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## **GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, 25th October, 2023 at 7.00 pm in the Conference Room, Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield, EN1 3XA**

### **Membership:**

co :Thomas Fawns (Chair), Ayten Guzel (Vice-Chair), Nawshad Ali, Alessandro Georgiou, Nelly Gyosheva, Joanne Laban, Elisa Morreale, Sabri Ozaydin, Michael Rye OBE and Peter Nwosu

### **AGENDA – PART 1**

- 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 1 - 10)**
  
- 6. ANNUAL CORPORATE COMPLAINTS AND ANNUAL STATUTORY COMPLAINTS INCLUDING ANNUAL REPORT FROM LG OMBUDSMAN (Pages 11 - 16)**

To note the Annual Complaints Report 2022/23, the actions proposed for improvement, and the findings from the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman's and the Housing Ombudsman Service annual letter.

- 7. REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS & POLLING STATIONS (Pages 17 - 56)**

To seek approval to the list of proposed new polling buildings/locations to be designated as polling stations.

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**GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE - 28.6.2023****MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 28TH JUNE, 2023**

**MEMBERS:** Councillors Thomas Fawns (Chair), Nawshad Ali, Nelly Gyosheva, Elisa Morreale, Sabri Ozaydin (Chief Whip), Michael Rye OBE, Paul Pratt and Edward Smith

**Officers:**

Fay Hammond (Executive Director Resources), Kevin Bartle (Interim Director of Finance), Gemma Young (Head of Internal Audit and Risk Management), Terry Osborne (Director of Law and Governance), Claire Reilly (Head of Policy & Contract Development), Michael Sprosson (Head of Procurement Services) and Annette Trigg (Chief Accountant)

**Apologies:** Councillors Joanne Laban, Alessandro Georgiou, Ayten Guzel. Penny Halliday (Acting Director Meridian Water)

**1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from;  
Cllr Joanne Laban, substituted by Cllr Edward Smith  
Cllr Alessandro Georgiou substituted by Cllr Paul Pratt  
Cllr Ayten Guzel

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In relation to item 5 Cllr Michael Rye declared that he was a Governor at St Andrews School (Enfield) CE Primary School.

**3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**AGREED** that the minutes of the previous meetings held on 19 January and 16 March 2023 be confirmed as a correct record.

**4. 2022-23 ANNUAL COUNTER FRAUD REPORT**

Gemma Young (Head of Internal Audit and Risk Management) presented this item highlighting the key points from the report, including overpayments being identified and potential savings of £2.6m, mainly through National Fraud Initiative data experts, right to buy clams and financial investigations.

An area of increased activity in the past year has been in relation to the investigation of secondary employment where there have been 5 cases in Enfield. Training has been provided to prevent secondary employment issues and whistleblowing has been promoted.

## **GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE - 28.6.2023**

In responding to members' questions, Officers explained they have recovered 8 Council properties this year and are keen to increase the recovery rate arising from housing fraud.

**NOTED** the 2022-23 Annual Counter Fraud Report.

### **5. 2022-23 ANNUAL DATA PROTECTION OFFICER REPORT**

Gemma Young (Head of Internal Audit and Risk Management) introduced the report which explained that there had been some 99 corporate breaches during the year, with just 5 needing to be referred to the ICO and none of which resulted in any action being taken. Data protection impact assessments had been made more user friendly and officers had run an awareness campaign on the new process. Corporate training has been delivered to staff and members, including Lunch & Learn sessions. Specific training was provided for staff in the People department.

There has been positive engagement from Schools. A total of 44 breaches were reported, 9 of which met the threshold to be reported to the ICO. No further action was taken as the schools had taken steps to mitigate the risks.

In response to a specific question from members, officers confirmed that no members had lost any devices. Officers confirmed that if a device is lost it can be wiped remotely.

**NOTED** the 2022-23 Annual Data Protection Officer Report.

### **6. 2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT ON CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES, WAIVERS AND PROCUREMENT SERVICES UPDATE**

Michael Sprosson (Head of Procurement Services) and Claire Reilly (Head of Policy and Contract Development) presented this item highlighting the key points from the report, including the new procurement service and the emerging Procurement Bill which will require enhanced transparency and, therefore, more reporting. The Bill is going for its third and final reading in the House of Commons and implementation is expected in October 2024.

**ACTION: Michael Sprosson to send link to procurement self-service intranet page**

In response to members' questions on low carbon footprint measures, officers explained that they do not have this yet but are working with the internal climate action team and external partners.

## **GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE - 28.6.2023**

In response to members' questions, officers confirmed that the translation service is a pay by use service, and that the cycle to work scheme is run by HMRC and has a zero cost to the Council.

Officers also confirmed that the waste collection software will optimise the efficiency of routes. The car park AMPR software helps to improve security and has the function to make charges for parking. Members commented that in future they wish to see contract lengths and costs included in the report.

**ACTION:** Claire Reilly to confirm length and cost of the translation service contract.

**NOTED** the 2022-23 Annual Report on Contract Procedure Rules, Waivers and Procurement Services Update

### **7. BDO PROGRESS REPORT ON THE EXTERNAL AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS**

Kevin Bartle (Interim Director of Finance) presented this item explaining that there is ongoing disappointment that BDO could not attend again this evening, and would not be present for the July meeting despite officers' attempts to encourage their attendance.

BDO will be reporting back to the Council in October. The Government has appointed Neil Harrison to resolve the national audit issue and are committed to resolving the problem. Members expressed their dissatisfaction.

Members agreed to invite the Leader of the Council to write to BDO to express the Council's dissatisfaction and the expectation that BDO will attend future meetings of the General Purposes Committee and provide an action plan to address how they will complete all audits up to 2022/23.

**NOTED** the BDO Progress Report on the External Audit of Accounts

### **8. THE AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICE PROGRESS UPDATE**

Gemma Young (Head of Internal Audit and Risk Management) introduced the report, explaining that the Audit Plan for 2022/23 is 85% complete. The Audit Plan will be coming to the committee in July.

Members had questions on what schools are doing to turn around their progress. Officers explained that schools have agreed timelines set to undertake the agreed actions, and progress would be monitored and reported back to committee in due course.

In response to members' questions regarding the audit of the Dugdale, officers confirmed it is common practice for the Chief Executive to make an audit request if he feels there are issues that need to be reviewed.

## **GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE - 28.6.2023**

Kevin Bartle (Interim Director of Finance) confirmed his team have now provided the information required on their audit in relation to budget and forecasting. Colleagues are confident the actions in place will be sufficient.

**NOTED** the ARMS Progress Update

### **9. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2022/23**

Kevin Bartle (Interim Director of Finance) and Annette Trigg (Chief Accountant) introduced the item confirming that Enfield Council achieved publication of its Statement of Accounts by the required deadline and that the Council was one of eight London Boroughs to meet the deadline. The report included the draft 2022/23 Statement of Accounts and provided an update on the audit status for each year of the open accounts. London Borough of Enfield has open, unaudited accounts for the three financial years 2019/20, 2020/21, and 2021/22.

Following a query from Members, officers explained that the fundamental issue are, unlike with NHS audits, there is no deadline date for our external auditors to complete their audit, and this is unsatisfactory. The PSA previously attended the committee and explained the new contracting arrangements and why they would lead to improvements in service delivery and timeliness.

**NOTED** the 2022/23 Statement of Accounts

### **10. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2022/23**

Kevin Bartle (Interim Director of Finance) presented this item, highlighting the key points.

The Finance Improvement Board (soon to be called 'Financial Resilience Board') is an internal board which was set up two years ago to drive continuous finance improvement. The Board is chaired by the Finance Director.

**AGREED** to approve the draft Annual Governance Statement 2022-23, for inclusion in the Council's draft 2022-23 statement of accounts.

### **11. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

**NOTED** the future meeting dates.

### **12. PART 2 - EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**AGREED** to pass a resolution under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972 excluding the press and public from the meeting for the items of business listed on part 2 of the agenda on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in those paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006).

**GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE - 28.6.2023**

**13. MERIDIAN WATER RISK REGISTER**

The confidential report provided an update on the Meridian Water Risk Register.

**AGREED** that the report be noted.

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## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 26TH JULY, 2023**

**MEMBERS:** Councillors Thomas Fawns (Chair), Ayten Guzel (Vice Chair), Nawshad Ali, Alessandro Georgiou, Nelly Gyosheva, Joanne Laban, Elisa Morreale, Sabri Ozaydin and Michael Rye OBE

**Officers:**

Fay Hammond (Executive Director Resources, Kevin Bartle (Interim Director of Finance), Gemma Young (Head of Internal Audit and Risk Management), Jeanne Edeam (Exchequer Mgr Accounts P & R) and, Robyn McIntock (Governance Officer)

### **1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

No apologies were received.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Mike Rye declared a non-pecuniary interest as at the time the audit took place he was a Governor at St Andrews school.

### **3. INVOICE PAYMENTS - CONTROLS IN PLACE**

Jeanne Edeam (Exchequer Mgr Accounts) introduced the report. The report was brought to committee as requested by Cllr Ali to look into the controls in place for invoice payments. The controls from the audit recommendation have been fully implemented.

Officers explained that training is offered on procedures for invoices and there is resources on the intranet including user guides. The team also offer a drop-in session once a month.

Members had queries on why some invoices were processed outside of Neptune. Officers explained that the system allows invoices to be paid but refunds are done outside of the system. Non invoiced payments also are paid outside of Neptune.

Following a question from Members on checks done for invoicing, Officers explained that a check list has been made for the team which is used on a daily basis.

**GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE - 26.7.2023**

**4. AUDIT & RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICE PROGRESS REPORT**

Gemma Young presented this item explaining that one audit report has already been finalised this year.

No changes were made to the 2023-24 Internal Audit Plan between the last meeting of the Committee and 31 May 2023. There have been no audits in this time with a No or Limited assurance opinion issued.

NOTED the report.

**5. 2022-23 ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT**

Gemma Young presented this item highlighting the key points from the report explaining that we are in a similar position to last year. There has been only one outstanding high-risk action at year end.

Members raised questions on the household support fund and holiday and food grant. Officers explained that this was in addition to the audit plan. Overall, it was found that there was a lack of documentation to support expected design, operation and controls. There was also no opportunity for anyone applying for the grant to declare an interest. Officers explained that this was administered during covid which meant that design controls were limited. Grants are no longer being administered in the same way.

**ACTION:** Gemma Young to provide timeline for audit of the Household support fund and holiday food grant

Following a query from Members on the business rates process Officers explained that the high risk findings were based on how we were billing people which has now been resolved.

**6. 2022-23 ANNUAL SCHOOLS INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT**

Gemma Young explained that due to an administrative error, the report for this item had not been published. The report will be made available to Members via email and will be formally brought to the committee at the next meeting of the General Purposes Committee.

**7. GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT AND FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME 23/24**

NOTED the report and future work programme.

Members commented that last year Councillor Bedekova was a fantastic Chair and that the work done by the Committee has contributed to the Council being a better place.

**8. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

NOTED the dates of the future meetings.

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# Housing

Ombudsman Service

# LANDLORD PERFORMANCE REPORT

2022/2023

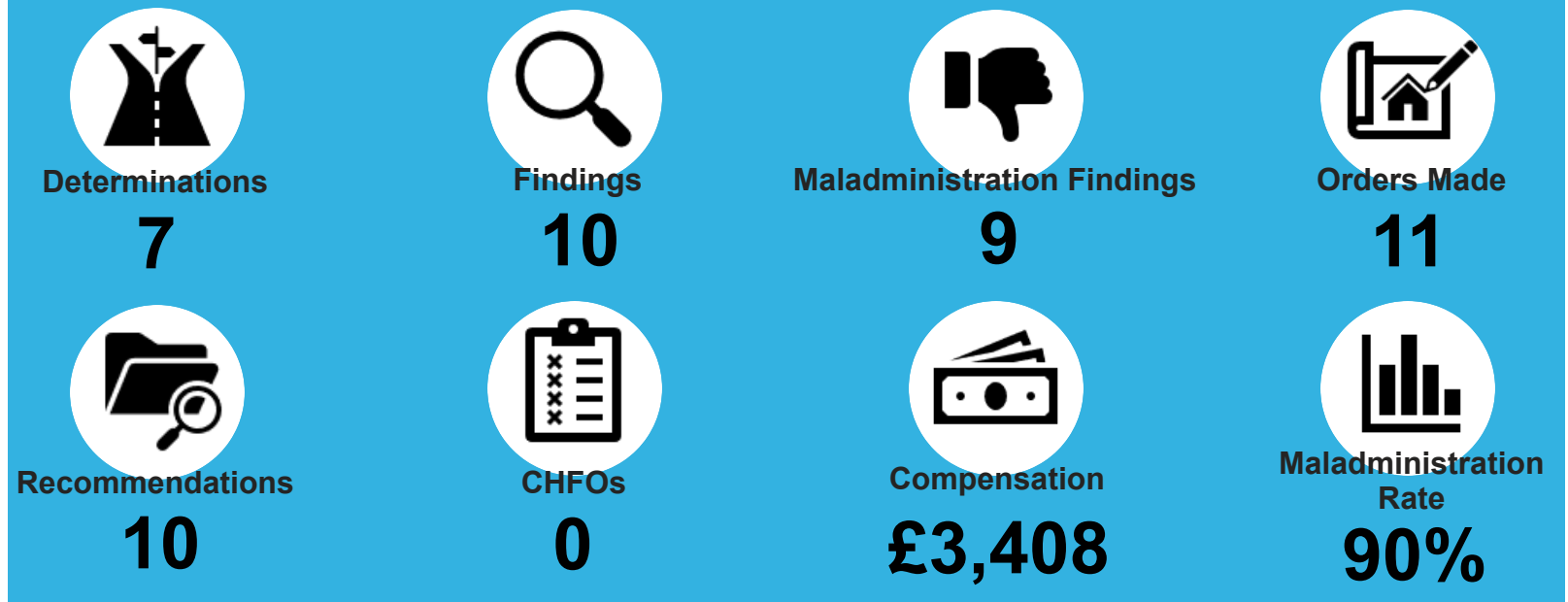
London Borough of Enfield

Landlord: London Borough of Enfield

Landlord Homes: 10,692

Landlord Type: Local Authority / ALMO or TMO

**PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE**



**PERFORMANCE 2021-2022**



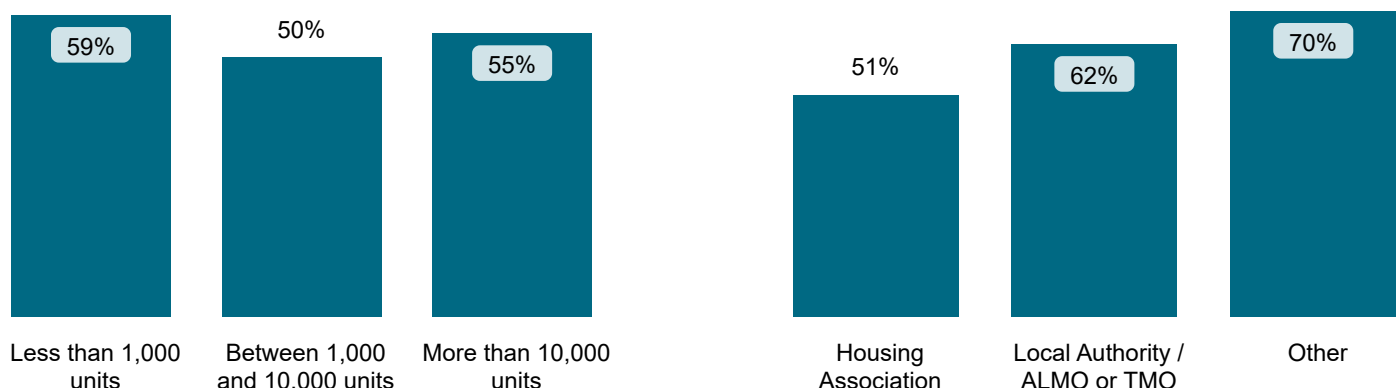
**Maladministration Rate Comparison** | Cases determined between April 2022 - March 2023

**NATIONAL MALADMINISTRATION RATE: 55%**

The landlord performed *poorly* when compared to similar landlords by size and type.

National Mal Rate by Landlord Size: [Table 1.1](#)

by Landlord Type: [Table 1.2](#)



**Findings Comparison** | *Cases determined between April 2022 - March 2023*

**National Performance by Landlord Size:** Table 2.1

Outcome	Less than 1,000 units	Between 1,000 and 10,000 units	More than 10,000 units	Total
Severe Maladministration	5%	2%	3%	<b>3%</b>
Maladministration	29%	21%	27%	<b>26%</b>
Service failure	19%	25%	22%	<b>23%</b>
Mediation	0%	1%	2%	<b>2%</b>
Redress	8%	12%	17%	<b>16%</b>
No maladministration	30%	34%	23%	<b>25%</b>
Outside Jurisdiction	9%	6%	5%	<b>5%</b>
Withdrawn	0%	0%	0%	<b>0%</b>

London Borough of Enfield	
Outcome	% Findings
Severe Maladministration	<b>0%</b>
Maladministration	<b>70%</b>
Service failure	<b>20%</b>
Mediation	<b>10%</b>
Redress	<b>0%</b>
No maladministration	<b>0%</b>
Outside Jurisdiction	<b>0%</b>
Withdrawn	<b>0%</b>

**National Performance by Landlord Type:** Table 2.2

Outcome	Housing Association	Local Authority / ALMO or TMO	Other	Total
Severe Maladministration	2%	4%	6%	<b>3%</b>
Maladministration	24%	30%	35%	<b>26%</b>
Service failure	22%	24%	26%	<b>23%</b>
Mediation	2%	1%	3%	<b>2%</b>
Redress	20%	9%	3%	<b>16%</b>
No maladministration	25%	26%	23%	<b>25%</b>
Outside Jurisdiction	5%	6%	3%	<b>6%</b>
Withdrawn	0%	0%	0%	<b>0%</b>

Outcome	% Findings
Severe Maladministration	<b>0%</b>
Maladministration	<b>70%</b>
Service failure	<b>20%</b>
Mediation	<b>10%</b>
Redress	<b>0%</b>
No maladministration	<b>0%</b>
Outside Jurisdiction	<b>0%</b>
Withdrawn	<b>0%</b>

**Landlord Findings by Category** | *Cases determined between April 2022 - March 2023*

Table 2.3

Category	Severe Maladministration	Maladministration	Service failure	Mediation	Redress	No maladministration	Outside Jurisdiction	Withdrawn	Total
Property Condition	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
Complaints Handling	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>4</b>
Anti-Social Behaviour	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>

**Findings by Category Comparison** | Cases determined between April 2022 - March 2023

**Top Categories for London Borough of Enfield**

Table 3.1

Category	# Landlord Findings	% Landlord Maladministration	% National Maladministration
Property Condition	5	80%	54%
Complaints Handling	4	100%	76%
Anti-Social Behaviour	1	100%	41%

**National Maladministration Rate by Landlord Size:** Table 3.2

Category	Less than 1,000 units	Between 1,000 and 10,000 units	More than 10,000 units	% Landlord Maladministration
Anti-Social Behaviour	33%	38%	41%	100%
Complaints Handling	96%	75%	76%	100%
Property Condition	48%	54%	54%	80%

**National Maladministration Rate by Landlord Type:** Table 3.3

Category	Housing Association	Local Authority / ALMO or TMO	Other	% Landlord Maladministration
Anti-Social Behaviour	39%	43%	0%	100%
Complaints Handling	71%	87%	100%	100%
Property Condition	50%	64%	63%	80%

**Findings by Sub-Category** | Cases Determined between April 2022 - March 2023 Table 3.4

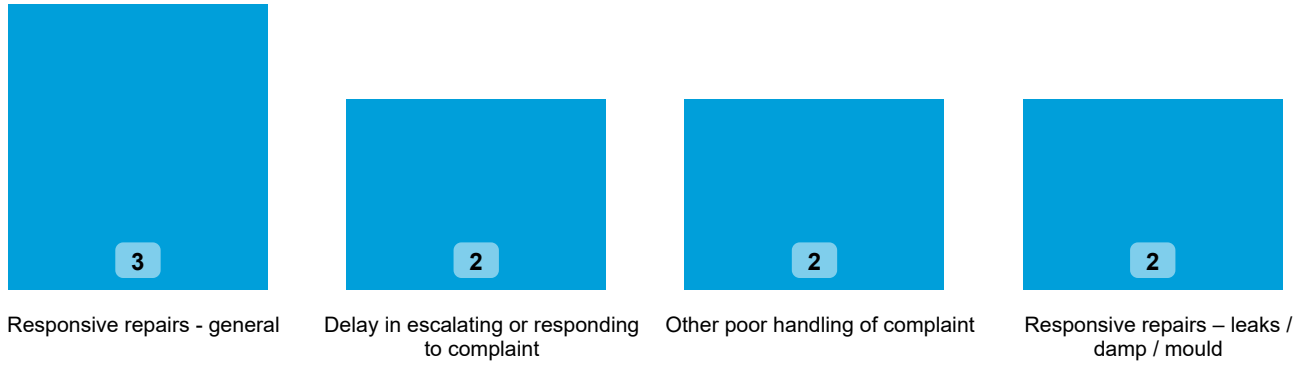
Highlighted Service Delivery Sub-Categories *only*:

Sub-Category	Severe Maladministration	Maladministration	Service failure	Mediation	Redress	No maladministration	Outside Jurisdiction	Withdrawn	Total
Responsive repairs - general	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	3
Responsive repairs – leaks / damp / mould	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	5



**Top Sub-Categories** | *Cases determined between April 2022 - March 2023*

Table 3.5



**Orders Made by Type** | *Orders on cases determined between April 2022 - March 2023*

Table 4.1



**Order Compliance** | *Order target dates between April 2022 - March 2023*

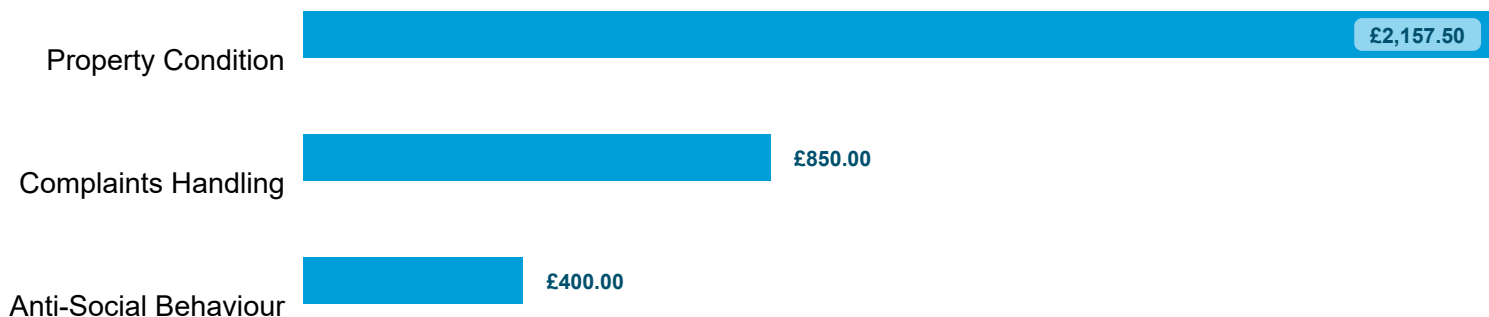
Table 4.2

Order Complete?	Within 3 Months	
	Count	%
Complied	11	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Compensation Ordered** | *Cases Determined between April 2022 - March 2023*

Table 5.1

● Ordered ● Recommended



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## Enfield Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

### Introduction

The purpose of an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is to help Enfield Council make sure it does not discriminate against service users, residents and staff, and that we promote equality where possible. Completing the assessment is a way to make sure everyone involved in a decision or activity thinks carefully about the likely impact of their work and that we take appropriate action in response to this analysis.

The EqIA provides a way to systematically assess and record the likely equality impact of an activity, policy, strategy, budget change or any other decision.

The assessment helps us to focus on the impact on people who share one of the different nine protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010 as well as on people who are disadvantaged due to socio-economic factors. The assessment involves anticipating the consequences of the activity or decision on different groups of people and making sure that:

- unlawful discrimination is eliminated
- opportunities for advancing equal opportunities are maximised
- opportunities for fostering good relations are maximised.

The EqIA is carried out by completing this form. To complete it you will need to:

- use local or national research which relates to how the activity/ policy/ strategy/ budget change or decision being made may impact on different people in different ways based on their protected characteristic or socio-economic status;
- where possible, analyse any equality data we have on the people in Enfield who will be affected eg equality data on service users and/or equality data on the Enfield population;
- refer to the engagement and/ or consultation you have carried out with stakeholders, including the community and/or voluntary and community sector groups you consulted and their views. Consider what this engagement showed us about the likely impact of the activity/ policy/ strategy/ budget change or decision on different groups.

The results of the EqIA should be used to inform the proposal/ recommended decision and changes should be made to the proposal/ recommended decision as a result of the assessment where required. Any ongoing/ future mitigating actions required should be set out in the action plan at the end of the assessment.

## Section 1 – Equality analysis details

<b>Title of service activity / policy/ strategy/ budget change/ decision that you are assessing</b>	Polling District and Polling Place Review
<b>Team/ Department</b>	Electoral Services / Chief Executive's Department
<b>Executive Director</b>	Ian Davis
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Author(s) name(s) and contact details</b>	Lee-Marie Matthews [Head of Electoral Services]
<b>Committee name and date of decision</b>	<b>General Purpose Committee – 25 October 2023</b>
<b>Date of EqIA completion</b>	<b>25 July 2023 – 1 Draft</b>

<b>Date the EqIA was reviewed by the Corporate Strategy Service</b>	<b>Tuesday 25 July 2023</b>
<b>Name of Head of Service responsible for implementing the EqIA actions (if any)</b>	<b>Lee-Marie Matthews</b>
<b>Name of Director who has approved the EqIA</b>	<b>Ian Davis</b>

The completed EqIA should be included as an appendix to relevant EMT/ Delegated Authority/ Cabinet/ Council reports regarding the service activity/ policy/ strategy/ budget change/ decision. Decision-makers should be confident that a robust EqIA has taken place, that any necessary mitigating action has been taken and that there are robust arrangements in place to ensure any necessary ongoing actions are delivered.

## Section 2 – Summary of proposal

Please give a brief summary of the proposed service change / policy/ strategy/ budget change/project plan/ key decision

**Please summarise briefly:**

What is the proposed decision or change?

What are the reasons for the decision or change?  
What outcomes are you hoping to achieve from this change?  
Who will be impacted by the project or change - staff, service users, or the wider community?

Under the Representation of the People Act 1983, the council has a duty to divide its area into polling districts and to designate a polling place for each district.

The Electoral Administration Act 2006, as amended, introduced a duty on all local authorities in Great Britain to review their polling districts and polling places at least once every five years. Under section 18C of the Representation of the People Act 1983, the next compulsory review must be undertaken within a 16-month window between 1 October 2023 and 31 January 2025.

The purpose of such a review is to ensure that all electors have reasonably practicable facilities for voting and that polling places are reasonably accessible to electors who are disabled.

The review is an opportunity for electors, community groups and any other interested parties in Enfield to express their views on the polling district boundaries and polling places, and where possible make alternative suggestions for consideration. The consultation period will run between 2 October and 20 October 2023. Documents relating to the review were made available on the Council's website and at the Civic Centre. Representations could be submitted via the online questionnaire, or in writing via email or by post.

## Section 3 – Equality analysis

This section asks you to consider the potential differential impact of the proposed decision or change on different protected characteristics, and what mitigating actions should be taken to avoid or counteract any negative impact.

According to the Equality Act 2010, protected characteristics are aspects of a person's identity that make them who they are. The law defines 9 protected characteristics:

1. Age
2. Disability
3. Gender reassignment.
4. Marriage and civil partnership.
5. Pregnancy and maternity.
6. Race
7. Religion or belief.
8. Sex
9. Sexual orientation.

At Enfield Council, we also consider socio-economic status as an additional characteristic.

“Differential impact” means that people of a particular protected characteristic (eg people of a particular age, people with a disability, people of a particular gender, or people from a particular race and religion) will be significantly more affected by the change than other groups. Please consider both potential positive and negative impacts, and provide evidence to explain why this group might be particularly affected. If there is no differential impact for that group, briefly explain why this is not applicable.

Please consider how the proposed change will affect staff, service users or members of the wider community who share one of the following protected characteristics.

**Detailed information and guidance on how to carry out an Equality Impact Assessment is available [here](#). (link to guidance document once approved)**

## Age

This can refer to people of a specific age e.g. 18-year olds, or age range e.g. 0-18 year olds.

Will the proposed change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact [positive or negative]** on people of a specific age or age group (e.g. older or younger people)?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

Enfield has more residents under 20 than the London and national averages.<sup>1</sup>

**Negative impact:** The current (2023) polling scheme includes the use of 21 primary/junior schools, of which 19 close to pupils on polling day, resulting in a loss of school days for young people of school age (4-18). In Enfield, 20.7% of our population are aged under 19.<sup>2</sup>

As of 2021, people aged 65 and over made up 13.7% of Enfield's resident population.<sup>3</sup> Older electors may have more difficulty accessing voting facilities.

**Positive impact:** As part of the polling district and polling place review, the following considerations were taken into account:

- Access for voters arriving at the polling station by car and by public transport
- The use of frequently used/well-known buildings such as community halls as polling places.
- Accessibility for wheelchair access

Electors are also made aware of the option of applying for a postal or proxy vote.

## Mitigating actions to be taken

In order to reduce the number of schools used as polling places and the negative impact on children's education, alternatives to schools have been suggested wherever possible. Secondary schools are not used due to the possibility of snap elections being called during exam periods. The final proposals for polling places reduce the number of portacabins used to reduce the high-cost associates with hiring portacabins.

Many of the schools have inset days on polling days for scheduled elections and use the election as an opportunity to teach pupils about democracy and voting.

<sup>1</sup> Enfield Council, [Borough Profile](#), 2020

<sup>2</sup> Census 2021

<sup>3</sup> Census 2021

Due to the requirement to provide polling stations in a specified area (a polling district) and the requirement to make them accessible to all, it is often not possible to secure the use of an alternative facility.

Electors, community groups and any other interested parties within Enfield will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the recommended polling places and suggest alternatives. All representations will be considered by the General Purposes Committee.

### Disability

A person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on the person's ability to carry out normal day-day activities.

This could include: physical impairment, hearing impairment, visual impairment, learning difficulties, long-standing illness or health condition, mental illness, substance abuse or other impairments.

Will the proposed change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact [positive or negative]** on people with disabilities?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

It is estimated that around 44,900 (13.6%) of people in Enfield are affected by a long-term health problem (over 12 months) or disability which limits their day-to-day activity.<sup>4</sup>

**Positive impact:** Local authorities have a duty to review the accessibility of all polling places to disabled voters and ensure that every polling place, and prospective polling place, for which it is responsible is accessible to disabled voters 'so far as is reasonable and practicable'.<sup>5</sup>

As part of the preliminary review, the following information was reviewed to determine any access issues at previously used polling places:

- Presiding Officer and Polling Station Inspector feedback from the May 2022 Local Elections.
- Surveys completed as part of the 2019 polling place review
- This year in our recent risk assessment review we included the review of all polling places accessibility for wheelchair users and space within the polling station to accommodate privacy screens in accordance with the new rules introduced by the Elections 2022.

All proposed new polling places have been evaluated against the Electoral Commission checklist for polling places with a particular emphasis on the following requirements:

<sup>4</sup> Census 2021

<sup>5</sup> [Representation of the People Act 1983](#), Section 18 (2)(a)



- Level access at entrance and within polling place (or space for temporary ramp)
- Wide enough doorways and corridors

Sufficient space within the polling place to enable motorised wheelchair manoeuvrability.

#### **Mitigating actions to be taken**

In line with Electoral Commission guidance on conducting polling district and polling place reviews, groups and individuals within the Enfield area who have been identified as having expertise in access issues and the Council's staff Disability Working Group will be invited to respond to the Acting Returning Officer's representation during the public consultation phase.

Respondents will have the opportunity to provide further details around specific polling places and suggest alternatives. All representations will be considered by the General Purposes Committee.

Further to the new rules introduced by the Elections Act 2022 and feedback from the consultation, the (A)RO has introduced the following material and equipment to further assist voters with physical and learning disabilities. These items include the following:

- How to vote posters in braille to be situated within the booths
- Pencil Grips
- Magnifying glass
- Induction hearing loop availability in all polling venues
- Passport guide for voters with learning difficulties
- All ramp access to all polling stations
- Braille tactile devices to aid the voters to mark their ballot paper
- Presiding Officer statutory powers to assist a voter within the polling booth on request
- Low rise booths for wheel chair voters

#### **Gender Reassignment**

This refers to people who are proposing to undergo, are undergoing, or have undergone a process (or part of a process) to reassign their sex by changing physiological or other attributes of sex.

Will this change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact [positive or negative]** on transgender people?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

No impact anticipated.

#### **Mitigating actions to be taken**

No action required.

### Marriage and Civil Partnership

Marriage and civil partnerships are different ways of legally recognising relationships. The formation of a civil partnership must remain secular, where-as a marriage can be conducted through either religious or civil ceremonies. In the U.K both marriages and civil partnerships can be same sex or mixed sex. Civil partners must be treated the same as married couples on a wide range of legal matters.

Will this change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact [positive or negative]** on people in a marriage or civil partnership?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

No impact anticipated.

### Mitigating actions to be taken

No action required.

### Pregnancy and maternity

Pregnancy refers to the condition of being pregnant or expecting a baby. Maternity refers to the period after the birth and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.

Will this change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact [positive or negative]** on pregnancy and maternity?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

**Positive impact:** The layout of polling stations is such that access for pushchairs is considered.

### Mitigating actions to be taken

No action required.

### Race

This refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship), ethnic or national origins.

Will this change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact [positive or negative]** on people of a certain race?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

The Labour Force Survey compiled by the ONS informs that in 2018 the percentage of adults in Enfield who spoke English at home was 76%, compared with 92% of the UK population.<sup>6</sup>

The most popular languages for which Enfield Council receives translation and interpreting requests are Turkish, Polish, Albanian, Somali, Bulgarian and Romanian.<sup>7</sup>

As at 2021, the top five non-English languages spoken by Enfield residents aged 3 and over as their main or only language were: Turkish (5.9%), Romanian (1.8%), Bulgarian (1.8%), Greek (1.6%) and Polish (1.5%).<sup>8</sup>

In Enfield, 18% of households do not have one residents adult who speaks English as a main language.<sup>9</sup>

**Negative impact:** Those whose first language is not English may find it more difficult to participate in the consultation and provide their views on the proposed polling districts and places.

#### **Mitigating actions to be taken**

In order to ensure the consultation is accessible to those whose first language is not English, adverts will be placed in the following foreign language newspapers: The Albanian, Parikiaki (Greek) and Avrupa (Turkish).

Will seek advice from the website team to see if the Enfield Council website has a built-in translator tool which enabled visitors to translate the Polling District & Polling Place Review webpage and accompanying Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

The consultation notice will also be forwarded to a wide range of community groups via the Community Sector Bulletin with the assistance of the Comms Team.

<sup>6</sup> ONS, [Labour Force Survey: First Language Spoken at Home](#), 2018

<sup>7</sup> Enfield Council, [Borough Profile](#), 2020

<sup>8</sup> Census 2021

<sup>9</sup> Census 2021

### Religion and belief

Religion refers to a person's faith (e.g. Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Judaism, Sikhism, Hinduism). Belief includes religious and philosophical beliefs including lack of belief (e.g. Atheism). Generally, a belief should affect your life choices or the way you live.

Will this change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact [positive or negative]** on people who follow a religion or belief, including lack of belief?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

According to the 2021 Census by religion, Christianity (all denominations) is the most common religion in the borough with 46% of residents. 19% of residents are of the Muslim faith, 3% are Hindu, 0.5% are Buddhists, 1% are Jewish and 3% are of any other religion. 20% of the population hold no religion or belief.<sup>10</sup>

**Negative impact:** The use of religious or consecrated buildings may discourage other faith groups from voting. In the proposed polling district and polling place scheme 32 out of 109 polling places belong to a particular faith group. In 4 of these buildings, voting takes place in the main church.

### Mitigating actions to be taken

Due to the requirement to provide polling stations in a specified area (a polling district) and the requirement to make them accessible to all, it is often not possible to secure the use of a more generic facility.

Where the main church is used as the polling station, this is clearly stated on the poll card. Electors are also made aware of the option of applying for a postal or proxy vote.

The notice of consultation will be forwarded to Enfield Faith Forum to secure their views on the proposed polling districts and places.

### Sex

Sex refers to whether you are a female or male.

Will this change to service/policy/budget have a **differential impact [positive or negative]** on females or males?

Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.

<sup>10</sup> Census 2021

No impact anticipated.
<b>Mitigating actions to be taken</b>
No action required.

<b>Sexual Orientation</b>
This refers to whether a person is sexually attracted to people of the same sex or a different sex to themselves. Please consider the impact on people who identify as heterosexual, bisexual, gay, lesbian, non-binary or asexual.
Will this change to service/policy/budget have a <b>differential impact [positive or negative]</b> on people with a particular sexual orientation?  Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.
No impact anticipated.
<b>Mitigating actions to be taken</b>
No action required.

<b>Socio-economic deprivation</b>
This refers to people who are disadvantaged due to socio-economic factors e.g. unemployment, low income, low academic qualifications or living in a deprived area, social housing or unstable housing.
Will this change to service/policy/budget have a <b>differential impact [positive or negative]</b> on people who are socio-economically disadvantaged?  Please provide evidence to explain why this group may be particularly affected.
Car ownership in England depends heavily on household income. According to the Department for Transport's 2019 National Travel Survey, 45% of households in the

lowest real income level quintile do not own a car or van compared with 14% of households in the highest real income level quintile.<sup>11</sup>

According to research undertaken by Transport for London, the most commonly used form of transport for Londoners with lower household incomes (below £20,000) is walking.<sup>12</sup> The bus is the next most commonly used form of transport with 69% of people with lower household incomes taking the bus at least once a week compared to 59% of all Londoners. In addition, 42% of Londoners with a household income of less than £20,000 have household access to a car compared with 65% of Londoners overall, declining to 27% of Londoners in the lowest household income bracket (less than £5,000).

It can therefore be assumed that households in areas with higher levels of socio-economic deprivation/with lower levels of household income will have a greater reliance on walking and/or public transport to access the polling place.

15.6% of households in Enfield have an annual gross income under £15,000 and 42.6% of Enfield households earn less than £30,000 per annum, both higher than the London average.<sup>13</sup>

**Positive impact:** As part of the preliminary review, the following information was reviewed:

- Public transport accessibility data and public transport routes

Distances electors within the polling district are required to travel to access the polling place.

#### **Mitigating actions to be taken.**

Electors, community groups and any other interested parties within Enfield will have the opportunity to provide feedback around specific polling places and suggest alternatives. All representations will be considered by the General Purposes Committee.

<sup>11</sup> Department for Transport, [National Travel Survey](#), 2019

<sup>12</sup> Transport for London, [Travel in London: Understanding our diverse communities](#), 2019

<sup>13</sup> Enfield Council, [Borough Profile](#), 2020

## Section 4 – Monitoring and review

How do you intend to monitor and review the effects of this proposal?

Who will be responsible for assessing the effects of this proposal?

The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 amended the Representation of the People Act 1983 to require the Council to undertake full reviews of polling districts and polling places at least every five years within a specific timeframe. In addition, the Council reviews the polling places following an election to ensure ongoing suitability of location and accessibility of the premises.

The responsibility to provide recommendations to Council on electoral arrangements in the borough relating to the designation of polling districts and polling places lies with the General Purposes Committee.

## Section 5 – Action plan for mitigating actions

Any actions that are already completed should be captured in the equality analysis section above. Any actions that will be implemented once the decision has been made should be captured here.

Identified Issue	Action Required	Lead officer	Timescale/By When	Costs	Review Date/Comments



## APPENDIX E – Summary of representations received in the polling district & polling place review consultation

The tables below provide a summary of all representations received in the polling district & polling place review consultation organised in alphabetical ward order. Where possible, representations have been reproduced exactly as received. However, where this is not practicable due to the length of the submission the key points have been summarised instead. To comply with GDPR principles, some street names have been redacted to avoid identification of individuals.

In addition to the responses outlined below, an additional 9 responses were received where the respondent left no comments. There were 4 responses outside the scope of the consultation. 12 Responses were received with comments and have been addressed by the (A)RO below.

Ward	Polling District	Reference Number	Respondent Type	Representation	A(RO) Response and Recommendation
PONDERS END	PNEX	R1	Political Party	<p><b>Suggestion 1</b></p> <p>An additional polling station needed in the PNEX area, on or near the PNDZ border if possible. It feels like too much distance for residents in this area to get to the proposed Polling Stations if they do not drive, for example. Having one in this area would provide easier access for them.</p>	<p><b>Ponders End –</b> The (A)RO has reviewed polling district PNEX area for possible sites for a temporary building and recommends that no additional building should be included in this polling district area. The (A)RO recommends that the residents in the PNEX area continues to travel to the assigned polling station “The Qube”. This is due to following reasons explained below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No adequate site for adding an additional temporary polling station in PNEX. Most of the area is a retail park.</li> <li>• The electorate size in which the additional polling station would service is only 250 residents of which 192 are in person voters.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>SOUTHBURY</b></p>	<p><b>SBAX</b></p>			<p><b>Suggestion 2</b>                  We do not agree with the proposal for a new polling station on Enfield Playing Fields due to safety reasons. There does not appear to be enough lighting around the area the station would be placed and would possibly need extra security. However, we would like to suggest instead Linden Gardens, as there is a well-lit patch of green, connecting Linden Gardens to Great Cambridge Road that can be considered for a temporary building. This would be easier to access on foot for both the residents in the immediate area, and for residents from the Canning Square/Orton Grove estate now that Charles Babbage House is no longer an option. We also feel that there would be no need for security here.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The total cost of providing a temporary building is extremely expensive. An approximate cost is £3300 per unit and the (A)RO is working tirelessly to ensure we keep costs down.</li> </ul> <p><b>Southbury</b> – The (A)RO reviewed the proposed area for re-locating the temporary building from Charles Babbage House Car Park to the green space area of Linden Gardens leading to Great Cambridge Road. Unfortunately, the green area is privately owned and cannot be used, please refer to Southbury (C)</p> <p>The (A)RO also looked at the following possible site areas to relocate the temporary building:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corner of Carterhatch Lane – please refer to Southbury (A). This bus stand area is leased to TFL</li> <li>• End of Ladysmith Road – please refer to Southbury (B). This space is too small for the</li> </ul>
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					<p>smallest of portacabins 24’ x 9’ unit.</p> <p>The (A)RO also approached David Lloyd leisure centre and they do not hire out privately including possible use of their car park.</p> <p>The (A)RO concludes that the new location for the temporary building should remain at the original proposal site of Enfield Playing Fields Car Park. He will ensure the following are in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Security</li> <li>• Extra Lighting leading up to the polling station</li> <li>• Street Marshal to accompany elderly voters from the main road to the polling station</li> </ul>
<b>JUBLIEE</b>	<b>JBBZ</b>	<b>R2</b>	<b>Councillor</b>	<p><b>Suggestion 1</b> Polling district boundaries are oddly drawn for this ward and need to be redrawn. In particular JBB1Z is a very strange shape and needs rationalisation. Electors on Nightingale Road south of Cuckoo Hall Lane should vote at PP54 (Tramway Christian Fellowship) or PP56 (Mottingham Hall) rather than having to travel to PP53 (St Alphage Church Hall). It is bizarre</p>	<p><b>Jubilee</b> - The (A)RO has reviewed polling district area of JBBZ and recommends not to alter the polling district boundary due to the balanced apportionment of electors assigned to JBDZ, JBCZ and JBEZ. However, the (A)RO agrees to add an additional polling station to JBBZ for the following reasons:</p>

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<p><b>EDMONTON GREEN</b></p>	<p><b>EGFZ</b></p>			<p>that electors St Edmonds Road and Hickory Close have to travel all the way to PP53 rather than having a more central location. It is suggested that either Galliard Primary School or a temporary polling station on Jubilee Park replace PP53 and that the polling district boundaries are redrawn so electors in JBB1Z to the east of the Hertford Road are added to JBEZ and vote at PP56 (Mottingham Hall) with the southern section of Nightingale Road added to either JBCZ or JBEZ as noted earlier.</p> <p><b>Suggestion 2</b> PP34 (Edmonton Eagles Amateur Boxing Club) is not well located for a very large polling district placed as it is at the very top. Either polling district boundaries should be redrawn so more of EGFZ is added to the EGEZ so they can vote in the closer Unity Hub (PP33), or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the number of ‘<b>In Person</b>’ voters assigned to attend St Alphege Church as it currently stands at <b>2759</b></li> <li>• Allows for electors from Hickory Close, St Edmunds Road, Galliards Road, Hamilton Close, Chris Andrew Way to access a polling station closer by.</li> </ul> <p>The (A)RO recommends adding a temporary building either in the Car Park at the Jubilee Park entrance or on the green at the entrance of Jubilee Park off Galliard Road. This will mean that the 2759 electors will be split between the two polling stations within JBBZ.</p> <p><b>Edmonton Green</b> – The (A)RO has reviewed polling district area of EGFZ and recommends that the polling district boundary is not amended. There is no other suitable location to situate a temporary building centrally within the polling district and</p>
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<p><b>HASELBURY</b></p>	<p><b>HBBZ</b></p>			<p>thought should be given to locating a temporary polling station more centrally located in EGFZ.</p> <p><b>Suggestion 3</b> Consideration should be given to moving PP44 Temporary Polling station Latymer School northwards to better serve electors in HBB1Z, HBB2Z and HBA3Z. PP44 and PP45 are often confused, and it would be better to separate them further.</p>	<p>therefore recommends that the current polling place remains in place as a polling station.</p> <p><b>Hazelbury</b> – The (A)RO has reviewed polling district area of HBBZ and has not identified a suitable area to move the temporary building at Latymer School further north. Therefore the (A)RO recommends keeping the current location of the temporary building at Latymer School. Please note that 95% of polling stations within the borough will have a meet and greet poll clerk to assist with Voter ID and will ensure voters are at the correct polling station.</p>
<p><b>UPPER EDMONTON</b></p>	<p><b>UEEZ</b></p>			<p><b>Suggestion 4</b> Residents to the east of the railway line in UEEZ are poorly served by PP99 (West Lea School). Is there a case for a temporary polling station in that part of the polling district effectively splitting it into a new polling station?</p>	<p><b>Upper Edmonton</b> – The (A)RO has reviewed polling district area of UEEZ and recommends to not add an additional polling station to the <b>east</b> of the Meridian Water railway as this is an industrial site with no registered electors.</p>

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BRIMSDOWN	N/A	R3	MP	<p><b>Suggestion 1</b> Assign additional signage to polling place PP12 28 Enfield Scout Hut</p>	<p><b>Brimsdown</b> – The (A)RO has noted comments for extra signage for PP12 and ensure this is actioned for the next scheduled election.</p>
BULLSMOOR	BMDX and ELCX			<p><b>Suggestion 2</b> The RO’s recommendations suggest there is the issue of space at Ordnance Unity Centre Library, there is not much room for the booths. I am concerned by this. Cramped spaces can heighten human errors that can occur such as ballot papers being incorrectly issued, ballot papers being placed in the wrong box. This will invariably lead to delays to the verification and count stage post 10pm when the polls are closed. The lack of space comes from Ordnance Unity Centre also serving ELCX in Enfield Lock, the polling district where the library is located. I would therefore suggest for BMDX having its own unique polling place. This could be a temporary unit in the Lidl car park on Hertford Road. It is accessible, lit and a safe place for electors to vote. Alternatively, I would suggest placing a temporary unit on the land next to Turkey Street Station on Teal Close. This would allow commuter to easily vote on their way to work. This location also has parking facilities and could easily be made accessible. While these are two suggestions for</p>	<p><b>Bullsmoor</b> – The (A)RO has reviewed polling district BMDX and does not recommend adding an additional polling station to this polling district due to the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This venue will serve as two polling stations with approximately 1100 assigned ‘In Person’ electors</li> <li>• The total average turnout for voter attendance at Ordnance Library is approximately 33%.</li> <li>• There are no adequate spaces for delivering and site location for a temporary building. The greenery opposite Turkey Station will not allow for a delivery of a temporary building due to the wooden bollards at the front. Lidl Car Park is private property and cannot be used to house a temporary building. This location would also be too</li> </ul>

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<p><b>CARTERHATCH</b></p>	<p><b>CAGZ</b></p>			<p>polling places, I am flexible on their location should you have alternative proposals.</p> <p><b>Suggestion 3</b> I would like to note that CAGZ is not listed in the RO’s polling places recommendations.</p>	<p>close to the current polling place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The total cost of providing a temporary building is extremely expensive. An approximate cost is £3300 per unit and the (A)RO is working tirelessly to ensure we keep costs down.</li> <li>• No alternative buildings to in the area to hire.</li> <li>• The Head of Electoral Services has re-designed the layout of this polling station to improve space and security for monitoring the ballot box. Arrangements are in place to move book shelving to accommodate the new design.</li> </ul> <p><b>Carterhatch</b> – The (A)RO apologies for missing this polling district off the Appendix (A) ARO recommendation report. CAGZ should have been included against PP26. Ponders End Methodist is serving two polling districts CAFX and CAGZ.</p>
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<p><b>ENFIELD LOCK</b></p>	<p><b>ELCX</b></p>			<p><b>Suggestion 4</b> As suggested in my response to the proposals for Bullsmoor I have argued that BMDX’s polling place should be moved out of Ordnance Road Library and for only ELCX to vote at Ordnance Road library. This is to ease the pressure on space at the polling place. I believe ELCX should remain to vote in Ordnance Road Library as it is in ELCX, rather than BMDX.</p>	<p><b>Enfield Lock</b> – The (A)RO has reviewed polling district ELCX for possible alternative polling places or sites for a temporary building and recommends that electors in ELCX continues to attend Ordnance Library for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No alternative buildings to in the area to hire.</li> <li>• A green area identified at the end corner of St Stephen Road and St Albany Road is not accessible due to being private land</li> </ul> <p>The (A)RO has re-designed the layout within Ordnance Library to allow for more space for two polling stations. Arrangements are in place to move standalone shelving to accommodate the new design layout, which will give more space and flow through the polling station to address concerns raised.</p>
<p><b>SOUTHBURY</b></p>	<p><b>SBAX</b></p>			<p><b>Suggestion 5</b> I disagree with using Enfield Playing Fields Car Park. Whilst it is accessible and well-lit for</p>	<p><b>Southbury</b> – The (A)RO reviewed the proposed area for re-locating the temporary building from Charles</p>



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				<p>drivers, those voters who will be walking via Ladysmith Road have to cross a path that is not well lit and unsafe. Enfield Playing Fields is a hub for antisocial behaviour in the area and I therefore have serious concerns over its use as a polling place as this may deter voters from voting due to its location. My Office has dealt with a significant number of casework cases on the antisocial behaviour on the playing fields. I would therefore suggest using the patch of grass between Linden Gardens and Great Cambridge Road. This is a well-lit and safe location and therefore additional security will not be required, as it would be for the Playing Fields Car Park. Putting a temporary building here will allow voters to access their polling station easily and safely on foot.</p>	<p>Baggage House Car Park to the green space area of Linden Gardens leading to Great Cambridge Road. Unfortunately, the green area is privately owned and cannot be used, please refer to Southbury (C). The additional issue with this area is also space in which the lorry must manoeuvre to deliver the temporary building. It was advised by the Streets works co-ordinator that we would need a street marshal to reverse the lorry down Great Cambridge Road.</p> <p>The (A)RO also looked at the following possible site areas to relocate the temporary building:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corner of Carterhatch Lane – please refer to Southbury (A). This bus stand area is leased to TFL</li> <li>• End of Ladysmith Road – please refer to Southbury (B). This space is too small for the smallest of portacabins 24’ x 9’ unit.</li> </ul> <p>The (A)RO also approached David Lloyd leisure centre and they do not hire out privately including possible use of their car park.</p>
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<p><b>TOWN</b></p>	<p><b>TWCX</b></p>			<p><b>Suggestion 6</b>                  In TWDX I would suggest using the Civic Centre rather than St Andrew’s C.E School. While there has been no negative feedback on the polling place itself, I am concerned by it being in a school. I believe that the Civic Centre would be a better polling place given it is accessible, has the facilities to be a polling place and has good transport links. Though schools are used as the polling place for some of the other districts in Town ward there are no suitable alternative venues hence suggesting only this change to TWDX.</p>	<p>The (A)RO concludes that the new location for the temporary building should remain at the original proposal site of Enfield Playing Fields Car Park. The ensure the following is in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Security</li> <li>• Extra Lighting leading up to the polling station</li> <li>• Street Marshal to accompany voters from the main road to the polling station</li> </ul> <p><b>Town</b> – The (A)RO has reviewed the polling district area of TWDX and recommends not to use the Civic Centre as a polling station, for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No adequate space available at ground level to accommodate a polling station.</li> <li>• Lack of privacy for voters to maintain the secrecy of the ballot as there are internal cameras</li> <li>• Only one public entrance to the Civic which would interfere with staff and public queries</li> </ul>
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<p><b>WHITEWEBBS</b></p>	<p><b>WBEX</b></p>			<p><b>Suggestion 7</b>          I raised during the interim polling review in 2021, I have concerns regarding WBEX. I would again suggest for there to be a review of WBEX as there are 2226 estimated in person electors to one polling station at Lancaster Road URC Church Hall. This is one of the largest number of electors to one polling station in the Borough. One suggestion could be to change the polling district boundaries so to balance out the number of electors, with WBFX, taking a few more streets and thereby balancing the number of electors. Another option would be to have another polling station in Lancaster Road URC Church Hall to ensure that there are enough facilities for voting on election day</p>	<p>entering. The polling station would need its one separate entrance for voters only. The (A)RO therefore recommends keeping the current polling place St Andrew’s C.E School.</p> <p><b>Whitewebbs</b> – The (A)RO has reviewed the polling district area of WBEX and looked at the historical statistics of the voter turnout for the current polling place Lancaster Road URC Church Hall. The (A)RO has considered the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 45% on average voter turnout</li> <li>• Size of current polling place</li> <li>• Approx. 2191 eligible voters</li> </ul> <p>Therefore the (A)RO agrees that the Lancaster Road URC Church Hall should turnn from a single polling station into a double allowing for an assigned split in the number of eligible voters for WBEX. This will mean that this polling place will now host two polling stations allowing for a balance and reduce risk of any queues forming if the next election is a high turnout.</p>
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N/A	N/A	R4	Resident	All polling stations should be wheelchair accessible I personally vote by post which I find much easier but for other people with disabilities the polling station should be as accessible as possible	<b>(A)RO response</b> – All polling places within Enfield are DDA compliant with ramp access
<b>BOWES and NEW SOUTHGATE</b>		R5	Resident	I live on Russell Road in the current Bowes Ward. I am 2 mins walk from the current polling station (Trinity at Bowes Church). With the new proposals. It is a much further to the polling station in the New Southgate Ward. Does not make much sense.	<b>(A)RO response</b> - There is no recommendation to change the current polling place Trinity at Bowe Methodist Church Hall, currently serving polling district NSDY and BAAY. Residents from both polling districts have a reasonable walk to the current assigned polling place.
<b>NEW SOUTHGATE</b>	NSCY	R6	Resident	The Proposed Polling District Boundary for the New Southgate Ward seems to indicate that residents of Ollerton Road and possibly Stanley Road would not be able to use the Polling Place at the end of Highworth Road, which would be far more convenient to reach.	<b>(A)RO response</b> – There is no current polling place located at the end of Highworth Road. The current polling place serving polling district NSCY is Bounds Green Bowls and Tennis Club just off of Goring Road.
N/A	N/A	R7	Local Disability organisation	Making it easier for adults with lots of different disabilities to be able to vote in all elections going forwards	<b>(A)RO response</b> – Further to the new rules on accessibility introduced by the Elections Act 2022, the (A)RO confirms that all the polling stations within the borough will contain the following aided equipment and material: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to vote notice will be in braille within the voting booths</li> <li>• Pencil Grips</li> <li>• Induction hearing loops</li> </ul>

**APPENDIX E – Summary of representations received in the polling district & polling place review consultation**

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Braille tactile device to assist with marking the ballot paper</li> <li>• Magnifying glass</li> <li>• A Presiding Officer can legally assist a voter within the booth</li> <li>• Passport guide for voter with learning difficulties</li> </ul>
<b>HASELBURY</b>	<b>HBDZ</b>		<b>Church Representative</b>	St Aldhelm's Church Hall is used as a polling station. At the moment, a temporary ramp is required to access the polling station, but we are ready to install a permanent ramp to the hall - we are currently waiting for a response from Enfield's building control department before we go ahead but hope the ramp will be available very soon.	<b>(A)RO response</b> – Noted and will check with the building control department to make sure this is in place in advance of polling day.
<b>COCKFOSTERS</b>	<b>CFCY</b>	<b>R9</b>	<b>Resident</b>	I live in Cornell Gardens on the Bolingbroke Park development. It would be much easier to have Freston Hall as our local polling station rather than 14th Southgate Scout Headquarters in Green Road which is much further away. Freston Hall in Freston Gardens is within a few minutes easy walk of Cornell Gardens. Not everyone has a car.	<b>(A)RO response</b> – I can confirm that Cornell Gardens including Bolingbroke Park Development registered electors allocated polling station is Freston Hall. This polling place remains unchanged.
<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>R10</b>	<b>Resident</b>	There needs to be more accessible for people with visual and hearing problems and for learning disabilities and difficulties such as Autism etc. and the main thing i would like to see change is font and the way things are written especially for people with disabilities and dyslexia etc.	<b>(A)RO response</b> – Further to the new rules on accessibility introduced by the Elections Act 2022, the (A)RO confirms that all the polling stations within the borough will contain the following aided equipment and material:

**APPENDIX E – Summary of representations received in the polling district & polling place review consultation**

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to vote notice will be in braille within the voting booths</li> <li>• Pencil Grips</li> <li>• Induction hearing loops</li> <li>• Braille tactile device to assist with marking the ballot paper</li> <li>• Magnifying glass</li> <li>• A Presiding Officer can legally assist a voter within the booth</li> <li>• Passport guide for voter with learning difficulties</li> </ul>
<b>RIDGEWAY</b>	<b>RWCX</b>	<b>R11</b>	<b>Resident</b>	Locally we have to poll in a pub. It would be preferable if this were in the car park	<p><b>(A)RO response</b> – The Jolly Farmers Public House is the only polling place that is a public house used. The polling station will be in a separate room within the building with its own private entrance and has no access to the public serving pub area. The decision to move from a temporary building to this building was for the following reason:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The total cost of providing a temporary building is extremely expensive. An approximate cost is £3300 per unit and the (A)RO is working tirelessly to ensure we keep costs down.</li> </ul>

**APPENDIX E – Summary of representations received in the polling district & polling place review consultation**

<b>ARNOS GROVE</b>	<b>AGDY</b>	<b>R12</b>	<b>Resident</b>	The proposed polling station at Palmer's Green library for Arnos Grove ward is not even in the ward! The eastern half of this new ward seems to be worse off with regard to polling stations. More polling stations needed.	(A)RO response – Unfortunately, the ward boundaries are not created based on the available polling places and available sites for a temporary building but based on a proportioned electorate balance in each ward for councillors to represent. For polling district AGDY, there is no suitable venues or sites available within this polling district to serve as a polling station. The nearest venue identified is outside the AGDY polling district.
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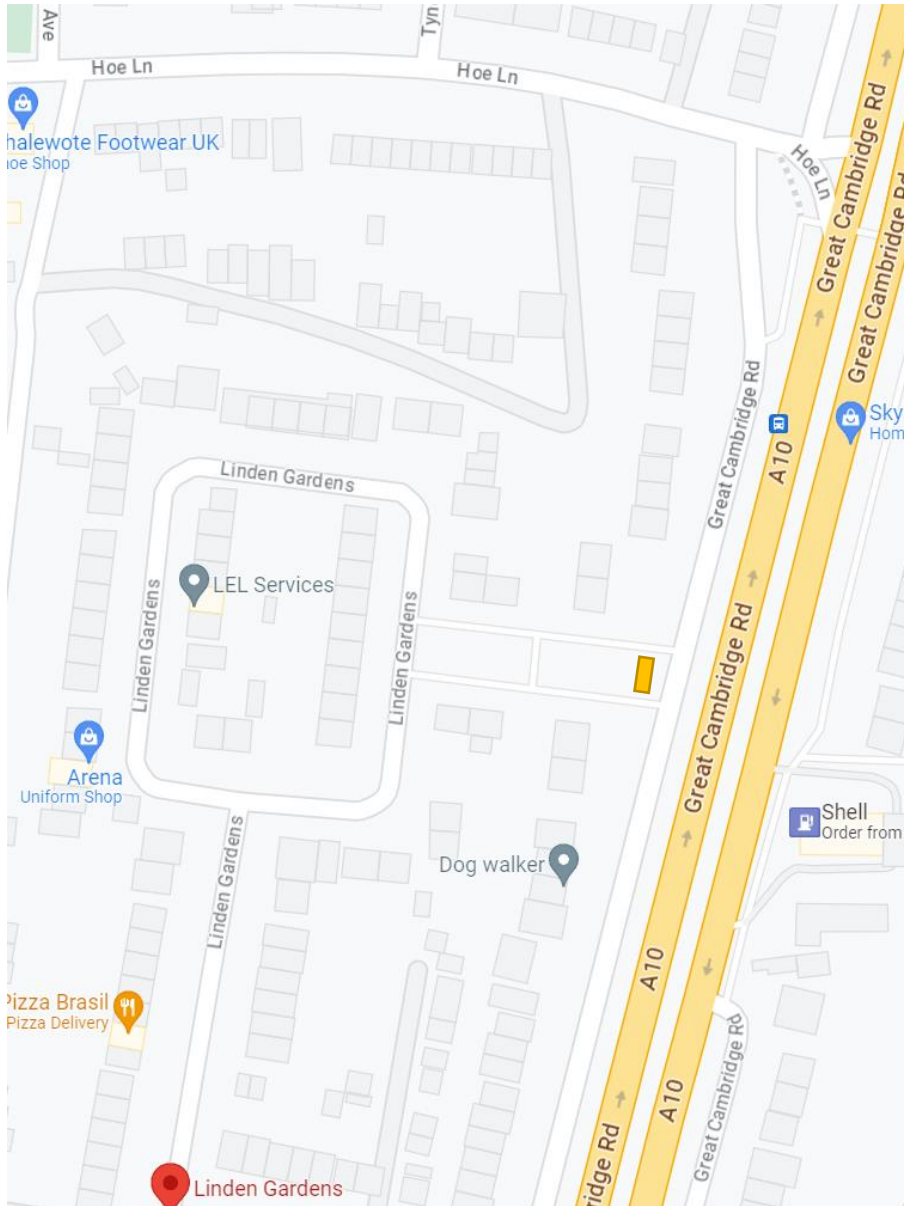
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**Southbury (C) – Linden Gardens**

Private Land and cannot be used





**Temporary Building**

24' x 9' Cabin Anti Vandal Open Plan with 2 Doors c/w 3 keys per cabin – 6.3M – 9.6M

**Standard Portaloo**

**Toilet Dimensions:**  
2.4M Height x 1.2M Depth x 1.2M Width



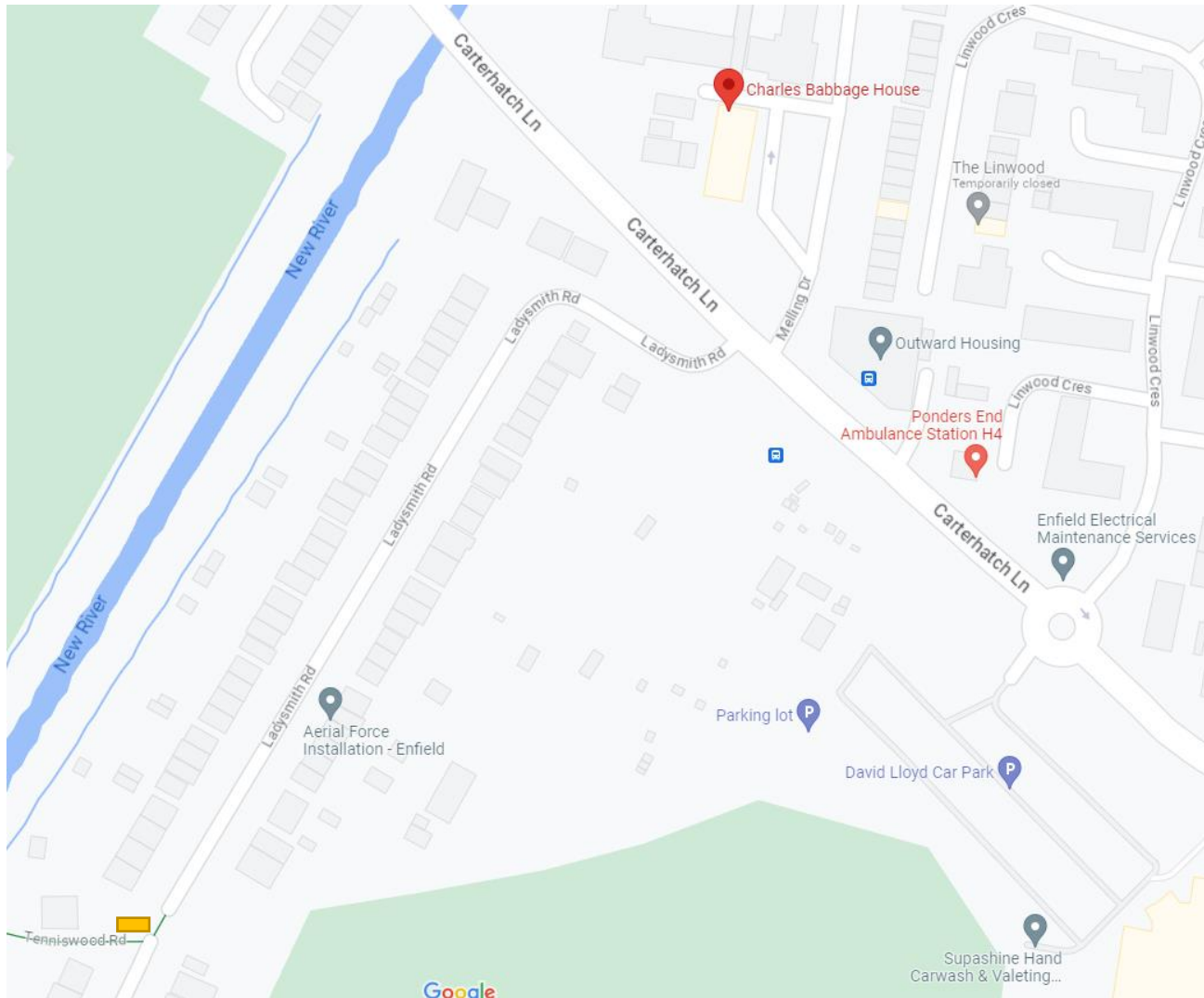
# Southbury (B) - Ladysmith Road

Temporary Building will not fit









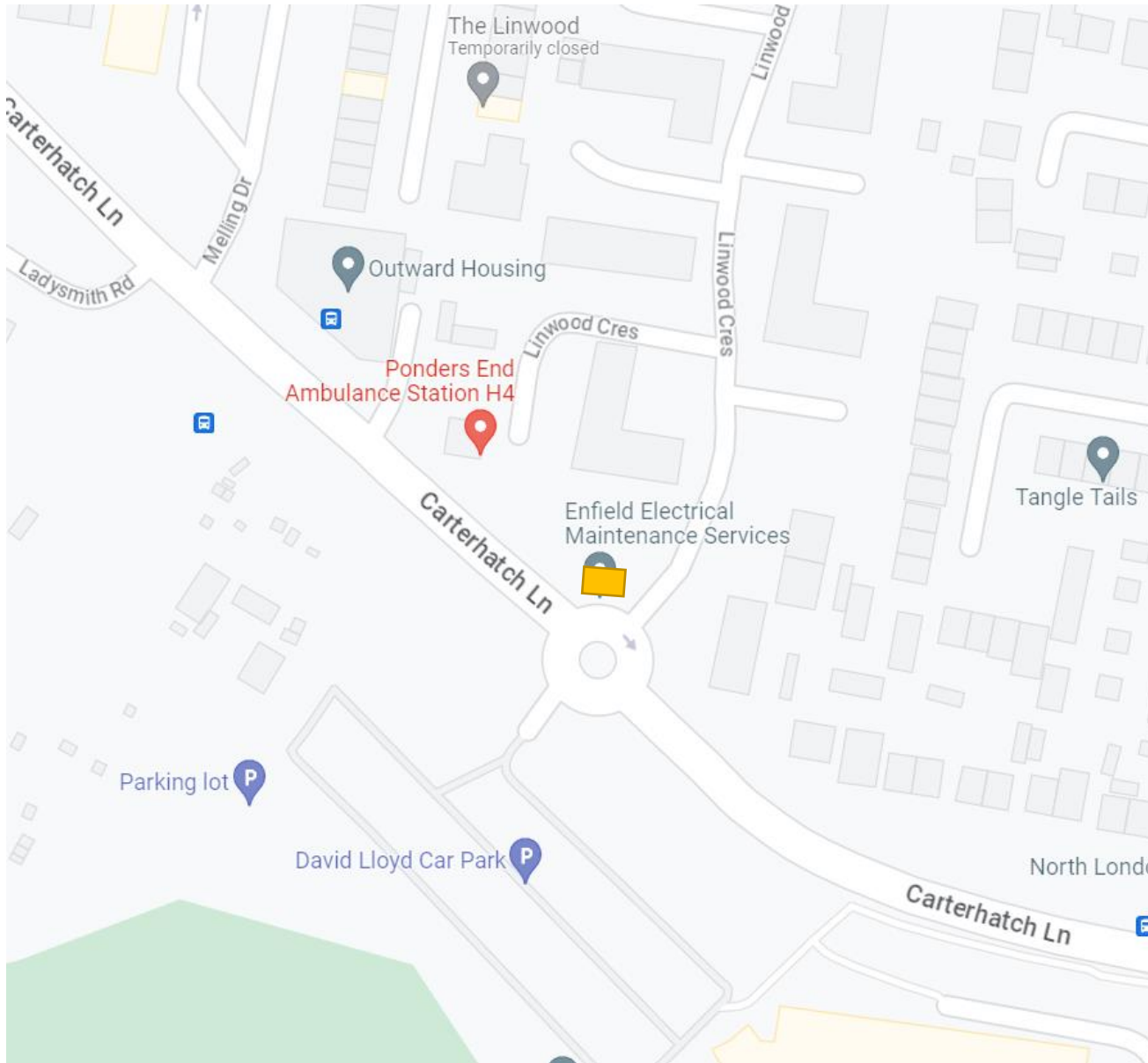
Temporary Building



# Southbury (A) – Corner of Carterhatch Road

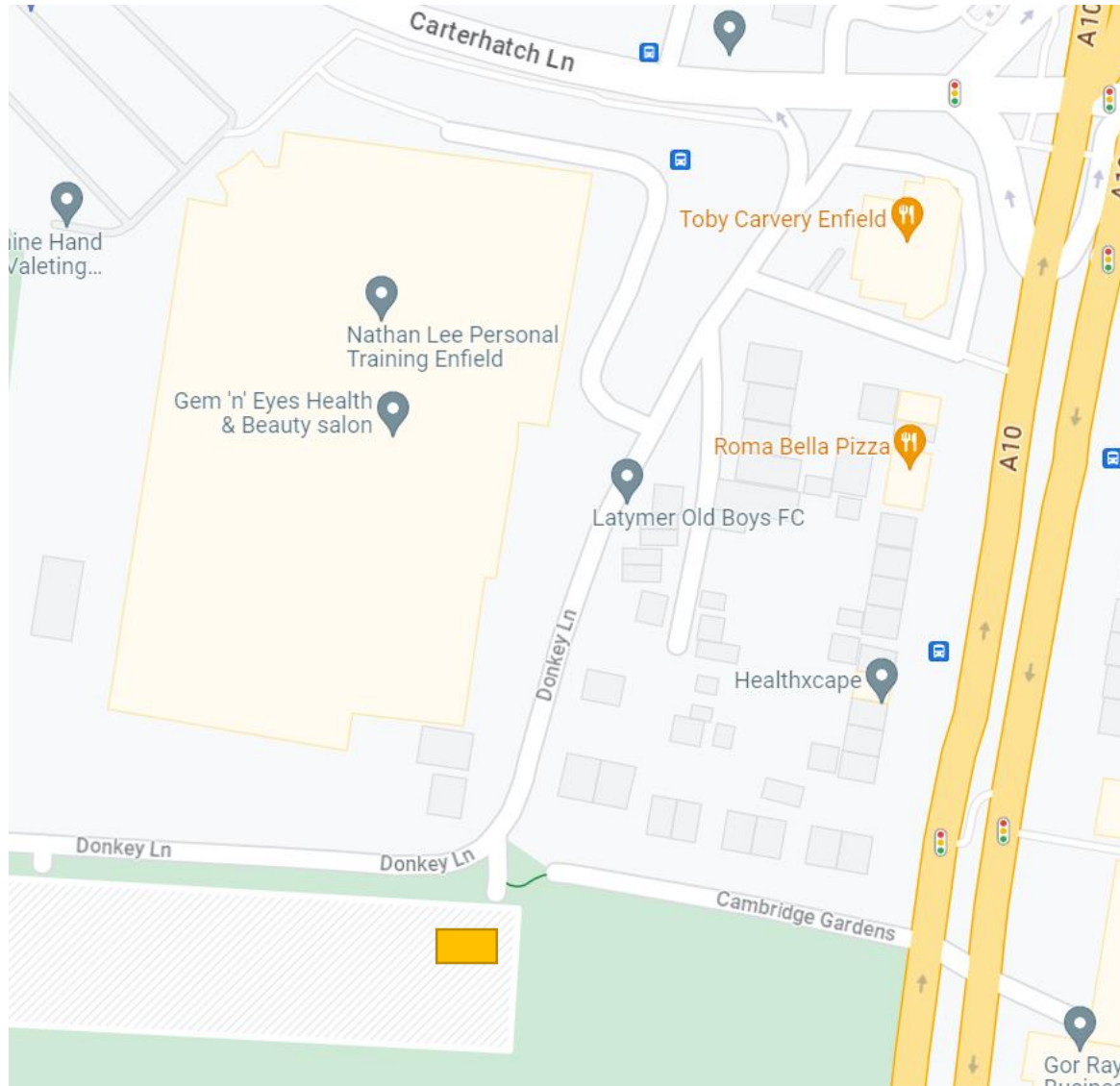
Bus stand area is leased to TFL. Therefore, cannot be used.





Temporary Building

### Recommendation – Enfield Playing Fields Car Park



Temporary Building





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