

# WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE – 02/12/2014

---

## Title:

**Review of Parliamentary Polling Districts and Polling Places 2014 - Update**

**[Portfolio Holder: Cllr Robert Knowles]**

**[Wards Affected: All]**

---

## Summary and purpose:

This report addresses outstanding enquiries relating to the Review of Parliamentary Polling Districts and Polling Places 2014. The Council at its meeting on 14 October 2014 agreed a small number of changes and this report puts forward further late requests for changes.

---

## How this report relates to the Council's Corporate Priorities:

An active democratic process which involves as many electors as possible is central to supporting all of the Council's corporate priorities.

## Financial Implications:

In the event of any change of polling station use from a school to hall or other community facility, there would be an increase in the cost of venue hire to be met from elections budgets. This is because publicly funded schools may be used as polling places free of a hire charge. The only requirement for schools is to pay running costs including heating and lighting, together with any extra caretaking costs required on polling day.

## Legal Implications:

The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 requires the conduct of a compulsory review of UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling stations by the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2015.

---

## Introduction

1. The Headteacher of **Grayswood C of E Infant School, Lower Road** has advised that the School is undergoing expansion and building work in 2015 which will reduce the school hall in size by half. Officers have made enquiries as to the availability and suitability of any other suitable venues.
2. Grayswood Village Hall, Grayswood Road, Grayswood, GU27 2DJ has been visited and the ground floor hall has been assessed as a suitable polling station. The hall is situated on the village green, adjacent to Grayswood Road. The venue has 22 parking spaces and the lower floor of the hall is completely accessible to wheelchair users. There are good facilities and the venue is in a good accessible location within the polling district. The Hall is however used by a nursery on weekdays. The nursery has been approached and has agreed to vacate the premises on polling day by having an away day. There is a longstanding booking each Thursday evening by a bridge club – the booking is made years in advance. The Village Hall's Committee has been asked if the bridge club could vacate the premises for polling day or use the upstairs room only and the Committee has agreed.

3. Representations have also been received regarding **St. Peter's Primary School, Little Green Lane, Farnham** and the school has asked if Waverley could find an alternative polling station. St. Peter's Primary School is currently used as a triple polling station. Wrecclesham Community Centre, Greenfield Lane, Farnham is situated just round the corner from St Peter's Primary School and is already a designated polling station. This venue already has 2192 BP Wrecclesham electors allocated to it and it would not be possible for the venue to accommodate the additional 1132 BK Boundstone and 2137 Shortheath electors from St. Peter's Primary School in addition.
4. The Leverton Hall is situated behind the Church in Beales Lane, Wrecclesham but is unsuitable. The hall provides a small room with disabled access through double doors and kitchen facilities. Parking is limited. This venue does not provide sufficient space to accommodate either a triple or a double polling station. Officers have been unable to identify any other suitable venues in the area.

### **Conclusion**

5. An alternative polling station venue has been identified as set out in the table below.

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Existing Polling Place</b>	<b>Proposed Polling Place</b>
CD Grayswood	Grayswood C of E Infant School, Lower Road	Grayswood Village Hall, The Mount, Haslemere, GU27 2EB which has been visited and assessed as suitable

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that

1. The venue set out in the table at paragraph 4 above be agreed as a polling station venue.
2. St. Peter's School be advised that it has not been possible to find a suitable alternative polling station and that accordingly the school will have to be used as a polling station.

---

### Background Papers

There are no background papers (as defined by Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) relating to this report.

---

### CONTACT OFFICER:

**Name:** Tracey Stanbridge **Telephone:** 01483 523413  
**E-mail:** tracey.stanbridge@waverley.gov.uk