

Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations

1. Summary

This report informs Members of the duty on all local authorities to carry out a review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations in their area within five years, as laid down by the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013.

2. Background

The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 introduced a change to the timing of compulsory reviews of UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling places. The next compulsory review must now be started and completed between 1 October 2018 and 31 January 2020 (inclusive).

3. Aim of the Review

Local Authorities are required to divide their area into polling districts for the purposes of parliamentary elections and to designate polling places for these polling districts and to keep them under review.

Local Authorities must:

- Seek to ensure that all electors in the constituency have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances

- Seek to ensure that so far as is reasonable and practicable the polling places they are responsible for are accessible to all electors, including those who are disabled and when considering the designation of polling places must have regard to the accessibility needs of disabled persons.

4. The Review Process

A local authority is required to publish notice of the holding of a review and this in York has taken the form of a notice in the local press and on the Council Website. The notice stated that the review commenced on the 1 September 2019 and invites comments and representations from interested parties and bodies.

Consultation has also begun with local political parties, ward councillors, parish councils, disability awareness groups and local community groups.

A period of two months consultation now takes place, which ends on the 1 November 2019.

At the end of this period of consultation any representations received will be brought before Members and Members may decide to make amendments to polling districts, polling places and/or polling stations.

5. Options

This is a statutory requirement and this report is by way of information only

6. Consultation

There will be a process of consultation as part of the review

7. Corporate Objectives

- Improve the way the Council and it's partners work together to deliver better services
- Improve our focus on the needs of customers and residents in designing and providing services

There are no financial, human resource, crime and disorder, information technology or property implications

8. Equalities

The review will consider a range of equalities issues

9. Legal

Necessary to meet legal requirements

10. Risk management

Failure to meet statutory requirements would represent an unacceptable risk to the authority.

11. Recommendation

That Members note the report

Reason: To comply with statutory requirements

Contact Details

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**Report
Approved**



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Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex A – Timetable for Review

Annex B - List of Polling Stations

Background Papers

Schedule of current polling stations

Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013

Representation of the People Act 1983