

Review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations

Consultation responses

Please note that responses from venues solely confirming availability are not included.

#	Date	Constituency / Ward	Respondent	Summary of comment	Response
001	27 July 2019	Sevenoaks / Northern Sevenoaks	District Councillor	The Polling station at Sevenoaks Community Centre will not be available for use until 2021 as it is being rebuilt. Perhaps the Bat and Ball Station building managed by the Sevenoaks Town Council might be suitable for that part of the Ward.	<p>The owners of the venue have confirmed that Sevenoaks Community Centre will not be available during 2019/2020 and have suggested the same alternative.</p> <p>Having visited and assessed the Bat and Ball Station building, I confirm it would be suitable for use as a polling station and therefore recommend that this be the new venue until such time as the community centre is available again. The (A)RO will ensure adequate signage and information on poll cards for all voters affected by this change.</p>
002	31 July 2019	Sevenoaks / Sevenoaks Rural North East county division	County Councillor	The proposed facilities in my division are fine.	
003	1 August 2019	Sevenoaks / Sevenoaks Kippington	District Councillor	I am happy with the proposed arrangements.	

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004	1 August 2019	Tonbridge & Malling / Penshurst, Fordcombe and Chiddingstone	District Councillor	I don't think you can be aware that Fordcombe village hall is currently closed and is going to be demolished and rebuilt. Should an election be called in the next eighteen months, a different venue will be necessary.	The exact timing for the temporary closure of the venue is not yet confirmed. Alternatives have been considered, with the primary school identified as the most suitable. I therefore recommend that the polling place remain the village hall, with the caveat that when it is unavailable due to building work the primary school is used instead. This is likely to be for a limited period before the village hall refurbishment is completed and the premises available again.
005	2 August 2019	Sevenoaks / Hextable	District Councillor	Hextable members have commented after this was looked at previously and given the well-known and existing central location of our polling station at St Peters church, I feel there would be no benefit from changing these arrangements.	
006	5 August 2019	Sevenoaks / Sevenoaks Northern	Venue	Sevenoaks Community Centre – This is now closed until late 2020 whilst refurbishment and extension works are carried out In place of the Sevenoaks Community Centre, Sevenoaks Town Council can offer the Bat & Ball Station. The Station has 2 rooms and I attach some	See response to 001, above.

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				information about it. I would think that the Booking Hall would probably be the better sized room for you. The address is Bat & Ball Station, Chatham Hill Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN14 5AP	
007	5 August 2019	Sevenoaks / Fawkham & West Kingsdown	Venue	I confirm that this venue will be available for future use and many local people have commented that it is convenient with good parking available.	
008	9 August 2019	Sevenoaks / Eastern	District Councillor	An important fact which was apparent in the latest local elections in Eastern Ward was a significant difference in turnout on the day between the Hillingdon and Hollybush polling areas.	There tends to be a higher turnout (both in percentage and count of electors) in BV compared to BW. The venue remains suitable for two stations. The (A)RO is responsible for allocating staff for each election and will ensure sufficient staff at the busier station, taking into account historic turnout information.
009	12 August 2019	Sevenoaks / Eastern	District Councillor	I note that the Consultation document states that each polling station should be accessible for all electors. I believe that in Sevenoaks Eastern this is not the case, and voters from the Hillingdon (BV) end of the ward are at a disadvantage.	The alternative venue suggested is not suitable for use as a polling station venue. Whilst the current venue is not ideal for all electors, it represents the best location we can currently provide.

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010	13 August 2019	Sevenoaks / Sevenoaks Town County Division	County Councillor	I have read the consultation document and am happy with the proposals for the wards in my KCC division – Sevenoaks Town.	
011	14 August 2019	Sevenoaks / Swanley St Mary's	Venue	The venue (Swanley Youth Centre) is available at present. However, future building work is planned (no date is yet confirmed), at which point an alternative room in the same building will be available for use for a polling station.	We have assessed the alternative room, and consider it would be suitable for use as a polling station when the main room is unavailable for use. I therefore recommend we retain the Swanley Youth Centre as a polling place, noting the actual room used may change depending on circumstances at the time of an election.