## **ELECTORAL SERVICES**

# Polls held in Bromsgrove District Council Area in 2019

Bromsgrove District had a first Neighbourhood Planning Referendum in January 2019 for Alvechurch Parish. There may be Neighbourhood Planning Referendums for other Parishes before the end of the year.

There were full District and Parish Elections for Bromsgrove held on the 2 May. All District Wards were contested and in addition eight Parishes/Parish Wards went to a poll. Turnout across the District was 35.67% (turnout in different wards varied between 26.49% and 46.58%)

On 23 May, electors voted in the European Parliamentary Election with a turnout of 37.34%.

There are Police and Crime Commissioner Elections to be held in May 2020 and Electoral Services will continue to service any unscheduled polls that may happen during the year.

## **Household Enquiry Form Canvass**

Even though people are required to register individually, the Electoral Registration Officer still has to conduct a canvass of all properties within the District, which needs to be completed by the end of November. Forms have now been delivered and are being returned via post, internet, phone or text, giving households as much choice as possible. At the beginning of September Electoral Services have received a response from nearly 83.6% of households within the District area, Returns are up by 13% compared to the same time last year. The personal canvass or remaining outstanding properties starts at the end of September and will continue in October and November. This year canvassers will all be using electronic tablets to save on the cost of printing. The revised register will be produced at the beginning of December.

### Electoral canvassing all year round

Electoral Services are using Government funding to improve the canvassing service all year round. Two part time canvassers are employed to chase up registrations made throughout the year. In addition they will be visiting care homes and building up relationships to improve the accuracy of the Electoral Register.

### Polling Districts, Places and Stations review

The statutory Polling Districts, Places and Stations Review, regarding any changes that may be required to aforementioned, commenced in July and the first round of consultations has finished and the Electoral Matters Committee has put forward its recommendations for any Polling Place changes which will be able to be commented on until 7 October.