

Ealing Council's Response to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England Draft Recommendations on new electoral arrangements for Ealing Council



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1. Introduction

Ealing Council put in a full proposal for changes to ward boundaries at the initial stage of the consultation and we are pleased that the Commission has fully accepted our suggestions involving integrating the town centres along the Uxbridge Road into their own wards as well as the proposals for recognisable ward names.

There is one area, on the W7 /W5 borders, where we received significant representations over one change proposed and we will outline our arguments further in this document.

We also do suggest a few minor changes to the Commission's proposals, these are also outlined on the pages overleaf where we have structured our response to match that of the Commission's document.

2.Electoral Equality

The table below shows how electoral equality changes slightly under our responses, improving electoral equality in Ealing Broadway and Pitshanger while reducing it in North Hanwell.

Figure 1-showing variation in electoral equality from proposal

Ward	LGBCE Proposal	Variance from average%	Ealing Proposal	Change in Electors	Variance from average%
Ealing Broadway	10,730	-3%	10,911	+181	-1%
Hanger Hill	10,933	-1%	10,933	0	-1%
North Hanwell	11,332	3%	10,449	-881	-5%
Pitshanger	10,677	-3%	11,371	694	3%

3.Responses to The Draft Recommendations

3A. Northolt Mandeville and Northolt West End

We note the slight changes to our proposal are have no issue with them.

3B. Central Greenford, Greenford Broadway and North Greenford.

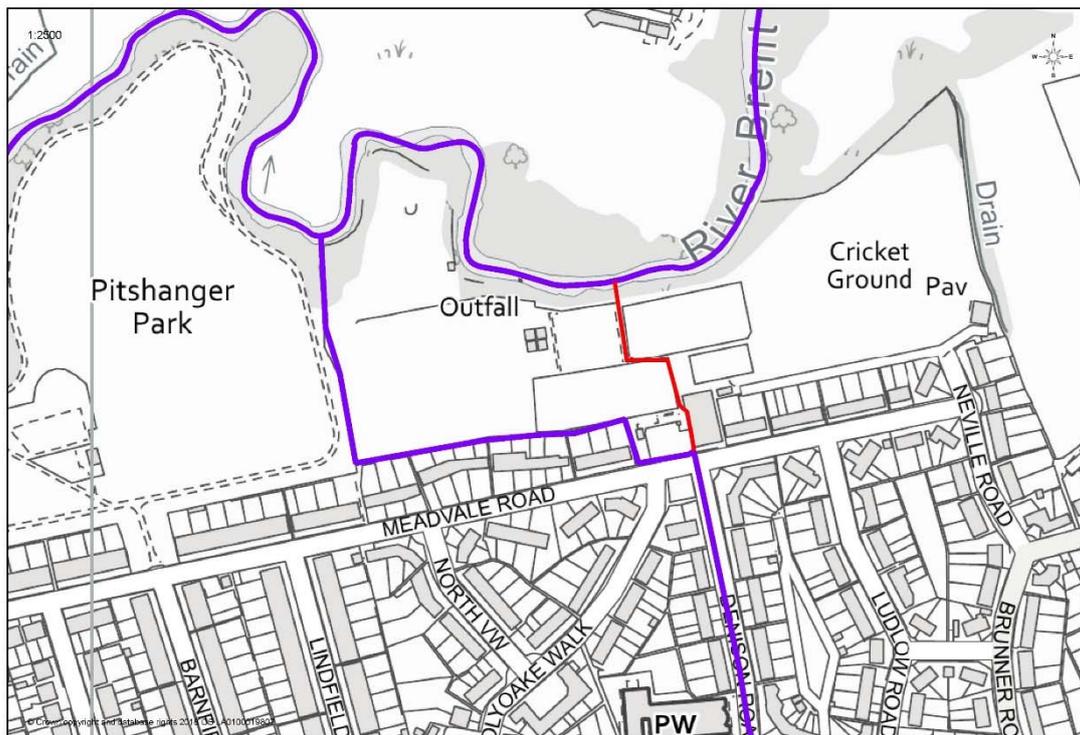
We accept the changes to our proposal and have no issue with the movement of the allotments.

3C. Acton and Hanger Hill (Acton Green, East Acton, Hanger Hill, North Acton, South Acton).

We are pleased that the Commission has accepted our relatively extensive redrawing of the boundaries of this area.

However, we make a modest proposal for this area. It does not make sense for the footprint of the Brentham club to be split between Pitshanger and Hanger Hill wards and we propose including the football ground, but no properties in Hanger Hill ward as shown below.

Figure 2 Including all the Brentham Club in Hanger Hill- (purple line our proposed change.)



3D. Ealing Broadway and Ealing Common.

While we agree with the proposal about Ealing Common, it is Ealing Broadway where we do not agree with the LGCBE's proposal.

We propose uniting the St Stephen's Area as the whole area around St Stephen's Church has distinct architectural characteristics of imposing Victorian dwellings with the church at the heart of the estate.

The electors we have included would all vote at St Stephen's.

This is shown in our map and aerial view

Figure 3 Proposed revised boundary Ealing Broadway Ward-taking electors from Pitshanger

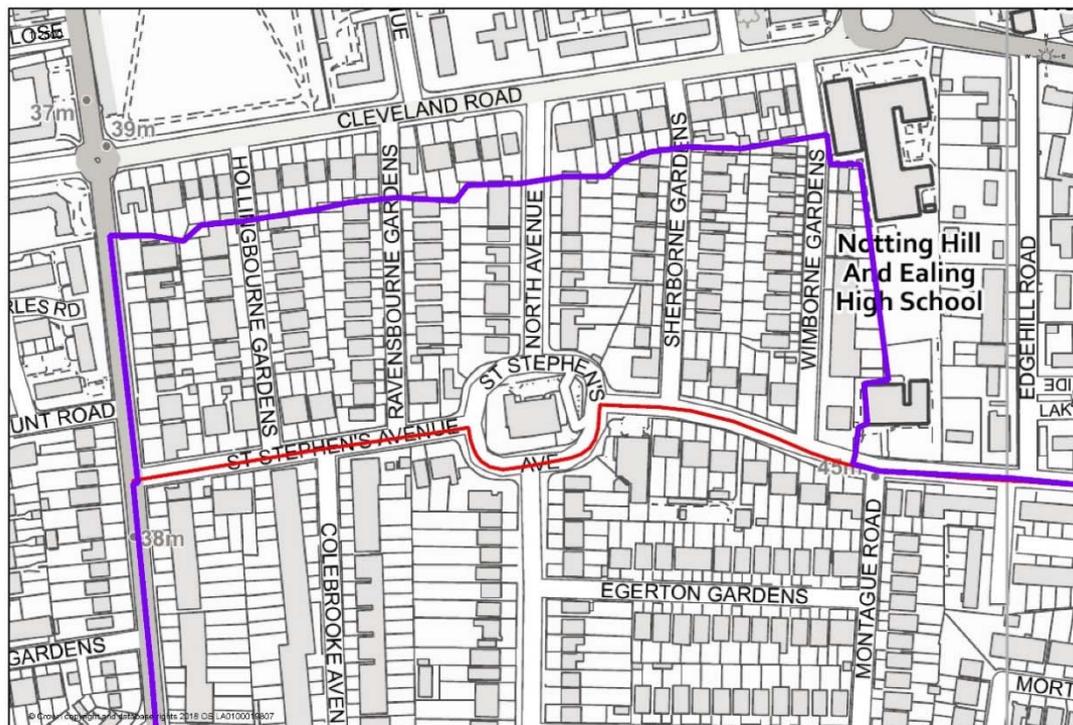


Figure 4 Aerial View showing homogeneity of the area



This proposal would take a number of electors out of the proposed Pitshanger ward.

Ealing's original proposal included Copley Close in Pitshanger ward; while you have proposed moving it in to North Hanwell we argue overleaf that it should remain in Pitshanger.

3E. Hanwell Broadway, South Ealing and Walpole

We are pleased that the Commission have accepted our proposals and have no changes to suggest.

3F. North Hanwell, Perivale and Pitshanger

We do not accept the inclusion of Copley Close in North Hanwell.

We received several representations on this and these are outlined below.

Current and historical ward links

- Copley Close is a thriving community that adds hugely to the diversity of Cleveland ward, of which it has been a part since 2002. It would be a great blow to the community, if it were to be separated from the rest of the ward with which it has very many strong links and simply moved without consultation with the residents in with another ward, Hobbayne (to be North Hanwell), with which it shares little. This proposal also does not recognise the strong community that Copley Close has become.
- There is a fence running between Templeman Road and, which stretches roughly the whole length of the ward and represents a natural and physical boundary between Copley Close and Hobbayne.
- Similarly, the Templeman Rd houses face towards Hobbayne ward and their gardens form another barrier with Copley Close.
- There are actually two roads and paths across and around the railway line that are well used by residents between Copley Close and Cleveland/Pitshanger ward

Schools and children's centres

High schools

- Copley Close children go to Brentside and Drayton Manor High Schools which are in Hobbayne but this is because there are no state high schools in Cleveland and children from all over the current Cleveland and future Pitshanger ward attend both these schools.

Primary schools

- Hobbayne Primary School's website shows that Copley Close is not within the school's catchment area so that most of the children living on Copley Close attend schools located in Cleveland/Pitshanger ward. Many of them attend Drayton Green School with a number at Woodlands Academy. In addition, Copley residents also have above-average numbers of children at Castlebar and Spring Hallows.

Children's Centres

- Copley Close children use the Hathaway and Jubilee Children's Centres (also based in Cleveland/ Pitshanger) in preference to Hanwell Community Centre. When one of the Children's Centres closed temporarily, the residents were extremely reluctant to change and use the Children Centres in Hobbayne.

Community Amenities

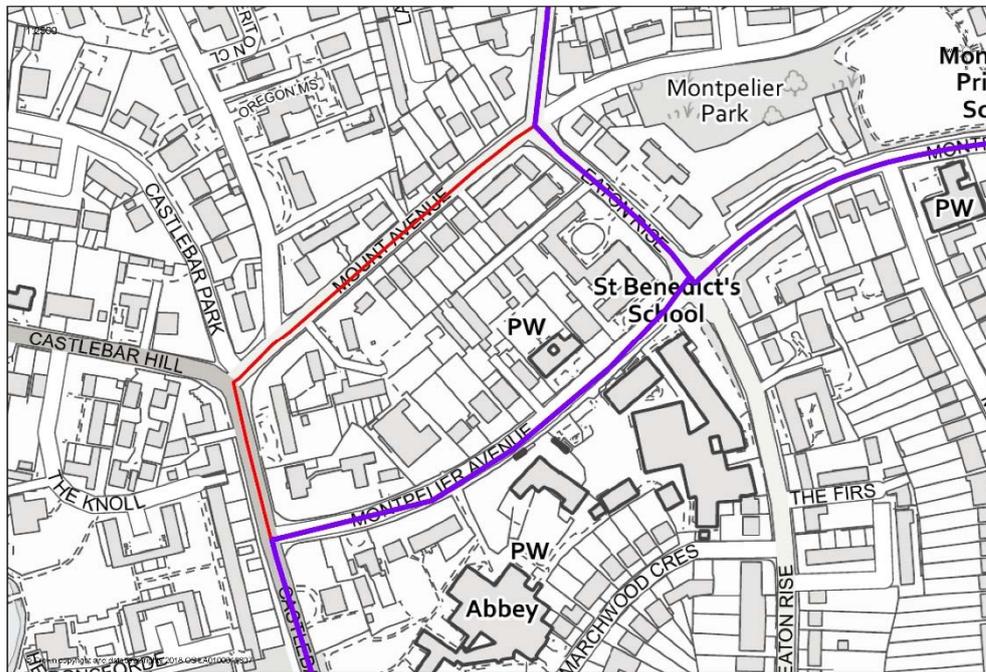
- It is an easy walk from Copley Close to Gurnell Leisure Centre which is much used by residents. Copley Close residents also make use of Cleveland parks and open spaces such as Drayton Green, Scotch Common and Cleveland Park itself, which are closer than any on the Cuckoo estate in North Hanwell.
- There are numerous cultural and social links between the communities of Copley Close and Cleveland, for example, the Somali communities on Copley Close and Berner's Drive share many cultural and ethnic activities and events and the youth club in Gurnell Grove is used by young people from both estates.
- Numerous buses (e.g. E7, E1, E11) serve Copley Close and run through Cleveland Ward and many residents use these buses for shopping etc in Cleveland ward and into Ealing Broadway.

Finally, we have recognised the emotional attachment of residents to the current ward name and are proposing that it is reinstated to the original name of Cleveland.

While the inclusion of Copley Close will increase the number of electors we also propose a small change to compensate for our proposal to integrate the whole of the St Stephen's area into Ealing Broadway Ward

As we have argued above that Pitshanger will lose a small number of electors (187) to Ealing Broadway ward by our suggestion for the St Stephen's Estate we have a suggestion that we move the Pitshanger ward boundary north so that it runs down Montpelier Road rather than Mount Avenue restoring 181 electors as shown overleaf using the busy Montpelier road as the boundary.

Figure 5 Putting part of Pitshanger ward into Ealing Broadway



We have no issues with the Boundaries proposed for Perivale Ward.

3G. South Ealing – Norwood Green, Southall Green

We have no issue with these boundaries.

3H. West Ealing Dormers Wells. Lady Margaret, Southall Broadway, West Southall

While we note that the Commission have adjusted elements of our proposal we do not intend to challenge these as we recognise that they achieve greater electoral equality

However, in relation to ward names, on reflection, we propose that West Southall be named Southall West to maintain naming consistency in the western corner of the borough.