

Representations made to the (Acting) Returning Officer

Dewsbury East ward

Representation made by Councillor Aleks Lukic:

As previously discussed, I'd like to summarise why I feel strongly that the Vistry Homes development presently under construction should be placed in polling district DE03 and not DE02.

If placed in polling district DE02 the development would be separated from the rest of the polling district by two main roads, Challenge Way and Leeds Road. This would pose a significant barrier because the only way to access the polling station on foot would be to cross both main roads at or near Shaw Cross junction, using the traffic signals. This would make it much less convenient to access the Shaw Cross Community Centre polling station on foot.

Accessing St Paul's Church Hall (DE03) polling station on foot would be much easier and shorter. The development site will have a pedestrian access onto High Street close to St Paul's Church. It is only a 200 metre walk from the top of the development site along High Street and Kirkgate, which are quieter roads, to reach the polling station at St Paul's Church Hall.

The walking distance from the development to Shaw Cross Community Centre is more than twice as long as the walking distance to St Paul's Church Hall, considering the closest site entrance for each option. The driving distance is very similar to each as there is only one vehicular entrance to the site (it will be about 30 metres shorter to drive to Shaw Cross Community Centre).

In terms of community ties, the Vistry development directly adjoins neighbouring homes on High Street within the DE03 polling district and can be considered as part of that neighbourhood surrounding St Paul's Church. In DE02 the development would be significantly separated/isolated from its nearest residential neighbours by the main roads and non-residential development in between.

I am also concerned about preserving capacity at the DE02 polling station because the Shaw Cross Community Centre is a very small room normally used for TRA meetings. Within DE02 there are already 260 more homes under construction at the Barratt housing site on Owl Lane and these may be joined by further proposed developments at Chidswell which would also be within DE02.

The St Paul's Church Hall DE03 polling station is significantly larger and can certainly accommodate the future residents of the 55 homes in the Vistry development.

I hope that these reasons are useful to all involved in considering this polling district review.

Representation made by Councillor Eric Firth:

The persimmon development is quite near Manorcroft academy.

The Barrat development is pretty handy for the Shawcross polling station it's closer than Amberwood Chase.

The Vestry dev is a bit awkward as the entrance is down grange road so the nearest one for them would be Shaw cross.

Shawcross polling station is 0.3 of a mile Hanging Heaton community centre is 0.4 of a mile I have just measured it.

Hanging Heaton is a very busy box so I would prefer the Shaw cross box.

Representation made by Councillor Cathy Scott:

I fully support all Cllr Firths Comments, regarding the Polling Districts in Dewsbury East.

Liversedge & Gomersal ward

Representation made by Councillor David Hall:

As you know, I am supportive of this, but here is my official response.

Representation made by Councillor Melanie Stephen:

Thanks very much for the info – I am in full support of this.

Representation made by Councillor Lisa Holmes:

I think that's very sensible, and I agree the proposed changes.