

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM No. 15(a)</b>
<b>3 MARCH 2021</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

Report of:	Gillian Beasley, Chief Executive and (Local) Returning Officer Fiona McMillan – Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	N/A	
Contact Officer(s):	Mark Emson - Electoral Manager	Tel. 01733 452282

## **POLLING DISTRICTS, PLACES AND STATIONS 2021**

<b>R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S</b>	
<b>FROM:</b> Chief Executive and (Local) Returning Officer	<b>Deadline date:</b> 11 March 2021
<p>It is recommended that Council approves the following changes to polling districts, places and stations for elections taking place in 2021 as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Nene Valley Community Centre, 24 Candy Street, Woodston, to be assigned as the dedicated polling station for the FLW5 (Fletton &amp; Woodston Ward) Polling District replacing The Botolph Arms, 465 Oundle Road, Orton Longueville who have advised that they cannot accommodate a polling station on their premises in 2021.</li> <li>2. All Saints Church Hall, Park Road, Peterborough, to be assigned as the dedicated polling station for the PAR3 (Park Ward) Polling District replacing Madeley House, The Kings School, 201 Park Road who have advised that they cannot accommodate a polling station on their premises in 2021.</li> <li>3. St Michael's Church, Mace Road, Stanground, to be assigned as the dedicated polling station for the STS3 (Stanground South Ward) Polling District replacing Residents Lounge, Nelson Place, Havelock Drive who have advised that they cannot accommodate a polling station on their premises in 2021.</li> </ol>	

### **1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 For Council to consider the revised polling districts, polling places and polling stations following the lack of availability of usual buildings for the 2021 elections.

### **2. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES**

- 2.1 If a building becomes unavailable before an election, the polling place can be changed by the local authority in accordance with their decision-making arrangements (Full Council).

### **3. CONSULTATION**

- 3.1 The ward Councillors for Fletton & Woodston, Park and Stanground South have been consulted on the proposed changes to polling places for the 2021 elections.

### **4. IMPLICATIONS**

### **Financial Implications**

- 4.1 The proposed changes to polling places will result in a reduction in hire charges for the council for the 2021 elections.

### **Legal Implications**

- 4.2 As part of a review the Council must seek to ensure (a) that all electors in a constituency in the city have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances and (b) that so far as is reasonable and practicable every polling place and polling station is accessible to electors who are disabled.

### **Equalities Implications**

- 4.3 The Electoral Commission, while not having a direct responsibility for the review, can intervene where it considers that the reasonable requirements of electors or the needs of disabled electors have not been taken in account.

### **Carbon Impact Assessment**

- 4.5 The use of less buildings as polling places will have a positive effect on carbon impact.

## **5. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 5.1 None

## **6. APPENDICES**

- 6.1 None