

**Bracknell Forest Council
Record of Decision**

Work Programme Reference	I083566
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1. **TITLE:** 2019 Review Polling Districts and Polling Places

2. **SERVICE AREA:** Delivery

3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

The undertaking of the statutory review of all polling places and polling districts within the Borough of Bracknell Forest.

4. **IS KEY DECISION** Yes

5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive

6. **DECISION:**

- I. existing polling arrangements remain the same in all wards except for Bracknell Town Centre: The Court House.
- II. Bracknell Town Centre: The Court House polling station is moved to the Bracknell Central Library.

7. **REASON FOR DECISION**

To address stakeholder feedback relating to the continued suitability of polling locations and to ensure high quality, accessible polling arrangements for all Bracknell Forest electors.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- I. BT – The Court House: Consideration was given to moving the polling station to the Time Square council offices. Members decided that the Bracknell Central Library would provide a superior experience to electors.
- II. BJ - Wooden Hill Primary School: In response to feedback received during the public consultation, consideration was given to moving this polling station to the newly refurbished Great Hollands Pavilion. Officers visited the location and while the venue itself has excellent facilities Members decided that the location relative to the electors who would be using it and general issues around accessibility for those electors with limited mobility, discount it as a reasonable alternative compared to the existing arrangements.
- III. BW – Wildridings Primary School: A significant number of representations received requested the relocation of this polling station to an alternative venue. Other locations were considered such as the Wildridings Gospel Hall Members decided that restrictions around bookings meant that this was not a viable alternative.

At the Steering Groups request, officers met with the Headteacher to ascertain

whether a compromise arrangement could be put in place to allow the school to remain open on polling days. It was mutually agreed that issues around safeguarding could not be appropriately mitigated. The Steering Group asked officers to keep the location under review and did not recommend any changes at this time.

- 9. **PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED:**
- 10. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the
- 11. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None

Date Decision Made	Final Day of Call-in Period
22 October 2019	29 October 2019