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Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 5:23 PM
To: Electoral Enquiries
Subject: PDR Response - Helen Hayes MP

Dear Duncan,

Please find my response to the 2017 review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations below.

With best wishes,

Helen Hayes
MP for Dulwich and West Norwood

Dulwich Hill

The Dawsons Heights estate on Overhill Road is very isolated and many residents do not leave the estate after dark. Many feel excluded from voting after dark because of the location of the current polling station on the Lordship Lane estate and are unlikely to make the journey to Christ Church Barry Road. I would therefore like to suggest splitting the current southerly polling district into two along Upland Road, with the new most southerly polling district served by a new polling station in the Community Room on the Dawsons Heights estate. Southern Housing have already indicated that they will look positively on a request from the council for a new polling station in this location.

Dulwich Wood

The boundaries and polling stations for the north western, central and southern polling districts are well known and as accessible as possible for local residents. The proposal to make the Sydenham Hill Tenants and Residents Association Hall the polling station for a single north easterly polling district is however not a good idea.

Residents of the current COL5 College ward polling district generally face north in terms of travel, shopping and leisure and would have no reason to ever encounter the Sydenham Hill estate. The ward councillors have held a regular monthly surgery on the estate for almost eight years, including myself for six years. While the venue is a very positive one for residents of the estate and their nearby neighbours on Sydenham Hill and Highwood Close, it is difficult to find. Most months the councillors will receive telephone calls from residents who live in other parts of the current College ward but are unable to find the T&RA hall.

I would therefore like to propose that the polling district boundaries for the current COL3 polling district are retained with the current polling station (Sydenham Hill T&RA Hall), with an additional fifth polling district at the current COL5 polling station (Bew Court, Lordship Lane estate) serving the parts of the new Dulwich Wood ward within the current COL5 polling district (ie north of Dulwich Common and the section of Lordship Lane from the junction with Dulwich Common to the junction with Sydenham Hill).

Dulwich Village

The polling district boundaries seem sensible and the existing polling stations are well known and are close to major roads and transport links.

Goose Green

Amott Road Baptist Church is not a well known venue for most residents of the north-easterly polling district, particularly those residents in the current Peckham Rye ward. It is also at the very far edge of the polling district in a location that very few people would pass. A far preferable location for the polling station would therefore be the Goose Green Centre, 62A East Dulwich Road, London SE22 9AT which is next to St John the Evangelist Church on East Dulwich Road. The Goose Green Centre is well known, prominently located and close to major bus routes and on the way to/from the two local primary schools (Goose Green, St John's and St Clement's) and East Dulwich station, making it an easy location to vote.

The north westerly polling district is oddly shaped and it would be better if the boundary for this ran down Grove Vale, Lordship Lane and East Dulwich Grove.

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