

Subject: Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

Dear Parish Clerk,

West Suffolk Council is carrying out a statutory review of polling districts and polling places in readiness for the next scheduled Police and Crime Commissioner elections on 2 May 2024 and for any UK General Election to be held by January 2025.

We would like to invite all interested parties to make representations and comments on the existing and proposed polling districts and polling places. The consultation deadline is 30 November 2023.

The review is designed to see if the polling districts and polling places in West Suffolk suit the needs of voters, and includes:

- Polling district boundaries within each ward in the district.
- Location of the polling places and stations in each polling district.
- Access to each polling station.

The aim of the review is to make sure:

- Electors have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances.
- As far as is reasonable and practicable, polling places are accessible to all electors, and consider the needs of disabled persons.

Further details regarding the review such as information on current arrangements and potential changes, maps of the existing polling district boundaries and locations of polling stations, can be found on the council's website: <https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/Council/Consultations/review-of-polling-districts-and-polling-places-2023.cfm>

When responding to the consultation, please consider that we must:

- Seek to ensure that all electors have reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances; and
- Ensure that so far as is reasonable and practicable, every polling place is accessible to electors who have a disability.

Any comments should include, where appropriate, alternative venue suggestions that may be used as polling places.

Comments and representations can be submitted in the following ways:

- Email: elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk
- Post: Electoral Services, West Suffolk Council, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 3YU

The deadline for responses to the consultation is 30 November 2023 and the revised polling arrangements will be considered by West Suffolk Councillors at their meeting of Full Council on 19 December 2023. We will notify you of the outcome.

We would also be grateful if you could publicise the review in your area so that residents and local groups may make representations and suggest alternative venues too. Please direct them to our website where details of the review can be

found: <https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/Council/Consultations/review-of-polling-districts-and-polling-places-2023.cfm>

We will be sharing details of the review on our social media pages, sharing to local community pages where available, and with local ward councillors.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email to elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk or telephone 01284 757101.

Kind regards