

INFORMATION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE	FINANCE AND DEMOCRACY COMMITTEE	23 JUNE 2022	12
REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES 2022			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

In accordance with The Representation of the People Act 1983 each local authority is required to carry out a review of Polling Districts and Polling Places in its area. Fylde Borough Council's next review will be carried out from **1 July 2022**.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Returning Officer.

LINK TO INFORMATION

From 1 July 2022 – www.fylde.gov.uk

WHY IS THIS INFORMATION BEING GIVEN TO THE COMMITTEE?

To make the committee aware that a public consultation will begin on 1-31 July to seek views on the proposed polling districts and polling places ahead of the 2023 Elections.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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1. A public consultation will begin on 1 July on the proposed Polling districts and polling places for 1 month. Any feedback will be published throughout the review together with comments from the Returning Officer.
2. The "Notice of Review" and "Schedule of proposed polling districts" are attached to this report for information. Ward maps and street indexes can be viewed on the Council's website at www.fylde.gov.uk from 1 July.
3. The Council has powers to change polling places and polling district boundaries but not ward boundaries. These are defined as follows:

A **Polling District** is the geographical sub division of an electoral ward. The Council is responsible for dividing its area into polling districts for UK Parliamentary elections and for keeping polling districts under review.

When designating polling districts, the Council must:

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

A **polling place** is the building in which a polling station is located.

A **polling station** is the actual area where the process of voting takes place and must be located in the polling place designated for the particular polling district.

4. Unlike polling districts and polling places which are fixed by the local authority, polling stations are chosen by the relevant Returning Officer for the election. Any suggestions will be welcomed by the RO.
5. Representations are particularly being sought from individuals/groups with an interest/knowledge of the accessibility needs of disabled persons. Such as Age concern, Society for the blind, Society for the deaf, Disability centre Councillors, Parish Councillors, MP and Libraries. Feedback from the 2021 elections will also be considered.
6. The consultation will end on **31 July 2022**.
7. Following the consultation period, the Returning Officer will publish any representations throughout the review and proposed changes in August 2022. Final recommendations will be submitted to F&D on 3 October and then to the Council for adoption on 12 October 2022 and will be in place for the local elections to be held on 4 May 2023.