

## **Polling Stations**

Issues arising for PCCE 5 May 2016

**The Orb Public House**, Ramsgate Road, has no disabled access, which means the presiding Officer has to make provision to see electors outside and enable the electors to vote and place their ballot paper in the ballot box. There is very limited choice to venues in this area that could be used as a polling station. Electors have been advised that if this causes them a problem they can apply for a postal vote

**Lesters Public House**, Ramsgate Road, have refused to allow us to use this property as a polling station. A new venue has been found at Salmestone Grange. Electors have been advised of the change of venue and that access is via a gravel driveway and if this causes a problem access wise, they can apply for a postal vote.

**Echo Shop**, Plains of Waterloo, is no longer a suitable venue, and this has been changed to the Comfort Inn Ramsgate, Victoria Parade. Electors have been advised of this change and that they may apply for a postal vote if access may cause them a problem.

**St Lawrence College**, College Road, hall used has access issues for elector, as this is via a walk way where young school children walk. This is a security and safety problem for the school. But also causes electors access issues and security does not always allow electors through the gate. Remedy is to use another building, The Grange, on the other side of the road, away from the main school, with it's own car parking area which can be used by electors.

Issues arising for EU Referendum 23 June 2016

In addition to the changes noted above:

**Botany Bay Hotel**, Kingsgate Avenue, use of the usual room is not suitable as not large enough and accessed via the main bar area, which caused problems if there are electors queuing to vote. Solution is to use the Kingsgate room, which is much larger, has separate access and is more suited to such a large election. Electors will be advised of change o room and access will be from Kingsgate Avenue only.

The following stations will be split into 2 polling stations (doubles) for the Referendum to ensure electors can access the station easily with least likelihood of queues. The Chief Counting Officer has directed that any stations that have more than 2000 potential electors should be split to reduce the maximum to 2000 at each station. Some of the double stations will have 2 presiding officers (one on each station), plus all necessary poll clerks appointed in accordance with the guidance issued.

Some may have 1 Presiding Officer to run both stations, plus all necessary poll clerks appointed in accordance with the guidance issued. This will only be done in those areas where the numbers are only a small amount more than 2000 electors, and where May 2015 election turnout was lower than the whole district.

These venues are considered large enough to be able to have 2 stations set up within the building.

St Philips Church, Summerfield Road, Margate
Surestart, Millmead Children`s Centre, Dane Valley Road
Racing Greyhound, 227 Hereson Road
Methodist Church Hall, High Street, Garlinge
Kent Innovation Centre, Thanet Reach Business Park, Millennium Way
Christ Church Hall, Westgate Bay Avenue, Westgate-on-Sea
Crampton Function Hall, Crampton Tower Museum, The Broadway
St Marks Church Hall, Pysons Road, Ramsgate
Council Chamber, Pierremont Hall, Pierremont Avenue
Ramsgate Youth Centre, High Street, St Lawrence
Mulberry Room, Portland Centre, Hopeville Avenue, Broadstairs
Westgate Community Centre, Lymington Road, Westgate-on-Sea
Minster Village Hall, High Street, Minster