

WIRRAL COUNCIL

LICENSING, HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING

25 FEBRUARY 2015

SUBJECT:	CHANGE OF POLLING PLACE FOR POLLING DISTRICTS FB AND ND
WARD/S AFFECTED:	PENSBY AND THINGWALL WARD AND HOYLAKE AND MEOLS WARD
REPORT OF:	REPORT OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL & MEMBER SERVICES AND MONITORING OFFICER
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for members of the Committee to determine the polling place for polling districts FB and ND.
- 1.2 Details of the proposed alternative venues are set out in Appendix 1.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 Polling places are kept constantly under review. Problem areas that are identified and suggestions for alternative venues which may be more suitable are always investigated.
- 2.2 In preparation for the forthcoming combined UK Parliamentary General Election and Local Government Elections being held on 7th May 2015, all designated polling places were contacted to check availability.
- 2.3 The manager for Thingwall Methodist Church Hall, Seven Acres Lane, Thingwall which is the designated polling place for polling district FB, responded by saying that the venue was no longer available for future use due to it's closure.
- 2.4 The manager for Westbourne Community Centre, Westbourne Road, West Kirby which is the designated polling place for polling district ND, responded by saying the venue would not be available for the forthcoming elections in May 2015 due to a block booking opportunity.
- 2.5 In view of paras. 2.3 and 2.4 above, a number of options have been investigated for use as alternative polling places for the aforementioned elections in May 2015.

2.6 In order for this matter to be considered and addressed as soon as possible so that key information could be provided to the Council's external printers to progress requisite elections work, an extraordinary meeting was necessary given that the next scheduled meeting of the Committee is 25 March and the aforementioned information needing to be provided prior to that date.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

3.1 In order to ensure that the forthcoming combined UK Parliamentary General Election and Local Government Elections can be run, the Council must ensure all polling districts have suitable polling places available on the day of poll.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 None

5.0 CONSULTATION

5.1 Relevant Ward Councillors have been consulted in relation to the options for alternative venues set out in Appendix 1.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

6.1 There are no such implications arising.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

7.1 Such implications are set out in this report.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 Such implications are set out in this report.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?
Yes.

10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no such implications arising.

11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no such implications arising.

12.0 RECOMMENDATION/S

12.1 In order for this matter to be considered and addressed as soon as possible so that key information could be provided to the Council's external printers to progress requisite elections work, the Committee determine, from the options set out in Appendix 1, the designated polling place for polling districts FB and ND.

13.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

13.1 The Council must designate and have available for use at the forthcoming combined UK Parliamentary General Election and Local Government Elections a suitable polling station for polling districts FB and ND.

REPORT AUTHOR: **Kate Robinson**
Principal Electoral Services Officer
Telephone: 0151 691 8511
email: katerobinson@wirral.gov.uk

APPENDICES

Appendix 1

REFERENCE MATERIAL

None

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date