

NP Referendum 14 March 2019

Format of Referendum

- **Referendum conducted based on procedures similar to those used at local government elections:**
- **Ballot of eligible electors within the KDBH designated area**
- **Poll cards sent to voters in advance**
- **Options to vote:**
 - » in person at a polling station
 - » By post
 - » By proxy
- **Votes counted after close of poll**
- **Majority vote needed for Plan to be made**

Who Is Eligible To Vote?

To be eligible to vote the following must be satisfied:

- you are registered to vote in local council elections
- the address at which you are registered to vote is within the designated Neighbourhood Area
- you are 18 years of age or over on the day of the referendum

Voters will receive a poll card before the referendum telling them where and when they can vote.

To vote in the referendum you must be registered to vote by Tuesday 26 February 2019.

Voters will be invited to vote ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ to the following question:

‘Do you want Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?’

The response will be either YES or NO

There needs to be a majority of votes in favour for the NDP to be made

Key Dates

Publication of Information Statement	Monday 4 February
Publication of Notice of Referendum	Thursday 7 February
Last Date for Registration	Tuesday 26 February
Receipt of Postal Vote Application	5:00 pm Wednesday 27 February
Publication of Notice of Poll	Wednesday 6 March
Receipt of Proxy Vote Applications	5:00 pm Wednesday 6 March
Appointment of Polling Observers and Counting Observers	Wednesday 6 March
First Day to Issue Replacement Lost Postal Ballot papers	Friday 8 March
Last Day to Issue Replacement Spoilt or Lost Postal Ballot Papers	5:00 pm Thursday 14 March
Receipt of Emergency Proxy Vote Applications	5:00 pm Thursday 14 March
Day of Referendum	7:00 am to 10:00 pm Thursday 14 March
Counting of votes	10.15pm Thursday 14 th March

Around 14,700 poll cards will be despatched to eligible voters by Royal Mail on Friday 15 February

There will be 5 polling stations, open from 7am to 10pm on Referendum day:

- **Dorridge Methodist Church, 135 Mill Lane, Dorridge**
- **St Phillip's Church Centre, Manor Road, Dorridge**
- **Knowle CE Primary School, Kixley Lane, Knowle (subject to confirmation)**
- **The Royal British Legion (Knowle) Club Limited, 1611 Warwick Road, Knowle**
- **Knowle Village Hall, St John's Close, Knowle**

- Around 3000 voters in KDBH are already registered to vote by post
- Their postal ballot papers will be despatched on Friday 1st March and again on Thursday 7th March for applications received after 20th February..
- Postal votes may be returned by hand or by post to SMBC before 10pm on referendum day or may be handed in at one of the polling stations.