## Elaine Bradbrook

From:

Elaine Bradbrook

Sent:

08 November 2023 11:40

To:

Sue Hackman

Cc:

Subject:

RE: Feedback from Guildford Labour on polling stations [UNC]

Categories:

Egress Switch: UNCLASSIFIED

Switch-MessageId:

5dc45311a17d4b2a98025720d9146ad9

Dear Sue

Thank you for your comments and I will try to visit the Bushy Hill Community Centre and Youth Centre in Worplesdon if they are willing to be considered as a polling station.

For the Onslow area we previously used the Church on Guildford Park Road, the reason we changed was that once the new housing is built behind the church there will no parking for staff. As you can imagine the amount of paperwork, ballot papers, etc that the Presiding Officer must take to the polling station at 6:15 am and then transport form the polling station to the count at 10.15pm is significant. We do need to provide parking for the Presiding Officer at least unfortunately, in that area there is not parking at the church, the off-street parking is controlled by Surrey County Council who will not issue a day pass or guarantee parking for our staff. The nearest car park would be the Farnham Road multi storey and this is to far from the church for the staff to be able to securely transport ballot papers.

We changed the polling station last year during the polling district and places review after the Borough Boundary changes, at the time we did discuss this with Angela Goodwin as the local Councillor and although she would have preferred to keep using the church, she understood that once the building work starts in the car park, we would be unable to continue to use the church. It was felt by the RO that we should move the polling station before the building works start in the hope the electorate would become used to the new polling station. We only received one complaint on polling day in May, about this change of venue. If another venue become available in the area we would of course be willing to consider this in the future.

Kind Regards

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Guildford Borough Council

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