

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

14 NOVEMBER 2019

REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To consider the representations received during the Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places and to recommend a final scheme to the Council for approval.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 Section 16 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006 introduced a number of changes to the Representation of the People Act 1983 in respect of the way in which reviews of polling districts and polling places must be carried out.

2.2 By 31 January 2020, every relevant authority must have undertaken and completed a review of all the polling districts and polling places in its area.

2.3 The General Purposes Committee at its meeting held on 5 September 2019 agreed the following timetable:

- Publication of notice and consultation document – consultation opened 9 September 2019
- Closing date for representations 25 October 2019
- Report on representations to General Purposes Committee on 14 November 2019 - General Purposes to recommend a final scheme to Full Council on 17 December 2019
- Full Council to agree final scheme on 17 December 2019

3.0 Consultation

3.1 At the closing date for representations on 25 October 2019, only two representations had been received. These were from Councillors Brazier and Cumberlidge in respect of the Ollerton Ward and specifically the use of Unit 8 at Beacon Court for polling District PE. Both Members expressed concern about the suitability of the polling station given the poor lighting and heating and facilities for staff, however currently there were no suitable alternative venues available within that polling district.

3.2 Given the lack of alternative venues the Electoral Registration Officer/Returning Officer considers the premises should be continued to be used until a replacement can be found, as it is considered necessary to have a polling station available in the polling district.

3.3 The Electoral Registration Officer/Returning Officer also sought views on the use of Hawton Church to serve electors in polling district GG but no representations had been received.

3.4 The Committee are invited to consider the representations with a view to proposing a final scheme which can be recommended to the Full Council at their meeting to be held on 17 December 2019.

3.5 The consultation document and polling district scheme are attached as an **Appendix** to the report.

4.0 RECOMMENDATION

That the proposals, as set out in the Appendix to the report, subject to any revisions put forward by the Committee, be recommended to Full Council for approval.

Background Papers

Responses received in respect of the consultation
Full Consultation Document

For further information please contact Nigel Hill on Ext 5243

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