

Appendix 2



Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations 2023

Final Recommendations – November 2023

*** (The revised polling district elector count as a result of the review will be available post publication on 1st December)*

1. AUDLEY AND QUEEN'S PARK

Constituency – Blackburn)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
AQ1	St. Thomas C.E. Primary School, Nursery Annex, Newton St Parish - None Elector count – 967 (219 postal, 748 station)	Comments from St Thomas Primary School Headteacher – <i>School wish not to be used as a polling station during elections due to the following concerns:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Safeguarding</i> • <i>Anti-social behaviour</i> • <i>Intoxicated persons on site</i> • <i>Verbal aggressive incidents with members of staff</i> • <i>Children missing education</i> <p>No further comments received.</p>	(Boundary - Amend boundary with AQ3 to include proposed new polling station in AQ1. ** Polling station - Move polling station to St Joseph's Church, Audley Range Blackburn. This has been inspected and deemed suitable. To revert to the school should the Church becomes unavailable. The proposed new location is more accessible to access for voters and has better car parking facilities.
AQ2	Accrington Road Community Centre, Accrington Road, Blackburn Parish - None Elector count – 2,324 (394 postal, 1,930 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
AQ3	Audley & Queen`s Park Neighbourhood Learning Ctre, Pringle St Parish - None Elector count – 1,691 (406 postal, 1,285 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	Boundary - amend boundary with AQ1 and also amend boundary with AQ4. ** Polling station – No Change
AQ4	Audley & Queen`s Park Neighbourhood Learning Ctre, Pringle St Parish - None Elector count – 1,431 (335 postal, 1,076 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	Boundary - amend boundary with AQ3. ** Polling station – No Change

2. BASTWELL AND DAISYFIELD

(Constituency – Blackburn)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
BD1	Daisyfield Pools, Daisy Lane, Blackburn Parish - None Elector count – 1,294 (291 postal, 1,003 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	Polling station - move polling station to the Young People's Service, Daisyfield Base, Moss Street, due to recent health & safety issues at Daisyfield Pools. YPS is recommended as there is no alternative suitable premises within the Polling District. Boundary – No Change
BD2	Bangor Street Community Centre, Norwich Street Entrance, Parish- None Elector count – 1,794 (733 postal, 1,061station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
BD3	Bangor Street Community Centre, Norwich Street Entrance, Parish - None Elector count – 1,847 (602 postal, 1,245 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
BD4	The Good Shepherd R.C. Church Hall, Earl Street, Blackburn Parish - None Elector count – 977 (265 postal, 712 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change

3. BILLINGE AND BEARDWOOD

(Constituency – Blackburn)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
BIL1	Lammack Methodist Church, Lammack Road Parish - None Elector count – 2,171 (597 postal, 1,574 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change Use Lammack Primary School as polling station should the Church become unavailable.
BIL2/BIL3	Blackburn Golf Club, Beardwood Brow Parish – None Elector count – 2,648 (702 postal, 1,946 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
BIL4	St Silas CE Church, Preston New Road, Blackburn Parish – None Elector count – 1,335 (392 postal, 943 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change

4. BLACKBURN CENTRAL

(Constituency – Blackburn)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
BLC1	Audley Sports & Community Centre, Meeting Rm 3, Chester St Parish – None Elector Count – 1,351 (330 postal, 1,021 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	Boundary - Amend boundary to include part of BLC2.** Polling station – No change
BLC2	Christ Church Parish Hall, Mosley Street, Blackburn Parish – None Elector count – 2,611 (653 postal, 1,958 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	Boundary - amend boundary with BLC 1 to move part into BLC 1 to enable better voter accessibility to polling stations (see above).** Polling station – No change
BLC3	St. Alban's Church, Lark Hill, Blackburn Parish – None Elector count – 703 (204 postal, 499 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change (To use St Albans Primary School as Polling Station should the Church become unavailable.)
BLC4	St Wilfrid's CE Academy, 3 Towers Court, Duckworth St, Blackburn. Parish - None Elector count - 1,566 (257 postal, 1,309 station)	Comments from St Wilfrid's School – <i>We have very limited space and no way of separating members of the public from school children: posing a safeguarding risk. In addition, the Academy is situated in an area of significant deprivation. Leaving free access all day poses a risk to the health and safety of this community. We also have no available parking on site, meaning that it is not suitable for those with disabilities. The last election, we allowed the use of our Thrive building. Unfortunately, this now accommodates two new SEMH classrooms and is also unsuitable. We are happy to be used during holiday periods in negotiation with our lettings company. There are a number of church and community halls within walking distance of the Academy. These may be more suitable.</i>	Recommendation to move polling station from St Wilfrid's School to St Luke's Church for future elections with a caveat that if the Church becomes unavailable, we revert back to the School.

5. BLACKBURN SOUTH & LOWER DARWEN

(Constituency – Rossendale & Darwen)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
BSD1	St Bartholomew's Church, Jack Walker Way, Blackburn. Parish - None Elector count – 2,119 (415 postal, 1,704 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
BSD2	Lower Darwen Primary School, Milking Lane, Lower Darwen. Parish - None Elector count – 1,709 (345 postal, 1,364 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
BSD3	St. James C.E. Church Lounge, St James Vicarage, Stopes Brow Parish – None Elector count – 1,893 (308 postal, 1,585 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change

6. BLACKBURN SOUTH EAST

(Constituency – Blackburn)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
BSE1	Longshaw Infant School, Crosby Road, Blackburn Parish – None Elector Count – 1,408 (191 postal, 1,217 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	Boundary - Amend BSE1/BSE2 boundary to align with new housing development roads.** Polling station – No change
BSE2	Kaleidoscope Young People’s Centre, Blackburn Parish - None Elector Count – 1,550 (255 postal, 1,295 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	Boundary - Amend BSE1/BSE2 and BSE2/BSE3 boundaries to align with new housing development roads.** Polling station – No change
BSE3	Guide Social Club, School Lane, Blackburn, Blackburn Parish - None Elector Count – 622 (117 Postal, 505 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	Boundary - Amend BSE2/BSE3 boundary to align with new housing development roads.** Polling station – No change
BSE4	Shadsworth Children Centre, Shadsworth Road, Blackburn Parish - None Elector Count -1,465 (178 postal, 1,287 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
BSE5	Shadsworth Infant School, Rothesay Road, Blackburn Parish - None Elector Count - 980 (136 postal, 844 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change

7. DARWEN EAST

(Constituency – Rossendale & Darwen)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
DE1	AFC Darwen Football Club, Darwen Parish – Darwen East, Darwen Town Council Elector Count – 1,206 (218 postal, 988 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
DE2	Darwen Resource Centre, Edward Street, Darwen Parish – Darwen East, Darwen Town Council Elector Count – 1,438 (367 postal, 1,071 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
DE3	St James CE Church, Winterton Road, Darwen Parish – Darwen East, Darwen Town Council Elector Count – 1,816 (360 postal, 1,456 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
DE4	Darwen Valley Community Centre, Sudellside Street, Darwen Parish – Darwen East, Darwen Town Council Elector Count – 1,967 (333 postal, 1,634 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change

8. DARWEN SOUTH

(Constituency – Rossendale & Darwen)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
DS1	Spring Vale Methodist Church, Watery Lane, Darwen Parish – Darwen South, Darwen Town Council Elector Count – 1,358 (277 postal, 1,081 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
DS2	Highfield Congregational Church, Edmund St, Darwen Parish – Darwen South, Darwen Town Council Elector Count – 1,325 (270 postal, 1,055 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
DS3	Highfield Congregational Church, Edmund St, Darwen Parish – Darwen South, Darwen Town Council Elector Count – 2,278 (589 postal, 1,689 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
DS4	Ashleigh Primary School, Ross Street, Darwen Parish – Darwen South, Darwen Town Council Elector Count – 1,541 (290 postal, 1,251 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change

9. DARWEN WEST

(Constituency – Rossendale & Darwen)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
DW1	Sacred Heart & St Edwards Community Centre, Veronica St Parish – Darwen West, Darwen Town Council Elector Count – 1,806 (576 postal, 1,230 station)	Comments from Ward Councillor – <i>As previously mentioned, could we please just have one entrance and exit at St Edward's polling station. This was always the case prior to Covid.</i>	No change
DW2	Tockholes Community Hall, Tockholes, Darwen Parish - Tockholes Elector Count – 405 (90 postal, 315 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
DW3	Darwen Methodist Church, Bright St, Darwen Parish – Darwen West, Darwen Town Council Elector Count – 2,502 (670 postal, 1,832 station)	Comments from ward Councillors - <i>to revert back to Avondale School as the school is one of the larger primary schools with plenty space. The Church on Bright St is at the bottom of a steep hill so is inconvenient and inaccessible for the older and disabled residents. Another suggestion was Crosshill School within the ward.</i> Comments from ward residents – <i>due to the Church being at the bottom of a steep hill it is rather inconvenient for older residents and would prefer going back to Avondale School.</i> Signed requests from 47 residents - <i>Please note that I/we would like the polling station at Avondale School (DW3) re-instating. In 2023 the DW3 polling station was suddenly moved from Avondale School to the Methodist Church at Blackburn Rd/Bright Street. This was inconvenient to many residents (especially the elderly, disabled and those without transport) as it's situated at the very edge of the polling station area at the bottom of a very steep hill. Previously Avondale School had been the polling station for many, many years and is conveniently located in the heart of the polling area with good access.</i> Comments from Avondale School –	Polling station - Retain use of Darwen Methodist Church to minimise disruption to the School as a result of closure. (Use Avondale School should the Church become unavailable). Boundary – No change

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>All EYFS children cannot come into school using their usual entrance, these are our youngest pupils in school. One EYFS class has to enter and exit school via the yard, which is not the children's usual routine. One EYFS class has to enter and exit school via the office.</i> • <i>One of the classes has no base for the day, they have to literally go from classroom to classroom and access a classroom when the main class is doing PE or computing, forest school etc.</i> • <i>The EYFS provision is now run as a unit and then impact means that all EYFS children do not received their statutory entitlement for the day that polling is taken place.</i> • <i>Doors now go between the two EYFS classrooms and whilst there are internal locks these can be opened from either side – safeguarding is compromised.</i> • <i>There are no locks that can't be overturned to restrict access between the school and the one EYFS classroom used.</i> • <i>We felt that children have lost enough schooling recently and didn't need any additional days in school where they would be unable to access the full curriculum and receive their statutory entitlement.</i> • <i>Opening as a polling station is additional workload for staff in school, receiving the booths, positioning the booths, packing away, providing refreshment facilities, letting people in and out during the day to use the facilities, locking up etc.</i> • <i>Access for polling station an issue as cannot walk around school whilst pupils are on site.</i> • <i>Massive security risk of children leaving gates that have been left open by voters.</i> 	
DW4	<p>Holy Trinity CE Primary School, Darwen Parish – Darwen West, Darwen Town Council Elector Count – 1,514 (430 postal, 1,084 station)</p>	<p>School wish to remain open as they are struggling using an inset day to close for elections due to other priorities. May is too close to SAT's and taking a day off hinders pupil education.</p>	<p>Polling Station - Retain use of the school but to review after May 2024 elections and if necessary, consider moving to Darwen Leisure Centre. Boundary – No change</p>

10. EWOOD

(Constituency – Blackburn)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
EW01	Livesey Children Centre, Scotland Bank Terrace, Blackburn Parish – None Elector Count – 2,102 (439 postal, 1,663 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
EW02	The Players Lounge, Blackburn Rovers FC, Ewood Park, Bolton Road Parish – None Elector Count – 2,005 (373 postal, 1,632 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
EW03	Hollin Street Project, Hollin Street, Blackburn Parish – None Elector Count – 426 (54 postal, 372 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
EW04	Ivy Street Community Centre, Ivy Street Blackburn Parish – None Elector Count – 1,627 (227 postal, 1,400 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change

11. LITTLE HARWOOD & WHITEBIRK
(Constituency – Blackburn)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
LHW1	Mobile Polling Station, Northern end of Bank Hey Lane South Parish – None Elector Count – 702 (147 postal, 555 station)	Considered moving LHW1 from a mobile to suitable polling station. No suitable venues within the PD.	No change
LHW2	Little Harwood Community Centre, Whalley Old Road, Blackburn Parish – None Elector Count – 2,522 (523 postal, 1,999 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
LHW3	Little Harwood Children’s Centre, Robinson Street, Blackburn Parish – None Elector Count – 1,012 (231 postal, 781 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
LHW4	Intack Primary School, Whitebirk Road, Blackburn Parish – None Elector Count – 1,821 (311 postal, 1,510 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change

12. LIVESEY with PLEASINGTON

(Constituency – Blackburn)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
LP1/LP2	Feniscowles Methodist Church, Preston Old Road, Blackburn Parish – Pleasington (LP1); Livesey (LP2) Elector Count – 2,710 (569 postal, 2,141 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	Boundary - Amend LP2/LP5 boundary - new houses off Gibb Lane requires boundary line to be aligned with new roads.** Polling station – No change
LP3/LP4	Woodlands United Reformed Church, Preston Old Road Parish – Livesey (LP3 only); No parish (LP4) Elector Count – 1,878 (390 postal, 1,488 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No Change
LP5	St Bedes RC School, Green Lane, Blackburn (Mobile Polling Station on school carpark) Parish – Livesey Elector Count – 1,852 (399 postal, 1,453 station)	Comments from St Bedes School – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The room previously used is now a classroom that is used throughout the day for pupils and has both pupil names and photographs on the walls.</i> <i>Being accessible for the general public creates a serious safeguarding risk. The entrance of the building allows the general public to have visibility to our school yards and PE facilities. We have pupils on roll who are open to Children's Service, have Child Protection Plans and Risk Assessments, who cannot have contact with named individuals and as a school we are instructed to contact the</i> 	Boundary - Amend LP2/LP5 boundary - new houses off Gibb Lane requires boundary line to align with new roads.** Polling station – no other suitable venues available within the area and the mobile station

police should these individuals come within the vicinity of the school premises - by allowing access to the general public, we cannot safeguard these pupils.

- The adjoining doors that lead from the allocated classroom to the main school premises cannot be locked as these prevent access to the toilets and would in turn block off a fire escape route, which poses a serious H&S risk.
- The school hires out the sports facilities from 5pm - 9pm for external lettings for young people. As a duty of care and again for safeguarding purposes, our hirers will need to be informed that members of the public will have access to the sports block. This may result in hirers cancelling their lettings for this period which incurs a financial loss of approximately £440 and causes an inconvenience for the hirers. **Would the loss of income be covered by the Local Authority if the hirers needed to cancel their arrangements, as this would be through no fault of the school?**
- There was a suggestion that the school could use an inset day and as advised, school dates are set for this year and the academic year 2024/25.
- Beyond 2024/25, the concern would be that Year 11 pupils who are due to sit the GCSE public examinations would be missing another day of schooling close to their examinations. It was suggested that a public examination may also fall on this day. It is also important to mention that the May Bank Holiday falls around this period. Given the fact that there is likely to be both local and general elections, alternatives need to be explored to avoid two potential school closures.
- School would also need to be compensated for opening up early and closing and alarming the building once voting has finished, as site staff would be required to extend their hours in order to assist. We would be able to advise on costs for this once we were informed of opening/closing times.

The school proposes the following:

1. Another venue is sought.
2. The money pledged by government be used to purchase improved portable facilities (as per the attached) - this would enable the carpark to be used which falls within the catchment area and avoid a school closure.

Please note that this was DFE/Cabinet Office letter in 2021 to help with Covid restrictions, therefore not applicable anymore.

A forced school closure - this is not something we would want to do and would require a letter from the LA to inform parents which includes a contact number to avoid school being inundated with complaints.

is not suitable. Recommend reverting back to the school building.

13. MILLHILL & MOORGATE

(Constituency – Blackburn)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
MM1	Meadowhead Junior School, Anglesey Street, Blackburn Parish - None Elector Count – 1,191 (181 postal, 1,010 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
MM2	St Aiden's CE Church, St Aiden's Avenue, Blackburn Parish - None Elector Count – 1,984 (312 postal, 1,672 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
MM3	Griffin Park Primary School, St Phillip's Street, Blackburn Parish - None Elector Count – 1,164 (207 postal, 957 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
MM4	Meadowhead Infant School, Shorrock Lane, Blackburn Parish - None Elector Count – 1,244 (198 postal, 1,046 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change

14. ROE LEE

(Constituency – Blackburn)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
RL1	Trinity United Reformed Church, Brownhill Road, Blackburn Parish - None Elector Count – 1,497 (292 postal, 1,220 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
RL2	Roe Lee Park Primary School, Emerald Avenue, Blackburn Parish - None Elector Count – 1,350 (250 postal, 1,102 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
RL3	Education Partnership Trust, Pleckgate Road, Blackburn Parish - None Elector Count – 2,213 (554 postal, 1,659 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	Boundary - Move part RL3/RL4 boundary to Pleckgate Rd and Pleck Farm Road** Polling station – No change
RL4	Cedar Primary Upper School, St James' Road, Blackburn Parish - None Elector Count – 1,288 (273 postal, 1,015 station)	comments from Cllr Saj Ali – <i>requesting that the polling station can be moved elsewhere from where it is situated now. Each year residents are being put off because of the walking distance getting to the School. Request to change to Infant school as was previously.</i>	Boundary - Move part RL3/RL4 boundary to Pleckgate Rd and Pleck Farm Road** Polling Station – No change

15. SHEAR BROW & CORPORATION PARK
(Constituency – Blackburn)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
SBC1	East Lancashire Cricket Club, Dukes Brow, Blackburn Parish - none Elector Count – 2,151 (554 postal, 1,567 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
SBC2	St Michael’s with St John CE School, Swallow Drive, (located in <u>BLC Ward</u>) Parish - none Elector Count – 2,021 (770 postal, 1,251 station)	Comments from St Michael with St John CE Primary School – <i>I would like St Michael with St John CE Primary School to be removed from the list of polling stations if possible. We are unable to open on polling days for safeguarding reasons and therefore have no option than to use an INSET day when elections take place. We already have to use INSET days to take into account Eid, otherwise our attendance figures would be gravely affected. This leaves us with little flexibility when it comes to selecting dates for INSET. This seems unfair when other schools have the flexibility to choose when their training takes place to meet the needs of the school.</i>	No change No other polling place suitable for the large number of electors in the polling district, and the school is in very close proximity to SBC2.
SBC3	St James CE Primary School, KS2 Main Hall Earl Street, Blackburn Parish - none Elector Count – 1,974 (563 postal, 1,411 station)	The school have been rather challenging during the elections period and demand unreasonable charges for use of the school on polling day.	Polling station – move polling station to St James Church on c/o Earl St/St James Rd. If Church becomes unavailable, to revert back to the school. Boundary – No change

16. WENSLEY FOLD
(Constituency – Blackburn)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
WF1/WF2	Christ Apostolic Church Mount Zion International, Johnston Street Parish - None Elector Count – 2,537 (718 postal, 1,819 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
WF3	Witton Park City Learning Centre, Buncer Lane, Blackburn (BIL ward) Parish - None Elector Count – 1,396 (293 postal, 1,103 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change <i>(Polling station is in BIL ward but no other suitable venue in WF3 Polling District.)</i>
WF4	Wensley Fold Children’s Centre, Carnarvon Road, Blackburn Parish - None Elector Count – 1,144 (283 postal, 861station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
WF5	Mobile Station Croydon Street, off Cheltenham Road Blackburn Parish - None Elector Count – 938 (208 postal, 730 station)	Comments from Elections Team – <i>unable to find suitable alternative venue to replace mobile polling station. Consulted Ward Cllrs who supported the team to secure an alternative station however, unable to suggest suitable alternative.</i>	No change

17. WEST PENNINE

(Constituency – Rossendale & Darwen)

Polling District	Current	Consultation Feedback	Recommendation
WP1/WP3	Carus Centre, Queen Street, Huddlesdon, Darwen Parish – Eccleshill (WP1 only) Elector Count – 1,210 (259 postal, 951 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
WP2	Belthorn Primary School, Belthorn Road, Belthorn, Oswaldtwistle Parish – Yate & Pickup Bank Elector Count – 317 (74 postal, 243 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
WP4/WP7	Barlow Institute, Bolton Road, Edgworth, Bolton Parish – Edgworth ward, North Turton (WP4), Chapelton ward, North Turton (WP7) Elector Count – 2,579 (623 postal, 1,956 station)	Comments from Ward Councillor - <i>Historically Chapelton residents were able to vote at St. Anne's church and a few years ago that was stopped and residents had to travel to vote. Any chance of it being reinstated please? This is in addition to the Barlow Institute.</i>	No change
WP5	Belmont Primary School, Ryecroft Lane, Belmont, Bolton Parish – Belmont ward, North Turton Elector Count – 584 (100 postal, 484 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change
WP6	St Barnabas Primary School, Knowlesly Road, Darwen Parish - Darwen South Rural ward, Darwen Town Council Elector Count – 1,480 (329 postal, 1,151 station)	No comments received during the consultation period	No change