

Governance Services
City Hall
115 Charles Street
Leicester
LE1 1FZ

8 January 2025

Sir or Madam

I hereby summon you to a meeting of the LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL to be held at the Town Hall, on THURSDAY, 16 JANUARY 2025 at FIVE O'CLOCK in the afternoon, for the business hereunder mentioned.

Monitoring Officer

Kamal Adaha

AGENDA

## **AUDIO STREAM OF MEETING**

A live audio stream of the meeting can be heard on the following link: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/@leicestercitycouncildemocr5339">https://www.youtube.com/@leicestercitycouncildemocr5339</a>

- 1. LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

#### 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2024 are available to view at: Agenda for Council on Thursday, 21 November 2024, 5:00 pm

Copies are also available from Governance Services on (0116) 454 6350 or committees@leicester.gov.uk

## 4. STATEMENTS BY THE CITY MAYOR/EXECUTIVE

#### 5. PETITIONS

- Presented by Members of the Public None
- Presented by Councillors None
- Petitions to be debated None

#### 6. QUESTIONS

- From Members of the Public
- From Councillors

#### 7. MATTERS RESERVED TO COUNCIL

a) REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS Pages 1-34

b) COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2025-26 Pages 35-62

#### 8. NOTICES OF MOTION

Motion 1: Child Poverty and the Two Child Benefit Cap

Councillor Sue Waddington proposes that:

Leicester City Council wishes to express its deep concern about the growth in child poverty in Leicester and nationally.

The latest study published by the Social Metrics Commission (SMC) found that more than one in three children nationally -36% - are living in poverty, and the Leicester figures are even higher because of the lower levels of income among Leicester families. Child poverty dropped to 27% under the previous Labour Government, but under Conservative Governments it has risen each year from 2015 to the present levels.

The two child benefit cap has resulted in 55% of poor children living in families with three or more children, and the cap has contributed to the highest levels of child poverty ever recorded.

We recognise that the Labour Government is dealing with the legacy of a financial black hole and that it will want to address child poverty as soon as possible. We call upon the Government to give this the highest priority and will write to the Prime Minister and Chancellor to ask them to do so with all urgency, beginning with abolishing the two child benefit cap.

As a Council we will also do everything possible within our powers and resources to combat child poverty so that all Leicester children can grow up free from poverty and deprivation.

#### Motion 2

Councillor Zuffar Haq proposes that:

This Council notes the following

Leicester residents suffer from an unacceptable lack of access to GP and primary care services. According to a recent BBC analysis Leicester has the second worst GP patient ratio in England with 3262 patients per GP.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cjd51y9vn9do#:~:text=The%20analysis%20looked%20at%20the,Leicester%20%2D%203%2C262

With GPs being designated as the key gatekeepers to NHS treatment by the new Labour Government, the lack of GPs in Leicester is closing the door to vital health services for people living in the city.

Leicester already has a 40% child poverty rate, a diverse population with poor health and high levels of deprivation. It has one of the worst life expectancy differential between city and county

Whilst NHS staff are doing a great job under relentless pressures since its creation the Leicester Integrated Care Board (ICB), has consistently failed to improve Primary Healthcare in Leicester.

An example of this, is the ICB's decision to close the local GP surgery in Evington Village, meaning that patients registered at this surgery and without their own transport, will now face 4 bus journeys to visit their GP at the main surgery. This is very impractical for a person who is feeling unwell, many of whom are elderly. This situation will result in more ambulance call outs, adding further pressures to an already overstretched service and contributing to the intense pressures staff are already working under in A&E, causing even longer waiting times for patients, which is already a major concern.

This council, therefore, resolves the following.

To write to the Secretary of State for Health and NHS England to take immediate action, to ensure that primary care services in Leicester are improved and if we don't get constructive action within 8 weeks we will be calling for further action in full council.

To ask officers of the council to report back to a Full Council meeting with the Secretary of State's and NHS England's response at the earliest possible opportunity.

# 9. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

# Information for members of the public

#### Fire & Emergency Evacuation Procedure

- The Council Chamber Fire Exits are the two entrances either side of the top bench or under the balcony in the far-left corner of the room.
- In the event of an emergency alarm sounding make your way to Town Hall Square and assemble on the far side of the fountain.
- Anyone who is unable to evacuate using stairs should speak to any of the Town Hall staff at the beginning of the meeting who will offer advice on evacuation arrangements.
- From the public gallery, exit via the way you came in, or via the Chamber as directed by Town Hall staff.

#### **Meeting Arrangements**

- Please ensure that all mobile phones are either switched off or put on silent mode for the duration of the Council Meeting.
- Please do not take food into the Council Chamber.
- Tweeting in formal Council meetings is fine as long as it does not disrupt the
  meeting. Will all Members please ensure they use their microphones to assist in the
  clarity of the audio recording.

You have the right to attend, view, formal meetings such as full Council, committee meetings & Scrutiny Commissions and see copies of agendas and minutes. On occasion however, meetings may, for reasons set out in law, need to consider some items in private.

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#### Making meetings accessible to all

<u>Braille/audio tape/translation</u> - If you require this please contact the Democratic Support Officer (production times will depend upon equipment/facility availability).

#### **Further information**

If you have any queries about any of the above or the business to be discussed, please contact:

#### Sharif Chowdhury, Senior Governance Officer on 0116 4546352.

Alternatively, email <a href="mailto:committees@leicester.gov.uk">committees@leicester.gov.uk</a> or call in at City Hall.

For Press Enquiries - please phone the Communications Unit on 0116 454 4151

Item 7a



# WARDS AFFECTED All wards

#### FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:

Council 16 January 2025

Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations

# Report of the Chief Operating Officer (Acting Returning Officer for Parliamentary elections)

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Council agreement to proposals for a revised scheme for Polling Districts, Polling Places, and Polling Stations, within the City of Leicester which will be implemented with the publication of a revised electoral register from 1 February 2025.

# 2. SUMMARY

In accordance with the Representation of the People Act 1983, the Council has a duty to divide the City into polling districts and to designate a polling place for each of these districts, and to formally review those arrangements periodically. The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 introduced a change to the timing of compulsory reviews of UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling places. The legislation requires every local authority to complete a review of its polling districts and polling places by 31 January 2025. Subsequent reviews must be undertaken at least once every five years. The last review took place in 2019.

# 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

Council is recommended to:

- Approve the Scheme of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations for the City of Leicester as detailed as Appendix A to be formally adopted on 1 February 2025 when a revised electoral register will be published; and
- Delegate to the (Acting) Returning Officer any decision to designate an alternative polling place if a building becomes unavailable for any reason before an election, subject to appropriate consultation with relevant local stakeholders.

#### 4. REPORT

#### 4.1 Definitions

#### For reference:

- a Polling District is the geographical subdivision of an electoral area. For voting purposes, each Parliamentary constituency and every local government ward is divided into one or more polling districts.
- a Polling Place is the geographical area within which a polling station is located.
   However, there is no legal definition of what a polling place is. It could be as large as the polling district or as small as a particular building; and
- a Polling Station is where the voting actually takes place and must be located within
  the polling place designated for the particular polling district. When deciding which
  buildings to use as polling stations, the (Acting) Returning Officer tries to make sure
  that they are located as conveniently as possible for the majority of electors and
  that they are accessible to everyone, particularly anyone with a disability.

#### 4.2 Statutory requirements relating to this review

Local authorities are required to divide their area into polling districts for the purposes of parliamentary elections and to designate polling places for these polling districts and to keep them under review. It should be noted that the polling districts for UK Parliamentary elections and local government elections should always be the same and so the review covers polling arrangements for both types of election. The review does not affect the Council boundary or the boundaries of the three parliamentary constituencies.

The timing of compulsory reviews of UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling places is set by legislation. Compulsory reviews must be started and completed within the period of 16 months that starts on 1 October of every fifth year after 1 October 2013. Therefore, this review must be completed by 31 January 2025. The City Council last undertook a review in 2019.

Council has reserved to itself for determination, substantive Council decisions relating to the preparation and maintenance of the electoral register and the conduct of local elections. The agreement of polling districts and polling places is therefore a decision taken by Full Council.

# 4.3 Conducting the review

In conducting a review of polling districts and polling places, authorities must comply with the following legislative requirements regarding the designation of polling districts and polling places:

 the council must designate a polling place for each polling district, unless the size or other circumstances of a polling district are such that the situation of the polling stations does not materially affect the convenience of the electors;

- the polling place must be an area in the district, unless special circumstances make
  it desirable to designate an area wholly or partly outside the district (for example, if
  no accessible polling place can be identified in the district); and
- the polling place must be small enough to indicate to electors in different parts of the district how they will be able to reach the polling station.

Local authorities must also comply with the following access requirements. As part of the review, they 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; and
- 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.

Local authorities have a duty to review the accessibility of all polling places to disabled voters and ensure that every polling place, and prospective polling place, for which it is responsible is accessible to disabled voters 'so far as is reasonable and practicable'.

Access to the polling station is still a barrier to some disabled people who want to cast their vote in person. Some of the main physical access issues which should be considered as part of a review are:

- polling places and stations with steps into the entrance, or otherwise inaccessible
- narrow doorways and corridors
- lack of space within the polling place that did not enable motorised wheelchair manoeuvrability
- lack of space and secrecy for the elector and their companion to discuss the elector's choice of vote
- lack of low level polling booths or booths/tables that didn't provide disabled voters
  with confidence that they could cast their vote in secrecy as they were positioned
  close to the polling station staff
- a lack of chairs to enable people to rest
- a lack of a clear display of guidance or aids (such as tactile voting devices) to enable people to feel confident about the process
- inadequate lighting.

The Elections Act 2022 provides a duty for (Acting) Returning Officers to provide each polling station with such equipment as it is reasonable to provide for the purposes of enabling, or making it easier for, relevant persons to vote independently and in secret. The review therefore has included consideration of whether the building can accommodate the equipment you will provide to support disabled voters.

In practice, a wish to provide a range of fully accessible buildings, conveniently located for electors has to be tempered by the actual circumstances and locations available. Where access is not ideal, then reasonable adjustments will be undertaken to help ensure access to all electors.

In addition to the statutory requirements the following considerations are also important and have been used both in this review and previous reviews, and were promoted to consultees as key factors to consider in making any representations:

- Ideally, the polling place should be in its own polling district.
- Where possible, "natural" boundaries should be used such as railways, major roads, and waterways;
- All properties in a minor road or estate should, ideally, be in the same polling district and
- Polling places should be "logical"; that is, electors should not have to pass another polling place to get to their own.

#### 4.4 Consultation

The review of polling districts and polling places has involved consultation with the public and other interested stakeholders. There are two elements to this consultation:

- A compulsory submission from the (Acting) Returning Officer of the UK Parliamentary constituency (Chief Operating Officer), which must then be published by the local authority; and
- Submissions from electors and other interested persons and bodies, including elected representatives and those with expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for disabled people.

The review commenced on the 16 October 2024 with the publication of a formal notice, as required, which was placed on the Council's website, displayed at Customer Services and which was sent to all Council members and to formal forums and groups representing people with disabilities. The Council's social media profiles were also used to promote the notice of the review.

Following the publication of the formal notice the (Acting) Returning Officer's comments on the existing arrangements were published and invited consultees to comment on the current arrangements and put forward any suggestions for improvement on those arrangements. The consultation ran between 16 October 2024 and 25 November 2024. The representations received were then reviewed.

The consultation was publicised in the same way as the notice of the review; a letter was sent to all Council members and to formal forums and groups representing people with disabilities. The Council's on-line consultation hub was used to provide information and receive submissions and the Council's social media profiles used to promote the consultation. 39 responses were received overall, which was very pleasing and helpful.

Furthermore, a response received from Vista setting out the challenges faced by blind and partially sighted voters was informative beyond that of just the polling district review and was very much appreciated.

#### 4.5 Proposals

The final proposals for the new polling districts and polling places are detailed at Appendix A with the last column being the recommendation for each polling district for consideration by Full Council. Maps showing the proposed polling districts for amended wards are linked in the recommendations column.

In drawing up these proposals full consideration has been taken of:

- All representations made which are summarised and set out in Appendix A; and
- The (Acting) Returning Officer's submission. In making that submission the (Acting) Returning Officer took into account a range of factors, including the following:
  - Size of electorate for each Polling District
  - Electoral turnout
  - Number of voters who have applied for a postal vote
  - Topographical issues such as walking distance, hills or inclines to be negotiated and busy roads to be crossed.
  - Travel to polling places
  - Access to Polling Stations, including for those with children/pushchairs, wheelchairs, mobility difficulties
  - Suitability of premises as a polling station (including maintaining the secrecy of the ballot), basic facilities (toilets etc.) for polling staff.

In addition, where possible, preference is given to using premises other than schools (to avoid the potential for closure and consequent disruption and impact on educational standards), although it is not feasible to avoid use of schools in some areas due to the lack of other suitable premises. Faith based/religious premises have been used provided that sacred areas are not affected and that use by electors would not compromise the values and practices of that faith.

The use of mobile facilities is no longer permitted unless there is no other viable alternative.

### 4.6 Timetable for implementation

The current regulations require this review to be completed by 31 January 2025 and a revised register of electors to be published by 1 February 2025.

#### 4.7 Appeal process

Following the conclusion of the authority's review, certain individuals have a right to make representations to the Electoral Commission. The following may make representations:

- thirty or more registered electors in each constituency (although electors registered anonymously cannot make a representation);
- a person (except the (Acting) Returning Officer) who made representations to the authority when the review was being undertaken; and
- any person who is not an elector in a constituency in the authority's area but who the Commission thinks has sufficient interest in the accessibility of disabled persons to polling places in the area or has particular expertise in relation to the access to premises or facilities of disabled persons.

In addition, the (Acting) Returning Officer may make observations on any representations made to the Electoral Commission.

All representations must be made in writing (details can be found on the Electoral Commissions website) and be as specific as possible stating the manner in which it is alleged that the local authority has failed to properly conduct the review. There are only two grounds on which a representation may be made. These are:

- the local authority has failed to meet the reasonable requirements of the electors in the constituency; and
- the local authority has failed to take sufficient account of accessibility to disabled persons of the polling station/ polling stations within a polling place.

A representation may also include for consideration specific proposals for changing the place that has been designated as the polling place.

# 4.8 Making amendments to polling places

If a polling station becomes unavailable, the (Acting) Returning Officer should consider whether another polling station could be designated within the polling place. Changing the polling station within the polling place would not require a review.

As noted earlier, Full Council has reserved to itself any substantial decisions relating to the preparation and maintenance of the electoral register and the conduct of local elections. For practical purposes it is proposed that should there be a need to change a polling place for example where a building becomes unavailable before an election, then this decision is delegated to the (Acting) Returning Officer provided they undertake appropriate consultation with relevant stakeholders in that local area.

Between compulsory reviews, all polling places and polling stations used should be kept under consideration, and an evaluation of their suitability carried out after each election. If any changes are identified as being desirable, the same steps should be followed as for conducting the compulsory review.

#### 5. FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

#### 5.1 Financial Implications

There are no significant financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

Stuart McAvoy, Head of Finance, ext. 37 4004

#### 5.2 Legal Implications

The legal implications are detailed within the body of this report.

Kamal Adatia, City Barrister, ext. 37 1401

# 5.3 Equality implications

Reference is made in the report to addressing and meeting disabled access needs and general accessibility. Local authorities have a duty to review the accessibility of all polling places to disabled voters and ensure that every polling place, and prospective polling place, for which it is responsible is accessible to disabled voters 'so far as is reasonable and practicable'. Where, because of local circumstances, a polling place has been selected that is not fully accessible, then reasonable adjustments must be undertaken to provide access for all electors. Changes in the law have been made which aim to provide greater flexibility and choice in how disabled voters are supported to vote at polling stations. Disabled voters can choose anyone who is over 18 to accompany them in the polling station to help them vote, including people who may not themselves be eligible to vote at the election.

Returning Officers need to take all reasonable steps to provide support for disabled voters at polling stations. This aims to improve the range and quality of support available and speed up the process of providing additional support where needed.

Surinder Singh, Equalities Officer, ext. 37 4148

#### 6 BACKGROUND PAPERS – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

- Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013
- Schedule A1 to the Representation of the People Act 1983
- Elections Act 2022
- Electoral Commission guidance Reviews of polling districts, polling places and polling stations.

#### 7 CONSULTATIONS

As described in section 4.4.

# 8 REPORT AUTHOR

Alison Greenhill, Chief Operating Officer

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# Item 7a - Apx1

Acting R	ing Returning Officer's Comments & Recommendations - Leicester East Constituency			ποπ τα πρκτ			
Ward & Polling District	Polling Place Address	Acting Returning Officer's comments	Consultation responses received regarding the Ward from	Comments received	Acting Returning Officer's response to consultation	Acting Returning Officer's recommendations to full Council	
	- 3 member Ward Belgrave Union Church, Elmdale Street, LE4 5JA	The room in the Church hall quite small to accommodate 2 polling station, but has coped in the past. Any suggestions for alternative venues within the polling district are welcomed.	Alan Fox Leicester Liberal Democrats	We support the recommendations for no change for BEB, BEC, BED and BEE. If the Belgrave	The Acting Returning Officer's team has undertaken several site visits to alternative venues. At the present time none have proved to be ideal,	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	
BEB	Gheewala Lohana Centre, Hildyard Road, Leicester LE4 5GG	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		Union Church struggles to cope with two polling stations, it may not be suitable as a polling place.	taking into account location within the polling district, size or facilities. Therefore, it's recommended that at the current time the existing polling	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	
BED	Shree Shakti Mandir, Moira Street, Entrance from Canon Street, LE4 6NH  Belgrave Neighbourhood Centre, Rothley Street, LE4 6LF	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place		There are several places of worship and banqueting halls in the BEA polling district which could be investigated as possible	place be retained, but further investigation on potential alternatives be explored before the next scheduled election in 2027.	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged Recommend existing Polling	
BEE	Sanatan Manavta Day Care Centre, 172-174 Surrey Street, LE4 6FH	remains unchanged Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		polling places.		District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place	
						remains unchanged	
	- 3 member Ward St. Chad`s Church, 141a Coleman Road, LE5 4LG	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place	Alan Fox	We support the	No additional comments	Recommend existing Polling	
	Coleman Neighbourhood Centre, Entrance From Balderstone Close, LE5 4ES	remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place	Leicester Liberal Democrats	recommendations for no change.	No additional comments	District & Polling Place remains unchanged Recommend existing Polling	
EVC	St. Joseph`s Pastoral Centre, Uppingham Road, LE5 6SG	remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place				District & Polling Place remains unchanged Recommend existing Polling	
EVD	Goodwood Evangelical Church, Gamel Road, LE5 6TB	remains unchanged Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place				District & Polling Place remains unchanged Recommend existing Polling	
	Evington Leisure Centre, Downing Drive, LE5 6LP	remains unchanged Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place				District & Polling Place remains unchanged Recommend existing Polling	
		remains unchanged				District & Polling Place remains unchanged	
	one & Hamilton - 3 member Ward						
ННА	Hamilton Park Pavilion (Nirvana), Sandhilis Avenue, LE5 1LU	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Alan Fox Leicester Liberal Democrats	We support the recommendations for no	Whilst the electors in Raywell Road do pass through HHB, if they were moved to the polling district suggested, they		
ННВ	Hamilton Library & Learning Centre, Maidenwell Avenue, LE5 1BL	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		change in HHA and HHC. HHE Electors living in Raywell Road have to go through HHB to vote. We		Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	
ннс	Royal British Legion Club, 13 Main Street, Humberstone, LE5 1AE	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		propose that Raywell Road be transferred from HHE to HHB. HHE Electors living	Returning Officer does not agree with that element of the proposal. However, the Acting Returning Officer does see the merit in transferring Aberis Close, Berberis Close & Buddleia Close to HHD. This would result in the electorate totals as	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place	
HHD	Netherhall Neighbourhood Centre, Armadale Drive, LE5 1HF	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		in Abelis Close, Berberis Close, and part of Buddleia Close have to go through HHD to vote. We would		remains unchanged Recommend that the existing Polling Places for HHD & HHE remains unchanged, but	
HHE	Netherhall Children, Young People & Family Centre, 68 New Romney Crescent, LE5 1NH	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	propose that Barry R be the polling district boundary between H and HHE in this area.		follows: HHD - 2500 HHE - 2783.	recommend a minor amendment to the boundary between the 2 polling districts as shown on the Humberstone & Hamilton Ward map as per the ARO comments.	
						Adobe Acrobat Document	
North Evi	ngton - 3 member Ward						
NEA	Northfields Neighbourhood Centre, Brighton Road, LE5 OHD	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Alan Fox Leicester Liberal Democrats	We support the recommendations for no	This proposal is not supported by the Acting Returning Officer. The	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place	
NEB	Sacred Heart Voluntary Academy, Entrance from St Saviours Road, LE5 3GE	The electorate is extremely high for this polling district and the building is struggling to cope with 2 polling stations and the high turnout. I recommend that the polling district be split in half and have Sacred Heart Parish Hall as the second polling place. The proposed split would result in the following electorate for each polling station:		change for NEC, NED, NEE, and NEF. We do not support the recommendation to divide NEB with two polling places only 100 metres apart. The Sacred Heart Voluntary Academy	movement of 1000 electors to an already busy polling place would simply move the problem of queues to Northfield Neighbourhood Centre. The Acting Returning Officer, therefore recommends that that the original proposal of separating NEB into 2 polling districts is agreed.	remains unchanged Recommended that the existing polling district NEB be divided into 2, as per the original proposal. The west side of the existing polling district to retain the name NEB and the east side of the polling district be named NEG.	
		NEB1: Sacred Heart Academy - 1877		struggles to cope with two polling stations and may, therefore, not be a suitable polling place. We		Please see the North Evington Ward map	
		NEB2 : Sacred Heart Parish Hall - 2487  It recommendation is accepted the polling districts		do not know if the Sacred Heart Parish Hall has more space and could		Adobe Acrobat	
NEC	Ch Downton Ulbrani Franch David 157 (AU)	in North Evington would be named to reflect the increased number of districts		accommodate NEB voters. We would, in any case, propose the transfer of the area to the north of the busy Humberstone		Document	
NEC	St. Barnabas Library, French Road, LE5 4AH	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		Road (A47) from NEB to NEA. This would mean that approximately 1,000 electors who at present		Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	
NED	Leicester Railwaymen's Club & Institute, Leicester Street, LE5 4FS	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		have to cross this busy road would have an easier journey to Northfields Neighbourhood Centre.		Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	
NEE	Coleman Lodge, The Wayne Way, LE5 4PP	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	
NEF	Uppingham Road Methodist Church, 178 Uppingham Road, LE5 0QG	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	
	ead - 3 member Ward St. Theodore`s Church Hall, Sandfield Close, LE4 7RE	This Polling Station is slightly outside the Ward.	Alan Fox	We support the	No additional comments	Recommend existing Polling	
		However, it works well being a dual Polling Station with Polling District TRA, but any suggestions for alternative buildings within the actual Polling District are welcomed.		recommendations for no change. For RMA, we believe that St. Theodore's Church Hall,		District & Polling Place remains unchanged	
RMB	Woodbridge Children, Young People & Family Centre, 54A Woodbridge Road, LE4 7RG	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		although outside the ward, remains the best location as a		Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	
RMC	Rushey Mead Recreation Centre, Gleneagles Avenue, LE4 7YJ	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		as a polling place.		Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	
RMD	St. Gabriel`s Community Centre, Rear Of St. Gabriel`s Church, Kerrysdale Avenue, LE4 7GH	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	

Ward & Polling District	Polling Place Address	Acting Returning Officer's comments	Consultation responses received regarding the Ward from	Comments received	Acting Returning Officer's response to consultation	Acting Returning Officer's recommendations to full Council
	Disciples Fellowship Ministry Church, Harrison Road, LE4 6QN  Carey Hall Baptist Church Room, 159 Harrison Road, LE4 6NP	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
KMI	Carey mail baptist Citaton Room, 133 mainson Road, 124 our	remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
Thurncour	t - 2 member Ward					
	Goodwood Bowling & Social Club, Entrances From Uppingham Rd & Crofters Dr, LE5 2FH	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place	Alan Fox	We support the	The Acting Returning Officer	Recommend existing Polling
		remains unchanged	Leicester Liberal Democrats	change for TCA and TCB. The best solution for TCC would be for a polling place to be found within the polling district. In the past, Willowbrook Activity Centre was used for this purpose. The current situation where some TCD voters go past the TCC polling place at Thurnby	acknowledges that this is not an ideal situation. However, a suitable building may arise in the future or the Willowbrook Activity Centre site may be redeveloped. It is felt that combining TCB & TCC to vote in one location would result in an extremely high electorate of 4700 on the register, which neither building would be able to cope with. Therefore, it is recommended that the 2 polling districts and polling places, remain unchanged	District & Polling Place remains unchanged
ТСВ	Phoenix Centre, Entrance From Gervas Road, LE5 2EG	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
TCC	Thurnby Lodge Community Centre, Thurncourt Road, LE5 2NG	Polling Station is outside the polling district, but is suitable. Alternative suggestions for a polling place within the polling district are welcomed.		Lodge Community Centre on their way to vote at Christ Church Parish Hall is clearly unsatisfactory. If a polling place cannot be found in TCC, we would propose that whichever of the Community Centre or Parish Hall is the more satisfactory should be the polling place for both TCC		Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
TCD	Christ Church Parish Hall, 132 Thurncourt Road, Thurnby Lodge	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		and TCD housing a polling station for each.		Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
Troon - 2	member Ward					
	St. Theodore`s Church Hall, Sandfield Close, LE4 7RE	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Alan Fox Leicester Liberal Democrats	We support the recommendations for no change.	No additional comments	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
	The Tap Room, The Willow Public House, 215 Humberstone Lane	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
	The Redeemed Christian Church of God, 25 Edgehill Road, LE4 9EA	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
	The Mead Centre, 343 Gipsy Lane, LE4 9DD	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Peter Nicholas James Degnan Member of the public	Why have I recently seen the city council refer to the Charnwood ward,	No additional comments	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
TRE	The Emerald Centre, 450 Glpsy Lane, LE5 0TB	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		the Charnwood ward, which no longer exists. I feel that when measured against other wards, Troon pays more to the city council than it receives.		Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged

Ward & Polling District	Polling Place Address	Acting Returning Officer's comments	Consultation responses received regarding the Ward from	Comments received	Officer's response	Acting Returning Officer's recommendations to full Council
	member Ward					
CAA	Town Hall, Entrance from Bishop Street, LE1 9BG	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Alan Fox Leicester Liberal	We support the recommendations for no change for CAA, CAB, CAC, CAE, and CAF.	As it's hoped that the electorate will	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place
CAB	Trinity House Chapel, Trinity House, The Newarke, LE2 7BY	Propose existing Polling District & Polling	Democrats	CAG was formed at the last review when an influx of electors was expected. The	increase in CAG to a level that will warrant	Recommend existing Polling
		Place remains unchanged		electorate is still only 195. We would propose that CAG is merged with CAD	a polling station within the polling district in	District & Polling Place remains unchanged
CAC	St. Stephen's United Reformed Church Hall, De Montfort Street (entrance from New Walk), LE1 7GB	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		using Knighton Park Table Tennis Centre as the polling place.	the future. The Acting Returning Officer does	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place
CAD	Knighton Park Table Tennis Centre, 83 Knighton Fields Road East, LE2 6DP	Propose existing Polling District & Polling	1	as the politing place.	not recommend changing the polling	remains unchanged Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place
		Place remains unchanged			place for electors and then potentially	remains unchanged
					changing it again. So	
					recommended that CAG remain voting at	
					Create Studios at the present time.	
CAE	Create Studios, 120A Hartopp Road, LE2 1WF	Propose existing Polling District & Polling	Cllr. Patrick Kitterick	Given the Freemens Common student	The Acting Returning	Recommend existing Polling
		Place remains unchanged	Castle Green Party	development is now complete, could we look at establishing a polling station at	Officer recommendation is	District & Polling Place remains unchanged
CAF	Geeta Bhavan Hindu Community Centre, Clarendon Park Road, LE2 3AD	Propose existing Polling District & Polling	-	the Freemens Common Cottages for the CAG polling district. This is clearly closer	that with a small electorate, it is not felt	Recommend existing Polling
		Place remains unchanged		for people living in the new development and is on a regular direction of travel for		District & Polling Place remains unchanged
CAG	Create Studios, 120A Hartopp Road, LE2 1WF	The polling place is outside the polling		everyone in the CAG Polling District i.e.	polling place, at the current time. If the	Recommend existing Polling
		district, but works well. It currently has a small electorate, so may not warrant a polling		People living on Westbury Road will often head northwards into the City	electorate	District & Polling Place remains unchanged
		station in it's own right, at the present time. Recommend to retain the polling district and		Centre and people in Nixon Court will often head onto the main Leicester	substantially increases then a building will be	
		review polling place if the electorate increases.		University Campus. This has the side benefit of reducing pressure on the CAE	identified in the polling district for	
				Polling Station.	future elections.	
res Mor	nsell - 2 member Ward					
	Eyres Monsell Community Centre, Hillsborough Road, LE2 9PQ	Propose existing Polling District & Polling	Alan Fox	We support the recommendations for no		Recommend existing Polling
		Place remains unchanged	Leicester Liberal Democrats	change.	comments	District & Polling Place remains unchanged
EMB	Pork Ple Library and Community Centre, Entrance from Stonesby Avenue, LE2 6QS	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place
EMC	Eyres Monsell & Gilmorton Children's Centre, Hillsborough Road, LE2 9PT	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	1			remains unchanged Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place
		Flace remains unchanged				remains unchanged
da aba a	2 marshar Ward					
	- 3 member Ward  Evington Youth Club, The Common, Evington, LE5 6EA	Propose existing Polling District & Polling	Alan Fox	We support the recommendations for no	No additional	Recommend existing Polling
		Place remains unchanged	Leicester Liberal Democrats	change.	comments	District & Polling Place remains unchanged
	- 3 member Ward	Decrees evicting Delling District 0 Delling				December of existing Polling
KNA	Knighton Tennis Centre, Entrance from Sir Jonathan North Community College, Knighton Lane East, LE2 6FU	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Alan Fox Leicester Liberal	We support the recommendations for no change for KNA. KNC, KND, and KNG. We	supported by the	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
			Democrats	would support Overdale Infant School in not wanting to remain the polling place	Acting Returning Officer. Whilst the use	remains unchanged
				for KNF. An alternative polling place might be the University Sports Pavilion	of Overdale Infant School is not ideal,	
				on Welford Road. If this, or any other	there isn't a viable	
				location south of the A563, were to be	alternative premises.	
KNB	Knighton Parish Centre, Church Lane, Knighton, LE2 3WG	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		used, we would suggest that the area to the north of the busy Palmerston Way	alternative premises. The electorate have long established ties	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place
KNB	Knighton Parish Centre, Church Lane, Knighton, LE2 3WG	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	-	used, we would suggest that the area to	The electorate have	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
KNB	Knighton Parish Centre, Church Lane, Knighton, LE2 3WG			used, we would suggest that the area to the north of the busy Palmerston Way (A563) should be removed from KNF	The electorate have long established ties with using the school,	District & Polling Place
KNB	Knighton Parish Centre, Church Lane, Knighton, LE2 3WG			used, we would suggest that the area to the north of the busy Palmerston Way (A563) should be removed from KNF with that part to the east of the Saffron Brook going to KNE and that part to the west of the Saffron Brook being added to KNB. While it would be better if a polling	The electorate have long established ties with using the school, therefore the Acting Retuning Officer recommends no change to the existing	District & Polling Place
	Knighton Parish Centre, Church Lane, Knighton, LE2 3WG  St Thomas More Catholic Church, 75 Knighton Road, LE2 3HN	Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling		used, we would suggest that the area to the north of the busy Palmerston Way (A563) should be removed from KNF with that part to the east of the Saffron Brook going to KNE and that part to the west of the Saffron Brook being added to KNB. While it would be better if a polling place for KNG could be found within the polling district, the current arrangements	The electorate have long established ties with using the school, therefore the Acting Retuning Officer recommends no change to the existing polling districts with	District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling
		Place remains unchanged		used, we would suggest that the area to the north of the busy Palmerston Way (A563) should be removed from KNF with that part to the east of the Saffron Brook going to KNE and that part to the west of the Saffron Brook being added to KNB. While it would be better if a polling place for KNG could be found within the	The electorate have long established ties with using the school, therefore the Acting Retuning Officer recommends no change to the existing polling districts with	District & Polling Place remains unchanged
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		Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling	Cllr Melissa March	used, we would suggest that the area to the north of the busy Palmerston Way (A563) should be removed from KNF with that part to the east of the Saffron Brook going to KNE and that part to the west of the Saffron Brook being added to KNB. While it would be better if a polling place for KNG could be found within the polling district, the current arrangements work reasonably well.	The electorate have long established ties with using the school, therefore the Acting Retuning Officer recommends no change to the existing polling districts with Knighton Ward.	District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling Place remains unchanged
KNC	St Thomas More Catholic Church, 75 Knighton Road, LE2 3HN	Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Cllr Melissa March	used, we would suggest that the area to the north of the busy Palmerston Way (A563) should be removed from KNF with that part to the east of the Saffron Brook going to KNE and that part to the west of the Saffron Brook being added to KNB. While it would be better if a polling place for KNG could be found within the polling district, the current arrangements work reasonably well.  Last time we conducted this, we separated a huge KNA box into KNA and KNG for reasons of geography and	The electorate have long established ties with using the school, therefore the Acting Retuning Officer recommends no change to the existing polling districts with Knighton Ward.  The Acting Returning Officer acknowledges that the polling district	District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
KNC	St Thomas More Catholic Church, 75 Knighton Road, LE2 3HN	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling	Cllr Melissa March	used, we would suggest that the area to the north of the busy Palmerston Way (A563) should be removed from KNF with that part to the east of the Saffron Brook going to KNE and that part to the west of the Saffron Brook being added to KNB. While it would be better if a polling place for KNG could be found within the polling district, the current arrangements work reasonably well.  Last time we conducted this, we separated a huge KNA box into KNA and KNG for reasons of geography and distance to the polling station. At the time, we also agreed to locate a polling	The electorate have long established ties with using the school, therefore the Acting Retuning Officer recommends no change to the existing polling districts with Knighton Ward.  The Acting Returning Officer acknowledges that the polling district KNG was created in order to facilitate a	District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place
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KNC	St Thomas More Catholic Church, 75 Knighton Road, LE2 3HN  9th Leicester Scout Hut, 58 Stoughton Road, LE2 2EB	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Cllr Melissa March	used, we would suggest that the area to the north of the busy Palmerston Way (A563) should be removed from KNF with that part to the east of the Saffron Brook going to KNE and that part to the west of the Saffron Brook being added to KNB. While it would be better if a polling place for KNG could be found within the polling district, the current arrangements work reasonably well.  Last time we conducted this, we separated a huge KNA box into KNA and KNG for reasons of geography and distance to the polling station. At the time, we also agreed to locate a polling station within KNG somewhere much nearer and more accessible to people living across West Knighton. During the course of the last four years, this has not materialised because, ostensibly, of additional challenges around voter ID. Whilst we accepted that, we now understand the processes required, as	The electorate have long established ties with using the school, therefore the Acting Retuning Officer recommends no change to the existing polling districts with Knighton Ward.  The Acting Returning Officer acknowledges that the polling district KNG was created in order to facilitate a polling station in this area. However, subsequently with the implementation of voter ID and the statutory accessibility requirement of the Elections Act 2022. It is	District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
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KND	St Thomas More Catholic Church, 75 Knighton Road, LE2 3HN  9th Leicester Scout Hut, 58 Stoughton Road, LE2 2EB  Memorial Hall, Holbrook Road, LE2 3LF	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		used, we would suggest that the area to the north of the busy Palmerston Way (A563) should be removed from KNF with that part to the east of the Saffron Brook going to KNE and that part to the west of the Saffron Brook being added to KNB. While it would be better if a polling place for KNG could be found within the polling district, the current arrangements work reasonably well.  Last time we conducted this, we separated a huge KNA box into KNA and KNG for reasons of geography and distance to the polling station. At the time, we also agreed to locate a polling station within KNG somewhere much nearer and more accessible to people living across West Knighton. During the course of the last four years, this has not materialised because, ostensibly, of additional challenges around voter ID. Whilst we accepted that, we now understand the processes required, as do voters. As a result, I'd really like to encourage us to host a polling station nearby that people can access. The reasons for the original separation of those polling stations still stand. Secondly, I am conscious that we are no longer able to use oversale school as a polling station for KNF and there is a	The electorate have long established ties with using the school, therefore the Acting Retuning Officer recommends no change to the existing polling districts with Knighton Ward.  The Acting Returning Officer acknowledges that the polling district KNG was created in order to facilitate a polling station in this area. However, subsequently with the implementation of voter ID and the statutory accessibility requirement of the Elections Act 2022. It is not now feasible to use a mobile as a polling district will be kept under review by the Acting Returning Officer and should a suitable premises	District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
KND	St Thomas More Catholic Church, 75 Knighton Road, LE2 3HN  9th Leicester Scout Hut, 58 Stoughton Road, LE2 2EB  Memorial Hall, Holbrook Road, LE2 3LF	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  The school do not wish to be used as a poling station, suggestions for alternative polling		used, we would suggest that the area to the north of the busy Palmerston Way (A563) should be removed from KNF with that part to the east of the Saffron Brook going to KNE and that part to the west of the Saffron Brook being added to KNB. While it would be better if a polling place for KNG could be found within the polling district, the current arrangements work reasonably well.  Last time we conducted this, we separated a huge KNA box into KNA and KNG for reasons of geography and distance to the polling station. At the time, we also agreed to locate a polling station within KNG somewhere much nearer and more accessible to people living across West Knighton. During the course of the last four years, this has not materialised because, ostensibly, of additional challenges around voter ID. Whilst we accepted that, we now understand the processes required, as do voters. As a result, I'd really like to encourage us to host a polling station nearby that people can access. The reasons for the original separation of those polling stations still stand. Secondly, I am conscious that we are no longer able to use oversale school as a polling station for KNF and there is a	The electorate have long established ties with using the school, therefore the Acting Retuning Officer recommends no change to the existing polling districts with Knighton Ward.  The Acting Returning Officer acknowledges that the polling district KNG was created in order to facilitate a polling station in this area. However, subsequently with the implementation of voter ID and the state and the polling district is not now feasible to use a mobile as a polling station. The polling district will be kept under review by the Acting Returning Officer and should a suitable premises become available, this area can be looked	District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
KND	St Thomas More Catholic Church, 75 Knighton Road, LE2 3HN  9th Leicester Scout Hut, 58 Stoughton Road, LE2 2EB  Memorial Hall, Holbrook Road, LE2 3LF	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  The school do not wish to be used as a poling station, suggestions for alternative polling		used, we would suggest that the area to the north of the busy Palmerston Way (A563) should be removed from KNF with that part to the east of the Saffron Brook going to KNE and that part to the west of the Saffron Brook being added to KNB. While it would be better if a polling place for KNG could be found within the polling district, the current arrangements work reasonably well.  Last time we conducted this, we separated a huge KNA box into KNA and KNG for reasons of geography and distance to the polling station. At the time, we also agreed to locate a polling station within KNG somewhere much nearer and more accessible to people living across West Knighton. During the course of the last four years, this has not materialised because, ostensibly, of additional challenges around voter ID. Whilst we accepted that, we now understand the processes required, as do voters. As a result, I'd really like to encourage us to host a polling station nearby that people can access. The reasons for the original separation of those polling stations still stand. Secondly, I am conscious that we are no longer able to use oversale school as a polling station for KNF and there is a request for additional suggestions.	The electorate have long established ties with using the school, therefore the Acting Retuning Officer recommends no change to the existing polling districts with Knighton Ward.  The Acting Returning Officer acknowledges that the polling district KNG was created in order to facilitate a polling station in this area. However, subsequently with the implementation of voter ID and the state and the polling district is not now feasible to use a mobile as a polling station. The polling district will be kept under review by the Acting Returning Officer and should a suitable premises become available, this area can be looked	District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
KND	St Thomas More Catholic Church, 75 Knighton Road, LE2 3HN  9th Leicester Scout Hut, 58 Stoughton Road, LE2 2EB  Memorial Hall, Holbrook Road, LE2 3LF	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  The school do not wish to be used as a poling station, suggestions for alternative polling		used, we would suggest that the area to the north of the busy Palmerston Way (A563) should be removed from KNF with that part to the east of the Saffron Brook going to KNE and that part to the west of the Saffron Brook being added to KNB. While it would be better if a polling place for KNG could be found within the polling district, the current arrangements work reasonably well.  Last time we conducted this, we separated a huge KNA box into KNA and KNG for reasons of geography and distance to the polling station. At the time, we also agreed to locate a polling station within KNG somewhere much nearer and more accessible to people living across West Knighton. During the course of the last four years, this has not materialised because, ostensibly, of additional challenges around voter ID. Whilst we accepted that, we now understand the processes required, as do voters. As a result, I'd really like to encourage us to host a polling station nearby that people can access. The reasons for the original separation of those polling stations still stand. Secondly, I am conscious that we are no longer able to use oversale school as a polling station for KNF and there is a request for additional suggestions.  There is space outside of the existing polling station that could be utilised, or at the top of Kingsmead Rd where it	The electorate have long established ties with using the school, therefore the Acting Retuning Officer recommends no change to the existing polling districts with Knighton Ward.  The Acting Returning Officer acknowledges that the polling district KNG was created in order to facilitate a polling station in this area. However, subsequently with the implementation of voter ID and the state and the polling district is not now feasible to use a mobile as a polling station. The polling district will be kept under review by the Acting Returning Officer and should a suitable premises become available, this area can be looked	District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
KNC	St Thomas More Catholic Church, 75 Knighton Road, LE2 3HN  9th Leicester Scout Hut, 58 Stoughton Road, LE2 2EB  Memorial Hall, Holbrook Road, LE2 3LF	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  The school do not wish to be used as a poling station, suggestions for alternative polling		used, we would suggest that the area to the north of the busy Palmerston Way (A563) should be removed from KNF with that part to the east of the Saffron Brook going to KNE and that part to the west of the Saffron Brook being added to KNB. While it would be better if a polling place for KNG could be found within the polling district, the current arrangements work reasonably well.  Last time we conducted this, we separated a huge KNA box into KNA and KNG for reasons of geography and distance to the polling station. At the time, we also agreed to locate a polling station within KNG somewhere much nearer and more accessible to people living across West Knighton. During the course of the last four years, this has not materialised because, ostensibly, of additional challenges around voter ID. Whilst we accepted that, we now understand the processes required, as do voters. As a result, I'd really like to encourage us to host a polling station nearby that people can access. The reasons for the original separation of those polling stations still stand. Secondly, I am conscious that we are no longer able to use oversale school as a polling station for KNF and there is a request for additional suggestions.	The electorate have long established ties with using the school, therefore the Acting Retuning Officer recommends no change to the existing polling districts with Knighton Ward.  The Acting Returning Officer acknowledges that the polling district KNG was created in order to facilitate a polling station in this area. However, subsequently with the implementation of voter ID and the state and the polling district is not now feasible to use a mobile as a polling station. The polling district will be kept under review by the Acting Returning Officer and should a suitable premises become available, this area can be looked	District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged

Ward & Polling District	Polling Place Address	Acting Returning Officer's comments	Consultation responses received regarding the Ward from	Comments received	Acting Returning Officer's response to consultation	Acting Returning Officer's recommendations to full Council
KNG	Knighton Tennis Centre, Entrance from Sir Jonathan North Community College, Knighton Lane East, LE2 6FU	The polling place is outside the polling district, but works well. Alternative suggestions for polling places within the polling district are welcomed.		be a physical space. The only public buildings in Knighton are the toilets on Knighton park and a very small part of millgate special school on herrick road (used to be Leicestershire arts). Neither of these are suitable! I am very happy to discuss further if that would be at all helpful. Thank you in advance.		Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
Saffron - SFA	2 member Ward  St. Andrew`s Play Association, Thirimere Gardens / Walnut Street, LE2 7LA	Propose existing Polling District & Polling		We support the recommendations for no	No additional	Recommend existing Polling
SFB	Ecumenical Church of The Nativity, Richmond Road, LE2 7PL	Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling	Leicester Liberal Democrats	change.	comments	District & Polling Place remains unchanged Recommend existing Polling
SFC	Saffron Children, Young People & Family Centre, The Crossway, LE2 6QW	Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling				District & Polling Place remains unchanged Recommend existing Polling
		Place remains unchanged				District & Polling Place remains unchanged
SFD	The Linwood Centre, Entrance on Linwood Lane & Meadow Gardens, LE2 6QJ	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
Spinney SHA	Hills - 2 member Ward   Melbourne Hall, Entrance from Melbourne Road, LE2 1DB	Propose existing Polling District & Polling	Alan Fox	We support the recommendation for no	The Acting Returning	Recommend existing Polling
		Place remains unchanged	Leicester Liberal Democrats	change for SHA. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the other	Officer supports this proposal. The split of	District & Polling Place remains unchanged
SHB	North Evington Free Church, Linden Street, LE5 5EE  The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Entrance from Wakerley Road, LE5 4WD	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  The polling place is outside the polling		be added to SHB and that the part to the	SHC between SHA and the existing SHD would result in the following electorate: SHB - 3284 SHD - 2599 The existing polling places for SHB & SHD would be able to accommodate the additional electors and as a result they would vote within the Ward boundary.	amended to incorporate part of SHC and the existing Polling Place remain unchanged. Please see the Spinney Hill Ward map.
SHD	Mayflower Methodist Church Hall, Entrance From Ethel Road, LE5 5ND	district, but works well. Alternative suggestions for polling places within the polling district are welcomed.  Propose existing Polling District & Polling				be split with part of the electorate moving to polling districts SHB and SHD. Please see the Spinney Hills Ward map.  Adobe Acrobat Document  Recommended that the boundary
		Place remains unchanged				for polling district SHD, be amended to incorporate part of SHC and that the polling district be renamed SHC and the existing Polling Place remain unchanged Please see the Spinney Hill Ward map.  Adobe Acrobat Document
Stoneyga	te - 3 member Ward					
STA	The Redeemed Worship Centre, Upper Tichborne Street, LE2 1GL	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	H J Wakefield Member of the public	Happy with current arrangements	The Acting Returning Officer supports the very helpful suggestions for	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
STB	MKA Dashwood Centre, Dashwood Road, LE2 1PH	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Leicester Liberal Democrats  Clir. Raffiq Moosa Mohammed	We support the recommendations for no change.  In relation to polling stations in our ward I have the following comments.  Dashwood Rd polling station is not fit for elderly and those with mobility issues.  The pathway to the entrance is very narrow and when agents and candidate's supporters stand in the pathway it become very difficult and unsafe. There is also no parking and Dashwood road along with the surrounding streets are also included in the proposed residential parking scheme for the area. A more appropriate venue would be the church hall at the back of St James church which also has a carpark.  St. Philips Church also now has parking issues since it lost the use of the adjacent carpark and late afternoon early evening when the mosque is also in use it becomes very congested. The Brookfield Electric bowling club on Kimberly Rd which is a few minute's walk from St Philips has a brand-new building with a good-sized carpark and my view is the polling station should be moved from St Philips church to this venue to provide a better and safer facility for voters and staff.	stations for STB & STC.  With the current boundaries both St. James the Greater Church Hall and Brookfield Bowling Club are currently located in STB. Therefore, it's recommended that the boundary between STB & STC be amended to bring the Bowling Club and some adjacent properties into polling district STC.	Adobe Acrobat Document

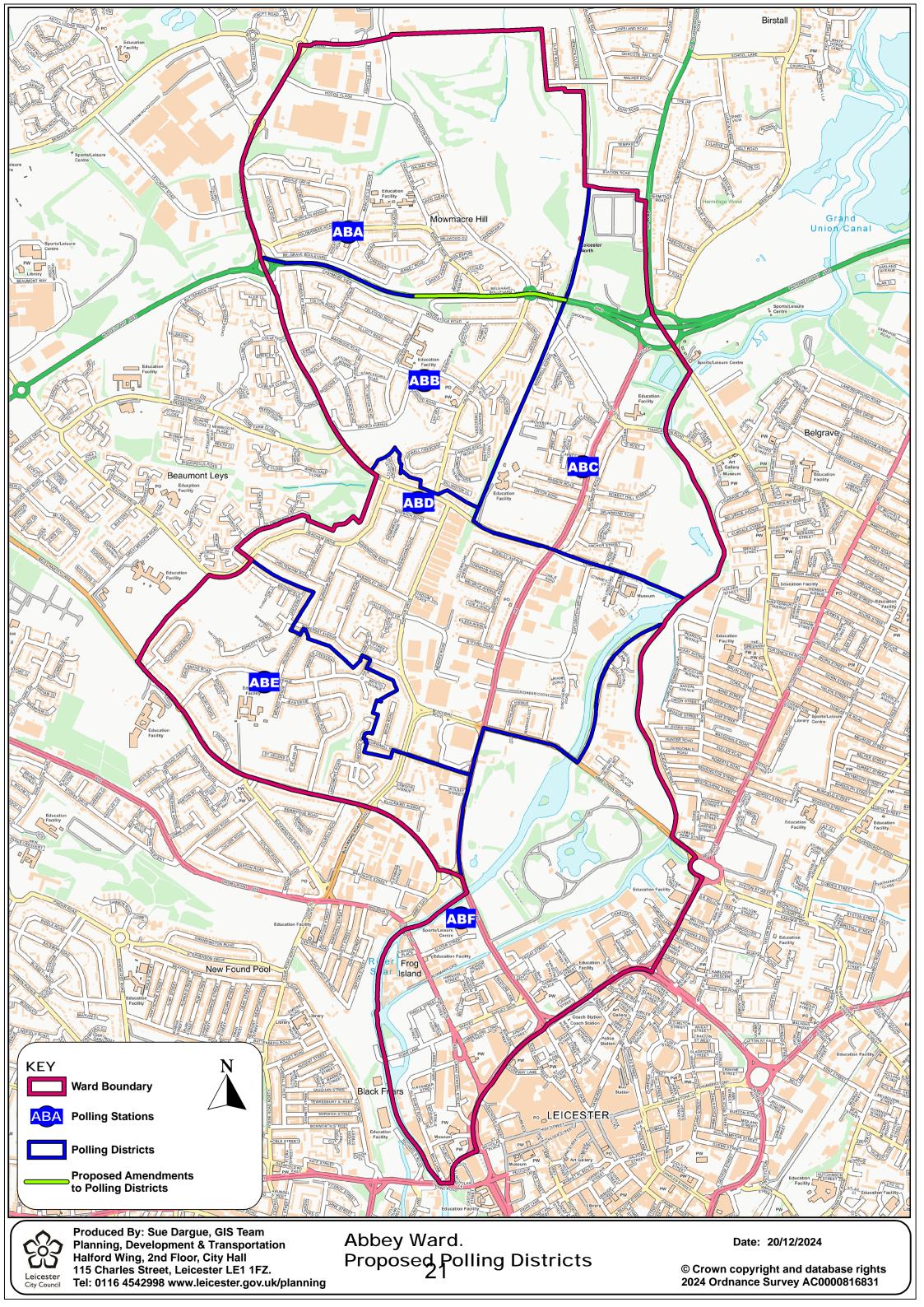
District	Polling Place Address	Acting Returning Officer's comments	Consultation responses received regarding the Ward from	Comments received	Officer's response	Acting Returning Officer's recommendations to full Council
STC	St. Philip`s Church Hall, Evington Road, LE2 1HN	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Clir. Manjula Sood	I agree with Cllr Mohammed. We need to look at both the polling stations in Stoneygate. Last City Council elections two disabled voters had accidents. The accidents were reported to the returning officers.		Recommended that the Polling District boundary between STB & STC be amended. Please see the Stoneygate Ward map.  Recommended the the Polling Place for STC be changed to Brookfield Bowling Club,
			Clir. Liz Sahu	Currently I use the Dashwood Centre LE2 1PH. The area around the centre is very parked up and busy with very little, if any, disabled parking. There are often tellers on the pavement outside which makes the pavement very tight to navigate. The rooms are dark and its not the safest of areas to be walking to at night. Evington Road has quite high crime and ASB.  I believe you should investigate using Brookfield Bowling Club on Kimberley Road LE2 1AS instead or in addition too. Brookfield has recently been completely rebuilt and now comes with a vamp and at least 6 disabled parking spaces directly outside of the venue. In addition there is also a regular car park with approximately 25 spaces. There are toilet facilities and also a small kitchen for the polling staff. The lighting is bright and the room is light and airy and can be easily ventilated. Should tellers wish to be outside, there is plenty of space and no concern about being by a road.		Adobe Acrobat Document
STD	Evington Community Centre, Kedleston Road, LE5 5HY	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Saira Valli Member of the public	St Phillips Church- There is no parking at this polling station anymore and in the evening it's very busy because of the main Rd.  The newly built bowling club on Kimberly Rd would be a much better venue as it had on site parking and is away from the main Rd. It is only a few minutes walk from St Phillips Church.		Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
	2					
	2 member Ward  St. Matthew`s Centre, Entrance From Malabar Rd, Main Entrance, LE1 2PD	Propose existing Polling District & Polling	Alan Fox	We support the recommendations for no	No additional	Recommend existing Polling
WYB	Shree Mandhata Samaj Community Centre, 1 Hartington Road, LE2 0GP	Place remains unchanged Propose existing Polling District & Polling	Leicester Liberal Democrats	change.		District & Polling Place remains unchanged Recommend existing Polling
WYC	Wesley Hall Community Centre, Hartington Road, LE2 OGN	Place remains unchanged Propose existing Polling District & Polling	Abid Matak	Waclay hall which is parfect for my	No additional	District & Polling Place remains unchanged Recommend existing Polling
	Highfields Centre, 96 Melbourne Road, LE2 ODS	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Member of the public	Wesley hall which is perfect for my address. Polling station opening hours and staff are good.	comments	District & Polling Place remains unchanged Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place
						remains unchanged

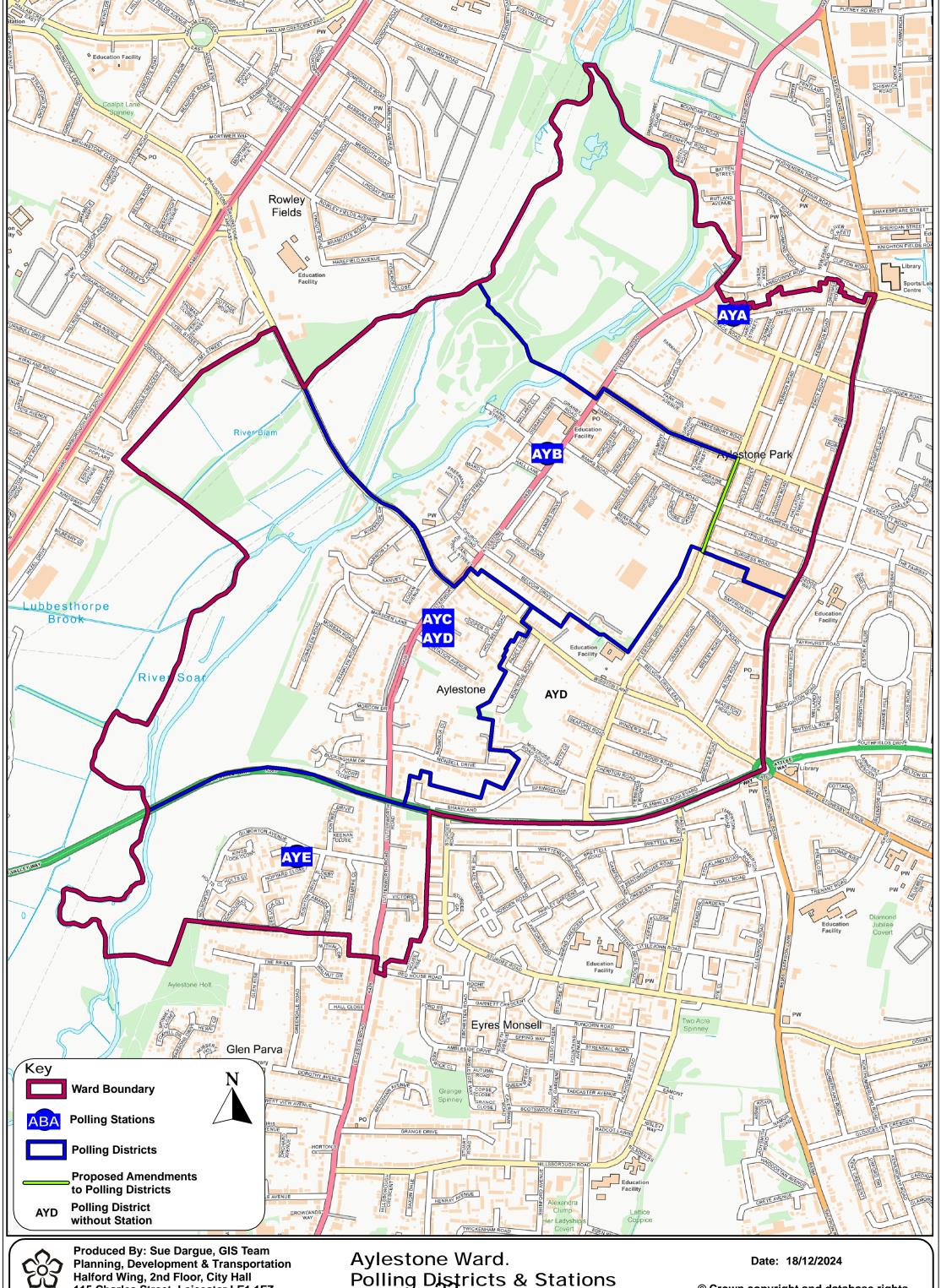
Acting Returning Officer's Comments & Recommendations - Leicester West Constituency						
Ward & Polling District	Polling Place Address		Consultation responses received regarding the Ward from	Comments received	Acting Returning Officer's response to consultation	Acting Returning Officer's recommendations to full Council
Abbey - 3 me	mber Ward  The Tudor Centre, Holderness Road, LE4 2JU	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Alan Fox Leicester Liberal Democrats	We support the recommendations for no change for ABD, ABE, ABF, and ABG. ABB currently shares a polling place with ABA. This works well for those electors living to the north of the busy Red Hill Way (A563). It does not work so well for those to the south. We would therefore propose that ABB be divided along this busy road with the area to the north joining ABA and the area to the south joining ABC.	The Acting Returning Officer supports the proposal for this change. The electorate for the Polling Districts would change accordingly: ABA - 2489 ABC - 2921	Recommended that the existing polling place be retained and the polling district boundary be redrawn and a proportion of ABB's electorate be included in this polling district. Please see the Abbey Ward map
ABB	The Tudor Centre, Holderness Road, LE4 2JU	The polling place is outside the polling district, but works well. Alternative suggestions for polling places within the polling district are welcomed.				That the existing polling district's electorate be split between the current ABA & ABC, as per the proposal, which is supported by the Acting Returning Officer.
ABC	Community Zone, Community Shop - Stocking Farm, Marwood Road, LE4 2ED	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommended that the existing Polling Place be retained and the Polling District boundary be redrawn and a proportion of ABB's electorate be included in this Polling District. The Polling District to be renamed to ABB. Please see the Abbey Ward map
ABD	Community of Christ, 330 Abbey Lane, LE4 2AB  St. Patrick's Parish Centre, Beaumont Leys Lane, LE4 2BD	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling				Recommend existing Polling District boundary & Polling Place remains unchanged, but renamed to ABC  Recommend existing Polling District
		Place remains unchanged				boundary & Polling Place remains unchanged, but renamed to ABD
ABF	Leicester Indoor Bowls Club, 80 Slater Street, LE3 5AS  Little Grasshoppers Nursery, Avebury Avenue, LE4 0FQ	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged Propose existing Polling District & Polling				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged Recommend existing Polling District
		Place remains unchanged				boundary & Polling Place remains unchanged, but renamed to ABE
AYA  AYA  AYA	Emember Ward  Knighton Lane Artists' Group, 68a Knighton Lane, LE2 8BE  St. Edward's Catholic Church Hall, Aylestone Road, LE2 8TF	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  The polling station currently used for AYD is	Alan Fox Leicester Liberal Democrats	We support the recommendations for AYE. The Acting Returning Officer has proposed a major reconfiguration of AYB, AYC, and AYD. We would argue that only minor changes are needed in the ward. St Andrews Parish Hall is an unsuitable polling place. Old Church Street's narrow pavements, double yellow lines, and one-way system, all make access difficult for people with disabilities. We would agree with the ARO that it would be better for AYD electors to vote at Aylestone Baptist Church. We do not agree that AYC electors to the south of the Baptist Church should have to walk past it to vote at St Andrews Parish Hall. Aylestone Baptist Church could easily accommodate two polling stations. We therefore propose that AYC and AYD remain unchanged, but that the Baptist Church be the polling place for both. Middleton Street would remain the boundary between AYB (which would continue to vote at St Edwards Catholic Church Hall) and AYC. The only change we would propose is a minor alteration to the boundary between AYA and AYB. At the last review, some residents of Milligan Road expressed the view that they wished both sides of the road to be in AYB. The outcome of that Review was that both sides of the road to be in AYB. The outcome of that Review was that both sides of the road were placed in AYA, the opposite of the residents' wishes. We propose that the properties on the west side of Milligan Road return to AYB.	The Acting Returning Officer, thanks all those who submitted helpful responses to the consultation. The proposals put forward provide an excellent solution to the current arrangements. Therefore, the Acting Returning Officer's recommendation is that Polling Districts AYC & AYD, allocated Polling Place be, Aylestone Baptist Church. Additionally, that a minor amendment be made to the Polling District boundary between AYA abd AYB to include Milligan Road into AYB. The electorate totals for those 2 polling districts would be: AYA - 2238 AYB - 1905 Please see the Aylestone map showing the proposals.	Recommend that the existing Polling Place remains unchanged and a minor amendment be made to the boundaries between the Polling Districts AYA & AYB. Please see the Aylestone Ward map  Adobe Acrobat Document  Recommend that the existing Polling
OIF		The polling station currently used for AYD is outside the polling district. In order to make a more logical use of the polling stations in the area, I recommend that the boundaries for Polling Districts AYB, AYC, AYD be redrawn, as shown in Appendix 2. The polling stations and electorate for the proposals are as follows:  AYB: St. Edward's Catholic Church Hall - 1558  AYC: At. Andrews Parish Hall - 1335  AYD: Aylestone Baptist Church - 2723	Luir. scott kennedy- Lount	response to the consultation. As there was a large content, a summary of his main comments and his proposed recommendations are shown below. However, should you require the full content of his submission this is available on request to the Acting Returning Officer.  Currently AYC electors south and west of the Baptist church would have to pass their current Polling Station at Aylestone Baptist Church which practically makes no sense.  The St Andrews Parish Hall should be rejected on the grounds as a proposed AYC for the above reasons of: Electors would have to pass their current Polling Station.  Accessibility is poor with narrow streets, especially for those who have disabilities and require use of wheelchairs or motor scooters, for those with pushchairs with pavements falling short of minimum Department of Transport guidelines.  Public Health and Safety as described with the issues raised in point 2.  Low voter turnout at previous elections at this location.		Place remains unchanged and a minor amendment be made to the boundaries between the Polling Districts AYA & AYB. Please see the Aylestone Ward map  Adobe Acrobat Document

Ward & Polling District	Polling Place Address	Acting Returning Officer's comments	Consultation responses received regarding the Ward from	Comments received	Acting Returning Officer's response to consultation	Acting Returning Officer's recommendations to full Council
				I counter propose the boundary for AYB and AYC remains as current electoral arrangements at Middleton Street.  Residents of AYC have contacted me with concerns of the proposed changes and are happy with the current arrangements prior to the current consultation based on accessibility, parking facilities and convenience at the Baptist Church and access for the elderly.  I therefore counter-propose Aylestone Baptist Church is the Polling Station for two Polling Districts for electors of AYC and AYD. There is ample parking space, accessibility for those with use of mobility scooters and wheelchairs, pushchairs and the elderly.  AYA AYB I counter-propose a small change for the boundary of AYA & AYB by moving Milligan Road residents on the western side, numbers 317-221 of AYA into AYB. This was requested at the previous review by residents but not taken into consideration on that occasion.  I trust this representation will be taken into full consideration for the final outcome of the review.		
AYD	Aylestone Baptist Church, Lutterworth Road, Aylestone, LEZ 8PE  St Andrews Parish Hall, 90 Old Church Street, LEZ 8ND			Councillor Porter submitted a very comprehensive response to the consultation. As there was a large content, a summary of his main comments and his proposed recommendations are shown below. However, should you require the full content of his submission this is available on request to the Acting Returning Officer.  Opposition to council's proposal to change the polling station location. Local residents strongly oppose the council's proposal to relocate the polling station for AYC voters from Aylestone Baptist Church to St. Andrews Parish Hall. Local residents have overwhelmingly expressed their preference to continue voting at the Baptist Church, which has served the community effectively for decades. Their feedback clearly highlights the practicality, accessibility and familiarity of the Baptist Church as the polling station for AYC. Main points of opposition with overwhelming community support for the Baptist Church.  Local residents say they are satisfied with the Baptist Church as their polling station. It is centrally located, easily accessible and situated on a main road, making it a convenient and logical option for all. Feedback from local residents indicates a very strong attachment to the Baptist Church as their preferred polling station. Comments like "Why fix something that's not broken?" and "We have voted here for decades; it is familiar and accessibility of St. Andrews Parish Hall. St. Andrews Parish Hall is located, it is ill-suited for safe pedestrian access. In some sections, the pavement is narrow, only about two foot wide, leaving insufficient space for pedestrians, particularly wheelchair users, individuals with pushchairs or those with other mobility aids. This could create significant safety hazards. So this proposed change would disproportionately disadvantage local residents, particularly those with mobility issues. The proposal to move AYC voters from the Baptist Church to St. Andrews Parish Hall presents significant and unjustifiable challenges due to the narrow roads, the one way syst		Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  The Acting Returning Officer recommends that the electorate in AYD use Aylestone Baptist Church as their Polling Place. Please see the Aylestone Ward map.  Adobe Acrobat Document
Ауе	Gilmorton Community Unit, Hopyard Close, LE2 9GY	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	13 Members of the Public	A large number of responses were received by members of the public objecting to the proposals initially put forward. A sample of comments are shown below.		Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged

Ward & Polling District	Polling Place Address	Acting Returning Officer's comments	Consultation responses received regarding the Ward from	Comments received	Acting Returning Officer's response to consultation	Acting Returning Officer's recommendations to full Council
				However, should you require the full content of these submission these are available on request to the Acting Returning Officer.  "I've been voting at the Baptist Church for 13 years. It is accessible, close to my home, and has a ramp for pushchairs and wheelchairs. Why change what works?" – A.  "We have been voting here for 40 years. Everyone is familiar with this location, and changing it will confuse people and discourage voting." – S.  "St. Andrews is difficult to access. The Baptist Church is convenient, well-lit, and on the main road. I strongly oppose this change." – C. C.  "As a resident of 31 years, I find the Baptist Church to be accessible, convenient, and perfectly located for voting." – A. M.  "We prefer voting at the Baptist Church. It is accessible and convenient. Please do not change this." – Dr. R and Dr D		
Braunstone I	Park & Rowley Fields - 3 member Ward					
BFB  BFC  BFC  BFF	Braunstone Victoria Working Men's Club, Cantrell Road, LE3 1SD  The Oak Centre, Bendbow Rise, LE3 1QA  Blessed Sacrament Church Hall, Gooding Avenue, LE3 1JS  Holy Apostles Hall, Fosse Road South, LE3 1AD  The BRITE Centre, Braunstone Avenue, LE3 1LE  Christ Church Schoolroom, Barbara Road, LE3 2EG  Manor House Community Centre, Entrance From Compton Road, LE3 2BG	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Alan Fox Leicester Liberal Democrats	We support the recommendations for no change.	No Additional Comments	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
Beaumont Le	eys - 3 member Ward	Place remains unchanged				Polling Place remains unchanged
BLB BLC	Beaumont Lodge Neighbourhood Association Centre, 250 Astill Lodge Road, LE4 1EF  Heatherbrook Primary School - Community Wing, Astill Lodge Road, LE4 1BE  Stokes Wood Allotment Society Pavilion, Stokes Drive, LE3 9BS	The school have requested not to be used for future elections. Suggestions for alternative buildings are welcomed.  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Alan Fox Leicester Liberal Democrats	BLF. This would necessitate having two polling stations at Barley Croft Community Centre.  The part of BLG to the north of Krefeld Way could then be joined by the industrial and commercial area of BLC which includes few electors but does include the BLH polling station at Beaumont Leys Library. The current situation where these voters walk past the Library on their way to vote at Heatherbrook Primary School is clearly unsatisfactory. BLH could continue to vote at the library unless a better alternative within the polling district were found.	BLA - The Acting Returning Officer has not identified a suitable alternative to Glebelands School, so at the present time the recommendation is for this to remain as the Polling Place for BLA.  BLC - The Acting Returning Officer agrees that the movement of the industrial estate and shopping centre into BLH is sensible.  BLG - The Acting Returning Officer agrees that the movement of electors to the north of Krefeld Way, into BLH is logical. Therefore it is recommended that those electors be placed in this Polling District.  BLG - The Acting Returning Officer agrees that the use of Barley Croft Community Centre for electors voting at BHG is a good solution.	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged  The Acting Returning Officer recommends the boundary be altered to move the industrial estate and shopping centre into BLH. Please see the Beaumont Leys Ward map.  Adobe Acrobat Document  Recommend existing Polling District &
BLE	Home Farm Neighbourhood Centre, Off Strasbourg Drive, LE4 OSU	Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		BLI residents currently have to cross the busy Groby Road (A50) to vote at the BLD polling station. The Heathley Park Pub and the adjacent Premier Inn are within BLI and are geared up to catering for funeral parties from the nearby Gilroes Cemetery and Crematorium. Either might have a space suitable as a polling place.	The centre was previously utilised in 2021 for both Polling Districts when Milton House was not available to be used.  BLI - The Acting Returning Officer has again made enquiries with regard to the two suggestions. The Heathley Park Pub, has a function room, but it is open to the main pub and the Landlord has also confirmed that they do not wish to be used. There is no function room in the Premier Inn and the hotel have confirmed that due to security they wouldn't be able to have security doors open all day, if we were to use a bedroom. Therefore neither of these options are viable.	Polling Place remains unchanged
BLF	Barley Croft Community Centre, Malham Close, LE4 OUT	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Cllr. Hemant Rae Bhatia		BLH - The Acting Returning Officer has previously investigated these 2 options.	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged

Ward & Polling District	Polling Place Address	Acting Returning Officer's comments	Consultation responses received regarding the Ward from	Comments received	Acting Returning Officer's response to consultation	Acting Returning Officer's recommendations to full Council
BLG	Milton House, Milton Crescent, LE4 0SX	The polling place is a Elderly Persons Home, alternative suggestions for polling places with the polling district are welcomed.		For BLH - there's Sangha Close Five Rivers Care Home or Glenfield Hospital which has enough building blocks that can be procured for the day. Beaumont Leys Library is far away and not convenient for walking up to it, especially for the elderly and disabled residents. For BLI - LOROS offers the most convenient option and if not then the hotel nearby. Distance wise the same issue applies with Stokes Wood Primary location. If nothing, then portable polling stations must be put into use as was the case previously. Please take this as consultation feedback. Thank you.	The care home confirmed that they do not have any suitable rooms and do not wish to be used. The hospital grounds have a complex layout and a room was not identified at the hospital. Beaumont Leys Library, with it's proximity to the shopping centre, where most people would visit to carry out their weekly shop, is the Acting Returning Officer's preferred option. If an alternative building becomes available in the future, this can be reviewed.  BLI - LOROS have been previously approached regarding using their building has a Polling Place and they	Rrefeld Way, from BLG into BLH. Please see the Beaumont Leys Ward map.  The Acting Returning Officer recommends that the electors for polling district BLG, now vote at BLF - Barley Croft Community Centre.  Adobe Acrobat Document
ВІН	Beaumont Leys Library, Beaumont Way, LE4 1DS	The polling place is outside the polling district, but works well. Alternative suggestions for polling places within the polling district are welcomed.			have declined. Under the Elections Act 2022 and it's statutory accessibility provisions, mobiles are not considered as suitably accessible. Additionally no funding at national elections will be provided when there is a viable permanent building. Therefore, the Acting Returning Officer	The Acting Returning Officer recommends the boundary be altered to move the industrial estate and shopping centre be moved from BLC
ВЫ	Stokes Wood Allotment Society Pavilion, Stokes Drive, LE3 9BS	The polling place is outside the polling district, but works well. Alternative suggestions for polling places within the polling district are welcomed.				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
Fosse - 2 mer FSA	nber Ward  Buckminster Road Baptist Church Hall, Entrance From Buckminster Road, LE3 9AT	Propose existing Polling District & Polling	Alan Fox	We support the recommendations for no change.	No additional comments	Recommend existing Polling District &
		Place remains unchanged	Leicester Liberal Democrats	The state of the s		Polling Place remains unchanged
FSB	Woodgate Community Centre, 36 Woodgate, LE3 5GE	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
	Newfoundpool Working Men's Club, 55 Beatrice Road, LE3 9FJ	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged	Cllr. Sue Waddington	I am not aware of any issues in Fosse Ward in relation to the location and accessibility of the present polling places.	No additional comments	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
FSD	Fosse Neighbourhood Centre, Entrance From Mantle Road, LE3 5HE	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
FSE	St Paul & St Augustine Worship Centre, 2 Kirby Road, LE3 6BA	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
	member Ward					
	Ukrainlan Church Hall, 2a Fosse Road South, LE3 OQD  Robert Hall Baptist Church, Entrance from Upperton Road, LE3 OPD	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged Propose existing Polling District & Polling	Alan Fox Leicester Liberal Democrats	We support the recommendations for no change.	No additional comments	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged Recommend existing Polling District &
	East West Community Centre, 10 Wilberforce Road, LE3 0GT	Place remains unchanged  Propose existing Polling District & Polling				Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District &
WCD	Watershed Community Centre, Bede Island, Upperton Road, LE2 7AU	Place remains unchanged Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Polling Place remains unchanged  Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
	nember Ward	-				
	Braunstone Frith Primary School, Entrance from Liberty Road, LE3 6NN	district, but works well. Alternative suggestions for polling places within the polling district are welcomed.	Alan Fox Leicester Liberal Democrats	We support the recommendations for no change. WTA currently votes at the WTB polling place. If plans go ahead for major housing development at Western Park Golf Course, community buildings which might be suitable as polling places may become	No additional comments	Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
WTB	Braunstone Frith Primary School, Entrance from Liberty Road, LE3 6NN	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged		available in the future.		Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
		Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
	New Parks Library, 321 Aikman Avenue, LE3 9PW	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
	New Parks Children, Young People & Family Centre, Pindar Road, LE3 9RN	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
	St. Anne's Church Hall, Entrance From Letchworth Road, LE3 6FN	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged
WTG	Braunstone Avenue Hall, Entrance From Wyngate Drive, LE3 0JH	Propose existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged				Recommend existing Polling District & Polling Place remains unchanged

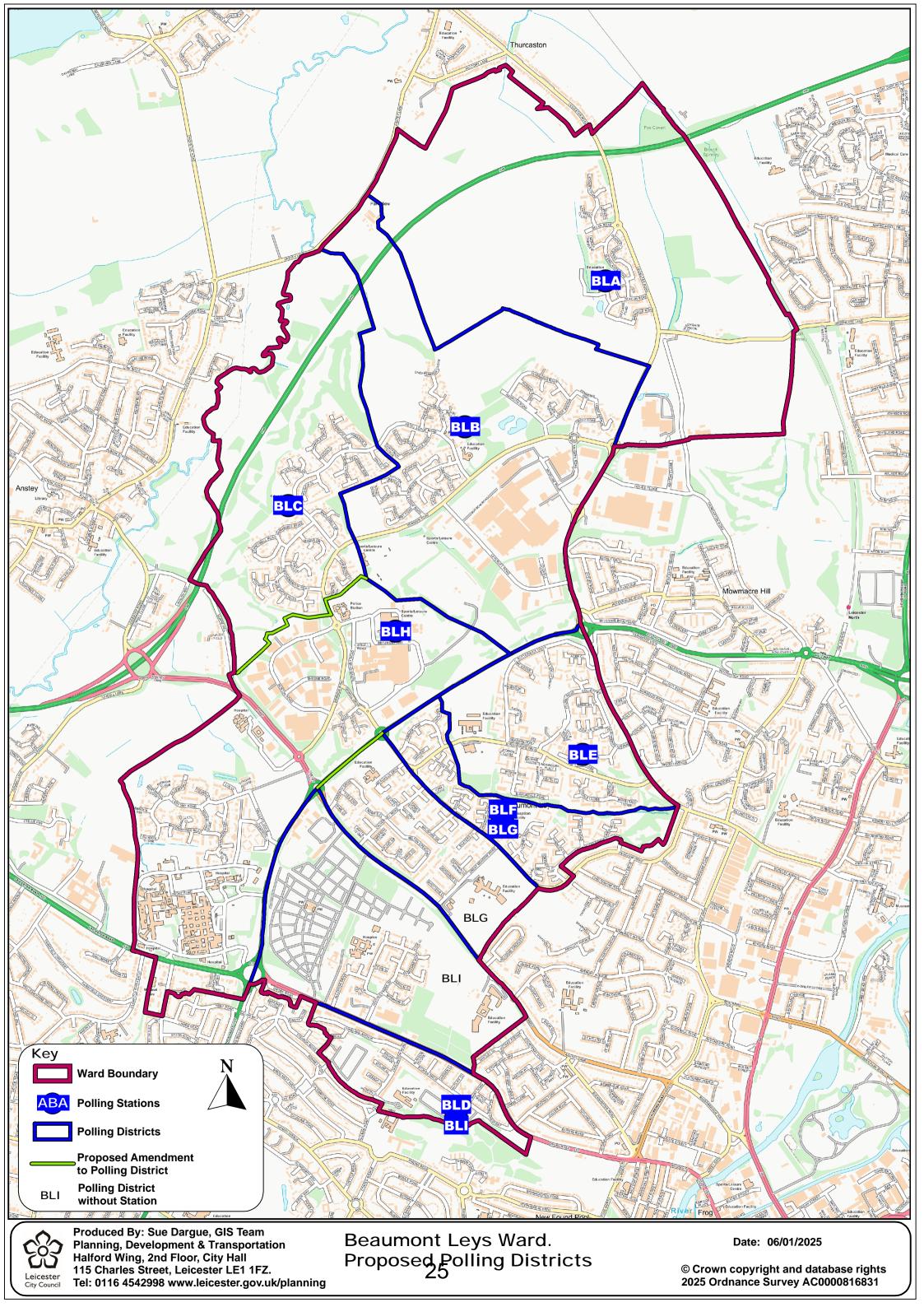


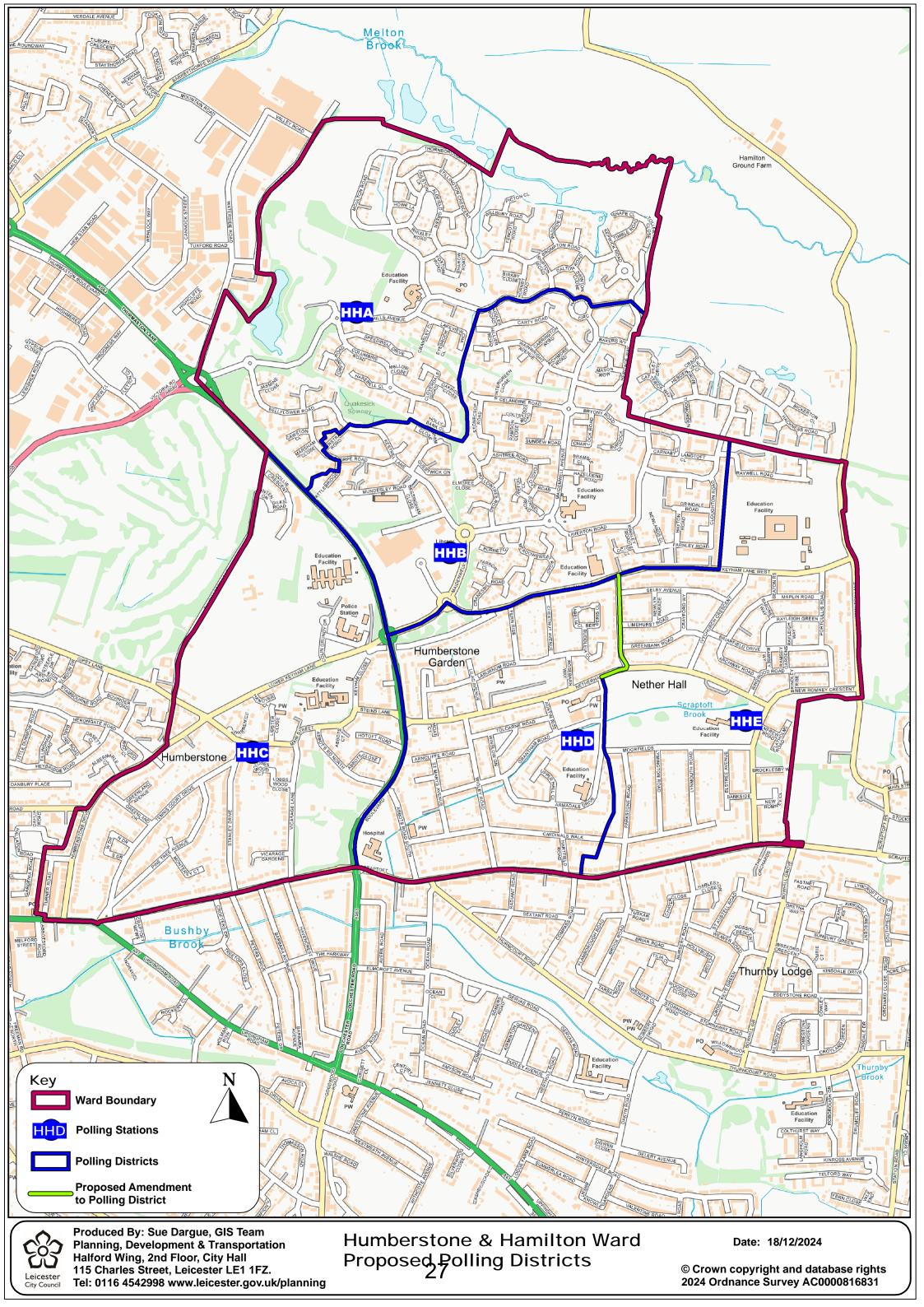


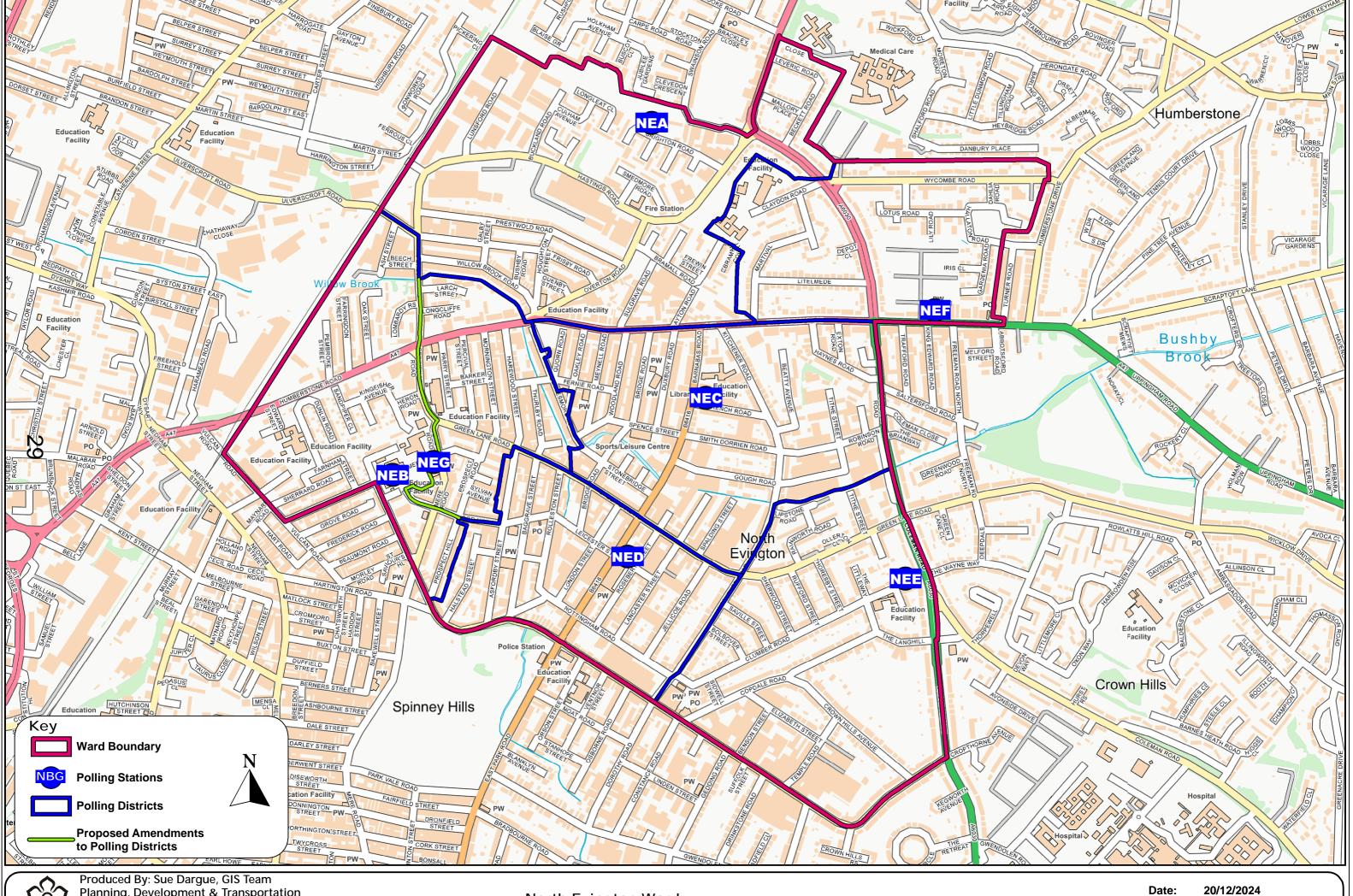
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Polling Districts & Stations

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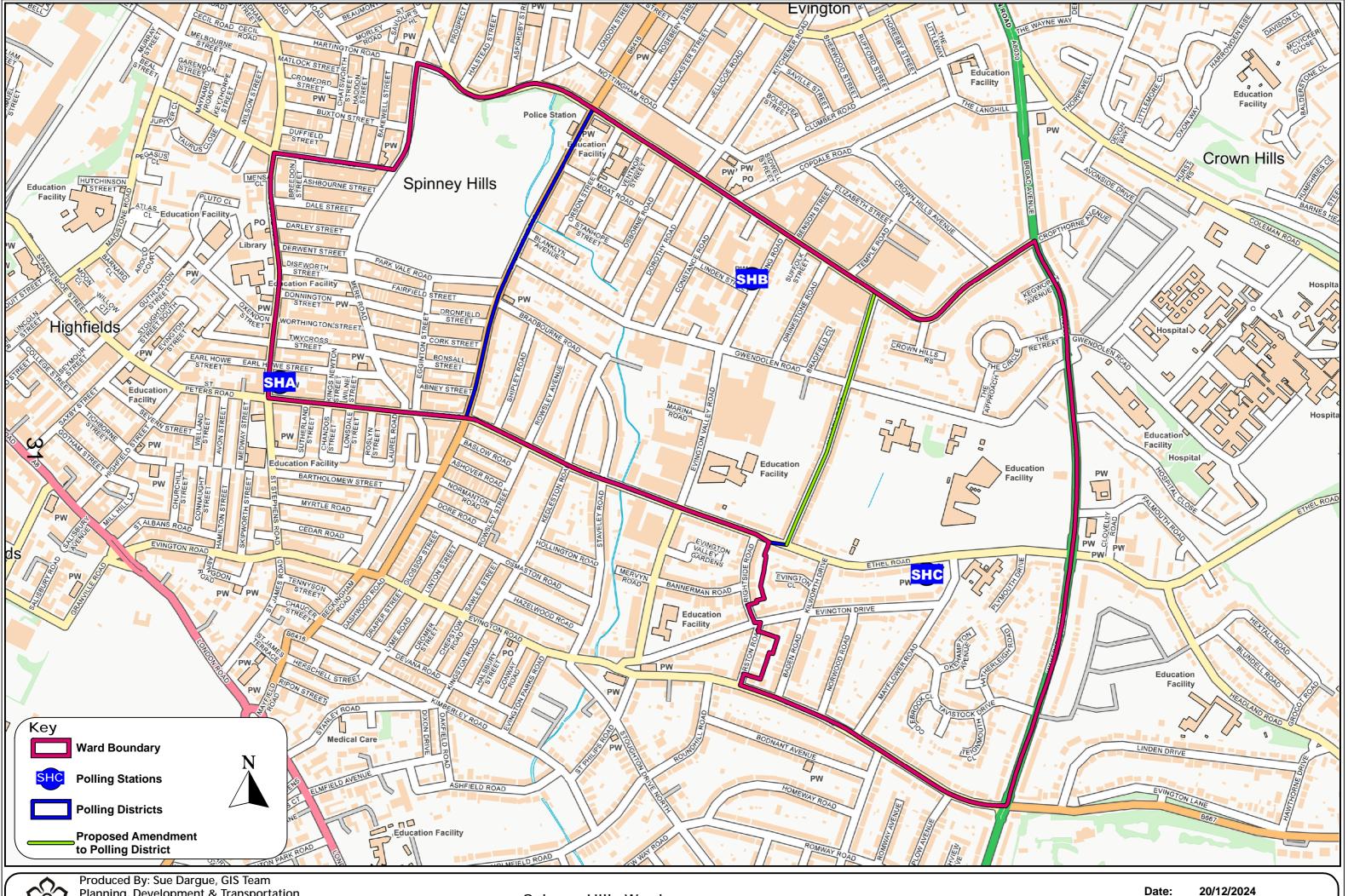


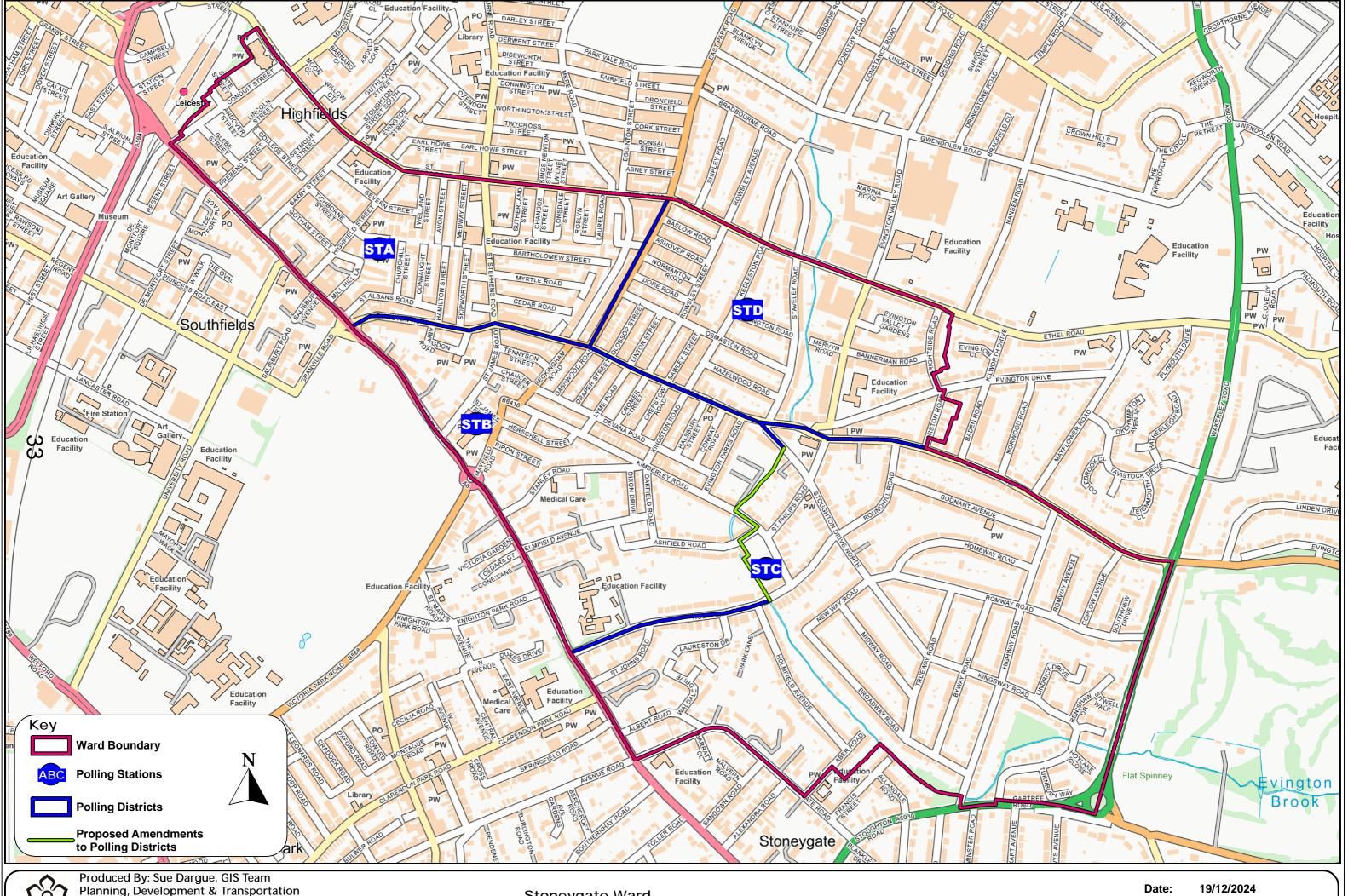


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North Evington Ward **Proposed Polling Districts** 

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# Item 7b

# **Full Council**

# **Council Tax Support Scheme 2025/26**

Date of Meeting: 16 January 2025

Lead director: Amy Oliver, Director of Finance

#### **Useful Information**

Ward(s) affected:

Report author: James Rattenberry, Strategic Policy Lead

Author contact details: <u>James.rattenberry@leicester.gov.uk</u>

Report version number

## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Council to implement a simplified "banded" council tax support scheme from 1st April 2025.

### 2. <u>Summary</u>

- 2.1 The Council is required to maintain a Council Tax Support scheme (CTSS) in respect of dwellings occupied by persons we consider to be in financial need. Our scheme has remained unchanged since its introduction in 2013.
- 2.2 The proposed scheme is intended to:
  - make it easier to apply for and understand support.
  - reduce the number of times we make changes to amounts awarded.
  - increase support to the most vulnerable households.
  - make the scheme easier to administer.
  - make the system work better for those receiving universal credit (UC), and
  - reduce the overall costs of the scheme to help the Council address future budget deficits.
- 2.3 A public consultation ran from 30 September to 10 November 2024 receiving 280 responses, and responses were also sought from the Fire & Police Services. All elements of the proposal received broad support (between 63% and 88% of respondents).

#### 3. Recommendations

- 3.1 Full Council is recommended to:
  - note and consider the results of the public consultation ran from 30 September to 10 November 2024.
  - approve the adoption of the Council Tax Support Scheme detailed at Appendix 1 with effect from 1 April 2025, noting that the proposals have been modified to take account of feedback received during the consultation as referenced in 5.10 of the report.
  - note that the Director of Finance will review the operation of the Scheme after the first six months to assess its operation and impacts. Should this review indicate a need to propose a new or revised Scheme for 2026 then appropriate procedures, including public consultation if appropriate, will be triggered.

# 4. Report / Supporting Information

#### **Background**

- 4.1 CTSS was introduced in April 2013 as a replacement for the national Council Tax Benefit scheme. The Government placed the duty to create a local scheme for working age applicants with the Council and reduced government funding by the equivalent of 10%. Funding has subsequently decreased further insofar as it can be identified within mainstream funding.
- 4.2 Since 2013 CTSS is divided into two schemes, with pension age applicants receiving support under the rules prescribed by Central Government, and the scheme for working age applicants being determined solely by the Council.
- 4.3 Pensioners, subject to their income, can receive up to 100% support towards their council tax. The Council has no power to change the level of support provided to pensioners.
- 4.4 CTSS provides support to approximately 10,400 pension age households (£11.7m) and 17,700 working age households (£14.9m) in 2024/25.

#### The current scheme for working age applicants

- 4.5 Since 2013 working age CTSS has operated with the following elements:
  - Maximum award of 80% of a Band B property council tax liability.
  - Means testing based on household weekly income, compared against a set of allowances. If income exceeds the allowance any support is reduced accordingly.
  - Other adults (non-dependents) are treated as part of the household. With some exceptions, this reduces an award depending on their income (on average, between 14% and 44% of their liability).
  - Support is subject to a de minimis level, currently £4.65 per week.
  - Savings limit of £6,000, above which no support can be awarded.

### Our aspirations for the current scheme

- 4.6 There are a number of issues with the current scheme that need addressing. The main ones are as follows, examined in detail below:
  - make it easier to apply for and administer support.
  - make the system work better for those receiving UC by reducing the number of times we make changes to amounts awarded.
  - increase support to the most vulnerable households, and
  - reduce the overall costs of the scheme to help the Council address future budget deficits.
- 4.7 The existing scheme is based on an old-fashioned benefit-based scheme and requires simplifying because:

- The application process is complicated and requires a lot of information and evidence to make an assessment, including income details of all adult residents which significantly impact week-by-week entitlement.
- UC customers are often required to reapply after their benefits cease, which has contributed to a gradual decline in the number of households receiving CTSS.
- It is difficult for customers to understand and anticipate what their award will be, and how it is likely to change with their income and circumstances.
- Staff have to undergo significant training to be proficient in processing claims and the timescales for processing applications can be lengthy, and administration of the scheme is costly when compared to other discounts for Council Tax.
- 4.8 The introduction of UC within the City has added further complexity to both the administration of CTS and the collection of Council Tax generally. In common with other authorities the Council has experienced:
  - A reduction in households receiving support as households move to UC and drop in and out of entitlement due to income changes,
  - A high number of changes to UC cases are received from the DWP requiring a change to CTS entitlement. In Leicester this currently stands at c130,000 per annum and is expected to rise to c160,000 changes per annum from the end of 2025. These changes may result in amendments to Council Tax liability, the recalculation of instalments, delays, the loss in collection and increase in postage costs; and
  - The increased costs of administration through multiple changes with significant additional staff and staff time being needed. Customers may also be confused with frequent changes to the amount they are required to pay.
- 4.9 UC is assessed monthly and under the current system even very small changes will lead to CTSS being reassessed for the remainder of the financial year, resetting all instalments due. This makes it extremely difficult for low-income households to be able to budget and make payments. On average CTSS is recalculated eight times a year against a schedule of either 10 or 12 payments due. The existing means tested CTSS will not be viable in the longer term now that UC has been rolled out fully within the area and with the increase in UC claimants due to managed migration from legacy benefits (to be completed by the end of 2025).

#### 5. The proposal: Our aims for the new scheme

- 5.1 With the simplicity of the proposed new scheme and by taking an approach closer to that already used for other Council Tax discounts, it will address the problems associated with the increased administration caused by failings in the current scheme and UC as follows:
  - The scheme will require a simplified claiming process. All applicants will see a significant reduction in the bureaucracy associated with making a claim and, where possible, CTS will be awarded automatically.

- **Speed of processing**. All claims will be able to be calculated promptly and largely automatically without the need to request further information. Processing days could be reduced from 30 days to 15 days.
- Maximising entitlement to every applicant. There will no requirement for UC
  applicants to apply separately for CTS, and for all other applicants, the claiming
  process will be simplified significantly.
- Maintenance of collection rates. The new scheme will avoid constant changes in discount, the need for multiple changes in instalments and therefore assist in supporting collection rates. However, it should be noted that the decreased level of support for non-vulnerable working age cases may have a corresponding negative effect on collection levels.
- The income bands are sufficiently wide to avoid constant changes in support. The new scheme, with its simplified income banding means only significant changes in income will affect the level of discount awarded. Council Taxpayers who receive CTS will not receive multiple Council Tax bills and adjustments to their instalments.
- 5.2 Similar to other authorities, the Council currently requires all working age applicants to pay a minimum of 20% towards their Council Tax (80% maximum support of a Band B property) regardless of their income or ability to improve their household finances, for example by moving into full-time employment.
- 5.3 In view of the problems being experienced with the current scheme, it is proposed that an alternative approach be taken from 2025/26. The approach has been to fundamentally redesign the scheme to address all of the issues with the current scheme.
- 5.4 The proposed new scheme has several key features as follows:
  - Vulnerable households will receive a maximum discount of 100% of a Band C property council tax liability, increased from 80% of a band B property.
  - Other households (non-vulnerable) will receive a maximum discount of 75% of a band B property, reduced from 80%.
  - The scheme remains a means tested based on household weekly income but is simplified, with household income defined within weekly income bands. This means small changes in income will not trigger a support recalculation. Most incomes would be included, with only Child Benefit and UC Housing Costs continuing to be disregarded.
  - There will be a simplified calculation of non-dependant deductions with a proposed deduction of 20% (of any CTS award) where a non-dependant resides within the household. A 20% reduction shall be made for every nondependant resident who would have attracted a deduction under the previous scheme.
  - Disregards for childcare costs and the capital limit of £6,000 would be unaffected.
  - There will be additional allowances to protect the incomes of households with three or more children, beyond the "two child cap" which currently applies to

households with a third or subsequent child born after 6 April 2017. This is in addition to the proposal subject to consultation.

- 5.5 The proposed scheme focusses help to the most vulnerable in our city (one-fifth of those currently supported) with up to 100% support for households receiving disability-related income, full-time carers and disabled children. Details of the definition of vulnerability and the incomes taken into account are provided in Appendix 1.
- 5.6 A full consultation was undertaken in line with statutory requirements. Consultation material and questions were shared with the precepting authorities on 3 September 2024. No objections were made by either of the major preceptors, and the Fire Service provided a written response confirming their support.
- 5.7 A consultation exercise was undertaken with the public for six weeks between 30 September and 10 November 2024. Communications promoting the consultation including emailing or writing to all current CTSS households, briefings to frontline staff, holding telephone messages hosted by Customer Services, and promotion through Council publications.
- 5.8 Of 280 responses received, 5 were from out of the Leicester area and 7 were from residents not liable for Council Tax, leaving 268 evaluated responses. A summary of the responses for each of the question relating to the key changes are shown below. It should be noted that most responses received from the public agreed with all of the proposed changes. Full consultation outcomes are available in Appendix 2.
- 5.9 The proposal supported in by a majority in all elements. Excluding those who responded with 'don't know,' 71% supported the banded income scheme concept. Support was strongest for a separate scheme for vulnerable households (87%) and disregarding War Pensions (92%), and weakest as to whether the income bands are fair (61%) and simplifying non-dependent deductions (63%).
- 5.10 Following consideration of the consultation data and the relatively weak level of support for the fairness of the banding, an additional mitigation has been added to the proposal to increase allowances to three or more children.

Question	Agree (%)	Disagree (%)	Don't know (%)	Agree disregarding non- responses (%)
Do you support the introduction of a banded income scheme?	0.52	0.21	0.27	0.71
Do you support the measures to support vulnerable applicants?	0.76	0.11	0.13	0.87
Do you think the bands in the table are fair?	0.42	0.27	0.31	0.61
Do you agree with the simplification of the way we calculate support when "non-dependent" adults (adults other than the applicant and their partner) reside in the household	0.46	0.27	0.27	0.63
Do you agree that we disregard housing benefit and some elements of UC when we place applicants into an income band	0.67	0.14	0.19	0.83
Do you agree that we support families by continuing to disregard child benefit when we place applicants into an	0.69	0.12	0.19	0.86

income band, and make allowance for child-care costs when we calculate spending needs				
Do you agree that we continue to protect war pensioners by disregarding war pensions and war disablement pensions when we place applicants into an income band	0.77	0.07	0.16	0.92
Do you agree that we remove the "extended payment" provisions which apply when an applicant ceases to be entitled to support, to be consistent with the way UC works	0.59	0.19	0.22	0.76

### The effect of proposed scheme on individual households

- 5.11 The proposed changes will impact households within the Council's area, especially those on the lowest of incomes. Current modelling allows us to project the likely outcomes for typical households given their individual circumstances.
  - 5,400 households would be better off (this will primarily be the vulnerable group).
  - 12,000 would be worse off, including 1,000 households who would cease to receive CTS (income too high and currently receiving only partial support).
  - Households better off (as a result of the protection) would benefit by an average of £213 per household per annum, or £4.10 per week; and
  - Households worse off would lose an average of £300 per household per annum, or £5.77 per week.

# Mitigations

- 5.12 In order to mitigate some of the losses, it is proposed that the Council Tax Discretionary Relief (CTDR) scheme will be increased from £0.5m to £0.75m per year for two years to protect individuals who experience exceptional hardship. The Council will consider all applications for exceptional hardship on an individual basis, considering available income and essential outgoings. Where appropriate further support will be given to the applicant.
- 5.13 We will also continue to provide:
  - Assessment for Discretionary Housing Payments (towards rent) and Household Support Fund (towards food/fuel) alongside applications for CTDR
  - Crisis support with food and fuel through the Community Support Grant scheme.
  - Additional funding allocated from the Household Support Fund to mitigate Council Tax bills where possible £400k committed during 2024/25.
- 5.14 This approach will enable individual applicants to be dealt with in a fair and equitable manner. Recovery of outstanding debt will be considered under the fair debt policy.

### 6. Scheme Costs

6.1 The current costs of the scheme are £26.6m of which £11.7m is related to the pension age scheme (which will not change) and £14.9m for the working age scheme.

- 6.2 The costs of the scheme are met by the City Council in line with its share of the Council Tax. Any savings accruing would be shared with the Major Preceptors. Around 84% is met by the City Council and 16% by police/fire.
- 6.3 Based on the proposed scheme in Appendix 3, the forecast cost impact would be:

	<b>25/26</b> £,000	<b>26/27</b> £,000	<b>27/28</b> £,000
Revenue savings	2,050	2,050	2,050
Administration Saving	400	400	400
Less one-off revenue costs (IT)	(76)	0	0
Net Saving / (Cost)	2,374	2,450	2,450

- 6.4 Table 1 shows only the savings attributable to the City Council. Additionally, the changes would unlock administrative savings (through reduced staffing) estimated at some £0.4m per year. However, the additional mitigations for households with three or more children will result in savings £0.35m per year lower than envisaged by the proposal subject to consultation and will impact the draft revenue budget that assumes the original savings figure. The proposal also includes funding £250k of additional discretionary relief for the first two years of the scheme. This will be funded from the Welfare reserve.
- Other authorities implementing banded schemes experienced an initial increase in caseload, which may be due to people who are in receipt of UC starting to claim for the first time (some old schemes not ours required an additional application from UC claimants). Any such cost has been disregarded in the table as it is not possible to estimate we believe it would not be significant. Overall, the caseload will reduce due to a fall in the number of eligible claimants.

#### 7. Timetable

- 7.1 It is important to note that any amendment to the scheme **must** be agreed at January's Full Council on 16 January 2025 to allow the taxbase to be approved (which takes account of expenditure on CTSS) and notified to the precepting authorities (fire & police). The taxbase will inform the council tax requirement for 2025/26 and will be included in the budget proposals presented to Council at the meeting in February. Whilst the laws governing CTSS allow for a scheme to be formally determined as late as 11 March 2025. Although this is only practically possible when confirming an existing scheme due to the billing cycle.
- 7.3 In addition to the timetable to enable taxbases and budgets to be set, there is a practical element of implementing a new scheme, to enable timely billing for the 1st

April payment date. It is estimated a 3-4 week lead in period is required to enable system changes and then bills to be issued in early March.

7.2 The following is proposed as compliant with our legal obligations outlined in section 9.

Council decision	16 January 2025
Council Budget Meeting	19 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Billing for 2025/26	Early-March
New scheme live as part of council tax	1 April 2025
billing 2025/26	

#### 8. Alternative Options

- 8.1 The following options were considered, and not recommended for adoption.
- 8.2 **Expanding income allowances** (for example, adding £50 or £100 to each existing band) this would open the scheme to an unknown number of households who currently do not qualify.
- 8.3 **Changing only one band,** for example increasing just the 75% maximum band to 80%. This would be potentially unfair as a 'lopsided' scheme leading to a 30% drop in award when transitioning to a 'Band 3' income.
- 8.4 **Adding more bands,** for example retaining 80% protection for non-vulnerable households with bands for 80/60/40/20% and vulnerable households with 100/80/60/40/20%. Would lead to more frequent award changes during the year and reduce savings by £930k.
- 8.5 **Disregarding other incomes,** for example from disability benefits, 'passported' benefits such as JobSeekers Allowance and between £10 and £25 of earnings. Would add complexity and reduce savings by £1.38m.
- 8.6 Reverting to the previous scheme with a higher minimum payment, or any other new method of calculation this would require a new consultation.

#### 9. Financial implications

9.1 The draft revenue budget 2025/26 assumes the following savings:

	25/26	26/27	27/28
	£,000	£,000	£,000
Revenue savings	2,400	2,400	2,400
Administration Saving	400	400	400
Less one-off revenue costs (IT)	(76)	0	0
Net Saving / (Cost)	2,724	2,800	2,800

9.2 The proposed scheme reduces this saving by £350k, updated savings in the table below:

	25/26	26/27	27/28
	£,000	£,000	£,000
Revenue savings	2,050	2,050	2,050
Administration Saving	400	400	400
Less one-off revenue costs (IT)	(76)	0	0
Net Saving / (Cost)	2,374	2,450	2,450

- 9.3 The proposal includes funding £250k of additional discretionary relief for the first two years of the scheme. This will be funded from the Welfare reserve.
- 9.4 The scheme savings will be shown in the council tax income lines and the administration saving will reduce the relevant budget ceiling in the revenue budget report.
- 9.5 It is recommended alternative savings are identified to mitigate against the £350k loss from the original proposals.

Amy Oliver, Director of Finance

### 10. <u>Legal implications</u>

- 10.1 Schedule 1A (3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, states that before making a scheme, the authority must:
  - consult any major precepting authority which has power to issue a precept to it,
  - publish a draft scheme in such manner as it thinks fit, and
  - consult such other persons as it considers are likely to have an interest in the operation of the scheme.
- 10.2 In addition, in order to set a new scheme, the City Council is obliged to make a resolution by 11th March of the year prior to the scheme coming into place. However this is only the statutory backstop date for approving a Scheme, and in practice it is not feasible to leave a decision until this date for the reasons set out in paragraph 7.1 above, i.e. that any amendment to the scheme must be agreed at January's Full Council on 16 January 2025 to allow the taxbase to be approved (which takes account of expenditure on CTSS).
- 10.3 The Scheme being put forward for adoption ("three or more children") is a foreseeable outcome of the original consultation exercise (two or more children"). The consultation has not revealed new issues or information that were not apparent before the consultation, such as have led to the modified proposals. There is no fundamental

difference between the proposal consulted upon and that which is being commended to Council that would trigger a duty to consult further.

Kamal Adatia, City Barrister, Ext 371401

# 11. **Equality implications**

Under the Equality Act 2010, public authorities have a Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) which means that, in carrying out their functions, they have a statutory duty to pay due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act, to advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't.

Protected Characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

The Act therefore imposes a duty on the Council, which is separate from the general duty not to discriminate. When a Council carries out any of its functions, including deciding the Council Tax Support scheme to be adopted, the Council must have due regard to the matters within the section of the Act outlined above.

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the proposed simplified "banded" council tax support scheme and the consultation results. An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) has been conducted for this specific piece of work and has been updated following the consultation. The EIA has identified that there will be a negative impact on some households that will no longer be in receipt of support and mitigating actions have been identified across the relevant protected characteristics.

Sukhi Biring and Surinder Singh, Equalities Officers

### 12. Climate Change implications

There are no significant climate change implications arising from this report.

Duncan Bell, Energy & Sustainability Service, Ext 372249

#### 13. Summary of appendices

Appendix 1: Proposed CTS Scheme

Appendix 2: Full Consultation Outcomes

Appendix 3: Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

Appendix 4: Case Studies

# 14. <u>Is this a private report (If so, please indicate the reasons and state why it is not in the public interest to be dealt with publicly)</u>

No.

# 15. <u>Is this a "key decision"?</u>

No, because it is not an Executive Decision but rather a Full Council Decision, and it thereby has its own public and scrutiny exposure.

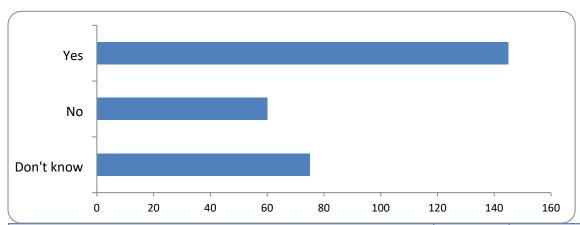
# 16. If a key decision please explain reason

# **Appendix 2: CTSS 25/26 Consultation Outcomes**

https://consultations.leicester.gov.uk/communications/council-tax-support-scheme-2025-26

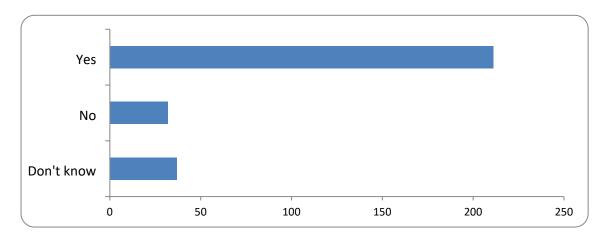
There were 280 responses.

## Do you support the introduction of a banded income scheme?



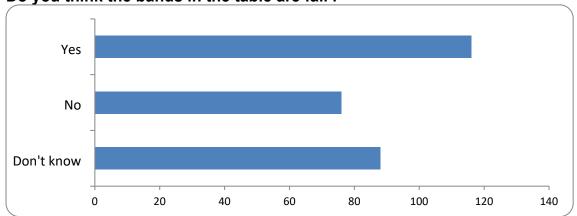
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	145	51.79%
No	60	21.43%
Don't know	75	26.79%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

# Do you support the measures to support vulnerable applicants?



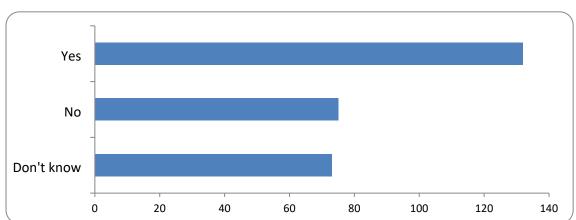
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	211	75.36%
No	32	11.43%
Don't know	37	13.21%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

Do you think the bands in the table are fair?



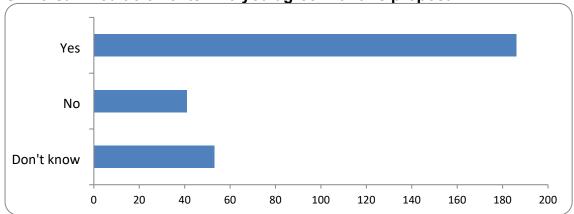
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	116	41.43%
No	76	27.14%
Don't know	88	31.43%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

# Non-Dependants - Do you agree with this proposal?



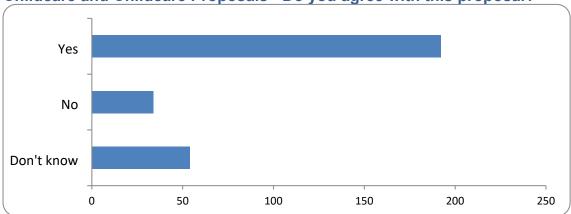
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	132	47.14%
No	75	26.79%
Don't know	73	26.07%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

Universal Credit elements - Do you agree with this proposal?



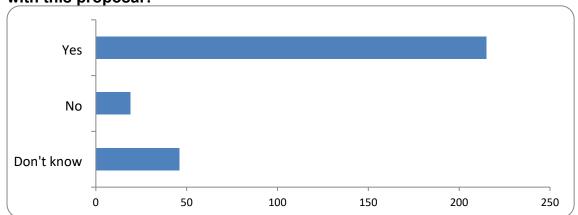
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	186	66.43%
No	41	14.64%
Don't know	53	18.93%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

Childcare and Childcare Proposals - Do you agree with this proposal?



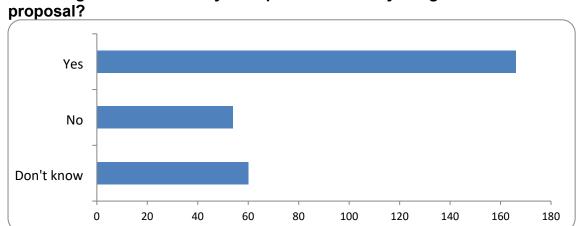
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	192	68.57%
No	34	12.14%
Don't know	54	19.29%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

Disregarding War Pensions and War Disablement Pensions - Do you agree with this proposal?



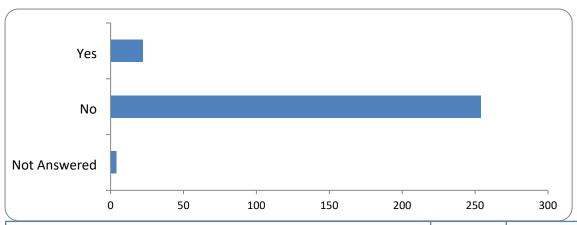
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	215	76.79%
No	19	6.79%
Don't know	46	16.43%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

Removing the Extended Payment provisions - Do you agree with this



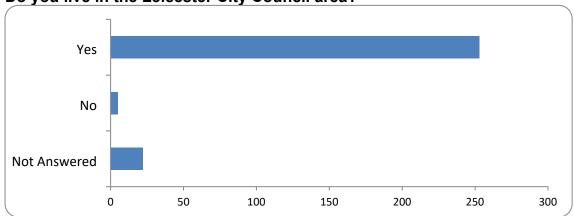
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	166	59.29%
No	54	19.29%
Don't know	60	21.43%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

Are you completing this form on behalf on an organisation / group? organisation / group



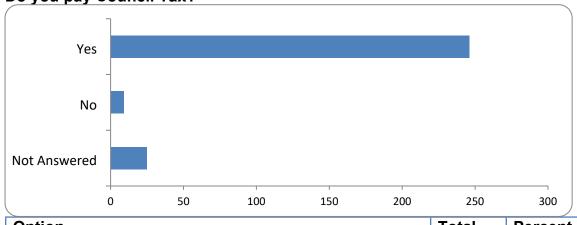
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	22	7.86%
No	254	90.71%
Not Answered	4	1.43%

Do you live in the Leicester City Council area?



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	253	90.36%
No	5	1.79%
Not Answered	22	7.86%

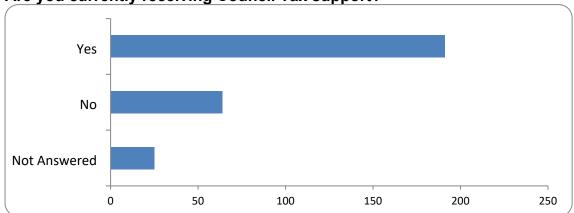
Do you pay Council Tax?



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	246	87.86%

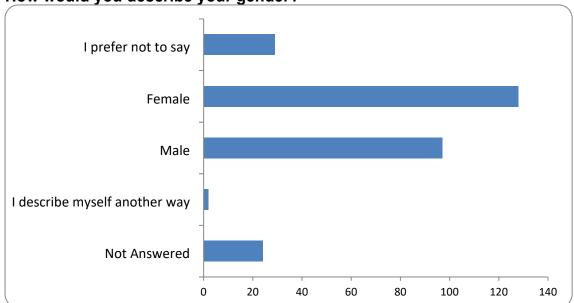
No	9	3.21%
Not Answered	25	8.93%

Are you currently receiving Council Tax support?



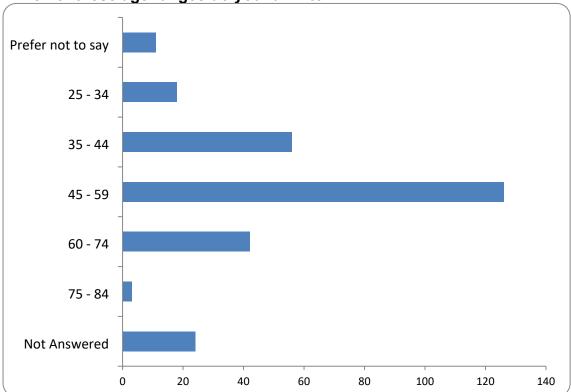
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	191	68.21%
No	64	22.86%
Not Answered	25	8.93%

How would you describe your gender?



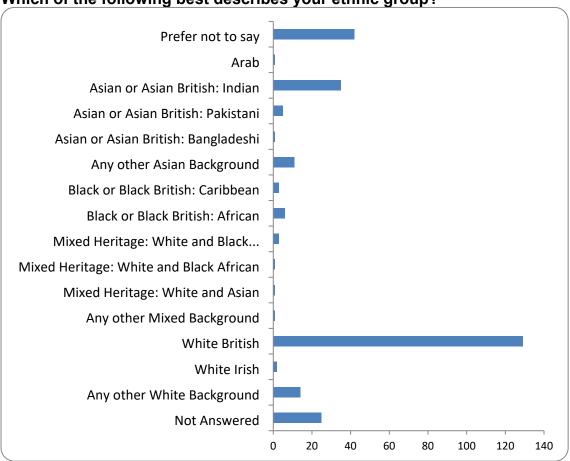
Option	Total	Percent
I prefer not to say	29	10.36%
Female	128	45.71%
Male	97	34.64%
I describe myself another way	2	0.71%
Not Answered	24	8.57%

Which of these age ranges do you fall into?



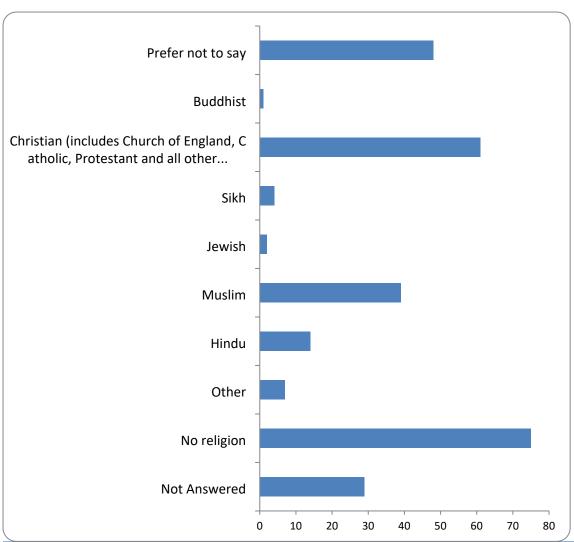
Option	Total	Percent
Prefer not to say	11	3.93%
16 - 24	0	0.00%
25 - 34	18	6.43%
35 - 44	56	20.00%
45 - 59	126	45.00%
60 - 74	42	15.00%
75 or over	0	0.00%
75 - 84	3	1.07%
85+	0	0.00%
Not Answered	24	8.57%

Which of the following best describes your ethnic group?



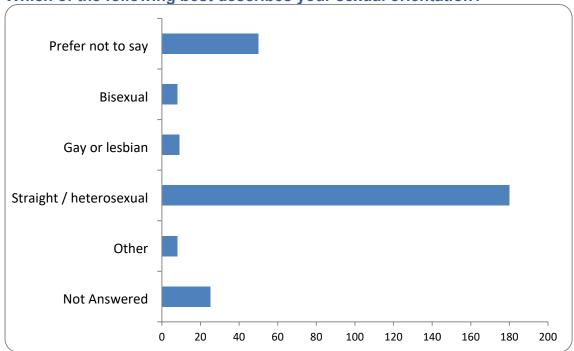
Option	Total	Percent
Prefer not to say	42	15.00%
Arab	1	0.36%
Asian or Asian British: Indian	35	12.50%
Asian or Asian British: Pakistani	5	1.79%
Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi	1	0.36%
Asian or Asian British: Chinese	0	0.00%
Any other Asian Background	11	3.93%
Black or Black British: Caribbean	3	1.07%
Black or Black British: African	6	2.14%
Any other Black Background	0	0.00%
Mixed Heritage: White and Black Caribbean	3	1.07%
Mixed Heritage: White and Black African	1	0.36%
Mixed Heritage: White and Asian	1	0.36%
Any other Mixed Background	1	0.36%
White British	129	46.07%
White Irish	2	0.71%
Any other White Background	14	5.00%
Not Answered	25	8.93%

What is your religion/belief?



Option	Total	Percent
-		17.14%
Prefer not to say	48	
Buddhist	1	0.36%
Christian (includes Church of England, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian Denominations)	61	21.79%
Sikh	4	1.43%
Jewish	2	0.71%
Muslim	39	13.93%
Hindu	14	5.00%
Other	7	2.50%
No religion	75	26.79%
Not Answered	29	10.36%

Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?



Option	Total	Percent
Prefer not to say	50	17.86%
Bisexual	8	2.86%
Gay or lesbian	9	3.21%
Straight / heterosexual	180	64.29%
Other	8	2.86%
Not Answered	25	8.93%

# Appendix 1 – Proposed Scheme and Examples of the Impact on Different Households

				Vulne	rable				0	ther	
Band	l Discount	Single Person	Couple with no children	Couple or Lone Parent with one child/young person	Lone Parent with two	Couple or Lone Parent with three or more children/young persons	Single	with no		-	Couple or Lone Parent with three or more children/young persons
	Weekly Net Income										
1	100%	£0 to £150	£0 to £150	£0 to £150	£0 to £200	£0 to £250	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2	75%	£150.01 to £225	£150.01 to £225	£150.01 to £300	£200.01 to £350	£250.01 to £400	£0 to £150	£0 to £150	£0 to £150	£0 to £200	£0 to £250
3	50%	£225.01 to £300	£225.01 to £300	£300.01 to £375	£350.01 to £400	£400.01 to £450	£150.01 to £225	£150.01 to £225	£150.01 to £300	£200.01 to £350	£250.01 to £400
4	25%	£300.01 to £375	£300.01 to £375	£375.01 to £450	£400.01 to £500	£450.01 to 550		£225.01 to £300	£300.01 to £375	£350.01 to £400	£400.01 to £450
5	0%	£375.01+	£375.01+	£450.01+	£500.01+	£550.01+	£300.01 +	£300.01 +	£375 +	£400.01 +	£450.01 +

Additional category (Couple/Lone Parent with three or more children/young persons) adopted following consideration of consultation feedback.

- Each qualifying non-dependant attracts a 20% reduction in entitlement.
- Vulnerable households are those with a claimant, partner or child receiving at least one qualifying income:
  - o Middle or Higher Rate Care component of the Disability Living Allowance
  - o Enhanced Rate Daily Living Component of Personal Independence Payments

- o Carers' Allowance or the Carer's Element of Universal Credit
- o Income-related Employment & Support Allowance
- o Support Component of contribution-based Employment & Support Allowance
- o UC with a Limited Capability for Work or Limited Capability for Work Related Activity Element
- o Households where a dependent child or young person is in receipt of a disability benefit.
- Child Benefit, Fostering Allowance, Child's Guardian's Allowance, Special Guardianship Allowance, Armed Forces Independence Payments, War Widow & War Disablement Pensions, Housing Benefit, Universal Credit Housing Costs & discretionary awards are disregarded.
- Childcare Disregards of up to £300 are deducted from income.
- Households with more than £6,000 in savings are ineligible.
- We will also offset disability-related income for second and subsequent household members (after the first), to ensure that multiply-disabled households are not disproportionately disadvantaged.

### Appendix 4 – Case Studies

## **CASE STUDY 1: How small changes impact CTS**

- Single adult, Band A property average 16 hours work per week + Universal Credit. £673 for the year, 10 x instalments of £67.
- Resident's bill is ultimately recalculated in total 9 times in 9 months each causes a new bill and reset payment plan, legal limit for next payment date is 14 days later to allow for the new bill to be received before it falls due this means that previously set payment dates are missed.
- Nov '23, income increased by £9.67 remaining instalments increased by £65.
- by Jan '24 £362.45 is due for the final instalment despite the resident having not missed a payment or failed to report a change, and their income having changed by no more than £30 per week.
- In this case we were able to make a special payment arrangement and extend payments to 12 months but many pay by 12 months as default this is by no means an extreme example.

### **Current CTSS:**

CT bill	CT liability outstanding	CT instalment	Monthly income	% of monthly income required
April	£673.20	£70.20	£676.20	10.4%
May	£673.20	£67	£676.20	9.9%
June	£611.70	£79.70	£682.95	11.7%
July	£656.56	£92.56	£737.03	12.6%
August	£881.39	£224.83	£862.80	26.1%
September	£603.44	£119.44	£737.03	16.2%
October	£484	£121.00	£737.03	16.4%
November	£363	£121.00	£737.03	16.4%
December	£372.27	£186.27	£746.70	24.9%
January	£362.45	£362.45	£737.03	49.2%

# **Proposed CTSS:**

CT bill	CT liability outstanding	CT instalment	Monthly income	% of monthly income required
April	£573.13	£57.34	£676.20	8.5%
May	£515.79	£57.31	£676.20	8.5%
June	£458.48	£57.31	£682.95	8.4%
July	£401.17	£57.31	£737.03	7.8%
August	£343.86	£57.31	£862.80	6.6%
September	£286.55	£57.31	£737.03	7.8%
October	£229.24	£57.31	£737.03	7.8%
November	£171.93	£57.31	£737.03	7.7%
December	£114.62	£57.31	£746.70	7.8%
January	£57.31	£57.31	£737.03	7.8%

# **CASE STUDY 2: Single Vulnerable Person**

- Resident in a band A property has an assessable income of £138.20 per week, including Employment & Support Allowance.
- Receives support of 100% of their Council Tax (increased from 80% under the current scheme)
- No income changes, so currently pays 10 x instalments of £23.

Household Income (weekly):

Employment & Support Allowance £90.50
E&SA Support Component £47.70
Housing Benefit (disregarded) £90
Council Tax Support (disregarded) £17.63
Total (including disregarded): £245.83

	Council Ta	ax Support	Council Tax to pay		
	Weekly	Annually	Weekly	Annually	
Current scheme	£17.63	£917	£4.41	£229.26	
Proposed scheme	£22.04	£1,146.26	£0	£0	
Better / worse off			+£4.41	+£229.26	

# CASE STUDY 3: Single Vulnerable Person, additional adult with earnings in property

- Resident has an assessable income of £224 per week including Personal Independence Payments (enhanced, daily living)
- Maximum support would be 100% of their council tax, but this reduces to 75% due to income.
- The additional adult further reduces support to 55% of tax.
- Support **increases** from 40% of tax under the current scheme.

### HOUSEHOLD INCOME (weekly):

Personal Independence Payments £108.55
Earned income (after tax/N.I.) £115.45
UC Housing Costs (disregarded) £115
Council Tax Support (disregarded) £11.76
Non-dependant income £220
Total: (including disregarded) £570.76

	Council 1	Council Tax Support		ax to pay
	Weekly	Annually	Weekly	Annually
Current scheme	£8.82	£458.50	£13.23	£687.75
Proposed scheme	£12.12	£630.44	£9.92	£515.82
Better / worse off			+£3.31	+£171.93

### **Current CTSS:**

CT bill	CT liability outstanding	CT instalment	Monthly income	% of monthly income required
April	£687.75	£68.82	£1924	3.6%
May	£687.75	£68.77	£1924	3.6%
June	£672.59	£91.70	£1953	4.7%
July	£747.50	£143.41	£1934	7.4%
August	£1,037.82	£142.92	£2104	6.8%
September	£734.05	£299.72	£1853	16.2%
October	£607.62	£159.25	£1910	8.3%
November	£469.86	£161.33	£1989	8.1%
December	£483.27	£248.36	£1996	12.4%
January	£483.27	£483.27	£1996	24.2%

# **Proposed CTSS:**

CT bill	CT liability outstanding	CT instalment	Monthly income	% of monthly income required
April	£515.82	£51.60	£1924	2.7%
May	£464.22	£51.58	£1924	2.7%
June	£412.64	£51.58	£1953	2.6%
July	£361.06	£51.58	£1934	2.7%
August	£481.41	£80.24	£2104	3.8%
September	£315.21	£63.05	£1853	3.4%
October	£252.16	£63.04	£1910	3.3%
November	£189.12	£63.04	£1989	3.3%
December	£126.08	£63.04	£1996	3.3%
January	£105.09	£63.04	£1996	3.3%

# **CASE STUDY 4: Two Child Family, Not Vulnerable**

- Resident and partner in a band A property have an assessable income of £370 per week.
- Child benefit is disregarded from the calculation of income.
- Receives support of 50% of their council tax bill.
- Support **decreases** from 80% under the current scheme)
- This household would be proactively targeted with council tax discretionary relief and other available discretionary support.

# **HOUSEHOLD INCOME (weekly):**

UC Personal Allowance Child Benefit (disregarded)	£120 £42.55
UC Housing Costs (disregarded)	£178.36
Council Tax Support (disregarded)	£23.51
CTDR (disregarded)	£5.88
DHPs (disregarded)	£16.64
Total: (including disregarded)	£636.94

	Council Ta	ax Support	Council Tax to pay	
	Weekly	Annually	Weekly	Annually
Current scheme	£23.51	£1,222.67	£5.88	£305.67
Proposed scheme	£14.70	£764.17	£14.70	£764.17
Better / worse off (average)			-£8.82	-£458.50

# **Current CTSS:**

CT bill	CT liability outstanding	CT instalment	Monthly income	% of monthly income required
April	£305.67	£30.63	£1,603	1.9%
May	£305.67	£30.56	£1,603	1.9%
June	£275.60	£35.07	£1,580	2.1%
July	£294.66	£40.73	£1,720	2.6%
August	£394.01	£98.93	£1,550	5.8%
September	£268.70	£52.55	£1,580	3.4%
October	£214.66	£53.24	£1,590	3.3%
November	£160.36	£53.24	£1,600	3.3%
December	£163.80	£81.96	£1,501	5.1%
January	£159.48	£159.48	£1,501	10.2%

# Proposed CTSS:

CT bill	CT liability outstanding	CT instalment	Monthly income	% of monthly income required
April	£764.17	£76.42	£1,603	4.8%
May	£687.75	£76.42	£1,603	4.8%
June	£611.33	£76.42	£1,580	4.8%
July	£936.18	£133.74	£1,720	7.8%
August	£401.22	£66.87	£1,550	4.3%
September	£334.35	£66.87	£1,580	4.2%
October	£267.48	£66.87	£1,590	4.2%
November	£200.61	£66.87	£1,600	4.2%
December	£133.74	£66.87	£1,501	4.5%
January	£66.87	£66.87	£1,501	4.5%