

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 14 November 2019

REPORTING OFFICER: Returning Officer – David Parr

SUBJECT: Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places and incorporating the ward boundary 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 2019-2024.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The Electoral Administration Act 2006 requires the Council to carry out a review of all its polling stations every five 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 21 August 2019. 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

- 5.1 **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.
- 5.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton** – There are no implications arising from this report.
- 5.3 **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.
- 5.4 **A Safer Halton** – The location of polling stations in a safe environment for all electors could encourage voter turnout.
- 5.5 **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

- 8.1 None under the meaning of the Act.

APPENDIX**POLLING PLACES AND ELECTORATE****APPLETON WARD**

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
BA	Mobile Polling Station, Victoria Park, (Lockett Road entrance), Widnes	1498	St Johns Church Hall, Fairfield Road
BB	St Bedes Scout Hut, Appleton Village, Widnes	1094	None
BC	Fairfield Primary School, Peelhouse Lane, Widnes	1573	None
BD	Mobile Polling Station, Frederick Street/Dickson Street, Widnes	331	From May 2020 to Simms Cross School
BE	Halton & St Helens VCA, Lugsdale Road, Widnes (Shared with Riverside Ward – polling district EA)	484	None

BEECHWOOD WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
PA	Beechwood Community Centre, Beechwood Avenue, Runcorn	1286	None
PB	Hillview Primary School, Beechwood Avenue, Runcorn	1614	None

BIRCHFIELD WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
XA	Marquee, Upton Tavern, Upton Lane, Widnes	3360	None
XB	Mobile Polling Station, Queensbury Way, Widnes	1965	None

BROADHEATH WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
FA	John Dalton Centre, Mayfield Avenue, Widnes (Shared with Ditton Ward – polling district GD)	646	None
FB	Mobile Polling Station, Delamere Avenue (rear of Quarry Court), Widnes	808	Quarry Court Community Room
FC	Mobile Polling Station, Omiston Chadwick School, Liverpool Road, Widnes	785	Naughton Fields Community Room – dual station with FD
FD	Mobile Polling Station, Blundell Road/Hanley Road, Widnes	1235	Naughton Fields Community Room
FE	Widnes Rugby Union Football Club, Heath Road, Widnes	1285	None

DARESURY WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
TK	Milner Institute, Runcorn Road, Moore, Runcorn	654	None
TL	The Lewis Carroll Centre, All Saints Parish Church, Daresbury Lane	265	None
TM	Preston Brook Village Hall, Sandy Lane, Runcorn	693	None
TT	Sandymoor Community Centre, Pitts Heath Lane, Sandymoor, Runcorn	2413	None

DITTON WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
GA	Nursery Unit, Oakfield Community Primary School, Edinburgh Road, Widnes	836	None
GB	Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Catholic Primary School, Clincton View, Widnes	1083	None
GC	Halebank Youth Club, Baguley Avenue, Widnes	1351	None
GD	Mobile Polling Station, Ditchfield Road, Widnes	993	Community Room Ditton Library
GE	John Dalton Centre, Mayfield Avenue, Widnes (Shared with Broadheath Ward – polling district FA)	646	None
GF	Scout Hut, Hall Avenue, Widnes	547	None

FARNWORTH WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
AA	Lunts Heath Primary School, Wedgewood Drive, Widnes	3261	None
AB	Farnworth CE Voluntary Controlled Primary School, Pit Lane, Widnes	1672	None
AC	Moorfield Primary School, Moorfield Road, Widnes (shared with Halton View Ward)	1179	None
AD	Farnworth Methodist Church Hall, Derby Road, Widnes	784	None

GRANGE WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
NA	Bertha's Room, St Edwards Parish Centre, Ivy Street, Runcorn	1275	None
NB	Grangeway Community Centre, Grangeway, Runcorn	1628	None
NC	Halton Lodge Children's Centre, Grangeway, Runcorn	1909	None

HALE WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
JA	Hale Village Hall, High Street, Hale	1521	None

HALTON BROOK WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
MA	Wicksten Drive Christian Centre, Wicksten Drive, Runcorn	1945	None
MB	Brook Chapel, Boston Avenue, Runcorn	1335	None
MC	Halton Brook Community Centre, Meadway, Runcorn	1552	None

HALTON CASTLE WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
OA	Castlefields Community Centre, Tyrell Way, Runcorn	1512	None
OB	Castlefields Community Centre, Tyrell Way, Runcorn	850	None
OC	St Mary's Halton CE Aided Primary School, Castlefields Avenue South, Runcorn	1283	None
OD	The Brow Community Primary School, The Clough, Runcorn	998	None

HALTON LEA WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
QA	Palacefields Community Centre, The Uplands, Runcorn	1907	None
QB	The Lapwing Centre, Lapwing Grove, Runcorn	1059	None
QC	Hallwood Park Primary School, Hallwood Park Avenue, Runcorn	923	None
QD	Halton Lodge Community Centre, Whitchurch Way, Runcorn	529	None

HALTON VIEW WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
CA	Mobile Polling Station, Weates Close, Widnes	1461	None
CB	Mobile Polling Station, Bancroft Road, Widnes	1754	From May 2020 Crow Wood Pavillion, Crow Wood Park
CC	St Ambrose Church Hall, Warrington Road, Widnes	1246	None
CD	Moorfield Primary School, Moorfield Road, Widnes (Shared with Farnworth Ward)	528	None

HEATH WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
LA	Christ Church Hall, Sandy Lane, Runcorn	701	None
LB	St Clements Catholic Primary School, Oxford Road, Runcorn	1381	None
LC	St John's CE Church Hall, Heath Road South, Weston Village, Runcorn	886	Weston Primary School
LD	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Clifton Road, Runcorn	1578	None

HOUGH GREEN WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
HA	All Saints Upton CE Controlled Primary School, Hough Green Road, Widnes	2061	None
HB	Upton Community Centre, Hough Green Road, Widnes	785	None
HC	Mobile Polling Station, Arley Drive, Widnes	1137	Dual Station with Upton Community Centre
HD	St Basil's Club, Hough Green Road, Widnes	1006	St Basils School being checked if suitable

KINGSWAY WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
DA	6 th Form Building, Saints Peter & Paul Catholic College, Highfield Road, Widnes	1028	None
DB	Frank Myler Pavilion , Liverpool Road, Widnes	611	None
DC	Creche - Fitness Suite – Halton Stadium, Lowerhouse Lane, Widnes	2139	None
DD	Simms Cross Primary School, Kingsway, Widnes (Entrance on Kingsway, near Sharp Street)	586	None
DE	Creche - Fitness Suite – Halton Stadium, Lowerhouse Lane, Widnes	378	None

MERSEY WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
KA	Runcorn Spiritualist Church, Ashridge Street, Runcorn	1620	None
KB	The Partnership Centre, Old Police Station, Bridge Street, Runcorn	761	None
KC	Victoria Road Primary School, Victoria Road, Runcorn	682	None
KD	West Runcorn Youth Club, Russell Road, Runcorn	955	None
KE	Westfield Primary School, Clayton Crescent, Runcorn	1114	None

NORTON NORTH WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
RA	St Bertelines CE Primary School, Norton Lane, Runcorn	2569	None
RB	Gorsewood Primary School, Gorsewood Road, Runcorn	2291	None

NORTON SOUTH WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
ZX	Brookvale Community Centre (Higher House), Old Northwich Road, Runcorn	1049	None
ZY	Murdishaw Community Centre, Barnfield Avenue, Runcorn	1467	None
ZZ	Brookvale Community Centre (Higher House), Old Northwich Road, Runcorn	1973	None

RIVERSIDE WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
EA	Halton & St Helens VCA, Lugsdale Road, Widnes (Shared with Appleton Ward – polling district BE)	528	None
EB	Widnes Academy, Cholmondeley Street, Widnes	1011	None
EC	Ditton Community Centre, Dundalk Road, Widnes	838	None
ED	St Michael's Parish Centre, St Michaels Road, Widnes	1355	None

WINDMILL HILL WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Changes
SA	Priory View Community House, 231-233 Lockgate West, Runcorn	935	None
SB	Windmill Hill Primary School, Windmill Hill, Runcorn	791	None