

Ref: PDR2023
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Date: 02/10/2023



Electoral Services Team
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Damian Collins MP

Dear Mr Collins,

On Monday 02 October 2023 a Notice was published to inform the District that we will be entering a consultation for a compulsory Polling District, Polling Place and Station Review.

As part of the consultation, you are invited to submit a representation. The representation should include the following:

- Name
- Address
- Ward your representation relates to
- Any specific details (i.e. polling station name, road names etc.)

Within your representation, you may include views and opinions on:

- the proposals regarding the structure of our current polling districts;
- current polling places;
- the accessibility of our current polling stations;
- alternative venues to use as polling stations; and
- Acting Returning Officers comments and/or proposals.

I will also be writing to community groups, specifically those organisations that deal with all types of disability to ensure we invite all expertise to respond with the best interests of your constituents at the forefront of why we are doing this review.

Constituents, Councillors, Parishes and political parties will also be invited to take part. There will be information available at the Civic Centre and online at www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/elections/polling-review-2023. There is also a submission form online that can be completed and returned by post or via email to elections@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk. We will accept representations (in writing) up until 17 November 2023 via those comms methods, social media posts will not be included. It is important to note that any representation will be made public after the conclusion of the review, redacting any personal information.

Susan, as the Acting Returning Officer has made a representation as well as proposals generated from pre-requisite work carried out by the elections team during preparations for

the Local and Parish elections this year. Anyone that wishes to make comment on the Acting Returning Officer's statement may do so up until 17 November 2023. The statement is online at the above address and at the Civic Centre.

The final proposals will be submitted to Audit & Governance Committee on Wednesday, 06 December 2023, which will then be presented to Full Council on Wednesday, 24 January 2024.

Any changes will be implemented at the publication of the revised register on 01 February 2024.

Please note: Polling District Reviews cannot change 'governance' boundaries – i.e. wards, divisions, parishes, constituencies. They can only change 'administrative' boundaries – i.e. the shape of the jigsaw pieces that make up an electoral area.

Yours sincerely

Paul Butler
Democratic Services and Elections Lead Specialist