

SUBJECT	Polling District and Polling Place Review
REPORT OF	Governance & Electoral Arrangements Committee Chairman - Councillor Diana Varley
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Joanna Swift
REPORT AUTHOR	Mat Bloxham, 01494 732143, Mathew.bloxham@chilternandsouthbucks.gov.uk
WARD/S AFFECTED	All wards

1. Purpose of Report

As required under the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 the Council commenced a UK Parliamentary polling district and polling places review in February 2019. The Committee noted the timetable for the review at the meeting held on 16 January 2019. This report sets out the recommendations of the Acting Returning Officer following the public consultations that have taken place.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the designations of polling districts and polling places as set out in the Appendix be agreed.

2. Reasons for Recommendations

Following the recent review of polling district and polling places the above recommendation aims to ensure that suitable locations are in place for polling purposes.

3. Content of Report

The Council is required by the Electoral and Administration Act 2013 to review the UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling places in its area between 1 October 2018 and 31 January 2020. Local authorities can also carry out a review of all or some polling districts and polling places at other times.

A review commenced on 8 February 2019 and the attached report, issued by the Acting Returning Officer (ARO), sets out their recommendations as well as the representations received during the public consultations.

Members are asked to consider and agree the Acting Returning Officer's recommendations as shown in the Appendix.

Members will be aware that the Chief Executive left the Council on 31 August 2019 and the role of Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer was carried out by the Chief Executive. As agreed by both Councils the role of Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer will be carried out by Joanna Swift, Head of Legal and Democratic Services from 1 September 2019 to 1 April 2020 (vesting day of Buckinghamshire Council).

4. Consultation

The Notice of Review of Polling Districts and Places was published on 8 February 2019 which invited public comments and submissions by 15 March 2019.

Publication of the ARO's report for proposed and existing polling places took place on 21 June 2019 and a further opportunity to comment was provided until 12 August 2019.

5. Options

The Committee can decide whether to agree the proposed re-designation as set out in the attach report.

7. Corporate Implications

7.1 Financial

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

7.2 Legal

The Review has been carried out in accordance with the Electoral and Administration Act 2013 and Representation of the People Act 1983.

8. Links to Council Policy Objectives

The recommendation in the report supports the delivery of the Council's aims and objectives.

9. Next Steps

Subject to the agreement of the Governance & Electoral Arrangements Committee a polling district and polling places Order will be made to reflect the designations shown in the Appendix.

Background Papers:	None other than those referred to in the report.
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