



Reigate & Banstead
BOROUGH COUNCIL
Banstead | Horley | Redhill | Reigate

REPORT OF:	ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER/ RETURNING OFFICER
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TO:	COUNCIL
DATE:	11TH OCTOBER 2012

WARDS AFFECTED:	CHIPSTEAD, HOOLEY AND WOODMANSTERNE; KINGSWOOD WITH BURGH HEATH; REIGATE CENTRAL; MEADVALE AND ST JOHN'S; EARLSWOOD AND WHITEBUSHES AND HORLEY CENTRAL
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SUBJECT:	REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS
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RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The changes to polling district boundaries including the establishment of a new Polling District - Kingswood with Burgh Heath (EA1) - as detailed in Annex 1 to this report and shown on plans referenced CHW1/12; KB1/12; RC1/12; MStJ1/12; EW1/12 and HC1/12 be approved and adopted to coincide with the republication of a Register of Electors in 2013 reflecting the new County electoral Divisions; and
2. To note that, on grounds of urgency, the Electoral Registration Officer has, under paragraph 1.15 of the Officer Scheme of Delegation within the Constitution, designated St Luke's Church, Church Road, Reigate as the polling place for Polling District South Park and Woodhatch (NA) from 1 September 2012.

SUMMARY

Arising from changes to the County electoral Divisions, this report sets out proposals for certain polling districts in the Borough following a review undertaken under the Electoral Administration Act 2006 to ensure they are co-terminus with the County Divisions. No changes to Ward boundaries are involved.

Statutory Powers

1. The Electoral Administration Act, 2006, in addition to requiring a review of polling districts and polling places at least every four years from 2007, also provides for additional periodic reviews as the need arises. The last statutory four year review was in 2011.

2. Electoral matters are reserved to the Council to determine.

Background

3. As part of the 2011 review referred to in paragraph 1, it was reported that a further review would be required in 2012 arising from the establishment of new County electoral Divisions from May 2013.
4. Specifically, Members will recall that the County boundary review results (from May 2013) in the number of Divisions in the Borough increasing from 9 to 10. This increase is not limited to one particular area and has the affect of changing a number of previous electoral Divisions.
5. A further consequence is that the County Divisions will no longer be co-terminus with a number of the polling Districts within the Borough Council Wards.
6. If left unchanged some polling stations for County Council elections would have to issue different ballot papers to certain electors depending on which electoral Division they were in. In essence affected electors would be voting at a polling place that was not in the relevant electoral Division. This would result in that polling place having to provide separate ballot boxes for each electoral Division. The situation would be further complicated in the event of a dual election. Making County Divisional and Borough district boundaries coterminous is therefore strongly recommended.
7. Affected Wards are Chipstead, Hooley and Woodmansterne, Kingswood with Burgh Heath, Reigate Central, Meadvale and St. John's, Earlswood and Whitebushes and Horley Central.
8. To resolve this, in March 2012, officers commenced a review of polling Districts and the resultant proposals have since been on display in the Members office at the Town Hall, Reigate. The proposals have also been the subject of formal consultation.

Review Criteria

9. As indicated, a statutory review of all polling Districts and polling places was completed in 2011 and this took into account established criteria such as accessibility, health and safety, car parking and facilities for staff etc.
10. The criteria for this additional review has therefore focussed on the need to establish coterminous County Division and Borough District polling boundaries (to avoid the situation referred to in paragraph 6) whilst ensuring minimal disruption to current polling arrangements and maintaining convenience for electors.

Review Options

11. In conducting the review two main options were considered:
 - Option 1 (the preferred option) – to amend the internal boundaries of the affected Wards i.e. the polling districts in order that they match the County Divisional boundaries
 - Option 2 – to create new polling districts in order to match the County Divisional boundaries

Review Process

12. In accordance with statutory requirements the Council gave notice of the review and sought comments from a wide range of stakeholders. The Review information was also available via the Council's web site for public consultation.
13. The consultation period ran from 16 July 2012 to 27 August 2012 but no representations on or objections to the proposals have been received.

Review Proposals

14. In formulating recommendations it has been possible to follow the preferred option 1 (see paragraph 11) in all but one instance. The exception is within the Kingswood with Burgh Heath Ward where it is proposed to create a new polling district EA1 (option 2) in preference to a "shift" of existing District boundaries.
15. A schedule detailing all the recommendations in relation to future polling district boundaries of the affected Wards is set out in Annex 1 to this report. A summary map is set out at Annex 2. Detailed maps referenced CHW1/12; KB1/12; RC1/12; MStJ1/12; EW1/12 and HC1/12 are on deposit in the Members' Room.
16. No changes to Ward boundaries are involved and there is no impact on the number of electors within Borough Wards

Designation of Polling Place for South Park and Woodhatch (Polling District NA)

17. The Council was recently notified that Sandcross Infant School, which has been used as a double polling station in the South Park and Woodhatch Ward, is moving to the junior school site in November. As a result it will no longer be available for use as a polling place.
18. There will be Police and Crime Commissioner elections across the Borough on 15 November 2012 and it has therefore been necessary to designate an alternative polling place as a matter of urgency to ensure planning arrangements for this election are not affected.
19. Two alternative polling places have been considered namely The Sovereign Centre, Sliphatch Road, Reigate and St. Luke's Church, Church Road, Reigate. Both premises were deemed suitable as a polling place but having regard to availability, level of usage and potential disruption to the local community, it was felt that St Luke's Church had advantages over The Sovereign Centre.

20. Following appropriate consultation on the proposal (no objections were received) the Electoral Registration Officer has, under paragraph 1.15 of the Officer Scheme of Delegation within the Constitution, now designated St Luke's Church, Church Road, Reigate as the polling place for Polling District South Park and Woodhatch (NA) from 1 September 2012. This decision was taken on grounds of urgency.

Legal Implications

21. There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

Resource Implications

22. None.

Consultation

23. Consultation has been undertaken as set out in paragraph 12 of this report.

Conclusions

24. For reasons set out in paragraph 6 it is important that the boundaries of County electoral Divisions are coterminous with those of Borough District boundaries. Changes to the County electoral Divisions from May 2013 will result in the loss of some coterminous boundaries and a review of a number of Polling Districts has been undertaken under the Electoral Administration Act 2006. Proposals have subsequently been prepared that ensure District and County Division boundaries are coterminous. No changes to Ward boundaries are involved.

Background Papers: None.

ANNEX 1

Recommendations for the reconfigured Register of Electors:

Affected wards:

Chipstead, Hooley and Woodmansterne

Recommendation	Affected Polling Districts	Affected Streets & Electorate	Polling Station Impact
Amend the existing polling district boundaries so the current four districts (FA, FB, FC, FD) will remain.	FB, FC.	Hogcross Road, 39	The recommended option does not require the creation of any new polling stations.
The FB and FC polling districts will be amalgamated. The southern part of the FB polling district will be incorporated into FC.		High Road, CR5 3SD & High Road, Upper Gattons 46	
Additionally, the boundary of the FB polling district will be extended to include a small area in the north of the current FC district. This does not contain any properties.		Monkswell Lane 8	The electors resident in the southern part of FB, which will be incorporated into FC, will have their polling station changed.
		Reeves Rest & Reeves Lodge CR5 3SH 15	
		Rectory Road 7	They will change from voting in the Peter Aubertin Hall, Elmore Road and move to Hooley Village Hall in St. Margaret's Road.
		Green Lane, Mugswell 22	
		Fair Lane 3	
		Pigeon House Lane 2	
		Southerns Lane 19	
		Total:	161

Kingswood and Burgh Heath

Recommendation	Affected Polling Districts	Affected Streets & Electorate	Polling Station Impact
<p>In this case, it is deemed necessary to create a new polling district – EA1. Although this will require the changing of current polling station arrangements, this is not deemed to have a major impact.</p> <p>The remaining EB and EC polling districts would have the boundary between them amended – the northern part of the EC polling district will be incorporated into the EC polling district.</p>	<p>EA, EA1, EB, EC.</p>	<p>EA1</p> <p>Old Queen Elizabeth, Elizabeth Dr. 144 Holly Lane 14</p> <p>Total: 158</p>	<p>The new EA1 polling district would vote at the War Memorial Hall, Brighton Road in Burgh Heath.</p> <p>The administrative implications would not be of a major significance, as the number of electors in the polling district would be small enough to allow the station to still operate with one Presiding Officer, although extra poll clerks would be required. Two different ballot papers would be issued from the same station, but this would to apply to County elections only.</p>
		<p>EB and EC</p> <p>Chipstead Lane (North side 9-89 & named properties) 68</p> <p>Total: 68</p>	<p>The amendment of the EB and EC boundary would require the affected electors, those in the northern part of EB that will be incorporated into EC who currently vote at Buckland Road, to vote in Kingswood Village Hall, Waterhouse Lane.</p>

Reigate Central

Recommendation	Affected Polling Districts	Affected Streets & Electorate	Polling Station Impact
<p>Amend the current polling district boundaries so the three current districts remain.</p> <p>This will involve an extension of the LC district. The eastern half of the LB polling district would be incorporated into the LC polling district.</p>	<p>LB, LC.</p>	<p>Blackborough Road (115-149) 68 Beech Drive 62 Blandford Mews 39 Burwood Close 5 Caberfeigh Close 80 Devon Crescent 23 Doods Park Rd., (33-43, 47 & Howard Court 41 Doran Drive & Doran Gdns 60 Fir Tree Walk 93 Fitzroy Place 33 Hatchlands Rd., (55 & 34-44) 11 Millway 43 Reigate Road: 7 93-99 7 Doran Cottage & Doran Ct. 2 84 25 South Lawns (73) 16 81-91 14 Ringley Park Road (2-14) 1 Hilliers 65 The Cedars (1-57 & 2-14) 132 Wray Common Road</p> <p>Total: 827</p>	<p>The extension of the LC district will be accommodated by moving the affected electors that were previously in the eastern half of the LB polling district to vote at Donyngs leisure centre.</p> <p>The distance between the current polling station at the Colman Redland Centre and Donyngs is very similar.</p>

Meadvale and St. John's

Recommendation	Affected Polling Districts	Affected Streets & Electorate	Polling Station Impact
<p>Amend the current polling district boundaries so the three current (MA, MB, MC) districts remain.</p> <p>The affected area of the MA polling district can be incorporated into the MB ward. It is the eastern corner of MA that will transfer to MB.</p>	<p>MA, MB.</p>	<p>68A-96 Blackborough Rd. 42 Ringley Park Avenue 25 The Chase 70 Sussex Close 7 Oak Way 53 Blackstone Hill 47 Blackstone Close 20 Redhill Common 15 2-46 & 33-43 High Trees Rd. 13</p> <p>Total: 292</p>	<p>The creation of a new polling district would disrupt the current arrangements.</p> <p>Electors would vote at Meadvale Parish Hall instead of St Mary's Church.</p>

Earlswood and Whitebushes

Recommendation	Affected Polling Districts	Affected Streets & Electorate	Polling Station Impact														
<p>Amend the internal boundaries to meet the County proposals and continue with the four existing polling districts, (OA, OB, OC, OD).</p> <p>The OA and OC boundary will be amended – the southern part of the OA polling district will be transferred into the OC polling district.</p> <p>The remaining northern part of OA will remain as the OA polling district.</p>	<p>OA, OC.</p>	<table> <tr> <td>Royal Earlswood Park</td> <td>280</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Asylum arch Rd. (Cambridge Sq)</td> <td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Princes Road (15-25)</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Talfourd Way</td> <td>124</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reed Drive</td> <td>161</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Palmerstone Close</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total:</td> <td>614</td> </tr> </table>	Royal Earlswood Park	280	Asylum arch Rd. (Cambridge Sq)	21	Princes Road (15-25)	13	Talfourd Way	124	Reed Drive	161	Palmerstone Close	15	Total:	614	<p>The electors currently in the southern part of OA, which will be incorporated into OC, will transfer from Earlswood Infant School to voting at Whitebushes Village Hall.</p>
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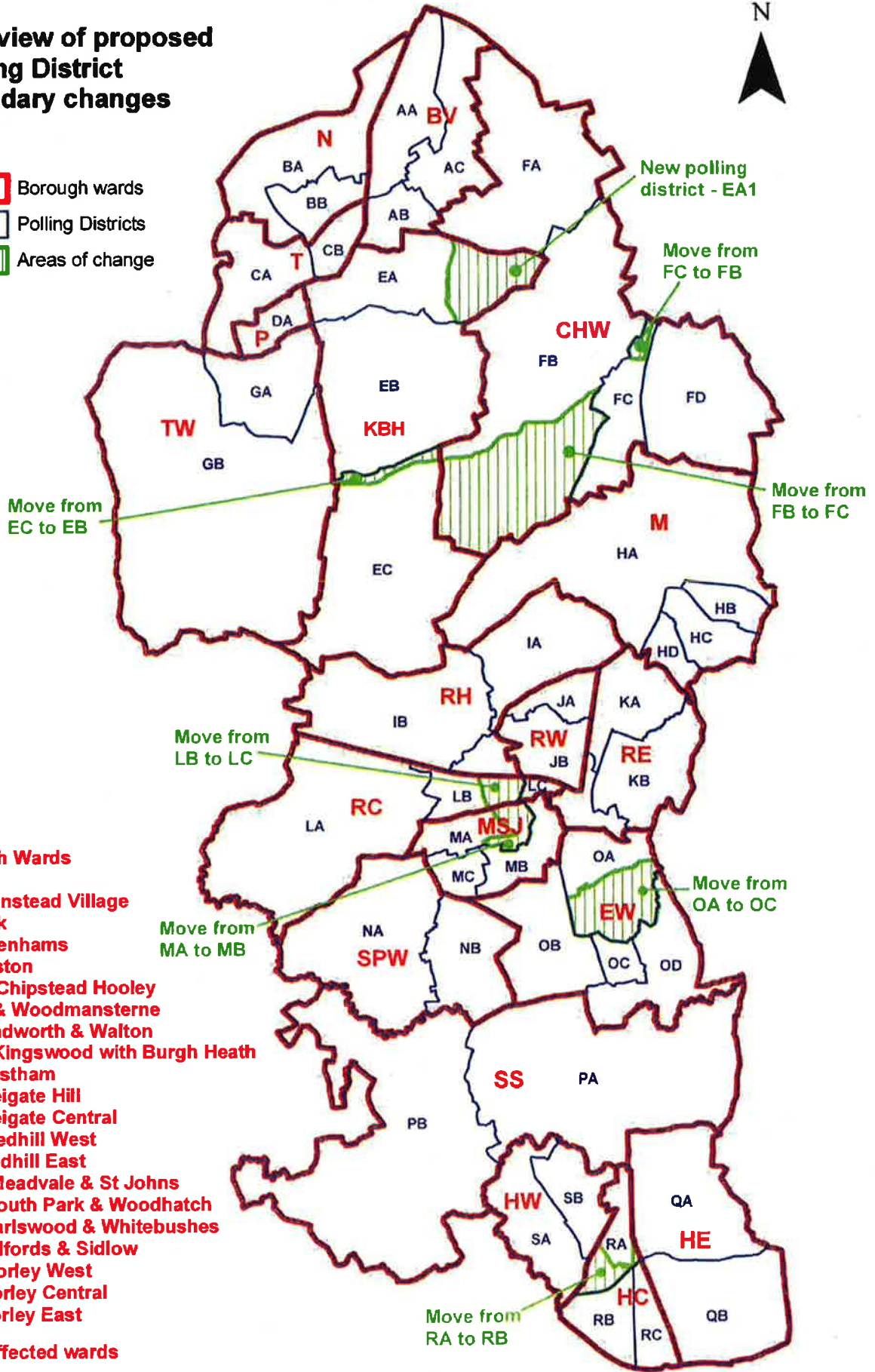
Horley Central

Recommendation	Affected Polling Districts	Affected Streets & Electorate	Polling Station Impact
<p>The boundary between the RA and RB ward will be amended and the three current polling districts will continue, (RA, RB, RC).</p> <p>The southern part of the RA polling district will be incorporated into the RB polling district.</p> <p>The remaining northern part of the RA polling district will continue as RA.</p>	<p>RA, RB, RC.</p>	<p>Albert Road: 15</p> <p>23, Harrow Hse., Eton Hse. 4</p> <p>Consort Way 32</p> <p>High Street: 32</p> <p>Premier Parade, odds 130</p> <p>Lumley Road: 130</p> <p>Elbourne Hse., Quadrangle 130</p> <p>Victoria Road: 101, 103, 133 & 135, 145</p> <p>Regent Mews, Magnolia Court, The Orchards, 155 – 171, 34</p> <p>80 – 170 51</p> <p>Victoria Close 109</p> <p>Queen's Road 21</p> <p>King's Road 69</p> <p>Church Road, 6-52 & 1-25 67</p> <p>Pine Gardens 6</p> <p>The Avenue 49</p> <p>Brighton Road 16 – Air Balloon 97</p> <p>Masset's Road 112</p> <p>Park View & Park Way 89</p> <p>Ringley Avenue 13</p> <p>Station Road, 15-39</p> <p>Total: 1043</p>	<p>Electors currently within the southern part of RA and affected by the boundary amendment currently voting at the Albert Road Community Centre will vote at the Archway Theatre polling station.</p>

Overview of proposed Polling District boundary changes



- T Borough wards
- FA Polling Districts
- Areas of change



Borough Wards

- BV – Banstead Village
- N – Nork
- T – Tattenhams
- P – Preston
- *CHW – Chipstead Hooley & Woodmansterne
- TW – Tadworth & Walton
- *KBH – Kingswood with Burgh Heath
- M – Merstham
- RH – Reigate Hill
- *RC – Reigate Central
- RW – Redhill West
- RE – Redhill East
- *MSJ – Meadvale & St Johns
- SPW – South Park & Woodhatch
- *EW – Earlswood & Whitebushes
- SS – Salfords & Sidlow
- HW – Horley West
- *HC – Horley Central
- HE – Horley East

*affected wards