

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

Polling Districts and Polling Places Review 2023 Appendix A: (Acting) Returning Officers' final comments and recommendations

1 Background

- 1.1 Under the Representation of the People Act 1983 (RPA 1983), Council has a duty to divide its local authority area into polling districts and to designate a polling place for each district.
- 1.2 This is for the purposes of voting at UK Parliamentary elections, but the same scheme is used for local elections for consistency of voter experience and administration.
- 1.3 Under Section 18(c) of the RPA 1983, the next compulsory review must be undertaken within a 16-month window, between 2 October 2023 and 31 January 2025.
- 1.4 The scope of the review is limited to polling districts and polling places only, therefore the outcomes of the review cannot make changes to existing parliamentary constituency, borough, parish or parish ward boundaries as a result of this review.

2 Guidelines for the review

- 2.1 The review relies on the following key definitions:
 - A **polling district** is a geographical area designated for the purposes of administering an election.
 - A **polling place** is a building or area in which polling stations will be located.
 - A **polling station** is the room or area within the polling place where voting will physically take place. Unlike polling districts and polling places, which are designated by Council, the designation of polling stations is the responsibility of the relevant Returning Officer for the election and may be moved within the polling place without Council approval.
- 2.2 The outcomes of the review must also meet the following legislative criteria:
 - Each parish in the area should constitute a separate polling district(s), with no part of a different parish, community or un-parished area within its boundary.
 - The polling place should be within the boundary of the polling district unless in special circumstances, for example, where no suitable polling place can be identified within the district.
 - The polling place must be small enough to indicate to electors in different parts of the polling district how they will be able to reach it.
 - The polling place should be accessible to electors who are disabled, so far as is reasonable and practical.
 - The polling place should provide such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances.
- 2.3 The comments of the (Acting) Returning Officers for the relevant parliamentary constituencies also consider the following practical guidance where possible:

- Electoral Commission guidance on the maximum number of voters in attendance at any single polling station, which is currently suggested as 2250 voters.
- Powers of the Returning Officer to require use of publicly funded school buildings free of charge. This entitlement is granted by Section 22(1)(a) of the RPA 1983 but should be considered against safeguarding issues and availability at short notice, especially if the school would be required to close to ensure pupils' safety.
- The use of temporary polling stations in portacabins. At previous polls, staff stationed in temporary stations reported that they did not feel safe, nor did the temporary units provide suitable facilities for voting, especially considering the implementation of voter ID checking and provisions for privacy. The administration of multiple units is burdensome, costly and relies on diesel generators, which are a safety risk to staff, noisy and pollutants. Therefore, temporary polling stations should be recommended as a last resort, where no suitable polling place can be found in the polling district, or within reasonable travelling distance outside of the polling district.

3 Pre-Consultation Analysis

3.1 The comments and recommendations of the (Acting) Returning Officers were compiled using pre-consultation analysis before they were published for consultation, using the following sources:

- Feedback from polling station staff at the location elections in May 2023.
- Questionnaire sent to venue booking agents.
- Assessments of potential polling places, conducted in person by Electoral Services.
- GIS Mapping
- Electorate Statistics

3.2 This analysis raised the following initial considerations upon which an initial set of comments and recommendations were developed, with the following overarching observations:

- The current scheme of polling districts is mostly dictated by existing parish and parish ward boundaries, except Hinckley, which is unparished.
- Development at the outer edges of Hinckley has resulted in geographically large polling districts that are difficult to administrate and cause electors to travel considerable distance to the polling place. These areas should therefore be reduced to ensure reasonable access to voting facilities.
- There are small historical polling district boundaries in Hinckley town centre that are unnecessary, considering several have shared designated polling places and polling stations for many years. This is an extra administrative burden for polling station staff and could create further complexity when ward boundaries are reviewed by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) from 2024 to 2027.
- The existing scheme of polling places, as agreed in 2019, no longer meets the legal interpretation of a polling place, and therefore should be redesignated to better reflect the specific location of the polling station.
- Three temporary polling stations were used at polls in May 2023 due to a lack of available buildings and were noted to be unsatisfactory by voters and staff (for reasons mentioned in paragraph 2.3). It has been consistently difficult to provide a permanent polling places for these polling

districts (ACC and FAD) for several years therefore (Acting) Returning Officer comments would invite alternative suggestions from consultees.

- As per Section 2, paragraph 3.2 of the Constitution, the Chief Executive has delegated authority to “Agree polling station changes at short notice in consultation with group leaders and the relevant ward member(s)”. However, the Chief Executive, acting as (A)RO, has sole power to designate polling stations with no requirement for consultation. As per the legal definition of terms given in paragraph 2.1 of this report, the wording of the delegation is inconsistent with its intention to allow a change of polling place at short notice if required.

4 Consultation

- 4.1 A period of open consultation took place between 9 October and 6 November 2023. The following methods of consultation were undertaken:
- Open consultation on the council’s website, promoted on the homepage
 - Email and briefing session to borough councillors inviting them to respond to the consultation online or by email/letter
 - Email to parish clerks inviting a formal response to the consultation online or by letter/email from the parish council as a whole and inviting individual responses from parish councillors.
 - Parish clerks were also requested to cascade notice of the review to local residents through relevant parish channels.
 - Article in Hinckley BID newsletter, distributed to 14000 members, schools and VCS partnership network.
- 4.2 Respondents were invited to comment on any existing or proposed polling district and polling place, as well as suggest alternative arrangements.
- 4.3 All notices and promotion of the review specifically highlighted the importance of views from voters with disabilities and encouraged responses.
- 4.4 A total of 19 responses were received, 14 of which included comments regarding a specific polling district, polling place or proposal. A summary of the consultation responses is appended to this report (Appendix B).
- 4.5 All responses have been considered in developing final recommendations and are referenced where relevant; however, where comments have been made regarding matters that are beyond the remit of the review, for example individual behaviour of polling station staff, these have been included in Appendix B only.

5 Format of comments and recommendations

- 5.1 (Acting) Returning Officer comments and recommendations are organised by parliamentary constituency (as per final recommendations of the 2023 parliamentary boundary review conducted by the Boundary Commission for England).
- 5.2 Within constituencies, comments are then organised alphabetically by borough ward and polling district.
- 5.3 Each table contains the following information:
- Polling district: the unique reference given to each polling district to identify it.

- Polling station electorate: the number of people registered to vote in the polling district who vote in person at the polling station. These figures are as of 1 August 2023.
- Polling place last approved by Council.
- Address of the location of the polling station at the most recent poll (May 2023)
- The number of polling stations provided in the polling place.
- The (Acting) Returning Officer's comments regarding the current polling district boundary.
- The (Acting) Returning Officer's comments regarding the current polling place and polling station arrangements.

5.4 Where relevant, maps of proposed boundary changes have been appended to this report (Appendix C).

6 (Acting) Returning Officer's comments and recommendations – Hinckley & Bosworth Constituency

6.1 Ambien Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
AAA	1392	Whole polling district of AAA	Stoke Golding Methodist Church Hall, Main Street, Stoke Golding, CV13 6HP	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish of Stoke Golding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Feedback from polling staff indicates hall provides reasonable facilities for voting. One comment was received from a voter during the consultation praising the venue for its location and accessibility (Appendix B, section 1.1)
AAB	621	Whole polling district of AAB	Higham-on-the-Hill Methodist Church Hall, Main Street, Higham-on-the-Hill, CV13 6AJ	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish of Higham-on-the-Hill. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Room used for polling is very small, but no issues reported, with queue management in place by staff. Level access to room is available via signposted alternative route. Feedback from polling staff indicates that hall provides reasonable facilities for voting in the circumstances. No comments were received during public consultation. No other suitable alternative location identified.
AAC	202	Combination of polling district AAC & AAD	Dadlington Village Hall, The Green, Dadlington, CV13 6JB	1 (AAC and AAD combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Dadlington. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding venue, despite it being located outside of the polling district boundary of AAD due to a lack of suitable alternatives. Feedback from polling staff notes that, although there is a disabled access ramp at the front of the building, there is a small step over the threshold that needs to be marked as a hazard. Otherwise, feedback from polling staff indicates that hall provides reasonable facilities for voting No comments were received during public consultation.
AAD	66	Combination of polling district AAC & AAD	Dadlington Village Hall, The Green, Dadlington, CV13 6JB	1 (AAC and AAD combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Shenton. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above One comment was received from a voter during the consultation to question why voters from Shenton must go to Dadlington to vote as they had previously voted at Sutton Cheney (Appendix B, section 1.1). Records indicate that voters in Shenton have been voting at Dadlington Village Hall since at least 2007, therefore this is an established venue for Shenton voters.
AAE	103	Whole polling district of AAE	Sutton Cheney Village Hall, Main Street, Sutton Cheney, CV13 0AG	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Sutton. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No location or accessibility issues reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Feedback from the Presiding Officer in May 2023 indicated that hall has excellent facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
AAF	63	Combination of polling districts AAF, AAG & AAH	Sibson Village Hall, Sheepy Road, Sibson, CV13 6LE	1 (AAF, AAG, AAH combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Upton. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polling station for polling districts AAF, AAG and AAH has been consistently located at for several years. No issues reported at this venue regarding location, despite the station being located outside of the polling district boundaries of AAF and AAH. The hall is large enough to facilitate multiple polling stations if the combination of parish wards required it. No accessibility concerns have been raised. Feedback from polling staff indicates that the hall has good facilities for polling. No comments were received during public consultation.
AAG	115	Combination of polling districts AAF, AAG & AAH	Sibson Village Hall, Sheepy Road, Sibson, CV13 6LE	1 (AAF, AAG, AAH combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Sibson. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above No comments were received during public consultation.
AAH	67	Combination of polling districts AAF, AAG & AAH	Sibson Village Hall, Sheepy Road, Sibson, CV13 6LE	1 (AAF, AAG, AAH combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Wellsborough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above No comments were received during public consultation.

Recommendations for Ambien Ward

- No change to polling district boundaries.
- All polling places are re-designated to reflect the specific location of their respective polling stations:
 - AAA – Stoke Golding Methodist Church Hall, Main Street
 - AAB – Higham-on-the-Hill Methodist Church Hall, Main Street
 - AAC – Dadlington Village Hall, The Green
 - AAD – Dadlington Village Hall, The Green
 - AAE – Sutton Cheney Village Hall, Main Street
 - AAF – Sibson Village Hall, Sheepy Road
 - AAG – Sibson Village Hall, Sheepy Road
 - AAH – Sibson Village Hall, Sheepy Road

6.2 Barlestone Nailstone & Osbaston Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
HCA	1586	Combination of polling districts HCA & HCB	Barlestone Community Centre, Bosworth Road, CV13 0HU	1 (HCA and HCB combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish of Barlestone. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Centre was agreed at last polling place review as a suitable alternative location and was moved from school due to Covid-19 mitigations in 2021. Centre is located close to both polling district boundaries, although just outside of HCB. No issues regarding location reported as a result of moving. Overall, feedback from polling staff indicates centre provides good facilities for voting that were preferable to the primary school, specifically improved parking facilities. No comments were received during public consultation.
HCB	151	Combination of polling districts HCA & HCB	Barlestone Community Centre, Bosworth Road, CV13 0HU	1 (HCA and HCB combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish of Osbaston. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above No comments were received during public consultation.
HCC	412	Whole polling district of HCC	All Saint's Church, Church Lane, Nailstone, CV13 0QH	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish of Nailstone. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church was agreed at last polling place review as suitable location due to complaints from use of local primary school. No issues reported regarding the location, although parking is noted to be on-street and poor. Shallow step into church, but no complaints raised regarding accessibility. Feedback from polling staff notes that lighting and heating is not ideal in colder months, but mitigating equipment can be provided. Overall, with mitigations, church provides reasonable facilities for voting in the circumstances. No comments were received during public consultation.

Recommendations for Barlestone, Nailstone & Osbaston Ward

- No change to polling district boundaries.
- All polling places are re-designated to reflect the specific location of their respective polling stations:
 - HCA – Barlestone Community Centre, Bosworth Road
 - HCB – Barlestone Community Centre, Bosworth Road
 - HCC – All Saint's Church, Church Lane, Nailstone

6.3 Barwell Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
BAA	2001	Whole polling district of BAA	Jubilee Hall, Byron Street, Barwell, LE9 8AF	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Redhall. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No location or accessibility issues reported at venue, which has been in use since 2018. Feedback from the polling staff indicates that hall provides reasonable facilities for voters. No comments were received during public consultation.
BAB	2019	Whole polling district of BAB	George Ward Centre, Church Lane, Barwell, LE9 8DG	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of St Marys. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location also hosts polling station for BAC, though not combined. No location or accessibility issues reported at venue, which has been in use for this polling district since 2016, despite location being just south of the polling district boundary. Feedback from the polling staff indicates that centre provides excellent facilities for voters. No comments were received during public consultation.
BAC	1949	Whole polling district of BAC	George Ward Centre, Church Lane, Barwell, LE9 8DG	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Charnwood. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above At last polling place review in 2019, Barwell Village Hall was most frequently used, however since 2019 has been frequently difficult to book hall at short notice in timely manner. No complaints have been received as a result of the move. No comments were received during public consultation.

Recommendations for Barwell Ward

- No change to polling district boundaries.
- All polling places are re-designated to reflect the specific location of their respective polling stations:
 - BAA – Jubilee Hall, Byron Street, Barwell
 - BAB – George Ward Centre, Church Lane, Barwell
 - BAC – George Ward Centre, Church Lane, Barwell

6.4 Burbage Sketchley & Stretton Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
CAB	2432	Combination of all Burbage wards	Burbage Millennium Hall, Britannia Road, Burbage, LE10 2HF	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Stretton. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No location or accessibility issues reported at venue, which has been used for several years. Feedback from polling staff indicates that location provides reasonable facilities for voters with multiple rooms available if required. Polling station electorate exceeds Electoral Commission recommendations; however, no issues reported regarding queuing or a lack of resource at polling station in recent polls. Increased poll clerk ratio is applied as mitigation, due to difficulties sourcing presiding officers to manage a new station. Polling station provision to be reviewed regularly as electorate changes. One comment was received from a voter during the public consultation to praise the location and its accessibility.
CAC	2353	Combination of all Burbage wards	Sketchley Grange Hotel, Sketchley Lane, Burbage, LE10 3HU	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Sketchley. Geographical spread of polling district is not ideal; however, splitting area to allow voters to be allocated to other polling places would not reduce distance of travel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues regarding location reported in recent years despite the size of the polling district. Feedback reported by polling station staff noted that the internal disabled ramp is quite steep. This feedback was echoed in the one response received from a voter during the public consultation: <i>"I am partially disabled. I cannot access the polling station via the stairs because there is no hand rail. There is an adjacent slope which is very steep and again no rail. I need a person to assist me to unable me to the actual polling area or as I know has been done for the ballot paper to be brought up to the landing to the voter for their vote to be cast. Neither proper access to the polling area or the paper to be brought to the voter is very satisfactory. The simple answer is for a rail to be installed by the hotel."</i> (Appendix B, section 1.4) There are no suitable alternative locations that could accommodate the size of electorate of CAC within its boundary, therefore it is determined that the hotel still provides reasonable facilities in the circumstances. However, Electoral Services will work with the Hotel to ensure the provisions on polling day are improved. Polling station electorate exceeds Electoral Commission recommendations; however, no issues reported regarding queuing or a lack of resource at polling station in recent polls. Increased poll clerk ratio is applied as mitigation, due to difficulties sourcing presiding officers to manage a new station. Polling station provision to be reviewed regularly as electorate changes.
CAD	1820	Combination of all Burbage wards	Pentecostal Church, Tilton Road, Burbage, LE10 2SE	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Tilton. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No location or accessibility issues reported at venue, which has been used for several years. Feedback from polling staff indicates that church provides reasonable facilities for voters. No comments were received during public consultation.

Recommendations for Burbage Sketchley & Stretton ward

- No change to polling district boundaries.
- All polling places are re-designated to reflect the specific location of their respective polling stations:
 - CAB – Burbage Millennium Hall, Britannia Road, Burbage
 - CAC– Sketchley Grange Hotel, Sketchley Lane, Burbage
 - CAD– Pentecostal Church, Tilton Road, Burbage

6.5 Burbage St Catherines & Lash Hill Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
CAA	1431	Combination of all Burbage wards	Burbage Methodist Church, Windsor Street, Burbage, LE10 2EE	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of St Catherines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No location or accessibility issues reported at venue, despite being at the very south of polling district. Feedback from the polling staff indicates that church provides reasonable facilities for voters having recently been rebuilt. No comments were received during public consultation.
CAE	2288	Combination of all Burbage wards	Higham Way Baptist Church, Higham Way, Burbage, LE10 2PX	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Lash Hill. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polling station electorate just exceeds Electoral Commission recommendations; however, no issues reported regarding queuing or a lack of resource at polling station in recent polls. Should polling station electorate fluctuate significantly (i.e. number of postal voters in area decreases). increased poll clerk ratio is applied as mitigation, due to difficulties sourcing presiding officers to manage a new station. Polling station provision to be reviewed regularly as electorate changes. Feedback from the polling staff indicates that church provides reasonable facilities for voters. No comments were received during public consultation.

Recommendations for Burbage St Catherines and Lash Hill Ward

- No change to polling district boundaries.
- All polling places are re-designated to reflect the specific location of their respective polling stations:
 - CAA – Burbage Methodist Church, Windsor Street, Burbage
 - CAE– Higham Way Baptist Church, Higham Way, Burbage

6.6 Cadeby Carlton & Market Bosworth with Shackerstone Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
JAA	216	Combination of polling district JAA & JAB	Barton in the Beans Former County Primary School, Main Street, Barton in the Beans, CV13 0DJ	1 (JAA and JAB combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Barton. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Feedback from polling staff indicates hall provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
JAB	87	Combination of polling district JAA & JAB	Barton in the Beans Former County Primary School, Main Street, Barton in the Beans, CV13 0DJ	1 (JAA and JAB combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Odstone. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above No complaints regarding location despite polling place being outside polling district boundary No comments were received during public consultation.
JAC	247	Combination of polling district JAC & JAD	Congerstone Village Hall, Main Street, Congerstone, CV13 6LZ	1 (JAC and JAD combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Congerstone. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Feedback from polling staff indicates hall has pronounced threshold to UPVC door but did not cause difficulty. Overall, hall provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
JAD	44	Combination of polling district JAC & JAD	Congerstone Village Hall, Main Street, Congerstone, CV13 6LZ	1 (JAC and JAD combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Bilstone. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above No complaints regarding location despite polling place being outside polling district boundary. No comments were received during public consultation.
JAE	121	Whole polling district of JAE	Shackerstone Village Hall, Church Road, Shackerstone, CV13 6NN	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Shackerstone. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No location issues reported, which has been used for many years. Feedback from Presiding Officer in May 2023 indicated that external lighting did not work, which may be issue in winter polls. Overall, hall provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
JAF	144	Whole polling district of JAF	Cadeby Church Room, Church Lane, Cadeby, CV13 0AT	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish of Cadeby. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to room and inside not ideal due to large step up from path and large equipment inside. Path at front of church room is too narrow for ramp, and entrance to rear is via private property. Residents have complained regarding use of ramp on their property in past. Polling station temporarily located at All Saints Church in 2019 due to refurbishment of church room, but also not ideal as polling place due to lack of toilet or kitchen facilities and limited internal space to vote in secret. There have also been consistent issues with delivery of equipment to this venue. Three comments were received during the public consultation, all from voters (Appendix B, section 1.6): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two comments praised the venue for its central location and convenience One comment echoed concerns regarding the high step and lack of access for disabled voters, expressing a preference for the Church. Overall, the church room is still considered to provide reasonable facilities for voting in the circumstances. However, Electoral Services will work with the church room to improve accessibility provision at the next poll. If there is no improvement, consideration will be given to reversion to the All Saints Church.
JAG	264	Whole polling district of JAG	St Andrews Church, Main Street, Carlton, CV13 0EZ	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish of Carlton. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Recent addition of toilet facilities and kitchen have much improved staff comfort. Feedback from polling staff indicates hall provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
JAH	1458	Whole polling district of JAH	Market Bosworth Parish Hall, Park Street, Market Bosworth, CV13 0LL	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish of Market Bosworth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years, however some comments made in 2023 regarding parking, which is on street. Feedback from polling staff indicates hall provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.

Recommendations for Cadeby Carlton & Market Bosworth with Shackerstone Ward

- No change to polling district boundaries.
- All polling places are re-designated to reflect the specific location of their respective polling stations:
 - JAA – Barton in the Beans Former County Primary School, Main Street, Barton in the Beans
 - JAB – Barton in the Beans Former County Primary School, Main Street, Barton in the Beans

- JAC – Congerstone Village Hall, Main Street, Congerstone
- JAD – Congerstone Village Hall, Main Street, Congerstone
- JAE – Shackerstone Village Hall, Church Road, Shackerstone
- JAF – Cadeby Church Room, Church Lane, Cadeby (with a review of accessibility provision and a review following the next poll)
- JAG – St Andrews Church, Main Street, Carlton
- JAH – Market Bosworth Parish Hall, Park Street, Market Bosworth

6.7 Earl Shilton Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
FAA	1128	Whole of Earl Shilton ward	Earl Shilton Baptist Church, Mill Lane, Earl Shilton, LE9 7AW	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with town council ward of Church. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No location or accessibility issues reported at venue, which has been in use for many years, however parking is limited. Feedback from the polling staff indicates that church provides reasonable facilities for voters. No comments were received during public consultation.
FAB	1916	Whole of Earl Shilton ward	St Simon and St Jude's Church Hall, High Street, Earl Shilton, LE9 7LR	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with town council ward of Weavers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No location or accessibility issues reported at venue, which has been in use for many years. Feedback from the polling staff indicates that church is much improved after refurbishment and provides reasonable facilities for voters No comments were received during public consultation.
FAC	2079	Whole of Earl Shilton ward	Earl Shilton Methodist Church, Wood Street, Earl Shilton, LE9 7ND	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with town council ward of Townlands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No location or accessibility issues reported at venue, which has been in use since 2015. Feedback from the polling staff indicates that church provides reasonable facilities for voters. No comments were received during public consultation.
FAD	1668	Whole of Earl Shilton ward	Portacabin at Heath Lane Academy, Heath Lane Earl Shilton	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with town council ward of Westfield 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There has been consistent difficulty establishing a regular location due to FAD being a largely residential area and closure of Heathfield Academy. Unsuccessful alternative arrangements tested at previous polls: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heath Lane Academy Sports Hall (accessibility and safeguarding issues) Earl Shilton Methodist Church (suitable polling place already in use 1.1 miles from furthest point of boundary, but deemed too far for voters to travel by local councillors) Polling station has been hosted in a portacabin since 2017, located in car park of Heath Lane and Academy, and for some time, consistently at Newlands Community Primary School, which is the most central of the school locations in the polling district. Car park is no longer available for use at Newlands School, therefore arrangements reverted to Heath Lane Academy in 2023. Investigations in 2023 were conducted into use of land on derelict Heathfield Academy site but was deemed unsafe. Investigations in 2023 into Stoneygate Sports Club could not establish contact or ownership, and site outside deemed unsuitable to house portacabin. Feedback from staff indicates portacabin does not provide adequate facilities for polling staff but does function for purposes of voting. Feedback from residents indicate generators required for the portacabins are noisy, further limiting potential locations considering polling district is largely residential. One comment was received from an elected representative to suggest pursuing use of Newlands Community Primary School would be preferable (Appendix B, section 1.14). This arrangement would require working with the school over a period of time to ensure that any arrangements have suitable safeguarding.

Recommendations for Earl Shilton Ward

- No change to polling district boundaries.
- The following polling places are re-designated to reflect the specific location of their respective polling stations:
 - FAA – Earl Shilton Baptist Church Hall, Mill Lane, Earl Shilton
 - FAB – St Simon and St Judes Church Hall, High Street, Earl Shilton
 - FAC – Earl Shilton Methodist Church, Wood Street, Earl Shilton
- The polling place for FAD to be designated as 'Belle Vue Road and Heath Lane Academy' as a temporary measure while use of Newlands Community Primary School is discussed with the school. This designation provides flexibility to revert to previous portacabin arrangements should a suitable agreement not be reached in time for the next poll.

6.8 Hinckley Castle Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
DAA	1300	Whole of Hinckley Castle ward	Mount Road Baptist Church, Mount Road, Hinckley, LE10 1AD	1 (combined with DAB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area unparished, therefore not restrained by parish boundaries. Current boundary is moderately sized, but always combined with DAB 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although polling station electorate is adequate for one station, areas are combined, requiring staff check multiple registers. Combined electorate is close to Electoral Commission maximum guidance, therefore polling station provision at location will be reviewed regularly as electorate changes. Some issues previously reported regarding the lack of parking, with voters using the nursery next door to park, despite a public car park located directly next door (although not directly accessible from Mount Road). Poll card messaging regarding parking and signage used to mitigate issues and not a long-term concern. No complaints regarding location despite it being outside of boundary of DAA. Overall, location provides reasonable facilities for voters. In 2021, St Mary's C of E Church used as alternative due to Covid 19 restrictions and provided reasonable facilities. Would be a suitable alternative if required, but booking costs are considerably more expensive and would be borne by HBBC at local elections if made long-term arrangement. No comments were received about this location specifically during public consultation.
DAB	923	Whole of Hinckley Castle ward	Mount Road Baptist Church, Mount Road, Hinckley, LE10 1AD	1 (combined with DAA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area unparished, therefore not restrained by parish boundaries. Current boundary and electorate are small and always combined with DAA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above Mary Forryan Centre is within current boundary of DAB, and would be closer for voters in DAB, but location is already at capacity. No comments were received about this location specifically during public consultation
DAC	1515	Whole of Hinckley Castle ward	Trinity Centre, Marchant Road, Hinckley, LE10 0LQ <i>(address previously Trinity Vicarage Road)</i>	1 (combined with DAD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area unparished, therefore not restrained by parish boundaries. Current boundary is moderately sized, but always combined with DAD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although polling station electorate is adequate for one station, due to size of neighbouring DAD and lack of available venues, areas are combined, requiring staff check multiple registers. Combined electorate is close to Electoral Commission maximum guidance, therefore polling station provision at location will be reviewed regularly as electorate changes. No issues regarding location or accessibility reported. Feedback from polling staff indicates centre provides reasonable facilities for voters.
DAD	509	Whole of Hinckley Castle ward	Trinity Centre, Marchant Road, Hinckley, LE10 0LQ <i>(address previously Trinity Vicarage Road)</i>	1 (combined with DAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area unparished, therefore not restrained by parish boundaries. Current boundary are small and always combined with DAC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above No complaints received regarding location despite being outside of boundary. Westfield Community Centre is marginally closer for voters at south of DAD, but location is small and already at capacity. Two comments were received during public consultation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One comment from a voter praised the Trinity Centre for its facilities, location, and parking (Appendix B, section 1.8) One comment from an elected representative suggested voters for DAD go to Westfield Community Centre instead, along with voters for EAA (Appendix B, section 1.14). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A fresh review of Westfield Community Centre was conducted and found that current room within the centre would be able to cope with an increase in footfall and there is availability for a second polling station to be located in the lobby area should the areas need to be separated for local elections. The registers for the two areas cannot be combined due to differing wards – this introduces complexity to polling station procedures for staff. The quality of the car park is a concern in the dark due to several large potholes that have worsened since the last review and may be exacerbated by increased numbers of cars parking. Records indicate that voters in DAD have voted at Trinity Centre since at least 2010, and at the old Hinckley Leisure Centre site next door prior to this, therefore it would be a significant change.

Recommendations for Hinckley Castle Ward

- The boundaries of DAA and DAB are merged to create a new polling district DAA (Appendix C, Map 1). The resulting change will not affect the polling place for the voters in this area, but will simplify boundaries that are no longer serving an electoral purpose and streamlines polling station procedures.
- The boundaries of DAC and DAD are merged to create a new polling district (Appendix C, Map 2) for the same reasons as above. This polling district will be labelled as DAB to maintain the sequencing of the scheme.
- The polling place for new polling district DAA is designated as Mount Road Baptist Church, Mount Road, Hinckley.
- The polling place for new polling district DAB is designated as Trinity Centre, Marchant Road, Hinckley

6.9 Hinckley Clarendon Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
EAA	439	Whole of Hinckley Clarendon ward	Westfield Community Centre, Rosemary Way, Hinckley, LE10 0LN	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area unparished, therefore not restrained by parish boundaries. Current boundary is very small, but not historically combined with another electorate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No accessibility or location issues reported regarding general polling place, although some complaints were raised in 2023 regarding the change of room within community centre site, due to planned demolition of kid's club. Feedback from polling staff indicates that centre provides reasonable facilities for voters.
EAB	1754	Whole of Hinckley Clarendon ward	Hope Community Church, Deveron Way, Hinckley, LE10 0XD	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area unparished, therefore not restrained by parish boundaries. Current boundary bisects several streets, resulting in neighbours attending different polling stations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No accessibility or location issues reported at venue, which has been used for many years, although polling place is slightly outside of polling district boundary. Church is located in and around other local amenities that serve community. Feedback from polling staff indicates that church provides reasonable facilities for voters. Church has alternative room available due to closure of playgroup, therefore proposals to allocate another polling station would not affect the existing arrangements due to a separate entrance. One comment was received from a voter during the public consultation praising the facilities at Hope Community Church over an alternative venue that was previously used (Redmoor Academy). (Appendix B, section 1.9)
EAC	1889	Whole of Hinckley Clarendon ward	St Johns Church Centre, Coventry Road, Hinckley, LE10 0NF	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area unparished, therefore not restrained by parish boundaries. Current boundary is geographically very large, in an 'L' shape. Most properties concentrated to southwest corner of boundary, however new residential area to north is developing, separated by Harrowbrook Industrial Estate. Although currently small, expected increase in electorate will cause future strain on polling arrangements for EAC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No location or accessibility issues reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Feedback from polling staff indicates that location has excellent facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
EAD	1947	Whole of Hinckley Clarendon ward	St Johns Church Centre, Coventry Road, Hinckley, LE10 0NF	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area unparished, therefore not restrained by parish boundaries. No issues identified with current boundary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above No location issues reported despite being just outside polling district boundary, likely as location is on main road. No comments were received during public consultation.

Recommendations for Hinckley Clarendon Ward

- No change to the boundaries of polling districts EAA and EAD
- The boundary of EAB is extended westwards to meet the natural boundaries of the Ashby Canal, Harrow Brook, and the A4/Normandy Way (Appendix C, Map 3). This better represents the shape of the neighbourhood.
- The north part of EAC is separated to make a new polling district EAE (Appendix C, Map 4 and 5) for the Normandy Way development, so that another polling place can be allocated flexibly as the development progresses.
- All polling places are designated to reflect the specific location of their respective polling stations:
 - EAA – Westfield Community Centre, Rosemary Way, Hinckley
 - EAB – Hope Community Church, Deveron Way, Hinckley
 - EAC – St Johns Church Centre, Coventry Road, Hinckley
 - EAD – St Johns Church Centre, Coventry Road, Hinckley
- The polling place for new polling district EAE is designated temporarily as Hope Community Church, Deveron Way, Hinckley as this is the closest existing polling place. A section 106 agreement for the Normandy Way development includes provision of a primary school to serve the area, therefore this temporary designation would remain until the potential school is approached for its availability and reviewed for its suitability. Due to the small number of electors, the polling station electorate for EAE could be combined with EAB.
 - One comment was received from an elected representative during the public consultation to suggest the use of a portacabin for this area and then pursue use of the planned school when it is built (Appendix B, section 1.14).
 - As and when the development grows southwards and residency increases, a portacabin option could be explored.

6.10 Hinckley De Montfort Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
ABA	2477	Whole of polling district ABA	St Francis Community Centre, Tudor Road, Hinckley, LE10 0EQ	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area unparished, therefore not restrained by parish boundaries. Current boundary is geographically large and considerably more densely populated at south end. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polling station electorate necessitates provision of two polling stations at location. As location also hosts a combined polling station for ACA and ACB (Hinckley Trinity), location is often busy, with feedback from polling staff indicating that voters find the arrangement confusing. Location is just within polling district boundary, at far-west edge. However, no complaints reported regarding location. No accessibility concerns reported and feedback from polling staff indicates centre provides reasonable facilities for voting.
ABB	728	Whole of Hinckley De Montfort Ward	Mary Forryan Centre, Leicester Road, Hinckley, LE10 1LW	1 (combined with half of ABC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area unparished, therefore not restrained by parish boundaries. No issues identified with current boundary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although polling station electorate is adequate for one station, due to size of neighbouring ABC, ABB is combined with half of ABC, requiring staff check multiple registers. Feedback from previous polls indicate that location, especially the combined polling station, is consistently busy due to overall electorate. Although venue is noted to provide reasonable facilities for voting (see below), one comment was received from an elected representative during the public consultation to suggest an alternative location within the boundary of ABB, Hinckley Methodist Church, Albert Road. (Appendix B, section 1.14) This location was assessed for its suitability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall church was found to provide suitable facilities for voting within the relevant polling district. It was noted that there is no dedicated parking at the location, but is served by several other surrounding car parks, with potential for disabled parking to be temporarily designated for the day in land adjacent to the church. Designating a separate location for this polling station will reduce the burden on Mary Forryan Centre and matches previous arrangements for this area (before 2014).
ABC	3341	Whole of Hinckley De Montfort Ward	Mary Forryan Centre, Leicester Road, Hinckley, LE10 1LW	2 (1 combined with ABB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area unparished, therefore not restrained by parish boundaries. Current boundary is geographically very large, with considerable development at outer edges since boundary was established. Boundary requires voters to travel significant distance to the polling place regardless of where it is located and therefore would benefit being split 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback from previous polls indicate that location, especially the combined polling station, is consistently busy due to overall electorate. Location is just south of both ABB and ABC; however no suitable alternatives are identified within boundary of ABC (aside from schools). No complaints regarding location have been received. No accessibility concerns reported. Multiple rooms available at location if required to separate stations, however due to combination of one station, this is not practical. Overall centre provides reasonable facilities for voting in the circumstances.

Recommendations for Hinckley De Montfort Ward

- No change to the boundaries of polling district ABB.
- The boundaries between ABA and ABC are redrawn to create a new polling district ABD (Appendix C, Maps 6, 7 and 8), comprising the centre and north of the ward. This alleviates the burden on both St Francis Community Centre and Mary Forryan Centre as the resulting ABA and ABC polling station electorates would require only one polling station each. It also allows for voters in the north of ward to be sent to a different polling place that is closer, or more easily accessed.
- All polling places are re-designated to reflect the specific location of their respective polling stations:
 - ABA – St Francis Community Centre, Tudor Road, Hinckley
 - ABB – Hinckley Methodist Church, Albert Road, Hinckley
 - ABC – Mary Forryan Centre, Leicester Road, Hinckley
- The polling place for new polling district ABD is designated as Ashby Road Sports Club, Ashby Road, Hinckley, following a successful review of the location as a polling station, undertaken in August 2023:
 - The club is well placed to serve the new boundary, within 1 mile of the new boundary edge in any direction.
 - The club has multiple rooms and options for polling, with space on site for a portacabin as a final contingency if required.
 - Club management expressed a preference that the club bar remains open (hours from 5pm to 11pm) and access to any of the options available can be arranged via separate entrances.
 - Access for disabled voters is not ideal, but reasonable access could be made via external access to the rear of the building with suitable signposting.
 - Two comments were received regarding this recommendation during the consultation period:
 - A comment from a voter at St Francis Community Centre (Appendix B, section 1.10) expressed concern about the use of Ashby Road Sports Club, noting intentions for the bar to be open and disabled access.
 - As noted above, a route for disabled access can be made for the purposes of polling, with dedicated disabled parking to the rear, close to the level entrance. As discussed with the venue at the assessment, this would be supported by clear signage, staff presence for directing traffic and outdoor lighting if required. Arrangements with the opening hours will be discussed with the bar as part of the booking process.
 - A comment from an elected representative expressed support for the use of the club (Appendix B, section 1.14)

6.11 Hinckley Trinity Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
ACA	358	Whole of Hinckley Trinity Ward	St Francis Community Centre, Tudor Road, Hinckley, LE10 0EQ	1 (combined with ACB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area unparished, therefore not restrained by parish boundaries. Current boundary is very small, likely resulting from historical ward boundary changes, and is always combined with ACB 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As location also hosts two polling stations for ABA (Hinckley De Montfort), venue is often busy, with feedback from polling staff indicating that voters find the arrangement confusing. Polling station electorate is combined with ACB, requiring staff to check multiple registers. Location is just outside of the polling district boundary, but no complaints regarding location have been received. No accessibility concerns reported and feedback from polling staff indicates centre provides reasonable facilities for voting.
ACB	1227	Whole of Hinckley Trinity Ward	St Francis Community Centre, Tudor Road, Hinckley, LE10 0EQ	1 (combined with ACA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area unparished, therefore not restrained by parish boundaries. Current boundary is offset after crossing A47/Normandy Way, creating an area that appears unattached to any polling district 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above
ACC	2957	Whole of Hinckley Trinity Ward	Portacabins at Wykin Community Park, Hinckley	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area unparished, therefore not restrained by parish boundaries. Current boundary is geographically very large, requiring voters to travel significant distance to polling place regardless of where it is located. Polling district would benefit from being split to allow smaller numbers of voters to be allocated to separate locations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polling station electorate necessitates provision of two polling stations at location. There has been significant difficulty establishing a regular polling place in this district partly due to the distance it requires for voters to travel and the size of venue required to accommodate them. Previous arrangements have been unsatisfactory or are no longer available: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redmoor Academy (disruptive to students and accessibility issues arising from school's safeguarding measures.) Wykin and District Social Club (no longer available due to league commitments) Portacabins on Wykin Community Park (poor accessibility, staff felt unsafe and several complaints from voters received) Two possible locations are identified following on-site reviews, but would be unsuitable unless polling district was split geographically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gwendoline Community House (well-located in North but too small to provide reasonable facilities to whole area) Hope Community Church (well-located in South, but too far for voters in north to reasonably travel.

Recommendations for Hinckley Trinity Ward

- The boundaries of ACA and ACB are merged to create a new polling district ACA (Appendix C, Map 9). As per a comment received from an elected representative during the consultation period (Appendix B, section 1.14), the initial proposal to shift the boundary north of the A47/Normandy Way to Stoke Lane is rejected due to complications caused by county division boundaries. ACA and ACB will still be merged, but the north boundary will remain as it is. The resulting change will not affect the polling place for the voters in this area. These changes simplify boundaries that are no longer serving an electoral purpose and streamlines polling station procedures.
- The area of polling district ACC is split across the middle to create two new smaller polling districts, ACB (labelled as such to maintain sequencing) and ACC (Appendix C, Maps 10 and 11). This allows voters in the far north and south of the area to travel to separate polling places.
- The polling place for new polling district ACA is designated as St Francis Community Centre, Tudor Road, Hinckley to reflect the specific location of their respective polling stations:
- The polling place for new ACB is designated as Hope Community Church, Deveron Way Hinckley:
 - The church is an existing polling place for polling district EAB and has proven to provide reasonable voting facilities for many years.
 - The polling station for new ACB would be located in a second room, accessible from a separate entrance adjacent to Sainsbury's, keeping voters from two different wards separate at local elections. This room has only recently become available due to the closure of the playgroup.
- The polling place for new ACC is designated as Gwendoline Community House, Gwendoline Avenue, Hinckley:
 - The community house is an existing HBBC asset and therefore is available at short notice and at no extra cost.
 - Although small, the building would provide suitable facilities for reduced polling station electorate resulting from the split of the existing polling district.
- One comment was received from an elected representative during the public consultation expressing support for the above (Appendix B, section 1.14)

6.12 Newbold Verdon with Desford & Peckleton Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
IAA	307	Whole of polling district IAA	Botcheston Village Hall, Main Street, Botcheston, LE9 9FF	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Bufton. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Feedback from polling staff indicates hall provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
IAB	2625	Whole of polling district IAB	St Martins Church Centre, Main Street, Desford, LE9 9JP	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Desford. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at location, which has been used for many years. Feedback from polling staff indicates hall provides reasonable excellent for voting. Polling station electorate exceeds Electoral Commission recommendations; however, no issues reported regarding queuing or a lack of resource at polling station in recent polls. Increased poll clerk ratio is applied as mitigation, due to difficulties sourcing presiding officers to manage a new station. One comment was received from a voter during the public consultation to express a need for more staff at location, as noted above. (Appendix B, section 1.12)
IAC	255	Whole of polling district IAC	Kirkby Mallory School Room, Church Road, Kirkby Mallory, LE9 7QE	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Kirkby Mallory. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years, although All Saint's Church used in 2021 due to covid restrictions. Feedback from polling staff indicates room provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
IAD	163	Whole of polling district IAD	Peckleton Village Hall, Main Street, Peckleton, LE9 7RE	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Peckleton. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Feedback from polling staff indicates hall provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
IAE	294	Whole of polling district IAE	Stapleton Village Hall, School Lane, Stapleton, LE9 8JR	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Stapleton. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Feedback from polling staff indicates hall provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
IAF	2125	Whole of polling district IAF	Community Lounge, Newbold Verdon Community Primary School, Dragon Lane, Newbold Verdon, LE9 9NG	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish of Newbold Verdon. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Although location is a school, access to community lounge is separate to school entrance so does not disrupt students or pose extra safeguarding issues. Feedback from polling staff indicates school provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.

Recommendations for Newbold Verdon with Desford & Peckleton Ward

- No change to polling district boundaries.
- All polling places are re-designated to reflect the specific location of their respective polling stations:
 - IAA – Botcheston Village Hall, Main Street, Botcheston
 - IAB – St Martins Church Centre, Main Street, Desford
 - IAC – Kirkby Mallory School Room, Church Road, Kirkby Mallory
 - IAC – Peckleton Village Hall, Peckleton Village Hall, Main Street, Peckleton
 - IAE – Stapleton Village Hall, School Lane, Stapleton
 - IAF – Newbold Verdon Primary School, Dragon Lane, Newbold Verdon

6.13 Twycross Witherley & Sheepy Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
JBA	609	Whole of polling district JBA	All Saints Church, Main Road, Sheepy Magna, CV9 3QS	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Sheepy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Feedback from polling staff indicates hall provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
JBB	195	Whole of polling district JBB	Norton Juxta Twycross Village Hall, Orton Lane, Norton-Juxta-Twycross, CV9 3PU	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Gopsall. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at location, which has been used for many years. Feedback from polling staff indicates hall provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
JBC	139	Combination of polling district JBC & JBD	Twycross Village Hall, Burbage Road, Twycross, CV9 3PR	1 (JBC and JBD combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Orton. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years, despite polling place being outside polling district boundary in JBD. Mobile phone coverage is poor in local area. Feedback from polling staff indicates hall provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
JBD	233	Combination of polling district JBC & JBD	Twycross Village Hall, Burbage Road, Twycross, CV9 3PR	1 (JBC and JBD combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Twycross. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above. No comments were received during public consultation.
JBE	343	Combination of polling district JBE & JBF	St Michael and All Angels C of E Parish Church, Church Lane, Fenny Drayton, CV13 6BA	1 (JBE and JBF combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Fenny Drayton. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Feedback from polling staff indicates church provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
JBF	20	Combination of polling district JBE & JBF	St Michael and All Angels C of E Parish Church, Church Lane, Fenny Drayton, CV13 6BA	1 (JBE and JBF combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish of Atterton. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above No issues regarding location, despite it being outside polling district in JBE. No comments were received during public consultation.
JBG	124	Whole of polling district JBG	All Saints Church, Church Lane, Ratcliffe Culey, CV9 3PA	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Ratcliffe. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Feedback from polling staff indicates church provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
JBH	508	Whole of polling district JBH	Witherley Parish Room, Chapel Lane, Witherley, CV9 3LR	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Market Bosworth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Feedback from polling staff indicates room provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.

Recommendations for Twycross Witherley & Sheepy Ward

- No change to polling district boundaries.
- All polling places are re-designated to reflect the specific location of their respective polling stations:
 - JBA – All Saints Church, Main Road, Sheepy Magna
 - JBB – Norton Juxta Twycross Village Hall, Orton Lane, Norton-Juxta-Twycross
 - JBC – Twycross Village Hall, Burbage Road, Twycross
 - JBD – Twycross Village Hall, Burbage Road, Twycross
 - JBE – St Michael and All Angels C of E Parish Church, Church Lane, Fenny Drayton
 - JBF – St Michael and All Angels C of E Parish Church, Church Lane, Fenny Drayton
 - JBG – All Saints Church, Church Lane, Ratcliffe Culey
 - JBH – Witherley Parish Room, Chapel Lane, Witherley

7 (Acting) Returning Officer's comments and recommendations – Mid Leicestershire Constituency

7.1 Groby Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
GAA	2478	Combination of polling district GAA & GAB	Groby Village Hall, Leicester Road, Groby, LE6 0DJ	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is mostly coterminous with northern border of parish ward of Groby. Although district is still geographically large, there is no material benefit to separating polling district further due to lack of suitable alternatives in north. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polling station electorate exceeds Electoral Commission guidance. History of queuing at location if two polling stations not provided at parliamentary election therefore two stations provided. Location hosts further polling station for GAB in separate room. No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years, Feedback from polling staff indicates hall provides reasonable facilities for voting. One comment was received from Groby Parish Council during the public consultation in support of maintaining Groby Village Hall as the polling place (Appendix B, section 2.1).
GAB	1878	Combination of polling district GAA & GAB	Groby Village Hall, Leicester Road, Groby, LE6 0DJ	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is mostly coterminous with southern border of parish ward of Groby No issues identified with current boundary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above No issues reported regarding location despite being just outside polling district.

Recommendations for Groby Ward

- No change to polling district boundaries.
- All polling places are re-designated to reflect the specific location of their respective polling stations:
 - GAA – Groby Village Hall, Leicester Road, Groby
 - GAB – Groby Village Hall, Leicester Road, Groby

7.2 Markfield Stanton & Field Head Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
HAA	2776	Combination of polling district HAA & HAD	Markfield Community and Sports Centre, Mayflower Close, Markfield, LE67 9ST	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is mostly coterminous with parish of Markfield, with northern area of parish separate to allow voters to travel to polling place in HAC, which is closer. Although district is still geographically large, there is no material benefit to separating polling district further. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polling station electorate exceeds Electoral Commission guidance considerably, necessitating provision of two polling stations. Location hosts further polling station for HAD in separate room. No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years, Feedback from polling staff indicates centre provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
HAB	228	Combination of polling district HAB & HAC	Stanton Under Bardon Village Hall, St John Cole Crescent, Stanton Under Bardon, LE67 9AE	1 (HAB and HAC combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is mostly coterminous with northern part of Markfield parish Area is separated to allow voters to attend polling place in Stanton Under Bardon, which is closer, but cannot be combined with Stanton Under Bardon due to parish boundary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polling station electorate is very small, therefore is combined in one station with electorate from HAC. No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used since 2016, despite location being outside of polling district. Feedback from polling staff indicates hall provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation.
HAC	541	Combination of polling district HAB & HAC	Stanton Under Bardon Village Hall, St John Cole Crescent, Stanton Under Bardon, LE67 9AE	1 (HAB and HAC combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish of Stanton Under Bardon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above. No comments were received during public consultation.
HAD	374	Combination of polling district HAA & HAD	Markfield Community and Sports Centre, Mayflower Close, Markfield, LE67 9ST	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Field Head 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polling station has, on occasion, been combined with one half of HAA at parliamentary elections due to small size of HAD electorate. However, due to mix of boundaries, historic queuing issues and for consistency with local elections that require that HAD has its own station, it is determined that it remains a single station. As above, no issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported and feedback indicates centre provides reasonable facilities for voting. One comment was received from Groby Parish Council during the public consultation in support of maintaining Groby Village Hall as the polling place (Appendix B, section 2.1).

Recommendations for Markfield Stanton & Field Head Ward

- No change to polling district boundaries.
- All polling places are re-designated to reflect the specific location of their respective polling stations:
 - HAA – Markfield Community and Sports Centre, Mayflower Close, Markfield
 - HAB – Stanton Under Bardon Village Hall, St John Cole Crescent, Stanton Under Bardon
 - HAC – Stanton Under Bardon Village Hall, St John Cole Crescent, Stanton Under Bardon
 - HAD – Markfield Community and Sports Centre, Mayflower Close, Markfield

7.3 Ratby Bagworth & Thornton Ward

Polling District	Polling station electorate	Polling Place last approved by Council	Address of polling station(s) at last poll	Number of polling stations	(A)RO comments: polling district	(A)RO comments: polling place
HBA	1113	Combination of polling district HAA & HAD	Bagworth Community Centre, Station Road, Bagworth, LE67 1BH	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Bagworth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Feedback from polling staff indicates centre provides reasonable facilities for voting. One comment from a voter was received during public consultation praising the centre for its excellent facilities. (Appendix B, section 2.3)
HBB	718	Combination of polling district HAB & HAC	Thornton Community Centre, Main Street, Thornton, LE67 1AH	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish ward of Thornton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues reported regarding location or accessibility reported at venue, which has been used for many years. Feedback from polling staff indicates centre provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation
HBC	3078	Combination of polling district HAB & HAC	Ratby Church Room, Church Lane, Ratby, LE6 0JF	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary is coterminous with parish of Ratby 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polling station electorate necessitates provision of two polling stations. No issues reported regarding location, however staff noted that hall is generally quite dark, even in daytime, with several voters remarking. Equipment will be sourced for future polls to mitigate. Overall location provides reasonable facilities for voting. No comments were received during public consultation

Recommendations for Ratby Bagworth & Thornton Ward

- No change to polling district boundaries.
- All polling places are re-designated to reflect the specific location of their respective polling stations:
 - HBA – Bagworth Community Centre, Station Road, Bagworth
 - HBB – Thornton Community Centre, Main Street, Thornton
 - HBC – Ratby Church Rooms, Church Lane, Ratby