



# Rutland County Council

**Rutland County Council**  
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All Parish Clerks/Representatives  
(please share with Chair and other interested parties)

6 September 2023

Dear Parish Clerk,

In October 2023 Rutland County Council will conduct a review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations within the County, in compliance with the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013. The Act requires councils to conduct reviews of UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling places on a 5-year cycle with the next review period starting on 1 October 2023.

A formal notice of the review will be published on 1 October 2023, but I am writing to you in advance as the review will have a tight timeframe, which will require any comments to be provided within two weeks to allow a report to be prepared for a meeting of Rutland County Council's Full Council in early November 2023. The aim of the review is to ensure that polling facilities are in the most appropriate locations and are accessible. It will be conducted from 1 – 16 October 2023.

I do not envisage changes to any of our current polling districts, and only expect to make one change to an existing polling place and polling station which will be in Barrowden. Barrowden Village Hall is due to be rebuilt towards the end of this year and therefore a new polling place and polling station will be required for the polling district of Barrowden for up to a year, possibly more, until the rebuild is complete.

Rutland County Council's Elections Team have already started the background work and will be visiting polling stations etc in the coming months. The aim of reviewing polling station buildings is to ensure the best possible access is provided for as many electors, with varying needs, as possible. However, we are limited by the buildings available, which is often only one within each polling district.

As the Returning Officer, I will be asking in October 2023 what you think about future polling arrangements and will welcome any comments on the suitability of existing and potential new polling stations, particularly their accessibility. If you wish to make comments informally before then, I can take them into consideration as the review progresses, but I will request formal comments from 1 October 2023.



I have attached an information sheet and map, details of proposed revisions and a list of the current and proposed polling districts, polling places and polling stations for the County. These details along with polling place review sheets for individual polling districts will also be made available on the Council's website when the review formally starts in October.

Please address any comments to the Electoral Registration Officer by email to [elections@rutland.gov.uk](mailto:elections@rutland.gov.uk) or by post in the pre-paid envelope provided by the close of the consultation on 16 October 2023.

Yours faithfully,

Mark Andrews  
Electoral Registration Officer

Enclosures:

Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations for Rutland –Information Sheet 2023  
Rutland Parish and Ward boundary, and polling station maps  
Details of Revisions to polling locations for Electors  
Existing polling districts, polling places and polling stations wef 1 September 2023  
Revised list of polling districts, polling places and polling stations wef 1 November 2023



**Rutland**  
County Council

**REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS, POLLING PLACES**  
**AND POLLING STATIONS FOR RUTLAND –**  
**INFORMATION SHEET 2023**



Background information and the Returning Officer's Proposals

Mark Andrews, Returning Officer

Consultation Period will be: 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023 – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023

## **REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS, POLLING PLACES AND POLLING STATIONS FOR RUTLAND - 2023** **INFORMATION SHEET**

The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 details the timings for the compulsory reviews of UK Parliamentary polling districts and the last compulsory review period commenced on 1 October 2018 and the next review period commenced 5 years from that date on 1 October 2023. The Council is allowed to conduct interim reviews where required to make changes within the 5-year cycle.

### **What does the review involve?**

The review must be carried out to make sure that all electors have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances. On commencing the review a notice will be published with details of the review, including when and where comments or representations can be made. Any elector in the constituency may make a representation in relation to the size and boundaries of polling districts and the location and suitability of polling places. The council also welcomes comments or representations from any Councillors in the area, past or potential candidates, local political parties and indeed any person or body with expertise in access for persons with any type of disability. On completion of the review the council will publish all correspondence sent and received, details of the results of the review including any issues raised and indeed any changes which have been approved, giving the reasons for its decisions.

### **What is a Polling District?**

A polling district is a geographical area created by the sub-division of a UK Parliamentary constituency for the purposes of a UK Parliamentary election. In England, each parish is to be a separate polling district and, in Wales, each community should be a separate polling district, unless there are special circumstances. This means that a parish or community must not be in a polling district which has a part of either a different parish or community within it, or any un-parished part of the local authority area within it, unless special circumstances apply.

Those special circumstances could arise if, for example, the parish/community has only a small number of electors and it is not practicable for the parish/community to be its own polling district.

The current list of Polling Places and Polling Stations and the current potential turnout figures are enclosed and are available on the website [Polling stations | Rutland County Council](#).

### **What is a Polling Place?**

A polling place is the building or area in which polling stations will be selected by the (Acting) Returning Officer. A polling place within a polling district must be designated so that polling stations are within easy reach of all electors from across the polling district, however, there is no legal definition of what a polling place is. It could be as large as the polling district or as small as a particular building. Currently in Rutland,

most polling places are actual buildings.

## **What is a Polling Station?**

A polling station is the room or area within the polling place where voting takes place. 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. There can be more than one polling station in a polling place.

When deciding which buildings to use as polling stations, the Council tries to make sure that they are located as conveniently as possible for the majority of electors and that they are accessible to everyone, particularly anyone with a disability.

Thought must be given, for example, to the distance people have to travel to vote and any barriers to them getting there, such as major roads or rivers.

## **The Returning Officer's Proposals**

### **Introduction**

The pattern of polling districts and polling places in the District of Rutland has evolved to meet the convenience of electors across the district. By and large, it ensures that electors have reasonable facilities for voting. Furthermore, in line with the Council's policies, every attempt has been made to ensure that polling stations are accessible to electors with disabilities. Therefore, as the majority of polling districts and polling places remain fit for purpose, the proposals for change have been kept to a minimum.

### **Guidelines**

The Returning Officer has taken the following considerations into account when drawing up the proposals. Comments made during the consultation should keep these in mind. The first four are requirements laid down in the Representation of the Peoples Act; the remainder are guidelines only.

- The council must seek to ensure that all electors have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances;
- The council must seek to ensure that, so far as is reasonable and practicable, every polling place is accessible to electors with disabilities;
- Every parish shall be in a separate polling district;
- Ideally the polling place should be in the polling district;
- No polling station should be shared by two wards because of the risks associated with holding different elections in the same polling station;
- Ideally there should be no more than 2,250 electors per polling station, although the number of postal voters in the district (presently approx 4,500 in total across Rutland) is a further consideration;
- Polling district boundaries should be co-terminous with existing

- parish ward or district ward boundaries;
- Where existing polling districts serve no necessary function because the electors for each polling district already vote at the same polling station, the polling districts should be merged;
- An average polling station costs up to £1,000 to hire, equip and staff for polling day;
- The proposals have been mindful of further development in the district as identified in the Local Development Framework.

### **Polling district of Barrowden**

Electors in the polling district of Barrowden will no longer be able to use the polling place and vote at the station currently used as it will not be available due to a rebuild from the end of 2023. We are currently looking at alternative venues in the village.

It is therefore recommended that with effect from 1 November 2023 the polling place for electors from Barrowden will be Barrowden village and the polling station will be situated in the polling place and confirmed at a later date during the review process.

### **Changes resulting from the 2023 Parliamentary Boundary Review.**

There are no changes to polling districts, polling places or polling stations in Rutland as a result of the 2023 Parliamentary Boundary Review.

**Should you wish to make representations about the review please submit them in writing to:**

**Electoral Registration Officer (Polling Places Review)  
Rutland County Council  
Catmose  
Oakham  
LE15 6HP**

**Or via email to:  
[elections@rutland.gov.uk](mailto:elections@rutland.gov.uk)**





Market Overton Village Hall

The Olive Branch  
Stretton Community Hub

Whissendine Memorial Hall

Greatham Community Centre

Ashwell Village Hall

Cottesmore Village Hall

Essendine Village Hall

Langham Village Hall

Exton Village Hall

Ryhall Village Hall

Oakham United FC

All Saints Church Hall  
Oakham Library  
Scout Hall

Audit Hall

Great Casterton Church Hall

Egleton Village Hall

Braunston Village Hall

Tinwell Village Hall

Edith Weston Village Hall

Manton Village Hall

Ketton Library

North Luffenham Community Centre

Ridlington Village Hall

Wing Village Hall

South Luffenham Village Hall

Preston Village Hall

Belton Village Hall

Morcott Village Hall

Barrowden Village Hall

Glaston Church Room

Uppingham Town Hall

St John the Baptist Church

Lyddington Village Hall

Lyddington Village Hall

Caldecott Village Hall

## **Details of Revisions to polling locations for Electors**

### **Arrangements for electors in Barrowden**

A change of polling place and polling station will be required for electors in the polling district of Barrowden, due to the Village Hall rebuild due to take place later this year. Alternatives are currently being considered, and it is likely that we will make the polling place the village of Barrowden as this will allow us to move a polling station within the polling place more easily at a later stage when required.

As a temporary solution while the Village Hall is being rebuilt, we will be looking at alternative polling station venues for the period of the rebuild and will update this sheet as the formal review process goes forward. Once the rebuild is complete the intent will be to move the polling station back to the Village Hall.

## Existing Polling Districts and Polling Places wef 1 September 2023

Polling District		Polling Place	Polling Station	Electors @ 1 August 2023
BAA	Barleythorpe	Oakham United Football Club	Oakham United Football Club	1606
BAB	Barleythorpe Road	Oakham United Football Club	Oakham United Football Club	192
BMA	Ayston	Ridlington Village Hall	Ridlington Village Hall	27
BMB	Belton in Rutland	Belton Village Hall	Belton Village Hall	305
BMC	Braunston in Rutland	Braunston Village Hall	Braunston Village Hall	328
BMD	Brooke	Braunston Village Hall	Braunston Village Hall	50
BME	Gunthorpe	Manton Village Hall	Manton Village Hall	13
BMF	Leighfield	Braunston Village Hall	Braunston Village Hall	7
BMG	Lyndon	Manton Village Hall	Manton Village Hall	74
BMH	Wardley	Belton Village Hall	Belton Village Hall	26
BMI	Manton	Manton Village Hall	Manton Village Hall	281
BMJ	Martinsthorpe	Manton Village Hall	Manton Village Hall	0
BMK	Morcott	Morcott Village Hall	Morcott Village Hall	285
BML	Pilton	Wing Village Hall	Wing Village Hall	22
BMM	Preston	Preston Village Hall	Preston Village Hall	164
BMN	Ridlington	Ridlington Village Hall	Ridlington Village Hall	147
BMO	Wing	Wing Village Hall	Wing Village Hall	258
COA	Barrow	Cottesmore Community Centre	Cottesmore Community Centre	71
COB	Cottesmore	Cottesmore Community Centre	Cottesmore Community Centre	1525
COD	Market Overton	Market Overton Village Hall	Market Overton Village Hall	388
EXA	Ashwell	Ashwell Village Hall	Ashwell Village Hall	237
EXB	Burley	Ashwell Village Hall	Ashwell Village Hall	195
EXC	Egleton	Egleton Village Hall	Egleton Village Hall	83
EXD	Exton	Exton Village Hall	Exton Village Hall	454
EXE	Hambleton	Egleton Village Hall	Egleton Village Hall	119
EXF	Horn	Exton Village Hall	Exton Village Hall	8
EXG	Whitwell	Exton Village Hall	Exton Village Hall	56

GRA	Clipsham	The Olive Branch	The Olive Branch	99
GRB	Greetham	Greetham Community Centre	Greetham Community Centre	636
GRC	Pickworth	The Olive Branch	The Olive Branch	51
GRD	Stretton	Stretton Community Hub	Stretton Community Hub	241
GRE	Thistleton	Stretton Community Hub	Stretton Community Hub	83
KEA	Barrowden	Barrowden Village Hall	Barrowden Village Hall	401
KEB	Ketton	Ketton Library	Ketton Library	1507
KEC	Tinwell	Tinwell Village Hall	Tinwell Village Hall	209
KED	Tixover	Ketton Library	Ketton Library	116
LAA	Langham	Langham Village Hall	Langham Village Hall	1153
LYA	Bisbrooke	St John the Baptist Church	St John the Baptist Church	186
LYB	Caldecott	Caldecott Village Hall	Caldecott Village Hall	214
LYC	Glaston	Glaston Church Room	Glaston Church Room	162
LYD	Lyddington	Lyddington Village Hall	Lyddington Village Hall	324
LYE	Seaton	Seaton Village Hall	Seaton Village Hall	162
LYF	Stoke Dry	Lyddington Village Hall	Lyddington Village Hall	18
LYG	Thorpe-by-Water	Lyddington Village Hall	Lyddington Village Hall	49
NOA	Edith Weston	Edith Weston Village Hall	Edith Weston Village Hall	621
NOB	Empingham	Audit Hall	Audit Hall	715
NOC	Normanton	Edith Weston Village Hall	Edith Weston Village Hall	18
NOD	North Luffenham	Community Centre	Community Centre	613
NOE	South Luffenham	South Luffenham Village Hall	South Luffenham Village Hall	380
ONE	Oakham North East	All Saints Church Hall	All Saints Church Hall	2092
ONW	Oakham North West	Scout Hut, Oakham	Scout Hut	2441
OSA	Oakham South	Council Buildings, Catmos Street	Oakham Library	2070
OSB	Oakham South	Council Buildings, Catmos Street	Oakham Library	1605

RCA	Essendine	Essendine Village Hall	Essendine Village Hall	337
RCB	Great Casterton	Great Casterton Church Hall	Great Casterton Church Hall	353
RCC	Little Casterton	Great Casterton Church Hall	Great Casterton Church Hall	189
RCD	Ryhall	Ryhall Village Hall	Ryhall Village Hall	1286
RCE	Tickencote	Great Casterton Church Hall	Great Casterton Church Hall	56
UPA	Beaumont Chase	Uppingham Town Hall	Uppingham Town Hall	2
UPB	Uppingham	Uppingham Town Hall	Uppingham Town Hall	1753
UPC	Uppingham	Uppingham Town Hall	Uppingham Town Hall	1307
WHA	Whissendine	The Memorial Hall, Whissendine	The Memorial Hall, Whissendine	1015
WHB	Teigh	The Memorial Hall, Whissendine	The Memorial Hall, Whissendine	60

**Recommended table of polling districts, polling places and polling stations – wef 1 November 2023**

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WHB	Teigh	The Memorial Hall, Whissendine	The Memorial Hall, Whissendine	60

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