Sarratt Neighbourhood Plan Referendum Referendum Information Statement



Sarratt Neighbourhood Plan

Referendum Information Statement

(Including information for voters)

1. Introduction

On **Thursday 06 November 2025** there will be a referendum on a neighbourhood plan for your area, the Sarratt Neighbourhood Plan. This statement explains more about the referendum that is going to take place and how you can take part in it. This statement provides information about:

- The referendum and how you can take part.
- The planning system in England.
- Neighbourhood plans.
- The Neighbourhood Area.

2. Referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan

A referendum asks you to vote 'yes' or 'no' to a question.

For this referendum you will receive a ballot paper with this question:

"Do you want Three Rivers District Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Sarratt Parish to help decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?"

3. How do I vote in the referendum?

You vote by putting a cross (X) in the 'Yes' or 'No' box on your ballot paper.

You should put a cross in only **one** box or your vote will not be counted.

If more people vote 'Yes' than 'No' in this referendum, then Three Rivers District Council will use the Neighbourhood Plan to help decide planning applications in the Parish of Sarratt.

If more people vote 'No' than 'Yes', then planning applications will continue to be decided without using the Sarratt Neighbourhood Plan. Instead, planning applications would be decided using policies in the Three Rivers District Local Plan.

4. Can I vote?

You can vote in the referendum if you live in the Parish of Sarratt and:

You are registered to vote in local council elections; and

You are 18 years of age or over on Thursday 06 November 2025.

You have to be registered to vote by **Midnight Tuesday 21 October 2025** to vote in the referendum. You can check if you are registered to vote by calling the council on xxx

The referendum will be conducted based on procedures which are similar to those used at local government elections.

5. Ways of voting

There are three ways of voting.

In person on Thursday 06 November 2025

- At your local polling station. It is easy and a member of staff will always help if you are not sure what to do.
- The polling stations is at:

Sarratt Village Hall,

The Green,

WD3 6AS

- The polling station is open from **7am to 10pm**.
- You will receive a poll card for this referendum. If you do not receive your poll card, you can contact us by calling on 01923 776611 or email us on <u>Electoral.services@threerivers.gov.uk</u>

By post:

- If you have a postal vote already, you will receive a poll card confirming this.
- To vote by post, you will need to complete an application form and send it to the Electoral Registration Officer to arrive by 5pm on Wednesday 22
 October 2025

Three Rivers District Council

Three Rivers House

Northway

Rickmansworth

Hertfordshire

WD3 1RL

- Postal votes can be sent overseas but you need to think about whether you will have time to receive and return your completed postal vote.
- You should receive your postal vote about a week before polling day. If it doesn't arrive in time, you can ask for a replacement up to 5pm on
 Thursday 06 November 2025 by contacting us on 01923 776611

By proxy

- If you have a proxy vote already you will receive a poll card confirming this.
- If you can't get to the polling station and don't wish to vote by post, you may be able to vote by proxy. This means allowing somebody you trust to vote on your behalf.
- To vote by proxy, you will need to complete an application form and send it to the Electoral Registration Officer to arrive up to 5pm on Wednesday 29 October 2025 at this address:

Three Rivers District Council

Three Rivers House

Northway

Rickmansworth

Hertfordshire

WD3 1RL

- When you apply for a proxy vote, you must say why you cannot vote in person.
- Anyone can be your proxy as long as they are eligible to vote and are willing to vote on your behalf. You will have to tell them how you want to vote.

You can now apply to vote by post online at www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote

You can now apply to vote by proxy online at www.gov.uk/apply-proxy-vote

6. Voter Identification

You must bring photographic identification to vote. You will not be able to vote unless you show photographic identification to the polling station staff. A full list of accepted photographic identification is set out below:

- A passport issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, a British Overseas Territory, an EEA state or a Commonweath country;
- A driving licence issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or an EEA state

- A biometric immigration document
- An identity card bearing the Proof of Age Standards Scheme hologram (a PASS card)
- Ministry of Defence Form 90 (Defence Identity Card)
- A Blue Badge A national identity card issued by an EEA state
- An Older Person's Bus Pass
- A Disabled Person's Bus Pass
- An Oyster 60+ Card
- A Freedom Pass
- A Scottish National Entitlement Card issued in Scotland
- A 60 and Over Welsh Concessionary Travel Card issued in Wales
- A Disabled Person's Welsh Concessionary Travel Card issued in Wales
- A Senior SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- A Registered Blind SmartPass or Blind Person's SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- A War Disablement SmartPass or War Disabled SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- A 60+ SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- A Half Fare SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- An Electoral Identity Card issued in Northern Ireland
- A Voter Authority Certificate or a temporary Voter Authority Certificate.

If you do not possess any of the above forms of photographic identification, you can apply to the Electoral Registration Officer for a free Voter Authority Certificate. Completed applications must reach us before **5pm on Wednesday 29 October 2025**.

7. Am I registered to vote?

If you're not registered, you won't be able to vote. You can check if you are registered by calling us on 01923 776611

If you are not registered to vote, you will need to submit an application to register. You can do this online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Alternatively, you can contact electoral services by email or phone to be sent a paper application.

8. Referendum Expenses

Expenses can be incurred by an individual or body organizing a campaign during the period of the referendum for referendum purposes. There is a limit to the amount that campaigners can spend on their advertising for the referendum.

The referendum expenses limit that will apply in relation to the Sarratt Neighbourhood Plan is £2450.67 to each campaign organizer. The number of persons entitled to vote in the referendum by reference to which the limit has been calculated is 1503 (As of September 2025).

9. Specified documents to be published before referendum

The District Council makes available a number of documents that are relevant to the referendum. These are called the **specified documents** and comprise:

- Sarratt Neighbourhood Plan
- Sarratt Neighbourhood Plan Map
- Report of the independent examiner
- Summary of the representations submitted to the independent examiner
- The post examination decision statement agreed and published by Hart District Council
- Statement that sets out general information as to town and country planning including neighbourhood planning and the referendum

These documents are available on Three Rivers District Council's neighbourhood planning website: <u>Sarratt Neighbourhood Plan | Three Rivers District Council</u>



