



**FEEDBACK / OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED  
DURING THE CONSULTATION STAGE OF  
THE  
REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS &  
POLLING PLACES**

October 2018



**The following feedback / observations were received during the consultation stage of the review of Polling Districts and Polling Places:**

<b>BROOKFIELD WARD</b>	
Received From:	<b>Councillor John Browne</b> , on behalf of himself, Councillor Nerys Eaves, Councillor Phillip Corker and County Councillor Kevin Ellard
<p><b>Comment Received:</b>  The arrangements regarding districts B, BB, BC and BD are all fine with us.</p> <p>Although we have been unhappy with the polling station situation regarding our residents in the district BA we do realise that there are no public buildings nearer to that district. We would prefer it if a portacabin or something similar could be used as a polling station there. People in the Ronaldsway area frequently comment and complain to us about the long distance that they have to travel to Greenlands School which is well out of their area.</p> <p>Regarding our `new` area P we think that given its proximity to Willow Crescent Community House and given that the residents have previously voted there and again given just how far they would have to walk to Greenlands School which is, we think, quite a bit further away, we believe that it would be better if the residents were allowed to continue to vote where they vote now.</p> <p>Whatever happens it is intended that Willow Crescent will remain a polling station at least for the time being. That station is much nearer to where those residents live. We feel that it would be common sense to leave things as they are.</p>	
<p><b>Response Given:</b>  <b>Polling District BA</b>  Since the closure of Golden Hill School around 2011/2012, it has been unfortunate that a suitable replacement premise has not been found within this polling district and electors have voted in the neighbouring polling district BB at Greenlands Primary School. For electors in the east of polling district BA Greenlands School is relatively close by, but for those in the west particularly Ronaldsway and Dalby Close they do have some distance to travel, however voter turnout remains good in this polling district. The provision of a temporary station was looked into immediately after Golden Hill School's closure, but there is not a suitable place to site a temporary unit and ramp. Due to the lack of alternatives and taking into account that electors have become accustomed to voting at Greenlands school, it was considered the best option for electors to remain voting at Greenlands School, however we will remain vigilant for suitable alternatives in the future.</p> <p><b>Polling District P</b>  Following the Boundary Commission review you have now gained Polling District P, where as you stated, the electors in this area previously voted at Willow Crescent Community House in Polling District PD. However, Polling District PD along with Willow Crescent Community House remain in Ribbleton ward. Whilst we do not take lightly the moving of electors to another polling station the Electoral Commission who oversee this review process state that the polling place must be in an area of the district ward unless special circumstances make it desirable to designate an area outside the district ward.</p>	

We also took into consideration the small size of Willow Crescent. The housing of 2 stations within this building is not suitable, as we discovered when trying this at the County Council elections in 2017. The proximity of 2 stations for different electoral divisions within the room caused cross ballot paper complications with electors returning ballots to the wrong ballot box during busy periods, this caused delays and issues at both electoral division counts.

**Outcome:**

No change to initial proposals

**FISHWICK & FRENCHWOOD WARD**

Received From:

**Councillor Yakub Patel**

**Comment Received:**

In connection with new Ward 'Fishwick and Frenchwood ' I have noticed that original polling stations at Christ the King High School has been taken off and the voters in UE district have to use Frenchwood County primary School as their polling station.

This change will upset a lot of residents in that polling district. This polling district is known as the Boulevard area which is close to river Ribble. In this district approximately 34% of the voters are OAP's and disabled people. Also there is an Old People's home too in the area. Even if they catch a bus to Frenchwood area, it's a good walk from the bus stop to the Frenchwood CP School. It's a big hill they have to climb too, so the walking is out of question. There are few residents who are on Postal Votes but some people like to vote in a traditional way. Whoever have decided this option, they have never thought about the difficulty it will cause for elderly and disabled people.

We supposed to encourage people to take part in the elections to promote the democracy of our country. Whilst I was talking to the local residents, they were very much upset, disturbed and dis-hearted about the whole issue believing 'our council never listen to its own people '.

I hope appropriate officers take the facts in consideration before they finalise the documents in connection with the same.

**Response Given:**

Thank you for your email regarding your concerns on the proposed polling arrangements for the new Fishwick & Frenchwood ward which will be taken into consideration when the final recommendations are submitted to the Council meeting on 18 October.

In the meantime could you please let me know the address of the old people's home as we keep a separate record of such premises in order that we can contact them directly to get residents registered.

**Outcome:**

Retain Polling District UE together with Christ The King Catholic High School as the polling station

**GARRISON WARD**

Received From:

**Councillor Stuart Greenhalgh****Comment Received:**

My comments refer only to the newly proposed Garrison Ward. Whilst I accept the need to try and balance numbers it does seem a little strange to merge DB with DC. Watling Street Road is a natural boundary and to make DB cross this busy road to get to DC might for some people be a little difficult. Is there any reason why DB cannot be merged with G and vote at the Lonsdale Club?

**Response Given:**

Unfortunately polling districts DB and G are in different County Council Divisions, which means we cannot merge these two areas (which would have been the preferred choice, so as not to change polling stations). That is why we have the DB/DC merger as they are in the same County Council Division.

The divisions are stated below for reference.

Limiting Factors:

Polling districts DB, DC, GA are in Preston Central East Division Polling district G is in Preston North Division Polling district GB is in Preston East Division

**Outcome:**

No change to initial proposals

**GARRISON WARD**

Received From:

**Councillor Harry Seddon****Comment Received:**

Regarding the above I wish to make the following comments

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Rather than move DB to DC elections should be moved to G.

This is the current station that DB electors use and has been for some years. It has the further advantage of removing the need for electors to cross Watling Street Road.

The effect on Electoral numbers would be marginal.

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D Polling District. Following modifications to access to the Station, I feel an inspection will reveal that it is now fully Disabled Access compliant.

**Response Given:**

Thank you for your email and comments.

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