

# POLLING DISTRICTS, PLACES AND POLLINGS STATIONS REVIEW (PDPPR) 2023

Electoral Registration Team



## BRIEFING NOTE

Plymouth City Council is carrying out a review of polling districts and polling places in the city and taking the opportunity to review its polling stations at the same time.

### Why we are doing it now?

We are statutorily required to undertake a review every five years. The last review for Plymouth City was conducted in 2018, so the next compulsory review must be undertaken and completed between 1 October 2023 and 31 January 2025.

The current average number of electors per polling station across the city is 1,464. In reality the variance is greater:

- Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel (Efford and Lipson Ward) - 568
- The Beacon. North Prospect Library (Ham Ward) – 3,113

There have been 9 elections, including by-elections, since the last polling district review. The final recommendations from the 2018 PDPPR was agreed by Full Council in September 2019, was scheduled to be implemented in the combined 2020 Local and Police and Crime Commissioner elections but because of Covid-19 was implemented in May 2021.

The Returning Officer has received a number of comments on the suitability, including locations, of the Council-agreed 2019 polling places/stations. As a response, reviews of the suitability of all polling stations have been done after every election since 2021.

Undertaking the work at this time ensures we are doing our statutory duty.

The proposed PDPPR timetable will be administered alongside the Local Government Electoral Commission review that will start in also October 2023.

The results of the proposed polling districts, polling places and polling stations review will be submitted to be agreed by Full Council in September 2024. The changes will be applied in the publication of the 2025 Revised Electoral Register and will be used in elections or referendums before the final recommendations from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is published and agreed by Parliament which is sometime in the autumn of 2025.

Pending the final recommendation from LGBCE, an additional PDPPR might need to be done to affected polling districts and Wards before the publication of the 2026 Revised Electoral Register (1 December 2025), which will be used in the May 2026 all-out local elections.

### What the review entails

A full polling place, polling district and polling station review will be conducted over the next 16 months ahead of potential boundary changes due to be introduced from September 2025 as a result of the LGBCE electoral review.

The review will consider any representations from local residents and stakeholders in the city, changes to polling places and stations made since 2019, and will seek to ensure:

- that all the electors in the constituency have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances.

- that so far as is reasonable and practicable, the polling places are accessible to all electors, and when considering the designation of a polling place, must have regard to the accessibility needs of disabled persons.
- that polling places are within their polling district unless special circumstances make it desirable to designate an area outside the polling district.

In encouraging views, it is of course the case that the availability of suitable polling places is the key determining factor in the makeup of polling districts. Therefore, in asking for comments, alternative proposals will be requested to be included in suggesting new polling station locations. In extreme circumstances where there is no local alternative available, the polling station can be placed outside the polling district, but this is not recommended in order to avoid confusion for electors. The type of situation where this might arise is in cases where the only possible location would be a building with unsatisfactory access or where it would otherwise be necessary to install a temporary station.

The number of potential polling stations across the city is limited with few viable alternatives to existing locations. The Electoral Commission recommends to adhere to the following parameters in the process of drawing up the districts:

- Polling districts need to contain suitable premises to be used as a polling place at an election time. Suitability is assessed on a number of criteria including availability, cost, voter convenience, accessibility and suitable working environment.
- There should be no more than 2,000 electors (excluding absent voters) allocated to a particular polling station to avoid queues and avoid major issues at each polling station.
- Polling stations should not have less than 1,000 electors registered to vote at them as this delivers poor value for money (cost per voter and staffing ratios).
- Polling district boundaries should be kept as close as possible to existing boundaries to provide a level of consistency for the voter.
- All suitable existing polling stations used for the 2023 election should be retained where possible.

The review will not be able to consider comments regarding the Parliamentary constituencies of Plymouth – Sutton and Devonport, Plymouth Moor View and South West Devon. The review does not apply to neighbouring parliamentary constituencies, local authority boundaries, the names of local authorities or other electoral areas within or bordering Plymouth City.

### Review Timetable:

Milestone Description	Target Date
Approval of the Briefing paper and Business case by Returning Officer and SEB	19 September 2023
Audit and Governance committee to support and note start of Polling Districts, Places and Polling Stations Review (PDPPR)	26 September 2023
Official publication of Notice of Review and initial draft PDPPR recommendations	6 November 2023
Opening of consultation	6 November 2023
Close of consultation	18 December 2023
Audit and Governance committee to consider draft PDPPR recommendations after consultation period (seven weeks)	12 March 2024

Audit and Governance committee to agree and endorse final PDPPR recommendations report to go to Council	June 2024
Cabinet Briefing	July 2024
City Council	September 2024
Publish new polling districts and polling places	September/October 2024
Publication of 2025 Revised Electoral Register	1 December 2024
Fallow Year (no scheduled local or national elections)	2025
LGBCE final recommendations published	May 2025 (TBC)
PDPPR for affected polling districts	From May 2025
LGBCE Final Recommendations agreed by Parliament	September 2025 (TBC)
New Polling Districts and Polling stations agreed by Council	October/November 2025
Publish new polling districts and polling places (affected Wards only)	October/November 2025
Publication of 2026 Revised Electoral Register	1 December 2025
Local Elections (All Out)	May 2026

## Analysis of Polling District with Electorate Totals for September 2023 Electoral Register

Ward	Polling District	Polling Station	Total electorate	Number with postal vote	Number of polling station electors	
Devonport	AA	Marlborough Primary Academy	2098	273	1825	
Devonport	AB	Salvation Army Hall	2480	296	2184	
Devonport	AC	Keyham Green Places Centre	2347	317	2030	
Devonport	AD	St. Thomas Church	1563	190	1373	
Devonport	AE	Mount Wise Neighbourhood Centre	2787	371	2416	
Ham	BA	St. Philips C of E Church Hall	1503	231	1272	
Ham	BB	Weston Mill Oak Villa Social Club	894	142	752	
Ham	BC	The Beacon, North Prospect Library	3639	526	3113	highest
Ham	BD	Morice Baptist Church	1546	237	1309	
Ham	BE	St. Pancras Church	3141	581	2560	
St.Budeaux	CA	Tamar View Community Resource Centre	1615	147	1468	
St.Budeaux	CB	The Barn	1601	300	1301	
St.Budeaux	CC	St. Boniface Church Hall	1933	303	1630	
St.Budeaux	CD	Plaistow Hill Infant & Nursery School	836	173	663	
St.Budeaux	CE	Kings Tamerton Community Centre	1982	370	1612	
St.Budeaux	CF	St. Pauls Church Hall - St Budeaux	1570	326	1244	
Honicknowle	DA	Honicknowle Youth & Community Centre	1344	178	1166	
Honicknowle	DB	Honicknowle Youth & Community Centre	1390	194	1196	
Honicknowle	DC	Mobile Unit at Chaucer Way	1618	235	1383	
Honicknowle	DD	Manadon Sports and Community Hub	1284	197	1087	
Honicknowle	DE	Ernesettle Community School	1440	212	1228	
Honicknowle	DF	St. Aidans Church Hall	1768	259	1509	
Honicknowle	DG	Knowle Primary School	1628	219	1409	
Budshead	EA	Mobile Unit at Canterbury Drive	1386	271	1115	
Budshead	EB	St. Peters RC Primary School	1433	195	1238	
Budshead	EC	Bethany Evangelical Church	1188	149	1039	
Budshead	ED	Salvation Army Community Hall	1342	249	1093	
Budshead	EE	Sea Cadet Building	808	167	641	
Budshead	EF	Manadon Masonic Hall	1054	141	913	
Budshead	EG	Derriford United Reformed Church Hall	1013	217	796	
Budshead	EH	Derriford United Reformed Church Hall	1658	337	1321	
Southway	FA	The Seven Stars Inn	1680	352	1328	
Southway	FB	Mobile Unit at Dunnet Road	1398	299	1099	
Southway	FC	Southway Youth Centre	1283	171	1112	
Southway	FD	Beechwood Primary Academy	1376	264	1112	
Southway	FE	Widewell Primary School	2151	447	1704	
Southway	FF	Church of the Holy Spirit	1474	242	1232	
Southway	FG	Mobile Unit at Staple Close	806	126	680	
Moor View	GA	Leigham Community Hall	2171	369	1802	
Moor View	GB	Mainstone Sports & Social Club	1172	245	927	
Moor View	GC	Elm Community Centre	1829	405	1424	
Moor View	GD	Thornbury Primary School	2177	392	1785	
Moor View	GE	St. Annes Church Hall - Glenholt	1902	484	1418	
Moor View	GF	Future Inn	935	152	783	
Eggbuckland	HA	Manadon Sports and Community Hub	2173	428	1745	
Eggbuckland	HB	Crownhill Methodist Church	833	150	683	
Eggbuckland	HC	Courtlands Special School Academy	1627	407	1220	
Eggbuckland	HD	The Village Hall	1417	303	1114	
Eggbuckland	HE	Crownlands Children Centre at Austin Farm Academy	2249	441	1808	
Eggbuckland	HF	Fort Austin	1755	304	1451	
Stoke	JA	Redeemer Church	2641	406	2235	
Stoke	JB	Stoke Damerel Centre	1818	284	1534	
Stoke	JC	Stoke Methodist Church	1521	208	1313	
Stoke	JD	Pilgrim United Reformed Church	2795	400	2395	
Stoke	JE	St. Marks Church	1263	157	1106	

Ward	Polling District	Polling Station	Total electorate	Number with postal vote	Number of polling station electors	
Devonport	AA	Marlborough Primary Academy	2098	273	1825	
Peverell	KB	St. Edwards Church	2332	343	1989	
Peverell	KC	St. Bartholomew's Church	1649	340	1309	
Peverell	KD	Holy Family Catholic Church	2417	374	2043	
Peverell	KE	Trinity United Reformed Church Hall	1365	276	1089	
Compton	LA	Mobile Unit at Kneele Gardens	793	110	683	
Compton	LB	Hill Lane Tennis Club	1785	355	1430	
Compton	LC	Compton Methodist Church Hall	2753	534	2219	
Compton	LD	Emmanuel Parish Hall	1942	408	1534	
Compton	LE	Mudley Baptist Church	2090	301	1789	
Drake	MA	Heritage Centre - Ford Park Cemetery	1682	235	1447	
Drake	MB	Sherwell United Church	1114	102	1012	
Drake	MC	Charles-with-St Matthias Church	1157	127	1030	
Drake	MD	Onward House Community Centre	2027	196	1831	
St.Peter and the Waterfront	NA	Plymouth Methodist Central Hall	1054	106	948	
St.Peter and the Waterfront	NB	The Burgess Hall	2567	393	2174	
St.Peter and the Waterfront	NC	Millbay Army Reserve Centre	1873	369	1504	
St.Peter and the Waterfront	ND	St. Pauls Church Hall	986	157	829	
St.Peter and the Waterfront	NE	Millfields Trust HQ Business Centre	1893	274	1619	
St.Peter and the Waterfront	NF	Cloisters In St. Peters Church	2214	240	1974	
St.Peter and the Waterfront	NG	Pilgrim Primary School	1544	195	1349	
Sutton and Mount Gould	OA	Mount Gould Methodist Church	1481	130	1351	
Sutton and Mount Gould	OB	St. Judes Church Hall	1592	139	1453	
Sutton and Mount Gould	OC	Salisbury Road Baptist Church Hall	1486	155	1331	
Sutton and Mount Gould	OD	Tohill Community Centre	1255	198	1057	
Sutton and Mount Gould	OE	Prince Rock Primary School	2942	360	2582	
Sutton and Mount Gould	OF	Tresillian Street Centre	1224	170	1054	
Efford and Lipson	PA	Mobile Unit at Kensington Road	1510	129	1381	
Efford and Lipson	PB	Foundation Block	1313	176	1137	
Efford and Lipson	PC	Laira Green Primary School	1357	186	1171	
Efford and Lipson	PD	Mobile Unit at the Corner of Pike Road	1499	271	1228	
Efford and Lipson	PE	Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel	681	113	568	Lowest
Efford and Lipson	PF	Mobile Unit Adjacent To Humber Close	848	173	675	
Efford and Lipson	PG	St. Pauls Church Community Hall	2762	374	2388	
Plympton Chaddlewood	QA	Chaddlewood Primary School	1503	262	1241	
Plympton Chaddlewood	QB	Buddies Bungalow, Glen Park Primary School	2185	386	1799	
Plympton Chaddlewood	QC	Chaddlewood Farm Community Centre	2419	382	2037	
Plympton St.Mary	RA	Woodford Methodist Church	2160	385	1775	
Plympton St.Mary	RB	St. Peters Lutheran Church	1353	221	1132	
Plympton St.Mary	RC	The Meeting Room	2649	522	2127	
Plympton St.Mary	RD	Colebrook Community Centre	1886	297	1589	
Plympton St.Mary	RE	Plympton Fire Station	2039	370	1669	
Plympton Erle	SA	St. Mary's Church Hall	2498	349	2149	
Plympton Erle	SB	Rees Youth & Community Centre	841	151	690	
Plympton Erle	SC	Plympton St Maurice Community Hall	1557	279	1278	
Plympton Erle	SD	Yealmpstone Farm Primary School	1946	328	1618	
Plymstock Radford	TA	Oreston Methodist Church	1745	302	1443	
Plymstock Radford	TB	Hooe Baptist Church	2801	565	2236	
Plymstock Radford	TC	The Beckly Centre	1875	417	1458	
Plymstock Radford	TD	Plymstock Sports Pavilion	2184	436	1748	
Plymstock Radford	TE	Pomphlett Methodist Church Hall	2619	333	2286	
Plymstock Dunstone	UA	Staddiscombe Club Function Room	2676	376	2300	
Plymstock Dunstone	UB	Plymstock Bowling Club	1903	494	1409	
Plymstock Dunstone	UC	Elburton Village Hall	2193	505	1688	
Plymstock Dunstone	UD	Fairway Furniture	1597	385	1212	
Plymstock Dunstone	UE	St. Matthews Church	1696	304	1392	