

Polling review disabled people consultation summary

23/10/2019 09:08

Wrote to all local groups working with disabled adults at start of consultation (combined Real / THCVS mailing lists)

Publicised through THCVS newsletters & Accessible Transport Forum newsletter

1 focus group 7 participants @ Real 3/09/19

1 attended Real steering group 5/09/19

1 stall Accessibility Day organised by Accessible Transport Forum (100+ attended) 10/10/19

Unable to attend Apasen event

26 surveys completed

22 said they knew where to go to vote

13 could name their polling place or the building / street

1 postal voter

13 separate polling stations named

23 said their polling place easy to get to

1 said no but gave no reason

1 postal voter

1 blank

23 said easy to access building

1 said no but gave no reason

1 postal voter

1 blank

17 said room well laid out

5 said room not well laid out (see comments below)

1 postal voter

3 blanks

22 said staff helpful

2 said staff not helpful (see comments)

1 postal voter

1 blank

When asked how we could make voting easier received following comments.

All good
If possible the ballot paper should be accessible in Braille for blind people. Postal votes could also be in Braille.
Good location
Increase font size on voting forms
Voting paper should be in large print
Very helpful staff at polling station. Suggestion: have disabled polling booths separate from normal polling booths for easier accessibility.
Easy to vote twice. No ID.
I get confused when all the cards come. Just tell me to vote now. The cards are not helpful.
Bigger signs
Friendly staff at polling station
Small space. Wear hearing aids
Basic disability equality training for staff. Basic deaf awareness training for staff. Thanks!
I find it easy how it is already set up. thank you.
Feedback from Dial a Ride passengers. On voting day why can't school buses be used to pick people up?
It is always a pleasure voting.
Relocate back to Gateway on Mile End Road so easy to vote on way to or from work. Epanios Church is more central to polling district but requires separate journey for most residents.
Stop different parties standing outside the polling station and hassling people when they go to vote.

THEMES FROM FOCUS GROUP

High levels of satisfaction with experience of voting.

Issues

Layout of polling place confusing - split channels mentioned twice

wheelchair accessible booth- not all booths accessible

Privacy in lower booths - maybe consider angling or screening

Some confusion about where to go to vote in person and where you can hand in a postal vote

Recognition of limitations facing election organisers

Space an issue in some polling places - East India portakabin mentioned

Positive feedback on support from staff

Parking at St Matthias School and Jack Dash House locked off. Could be used for disabled voters parking.

Generally positive feedback on access to buildings

May be more than one barrier to voting eg impairment and language barrier

One negative experience of staff when asked for explanation of how to vote

Lack of accessible information from parties about candidates eg manifestos

Finding some of the polling places not easy. Had to use Google maps