

Meeting:	Licensing & General Purposes Committee
Date:	24 November 2008
Subject:	Review of Polling Districts and Polling Stations
Responsible Officer:	Hugh Peart
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor David Ashton – Leader encompassing Strategy, Partnership and Finance
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Appendix A – Recommendations from the Review Working Group meeting of 11 November 2008

SECTION 1 – SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Appendix A to this report sets out the recommendations from the working group having undertaken a review of the polling districts agreed by this Committee. Where no change is recommended, this is clearly marked in the Appendix.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is requested agree:

- (1) The recommendations in relation to the polling districts as set out in the Appendix.
- (2) That the next review is completed by 31 December 2011 in accordance with the statutory requirement to conduct a review of all the Borough's polling districts every four years.

SECTION 2 - REPORT

Background

Members will recall that at their last meeting they agreed to set up a working group to deal with the review. The terms of reference for the group and membership were agreed at that time.

The working group met on 11 November to consider recommendations from officers and other interested parties. The findings of the member working group are set out in Appendix A.

Members will also recall that it was agreed that future reviews would be carried out each year in respect of selected parts of the Borough. Dealing with the annual review this year, which coincided with the GLA Elections has caused some difficulties and delays. It is envisaged that these difficulties will occur again in 2009, with the European Elections in June 2009 and again in 2010 with the Local (and potentially a Parliamentary) Election to deal with.

Members are asked to specifically note that this annual review does not negate the requirement for the Council to comply with legislation to conduct reviews of its polling district and places every four years.

This Committee is therefore asked to agree to the next review of the polling districts and places in the Borough being carried out in 2011 in accordance with current legislation.

Any proposals for change resulting from the recommendations of the working group or any other proposal will be reported directly to a meeting of this committee for approval.

This report reflects the legislative framework which requires the Council to complete a review of its polling districts and places every four years. The first was completed 2007. The next review must be undertaken in 2011 and completed by 31 December 2011.

All costs associated with the review will be met from with the current electoral services budget.

There are no performance issues or risks associated with this report

SECTION 3 - STATUTORY OFFICER CLEARANCE

Name: Sheela Thakrar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Chief Financial Officer
Date: 14 November 2008		
Name: Helen White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Monitoring Officer
Date: 14 November 2008		

SECTION 4 - CONTACT DETAILS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

Contact: Elaine McEachron, Assistant Lawyer - Corporate Governance,
Tel: 020 8420 9414

Background Papers: List only non-exempt

Report and Minutes of Licensing & General Purposes Committee - 23 June 2008

IF APPROPRIATE, does the report include the following considerations?

1.	Consultation	YES
2.	Corporate Priorities	N/A