

Notice of Joint Review of Polling Arrangements and Community Governance Review of Parish and Town Councils



On 11 May 2017 in accordance with the provisions of the Representation of the People Act 1983, and Chapter 3, Part 4 of the Local Government & Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the Local Authority gave notice that it was conducting a joint review of all polling arrangements (districts, places and stations) and a Community Governance Review of Parish & Town Councils.

The joint review does not affect the authority's boundary, the boundaries of the eight parliamentary constituencies, or the 33 city wards. What it may affect is the place where voting takes place, the catchments area for those districts and the boundaries, warding and other governance arrangements for Parish & Town Councils.

The arrangements for polling are not expected to be reviewed again in full before 2019. A full Community Governance review of Parish and Town Councils is not expected to take place again until 2024.

The review of polling arrangements is taking place following the completion of an Electoral Review of ward boundaries for the Leeds City Council area by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

Polling districts must now be realigned to reflect the new ward boundaries. Matters relating to the current ward boundaries cannot be considered as part of this review.

The new ward boundaries as recommended by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, and any changes to polling districts, places or stations as an outcome of this joint review will come into effect at the local government elections in May 2018.

Any changes to Parish and Town Council arrangements as a result of this joint review will come into effect at the Parish and Town Council elections in May 2019.

The Council invited representations to be made in writing by no later than 22 June for consideration from any interested stakeholder(s), particularly those with expertise in access for persons with any type of disability.

Those representations were considered by the Council's General Purposes Committee on 2 October and the Authority's initial proposals for the review have now been published and can be found on the internet at www.leeds.gov.uk/pollingdistrictreview.

Maps and information relating to the new ward boundaries and existing polling arrangements, together with the Terms of Reference for the Community Governance Review of Parish & Town Councils are now available for inspection at **Electoral Services, Level 2, Town Hall, The Headrow, Leeds LS1 3AD** during normal office hours or can be viewed at www.leeds.gov.uk/pollingdistrictreview

People inspecting documents at the Electoral Services Office are advised to make an appointment so the necessary support can be made available. Appointments can be arranged by phoning **0113 3784419** or by emailing pdreview@leeds.gov.uk

At this stage, the Returning Officer is content with the Authority's initial proposals, but reserves the right to revise, and/or to add to his views on the basis of officer inspections of proposed premises or expressions of support or objection received in response to this consultation.

Representations on the initial proposals, for consideration by the authority, the Returning Officer and all interested stakeholder(s), should be made by no later than **14 November 2017**, to **Electoral Services, Level 2, Town Hall, The Headrow, Leeds, LS1 3AD**, by email to pdreview@leeds.gov.uk or can be made online at www.leeds.gov.uk/pollingdistrictreview

The Council will agree final proposals in **December/January 2018** and will publish a Final Notice of Joint Review in **January 2018**.

Dated this 3rd day of **October, 2017**

Tom Riordan
Chief Executive
Leeds City Council