

ELECTORAL REGISTRATION AND ADMINISTRATION ACT 2013(Section 17)

Review of Parliamentary Polling Districts
and Polling Places

Halesowen and Rowley Regis
Constituency

Report of the Acting Returning Officer
concerning the Polling Districts and
Polling Places Review 2019

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Acting Returning Officer
Halesowen and Rowley Regis Constituency
Sandwell Council House
Oldbury
B69 3DE

30 September 2019

WARD: Blackheath

POLLING DISTRICT: BLA, BLH

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Blackheath Central Methodist Church, entrance from John Street. B65 0EN

RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	Well known building within Blackheath. This is the polling station for BLA and BLH and accommodates both adequately.
Parking	Small car park with disabled parking
Access	Disabled access. Small incline into building.
Facilities for Staff	Toilet and kitchen facilities available
Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
Blackheath Library	The polling place must accommodate voters from BLH as well as BLA. The library is further from BLH. Also questions as to whether it could accommodate both stations with a large electorate (2413 and 795).

WARD: Blackheath

POLLING DISTRICT: BLB

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Rowley Regis Disability Centre, Rowley Village, B65 9AT

RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	Well established location as it has been used as the polling station for the area for many years. The room used is adequate to accommodate two polling stations
Parking	Small car park
Access	Level access into the building
Facilities for Staff	Toilet and kitchen facilities available
Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
None identified	

WARD: Blackheath

POLLING DISTRICT: BLC

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Community Lounge, St. Giles Court, Reservoir Road, B65 9PE
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RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	The building is not ideal for a polling place. Access into the polling station is via a locked door and voters have to ring a bell to gain access.
Parking	Adequate car park
Access	Separate disabled entrance via a ramp
Facilities for Staff	Toilet and kitchen facilities available
Recommendation	Polling district BLC should be merged with BLD and all voters to vote at The Parish of The English Martyrs, 297 Oldbury Road, B65 0PR

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

BLC is a very small polling district with an electorate of 373. At the last local election on 2 May 2019, only 60 electors voted at this station.

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
None identified	

WARD: Blackheath

POLLING DISTRICT: BLD

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

The Parish of The English Martyrs, 297 Oldbury Road, B65 0PR
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RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	Has been used as a polling station for a number of years and so is well known to the electorate. The room used is sufficient for the electorate.
Parking	Small car park
Access	Disabled Access
Facilities for Staff	Toilet and kitchen facilities available
Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area and merge with BLC

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
The Primrose Centre	This is a primary school. Schools are only used as a last resort. The current polling station is acceptable.

WARD: Backheath

POLLING DISTRICT: BLE

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Blackheath Primary School, (Assembly Hall), Britannia Road, B65 9NA

RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	Centrally located within the polling district and a well-known building. Assembly hall is big enough to accommodate the polling station. The entrance door is heavy and some voters need assistance in opening it
Parking	Car Park
Access	Disabled Access
Facilities for Staff	Toilet and Kitchen Facilities available
Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

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ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
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Blackheath Coronation Social Club	Less central for voters
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WARD: Blackheath

POLLING DISTRICT: BLF, BLG

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Highfields Primary School, Beeches Road, B65 0DA
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RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	The polling station is located within polling district BLF but is centrally located for both polling districts. The room used is suitable.
Parking	Car Park
Access	Disabled access
Facilities for Staff	Toilet and kitchen facilities
Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
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None identified	
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WARD: Cradley Heath and Old Hill Ward
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POLLING DISTRICT: CRA

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Temporary Hut, Mary MacArthur Memorial Gardens, B64 5BA

RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	There is no suitable building within the polling district. The temporary hut is centrally located within the polling district but access for the disabled and facilities for the staff are poor
Parking	Car park
Access	Disabled access is poor. A ramp or steps are needed for access into the temporary hut.
Facilities for Staff	The facilities are poor. Staff have to use a portable toilet provided with the temporary hut. There is no kitchen, no running water. The Returning Officer provides a kettle and water and portable heaters
Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area but continue to explore

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
None identified	

WARD: Cradley Heath and Old Hill

POLLING DISTRICT: CRB, CRC

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Corngreaves Primary School, Plant Street, B64 6EZ

RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	Centrally located for CRC, a little further for CRB. The building is well known and the room that is used is large enough to accommodate the polling station
Parking	Car park
Access	Disabled access
Facilities for Staff	Toilet and kitchen facilities available
Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
Cradley Heath Baptist Church	Unavailable.

WARD: Cradley Heath and Old Hill

POLLING DISTRICT: CRD, CRE

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Holy Trinity Church, Halesowen Road, Cradley Heath, B64 6JA

RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	Centrally located for both polling districts. The room used is adequate for the polling station
Parking	Car park
Access	Disabled access
Facilities for Staff	Toilet and Kitchen facilities available
Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

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ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
Spring Meadow Baptist Church	Less central for both polling districts and also unsure of disabled access

WARD: Cradley Heath and Old Hill

POLLING DISTRICT: CRF

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Temple Meadow Primary School, Clifton Street, B64 6RH

RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	The school is well located within the polling district. The room used is adequate.
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Parking	Car park available
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Access	Disabled access
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Facilities for Staff	Toilet and Kitchen facilities
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Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area.
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OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
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Ebenezer Baptist Church	Church is very small and does not hire out rooms
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WARD: Cradley Heath and Old Hill

POLLING DISTRICT: CRG

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Haden Hill Leisure Centre, Barrs Road, B64 7HA
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RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	Easily accessible from all parts of the polling district. The room used is adequate and has its own small car park. The polling station does need to be well signposted as it is at the back of the building
Parking	Car park available
Access	Disabled access
Facilities for Staff	Toilet and kitchen facilities
Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

Outside lighting is a problem – not well lit at night

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
Regis Masonic Hall	Unable to contact

WARD: Cradley Heath and Old Hill

POLLING DISTRICT: CRH

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Timbertree Academy, Valley Road, Cradley Heath, B64 7LT

RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	Centrally located within the polling district.
Parking	Car park available
Access	Disabled access
Facilities for Staff	Toilet and kitchen facilities
Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
None identified	

WARD: Rowley

POLLING DISTRICT: ROA, ROB

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Rowley Regis Sure Start Centre, Dudley Road, B65 8JY
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RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	Conveniently located for both polling districts. The room used is adequate.
Parking	Car park available
Access	Disabled access
Facilities for Staff	Toilet and kitchen facilities
Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
None identified	

WARD: Rowley

POLLING DISTRICT: ROC

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Rowley Hall Primary School, Windsor Road, B65 9HU

RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	The building is well known within the area and the room used is suitable
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Parking	Car park available
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Access	Disabled access
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Facilities for Staff	Toilet and kitchen facilities
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Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area.
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OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
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Regis Christian Centre	Church will not allow use of the building as a polling station
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WARD: Rowley

POLLING DISTRICT: ROD

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Temporary Hut, Blue Stone Walk/, Portway Hill, B65 9DE
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RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	There is no suitable building within the polling district. The temporary hut is centrally located within the polling district but access for the disabled and facilities for the staff are poor.
Parking	Car parking available
Access	Disabled access is poor. A ramp or steps are needed for access into the temporary hut.
Facilities for Staff	The facilities are poor. Staff have to use a portable toilet provided with the temporary hut. There is no kitchen, no running water. The Returning Officer provides a kettle and water and portable heaters
Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area but continue to explore

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
None identified	

WARD: Rowley

POLLING DISTRICT: ROE

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Rowley Regis Disability Centre, Rowley Village, B65 9AT

RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	Well established location as it has been used as the polling station for the area for many years. The room used is adequate to accommodate two polling stations. The polling station is located just outside of the ward in Blackheath Ward.
Parking	Small car park
Access	Level access into the building
Facilities for Staff	Toilet and kitchen facilities available
Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

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ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS

REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES

None Identified

WARD: Rowley

POLLING DISTRICT: ROF

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

Brickhouse Primary School, Dudhill Road, B65 8HS
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RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	Centrally located for the polling district. The room used is suitable
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Parking	Car park
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Access	Disabled access
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Facilities for Staff	Toilet and kitchen facilities available
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Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area.
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OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
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None identified	
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WARD: Rowley

POLLING DISTRICT: ROG

POLLING STATION LOCATION:

St James' W.R. Church, Wesleyan Centre, Highgate Street, B64 5SA
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RETURNING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Location and Suitability	The building is located just outside of the ward which is not ideal but there are no other alternative buildings within the polling district.
Parking	Car park
Access	Disabled access
Facilities for Staff	Toilet and kitchen facilities available
Recommendation	Should remain as the polling station for the area.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS	REASONS FOR NOT USING PREMISES
None identified	