Elections - Polling Arrangements

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places/Stations 2014

Background Information
The Reason for the Review

Under the Representation of the People Act 1983 and 2013, the Electoral Administration Act 2006 and the Review of Polling District & Polling Places (Parliamentary Elections) Regulations 2006, Cardiff Council has a duty to divide the district into polling districts and to designate a polling place for each polling district. It also has to keep these arrangements under review.

In order to comply with the above legislation Cardiff Council is required to complete a full review of all polling districts and polling places every four years. However this does not prevent changes being made at any time prior to the next review.

The arrangements made for United Kingdom Parliamentary elections are also used at all other elections and referenda.

What is a Polling District?

A polling district is a geographical area and the legislation requires that each community must be a separate polling district. If the community is large, and in order to provide easy access, the community can potentially be divided into smaller polling districts.

What is a Polling Place?

A ‘polling place’ is the geographical area, in which a polling station is located. There is no legal definition of what a polling place is. The geographical area could be defined as tightly as a particular building or a widely as the entire polling district. Cardiff Council has defined each polling district as the polling place rather than a particular building for practical purposes.

What is a Polling Station?

A polling station is the actual area where the process of voting takes place, e.g. a room in a community centre or school.

How the Review is Conducted

Cardiff Council will publicise when the review is to take place.

The Returning Officer will be consulted on the current arrangements and will make representations on the existing polling stations used.

What is not covered by the Review

Neither the boundaries of parliamentary constituencies nor the boundaries and names of local authorities and electoral areas within Cardiff will be part of the review.
**Timetable for the Review**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start of Review</td>
<td>29 August 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Representations to be received by</td>
<td>17 October 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral Services and Returning Officers’ Comments Published</td>
<td>27 November 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revised arrangements come into force</td>
<td>1 December 2014</td>
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**Making Comments**

Comments do not have to be restricted to alternative proposals; support for the current arrangements is also welcome.

When making representations it would be helpful to Cardiff Council for you to provide as much relevant information as you can about your current polling place/station, including how convenient (or not) its location is in relation to where you live, whether there is adequate parking, what access is available for disabled and/or wheelchair users and how suitable overall it is for voting.

Please also indicate whether there are any other suitable premises that could be used.

Comments should be made in writing to:
Cardiff Council,
Electoral Services,
Atlantic Wharf,
Cardiff
CF10 4UW.

Alternatively via email to electoral services@cardiff.gov.uk or by fax to 029 2087 2038, **not later than 17 October, 2014.**

A consultation form is also available for submission on the Cardiff Council website www.cardiff.gov.uk/elections