

Proposed Amalgamation of Polling Districts KE and KF

Service: Electoral Services

Wards: Aldridge North & Walsall Wood

1. Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Acting Returning Officers proposal to amalgamate polling districts KE and KF, and the polling place, following an annual review.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Polling District KE and KF be amalgamated and renamed Polling District KE; and
- 2.2 That it be noted that the polling place for Polling Station KE shall be St Thomas Church Hall, St Thomas Close, Aldridge.

3. Background information

- 3.1 Under the provisions of the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 a local authority must carry out and complete a review of all the polling places and districts for UK Parliamentary elections in its area within the period of 16 months beginning from 1st October 2013, and the period of 16 months beginning with 1st October of every fifth year after that. This does not prevent a relevant authority carrying out a review of some or all of the polling districts or polling places in its area at other times.
- 3.2 In line with the above provisions, a formal review of polling districts and places in Walsall was undertaken in October 2018. Whilst a further review is not required until 2023 the Acting Returning Officer continually keeps polling stations and polling places under review.
- 3.3 For the 2019 local elections, Leighswood School had been booked as the polling place for polling district KF. However, due to building works, the school was no longer available. In consultation with ward councillors, polling district KF was subsequently amalgamated with Polling District KE and the electorate from both districts voted at St Thomas Church Hall, St Thomas Close, Aldridge. The same arrangement was in place for the European election.
- 3.4 As the approach has worked for two elections, it is proposed that Polling District KE and KF are formally amalgamated and renamed Polling District KE. The polling Place will be the Polling District KE and the polling station will remain at St Thomas Church hall.

3.5 A map showing the two areas and the polling place at St Thomas Church Hall is attached as appendix A.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 A saving of approximately £400.00 could be achieved by amalgamating polling districts KE and KF. The saving would be achieved by the need for less polling station staff at an election.

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Signed:



Dr Helen Paterson

Chief Executive/Electoral Registration Officer

Date: