

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places in Wrexham

Consultation Document

Consultation Period runs from 9 September to 11 October 2019.

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.

2 Definitions

A **polling district** is a geographical area created by the sub-division of an electoral area, ie a 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 a 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	Monday 9 September 2019
Commencement of Review	Monday 9 September 2019
Deadline for receipt of public comments on the	Friday 11 October 2019
review	
Issue and publication of the Returning Officer's	Friday 14 th October 2019
comments	
Deadline for receipt of public comments on the	Friday 28 th October 2019
Returning Officer's comments and proposals	
Submission of final proposals to Council	Wednesday 18 th December 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 47 Electoral Divisions in Wrexham.

The 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 Review seeks to address issues which have arisen, either due to the closure of community centres and chapel rooms, or issues arising during recent elections and will also be informed by feedback from polling station staff and inspectors.

In view of the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission (LDBC) review of electoral arrangements taking place, a preliminary review of current polling districts has been carried out and, unless any representations are made as part of this consultation, no proposed changes to polling districts will be put forward at this time. It may be necessary to carry out a further interim review of the whole area following publication of the LDBC final proposals.

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

- (a) To ensure that as far as possible that each polling district is allocated a polling station within its boundary.
- (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 11 October 2019.

All representations should be addressed to: Scrutiny Team Governance and Customer Services Department Wrexham County Borough Council Guildhall Wrexham LL11 1NF

or by email to: polling@wrexham.gov.uk