

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places in the Borough of Chesterfield

Consultation Document for the 2024 Review

**Consultation period runs from
23 September – 28 October 2024**

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Appendix A – Proposals document

Contact information:

Information on making representations and comments is detailed on page 5 of this consultation document.

If you would wish to receive this consultation document in an alternative format, such as large print, please let us know by contacting Electoral Services:

- E-mail: elections@chesterfield.gov.uk
- Telephone: (01246) 936860

1. Introduction to this Review

The Electoral Administration Act 2006 introduced a duty for all polling districts and polling places to be reviewed every four years. The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 introduced a change of the timing of compulsory reviews of UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling places. The next compulsory review must be started and completed between 1st October 2023 and 31st January 2025. The Council must carry out a review of the arrangements under which its area is divided into polling districts and by which polling places are provided within those districts. The review covers both the whole area governed by the Borough Council and any parliamentary constituencies that come within it.

This document forms the basis of the consultation on the review. Information about the procedures for making representations is given later in this paper and the detailed proposals, including proposals for change, are set out in the attached document. The proposed changes detailed in the document are because of the County Council boundary review that the Local Government Boundary Commission has recently carried out.

2. Definitions

Parliamentary constituency - The subject of this review is the division of the borough and the parliamentary constituency into polling districts and the provision of polling places; the actual constituency boundaries cannot be changed by this review.

Polling district - This is the area created by the division of a constituency or local government electoral area, such as a ward. The borough council is responsible for deciding the boundaries of polling districts. In England, each parish must be a separate polling district, although larger parishes can be divided into two or more districts. A parish must not be in a polling district which has a part of a different parish within it, or any un-parished part of the local authority area within it.

Polling place - This is the building or area in which the Returning Officer will locate polling stations.

Polling station - This is the actual area where the process of voting takes place. This must be located within the polling place and designated for the particular polling district. This function of identifying a polling station is the responsibility of the Returning Officer.

3. The Review process

As part of the review process the Council must:

- seek to ensure that all electors in the constituency/local government area 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 are accessible to those who are disabled; and
- when considering or reviewing the designation of a polling place, have regard to the accessibility needs of disabled persons.

The Council is required to publish notice of the holding of a review. Information about the review is made available on the Council's website and can also be obtained from Electoral Services at the Town Hall, Chesterfield.

The consultation document will also be sent to

- The local Members of Parliament
- Borough and County Councillors
- Local political parties
- Parish Councils
- Persons who have particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for persons who have different forms of disability.

The consultation period for this review will run from 23 September to 28 October 2024.

The timetable for this review is as follows:

23 September 2024	Publication of Notice of review and commencement of the review. Start of public consultation.
23 September 2024	Publication of the (Acting) Returning Officer's comments and proposals.
28 October 2024	Deadline for receipt of public comments on the review

18 November 2024	Final proposals considered by the Council's Employment and General Committee
1 December 2024	Publish revised register incorporating changes from the review

4. The proposals of this Review

The appendix to this consultation document sets out details of current polling districts and polling places for each of the 16 wards in Chesterfield Borough including the (Acting) Returning Officer's proposals.

The Borough Council appreciates the co-operation of polling places in providing their building for the day so that electors have a convenient and accessible place to vote.

Ward maps outlining the proposed polling districts are available at www.chesterfield.gov.uk/polling-review

Copies of the maps will also be available to view at the Town Hall, Chesterfield, S40 1LP.

5. How to comment on the Review

Any elector in the whole of the borough, whether they live in the Chesterfield Borough Constituency or those parts of the North East Derbyshire Constituency which come within the borough, may make representations to the Council.

Anyone making representations is requested to suggest alternative polling districts/places to those proposed where appropriate and to give reasons for the alternative.

Details of representations received will be made available for inspection at the Electoral Services Office and will be published at the end of the review.

Any representations or comments must be received by 28 October 2024.

Representations can be made by completing the online survey accessed by scanning the below QR code.



Paper copies of the survey are also available from the Town Hall, Rose Hill, Chesterfield, S40 1LP.

All representations should be addresses to:

Bethany Fletcher
Democratic and Elections Manager
Chesterfield Borough Council
Town Hall
Rose Hill
Chesterfield
S40 1LP

Those who wish to email their representations should send them to elections@chesterfield.gov.uk (with the words “Polling Districts Review” in the subject line).

6. Completion of the Review

A report containing the findings of the review and any proposed changes to polling districts and polling places will be submitted to a meeting of the Council’s Employment and General Committee on 18 November 2024. The Committee will be asked to consider the proposals and representations received and make a final decision. The Council is required to give reasons for its decisions in respect of the designation of both polling districts and polling places.

The new electoral register containing any revised polling districts will be published on **1 December 2024**. Any new polling districts and polling places will become effective at all elections held after this date.