changes the Polling District boundaries. We therefore need to undertake a further Review of our Polling Districts before the changes come in to force in 2022.

Background

2. Under the Representation of the People Act 1983, the Council is required to divide its wards into polling districts and to keep these districts under review. In doing so, the Council must give all electors such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances. Wards should therefore be divided into as many polling districts as are appropriate to give reasonable voting facilities. As far as possible, districts should have reasonable numbers of electors to facilitate the efficient running of polling stations. The establishment of polling districts is a matter for the Council to decide and the determination of the Polling Place and premises to be used as polling stations is a matter for the Returning / Counting Officer for elections.

In previous Reviews the whole Polling District has been defined as the Polling Place to enable a Polling Station to be moved if the agreed premises becomes unavailable for an election. This is done in consultation with the Members for the ward affected.

Timings

3. The Review will commence on 3rd December 2020 and finish by 31st March 2021.

Review Process

4. The process for holding the review is as follow:-

- (i) Public Notice of intention to hold a review

- (ii) Circulation of information on the proposed polling districts to interested parties, i.e. Councillors, representatives of political parties, community groups and residents.
- (iii) Consideration of comments received and publication of all correspondence plus Council officer responses.
- (iv) Report to Council with final recommendations.

5. In addition, when reviewing its polling districts, the Council is required to consider any representations from local residents in its area, including any issues regarding access to premises or facilities for persons with disabilities. Any elector can make their views known and the process for doing so will be publicised.

6. The availability of suitable polling places is a key determining factor in the makeup of polling districts. Therefore, in asking for comments, we request that alternative proposals should include suggestions for polling station locations. In extreme circumstances where there is no local alternative available, the polling station can be placed outside the polling district, but this is not recommended in order to avoid confusion for electors. The type of situation where this might arise is in cases where the only possible location would be a building with unsatisfactory access or where it would otherwise be necessary to install a temporary unit.

7. The criteria which will be used for the review are as follows:-

- (i) As far as possible, to have three polling districts in each ward, except where it is geographically sensible to have further splits.
- (ii) All electors should be given such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable;
- (iii) All premises should be accessible or capable of being made accessible to disabled voters;
- (iv) The polling station should be in its own polling district, and electors should where possible not have to travel past another polling station to get to their own station;
- (v) Ideally, there should be no less than 1500 and no more than 3000 electors per polling district. In some areas, geographical boundaries mean that it is sensible to have polling districts which may be smaller in these clearly defined areas.
- (vi) Where current areas can continue as the major part of the new districts, and there are sensible reasons for continuing with existing arrangements, then this principle has been followed ;

- (vii) Account to be taken of geographical factors such as natural boundaries (eg major roads and railways), and demographic factors (population densities, housing developments etc);

The process for conducting the review

- 8.
- (i) Distribution in week of 1 December 2020 of the existing polling districts and information on the Ward changes including proposed changes to existing Polling Districts to all Councillors, MPs, and political parties in the Borough. (Appendix A)
 - (ii) Comments and alternative proposals to be sought between 3rd December and 28th January 2021.
 - (iii) Report to Audit and Corporate Governance Committee on 6th April 2021 and to Full Council for approval on 15th April 2021.
 - (iv) Any changes to polling districts to be introduced will be used in the electoral register to be published on 1st December 2021.

See Appendix B for full timetable.

Consultees and advertising

9.

Consultees	Advertising / Participation
All Council Members	Internal email – guidance, consultation document, online maps
Constituency MPs	Email – consultation document and online maps
GLA Constituency Member	Email – consultation document and online maps
Local political party agents / offices	Email – consultation document and online maps
Residents	Webpage, local press notifications, Official Notices at Libraries, Council Receptions, Community Centres,
Tenants and Residents Associations	Email – Official Notice, consultation document and online maps
Polling Stations	Email – Official Notice, consultation document

Link to New Ward arrangements interactive map: [LGBCE - Camden](#)

Comments should be submitted as follows:-

By mail: **Electoral Services**
1st Floor, Crowndale Centre
218 Eversholt Street
London
NW1 1BD

By email: electoral.services@camden.gov.uk

By phone: **Clare Oakley, Elections Manager, 0207 974 6372**

Clare Oakley
Elections Manager.

Appendix A

LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

NEW WARDS AND ASSOCIATED POLLING DISTRICTS

WARD	CURRENT POLLING DISTRICTS	CHANGES	PROPOSED POLLING STATIONS
HAMPSTEAD TOWN	AA, AB (PART), AC (PART)	AC:Pond Street, Rowland Hill St, Aspern Grove, Haverstock Hill, Russell Place to move in to Gospel Oak (IA) AB:Lyndhurst Road, Lyndhurst Gardens, Wedderburn Rd, Percival Avenue, Belsize Lane, Ornan Road, Rosslyn Hill, Waterhouse Close to move into new Belsize Ward	AA Burgh House AB Fitzjohn's Primary School AC Ten Keats Grove House.
HIGHGATE	BA, BB, BC	No Changes	BA Holly Lodge Community Centre BB Highgate Road Chapel BC Highgate Library Civic and Cultural Centre
FROGNAL AND FITZJOHNS	CA, CB,	CC moves to become part of new Belsize Ward	CA St Luke's C of E Church CB St John's Hampstead Parish Church
FORTUNE GREEN	DA, DB, DC	Whole of Broomsleigh Street moves in to DB from West Hampstead EA.	DA Templar House Social Hall DB Beckford Primary School DC Emmanuel C of E Church

WEST HAMPSTEAD	EA, EB, EC, ED (PART)	<p>Broomsleigh Street moves in to Fortune Green ward DB.</p> <p>Kilburn High St, EC moves to Kilburn Ward FA</p> <p>Netherwood St, Linstead Close from ED to Kilburn FA</p> <p>ED; Cleve Road, Compayne Gardens, West Hampstead Mews, West End Lane, Broadwell Parade, Barrister Mews, Broadhurst Gdns move to South Hampstead GA</p>	<p>EA West Hampstead Branch Library</p> <p>EB Lymington Road Residents Association Hall</p> <p>EC Brondesbury Christian Centre</p> <p>ED St James' Church Hall</p>
KILBURN	FA, FB, FC, FD	<p>Kilburn High St moves From West Hampstead EC into Kilburn Ward FA</p> <p>Netherwood St, Linstead Close from West Hampstead to Kilburn FA</p> <p>Belsize Rd FB to move into South Hampstead Ward (GA)</p>	<p>FA Kingsgate Community Centre</p> <p>FB Abbey Community Centre</p> <p>FC Shell 2 Centre, Fielding House</p> <p>FD Mortimer Crescent Tenants and Residents Association Hall.</p>
SOUTH HAMPSTEAD	GA, GB, ED (PART)	<p>Belsize Rd Kilburn FB to move into South Hampstead Ward GA.</p> <p>Cleve Road, Compayne Gardens, West Hampstead Mews, West End Lane, Broadwell Parade, Barrister Mews, Broadhurst Gdns move from West Hampstead ED into to South Hampstead GA</p>	<p>GA St Mary's (Priory) Community Hall</p> <p>GB The Camden Hub (Crossfields day centre)</p> <p>NEW GC Polling Station to be found. (old ED area)</p>
BELSIZE	HA, HB, CC, AB (PART)	<p>Lyndhurst Road, Lyndhurst Gardens, Wedderburn Rd, Percival Avenue, Belsize Lane, Ornan Road, Rosslyn Hill, Waterhouse Close from Hampstead Town AB.</p>	<p>HA Belsize Square Synagogue</p> <p>HB The Winch (Belsize Community Library)</p> <p>NEW HC Holy Trinity Church (part of old CC)</p>

		HB Steele Road to move into Haverstock LC	
GOSPEL OAK	IA, IB, IC, AC (PART)	Pond Street, Rowland Hill St, Aspern Grove, Haverstock Hill, Russell Place from Hampstead Town (AC)	IA Gospel Oak Methodist Church IB Kiln Place Tenants and Residents Association Hall IC Queens Crescent Community Centre.
KENTISH TOWN NORTH	JA, JC (PART)	JC to be split in half along Leighton Road.	JA Greenwood Centre JB (old JC) to be found
KENTISH TOWN SOUTH	KA, JB, JC (PART)	JC to be split in half along Leighton Road.	KA The Sun Room< Kentish Town Health Centre NEW KB (old JC) Kentish Town C of E School NEW KC (old JB) Kentish Town Congregational Church.
HAVERSTOCK	LA, LB, LC, LD	HB Steele Road to move into Haverstock LC	LA Seventh Day Adventist Church LB Rhyl Primary School LC St Saviours Church hall LD Salvation Army Hall
CAMDEN TOWN	MB, MC, MD (PART)	Farrier Street from KA to move into Camden Town. MD; Royal College Street, Lyme Street, Carol Street, Greenland Road, Georgiana Street, Pratt Street to move into St Pancras OB.	NEW MA (old MB) and include old MD The Pirate Castle NEW MB (old MC) The Haven, Castlehaven Community centre Division of Ward along the line of the Canal.
REGENTS PARK	NA, NB, NC,	No changes	NA HPOD West Euston Partnership NB Samuel Lithgow Youth Centre NC Unit 13 Crowndale Centre
ST. PANCRAS AND SOMERS TOWN	OB, OC, OD	MD; Royal College Street, Lyme Street, Carol Street, Greenland Road, Georgiana Street, Pratt	OA (old OB) St Pancras Community Centre OB (old OC) Godwin and

		Street to move into St Pancras OB.	Crowndale Community Hall OC (old OD) Ossulston tenants and Residents Association Hall
KINGS CROSS	OA (PART) OE, PB, PC	OA; Agar Grove, Agar Place, Camley Street, Wrotham Gardens move to Camden Square ward.	PA (Old OA) to be found PB (old OE) N1C Centre, Handyside Street PC (old PB) Kings Cross Community Centre PD (old PC) Calthorpe Community Garden
BLOOMSBURY	PA, QA, QB, QC	PA Kings Cross to move into Bloomsbury Ward	QA Ramsay Hall QB Rada Studios QC Marchmont Street Community Centre QD (Old PA) Chinese Community Centre
HOLBORN AND COVENT GARDEN	RA, RB, RC	No changes	RA Dragon Hall Community Centre RB The Basement Holborn Library RC St Alban's Centre
CAMDEN SQUARE (NEW)	KB, KC, OA (PART) To become PD code S	OA; Agar Grove, Agar Place, Camley Street, Wrotham Gardens move into Camden Square ward.	SA (old KB) The London Irish Centre SB (Old KC) Maiden Lane Community Centre SC (old part OA) Agar Grove TA meeting Hall
PRIMROSE HILL (NEW)	GC, HC, MA To become PD Code T	These three Polling districts from Swiss Cottage, Belsize and Camden Town with Primrose Hill form new Ward Primrose Hill	TA (old GC) Swiss Cottage Library TB (old HC) Bray Tenants Association Hall TC (Old MA) Primrose Hill Community Centre.

Appendix B

2022 New Polling Districts and Polling Station Review

Plan and Timetables

Timings	Action	Explanation
August – November 2020	Preliminary review of existing arrangements	Electoral Services (ES) will review all current Polling Stations and Polling Districts, Taking into account LGBC ward changes
November 2020	Proposed changes to Polling Districts and Polling stations	Based on current arrangements and findings from the Preliminary Review draw up a draft Polling District list with Stations based on the new Ward changes.
3 December 2020	Notice of Review	Publish the Notification of Polling District and Polling Place Review on website, at local Libraries and send to all Members, MPs, Political Parties and interested parties. Also include guidance notes, draft proposals for comments.
3 December 2020 to 28 January 2021	Consultation Period	8 week period (excl Christmas) where Members, MP's, Political parties and any interested parties / residents can comment in writing / email on the proposed arrangements.
1 February – 15 March 2021	Draft final Report	Elections Manager to draft final report on the Review and proposed changes for ACG Committee and Full Council
6 April 2021	Audit & Corporate Governance Committee	Report on the Statutory polling districts and Polling Place Review presented to ACG committee for approval
19 April 2021	Full Council	Polling District and Polling Place Review approved by Council.
1 st December 2021	Publication of Register	Register published with any new ward and polling district changes.