

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places in North East Derbyshire

Consultation Document

Consultation Period runs from 19 August 2019 to 20 September 2019



**North East
Derbyshire
District Council**

1 Background to the Review

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. It also has to keep these arrangements under review.

The Electoral Administration Act 2006 introduced a duty on all local authorities in Great Britain to review their polling districts and polling places at least once every four years. The next compulsory review must be started and completed between 1 October 2018 and 31 January 2020.

2 Definitions

A **polling district** is a geographical area created by the sub-division of an electoral area, ie a parliamentary constituency, district ward or division into smaller parts.

A **polling place** is a building or area in which polling stations will be located.

A **polling station** is the room or area within the polling place where voting takes place.

3 The Review Process

The Council publishes notice of holding the review, and consults the Returning Officer for each Parliamentary Constituency in the Council's area.

The Council then invites comments on the proposals. The consultation paper will be published on the Council's website, and will also be sent to Councillors, Members of Parliament, local political parties and any other interested groups or persons, including those who have particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for persons who have different forms of disability.

4 The Review Timetable

The timetable for the review is set out below:

Publication of Notice of Review	16 August 2019
Commencement of Review	19 August 2019
Deadline for receipt of public comments on the review	20 September 2019
Issue and publication of the (Acting) Returning Officer's comments	4 October 2019
Deadline for receipt of public comments on the Returning Officer's comments and proposals	18 October 2019
Submission of final proposals to Council	11 November 2019

5 The Aim of the Review

The document attached sets out details of the current polling districts and polling place for each of the 24 wards in North East Derbyshire.

The District Council appreciates the co-operation of polling places in providing their building for the day so that electors have a convenient place to vote.

The proposals seek to address issues which have arisen during recent elections and are informed by feedback from polling station staff and inspectors.

The principles underlying the Council's approach to polling districts and polling places are:

- (a) To retain the current network of polling places and polling districts as far as possible, to minimise disruption to voters.
- (b) To try and identify new polling places in areas where the existing provision is inadequate.
- (c) To ensure, as far as practicable, that polling places are accessible to people with disabilities.
- (d) To ensure that all electors have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances.

6 Making comments

Any elector may make representations. Where someone suggests a change of polling place, we would encourage them to give the reasons for this, and to suggest alternative polling places to allow further consultation.

Any representations must be received by Friday 20 September 2019.

All representations should be addressed to:

Donna Jawad
Electoral Services Manager
North East Derbyshire District Council
District Council Offices
2013 Mill Lane
Wingerworth
Chesterfield
S42 6NG

or by email to: elections@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk

Details of representations received will be made available for inspection at the Electoral Services Office and will be published at the end of the review.

7 Completion of the Review

A report will be submitted to the Council meeting on 11 November 2019, where Councillors will consider the proposals and representations received before reaching their decisions.

Any changes will be implemented upon the publication of the Electoral Register on 1 December 2019.