

Wiltshire Council

Council

10 July 2012

Review of Polling Districts – additional Information

Since the publication of the report on the Review of Polling Districts, three comments have come to light which might help clarify aspects of the report.

1. The schedule of polling districts and polling places has been amended to show a) the current parish / parish ward for that polling district and b) the parish / parish ward for that polling district for 2013. The original version only showed the name of the polling district (or register name). Polling Districts are not the same as parish wards, and once the 2013 register is published, then the polling districts and registers will be named in accordance with the new parish wards. This revised schedule is appended to this paper, and replaces the original version circulated with the agenda.
2. Under the 2008 parish boundary changes, part of the parish of Chippenham Without was transferred into Chippenham. However, the composition of the town council was not officially altered, and the relevant Chippenham Without parish councillors were allowed to attend and take part in town council meetings pending the formal alteration of town wards in 2013. Once the new town wards take effect, those electors and elected members will have new town wards to which they can be allocated, and the polling district can change its name to the relevant town ward. Again, the name of the polling district does not have to be the same as the name of the parish ward, although it is accepted that the naming of the Chippenham Without parish wards in the schedule may have caused some confusion.
3. Since the production of the report, an improvement to the polling districts within Melksham Central division has been suggested, which could avoid electors having to travel further than is necessary. The polling places for all Melksham electors are correctly shown in the schedule as being in the parish of Melksham. Members may wish to be aware that the polling stations proposed for electors in part of the Melksham Central division will be further examined to see if there is a more convenient arrangement for them. This is a Returning Officer's decision and may lead to further rationalisation of polling districts in that division.

Dr Carlton Brand

Corporate Director and Returning Officer

4 July 2012