

Interim Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2026

Acting Returning Officer's proposals | Broadland District Council

DOCUMENT STATUS
Final version

PURPOSE
Proposals for consultation

COUNCIL AREA
Broadland

Polling District / Parish	Ward	Current Polling Station	Proposed new Polling Station(s)	ARO's comments
BAY1A, BAY1B AND BAY1C / AYLSHAM	Aylsham	Aylsham Town Hall, Market Place, Aylsham, NR11 6EL	Aylsham Town Hall, Market Place, Aylsham, NR11 6EL Aylsham Friendship Hall, 38 Mill Road, Aylsham, NR11 6DS Youngs Park Community Function Room, Cawston Road, Aylsham, NR11 6UJ	Option 1: Retain the Existing Split Polling District Arrangement Current arrangement. BAY1/1 and BAY1/2 are currently served through a split polling district arrangement, with electors allocated to separate polling stations operating from the same polling place. This arrangement has operated effectively, but Aylsham's electorate has grown significantly and is expected to increase further as residential development continues. Implications. The existing polling district boundaries would remain unchanged, and Aylsham Town Hall would continue to serve as the polling place. This would minimise disruption for electors familiar with the current arrangements and avoid the need for immediate boundary changes. However, continued electorate growth may place increasing pressure on capacity and require further split polling station arrangements at future elections. Option 2: Create Two Additional Polling Districts Within Aylsham Proposed arrangement. The existing split arrangement would be replaced by three polling districts: BAY1A, BAY1B

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				and BAY1C. Electors would be distributed across three polling places, reducing pressure on individual polling stations and improving the resilience of polling arrangements across the town. Polling places. Aylsham Town Hall would be retained for BAY1A. The availability of Aylsham Friendship Hall on Mill Road for BAY1B and Youngs Park Community Function Room at Aylsham Football Club for BAY1C has also been confirmed. Benefits. Creating the additional polling districts would: • provide greater flexibility to manage future electorate growth; • locate polling places closer to residential areas, improving accessibility; • reduce the number of electors allocated to each polling station; and • allow more polling station teams to operate across the town, supporting efficient polling day operations. Further information. A map showing the proposed polling district boundaries is available on the review webpage.
BCL1 / COLTISHALL	Coltishall	Coltishall Church Room, Rectory Road, Colitshall, NR12 7HP	Coltishall Village Hall, Rectory Road, Coltishall, NR12 7HL	Option 1: Retain the Existing Polling Station at the Church Room Current arrangement. The Church Room is familiar to local electors, and retaining it would maintain continuity.

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				Implications. The venue is small, has limited space and no dedicated parking, which may affect accessibility and its longer-term suitability. Option 2: Relocate the Polling Station to the Village Hall Proposed arrangement. Relocate the polling station to Coltishall Village Hall, which offers more space and better voter flow. Accessibility and parking. Dedicated parking would improve access and reflect existing travel patterns, as many electors already park there. Benefits. The Village Hall would provide a more spacious, accessible and practical long-term polling place within the village.
BOC1B / OLD CATTON	Old Catton and Sprowston West	The Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Church Street, Old Catton, NR6 7DS	St Margaret's Church Hall, Blacksmiths Way, Old Catton, NR6 7 DT	Option 1: Return to The Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Old Catton Current position. The Pavilion is the polling place identified in the current polling scheme. It was unavailable throughout 2026 while refurbishment works were undertaken, and an alternative venue was therefore used. Venue considerations. The Pavilion is a well-known community facility within Old Catton, serving as both the parish hall and a focal point for local activity. However, it adjoins the primary school and shares access arrangements with the school site.

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				Option 2: Remain at St Margaret's Church Hall, Blacksmiths Way, Old Catton Current arrangement. St Margaret's Church Hall was used as the polling place while The Pavilion was undergoing refurbishment. Benefits. The venue proved to be a successful replacement. It is located on a quiet road and provides good parking facilities, supporting convenient access for electors.