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Dear Sirs

Reigate and Banstead Borough Council Interim Polling Place and Polling District Review 2026

Salfords and Sidlow Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to comment on Reigate and Banstead Borough Council's Interim Review of Polling Places and Polling Districts.

The Parish Council has considered the Initial Proposals and wishes to make representations concerning the naming of the parish wards and, in particular, the identification of the proposed polling districts within Salfords and Sidlow.

The Parish Council's proposals do not involve the principles of the proposed polling arrangements. They do seek to ensure that the ward names and polling district identifiers reflect the established identity of the communities of Salfords and Sidlow, are clear and are readily understandable to all concerned, just as proposed everywhere else in the Borough.

1. Parish ward names

Salfords and Sidlow Parish Council is concerned that the proposed parish Ward names, Ward 1, Ward 2 and Ward 3, are generic and meaningless. We believe our Ward names should relate to and provide a clear geographical description of the areas concerned. We propose the following changes, as used on the Interactive Map below, for the respective parish Wards:-

- Ward 1 to Salfords North,
- Ward 2 to Salfords South and
- Ward 3 to Sidlow

2. Polling district identifiers

The Parish Council is also concerned about the proposed polling district identifiers. The "HR" prefixes are inappropriate for Salfords and Sidlow. They give the impression that these polling districts form part of, or are associated with, Horley, which they are not.

Salfords and Sidlow is a distinct parish and has its own established identity. It is confusing to use identifiers which are associated with the polling districts for another community.



The Parish Council considers HRE1, HRE2 and HRW1, are inappropriate and misleading. In order to provide a simple, logical and recognisable identification, and to avoid any potential confusion with polling districts associated with Horley, we propose changing to the following "SAS" identifiers for Salfords and Sidlow.

- HRE1 to SAS1,
- HRE2 to SAS2 and
- HRW1 to SAS3.

3. Consistency and local identity

The Parish Council believes that electoral arrangements should, wherever reasonably practicable, use names and identifiers which reflect the communities they serve.

Salfords and Sidlow parish has a strong and established local identity. The use of Salfords North, Salfords South and Sidlow as ward names, together with SAS1, SAS2 and SAS3 as polling district identifiers, would make the electoral arrangements recognisable and considerably easier for all concerned to understand.

It would also provide consistency between the formal electoral information, the Council's mapping and the names by which the three communities are commonly known.

The Parish Council would be grateful if these representations are taken into account when the final proposals are prepared and, where the ward naming issue falls outside the scope of this particular review, that it is referred to the appropriate process or authority for consideration.

Yours faithfully

Claire Baller
Clerks to Salfords and Sidlow Parish Council

CC: Horley Town Council
Borough Cllrs, Cllr R Biggs, Cllr S Wotton, Cllr J Baker, Cllr V Chester, Cllr N Boghani, Cllr J Thorne

