

## URGENT DECISION ON NON-CABINET MATTER

**Report title**                      **Polling Places changes European Parliamentary elections 2019**

**Decision by Councillor Gareth Shaw, chair of Boundaries Panel**

**Authority, including urgency provisions**      **Paragraph 25 of Access to Information Procedure Rules**  
The decision is urgent and cannot be deferred until the next meeting of Boundaries Panel, for the reasons set out below. The decision will be reported, for information, to the next full meeting of Boundaries Panel.

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**Decision**                                      It is agreed to change polling places for polling districts DCA, ED, and NC as set out in the appendix attached.

**Reason for decision and options considered**      There are 162 polling stations within the borough and each of these must be separately booked in advance for each election. This year's European Parliamentary election was announced at short notice and therefore officers had not previously been in touch with any of the polling place managers/owners/key holders to ascertain whether or not they would be available.  
It has now been established that the existing polling places for polling districts DCA, ED, and NC are no longer available and must be moved. Officers have identified suitable alternative venues for all the affected polling places, and these are set out in the appendix.

**Key implications**                              The changes are required to facilitate the European Parliamentary elections to be held on 23 May 2019 in accordance with legal requirements.  
This decision will be reported to the next full meeting of the Boundaries Panel.

**Financial implications**                              The proposed changes for DCA and NC will be cost neutral. The change for ED has a cost implication of an additional £3,500 as the use of an additional temporary hut is required.

**Legal implications**                              By virtue of section 18 of the Representation of People Act 1983 every electoral region must be divided into polling districts with a polling place designated for each district.  
  
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.

<b>Consultation</b>	Members of Boundaries Panel have been consulted upon the changes via email.
<b>Timetable for implementation</b>	The changes will be implemented in time for the European Parliamentary elections on 23 May 2019.
<b>Reason for urgency</b>	The decision is urgent because of the need to have the new polling places agreed in time for the European Parliamentary election on 23 May 2019. The report is late because the parliamentary order to confirm the UK's participation in these elections was only made on 8 April 2019. Officers were only very recently able to establish the availability of the borough's one hundred and sixty-two pre-existing polling stations for 23 May 2019.

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**Date that the Chair will take the decision** 17 April 2019

**Agreed by chair of Boundaries Panel**



**Reported to Boundaries Panel**

The decision will be reported to the next meeting of the Boundaries Panel. The date of that meeting will be fixed when a decision is next required from that body.

**Decision published**

**Officer recording decision**

**Designation**

**Reference number**

## **Appendix attached: polling place changes 2019**

See below.

# APPENDIX – POLLING PLACE CHANGES 2019

PD	WARD	EXISTING POLLING PLACE	PROPOSED POLLING PLACE	COMMENTS
DCA	South Acton	Bollo Brook Youth Centre 272 Osborne Road W3 8SR	Acton Gardens Community Centre Unit A (Rear of Sainsbury's) Munster Court Bollo Bridge Road London W3 8UU	Existing polling place has been demolished because of regeneration in the area.  Proposed polling place is a newly built modern community centre with excellent polling facilities.  <b>RECOMMENDED</b>
ED	Ealing Broadway	All Saints Parish Hall Elm Grove Road London W5 3JH	Temporary Polling Place Outside All Saints Parish Church Elm Grove Road London W5 3JH	Existing polling place is unavailable because of a previous immovable booking to another organisation.  No other suitable permanent building could be found in the polling district. The proposed polling place is outside the existing polling place and is recommended only for this election.  <b>RECOMMENDED</b>
NC	Greenford Broadway	Rectory Park Youth and Community Centre Rectory Park Avenue Northolt UB5 6SQ	Rectory Park Community Centre 245 Rectory Park Avenue Northolt UB5 6SD	Existing polling place was temporary and has been demolished because of regeneration in the area.  Proposed polling place is a newly built modern community centre 200 metres north of the old building on the same road, and has good polling facilities.  <b>RECOMMENDED</b>

