



Report for:
ACTION

Item Number:

Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	NO
Title	Polling Place Changes Greater London Authority Elections 7 May 2020
Responsible Officer(s)	Helen Harris, Director of Legal & Democratic Services
Author(s)	Ross Jackson, Head of Elections
Portfolio(s)	Leader of the Council
For Consideration By	Boundaries Panel
Date to be Considered	16 October 2019
Implementation Date if Not Called In	N/A
Affected Wards	Acton Central, Ealing Common, Cleveland, Hobbayne, Norwood Green, Northfield
Keywords/Index	Polling Places, Polling Districts, Greater London Authority (GLA) elections

Purpose of Report:

To agree the replacement of SIX polling places in preparation for the forthcoming Greater London Authority (GLA) elections to be held on 7 May 2020 and for any elections held in the interim.

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Panel agree to:

- (i) A change of polling places for polling districts BDA, ED, KD, LA, TE and WF.
- (ii) Any agreed changes taking immediate effect.

2. Reason for Decision and Options Considered

The polling place changes for BDA, ED, KD, LA, TE and WF are recommended to facilitate forthcoming elections, for the reasons set out in Appendix 1.

3. Key Implications

The proposed polling place changes and the reasons for change are set out in Appendix 1.

4. Financial

a) Financial impact on the budget

The proposed changes for polling place changes BDA, KD, LA, TE and WF will be cost neutral.

The change associated for polling place ED will reduce costs by an estimated £4,000.

5. Legal

By virtue of section 18 of the Representation of People Act 1983 every electoral region is to be divided into polling districts with a polling place designated for each district. The places so designated are to be those designated for Local and Parliamentary elections and referenda.

Each polling district must have sufficient and suitable designated Polling Places that provide 'such reasonable facilities for voting that are practicable in the circumstances' including accessibility for electors with disabilities.

6. Value For Money

See 4.

7. Sustainability Impact Appraisal

N/A

8. Risk Management

A thorough risk assessment is undertaken of all Council and private premises used as polling places.

9. Community Safety

All the recommended polling places have been checked for safety and disabled access.

10. Links to Council Objectives

- **A healthy and great place**

11. Equalities, Human Rights and Community Cohesion

(a) Seek to ensure that all the electors in the area have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances

(b) Seek to ensure that so far as is reasonable and practicable, polling places are accessible to all electors, including those who are disabled, and when considering the designation of a polling place we must have regard to the accessibility needs of disabled persons.

12. Staffing/Workforce and Accommodation implications:

Where possible, fixed buildings are used as polling places. This achieves the best value for money, greatest level of control and certainty over the provision of polling stations.

13. Property and Assets

See 11

14. Any other implications:

None.

15. Consultation

The Returning Officer and Election Project Board have been consulted and have agreed the proposed changes.

16. Timetable for Implementation

The polling place changes need to be implemented with immediate effect, ahead of the Greater London Authority elections in May 2020, and for any elections or referenda in the interim.

17. Appendices

Appendix 1

18. Background Information

See 17

Consultation (Mandatory)

Name of consultee	Post held and Department	Date sent to consultee	Date received from consultee	Comments appear in report paragraph:
Internal				
Helen Harris	Director of Legal & Democratic Services	03/10/19		
External				

Report History

Decision type:	Urgency item?
Non-key decision	No

Report no.:	Report author and contact for queries: Ross Jackson
	First and surname, job title: Head of Elections

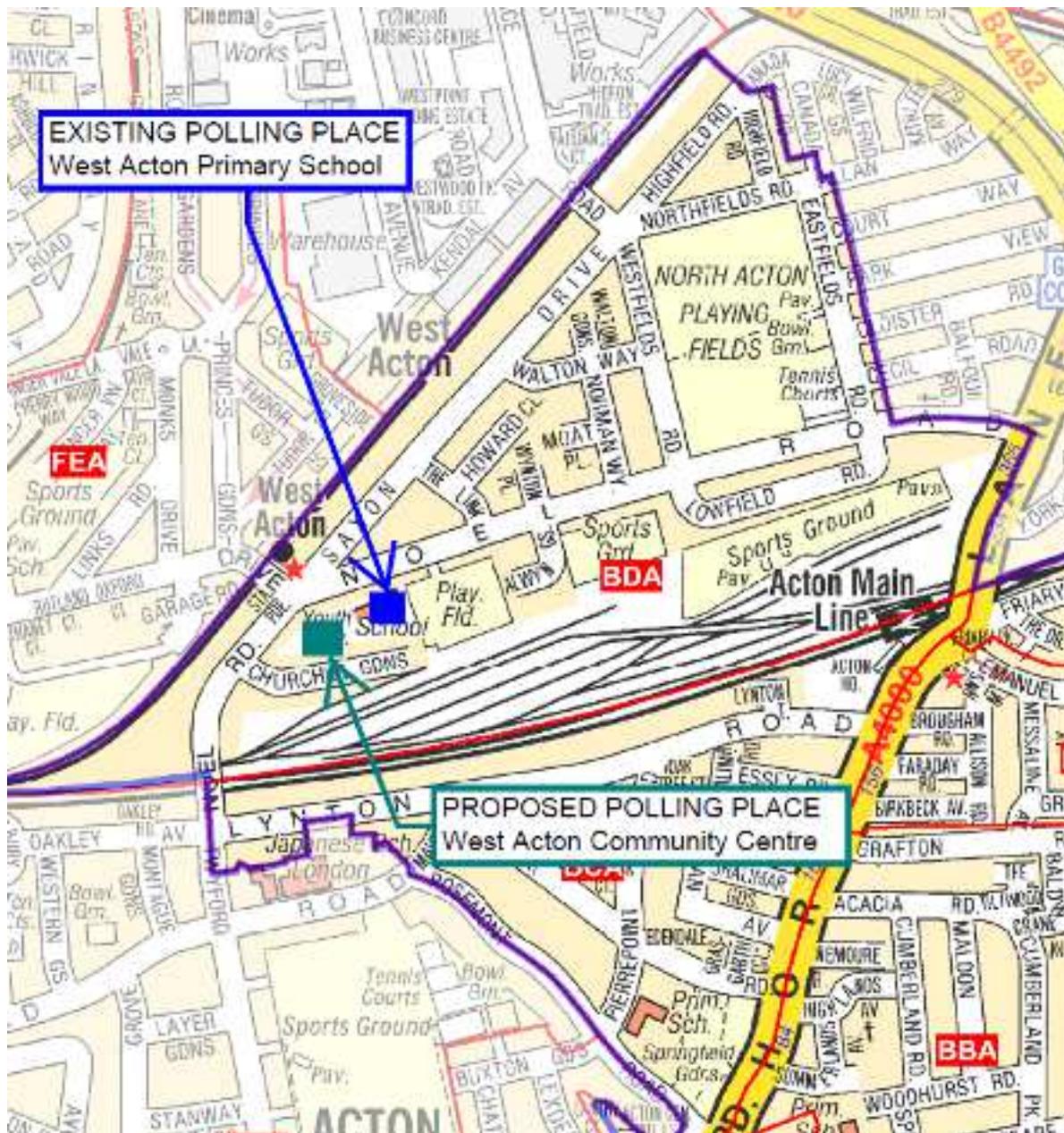
APPENDIX 1 – POLLING PLACE CHANGES

PD	WARD	EXISTING POLLING PLACE	PROPOSED POLLING PLACE	COMMENTS
BDA	Acton Central	West Acton Primary School Noel Road London W3 0JL	West Acton Community Centre Churchill Gardens London W3 0JN	<p>New head teacher of school has asked Elections Office if an alternative venue could be found. Assistant Director for schools has also been approached and he has asked the office for a review.</p> <p>Proposed polling place has good polling and parking facilities.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED</p>
ED	Ealing Common	Temporary Polling Place Outside All Saints Parish Church Elm Grove Road London W5 3JH	All Saints Parish Hall Elm Grove Road London W5 3JH	<p>All Saints Parish Hall was unavailable at the European Parliamentary Election held on 23 May 2019 because of a previous booking by the church to another organisation. Therefore, a temporary polling stations was used outside All Saints Church instead.</p> <p>It is proposed to revert to the usual venue, All Saints Parish Hall.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED</p>
KD	Cleveland	Copley Close Community Centre (Adjacent to Shop)	Hanwell Community Centre Westcott Crescent London	<p>The Resident Involvement Team who manage the existing polling place have advised that the venue is closing for regeneration in October</p>

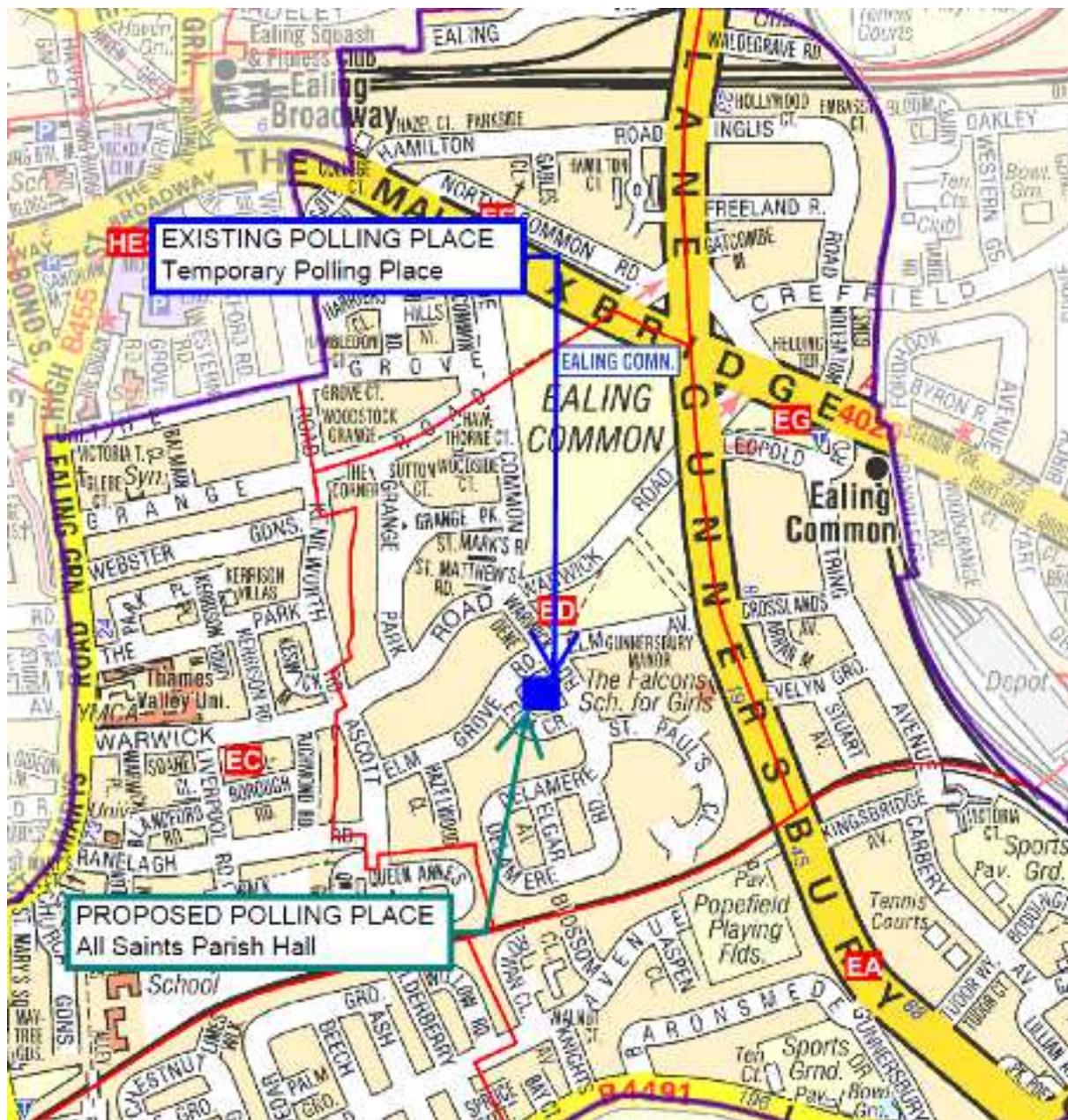
		187 Copley Close London W7 1AZ	W7 1PD	<p>2019 and hence will not be available for the GLA elections to be held on 7 May 2019.</p> <p>The proposed replacement venue is Hanwell Community Centre. Although the venue is outside polling KD (in polling district LA), it is within reasonable walking distance (5 to 10 minutes) for residents of KD.</p> <p>The venue is well known and is maintained by Ealing Council and has excellent polling and parking facilities.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED.</p>
LA	Hobayne	St Christophers Church Hall Bordars Road London W7 1AG	Hanwell Community Centre Westcott Crescent London W7 1PD	<p>The existing polling place for polling district LA is in polling district LE. The proposed polling place is in the centre of LA. It is maintained by Ealing Council and has excellent polling and parking facilities.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED</p>
TE	Norwood Green	Norwood Hall Portakabins (Entrance in Tentelow Lane) Norwood Green Road Southall UB2 4LA	Khalsa Primary School Norwood Green Road Southall UB2 4LA	<p>The request for this change came directly from Councillors Gurmit Mann and Rajinder Mann.</p> <p>The reason for change was that the existing polling place has a long winding footpath to the voting hall, and that the Khalsa Primary School was better located for use as a polling place.</p> <p>Because of the layout of the school, it will have to close on election day. The head teacher is consulting the Governors of the school for</p>

				<p>consent for the school to be used as a polling place.</p> <p>The proposed polling place has good polling facilities.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY SCHOOL*</p> <p>*If governors' approval is not given then the polling place should remain as existing.</p>
WF	Northfield	Little Ealing Primary School Weymouth Avenue London W5 4EA	Log Cabin Childrens Centre 259 Northfield Avenue London W5 4UA	<p>Previously the school's nursery was used as a polling place and the school remained open. After a review of risk assessment by the school, the head teacher decided that the school will have to close on election days at future elections.</p> <p>The head teacher has therefore requested that the school should no longer be used. This has been supported by the parent of a school pupil.</p> <p>The proposed polling place is owned by Ealing Council and has good polling facilities. The childrens centre will have to close on election days, but staff working in a different section of the centre can continue working.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED</p>

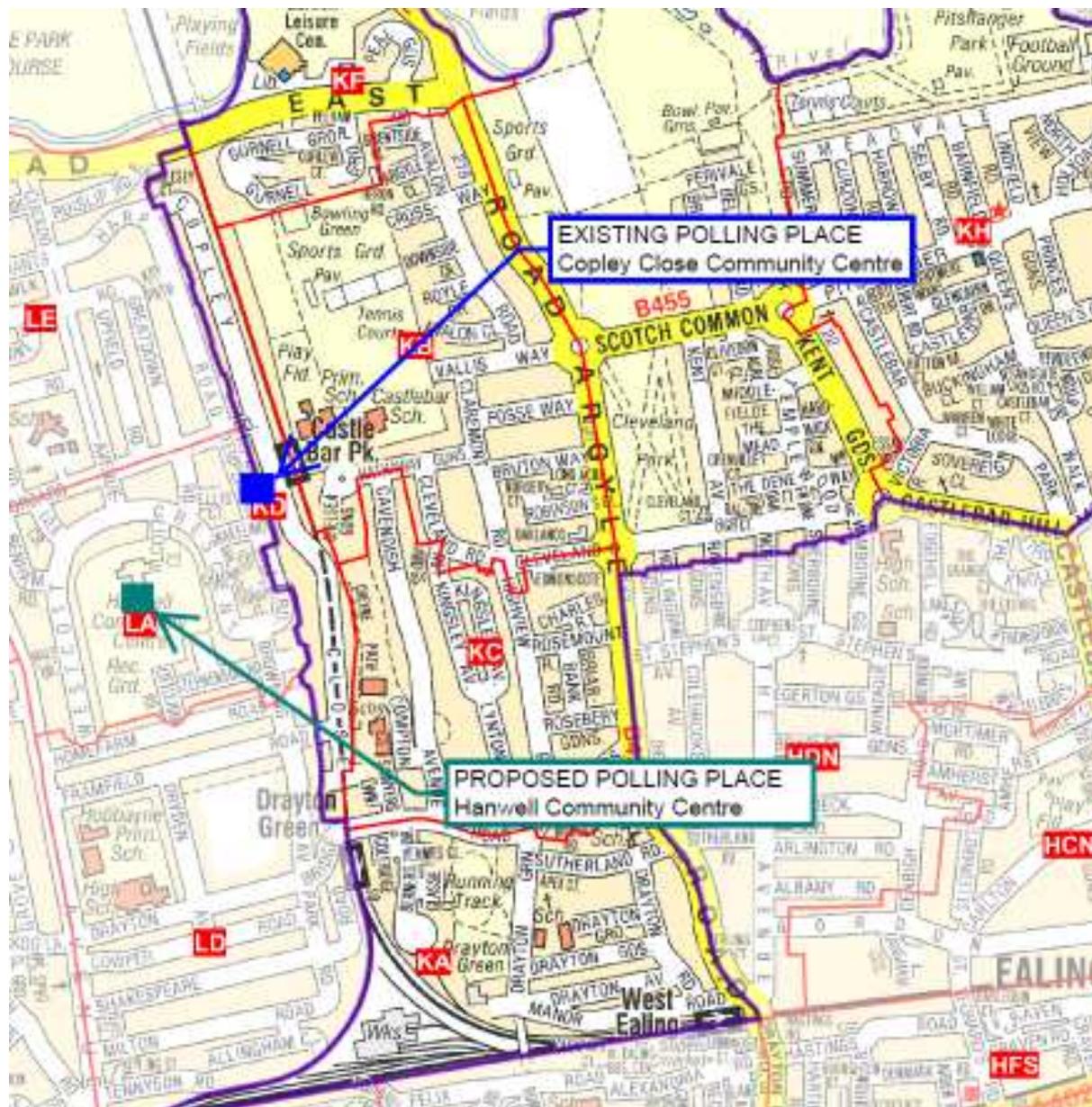
BDA – Existing and proposed polling places



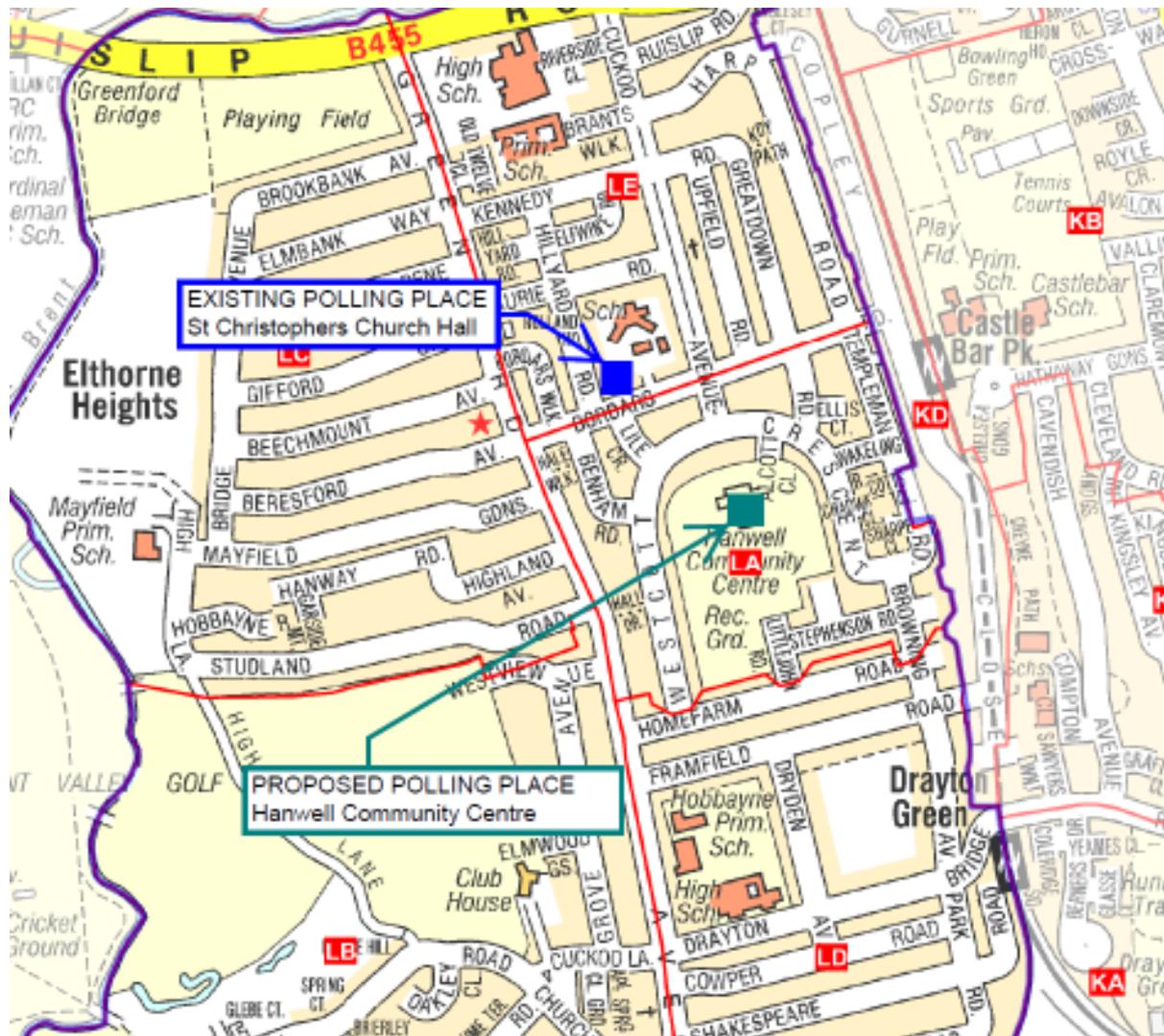
ED – Existing and proposed polling places



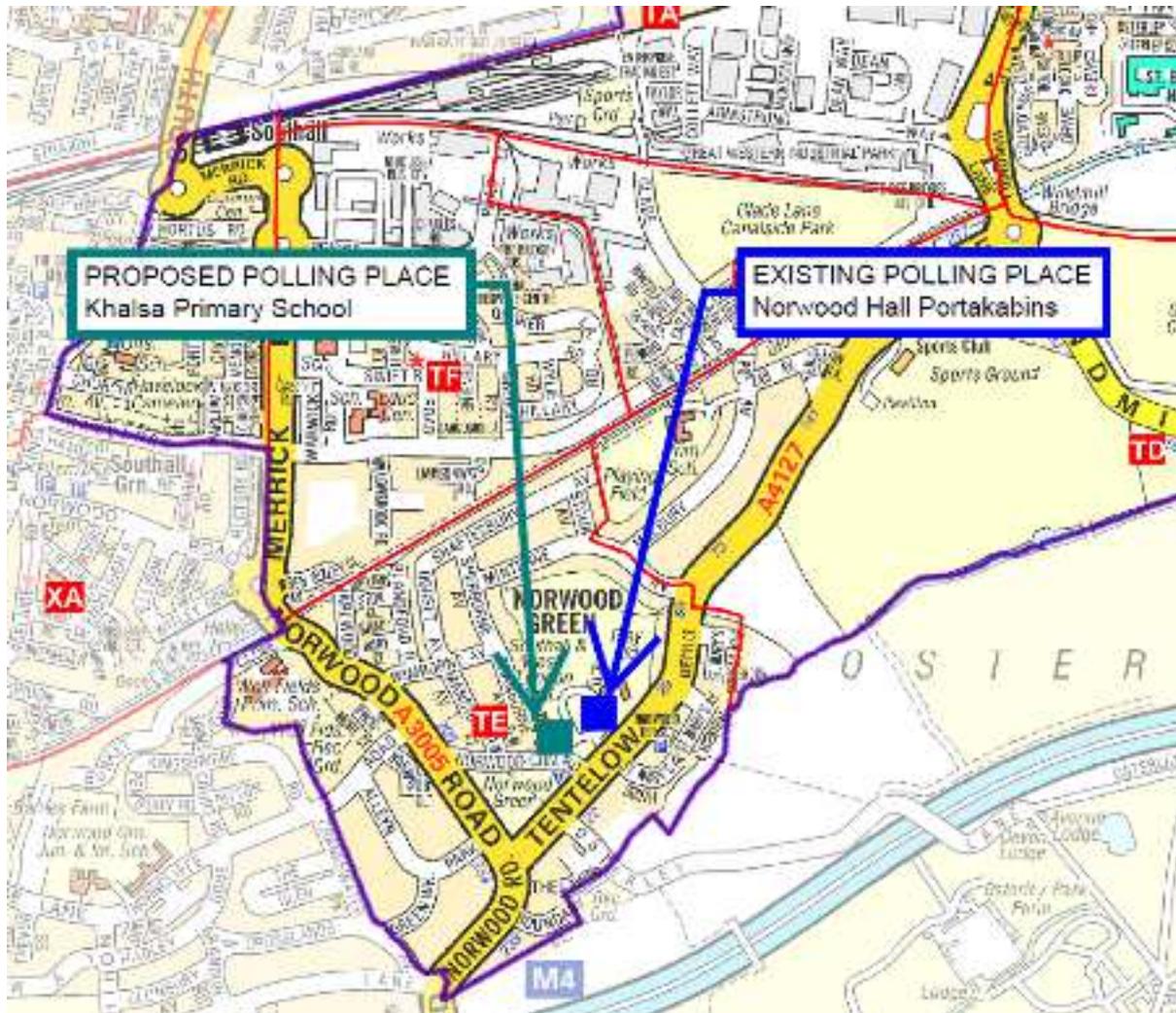
KD – Existing and proposed polling places



LA – Existing and proposed polling places



TE – Existing and proposed polling places



WF – Existing and proposed polling places

