

AGENDA ITEM: 6a

CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

27th SEPTEMBER 2006

POLLING STATION AND POLLING STATION REVIEW

**CMT MEMBER: RICHARD LONG, DIRECTOR OF LEGAL &
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To seek Members' agreement to the proposed changes to polling district boundaries and the locations of some polling stations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the revised polling districts and polling stations indicated in Appendix A attached be approved.

REASON

3. There is a need for an ongoing review of polling district boundaries and polling stations. The new Electoral Administration Act 2006 will make it a duty that a review of polling districts and polling places must be completed at least once in any four year period.

BACKGROUND

4. The last review of polling district boundaries and polling stations took place in January 2003. At that review the Council considered the availability of suitable premises which could be used for voting purposes. A current list of polling stations is attached in Appendix B. Since the May 2003 elections the number of electors voting by post in Middlesbrough has increased by over 480% to approximately 9,250. Before the elections in May 2007 the availability of postal voting will be well publicised to all electors, in case any elector should consider it inconvenient to go to their polling station.

5. All Members of the Council were consulted earlier this year, and officers have considered the comments of Members and the knowledge gained from previous elections to produce a schedule of proposals for Members' consideration. The proposals together with comments received from Members are contained in Appendix A.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6 The Electoral Administration Act 2006.

AUTHOR: R. Long
Director of Legal and Democratic Services and Returning Officer
Telephone: 729782