

## **COUNCIL MEETING – 17 DECEMBER 2019**

### **REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES**

#### **1.0 Purpose of Report**

1.1 To approve a final scheme following the review of Polling Districts and Polling Places.

#### **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 were received.

#### **4.0 General Purposes Committee**

4.1 In accordance with the timetable for the review, the General Purposes Committee were to consider the representations and propose a final scheme for approval by this Council. However, this meeting was cancelled due to roads being closed because of flooding.

4.2 Therefore, the Council are invited to consider the representations with a view to approving a final scheme at this meeting.

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

#### **4.0 RECOMMENDATION**

**That the proposed scheme, as set out in the Appendix to the report, subject to any revisions proposed by the Full Council, be approved.**

#### 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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