

Area	Feedback	
South Abingdon	"With respect to polling stations,I live South Abingdon and I've always thought why not use the Rugby Club in Lambrick way. With many people now in the new houses the impact on the Preston Road could be relieved by using this Space which can serve The Marina, Andersey Way Wilsham Road plus Metcalfe Close Crosedale and other roads in the area, perhaps to Bakers Rd."	Officers consider that the current polling station at Preston Road Community Centre offers a more convenient location for the majority of electors in the polling district. Officers will investigate the use of the Rugby Club as an alternative venue if the Community Centre is unavailable.
Schools	"I would make a comment about the use of schools as polling stations. As a parent I have had to take a number of days of work in the past because my child's school has been closed due to being used as a polling station. I believe that it should be perfectly possible for a school to act as a polling station and to provide education for children at the same time. However, all my previous conversations with Head Teachers and Governors has convinced me that schools are unable or unwilling to allow their building a to be used for both activities at the same time. As a result the school closes and parents are left with a short notice requirement to find childcare. As a result I feel that schools should not be used as polling stations unless every other option has been investigated and rejected as	The council has operated a policy not to use school buildings, where an alternative venue exists, unless the head teacher confirms that they are happy for the school to remain open on election day.
Abingdon Wildmoor	Having been involved in canvassing at the recent local elections, I would like to comment that the polling station arrangements for Abingdon Wildmoor be reviewed. A lot of residents stated they would not go and vote because their polling station was too far away.	Electors are currently required to vote in the neighbouring polling district. Officers have not located a suitable venue within Abingdon Fitzharris Wildmoor.
Steventon/Wantage	The general view was that the polling stations should: - have disabled access - have parking available - not cause disruption to education - not chop and change locations Specifically, in Steventon, the Council should consider having stations on either side of the railway line – the wait at the level crossings can be very long and may deter voting. Also, in Wantage where a busy main road (such as the A417 Reading Road) has to be crossed by the electorate to reach the polling station, this is potentially unsafe. If possible an alternative location should be sought, for example, the Charlton Village church hall, or the Cricket Club."	In respect of the provision of a polling station in Steventon officers consider that Steventon Village Hall provides a suitable venue for all electors in the village. The provision of an additional venue for 127 electors is not required. In respect of Wantage a zebra crossing provides a safe alternative means of crossing the road for pedestrians.
Harwell	"I'd like to put forward my concerns with the current boundaries of the South Oxfordshire and Vale districts. Really, the Harwell section of great western park (east of the A34) should be on South Oxfordshire and not Vale. It's a part of didcot, connected too and also community wise. This also means I believe that it should also come under the Didcot Parish and not Harwell. Please take into consideration these suggestions as I do believe that the districts currently drawn do not reflect the local area and its communities."	The boundary between districts is not a matter for this review and not an issue the council can change. The power to alter district council boundaries is within the remit of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.