

**Parliamentary Polling Districts and Polling Places Review 2014/15**  
**Review Timetable and Consultation Responses**

The published review timetable is as follows:

Publication of notice and consultation document	29 December 2014
Closing date for public representations	23 January 2015
Publication of the Returning Officer's representations	2 February 2015
Final date for public comment on the Returning Officer's representations	23 February 2015
Full Council agrees final scheme	9 March 2015

Public notice of the review and the Returning Officer's representations was achieved by advert in the Nottingham Evening Post, via the Council's website and via the display of the notice and consultation document at every City community centre and library. The consultation document and Returning Officer's representations were available for inspection at Loxley House and on the Council's website and were made available to all councillors, Members of Parliament and other interested bodies including specifically the following organisations for disability groups as advised by the Equality and Diversity Team:

- A Problem Shared – Sheila Russell Community Centre
- Alzheimer's Society
- Asperger's Group
- Awaaz Asian Mental Health Resource Unit
- Bi-polar UK Self Help Group
- Destiny
- Disabilities Living Centre
- Disabled People's Advocacy Nottinghamshire
- East Midlands Crossroads
- Guide Dogs for the Blind
- Highbury Hospital Aspergers Team
- Ideal Health
- LIFE Learning Aspley
- Marie Curie Cancer Care
- My Sight Nottinghamshire
- Nai Zindagi
- National Autistic Society
- National Schizophrenia Fellowship
- Nottingham City LINK
- Nottingham Mencap
- Nottingham MS Therapy Centre
- Notts Coalition of Disabled People
- Notts Deaf Society
- Radford Visiting Scheme

- Rainbow Carers Parents Forum
- Remploy
- RNIB
- Sherwood Community Care Group
- Sherwood Stroke Club
- The Advocacy Alliance
- Uhuru Group
- Voiceability
- Wheelies
- Whispers, Bulwell

All representations made in response to either the initial consultation document and the Returning Officer's representations were posted on the council's website .

Details of consultation responses are set out on the next page together with the subsequent response of the Electoral Registration Officer.

**PARLIAMENTARY POLLING DISTRICTS AND PLACES REVIEW 2014/15- REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED**

The following representations were received in response to the consultation document published on 29 December 2014:-

Date	Ward	Name	Consultee Representations	EROs Response
24/12/14	Bridge A	Cllr Edwards	‘ I thought BRUA could be at Riverside now that it’s been expanded and could be done without closing the school?’	Cllr Edwards consultation response related to the use at the European election of Queens Walk Community Centre as the polling place for BRIA. The Riverside School was approached but due to ongoing building work at the school and the Headteachers concerns about potential closure of the school, an alternative location was sought. See appendix 1 for details of the proposal to use Briar Court , Soudan Drive
13/01/15	Berridge E and F	Cllr C-A Jones	<p data-bbox="779 762 1420 938">‘ I would like to make the following representation in respect of Berridge E &amp; F Blocks. The proposed polling stations are:- Berridge E – Hyson Green Library, Berridge F – Djanogly Leisure Centre, Activity Centre.</p> <p data-bbox="779 978 1420 1343">Both these proposed sites are located at the far end of the Ward, and are therefore some way from properties at the opposite end of these Blocks. Using Forest Fields Community Centre, Sturton Street would be more central for either of these 2 blocks. It is situated in Berridge F Block, and has been used previously as a Polling Station. The Community Centre was used for a time by Forest Fields School, but is no longer</p>	<p data-bbox="1451 762 2089 978">Hyson Green Library meets the requirements of the review for Berridge E and is a suitable polling station location. The library is fully accessible and is closed on a Thursday. There is also some on street parking.</p> <p data-bbox="1451 986 2089 1129">The suggested alternative of Forest Fields Community Centre, Sturton Road is not within the Berridge E polling district and does not meet the requirements of this review.</p> <p data-bbox="1451 1169 2089 1343">Forest Fields Community Centre does meet the requirements of the review for Berridge F. It is centrally located within the polling district and closer to the electorate. This venue provides more convenient disabled</p>

			required by them and is available for community use.'	access as the premise is on one level.
23/01/2015	Citywide	Jo Mossman Disability Involvement Group & Equality and Fairness Commission.	<p>Please find below comments relating to the Review of Polling Districts and Stations:</p> <p>We recommend that polling station staff have disability equality training particularly in terms of communication barriers.</p> <p>With regard to the proposed reduction in the number of polling stations per district/ward, we think this will inevitably lead to a greater decrease in the already low turnout of voters; the further someone has to travel to reach a polling station, the less likely they are to go and vote. The reduction in the number of polling stations will discriminate against a range of people, including disabled people who may have mobility issues or a visual impairment, older people, people with young children who cannot go far to vote, people on a low income, etc.</p> <p>Signage is important. There needs to be good, accessible signage, even if it is temporary, both outside and within the polling station itself. If required, this should include directional signs outside and inside the polling station.</p> <p>Re the Braille templates for visually impaired</p>	<p>There is no proposal to reduce the number of polling places or to change polling district boundary changes.</p> <p>The representations from this consultee mainly relate to issues outside of the remit of this review. However, where arrangements requested are not already in hand ( eg signage ) the Electoral Services Manager is exploring the issues raised .</p>

		<p>people that clip over the ballot paper; it would be useful if these could include the numbers for the ballot paper in large print as well as in Braille.</p>	
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In order to make voting fully accessible at polling stations, there should be information in Braille so that the voter can independently check which number refers to which candidate. This would mean an additional item in Braille at each polling station and depending on what type of election it was (e.g. local or national) this additional item of Braille will vary either from ward to ward or in different constituencies.

If the polling team have any doubts about the accessibility of any of the polling stations, we suggest that you contact Paul Day (the City Council's Access Officer) to go out and assess the access for the new /changed building, as has happened in the past. ‘

No representations were received within the statutory consultation period in response to the Returning Officer's representations which were made on 2 February 2015.