

REPORT TO COUNCIL



DATE	25th January 2023
PORTFOLIO	None
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Changes to Polling Stations

PURPOSE

- 1. To advise Members of the Returning Officers proposal to change a number of Polling Stations for elections from May 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2. That Full Council approve the following permanent changes to Polling Stations:
 - (a) Bank Hall Ward (EB) from Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Belvedere Road BB10 4BQ to Burnley Tennis Club, 30 Lower Ridge Close, off Belvedere Road, BB10 4BW.
 - (b) Rosegrove with Lowerhouse Ward (LB) from Parkside Methodist Church, 175 Cog Lane BB11 5AH to West End Community Centre, Venice Street, BB11 4BA.
 - (c) Coalclough with Deerplay Ward (KA) from Parkside Methodist Church 175 Cog Lane BB11 5AH to Coal Clough Community Centre, 2 Pasturegate Avenue, BB11 4DD.
 - (d) With the exception of a) to c) above, Members note the Returning Officers decision not to change any other polling stations.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3. In order to take account of premises that are no longer available, and to improve facilities for electors and to comply with the Electoral Administration Act 2006.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

4. As we approach the May 2023 elections some of the polling stations are no longer available for use.

To summarise, it is proposed that the majority of the existing polling stations remain the same except for the following:

Ward & Electoral District	Existing Polling Station	Revised Polling Station	Reason
Bank Hall (EB)	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Belvedere Road, Burnley BB10 4BQ	Burnley Tennis Club, 30 Lower Ridge Close, Off Belvedere Road, Burnley BB10 4BW	Existing premises no longer available
Rosegrove with Lowerhouse (LB)	Parkside Methodist Church, 175 Cog Lane, Burnley BB11 5AH	West End Community Centre, Venice Street, Burnley BB11 4BA	Existing premises no longer available
Coalclough with Deerplay (KA)	Parkside Methodist Church, 175 Cog Lane, Burnley BB11 5AH	Coal Clough Community Centre, 2 Pasturegate Avenue, Burnley BB11 4DD	Existing premises no longer available

Consultation was carried out regarding moving the Trinity Ward (IA) Polling Station away from Coal Clough Academy. However this change is no longer required.

5. Guidelines

The following considerations were taken into account when drawing up the proposals. The first two are required by law; the others are guidelines, not strict rules.

- (1) The Council must seek to ensure that all electors have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances;
- (2) The Council must seek to ensure that as far as is reasonable and practicable every polling district is accessible to electors who are disabled.
- (3) Ideally the polling place should be in its own polling district;
- (4) No polling place should be shared by two wards;
- (5) Where possible “natural” boundaries should be used, eg. railways, major roads, waterways;
- (6) All properties in a minor road or estate should be in the same polling district; and

(7) Polling places should be “logical”, that is, electors should not have to pass another polling place to get to their own place.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION

6. The costs arising from the proposed changes will be met from existing budgets.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

7. None.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

8. Group Leaders, Member Structures Working Group, Polling Station Inspectors, Presiding Officers & Poll Clerks

BACKGROUND PAPERS

9. https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/sites/default/files/word_doc/Polling-district-review-guidance.doc

FURTHER INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT:

ALSO:

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