

Requested information by the Governance Committee with regards to Creasys Drive former Adventure Playground site being used as a Polling Station

At its meeting held on 23 January 2023, Governance Committee approved a temporary change to the polling scheme for the 2023 elections for polling district LBB (Broadfield Ward) to designate the polling place as Broadfield Community Centre. The temporary change was subject to a report being submitted to the next meeting of the Full Council which provided satisfactory evidence demonstrating that it would not be possible to use the former Adventure Playground site at Creasys Drive as a polling place due to health and safety concerns, structural damage to the building and/or anticipated significant disruption to any potential future operations at the site.

The former adventure playground building has been identified as a base for the Neighbourhood Services South Patch team. This is subject to planning approval and some reconfiguration works that would be needed before the team could move in. This will not be completed by the May 2023 elections. The building will therefore be available for use as a polling station.

A Health and Safety Inspection was undertaken recently. Significant repairs to the ceiling caused by damaged roof tiles are underway and will be completed by May. The building has also suffered several vandalism attacks, with significant damage to the interior fittings, windows, and doors. Work to repair this damage and to ensure that the building is suitable for public access will take place before the election. Measures to ensure that the site is secure and remains free of vandalism will also be implemented.

The building will be available and made suitable for use as a polling station at the May 2023 elections and it is therefore recommended that it is retained as the Polling Place for Polling District LBB.