

**(Acting) Returning Officers
Final Recommendations
Polling District and Polling Places Review
For the Borough of Runnymede
21 October 2019**

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Civic Offices
Station Road
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ACTING RETURNING OFFICERS RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendation is that the Polling Place for each polling district is coterminous with the polling district, apart from CR2, CR3, CR4, EH2, EH3, ET1, ET3, ET5, OS3, OS4, VW2, VW4 and WR3 where the proposed polling place will be coterminous with the proposed polling station. Below are listed all of the Polling Places in Runnymede Borough and the final recommendations from the (Acting) Returning Officer.

Polling Districts	Current Polling Station	Elector Count (as at 3 May 2019)	Recommendations	Proposed Constituency
AN1	Surrey Muslim Centre , Albert Road, KT15 2PX	1160	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
AN2	Baptist Church Hall, Crouch Oak Lane, KT15 2AN	3133	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
AS1	The Mobile Unit - Hamm Court, Weybridge Road, Addlestone	210	Relocating to Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints, Weybridge Road and combine PD with AS2	Runnymede and Weybridge
AS2	Surrey Muslim Centre , Albert Road, KT15 2PX	868	Relocating to Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints, Weybridge Road and combine PD with AS1	Runnymede and Weybridge
AS3	Darley Dene Primary School, Garfield Road, KT15 2NP	2864	Relocating to the Addlestone Community Centre	Runnymede and Weybridge

AS4	Sayes Court School, Sayes Court Farm Drive, KT15 1NB	961	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
CR1, CR3	Philip Southcote School, Addlestone Moor, KT15 2QH	1322	Abbey Rangers FC, Addlestone Moor	Runnymede and Weybridge
CR2	Chertsey Hall, Heriot Road, Chertsey, KT16 9DR	1612	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
CR4	St. Anne's Catholic Primary School, Free Prae Road, KT16 8ET	1460	Relocating to ARC, Drill Hall Road	Runnymede and Weybridge
CS1	The Mobile Unit - Abbeyfields, Windsor Street, KT16 8PS	1923	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
CS2	Pycroft Grange Primary School, Pycroft Road, KT16 9EW	1667	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
CS3	St. Anne's Catholic Primary School, Free Prae Road, KT16 8ET	1279	Relocating to ARC, Drill Hall Road	Runnymede and Weybridge
EGE1	The Jurgens Centre, Adj to the Catholic Church, 91 Harvest Road, TW20 0QR	1736	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
EGE2	Arts Building Room G3, RHUL, Egham Hill, TW20 0EX	1220	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
EGW1	St Peters Centre , Corby Drive, Englefield Green, TW20 0RX	3706	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge

EH1	The Hythe Centre, Thorpe Road, Staines, TW18 3HD	4010	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
EH2	The Hythe Centre, Thorpe Road, Staines, TW18 3HD	690	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
ET1	The Egham Band Hall, Waspe Farm Car Park, Station Road, TW20 9LF	1776	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
ET2, ET3	The Egham Band Hall, Waspe Farm Car Park, Station Road, TW20 9LF	2472	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
ET5	Egham Cricket Club Pavilion, Vicarage Road, TW20 8NP	28	Combining with Egham Band Hall ET2/ET3	Runnymede and Weybridge
LLC1	Lyne Village Hall, Lyne Lane, Lyne, KT16 0AN	1274	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
LLC2	Meadowcroft Community Infant School, Little Green Lane, KT16 9PT	1306	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
NH1	New Haw Community Centre, 65 Woodham Lane, New Haw, KT15 3ND	2866	Using existing polling station and combining polling district with NH2 with three polling stations Community Centre	Runnymede and Weybridge
NH2	Heathervale Baptist Church, Heathervale Road, KT15 3NW	2079	Combining polling districts with NH1 with three polling stations at New Haw Community Centre	Runnymede and Weybridge
OS1	Ottershaw Village Hall (formerly Brook Hall), Brox Road, KT16 0HG	2959	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge

OS2, OS3, OS4	Addlestone Youth Centre, Church Road, Addlestone, KT15 1SH	1873	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
TH4	Penton Community And Social Centre, The Lane, Penton Park, KT16 8QP	651	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
VW1	The Old Church Hall , Rear Of Station Parade, GU25 4AB	1493	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
VW2	St. Ann`s Heath Junior School, Sandhills Lane, GU25 4DS	1224	Relocating to the Old Church Hall, Rear of Station Parade, Virginia Water	Runnymede and Weybridge
VW3	Virginia Water Community Centre, Beechmont Avenue, Virginia Water, GU25 4EY	1395	Unchanged	Runnymede and Weybridge
WR1	Fullbrook School, Selsdon Road, KT15 3HW	1309	Relocating to Woodham and New Haw Day Centre and combine PD with WR2	Runnymede and Weybridge
WR2	New Haw Community School, The Avenue, New Haw, KT15 3RL	1429	Relocating to Woodham and New Haw Day Centre and combine PD with WR1	Runnymede and Weybridge
WR3	Ongar Place Primary School, Milton Road, KT15 1NY	2286	Relocating to Holy Family Church	Runnymede and Weybridge

EH3	The Hythe Centre, Thorpe Road, Staines, TW18 3HD	230	Unchanged	Spelthorne
ET4	Egham Cricket Club Pavilion, Vicarage Road, TW20 8NP	246	Unchanged	Spelthorne
VW4	St. Ann`s Heath Junior School, Sandhills Lane, GU25 4DS	61	Combining with ET4 at Egham Cricket Club at Parliamentary elections and with VW2 at non- Parliamentary	Spelthorne
TH1	Thorpe Village Hall, Coldharbour Lane, Thorpe, TW20 8TE	845	Unchanged	Spelthorne
TH2	The Mobile Unit - Truss`s Island, Chertsey Lane, Staines	1138	Unchanged	Spelthorne

TH3	The Mobile Unit - Ashleigh Avenue, (Off Warwick Avenue), Thorpe, TW20 8LB	1738	Relocating Mobile Unit to Junction of Wavendene Ave/Thorpe Lea Road	Spelthorne
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Representations received

Councillor Isabel Mullens

I note that it is proposed that Polling Districts ET4 and ET5 continue to vote in the same polling place as each other (Egham Cricket Club) in non-parliamentary elections, and as they are both in the same ward, Egham Town Ward, that makes sense to me.

However, it is proposed that ET4 and ET5 vote in different (from one another) places in parliamentary elections, (ET4 – Egham Cricket Club, and ET5 – Band Hall), presumably because there is the possibility that our government will put into effect revised constituency boundaries, so that ET4 will be in Spelthorne constituency, and ET5 will be in Runnymede and Weybridge constituency. There is certainly a logic to this.

But I would like to express concern that as a consequence of these proposed changes, the 28 electors in ET5 will have to vote in different polling stations in different elections – in the Band Hall in parliamentary elections, and in the Cricket Club in local elections. This will doubtless lead to confusion, and to some people going to the wrong polling station, and potentially missing the chance to vote.

A possible solution to this is that the voters in ET5 should vote in the Band Hall in all elections. They would need to be informed of this change at the outset, but would benefit from the consistency of voting in the same place in future elections.

Response

Officers acknowledge that it would make sense for them to vote in the same polling station for all elections and recommend that this suggestion is taken forward.

Ron Enticott

1. District CR 4- ARC Drill Hall Road, the building has very limited parking and is in a road with limited parking. I do not think there is any provision for disabled parking and wonder whether it has suitable toilet facilities. It is also a potential target for terrorists and with ready access to the public makes this location vulnerable. I also feel that it is not a particularly pleasant working environment for those managing the count.
2. CS3 comments as in 1.

Response

We have visited the location and we are happy that it is suitable for use as a polling station.

Darley Dene

With reference to your email dated 06/09/2019 regarding a review of polling places, I would like to propose that you utilise the Addlestone Community Centre instead of Darley Dene Primary School.

The closure of the school for the day disrupts the children's learning especially as the first Thursday in May is so close to the KS1 and KS2 SATS exams. I believe that the Addlestone Community Centre was successfully used on the last polling day and therefore hope that you can consider using this venue going forward.

Reponse

Noted

St Ann's Heath Junior School

Would like to recommend, that an alternative to the school is considered for future elections.

Response

Officers have considered the recommendation and agree with the suggestion, so will relocate the electors to the Old Church Hall, Rear of Station Parade, Virginia Water.

Cllr Linda Gillham

Secondly we have long recognised that 4 polling stations in Thorpe ward is excessive. I would recommend disposing of Truss's Island and offering those residents the option of either joining the Penton Park community or travelling to Thorpe Village Hall.

It would seem with the increase in postal votes that it is less likely there will be people who have difficulty reaching either of these polling stations.

Response

Officers have considered the comment and reviewed the number of electors who are allocated to each polling station. Whilst the numbers for two of the polling stations in Thorpe Ward are on the low side of suggested parameters there are other factors such as geographical location which would justify the retention of four polling stations in this ward.

Polling Stations are used for not only local elections but for Parliamentary there is currently a review of Parliamentary Constituencies in progress. Officers have looked at the final recommendations of the proposals and note that if they were to be enacted a reduction in the number of Polling Stations as proposed would cause problems for some voters because they would have to attend different polling stations dependent on the type of election taking place. If a Parliamentary and Local election were combined this would require some electors to attend two different polling stations to cast their votes.

Thorpe Residents Asscocation

TH3. We do not believe the Mobile Unit site should be relocated to the Junction of Wavendene Avenue/Thorpe Lea Road.

Response

Officers have received complaints from the householder who immediately adjoins the site in Ashleigh Avenue and the new location would move the unit a greater distance from properties than the Ashleigh avenue site.. Whilst officers note the comments re parking there is a greater amount of parking available on Wavendene Avenue and other roads in its proximity than in the previous location.

Thorpe Lea Road is heavily congested, there are many Heavy Goods Vehicles using the road, making the site quite dangerous and there is nowhere for voters to park, other than on Wavendene Avenue. Whilst the site at Ashleigh Avenue may not be as accessible we believe it to be the safer option.

TH2. At last night's meeting Cllr. Linda Gillham informed us that there may be a reduction in numbers of Polling stations and she had recommended the site at Truss's Island be removed. If this is a consideration we would strongly object. The site serves the residents of Chertsey Lane, Temple Gardens, Aymer Drive, Green Lane, Mayfield Gardens, Thames Retreat, Bundy's Way and Timsway. It fulfils the criteria of Location – there is a regular bus route, there is ample parking, an island in the middle of the A320 for safe crossing, and it serves (currently) 1138 voters, the second highest in the ward. Many of the residents are able to walk to the polling station. If, as suggested by Cllr. Gillham, the Polling station for these residents were to be moved to Thorpe Village Hall, it would increase the carbon footprint because every resident would have to drive there, there are fewer parking spaces and no bus route from the A320. We wonder how many people would bother.

Response

Please see the above response to Councillor Gillham's comments