



Review of Polling Districts and Places / Stations 2023

Consultation Document

Consultation period runs from 9 October to
17 November 2023.

1 Background to the Review

Under the Representation of the People Act 1983 and 2013, the Council has a duty to divide its area into polling districts and to designate a polling place for each district. It also has to keep these arrangements under review. The Electoral Administration Act 2006 introduced a duty on all local authorities in Great Britain to review their polling districts and polling places.

2 Definitions

A **polling district** is a geographical area created by the sub-division of an electoral area, i.e. a constituency, district ward or division into smaller parts.

A **polling place** is a building or area in which polling stations will be located.

A **polling station** is the room or area within the polling place where voting takes place.

3 The Review Process

The Council publishes a notice of holding the review, and consults the Acting Returning Officer for each Parliamentary Constituency in the Council's area.

The Council then invites comments on the proposals. The consultation paper will be published on the Council's website, and will also be sent to Councillors, Members of Parliament, Assembly Members, Town/Community Councils, local political parties and any other interested groups or persons, including those who have particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for persons who have different forms of disability.

4 What is not covered by the Review

The boundaries of parliamentary constituencies, electoral wards and Town/Community Council wards within Flintshire.

5 The Review Timetable

Publication of Notice of Review	Monday 9 October 2023
Commencement of Review	Monday 9 October 2023
Representations to be received by	Friday 17 November 2023
Publication of the Acting Returning Officer's comments	Monday 20 November 2023
Deadline for receipt of comments on the Acting Returning Officer's comments and proposals	Monday 11 December 2023
Submission of final proposals to Council	Tuesday 24 January 2024
Revised arrangements come into force	Thursday 1 February 2024

6 The Aim of the Review

The document attached sets out details of the current polling districts and polling place for each of the electoral wards in Flintshire. The Council appreciates the co-operation of polling places in providing their building for the day so that electors have a convenient place to vote.

The Review seeks to address issues which have arisen, either due to the closure of buildings/proposed closure of buildings or issues arising during recent elections and will also be informed by feedback from polling station staff and inspectors.

The principles underlying the Council's approach to polling districts and polling places will be:

- (a) To retain or improve, if necessary, by merging the current network of polling districts to ensure that as far as possible that each polling district is allocated a polling station within its boundary.
- (b) To try and identify new polling places in areas where the existing provision is inadequate.
- (c) To ensure, as far as practicable, that polling places are accessible to people with disabilities.
- (d) To ensure that all electors have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances.

7 Making Representations

When making representations, where a suggestion relates to the change of polling place, we would encourage you to give the reasons for this, and to suggest alternative polling places to allow further consultation. Similarly support for the current arrangements is also welcome. You can do this by completing the online submission form or download a copy on the Council's website www.flintshire.gov.uk

Alternatively you can write to:

**Electoral Services,
Flintshire County Council,
County Hall,
Mold,
Flintshire.
CH7 6NR**

Email: register@flintshire.gov.uk

Contact Lynn Phillips, Team Leader – Democratic Services on 01352 702329