

Hi Ben

Good news that we can continue with just one polling station at All Saints Church. I had a word with Cllr Yarrow about an alternative the Racing Centre. We could only come up with Foley House, which has been used in the past, but this is geographically very close to the Racing Centre so I doubt it would have much impact. The Exning Road Club was also mentioned but I think this already serves as a polling station for the neighbouring ward.

I also note that St Agnes Church serves a very small electorate but has the highest percentage turn out. Does that suggest that a bigger geographic spread of polling stations serving smaller number of voters would improve turnout? I don't suppose that's feasible....

Best wishes

Sue

---

Councillor Sue Perry  
Councillor for Newmarket East  
West Suffolk Council  
Email: [Susan.Perry@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Susan.Perry@westsuffolk.gov.uk)

[Privacy Notice - How I use, share and protect your information](#)

[www.westsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk)

**West Suffolk Council**

#TeamWestSuffolk

[Report, pay and apply online 24 hours a day](#)

[Find my nearest for information about your area](#)

**From:** elections <[elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 2:39 PM  
**To:** Perry, Sue <[sue.perry@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:sue.perry@westsuffolk.gov.uk)>; elections <[elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

Hi Sue,

Thanks for your reply. I've looked into this a bit more and, whilst we are awaiting the results of the electorate forecast, I suspect that we can continue with 1 polling station at All Saints Church for now as the electorate is 2234 but we have 356 postal voters in this area too so that polling station electorate is 1878 which is manageable as 1 polling station and well within the Electoral Commission limit of 2250. We provide additional staff at polling stations of this size to ensure that voters can access the polling station and vote quickly and easily.

With regard to the use of a school as a polling station, we can and do use some schools where other venues are not available. We work very closely with the school to resolve any safeguarding issues and will provide barriers and other equipment as needed to support the school to remain open and operational on polling day. However, I have looked at a map and I think the Cheveley Road Club may be a better option for future consideration as it is within a separate part of the polling district entirely and the train line provides a good boundary to use as the polling district boundary. I suggest that if the electorate at the All Saints Church polling station is projected to exceed the electorate limit in the future then we split the polling districts with 1 set of electors going to All Saints and the other going to the Cheveley Road Club. So, no change proposed for now but a good option ready for the future. I would welcome your thoughts on this.

I also very much welcome yours and other Cllrs thoughts on the Racing Centre polling station too. It is a good venue but I appreciate that there may be another venue which is more appropriate, and your local knowledge would be very helpful.

Many thanks,

Ben

---

Ben Smith  
Business Partner Governance  
Legal and Governance Services  
Direct dial: 01284 757101  
Email: [Ben.Smith@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Ben.Smith@westsuffolk.gov.uk)  
[www.westsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk)  
**West Suffolk Council**  
#TeamWestSuffolk

West Suffolk Council supports our staff to work flexibly and we respect the fact that you may also be working at different times to suit you and your organisation's needs. Please do not action or respond to this message outside of your own working hours.

[Report, pay and apply online 24 hours a day](#)  
[Find my nearest for information about your area](#)

West Suffolk Council is the Data Controller of the information you are providing. Any personal information shared by email will be processed, protected and disposed of in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations and Data Protection Act 2018. In some circumstances we may need to disclose your personal details to a third party so that they can provide a service you have requested, fulfil a request for information or because we have a legal requirement to do so. Any information about you that we pass to a third party will be held securely by that party. For more information on how we do this and your rights in regards to your personal information and how to access it, visit our website: [How we use your information](#)

**From:** Perry, Sue <[sue.perry@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:sue.perry@westsuffolk.gov.uk)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 12:28 PM  
**To:** elections <[elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

Hi Ben

If I have read the figures correctly, All Saints Church gets a pretty good turn out (23% vs 13% at the Racing Centre). That would suggest that having 2 polling stations at the church would be a good solution. The obvious alternative venue would be All Saints School in Vicarage Road but my guess is that you can't use schools any more because of safeguarding. Would that be correct? The other alternative could be Cheveley Road Working Mens Club on Cheveley Road (W3W water handfuls user). That ward is split by the railway line and the CRWMC is over the other side of it from the church.

I am a bit more concerned about the poor turnout at the Racing Centre. No way of knowing if changing the polling station would improve that. Having said that, I am hard pushed to think of an alternative venue further away from the High Street. I will have a chat with Cllr Yarrow and see if he can think of anything as he lives there.

BW

Sue

---

Councillor Sue Perry  
Councillor for Newmarket East  
West Suffolk Council  
Email: [Susan.Perry@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Susan.Perry@westsuffolk.gov.uk)

[Privacy Notice - How I use, share and protect your information](#)

[www.westsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk)

**West Suffolk Council**

#TeamWestSuffolk

[Report, pay and apply online 24 hours a day](#)  
[Find my nearest for information about your area](#)

**From:** elections <[elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2023 12:00 PM  
**To:** Perry, Sue <[sue.perry@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:sue.perry@westsuffolk.gov.uk)>; elections <[elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

Dear Sue,

Thank you for your email. We will be actioning an electorate forecast and as the polling station is so close to capacity it may be sensible to consider alternative options. We have two potential options which I would welcome your views on initially;

- We can carry out a visit to assess whether the All Saints Church could accommodate two separate polling stations. We would then split the streets in the polling district alphabetically between the two polling stations held at the church. This is an approach that we are familiar with.
- We can consider splitting the polling district and creating two separate polling districts. This would be a good option if there is a clear geographical boundary, i.e. two different estates, and a venue in each polling district. The map attached may assist with this.

Your views are very much welcomed on these options.

Many thanks,

Ben

---

Ben Smith  
Business Partner Governance  
Legal and Governance Services  
Direct dial: 01284 757101  
Email: [Ben.Smith@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Ben.Smith@westsuffolk.gov.uk)  
[www.westsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk)  
**West Suffolk Council**  
#TeamWestSuffolk

West Suffolk Council supports our staff to work flexibly and we respect the fact that you may also be working at different times to suit you and your organisation's needs. Please do not action or respond to this message outside of your own working hours.

[Report, pay and apply online 24 hours a day](#)  
[Find my nearest for information about your area](#)

West Suffolk Council is the Data Controller of the information you are providing. Any personal information shared by email will be processed, protected and disposed of in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations and Data Protection Act 2018. In some circumstances we may need to disclose your personal details to a third party so that they can provide a service you have requested, fulfil a request for information or because we have a legal requirement to do so. Any information about you that we pass to a third party will be held securely by that party. For more information on how we do this and your rights in regards to your personal information and how to access it, visit our website: [How we use your information](#)

**From:** Perry, Sue <[sue.perry@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:sue.perry@westsuffolk.gov.uk)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 1:15 PM  
**To:** elections <[elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

Hi guys

I have question about Newmarket East – it says in the table that as All Sts Church is almost at capacity, there needs to be a review of the forecast electorate growth. Has that been done?

Many thanks and best wishes

Sue

---

Councillor Sue Perry  
Councillor for Newmarket East  
West Suffolk Council  
Email: [Susan.Perry@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Susan.Perry@westsuffolk.gov.uk)

[Privacy Notice - How I use, share and protect your information](#)

[www.westsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk)

**West Suffolk Council**  
#TeamWestSuffolk

[Report, pay and apply online 24 hours a day](#)  
[Find my nearest for information about your area](#)

**From:** elections <[elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 4:37 PM  
**Subject:** Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

Dear Members,

As you will be aware, at its meeting last week West Suffolk Council approved the commencement of a statutory review of polling districts and polling places in readiness for the next scheduled Police and Crime Commissioner elections on 2 May 2024 and for any UK General Election to be held by January 2025.

We would like to invite all members to make representations and comments on the existing and proposed polling districts and polling places. The consultation deadline is 10 November 2023.

The review is designed to see if the polling districts and polling places in West Suffolk suit the needs of voters, and includes:

- Polling district boundaries within each ward in the district.

- Location of the polling places and stations in each polling district.
- Access to each polling station.

The aim of the review is to make sure:

- Electors have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances.
- As far as is reasonable and practicable, polling places are accessible to all electors, and consider the needs of disabled persons.

Further details regarding the review such as information on current arrangements and potential changes, maps of the existing polling district boundaries and locations of polling stations, can be found on the council's website:

<https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/Council/Consultations/review-of-polling-districts-and-polling-places-2023.cfm>

When responding to the consultation, please consider that the Council must:

- Seek to ensure that all electors have reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances; and
- Ensure that so far as is reasonable and practicable, every polling place is accessible to electors who have a disability.

Any comments should include, where appropriate, alternative venue suggestions that may be used as polling places.

Comments and representations can be submitted in the following ways:

- Email: [elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk)
- Post: Electoral Services, West Suffolk Council, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 3YU

The deadline for responses to the consultation is 10 November 2023 and the revised polling arrangements will be considered at your meeting of Full Council on 19 December 2023.

If able to, please publicise the review in your area so that residents and local groups may make representations and suggest alternative venues too. Please direct them to our website where details of the review can be found:

<https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/Council/Consultations/review-of-polling-districts-and-polling-places-2023.cfm>

We will also be sharing details of the review on our social media pages, sharing to local community pages where available, and with parish and town councils too.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email to [elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk) or telephone 01284 757101.

Kind regards

Ben

---

Ben Smith  
Business Partner Governance  
Legal and Governance Services  
Direct dial: 01284 757101  
Email: [Ben.Smith@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Ben.Smith@westsuffolk.gov.uk)  
[www.westsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk)

**West Suffolk Council**

#TeamWestSuffolk

West Suffolk Council supports our staff to work flexibly and we respect the fact that you may also be working at different times to suit you and your organisation's needs. Please do not action or respond to this message outside of your own working hours.

[Report, pay and apply online 24 hours a day](#)  
[Find my nearest for information about your area](#)

West Suffolk Council is the Data Controller of the information you are providing. Any personal information shared by email will be processed, protected and disposed of in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations and Data Protection Act 2018. In some circumstances we may need to disclose your personal details to a third party so that they can provide a service you have requested, fulfil a request for information or because we have a legal requirement to do so. Any information about you that we pass to a third party will be held securely by that party. For more information on how we do this and your rights in regards to your personal information and how to access it, visit our website: [How we use your information](#)