

<b>COUNCIL</b>	AGENDA ITEM No. 12(b)
<b>8 MARCH 2017</b>	PUBLIC REPORT

**CHANGE OF POLLING PLACE FOR POLLING DISTRICT HAH4**

<b>R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S</b>
<b>FROM : Rachel Parnell, Head of Constitutional Services</b>
It is recommended that Council agree to designate Orton Hall Hotel as the Polling Place for Polling District HAH4.

**1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 The Representation of the People Act, 1983 (as amended) provides for the Council to designate polling places for all elections. Polling stations within a polling place are for the Returning Officer to determine.

**2. BACKGROUND (& CONSULTATION)**

- 2.1 Representations made by electors residing within polling district HAH4 indicated that they have too far to travel to their current polling station located at Hampton Community Sports Association in Beaumont Way and that an alternative venue closer to the polling district be used instead.
- 2.2 Officers have been unable to source an alternative venue within the Hargate and Hempsted ward.
- 2.3 In the absence of an alternative venue within the Hargate and Hempsted ward, Orton Hall Hotel has been proposed as a suitable alternative due to its close proximity to polling district HAH4.
- 2.4 The ward Councillors for Hargate and Hempsted have been consulted and all have welcomed the proposal.

**3. IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 Electors residing within polling district HAH4 will have less distance to travel to cast their votes at the polling station.
- 3.2 Orton Hall Hotel is currently used as a polling station for elections within the Orton Longueville ward. The current booking covers an area of the hotel large enough to accommodate two polling stations so there would be no additional booking costs.
- 3.3 The estimated cost of staffing an additional polling station within Orton Hall Hotel is £435.00.

**4. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

- 4.1 None.

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