

**Chief
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To: All Parish Councils

Your Ref:

Our Ref: CJA/Review

Enq to: Chris Ashcroft

Direct Line: 01962 848 284

Email: cashcroft@winchester.gov.uk

7 August 2014

Dear Colleague

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

The Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended) requires a review of Polling Districts and Polling Places on a regular five yearly cycle. For the City Council, that review is scheduled for the latter part of 2014 and this letter commences the consultation process by inviting your comments about the polling places we use for our various elections.

A notice in similar terms appears on the Council's website to which electors within the Parliamentary Constituencies of Winchester and Meon Valley will be able to respond. We will also be consulting those who have particular expertise in relation to the accessibility of disabled persons to polling stations.

As part of the review process, the Acting Returning Officer for the above Constituencies will also be making comments on the proposed polling stations and those comments will be published on the Council's website as soon as they are received.

In summary, we are seeking representations about any aspect of our polling districts and/or the polling places/stations we currently use (e.g. location, accessibility, facilities etc). Those making representations should bear in mind that, unless exceptional circumstances prevail, each parish must be a separate polling district and there must be at least one polling station in each polling district. Therefore, it would be very helpful if any proposal to no longer use a particular premises for polling was accompanied by a suggested alternative.

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The consultation period for the review formally commences on Friday 8 August 2014 and concludes on Friday 26 September 2014. A final decision will be made by the Council's Licensing & Regulation Committee at its meeting to be held on 9 October 2014.

Details of the current arrangements for polling districts and polling places are available for public inspection at the City Offices, Colebrook Street, Winchester on Monday to Friday between the hours of 8.30am and 5pm or on our website at www.winchester.gov.uk

Representations should be emailed to ereg@winchester.gov.uk or sent in writing to:-

The Electoral Services Manager
Winchester City Council
City Offices, Colebrook Street
Winchester
SO23 9LJ

Any representations received will be reproduced in a public report to the Licensing & Regulation Committee, but names and addresses of individuals will be redacted.

Yours sincerely



Stephen Whetnall
Chief Operating Officer

NOTE: A Polling District is the geographical sub-division of an electoral area. A Polling Place is the building or area in which polling stations are located.

Neither the Parliamentary Constituency boundaries nor the Local Government Ward or Division boundaries can be changed by this Review.