

# **NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**Date 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018**

1. **REPORT TITLE**                      **ELECTIONS UPDATE**
- Submitted by:**                      **Acting Chief Executive – John Tradewell**
- Portfolio:**                              **Leader of the Council**
- Ward(s) affected:**                      **All**

### **Purpose of the Report**

To update the Council on progress with the preparations for the local elections in May 2018, to ask the Council to appoint a Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer for the Council, and to approve proposals for polling stations following a review of polling stations.

### **Recommendations**

**It is recommended that:**

- (1) John Tradewell, acting Chief Executive, be appointed as the Council's Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer**
- (2) The changes set out in Paragraph 3.8 of this report, relating to polling district boundaries and polling places, be approved in order for them to be implemented on or by 1 March 2018**
- (3) That the schedule of proposals for polling stations outlined in Appendix A be approved.**
- (4) That delegated powers be given to the Council's Returning Officer to find suitable alternatives, in conjunction with local members, should any polling station not be available for a particular election.**

### **Reasons**

- 1) The Council needs to appoint a replacement Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer now that Stoke-on-Trent City Council is not going to be involved in running the elections in May 2018.
- 2) Having carried out a Review of Polling Stations a decision by the Council on that review is now required.
- 3) To ensure that the Returning Officer is able to make alternative arrangements in the event that a polling station is unavailable for any reason.

## 1. **Update**

- 1.1 Following the successful holding of two by elections in December 2017 it had been hoped that Stoke-on-Trent City Council would decide to continue to support the Council with elections until at least after the elections in May 2018. However, the City Council decided that it was not able to do so because a number of their own projects needed officer resource at this time.
- 1.2 Following conversations with a number of the Council's neighbouring authorities, all of whom were extremely helpful in offering support, the Council has now entered into an agreement with Shropshire Council for them to step into the shoes vacated by the City Council and provide the Council with election support. The arrangement is similar in nature to the one with Stoke with the Council paying for the staff it uses based on the number of days they spend working with the Council. Between now and the election there will be at least one member of the Shropshire team working out of the Council's elections office at any time.
- 1.3 Work on the elections is continuing, a project board has been established and a meeting of an Assurance Board, under the chairmanship of the Leader and including representation from the Electoral Commission, will meet shortly to review progress with the elections preparations. The Register of Electors was published at the end of January, and a fresh version of the Register will be published at the end of this month.
- 1.4 A decision has also been made to change the elections software. The software in place for the elections' last year did not have the confidence of the consultants who have worked in the elections team or the City Council, and Shropshire Council's officers were keen that it should be changed if they were to support the elections. This change is now in progress, and, among other things, because the new system is used by a number of neighbouring authorities (including Shropshire), it makes it much easier to draw in support from other authorities should further support be needed.
- 1.5 The rebuilding of the Council's own elections' team has now started. It now has one permanent member of staff, and the further post of Electoral Registration and Elections Manager is currently being advertised. The intention is to have a fully staffed team by the time of the May 2018 elections so that the team gain some first-hand mentoring in, and experience of, the running of an election in Newcastle before they have to undertake the role on their own.

## 2. **Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer**

- 2.1 Now that Stoke is no longer involved in running the elections it will be necessary to appoint a new Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer to replace the Chief Executive of the City Council who had been given these roles.
- 2.2 It has been agreed with Shropshire that the Council's acting Chief Executive should hold the roles of Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer. The Returning

Officer will then appoint one of the solicitor members of the Shropshire Team to act as the Deputy Returning Officer at the elections.

### **3. Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations 2017/18**

- 3.1 A Review of the Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations has been carried out in the Parliamentary Constituencies in accordance with the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended by the Electoral Administration Act 2006).
- 3.2 The main purpose of the review is to ensure that all electors have such reasonable facilities for voting in light of the boundary changes and that all polling stations are accessible to electors, particularly those who are disabled. The guidelines also state that every parish should be in its own polling district and that every polling place should, where possible, be in its own polling district. However, it should be noted that community buildings are becoming more difficult to find in some areas compared to previous years.
- 3.3 Every authority must complete a review of each polling district, polling place and polling station within its area every five years. On this occasion a review has been undertaken due to the boundary changes that are in force for the May elections. Council initiated the review on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017 by giving public notice of its intention to conduct it and a consultation was held between 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018. (Note - It was too late to conduct a full polling station review, and the five yearly one must be started and completed within the period of 16 months that starts on 1 October 2018. The polling station review undertaken was to ensure that polling stations were in the correct wards for the May election.)
- 3.4 Existing polling arrangements were assessed and the views of interested groups and individuals were invited. These included electors, political parties, Members of the Council, those organisations who cater for the specific needs of people with different disabilities and the Acting Returning Officer for Stone and Staffordshire Moorlands.
- 3.5 Any comments, suggestions and requests received were explored and those found to be achievable and in the best interests of the electors affected are outlined in the table at paragraph 3.8 below and detailed in Appendix A.
- 3.6 Guidance issued by the Electoral Commission stipulates how reviews should be conducted in four stages. The first stage requires the Council to give public notice of its intention to conduct the review. The second stage requires the Council to review the existing polling arrangements to determine their suitability, or otherwise. The third stage requires the Council to consult widely. This includes local electors, interested groups and bodies, including political parties, elected Members and organisations experienced in assessing the needs of people with disabilities. The final stage relates to the consideration of proposals for changes to polling district boundaries and polling places by the Council, as these can require alterations to be made to the electoral register.

- 3.7 It is planned that any changes resulting from the review would be incorporated into the register which would be re-published on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018 in advance of the Local Elections in May this year.
- 3.8 Members are recommended to make the following changes for implementation on or by the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018.

<b>WARD</b>	<b>PROPOSED CHANGES</b>
NAH Audley Ward	This contains 1 property. This will need to be kept separate as it is in a different County Ward than the rest of the Audley Ward.
NAG Audley Ward	It is recommended to combine polling districts NAG and NAF to give an electorate of around 770 to vote at Richard Heathcote Primary School.
NDD Crackley and Red Street Ward	It is recommended that as the Meeting Hall, Kent Grove is not within the new Crackley and Red Street Ward that Crackley Bank Primary School be used as the polling station.
NFB and NFC Holditch and Chesterton Ward	It is recommended to combine polling districts NFB and NFC to make one polling district.
KHB Kidsgrove and Ravenscliffe	Due to the boundary changes the previous polling station is not in the new Ward. It is therefore recommended that the electors vote at Kidsgrove Town Hall.
NJB and NJC Knutton Ward	It is recommended that polling districts NJB and NJC be merged to make one polling district.
SLA, SLB and SLC Madeley and Betley	It is recommended to merge the two polling districts SLB and SLC with one polling station at The Madeley Centre. After a comment from an elector it is also recommended for electors in polling district SLA to vote at The Madeley Centre and not the Function Room Crewe Arms.

SMA and SMB Maer and Whitmore	It is recommended to merge polling districts SMA and SMB to make one polling district,
NNA May Bank	Porthill Park Cricket Club is not in the new May Bank Ward. It is therefore recommended to use the Mobile Unit Wolstanton High School.
NNB May Bank	It is recommended to use May Bank Infants School.
NNF and NNG May Bank	Combine NNF and NNG to make one polling district.
KOB Newchapel and Mow Cop	University Primary Academy Kidsgrove is not within the new Newchapel and Mow Cop Ward. It is recommended to merge with polling district KOA to vote at Birchenwood Pavilion.
MOA Newchapel and Mow Cop	It is recommended to move the polling district boundary to follow Alder Hay Lane this will affect two properties which will move into polling district MOC and will vote at Thursfield Community Centre and remove the north westerly district boundary that runs through Trubshaw Edge Farm.
KRD Talke and Butt Lane	St Thomas Church Hall is not in the new Talke and Butt Lane Ward. It is therefore recommended merging with KRC to vote at Meeting Hall, Hollinwood Close.
NUA, NUB, NUC and NUD Westbury Park and Northwood	Our Lady and St Werburghs R C Church Hall is not in the Westbury Park and Northwood Ward. It is therefore recommended to combine NUB with NUA to vote at Wye Road Community Centre and NUC with NUD which would vote at Clayton Community Centre.
NWA and NWB Westlands	Higherland Methodist Church Hall is not within the new Westlands Ward. It is therefore recommended to merge with NWB to vote at Friarswood CP School.
NWF and NWG Westlands	Wye Road Community Centre is not in the new Westlands Ward it is therefore proposed to use Our Lady and St Werburghs RC Church Hall. It is also recommended to merge polling district NWG with NWF.

NXC and NXD Wolstanton	It is recommended to merge polling districts NXC and NXD. If no polling station can be identified within these polling districts then it is recommended to use Porthill Park Cricket Club as a single station for the May elections.
NXE and NXF Wolstanton	It is recommended to combine polling districts NXE and NXF to vote at Ellison Primary school.

3.9 The full Schedule of Proposals to be agreed is set out in Appendix A.

#### 4. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

4.1 The Review complies with the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended by the Electoral Administration Act 2006).

4.2 The recommendation is not at variance with the Human Rights Act 1998 and is unlikely to result in any adverse Human Rights Act implications. The recommendations are in line with relevant legal procedures prescribed by the Act and with guidance issued by the Home Office.

#### 5. **Equality Impact Assessment**

5.1 The Council must seek to ensure that so far as is reasonable and practicable every polling place for which it is responsible is accessible to electors who are disabled. Any amendments to the current polling districts, polling places and polling stations will take into account the provisions of the Equalities Act, Representation of People Act 1983 (as amended by the Electoral Administration Act 2006), and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

#### 6. **Financial and Resource Implications**

6.1 The hire charges will decrease as some of the polling districts will merge therefore reducing the number of polling stations. It should be remembered that hire charges for many of the existing polling station venues may increase next year.

6.2 The change of software, combined with the costs of consultants, and the support from Stoke and Shropshire, mean that there will be a significant overspend on the elections budget this year, possibly by as much as £150,000.

#### 7. **Major Risks**

7.1 The Council is obliged to conduct a review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations on a regular basis and to undertake such Community Governance Reviews as are required to keep the electoral arrangements within its area up to date; the review undertaken is considered to mitigate this risk

- 7.2 The Council must seek to ensure that all electors in a constituency in the local authority area have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances. Again, the review undertaken is considered to mitigate this risk.
- 7.3 There are some potential major risks associated with the change of software supplier, including the ability to resource the change in ICT, the potential risk of any delay in other work such as billing, and the tight timescales being worked to. The project will therefore be very tightly monitored and managed to ensure that these risks are either avoided or mitigated.

8. **Sustainability and Climate Change Implications**

- 8.1 There is no anticipated adverse environmental impact associated with the recommendations in the report.

9. **List of Appendices**

Appendix A – Schedule of Proposals

10. **Background Papers**

Section 18C (1) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

Section 16 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006.

Electoral Commission Guidance on Review of Polling Districts and Places – 28 August 2013.

## APPENDIX A

### AUDLEY

Polling District	Consisting of (old PD letters)	Existing Polling Station	Total Electorate	Existing Number of Polling Stations	Proposed Number of Polling Stations	Acting Returning Officers Recommendations
NAA, NAB	P0001, P0002	St James Church Hall, Audley	1,923	2	2	No change
NAC	Q0001	Audley Methodist Church	1,719	1	1	No change
NAD	Q0002	Audley Wood Lane Community Centre	836	1	1	No change
NAE, NAH	R0001, S0001	Helmer End Methodist Church	1,223	1	1	NAH contains 1 property this will need to be kept separate as it is in a different County Ward that the rest of the Audley Ward.
NAF	R0002	The Richard Heathcote Primary School Hall	528	1	1	Combine polling districts NAF with NAG to give an electorate of around 770 and vote at Richard Heathcote Primary School
NAG	R0003	Scot Hay Cricket Club	245	1	0	Combine polling districts NAG with NAF to give electorate of around 770 and vote at Richard Heathcote Primary School
		<b>Total for Ward: AUDLEY</b>	<b>6,474</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	



**BRADWELL**

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
NBA	A0001	Bradwell Community Education Centre	1,838	1	1	No change
NBB	A0002	Bradwell Methodist Mission Hall	1,073	1	1	No change
NBC	A0003	St Barnabus Church Hall	1,840	1	1	No change
NBD	B0002	Bradwell Lodge Community Centre	1,184	1	1	No change
NBE	B0003	Wolstanton United Reformed Church	687	1	1	No change
		<b>Total for Ward: BRADWELL</b>	<b>6622</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	

**CLAYTON**

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
NCA	L0001	Clayton Sports Centre	1035	1	1	No change
NCB	L0002	St James Church Hall	1142	1	1	No change
		<b>Total for Ward: CLAYTON</b>	<b>2177</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	

**CRACKLEY AND RED STREET**

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
NDA	E0001	St Chads Church Hall	1304	1	1	No change
NDB	E0002	Mobile Unit Waterhayes	1483	1	1	No change
NDC	E0003	Crackley Bank Primary School, Childrens Centre	996	1	2	No change
NDD	E0004	Meeting Hall, Kent Grove	596	1	0	This polling station is not within the new Crackley and Red Street Ward - proposal to use Crackley Bank Primary School and make this a dual station with NDC
		<b>Total for Ward: CRACKLEY AND RED STREET</b>	<b>4379</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	

**CROSS HEATH**

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
NEA	G0001	Ramsey Road Meeting Hall	1443	1	1	No change
NEB	G0002	Cross Heath Methodist School Room	478	1	1	No change
NEC	G0003	St Michaels Church Hall	1051	1	1	No change
NED	G0004	Cross Heath Mobile Unit	982	1	1	No change
		<b>Total for Ward: Cross Heath</b>	<b>3954</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	

**HOLDITCH AND CHESTERTON**

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
NFA	E0004	Meeting Hall, Kent Grove	618	1	1	No change
NFB, NFC	E0005 & F0001	Chesterton Community Centre	2397	2	1	Proposal to combine polling districts NFB and NFC to make one polling district but review prior to each election as the Electoral Commissions guidance on the maximum number of voters should be allocated to a polling station is 2500 (this does not include postal voters). The electorate is 2397 includes postal voters.
NFD	F0002	Elim Pentecostal Church	1152	1	1	No change
		<b>Total for Ward: HOLDITCH AND CHESTERTON</b>	<b>4167</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
NGA	O0001	Keele Village Hall	349	1	1	No change
NGB	O0002	Keele Uni Students Union Building	775	1	1	No change
		<b>Total for Ward: KEELE</b>	<b>1124</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	

#### **KIDSGROVE AND RAVENSCROFT**

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
KHA	AAA01	Kidsgrove Central Youth Club	1152	1	1	No change
KHB	AAA02	Birchenwood Pavilion	210	1	0	This polling station is not in the Kidsgrove and Ravenscliffe Ward it is cross boundary in the Newchapel and Mow Cop Ward. Proposed to vote at Kidsgrove Town Hall.
KHC	AAA03	Whitehill Methodist Community Church	1358	1	1	No change
KHD	AAA04	University Primary Academy Kidsgrove	351	1	1	No change
KHE	BBB04	St Thomas Church Hall	657	1	1	No change
KHF	DDD01	Kidsgrove Town Hall	2316	1	2	No change
KHG	DDD02	Mobile Unit Play Area Moreton Close	927	1	1	No change
		<b>Total for Ward: KIDSGROVE AND RAVENSCLIFFE</b>	<b>6971</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	

**KNUTTON**

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
NJA	N0001	Knutton Ex-Servicemens Club	1131	1	1	No change
NJB, NJC	N0002 & N0003	Knutton Community Centre	870	1	1	Combine polling districts NJB and NJC to make one polling district NJB with 1 polling station
		<b>Total for Ward: KNUTTON</b>	<b>2,001</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	

## **LOGGERHEADS**



<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
SKA	AA001	Oddfellows Hall	722	1	1	No change
SKB	BB001	Hales and District Club	288	1	1	No change
SKC	CC001	Zoe Poole School of Dance	2250	1	1	Around 2200 electors - leave as one polling station but review electorate prior to each election as the Electoral Commissions guidance on the maximum number of voters that should be allocated to a polling station is 2500 (this does not include postal voters). The electorate of 2250 includes postal voters.
SKD	Z0001	Knighton Village Hall	311	1	1	No change
		<b>Total for Ward: LOGGERHEADS</b>	<b>3571</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	

A member of the public made a comment regarding using Loggerheads Community Fire Station as it is easily accessible and has good off road parking. The Acting Returning Officer would suggest using the current polling station, Zoe Poole School of Dance for the forthcoming May elections but make enquiries and a site visit to ascertain the suitability of the fire station for future elections.

**MADELEY AND BETLEY**

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
NLA, NLB	S0001 & T0001	Betley Village Hall	827	2	2	No change. Leave as two polling districts as they are separate parishes
NLC	U0001	All Saints Church Vestry	175	1	1	No change
SLA	V0001	The Function Room, The Crewe Arms	1018	1	1	Suggest using The Madeley Centre and not the Function Room, the Crewe Arms.
SLB, SLC	V0002 & V0003	The Madeley Centre	2275	1	1	Proposal to merge the two polling districts SLB and SLC.
SLD	V0004	Onneley Village Hall	113	1	1	No change
		<b>Total for Ward: MADELEY AND BETLEY</b>	<b>4408</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	

An elector has commented that it would be better to use the Madeley Centre instead of using the Function Room at the Crewe Arms. After seeking local knowledge it was felt that the Madeley Centre could accommodate polling district SLA.

**MAER AND WHITMORE**

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
SMA, SMB	W0001, W0002, X0001	Whitmore Village Hall	1267	1	1	Proposal to merge polling districts SMA and SMB to make one polling district.
SMC	X0001	Whitmore Village Hall	233	1	1	No change
SMD	X0003	Copeland Cottage (Guide Cottage)	93	1	1	No change
SME	Y0001, part of AA001	Maer Village Hall	421	1	1	Combine the two SME polling districts to make one polling district to remain voting at Maer Village Hall
		<b>Total for Ward: MAER AND WHITMORE</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>4</b>		

**MAY BANK**

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
NNA	C0002 & C0003	Porthill Park Cricket Club	757	1	0	This polling station is not in the new May Bank Ward. Proposal to use Mobile Unit Wolstanton High School
NNB	D0001	Mobile Unit Wolstanton High Street	1244	1	1	Propose to use May Bank Infants School
NNC, NND	D0002	May Bank Infants School	2818	2	3	No change
NNE	C0005	Highfield Grange	577	1	1	No change
NNH	D0004	Highfield Grange	145	1	1	No change
NNF, NNG	D0005 & D0006	The Museum and Art Gallery	1021	1	1	Combine NNF and NNG to make one polling district.
	G0003					Split old polling district between NNB and NNF
		<b>Total for Ward: MAY BANK</b>	<b>6562</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	

#### **NEWCHAPEL AND MOW COP**

Polling District	Consisting of (old PD letters)	Existing Polling Station	Total Electorate	Existing Number of Polling Stations	Proposed Number of Polling Stations	Acting Returning Officer Recommendations
KOA	AAA02	Birchenwood Pavilion	1222	1	1	No change
KOB	AAA04	University Primary Academy Kidsgrove	621	1	0	This polling station is not within the Newchapel and Mow Cop Ward. Suggest merging with KOA and using Birchenwood Pavilion as a single polling station
MOA	ZZ001	Mow Cop Community Hall	702	1	1	Move polling district boundary to follow Alder Hay Lane this will affect two properties who will move into polling district MOC and will vote at Thursfield Community Centre and remove the north westerly polling district boundary that runs through Trubshaw Edge Farm.
MOB	ZZ002	Newchapel Methodist Church	843	1	1	No change
MOC	ZZ0003	Thursfield Community Centre	1197	1	1	No change
		<b>Total for Ward: NEWCHAPEL AND MOW COP</b>	<b>4585</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	

## **SILVERDALE**

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
NPA	M0001	Sacred Heart Parish Room	579	1	1	No change
NPB	M0002	Meeting Hall, The Brighton	542	1	1	No change
NPC	M0003	Silverdale Cricket Club Pavilion	733	1		No change
NPD	M0004	Kent's Lane Community Building	1279	1	1	No change
NPE	N0004	Cornerstone Community Centre	1013	2	1	Due to the size of the electorate this can change to 1 polling station instead of 2
		<b>Total for Ward: SILVERDALE</b>	<b>1854</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	

**TALKE AND BUTT LANE**

Polling District	Consisting of (old PD letters)	Existing Polling Station	Total Electorate	Existing Number of Polling Stations	Proposed Number of Polling Stations	Acting Returning Officer Recommendations
KRA	BBB01	Reginald Mitchell Primary School	1,450	1	1	No change
KRB	BBB02	Meeting Hall, Hollins Grange	853	1	1	No change
KRC	BBB03	Meeting Hall, Hollinwood Close	744	1	1	No change
KRD	BBB04	St Thomas Church Hall	587	1	0	This polling station is out of ward boundary, recommend merging polling district with KRC to vote at Meeting Hall, Hollinwood Close
KRE	CCC01	St Martins Church Hall	1,528	1	1	No change
KRF	CCC02	Talke Pits Village Hall	1,544	1	1	No change
		<b>Total for Ward: TALKE AND BUTT LANE</b>	<b>6706</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
NSA	I0001, I0002	Harriet Higgins Centre	1592	2	1	Proposal to merge two polling districts with 1 polling station
NSB	I0003	Whitfield Community Centre	632	1	1	No change
NSC	I0004	Meeting Hall, Falkirk Grange	695	1	1	No change
NSD	I0005	Newcastle Academy (The Bridge Room, Newcastle Golf Club)	882	1	1	No change
		<b>Total for Ward: THISTLEBERRY</b>	<b>3801</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	

## **TOWN**



<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Recommendations of the Acting Returning Officer</b>
NTA, NTB	G0004 & H0001	Newcastle Athletic Club	679	2	2	No change.
NTC	H0002	St George's Church	628	1	1	No change
NTD	H0003	Holy Trinity Scout Hut	1196	1	1	No change
NTE	H0004	Scout Hut	489	1	1	No change
NTF	H0005	Meeting Hall, Earls Court	293	1	1	No change
NTG	I0002	Higherland Methodist Church Hall	320	1	1	No change
		<b>Total for Ward: TOWN</b>	<b>3,605</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	

#### **WESTBURY PARK AND NORTHWOOD**

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
NUA	K0001	Wye Road Community Centre	827	1	1	Combine polling districts NUA and NUB to both vote at Wyre Road Community Centre with a total electorate of around 1500
NUB, NUC	K0002, K0003	Our Lady & St Werburghs R C Church Hall	2364	2	0	This polling station is not in the Westbury Park and Northwood Ward. Proposal to combine polling district NUB with NUA to vote at Wye Road Community Centre and NUC with NUD which would give an electorate of around 2485 to vote at Clayton Community Centre.
NUD	L0003	Clayton Community Centre	794	1	1	Combine with NUC. leave as one polling station but review electorate prior to each election as the Electoral Commissions guidance on the maximum number of voters that should be allocated to a polling station is 2500 (this does not include postal voters). The proposed electorate of 2485 includes postal voters.
		<b>Total for Ward: WESTBURY PARK AND NORTHWOOD</b>	<b>3985</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	

## WESTLANDS

Polling District	Consisting of (old PD letters)	Existing Polling Station	Total Electorate	Existing Number of Polling Stations	Proposed Number of Polling Stations	Acting Returning Officer Recommendations
NWA	I0002	Higherland Methodist Church Hall	540	1	0	This polling station is not within the new Westlands Ward. Proposed to merge with NWB - to vote at Friarswood CP School, therefore do not need to use Higherland Methodist Church Hall
NWB	J0001	Friarswood CP School	531	3	1	Proposed to merge with NWA - to vote at Friarswood CP School. This would only need to be one polling station due to the size of the combined electorate of NWA and NWB
NWC	J0002	St Peters Methodist Church Hall	1409	1	1	No change
NWD	J0003	St Andrews Church Hall	1064	1	1	No change
NW E	J0004	Seabridge Community Education Centre	1471	1	1	No change
NWF	K0001	Wye Road Community Centre	645	1	0	This polling station is not in the new Westlands Ward. Propose to use Our Lady and St Werburghs R C Church Hall
NWG	K0002	Our Lady and St Werburghs R C Church Hall	607	1	2	No change
NWH	J0001A, part L0001	Friarswood CP School	267	1	1	No change
		<b>Total for Parish: WESTLANDS</b>	<b>6534</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	

**WOLSTANTON**

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Consisting of (old PD letters)</b>	<b>Existing Polling Station</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Existing Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Proposed Number of Polling Stations</b>	<b>Acting Returning Officer Recommendations</b>
NXA	B0001, B0002, B0003	Meeting Hall, Porthill Green	1307	3	1	Proposed to merge various parts to have 1 polling district with one polling station
NXB	C0001	Wolstanton Methodist School Room	889	1	1	No change
NXC, NXD	C0002, C0003	Porthill Park Cricket Club	766	3	1	Combine the 2 polling districts into one with one polling station. If no polling station can be identified within NXC, NXD polling district then suggest using Porthill Park Cricket Club as a single station for the May elections.
NXE	C0004	Ellison Primary School-Childrens Centre Room	1251	1	1	Combined with polling district NXF to vote at Ellison Primary School
NXF	C0005	Highfield Grange	378	1	0	Combined with polling district NXE to vote at Ellison Primary School
		<b>Total for Ward: WOLSTANTON</b>	<b>4591</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	