

## Members' Library Service Request Form

Date of Document	07/11/16
Originator	Chief Executive
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Document Title	Interim Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

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Additional information:

Authorised By	Angela Leitch
Designation	Chief Executive
Date	07/11/16

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**REPORT TO:** Members' Library Service

**MEETING DATE:**

**BY:** Chief Executive

**SUBJECT:** Interim Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

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## **1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To inform Members of the outcome of the interim review of polling districts and polling places, required as a result of The East Lothian (Electoral Arrangements) Order 2016, which requires Council ward boundary changes to be made.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 In accordance with the delegation authority referred to in 3.1, members are asked to note approval of the proposed polling scheme for East Lothian Council Area, attached as an appendix to this report. I can confirm that this recommendation is supported by Councillors Innes, Veitch and Currie.

## **3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 At its meeting on 25 October, the Council approved a report to undertake the interim review and delegated authority to the Chief Executive, in conjunction with the Leader, Depute Leader and the Leader of the Opposition, to approve any final proposals.
- 3.2 East Lothian Council ward boundaries have been changed by the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland, as a result of their Fifth General Review of Electoral Arrangements. The number of wards has been reduced from 7 to 6 and the number of councillors has been reduced from 23 to 22. This necessitated an immediate review of polling districts and polling places.
- 3.3 New Wards are as follows:

Ward 1: Musselburgh 4 councillors

Ward 2: Preston, Seton and Gosford 4 councillors

Ward 3: Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry	4 councillors
Ward 4: North Berwick Coastal	3 councillors
Ward 5: Haddington and Lammermuir	4 councillors
Ward 6: Dunbar and East Linton	3 councillors

- 3.3 Although electoral ward boundaries, names and numbering have been changed, **it should be noted that no physical change to polling districts and polling places is proposed. Voters will still vote where they have been accustomed to in recent years.**
- 3.4 The consultation period was curtailed to two weeks as there were no proposed changes to polling districts or polling places (only renumbering) and to accommodate the timescales of the Electoral Registration Officer with regard to the annual publication of the register on 1 December.
- 3.5 There were no representations within the consultation period.

#### **4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no direct policy obligations associated with this report.

#### **5 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 5.1 The subject of this report does not affect the wellbeing of the community or have a significant impact on equality, the environment or economy.

#### **6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Financial - None
- 6.2 Personnel - None
- 6.3 Other – None

#### **7 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 7.1 The East Lothian (Electoral Arrangements) Order 2016.
- 7.2 Electoral Registration Officer notes on required changes.

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