

## REVIEW OF POLLING PLACES - 2023

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Current Polling Place</b>	<b>Local Electorate October 2023</b>	<b>Absent voters October 2023</b>	<b>Voters in person October 2023</b>	<b>Turnout at Polling Place May 2023</b>	<b>Projected growth in dwellings (hard and soft planning commitments – for 20+ dwellings) – 2023-2036</b>	<b>Consultation Feedback</b>	<b>Returning Officer's Comments</b>
<b>ABBEY</b>								
A 2 polling stations	<b>Sir Herman Gollancz Hall</b> Clifton Street, Reading, RG1 7YE	2,211	320	1,891	19.59%	256		Venue OK. No parking. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
AB 2 Polling Stations	<b>Reading Central Library</b> Abbey Square, Reading, RG1 3BG	2,508	395	2,113	17.51%	2786	With regard to the two Polling Districts A, and AC and AD, we concur with the comments made in Appendix A namely: "no amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed". With regard to Polling District AB, currently at the Reading Central Library, we would agree that with the closure of the Library and its move to the Civic Offices a new Polling Place will be required, either at the end of 2024 or certainly in 2025. Whilst the new library facilities at Bridge Street may offer the space for a new Polling Station, our preference would be that serious consideration is given to the following alternative locations for this polling station namely: 1. Abbey Baptist Church Hall on Abbey Square, or 2. St Laurence Church Hall, next to the Old Town Hall, or 3. The Soane Space in the Old Town Hall itself. All these venues, we understand, are fully accessible to wheelchairs and at ground floor level. Our understanding is that the current Central Library will not be closing until towards the end of 2024 and, as such, next year's Local Elections in May and a probable General Election in October or November should not be affected. However, if the autumn requires a new Polling Station, we would request that urgent attention is given to our alternative sites.	Venue OK. No parking. The Central Library is proposed to close and move to the Civic Offices. A new polling place will be required for the two Polling stations.
AC & AD	<b>Oxford Road Community School</b> 146 Oxford Road, Reading, RG1 7PJ	1,774	267	1,507	18.54%	AC – 828 AD - 95		Venue OK. Minimal off-street parking. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
<b>BATTLE</b>								
B 2 polling Stations	<b>Emmanuel Methodist Church</b> Oxford Road, Reading, RG30 1EE	3,690	564	3,126	19.15%	152		Venue OK. Some parking. The implications of the BCE review of Parliamentary Constituencies based on the old ward boundaries will require in a new district and an additional Polling Station being created in Battle ward. The additional polling station will be allocated to Emmanuel Methodist Church. Further details of the properties involved, and the plan of the new proposed District are contained in Appendix C.
BA X2 Polling Stations at 2 Locations for this District	<b>Battle Library</b> 420 Oxford Road, Reading, RG30 2ES and <b>Emmanuel Methodist Church</b>	3,871	590	3,281	24.18%	202		Venue OK. Some parking. The implications of the BCE review of Parliamentary Constituencies based on the old ward boundaries will require in a new district and an additional polling station being created in Battle Ward. The additional polling station will be located at Emmanuel Methodist Church. Further details of the properties

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								involved, and the plan of the proposed District are contained in Appendix C.
<b>CAVERSHAM</b>								
C 2 polling stations	<b>Caversham Library</b> Church Street, Reading, RG4 8AU	3,652	985	2,667	35.13%	58		Venue OK. No Parking. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
CA 2 polling stations	<b>New Bridge Nursery School</b> Montague Street, Caversham, RG4 5AU	2,145	420	2,125	30.70%	32		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
CB	<b>The Weller Centre</b> Amersham Road, Caversham, RG4 5BP	1,664	281	1,383	22.10%	22		Venue OK. Security Issues require a security guard in attendance pm. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
<b>CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS</b>								
D	<b>Caversham Heights Methodist Church</b> 74 Highmoor Road, Reading, RG4 7BG	1,540	401	1,139	41.55%	17		Venue OK. On Street Parking No amendments to the current polling arrangements is proposed.
DA	<b>Mapledurham Pavilion</b> Upper Woodcote Road, Caversham Heights, RG4 7LB	1,811	414	1,397	46.03%	7		Venue OK. New car park. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
DB 2 polling stations	<b>St Andrew's Hall</b> Albert Road, Caversham, RG4 7PW	2,576	609	1,967	43.18%	7		Venue OK No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
DC	<b>Highdown School</b> Surley Row, Emmer Green, RG4 8LR	1,542	333	1,209	28.65%	7		Venue OK. During Covid Pandemic in 2022 the polling station was located in the barn opposite the sixth form centre. In May 2023 the polling station reverted to the sixth form centre. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
<b>CHURCH</b>								
E 1 polling stations	<b>Reading Scout &amp; Guide Joint HQ</b> 163 Northcourt Avenue, Reading, RG2 7HG	2,103	426	1,677	24.28%	13		Venue OK. Was a double station previously and could be cramped but now a single polling station. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
EA	<b>St Barnabas Church Hall</b> Elm Road, Reading, RG6 5TS	1,520	346	1,174	19.32%	13		Venue OK. Adequate parking. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
EB	<b>South Reading Community Hub</b>	1,640	228	1,412	15.65%	13		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.

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	252 Northumberland Avenue, Reading, RG2 7QA							
EC 2 polling stations	<b>Whitley Park Primary &amp; Nursery School</b> Basingstoke Road, Reading, RG2 7RB	2,983	561	2,422	13.56%	13		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
<b>Coley</b>								
F	<b>Coley Primary School</b> Wolsey Road, Reading, RG1 6NJ	1,497	248	1,249	25.05%	60		Venue OK. Parking at School. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
FA 2 polling stations	<b>All Saints Hall</b> Downshire square, Reading, RG1 6NJ	2,382	363	2,019	29.24%	60		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
FB 2 polling stations	<b>Coley Park Community Centre</b> 140 Wensley Road, Coley Park, Reading, RG1 6DW	3,118	636	2,482	23.15%	96		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
<b>EMMER GREEN</b>								
G 2 polling stations	<b>Emmer Green Youth &amp; Community Centre</b> Grove Road, Emmer Green, RG4 8LN	3,145	874	2,271	34.36%	266	<b>Comments in respect of G, GA and GB</b> The following proposal has been raised in relation to Emmer Green ward: That any addresses in the range 37-91 (odds) Lowfield Road that are not in polling district GB are transferred to that polling district To correct an anomaly whereby a few people are in a different polling district from their immediate neighbours and have an unacceptably long journey to the polling station.	Venue OK. Some parking. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
GA 2 polling stations	<b>The Milestone Centre</b> Northbrook Road, Caversham Park Village, RG40 0PF	2,753	495	2,258	29.87%	10		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
GB	<b>Micklands Primary School</b> Micklands Road, Caversham, RG4 6LU	1,714	405	1,309	32.79%	35		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
<b>KATESGROVE</b>								
H 2 polling stations	<b>Katesgrove Primary School</b> Dorothy Street, Reading, RG1 2NL	3,691	596	3,095	23.75%	114		Venue OK. Polling station in new building off Katesgrove Lane and from Orchard Street but long route involving a slope. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
HA 1 polling station	<b>Christchurch Centre</b> Milman Road, Reading, RG2 0AY	1,880	292	1,588	30.03%	21		Venue OK. Very restricted parking. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
HB	<b>The Palmer Academy</b> Northumberland Avenue, Reading, RG2 7PP	1,791	296	1,495	20.83%	275	An immediate comment I have is based on voter experiences at the 2022 election (reported at the time, so this comment may be redundant). In the 2022 election, the access to the Palmer Academy from the west was restricted for the first few hours as the gates to Lincoln Rd/Surrey Rd were locked. I presume this was	Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.

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							accidental, and I hope that processes are in place to avoid it happening again. No such problems were reported in 2023, so it may be that the problem is solved. Nevertheless, it is worth considering, as the majority of the polling district approach from the west, and the alternative route is a sizable detour.	
HC	<b>Coley Primary School</b> Wolseley Road, Reading, RG1 6NJ	235	30	205	19.62%	89		Venue OK. Parking at School. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
<b>KENTWOOD</b>								
I 2 polling stations	<b>St Mary Magdelene Hall</b> Rodway Road, Tilehurst, RG30 6EQ	2,097	416	1,681	32.31%	28		Venue OK. On street parking. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
IA	<b>United Reformed Church Hall</b> Polsted Road, Tilehurst, RG31 6HP	1,556	298	1,258	36.14%	64		Venue OK. Parking to the side of Polling station on unmade up road. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
IB	<b>Meadow Park Academy</b> Norcot Road, Tilehurst, RG30 6BS	1,552	345	1,209	29.75%	5		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
IC	<b>Norcot Community Centre</b> Lyndhurst Road, Tilehurst, RG30 6UB	1,468	316	1,152	24.06%	5		Venue OK. Some parking available. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
<b>NORCOT</b>								
J 2 polling stations	<b>St George's Church Hall</b> St George's Road, Reading, RG30 2RG	3,328	572	2,756	24.38%	44		Venue OK. Need additional lighting in the Polling Booths. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
JA 1 polling station	<b>St Michael's Primary School</b> Dee Road, Tilehurst, RG30 4AS	2,072	439	1,633	18.01%	230		Venue Ok. Some parking. The implications of the BCE review of Parliamentary Constituencies based on the old ward boundaries will require in a new district and an additional polling station being created in Norcot ward. Further details of the properties involved, and the plan of the new proposed District are contained in Appendix C.
JB	<b>Dee Space Community Centre</b> Thurso Close, Tilehurst, RG3 4YH	2,167	385	1,782	17.58%	153		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
<b>PARK</b>								
K 2 polling stations	<b>New Town Primary School</b> School Terrace, Reading, RG1 3LS	2,784	490	2,294	35.92%	97		Venue OK. Limited on-street parking. Polling Place in cafeteria accessed from Cholmeley Road.

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KA 2 polling stations	<b>Alfred Sutton Primary School</b> 148 Wokingham Road, Reading, RG6 1JR	4,186	711	3,475	36.20%	45		Venue OK. Good parking at School. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
<b>REDLANDS</b>								
L	<b>Wesley Church Hall</b> Queen's Road/ Watlington Street, Reading, RG1 4BW	1,585	203	1,382	26.30%	19		Venue OK. No free on street parking. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
LA	<b>Museum of English Rural Life</b> The University of Reading, Redlands Road, Reading, RG1 5EX	1,580	335	1,245	33.70%	58		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
LB 2 polling stations	<b>St Luke's Church Hall</b> Erleigh Road, Reading, RG1 5LU	2,622	281	2,341	30.10%	127		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
LC	<b>Hexham Community Centre</b> 1A Bamburgh Close, Whitley, RG2 7UD	1,227	269	958	26.53%	37		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
LD	<b>Park Lounge Windsor Hall</b> University of Reading, Upper Redlands Road, Reading, RG1 5JL	1046	42	1,004	10.47%	19		Venue OK. Some parking. The implications of the BCE review of Parliamentary Constituencies based on the old ward boundaries will require St Georges Hall and Wantage Hall being moved from District LD into district LA. The odd Numbers 1,3,5,7,9 of Whitley Park Lane will need to be moved from District LC into District LD. Further details of the properties involved, and the plan of the new proposed District are contained in Appendix C.
<b>SOUTHCOTE</b>								
M	<b>Southcote Primary School</b> Silchester Road, Southcote, RG3 3EJ	2,081	446	1,635	28.32%	6		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
MA	<b>Manor Primary School</b> 110 Ashampstead Road, Southcote, G30 3LJ	2,155	453	1,702	18.94%	25		Venue OK. Uneven ground between Ashampstead Road and the polling station requires more external lighting and a clear route to the polling station being marked.
MB	<b>Southcote Community Hub</b> Coronation Square, Southcote, Reading, RG30 3QP	1,612	294	1,318	18.59%	6		Venue OK. Limited parking. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
MC	<b>YMCA</b>	1,879	407	1,472	23.70%	52		Venue OK.

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	Parkside Road, 34 Parkside Road, RG30 2DD							No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
<b>THAMES</b>								
N	<b>New Hope Community Church Centre</b> York Road, Reading, RG1 8DU	2,086	341	1,745	26.93%	1467		Venue OK. No parking. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
NA	<b>St John &amp; St Stephen Parish Centre</b> Orts Road, Reading, RG1 3JN	1,810	316	1,494	21.93%	1139		Venue OK Limited on Street Parking No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
NB	<b>Thameside Primary School</b> Wolsey Road, Caversham, Reading RG4 8BY	1,938	366	1,572	30.56%	20	We are happy to continue being a polling site	Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
<b>TILEHURST</b>								
O 2 polling stations	<b>Moorlands Primary School</b> Church End Lane, Tilehurst, Reading, RG30 4UN	2,872	572	2,300	20.15%	7		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
OA 2 polling stations	<b>Tilehurst British Legion</b> Downing Road, Tilehurst, RG31 5BB	3,289	685	2,604	22.84%	7		Venue OK. Good parking. Need to improve lighting in one of the polling stations. No amendments to the current polling arrangements is proposed.
OB	<b>Tilehurst Village Hall</b> Victoria Road, Tilehurst RG31 5AB	1,019	186	833	32.86%	7		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
<b>WHITLEY</b>								
P	<b>Kennet Island Community Centre</b> The Meeting Point (Kennet Island), The Piazza, Whale Avenue, Reading, RG2 0GY	1,734	303	1,431	17.83%	691		Venue OK Parking restrictions in place. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
PA 2 Polling Stations	<b>Christ the King Church Hall</b> 408 Northumberland Avenue, Reading, RG2 8RN	2,759	561	2,198	12.96%	7		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
PB	<b>Whitley Wood Community Centre</b> Swallowfield Drive, Reading, RG2 8JD	1,814	307	1,507	17.10%	7		Venue OK. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.

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PC	<b>100 Longwater Avenue</b> Green Park, Reading, RG2 6GP	592	157	435	23.96%	1045	No comments to submit from me	Venue OK. Good parking. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.
PD	<b>South Reading Leisure Centre</b> Northumberland Avenue, Reading, RG2 8DH	857	166	691	18.15%	7		Venue OK. Good parking. No amendments to the current polling arrangements are proposed.

**Total electorate (local) – 117,203 (October 2023)**

Ward average: 7,325

Electoral Commission ceiling per polling station – 2,500 electors who vote at polling station

*Comments in italics: made separately and outside the consultation period*