Reading - Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2018

I am writing to you to let you know that the Council - along with all other local authorities in England - is carrying out a review of the polling districts and polling places in the Borough. We are doing this under the provisions of Section 16 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006 Act, Sections 18 and 31 of the Representation of the People Act 1983, and the Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (Parliamentary Elections) Regulations 2006.

The review must be concluded by 3rd January 2019. The process is based on parliamentary constituencies, with the Council’s specific interest in the arrangements that it makes within the Borough boundaries. As Returning Officer for the Reading East and Reading West constituencies I am empowered to make comments to West Berkshire and Wokingham in respect of the arrangements that they make for polling districts and places in their parts of the two Reading constituencies.

Under Schedule A1 of the Parliamentary Election Rules the review involves a number of specified stages, which start with the publication of a notice of the review: this occurred on 3rd December 2018, and the notice is now on display in the Civic Offices, at Reading Library, and on the Council’s website. Follow this link:

www.reading.gov.uk/pollingplacesreview2018

As part of the review, any elector may make representations, which may include comments on current polling district boundaries and proposals for specified alternative polling places. In addition, comments are invited on the facilities for access to polling stations, and the Council will be consulting directly with persons with an expertise in relation to access and disability.
I enclose a copy of the notice and accompanying map. Comments are invited by 3\textsuperscript{rd} January 2019. If you wish to make any representations you should do so in writing to Electoral Services Manager by that date, by letter, or by e-mail, or through the Council’s website, using the contact points quoted in the attached notice. Please note that the Regulations governing the review require me to publish all representations I receive.

On completion of the review, the Council must compile and adopt a revised scheme, which it must publish, with reasons given for its decisions. The intention is that this will be adopted by full Council on 26\textsuperscript{th} March 2019, in order that the new electoral register, to be published on 1 December 2019, is based on the revised scheme.

Please feel free to pass on this request to any other person who you consider might find it of interest, and I look forward to receiving any representations you might wish to make by 3\textsuperscript{rd} January 2019.

Yours faithfully

[Signature]

Mr Christopher Brooks
Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Electoral Registration Officer