

PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

Subject: Polling District and Polling Stations Review
Committee: Audit and Governance Committee
Date: 11 March 2019
Cabinet Member: Councillor Peter Smith
CMT Member: Giles Perritt, Assistant Chief Executive
Author: Glenda Favor-Ankersen, Head of Electoral Services
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Ref: PDPR 2018
Key Decision: No
Part: 1

Purpose of the report:

The attached report presents our final recommendations for the Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations Review for 2019/2020.

Local authorities must comply with legislation about the location and accessibility of polling districts and polling places. The mandatory review process is set out in the Representation of the People Act 1983, and includes a public consultation. We are required to review every five years, and this review must be completed by 31 January 2020.

In compliance with the legislation, the current review of polling places and polling districts began in October 2018, and an initial recommendations report was published for consultation on Monday 5 November 2018. The consultation phase ended on Friday 14 December 2018, and included views from local residents and stakeholders in the city, including any issues with access to premises or facilities for people with disabilities. The review also took into account the impact of the next four years' worth of planned residential developments on existing electoral arrangements.

It is the Returning Officer's role to select the polling stations. It will be Full Council which will make decisions on any proposed changes to polling districts or polling places. The final scheme for polling arrangements will be adopted by the Chief Executive in accordance with the Council's constitution.

The polling districts, polling places and polling stations finally decided on will be used for the May 2020 Local and Police and Crime Commissioner elections.

Corporate Plan

This report complies with statutory obligations and requirements and supports Plymouth City Council's corporate values of being democratic, responsible and fair.

Implications for Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications: Including finance, human, IT and land

The Council reviewed value for money considerations and is recommending the reduction in the number of mobile polling stations from 13 to 8 which will result in a saving of approximately £10,000.

Other Implications: e.g. Child Poverty, Community Safety, Health and Safety and Risk Management:

The risk register for this review is available as a background paper to this report.

Equality and Diversity

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been undertaken? Yes

The PDPR Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is included as a background document to this report.

Recommendations and Reasons for recommended action:

To recommend that Council approves the proposed changes to polling stations as set out in the Polling Districts, Places and Stations Review Recommendations Report, set out starting at page 4 of that report; for the reasons set out in that report.

Alternative options considered and rejected:



The review is mandatory, and the recommendations are based on extensive consultation against a range of criteria

Published work / information:

<https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/votingandelections/pollingdistrictreview2018>

Background papers:

Title	Part I	Part II	Exemption Paragraph Number							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1A OFFICIAL Briefing Note PDPR 2018, item 39. PDF 132 KB	✓									
1B OFFICIAL Business Case PDPR 2018, item 39. PDF 145 KB	✓									
1C OFFICIAL Project Initiation Document PDPR 2018, item 39. PDF 152 KB	✓									
2 OFFICIAL PDPR 2018 Risk Register V0.03, item 39. PDF 69 KB	✓									
3 OFFICIAL Polling District Review Comms Plan V3, item 39. PDF 90 KB	✓									
4 OFFICIAL Polling District Review Methodology V3, item 39. PDF 77 KB	✓									
5 OFFICIAL Report on Polling Stations Status V2, item 39. PDF 4 MB	✓									
6 OFFICIAL 2018 Polling Stations Costs and Attendance, item 39. PDF 403 KB	✓									

7 OFFICIAL 2018 Projected Electorate per Ward, item 39.  PDF 395 KB	✓							
8 OFFICIAL 20180817 Future Potential Housing Growth 1st April 2017-2034, item 39.  PDF 7 MB	✓							
Polling District Review Equality Impact Assessment	✓							

Sign off:

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Originating SMT Member Giles Perritt, Assistant Chief Executive								
Has the Cabinet Member(s) agreed the contents of the report? Yes								