

## Consultation Responses

### **From a Councillor**

Some electors in Clissold have to walk past a polling station to get to their polling station.

#### Response:

*This is due to a lack of available facilities for voting in Polling District HNFC, and restrictions on the size of buildings in the area. A meeting has been held with the Councillor where it was agreed that we will continue to look for a suitable building in HNFC, but in the meantime are confident that the current arrangements offer the best possible facilities for voters in Clissold ward as a whole.*

### **From an MP**

In Kings Park Ward, suggesting replacing Daubeney Children's Centre with Seventh Day Adventist Church to avoid the closure of the Children's Centre on Polling day.

#### Response:

*This change would not require a change to either Polling Districts or Polling Places, as both buildings are within those boundaries. The precise location of polling stations within the polling place is determined by the Returning Officer. However, the Returning Officer carried out a review of all polling stations that required an educational establishment to be closed in 2017, and moved most to another location. This one was not moved as it was because several representations were received advancing the view that we should not be increasing the number of religious buildings that we use, because (in the opinion of the responders) their use discouraged certain residents from voting. The Returning Officer accepted that and we could not find a suitable replacement for Daubeney Children's Centre.*

### **From a disabled Elector**

I live on Southwold Road. As a manual wheelchair user who pushes himself, my nearest polling station Place 32 in the Lea Bridge ward has always been up hill (steep) , making it extremely tiring to get to and dangerous as I could tilt back. Last time the access was from the playground area that had a very long and steepish ramp going up to the polling area. I do not do postal voting as I often forget to post things and I don't trust postal voting.

#### Response:

*This area is particularly difficult in terms of locations for polling stations, and the only suitable building is the polling station already selected. We will however look at access in terms of the ramp and whether we can change the access point and/or the gradient of it. Unfortunately there is little we can do about the topography of the borough as a whole.*