

**REPORT TO:** DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL - 12TH NOVEMBER 2007

**REPORT ON:** FIRST STATUTORY REVIEW OF POLLING PLACES AND POLLING DISTRICTS

**REPORT BY:** DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (SUPPORT SERVICES)

**REPORT NO** 573-2007

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To outline proposals for polling places and polling districts in terms of the Electoral Administration Act 2006.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 It is recommended that the changes outlined in Section 5 be adopted.

## **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 None.

## **4.0 MAIN TEXT**

- 4.1 This is the first statutory Review carried out in terms of the Electoral Administration Act 2006.
- 4.2 A comprehensive review of polling districts and polling places was carried out last year prior to elections held on 3 May 2007.
- 4.3 A number of changes were made and these were approved by the City Council on 16 October 2006 - Report No 552 - 2006 refers.
- 4.4 As a result of the review last year only a relatively small number of changes are proposed and these are largely due to schools in the PPP coming on stream next year. The opportunity has also been taken to replace some older buildings used as polling places with newer build which have better access.
- 4.5 Members should note that electorate figures quoted are those as at September 2006. The annual canvass is currently being undertaken and the final number of electors for each polling station will not be known until the publication of the new register on 30 November 2007. The register will be published based on the changes identified as a result of this review.
- 4.6 Two maps will be on display. One map will show the changes referred to below and the second map will show the wards together with the new polling district boundaries and polling stations.
- 4.7 In the case of the schools in the PPP, namely Craigowl Primary, Claypotts Castle Primary, Downfield Primary and St Andrews RC Primary these are due for completion in April 2008. Should an election be called prior to the schools completion the following alternative polling places will be used:-
- Craigowl - Macalpine Primary
  - St Andrew's RC (Electors in WAQ1) - Strathmartine Church Hall
  - St Andrew's RC (Electors in WAN 1) - Macalpine Primary
  - St Andrew's (Electors in WAP 1) - St Margaret's Primary
  - Downfield (Electors in WAP) - St Margaret's Primary
  - Downfield (Electors in WAV) - Kirkton Neighbourhood Centre
  - Downfield (Electors in WAW) - Existing Downfield Primary Site
  - Claypotts Castle - Claypotts Castle on existing site

- 4.8 The views of the Returning Officer had to be sought in terms of the regulations governing the Review and these are included in the access audits which have been published on the City Council's website. In addition the Returning Officer has indicated that he agrees with all the proposals in this report.
- 4.9 Dundee Access Group were consulted and expressed concern at the lack of dedicated parking for disabled electors. This was also raised by Capability Scotland as a national concern following the elections in May 2007.

To obviate these concerns it is intended that where there is neither ample parking nor a dedicated space, an area as close to the Polling Place concerned will be coned off on election days for the exclusive use of disabled electors.

## 5.0 PROPOSED CHANGES

### Ward 1 - Strathmartine

Several changes are proposed as follows:

<u>Map Area</u>	<u>Description of Changes</u>
1.1	Electors in WAN will revert to Craigowl Primary (formerly Brackens).
1.2, 1.3, 1.4	Electors in these areas who previously voted at Macalpine Primary, Strathmartine Church Hall and St Margaret's Primary will vote at St Andrew's Primary (formed by the merger of St Margaret's and St Columba's).
1.5	Electors in this area will vote at Downfield Primary which is being built on the site of St Columba's Primary.
1.6	These electors will move to WAT and continue to vote at Kirkton Neighbourhood Centre.
1.7	These electors will remain in WAV and vote at Downfield Primary.
1.8	These electors will also vote at Downfield Primary.
1.9	These electors will vote at Craigowl Primary.

### Ward 2 - Lochee

<u>Map Area</u>	<u>Description of Changes</u>
2.1 and 2.2	These electors will vote at Charleston Community Centre as opposed to Charleston Primary and St Clement's Primary respectively.
2.3	These electors will vote at the Community Lounge in the West Housing Office as opposed to Lochee West Church Hall.

### Ward 3 - West End

A concern was raised by Dundee Access Group as to the suitability of St Peters Church Hall mainly due to its location in a narrow sloping cobbled street.

However, no alternatives are available and, accordingly, it is intended that it will be retained meantime but that Officers will continue to look for an alternative.

#### **Ward 4 - Coldside**

<u>Map Area</u>	<u>Description of Changes</u>
4.1	Electors in WAX currently vote at Downfield Primary which means crossing the Kingsway. Downfield Primary is relocating to the site of St Columba's Primary which will mean electors in that district travelling further than at present. Downfield is also outwith the Ward. In the circumstances it is intended that these electors will vote at Lawton Place Sheltered Lounge. An alternative building closer to the electors will continue to be sought. Similarly electors in EBQ north of Clepington Road travel to Frances Wright Pre-School. A suitable building north of Clepington Road is being sought as an alternative.
	St Salvador's Church Hall is now the Maxwelltown Information Centre but is still suitable for use as a polling station.

#### **Ward 5 - Maryfield**

<u>Map Area</u>	<u>Description of Changes</u>
5.1	These electors will revert to voting in the Marryat Hall
5.2	Electors in EBI will vote at either the newly refurbished Baxter Park Pavilion or alternatively the church hall in Bingham Terrace.

#### **Ward 6 - North East**

There are no changes proposed.

#### **Ward 7 - East End**

<u>Map Area</u>	<u>Description of Changes</u>
7.1	Electors in this area will vote at the Midlin Day Care Centre as opposed to Mossiel Primary. It is intended that electors will ultimately vote in Rowantree Primary once it has been constructed.
7.2	Electors will move to EAP and vote at the area Social Work Office.
7.3	Electors in the remainder of EBT will also vote at the area Social Work Office.
7.4	Electors in this area will move to EAO and will vote at Claypotts Castle Primary together with electors in EBS.
7.5 & 7.6	These electors will also vote at Claypotts Castle Primary.

#### **Ward 8 - Broughty Ferry**

Some concerns have been expressed regarding electors ACD having to cross the Arbroath Road to access Panmurefield Church Hall. However, there is no alternative north of Arbroath Road. In addition Grove Academy is being refurbished and the current polling station in the sports hall may not be available. If this is the case a suitable alternative within Grove will be found.

There are no changes proposed.

## **6.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management.

There are no major issues.

## **7.0 CONSULTATION**

7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Head of Finance, political parties represented on the Council, all Elected Members, Community Councils and the Dundee Access Group have been consulted.

## **8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

---

Patricia McIlquham  
Depute Chief Executive (Support Services)

Date 5th November 2007