
Elections Working Group

Report of the Working Group

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Elections Working Group met on Wednesday, 9th October 2013 to consider a review of polling districts and polling places as required by Section 16 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006.
- 1.2 Councillors M G Baker, Mrs M Banerjee, G J Bull and N J Guyatt (Chairman) were present at the meeting.

2. POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES REVIEW

- 2.1 The Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (Parliamentary Election) Regulations 2006 requires the Council to undertake a review of the polling district and all of the polling places in its area on a regular four yearly cycle. The first such review was completed in 2007 and another review conducted in 2011. Due to the scheduled implementation of Individual Electoral Registration in 2014, the 2015 review was brought forward to 2013. The aim of the review is to ensure that all electors have reasonable facilities for voting and that the polling places are accessible to all electors.
- 2.2 Whilst polling stations are not formally part of the review, it is essential that the Council and Returning Officer have regard to the adequacy and suitability of premises used, particularly in relation to accessibility by disabled electors.
- 2.3 A formal consultation exercise was undertaken from October until November 2013, whereby residents, County and District Councillors, Town and Parish Councils, Returning Officers, political agents/parties and local disability groups were asked to make comments on the existing arrangements for polling places and polling stations.
- 2.4 A total of six relevant responses were received (Appendix A) and arising from the representations made, the Chairman of the Working Group has agreed the changes to the polling district boundaries and polling places. The Schedule of Polling Districts and Polling Places is set out at Appendix B.

3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 In accordance with the Electoral Administration Act 2006, the Council must undertake a review of the polling district and polling places every four years. The adequacy and suitability of polling stations is regularly reviewed to ensure that premises remain suitable and accessible for electors.
- 3.2 The Working Group therefore

RECOMMENDS

that the Council approves the Schedule of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2013 as appended to the report now submitted.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Agenda and Reports of the Elections Working Group held on 9 October 2013.

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