

COMMITTEE: ADMINISTRATION

DATE: 12TH JULY 2007

**SUBJECT: REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY POLLING
DISTRICTS AND ASSOCIATED POLLING PLACES**

REPORT BY: HEAD OF LOCAL DEMOCRACY

CONTACT OFFICER: MICK IRELAND 546088

IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL	COMMUNITY SAFETY
EQUALITIES	ENVIRONMENT
FINANCIAL	CONSULTATIONS
STAFFING	OTHER

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

PURPOSE

1. To notify the committee of a statutory review of Parliamentary Polling Districts and associated Polling Places being undertaken.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. Administration Committee is recommended to:
 - (i) Note the report
 - (ii) Approve an additional meeting of Administration Committee to be held on 22nd November, 2007 to approve the Parliamentary

Polling Districts and Associated Polling Places to come into force with effect from 1st December, 2007.

BACKGROUND

3. The Electoral Administration Act 2006 requires each council to complete a full review of all its Parliamentary Polling Places and Polling Districts before 1st January 2008 and then review them at least every 5 years thereafter.

REPORT

4. The current Parliamentary Polling Districts, which are also used for all other elections, have been mainly unchanged since 1970s. There was an exercise to bring them into line with the new wards boundaries in 2003 and a further exercise to amalgamate those that had the same polling places in 2004.
5. The review requires consultation with those political parties elected representatives and other interested parties.
6. Letters were sent to all local political parties, MPs and local councillors last week asking for their views.
7. It is not envisaged to make wholesale changes but instead to look at the issues of access and distant voters have to travel to reach their local polling station. An additional problem in Luton is caused by the topography of the town. In many cases polling stations are located at the top of hills.

PROPOSAL/OPTION

8. The annually updated register will be published on 1st December 2007. It would be sensible to make any changes arising from this review on that date. Administration committee is not due to meet between September and January so an additional meeting is necessary.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D

9. Electoral Administration Act 2006
10. Electoral Commission Circular 28/2007