

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

COUNCIL: 9TH DECEMBER, 2019

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: 18TH NOVEMBER, 2019

“C147 REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS, POLLING PLACES AND POLLING STATIONS – ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER’S FINAL PROPOSALS (LRPS) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Council needed to designate a polling place for each polling district, unless the size or other circumstances of a polling district were such that the situation of the polling place did not materially affect the convenience of the electors. The Council also had to seek to ensure that all electors in a constituency in its area had such reasonable facilities for voting as were practicable in the circumstances unless there were special circumstances.

Aligned to the above was a statutory duty for a Local Authority to review the polling districts, places and stations within its Parliamentary Constituency and Local Authority area every five years.

The report detailed the programme for the review and the final proposals of the Electoral Registration Officer.

Appendix 1 to the report detailed the current list of polling districts, places and stations for the whole of the Vale of Glamorgan and the Electoral Registration Officer's final proposals having taken the 1983 Act and the Electoral Commission's guidance into account. Where a change to the polling station had been identified, the proposed alternative polling station details were listed supported by the Electoral Registration Officer's comments for change. Representations received were shown in Appendix 2 through to Appendix 12 and where relevant were cross referenced within Appendix 1.

Whilst assessing the current arrangements, consideration had been given to location, size, availability and accessibility. All schools used as polling stations were reviewed in detail to reduce the number of schools needing to close in the area. In addition, consideration had been given to a number of concerns and complaints received at the European Parliamentary Election in May 2019 regarding the locations and sizes of temporary portacabins. It had therefore been recognised that portacabins required significant adaptation to assist with access.

This was a matter for Executive and Full Council decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the Electoral Registration Officer's final proposals set out in Appendix 1 of the report for the Polling Districts, Places and Stations Review for the Vale of Glamorgan Council Area and Parliamentary Constituency be agreed.

(2) T H A T the report be referred to Council on 9th December, 2019 for consideration of the final proposals and, if appropriate, to approve the recommended changes to take effect on 2nd January, 2020.

Reason for decisions

(1&2) In line with the Council's statutory obligations under the Representation of the People Act 1983.”