

REPORT TO: Executive Board
DATE: 22 September 2011
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Policy & Resources
SUBJECT: Polling Districts/Polling Stations Review
WARDS: All Wards

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members of the results of the formal Polling District, Places and Stations Review, highlight recommended changes to the polling scheme and put forward a revised polling scheme for approval.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION:

That Council be recommended to adopt the amendments to the scheme detailed in the appendix to the report for the period 2011-2014.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The Electoral Administration Act 2006 requires the Council to carry out a review of all its polling stations every four years. The main purpose of the review is to ensure that all residents have reasonable facilities for voting.

As part of the review process we have to consult electors, councillors and other interested parties. Details of all polling districts and polling stations were on the Council's website and notices were placed in the Direct Link offices. Comments were required by 1 August and those received have been taken into account.

The responses to the consultation were considered by the Polling Station Review Working Party on 18 August 2011. The recommendations of the Working Party are detailed in the Appendix.

4.0 POLICY, FINANCIAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific policy implications although it is important to ensure that all electors have equal access to polling stations and places in line with the Council's priority on accessibility of services. Subject to the decisions on the location of polling stations there may or may not be financial implications.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

- 6.1 **Children and Young People in Halton** – If polling stations are situated in the right places it could encourage voter turnout for electors in this age group.
- 6.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton** – There are no implications arising from this report.
- 6.3 **A Healthy Halton** – The provision of polling stations in suitable locations could encourage engagement with the democratic process and in turn promote a healthy living environment.
- 6.4 **A Safer Halton** – The location of polling stations in a safe environment for all electors could encourage voter turnout.
- 6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal** - There are no implications arising from this report.

6.0 RISK ANALYSIS

There are no risk assessment implications.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 7.1 Historically every effort has been made to make sure that all polling buildings are accessible for electors with disabilities. At the most recent elections problems were encountered with access for wheelchair users and action was taken on the day to enable the elector to exercise their right to vote. It is important to ensure that all electors have equal access to polling stations and places in line with the Council's priority on accessibility of services.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None under the meaning of the Act.

APPENDIX

POLLING DISTRICTS/POLLING STATION REVIEW

APPLETON WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
BA	Wade Deacon High School (Lower Wing), Peelhouse Lane, Widnes	1373	None
BB	St Bedes Catholic Junior School, Leigh Avenue, Widnes	1120	None
BC	Fairfield Infants School, Peelhouse Lane, Widnes	1564	None
BD	Mobile Polling Station, Frederick Street/Dickson Street, Widnes	229	None
BE	St Maries Church & Parish Hall, Lugsdale Road, Widnes	458	None

BEECHWOOD WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
PA	Beechwood Primary School, Grasmere Drive, Runcorn	1382	Beechwood Community Centre.
PB	Hillview Primary School, Beechwood Avenue, Runcorn	1674	None

BIRCHFIELD WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
XA	Mobile Polling Station, Upton Tavern Car Park, Upton Lane, Widnes	3331	None for local elections. Investigate the siting of an additional mobile for a Parliamentary Election.
XB	Mobile Polling Station, Queensbury Way, Widnes	1656	None

BROADHEATH WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
FA	Our Lady's Church Hall, Mayfield Avenue, Widnes	663	None
FB	Mobile Polling Station, Delamere Avenue (rear of Quarry Court), Widnes	809	None
FC	Mobile Polling Station, The Bankfield School, Liverpool Road, Widnes	903	None
FD	Mobile Polling Station, Blundell Road/Hanley Road, Widnes	1199	None
FE	Widnes Rugby Union Football Club, Heath Road, Widnes	1226	None

DARESBUY WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
TK	Milner Institute, Runcorn Road, Moore, Runcorn	653	None
TL	Daresbury Primary School, Chester Road, Daresbury, Warrington	198	None
TM	Village Hall, Preston Brook, Runcorn	621	None
TT	Sandymoor Community Centre, Otterburn Street, Off Pitts Heath Lane, Sandymoor, Runcorn	1884	None

DITTON WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
GA	Nursery Unit, Oakfield Infants School, Edinburgh Road, Widnes	759	No change but officers investigate the use of a semi-permanent ramp.
GB	Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Catholic Primary School, Clincton View, Widnes	1112	None
GC	Halebank Youth Club, Baguley Avenue, Widnes	1334	None
GD	Mobile Polling Station, Ditchfield Road, Widnes	941	None
GE	Our Lady's Church Hall, Mayfield Avenue, Widnes	654	None
GF	Scout Hut, Hall Avenue, Widnes	553	None

FARNWORTH WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
AA	Lunts Heath Primary School, Wedgewood Drive, Widnes	2617	None
AB	Farnworth CE Controlled Primary School, Pit Lane, Widnes	1619	None
AC	Moorfield Primary School, School Way, Widnes (shared with Halton View Ward)	851	None
AD	Farnworth Methodist Church Hall, Derby Road, Widnes	529	None

GRANGE WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
NA	Bertha's Room, St Edwards Parish Centre, Ivy Street, Runcorn	1343	None
NB	Grangeway Community Centre, Grangeway, Runcorn	1542	None
NC	Halton Lodge Primary School, Grangeway, Runcorn	2026	None

HALE WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
JA	Hale Village Hall, High Street, Hale	1541	None

HALTON BROOK WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
MA	The Grange Junior School, Latham Avenue, Runcorn	1894	Wicksten Drive Christian Centre
MB	Brook Chapel, Boston Avenue, Runcorn	1386	None
MC	Castle View Primary School, Meadway, Runcorn	1461	None

HALTON CASTLE WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
OA	St Augustine's Catholic Primary School, Nigel Walk, Runcorn	1319	None
OB	Castlefields Community Centre, Chester Close, Runcorn	810	None
OC	St Mary's Halton CE Aided Primary School, Castlefields Avenue South, Runcorn	854	None
OD	The Brow Community Primary School, The Clough, Runcorn	1432	None

Electors at Castle Road, Cheshyre Drive, Holt Lane, Mount Road, Priory Close, School Lane, St Marys Road, The Common, The Underway and Spark Lane be re-allocated to Polling District OC.

HALTON LEA WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
QA	Palacefields Community Centre, The Uplands, Runcorn	1965	None
QB	The Lapwing Centre, Lapwing Grove, Runcorn	1147	None
QC	Hallwood Park Primary School, Hallwood Park Avenue, Runcorn	926	None
QD	Halton Lodge Community Centre, Whitchurch Way, Runcorn	555	None

HALTON VIEW WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
CA	Mobile Polling Station, Weates Close, Widnes	1534	None
CB	Mobile Polling Station, Bancroft Road, Widnes	1807	None
CC	St Ambrose Church Hall, Warrington Road, Widnes	1257	None
CD	Moorfield Primary School, School Way, Widnes (Shared with Farnworth Ward)	533	None

HEATH WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
LA	Christ Church Hall, Sandy Lane, Runcorn	727	None
LB	St Clements Catholic Primary School, Oxford Road, Runcorn	1363	None
LC	St John's CE Church Hall, Weston Village, Runcorn	885	None
LD	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Clifton Road, Runcorn	1611	None

HOUGH GREEN WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
HA	All Saints CE Primary School, Hough Green Road, Widnes	2174	None
HB	Upton Community Centre, Hough Green Road, Widnes	886	None
HC	Mobile Polling Station, Arley Drive, Widnes	1190	None
HD	St Basil's Catholic Primary School, Hough Green Road, Widnes	993	None

KINGSWAY WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
DA	6 th Form Building, St Peter & Paul Catholic High School, Highfield Road, Widnes	1061	None
DB	Ditton Primary School, Liverpool Road, Widnes	527	None
DC	Creche - Fitness Suite – Halton Stadium, Lowerhouse Lane, Widnes	2324	None
DD	Simms Cross Primary School, Kingsway, Widnes	638	Change entrance to Kingsway.
DE	Creche - Fitness Suite – Halton Stadium, Lowerhouse Lane, Widnes	391	None

MERSEY WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
KA	Runcorn Spiritualist Church, Ashridge Street, Runcorn	1450	None
KB	The Partnership Centre, Old Police Station, Bridge Street, Runcorn	757	None
KC	Victoria Road Primary School, Victoria Road, Runcorn	773	None
KD	West Runcorn Youth Club, Russell Road, Runcorn	936	None
KE	Westfield Primary School, Clayton Crescent, Runcorn	1099	None

NORTON NORTH WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
RA	St Bertelines CE Primary School, Norton Lane, Runcorn	2646	None
RB	Gorsewood Primary School, Gorsewood Road, Runcorn	2252	None

NORTON SOUTH WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
ZX	Brookvale Community Centre (Higher House), Old Northwich Road, Runcorn	1009	None
ZY	Murdishaw West Community Primary School, Barnfield Avenue, Runcorn	1457	None
ZZ	Brookvale Community Centre (Higher House), Old Northwich Road, Runcorn	2105	None

RIVERSIDE WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
EA	St Maries Church & Parish Hall, Lugsdale Road, Widnes	454	None
EB	West Bank Primary School, Cholmondeley Street, Widnes	962	None
EC	Ditton Community Centre, Dundalk Road, Widnes	847	None
ED	St Michael's Parish Centre, St Michaels Road, Widnes	1309	None

WINDMILL HILL WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
SA	Priory View Community House, 231-233 Lockgate West, Runcorn	805	None
SB	Windmill Hill Primary School, Windmill Hill, Runcorn	807	None