

Date: 19 March 2019

Mr S. Tautz
Democratic Services Manager
Civic Offices
High Street
Epping.

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High Street
Epping
Essex
CM16 4BZ

Our Ref: ACE/DM/SH
Your Ref:

Dear Mr Tautz

Re: Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places.

Thank you for your letter of the 15 February advising of the Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places. I have noted that the purpose of the Review is twofold, namely to ensure that

- (a) All electors in the District have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances, and
- (b) So far as reasonable and practicable, the polling places, are accessible to all electors, including those who are disabled.

On this basis, I can confirm as Acting Returning Officer for the Epping Forest Constituency, that I am broadly satisfied with the existing provision of polling places within the constituency boundary.

However, I have reviewed the response of my predecessor, Mr Willett with respect to the Allnutts Institute, Epping (Hemnal Ward). This polling place is no longer available due to the condition of the building and has been replaced for the District Council Elections on the 2 May 2019, by the nearby Scout Hut in Fluxes Lane, Epping. Whilst the Scout premises have been inspected and evaluated as suitable, this will be the first occasion it is being used for polling purposes and until it has been practically utilised, its suitability going forward cannot be completely assured.

On a wider more strategic point with regard to future provision, the Submission Version of the Council's Local Plan is currently undergoing its Examination in Public. The Local Plan currently anticipates an additional 11,400 homes being provided up until 2033.

The Council will be closely monitoring the delivery of these new homes, some of which will be constructed during the next Review period. Polling Station provision in some areas of growth, may not be adequate and may require additional accessible premises to be provided.

Yours sincerely



Derek Macnab
Acting Chief Executive

