Notice of Polling Districts and Polling Places Review 2023

Notice is hereby given that Wiltshire Council is conducting a review of its current polling districts and polling places. The objective of the review is to ensure that polling arrangements remain suitable and convenient for voters.

Section 17 of the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 introduced a duty on Local Authorities to 'carry out and complete' reviews of polling districts and polling places every five years. The next review must be completed between 1 October 2023 and 31 January 2025.

The review will look at the designation of polling places and the sub-division of electoral divisions into polling districts. The review cannot consider changes to a parliamentary constituency, Wiltshire Council unitary division or parish and parish ward boundaries.

Full details can be found on the Polling District Review webpage.

A list of the current polling arrangements incorporating the (Acting) Returning Officer's comments on the current and any proposed changes to polling districts and polling places will be published on the on the webpage on 2 October 2023. There will also be an interactive map to view the current arrangements and any proposed changes to the polling districts. Due to the geographical size of Wiltshire Council, it is not possible or cost effective to produce paper maps.

Wiltshire Council welcomes comments or suggestions from any electors or organisations within the authority area or any other interested person or organisation regarding:

- the current polling arrangements.
- the proposed polling arrangements
- the allocated polling stations currently used for elections. This may be confirming current arrangements are suitable or making alternative suggestions.

It is important to note that there are many polling districts and polling stations that remain unchanged but we would still welcome comments on suitability and any alternative options.

Responding to the review

Persons or bodies making representations should clearly identify the electoral area or polling station and include details of your proposals and the reasons why this would be an improvement on the current arrangements. Please also include any alternative suggestions.

The consultation period will commence on Monday 2 October and close at 5pm on Tuesday 31 October 2023 and any comments or proposals should be received by this deadline.

Comments and representations may be submitted as follows:

- Online: LINK
- **Post**: Polling Review, Electoral Services, Wiltshire Council, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge BA14 8JN
- Email: pollingreview@wiltshire.gov.uk

All submissions, relevant correspondence and decisions relating to the review process will be made available for public inspection and will be published on the Council's website. For further information about how we use personal information, please see our privacy notice: <u>Privacy</u> <u>notice - Electoral Services - Wiltshire Council</u>