

REPORT TO: Executive Board
DATE: 7 February 2008
REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Executive
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 2008-2011.

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 after that. 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 12 November and those received have been taken into account.

The responses to the consultation were considered by the Polling Station Review Working Party on 18 December 2007 and 17 January 2008. The recommendations of the Working Party are detailed in the Appendix.

4.0 POLICY 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.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be an additional cost, for this year only, of £1300 for the hire of an additional mobile polling station.

6.0 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.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

There are no risk assessment implications.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

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.

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

None

Appendix

POLLING PLACES AND ELECTORATE

APPLETON WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
BA	Fairfield High School (Lower Wing), Peelhouse Lane, Widnes	1345	None
BB	St Bedes Catholic Junior School, Leigh Avenue, Widnes	1119	None
BC	Fairfield Infants School, Peelhouse Lane, Widnes	1697	None
BD	Mobile Polling Station, Frederick Street/Dickson Street, Widnes	249	None
BE	St Gerard's Catholic Primary & Nursery School, Lugsdale Road, Widnes	397	None

BEECHWOOD WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
PA	Beechwood Primary School, Grasmere Drive, Runcorn	1458	None
PB	Hillview Primary School, Beechwood Avenue, Runcorn	1738	None

BIRCHFIELD WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
XA	Mobile Polling Station, Upton Tavern Car Park, Upton Lane, Widnes	3391	None
XB	Mobile Polling Station, Queensbury Way, Widnes	1406	None

BROADHEATH WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
FA	Our Lady's Church Hall, Mayfield Avenue, Widnes	640	None
FB	Mobile Polling Station, Delamere Avenue (rear of Quarry Court), Widnes	846	None
FC	Mobile Polling Station, The Bankfield School, Liverpool Road, Widnes	919	None
FD	Mobile Polling Station, Blundell Road/Hanley Road, Widnes	1218	None
FE	Widnes Rugby Union Football Club, Heath Road, Widnes	1273	None

CASTLEFIELDS WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
OA	St Augustine's Catholic Primary School, Nigel Walk, Runcorn	1322	None
OB	Castlefields Community Centre, Chester Close, Runcorn	834	None
OC	St Mary's Halton CE Aided Primary School, Castlefields Avenue South, Runcorn	1020	None
OD	The Brow Community Primary School, The Clough, Runcorn	1502	None

DARESBUY WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
TK	Milner Institute, Runcorn Road, Moore, Runcorn	684	None
TL	Daresbury Primary School, Chester Road, Daresbury, Warrington	210	None
TM	Village Hall, Preston Brook, Runcorn	614	None
TT	Sandymoor Community Centre, Otterburn Street, Off Pitts Heath Lane, Sandymoor, Runcorn	1713	None

DITTON WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
GA	Nursery Unit, Oakfield Infants School, Edinburgh Road, Widnes	841	None
GB	Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Catholic Primary School, Clincton View, Widnes	1088	None
GC	Halebank Youth Club, Baguley Avenue, Widnes	1181	None
GD	Mobile Polling Station, Ditchfield Road, Widnes	1080	None
GE	Our Lady's Church Hall, Mayfield Avenue, Widnes	691	None
GF	Scout Hut, Hall Avenue, Widnes	560	None

FARNWORTH WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
AA	Lunts Heath Primary School, Wedgewood Drive, Widnes	2529	None
AB	Farnworth CE Controlled Primary School, Pit Lane, Widnes	1534	None
AC	Previously Crow Wood Youth Centre (shared with Halton View Ward)	768	Moorfield Primary School, School Way, Widnes
AD	Farnworth Methodist Church Hall, Derby Road, Widnes	518	None

GRANGE WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
NA	Bertha's Room, St Edwards Parish Centre, Ivy Street, Runcorn	1425	None
NB	Grangeway Community Centre, Grangeway, Runcorn	1597	None
NC	Halton Lodge Primary School, Grangeway, Runcorn	2136	None

HALE WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
JA	Hale Village Hall, High Street, Hale	1589	None

HALTON BROOK WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
MA	The Grange Junior School, Latham Avenue, Runcorn	2005	None – but Officers endeavour to ensure that the access to the polling station is DDA compliant.
MB	Brook Chapel, Boston Avenue, Runcorn	1422	None
MC	Castle View Primary School, Meadway, Runcorn	1430	None

HALTON LEA WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
QA	Palacefields Community Centre, The Uplands, Runcorn – having structural alterations in 2008	2000	Mobile on car park of Community Centre for 2008 elections only.
QB	The Lapwing Centre, Lapwing Grove, Runcorn	1258	None
QC	Hallwood Park Primary School, Hallwood Park Avenue, Runcorn	908	None
QD	Halton Lodge Community Centre, Whitchurch Way, Runcorn	601	None

HALTON VIEW WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
CA	Mobile Polling Station, Weates Close, Widnes	1616	None
CB	Mobile Polling Station, Bancroft Road, Widnes	1840	None
CC	St Ambrose Church Hall, Warrington Road, Widnes	1326	None
CD	Previously Crow Wood Youth Centre (shared with Farnworth Ward)	567	Moorfield Primary School, School Way, Widnes

HEATH WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
LA	Christ Church Hall, Sandy Lane, Runcorn	770	None
LB	St Clements Catholic Primary School, Oxford Road, Runcorn	1378	None
LC	St John's CE Church Hall, Weston Village, Runcorn	885	None
LD	The Heath School, Clifton Road, Runcorn	1690	None

HOUGH GREEN WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
HA	All Saints CE Primary School, Hough Green Road, Widnes	2227	None
HB	Upton Community Centre, Hough Green Road, Widnes	932	None
HC	Mobile Polling Station, Arley Drive, Widnes	1209	None
HD	St Basil's Catholic Primary School, Hough Green Road, Widnes	1045	None

KINGSWAY WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
DA	6 th Form Building, St Peter & Paul Catholic High School, Highfield Road, Widnes	1056	None
DB	Ditton Primary School, Liverpool Road, Widnes	521	None
DC	Creche - Fitness Suite – Halton Stadium, Lowerhouse Lane, Widnes	2275	None
DD	Simms Cross Primary School, Kingsway, Widnes	663	None
DE	Conference Room 3, Ground Floor – Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes	385	None

MERSEY WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
KA	All Saints CE Primary School, Church Street, Runcorn	1249	Spiritualist Church, Ashridge Street, Runcorn
KB	The Partnership Centre, Old Police Station, Bridge Street, Runcorn	797	None
KC	Victoria Road Primary School, Victoria Road, Runcorn	761	None
KD	West Runcorn Youth Club, Russell Road, Runcorn	968	None
KE	Westfield Primary School, Clayton Crescent, Runcorn	1174	None

NORTON NORTH WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
RA	St Bertelines CE Primary School, Norton Lane, Runcorn	2599	None
RB	Gorsewood Primary School, Gorsewood Road, Runcorn	2365	None

NORTON SOUTH WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
ZX	Brookvale Community Centre (Higher House), Old Northwich Road, Runcorn	1077	None
ZY	Murdishaw West Community Primary School, Barnfield Avenue, Runcorn	1579	None
ZZ	Brookvale Community Centre (Higher House), Old Northwich Road, Runcorn	2210	None

RIVERSIDE WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
EA	St Gerard's Catholic Primary & Nursery School, Lugsdale Road, Widnes	473	None
EB	West Bank Primary School, Cholmondeley Street, Widnes	995	None
EC	Ditton Community Centre, Dundalk Road, Widnes	837	None
ED	St Michael's Parish Centre, St Michaels Road, Widnes	1306	None

WINDMILL HILL WARD

Polling District	Polling Place	Electorate	Suggested Change
SA	Priory View Community House, 231-233 Lockgate West, Runcorn	834	None
SB	Windmill Hill Primary School, Windmill Hill, Runcorn	898	None