



The Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (Parliamentary Elections) Regulations 2006

RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 To approve the publication of a notice to review polling districts and polling places on 23 July.
- 1.2 To authorise the Corporate Director – Corporate and Adult Services to carry out the statutory review in accordance with the proposals set out in this report.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Council has always had a duty under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act 1983 – RPA – to keep the designation of polling districts and places in its area under review.
- 2.2 Constitutionally decisions on any changes to the designations following such a review are delegated to the Corporate Director of Corporate and Adult Services. In practice I only exercise this delegation following consultation with the three group leaders, ward councillors in the areas affected and the relevant party agents.
- 2.3 The Electoral Administration Act 2006 – the Act – has made amendments to the RPA with particular reference to the timing of reviews and the way in which the reviews of polling districts and places are conducted. Section 16 of the Act provides that a first full review must be completed before the end of a period of one year starting with the date that Section 16 came into force and every four years thereafter. Section 16 came into force on 1 January 2007 so the review must be completed and a final scheme agreed by 31 December 2007.
- 2.4 The Act has inserted a Schedule A1 into the RPA which sets out how a review is to be conducted and the Council as the relevant authority must comply with the following requirements:
 - publish a notice of the holding of a review
 - consult the acting returning officer for every parliamentary constituency which is wholly or partly in its area
 - every acting returning officer must make representation to the authority
 - the representations must include information as to the location of polling stations, existing or proposed, within polling places, existing or proposed.
 - the representations must be published in such a manner as is prescribed

- representations must be sought from people it thinks to have expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for people who have different forms of disability
- such persons must have an opportunity to make representation and to comment on the returning officers representations
- any elector in a constituency situated in whole or in part in the authority's areas may make representations
- representations may include proposals for alternative polling places
- on completion of the review the Council must give reasons for its decisions

- 2.5 The Act introduces a requirement that an acting Returning Officer must make representations to the Authority on its proposed scheme. As the review is to be based upon the existing parliamentary constituencies and their boundaries, this means that for City of Derby the acting returning officers for Derby North, Derby South and South Derbyshire Parliamentary Constituencies must be consulted.
- 2.6 To progress the review it is proposed that a Notice of the Review be published on 23 July with copies of the review document available on request and on the Council's website. As we have reviewed our polling places annually it is proposed that the scheme used in the May 2007 City Council elections be used in the review document.
- 2.7 Copies of the notice and supporting documentation will be sent to all Councillors, party agents and organisations represented at the diversity forums. It is proposed that the closing date for representations be 24 September. It is intended that all representations received will be published on the Council's website to allow interested parties to comment on them. Members of the Disability Diversity Forum have previously expressed an interest in being involved in the review.
- 2.8 It is then proposed that the representations of the two acting returning officers will be published on 8 October with a further three weeks given to allow interested parties to comment on them. It is the intention that the Council will approve the final scheme at the meeting scheduled to take place on 27 November 2007.
- 2.9 The timetable is summarised below:
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|--|-------------------|
| Publication of notice and consultation document | 23 July 2007 |
| Closing date for representations | 24 September 2007 |
| Publication of Returning Officer's representations | 8 October 2007 |
| Final date for commenting on Returning Officer's Representations | 29 October 2007 |
| Full Council approves final scheme | 27 November 2007 |
| 2008 Electoral Register published in accordance with the new scheme. | 1 December 2007 |
- 2.10 The legislation requires that all polling places and districts must be reviewed again within the next four years. The Council may wish to make alterations to polling districts between reviews. In such cases the Electoral Registration Officer will now be required to publish a notice fourteen days before the publication of the revised version in a local newspaper, at the Council House and at some other conspicuous place in the City.

For more information contact:	Jason Spencer Telephone number 01332 255466 e-mail jason.spencer@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places Consultation Document Appendix 3 - Copy of Notice of Review

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 In the 2006/07 and 2007/08 budget settlement approximately £85,000 was provided by the Department for Constitutional Affairs, now the Ministry of Justice, specifically to cover some of the costs of implementing the requirements arising from the Act. In both years when setting the budget the Council has agreed to allocate this funding directly to the Electoral Services Budget. All the proposals within this report will be contained within this funding.

Legal

- 2.1 Section 16 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006 amended the Representation of the People Act 1983 to require that relevant authorities must carry out periodic reviews of polling places and polling districts. The practicalities of how the reviews must be conducted are set out in The Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (Parliamentary Elections) Regulations 2006.

Personnel

- 3.1 The Electoral Services Team comprises three full-time equivalent posts. This was increased from two full-time equivalent posts in October 2006. Benchmarking shows that Derby is still under resourced compared with other similar sized authorities. A report considered by the Scrutiny Management Commission at a meeting on 25 June demonstrated that the volume and complexity of electoral services work has increased significantly over the last three years.
- 3.2 The staffing levels in Electoral Services are currently being reviewed but any changes cannot be made before this review commences. Because the review will be taking place at the same time as the Annual Canvas it is anticipated that additional temporary staff will need to be appointed.

Equalities impact

- 4.1 One of the key reasons for the new legislation is to ensure that polling places are as accessible as possible. The Council's equality and diversity forums and the organisations represented at the forums will be consulted as part of the review.

Corporate priorities

- 5.1 By improving the services provided by electoral services the action plan contributes to the Council's priority of making residents proud of their neighbourhoods by attempting to increase participation in decision making and democratic processes.

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DERBY CITY COUNCIL

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

**Derby North & Derby South
Parliamentary Constituencies**

**Part of the South Derbyshire
Parliamentary Constituency**

Consultation Document

July 2007

Background

Section 16 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006 introduced a number of changes to the Representation of the People Act 1983 in respect of the way in which reviews of polling districts and polling places must be carried out.

One of the most significant requirements is that by 31 December 2007, every relevant authority must have undertaken and completed a review of all the polling districts and polling places in its area. This consultation document has been produced as part of Derby's first review.

The legalisation requires that reviews are carried out based on Parliamentary Constituencies. For the Derby North and Derby South Parliamentary Constituencies, and the parts of the South Derbyshire Constituency which fall within the City boundaries, Derby City Council is the relevant authority. For those areas outside of the City which fall within the South Derbyshire Parliamentary Constituency, South Derbyshire District Council is the relevant authority. They will be carrying out their own separate review.

Definitions

a) Polling Districts

A polling district is a geographical sub-division of an electoral area, such as a parliamentary constituency or a ward.

As the relevant authority, the Council is responsible for designating polling districts, and must therefore seek to ensure that all electors in the parliamentary constituency have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances

b) Polling Places

There is no legal definition of what a polling place is. However in Derby a polling place is a geographical location in which a polling station is situated. Although it is usual to have one polling station in one polling place, there are situations where several polling stations are located in one polling place.

As the relevant authority, the Council is responsible for determining polling places, and must therefore make sure that the polling places are accessible to all electors and must take into account the accessibility needs of disabled people.

c) Polling Stations

A polling station is the actual area in which the process of voting takes place and must be located in the polling place designated for the particular polling district. The polling station may consist of a whole room or in certain circumstances a designated area within a room or building.

The Returning Officer for the particular election is responsible for providing a sufficient number of polling stations and allotting electors to those polling stations. As a consequence the determination of polling stations is outside the scope of this review. However polling stations must be located within the polling places designated by the Council, and these are within the scope of the review.

The Review Process

The timetable for the review is set out below:

Publication of notice and consultation document	23 July 2007
Closing date for representations	24 September 2007
Publication of representations from both Returning Officers	8 October 2007
Final date for comments on the representations from the Returning Officers	29 October 2007
Full Council approves final scheme	27 November 2007
2008 Electoral Register published in accordance with the new scheme	1 December 2007

The publication of this consultation document represents the first stage of the review. The existing schedule of polling districts and polling places is included in Appendix A. This appendix also provides a breakdown of the number of electors allocated to each polling district. In Appendix B we have provided a set of maps which illustrates where the boundaries of the polling districts are located. Copies of the maps and this document are available on the Council's website at www.derby.gov.uk/elections.

As part of this first stage you are invited to comment on the existing scheme, and if you feel it appropriate you may suggest changes to polling district boundaries or alternative proposals for polling places. It would help us if you could also give reasons for the changes you have suggested.

All representations will be published on the Council's website as soon as possible after receipt, even if you have already commented on the proposals; you may make further submissions in response to views and comments you see on the website.

Any representations you wish to make should be received by **Monday 24 September**.

All representations should be sent to:

Electoral Services
PO Box 6292
Council House
Derby, DE1 2ZL

If you prefer you can email your representations to elections@derby.gov.uk

What happens next?

On 8 October the views of both Returning Officers on both the scheme and any representations made will be published. You will then have until Monday 29 October to comment on their submissions. On 27 November the Council will consider all the issues raised and publish its final scheme, according to which the 2008 electoral register will be published on 1 December.

DERBY NORTH CONSTITUENCY**Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places
(Parliamentary Elections) Regulations 2006**

Electorate as at 1 June 2007

Abbey Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
AB1N	Bramblebrook Community Centre, Stockbrook Street	2,180
AB4N	Firs Estate Primary School, Raven Street	1,938

Allestree Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
AL1	Evergreen Club, Cornhill, Allestree	2,775
AL2	Portway Junior School, Robincroft Road, Allestree	2,614
AL3	Holy Family Catholic Church, Blenheim Drive, Allestree	2,835
AL4	St John's Methodist Church Hall, Birchover Way, Allestree	2,692

Arboretum Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
AR1N	The Guild Hall, The Market Place	259

Chaddesden Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
CD1	Cavendish Close Infant School, Wood Road	2,305
CD2	Chaddesden Hall, Community Centre, Chaddesden Lane, Chaddesden	1,822
CD3	Chesapeake Community Centre, Chesapeake Road, Chaddesden	1,769
CD4	Cherry Tree Hill Infant School (Nursery Unit) Sunny Grove, Chaddesden	1,694
CD5	Meadow Farm Community Primary School, Foyle Avenue, Chaddesden	2,576

Darley Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
DL1	Darley Abbey Village Hall, Abbey Yard, Darley Abbey	1,955
DL2	Markeaton Primary School, Newton's Walk, Bromley Street	2,452
DL3	Whitecross House, Leyland Gardens	1,786
DL4	St Mary's Parish Centre, Darley Lane	1,477
DL5	Chester Green Community Centre	1,417

Derwent Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
DW1	Derby Homes Communal Lounge, Coniston Crescent/Knutsford Green, Chaddesden	2,836
DW2	Roe Farm Community Centre, Worcester Crescent	2,116
DW3	St Philip's Church Hall, Taddington Road, Chaddesden	1,577
DW4	The Blue Boy Public House, Wiltshire Road	1,361
DW5	Derwent Community School, St Mark's Road	2,028

Mackworth Ward

PD Letter	Polling Place	Electorate
MA1	Sure Start Building within the grounds of Reigate School, Reigate Drive, Mackworth	1,545
MA2	Mackworth Community Centre, Prince Charles Avenue, Mackworth	2,322
MA3	The Common Room, Streatham Drive, Mackworth	1,482
MA4	St Barnabas Church, Radbourne Street	2,220
MA5	Ashgate Primary School, Ashbourne Road	1,810

Oakwood Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
OK1	Breadsall Hilltop Youth and Adult Community Education Centre, St Andrew's View, Breadsall	1,951
OK2	Springwood Leisure Centre, Springwood Drive, Oakwood	1,486
OK3	Oakwood Community Centre, Springwood Drive, Oakwood	1,503
OK4	Springwood Leisure Centre, Springwood Drive, Oakwood	2,201
OK5	Springwood Leisure Centre, Springwood Drive, Oakwood	1,455
OK6	St Philip's Church Hall, Taddington Road, Chaddesden	1,557

Spondon Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
SP1	The Guide Hut, West Road, Spondon	2,270
SP2	Spondon Village Hall, Sitwell Street, Spondon	2,097
SP3	Borrow Wood Infant School, Arundel Drive, Spondon	3,068
SP4	Edmund Hall, Edmund Road, Spondon	1,489
SP5	Spondon Village Hall, Sitwell Street, Spondon	728

DERBY SOUTH CONSTITUENCY

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (Parliamentary Elections) Regulations 2006

Electorate as at 1 June 2007

Abbey Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
AB1S	Bramblebrook Community Centre, Stockbrook Street	52
AB2	Bemrose Community School, Uttoxeter Road	1,582
AB3	Ryknelde Community Centre, Bedford Close	1,619
AB4S	Firs Estate Primary School, Raven Street	32
AB5	Carlton Road United Reformed Church Hall, Carlton Road	2,016

Alvaston Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
AN1	YMCA, London Road, Wilmorton	638
AN2	First Steps, Cockayne Street North, Allenton	1,163
AN3	Southgate Youth Centre, Brighton Road, Alvaston	3,473
AN4	Alvaston United Reformed Church Hall, Baker Street, Alvaston	1,706
AN5	St Michael's and All Angels Church Hall, Elvaston Lane, Alvaston	1,832
AN6	Keldholme Lane Community Centre, Gillamoor Court, Alvaston	2,189

Arboretum Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
AR1S	The Guild Hall, The Market Place	393
AR2	The Spot Function Room, 73 Sacheverell Street	2,191
AR3	The Madeley Centre, Madeley Street	2,347
AR4	Shaftesbury Sports Centre, Shaftesbury Crescent (off Cambridge Street)	2,076
AR5	The Queens Hall, London Road	821
AR6	St Chads C.E Nursery and Infant School, Gordon Road	2,149

Blagreaves Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
BL1	The Tea Pavilion, Rosehill Methodist Memorial Sports Ground, Littleover Lane	1,629
BL2	Royal British Legion, 61 Blagreaves Lane, Littleover	2,728
BL3	Gayton Community Centre within the grounds of Gayton Junior School, Gayton Avenue, Littleover	2,541
BL4	Newmount Methodist Church Hall, Blagreaves Lane	2,826

Boulton Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
BT1S	St Martin's Methodist Church Hall, Flint Street, Allenton	902

Littleover Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
LT1	Wren Park Primary School, Jackson Avenue	2,850
LT2	Grange Hall Community Centre, Park Lane, Littleover	2,379
LT3	Haven Christian Centre, Hollybrook Way, Littleover	4,939

Mickleover Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
MV1	Silverhill Primary School, Draycott Drive, Mickleover	4,275
MV2	Ravensdale Infant School, Devonshire Drive, Mickleover	1,384
MV3	All Saints Church Centre, Etwall Road, Mickleover	2,892
MV4	St John's Church Hall, Devonshire Drive, Mickleover	2,583

Normanton Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
NM1	The Common Room, Fairdene Court, Off Lower Dale Road	2,409
NM2	Indian Community Centre, Rawdon Street	2,286
NM3	St George's Social Centre, Village Street	2,814
NM4	4 th Derby (Derwent) Scout HQ, Top of Coleridge Street, Normanton	1,023
NM5	Sunnyhill Community Centre, Coleridge Street, Sunnyhill	1,830

Sinfin Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
SF1	The Activity Centre, Cotton Lane	1,854
SF2	St Bartholomew's Church Hall, Addison Road	1,754
SF3	Community Enterprise Centre, Sheridan Street, Sinfin	2,452
SF4	Scills Community Centre, Swallowdale Road, Sinfin	1,511
SF5	The Meeting Room, Sinfin Library, Sinfin District Centre	2,021

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE CONSTITUENCY (PART)

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (Parliamentary Elections) Regulations 2006

Electorate as at 1 June 2007

Boulton Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
BT1SD	St Martin's Methodist Church Hall, Flint Street	1,057
BT2	Moorhead Primary School, Brackens Lane, Alvaston	2,310
BT3	Nunsfield House Community Centre, Boulton Lane, Alvaston	1,875
BT4	Field Lane Community Centre, Field Lane, Alvaston	2,006
BT5	The Cornishman Public House, Holbrook Road, Alvaston	2,083

Chellaston Ward

PD Letters	Polling Place	Electorate
CL1	Shelton Junior School, Carlton Avenue, Shelton Lock	3,158
CL2	The Golden Hour Club, Maple Drive, Chellaston	4,071
CL3	Chellaston Community Centre, Barleycroft, Chellaston	3,508



Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (Parliamentary Elections) Regulations 2006

Pursuant to Section 18 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 Derby City Council gives notices that it is to conduct a review of all polling districts and polling places within the Derby North and Derby South Parliamentary Constituencies and those polling districts and polling places within the City which fall within the South Derbyshire Parliamentary Constituency.

Submissions on any aspect of polling districts and polling places are welcome from any elector in any of these constituencies, any local constituency political party or any person or group who have a particular interest or expertise in access to premises or facilities for people with a disability.

Copies of the consultation document can be obtained from the Council's website or by contacting the Council's election office at the address below:

Electoral Services
PO Box 6292
Council House
Derby, DE1 2ZL

Email: elections@derby.gov.uk

Any comments should be received by **Monday 24 September 2007**.

Please note that all representations will be published on the Council's website upon receipt.

M A Foote
Corporate Director – Corporate and Adult Services

and Deputy Chief Executive.