

Record of an officer making an Executive Decision



Name of officer and title	Andrew Grant, Chief Executive
Subject matter:	Creation of new Polling District for the residents of Provis Wharf, Aylesbury.
Date of decision:	1 December 2016 (coincides with the re-publication of Electoral Register)
Decision:	<p>To create a new Polling District for the residents at Provis Wharf (74 dwellings). These recently developed properties are currently situated in Oakfield Polling District and residents vote at Oakfield Scout Hall.</p> <p>Polling Districts would usually be reviewed on a five year cycle, prior to parliamentary elections. Interim reviews can be instigated in response to issues arising outside of the usual schedule and should include all the necessary steps and consultation set out in Schedule A1 to the Representation of the People Act 1983 (RPA 1983).</p> <p>However, the Chief Executive also has delegated authority to make variations to Polling Districts, which are necessary on the grounds of urgency, efficiency or cost (Council Constitution, Section C – Officer Delegations, Delegations to Officers – Council functions). The above change is principally an administrative one and will have no impact on existing polling stations/arrangements for Provis Wharf residents.</p>
Reasons for decision:	The location of these 74 properties is unique in that the boundary for County Division and Town Ward, runs to the north of the development. However, the parliamentary boundary currently runs to the south, meaning that residents should vote in the parliamentary constituency of Buckingham, rather than Aylesbury.
Alternative options considered	<p>Current Boundary Commission proposals, which are planned to take effect in time for the next scheduled parliamentary election in 2020, mean that Provis Wharf would subsequently move into the Aylesbury constituency.</p> <p>However, to take no action is not an acceptable alternative. In the event of an unscheduled parliamentary election prior to the adoption of the above changes, electors at Provis Wharf, Aylesbury would be incorrectly included in the parliamentary register of electors for Aylesbury, as opposed to Buckingham.</p>
Any conflict of interest declared by a Cabinet Member who is consulted and any dispensations granted to them:	Not applicable.
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