

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CABINET ON 29 MAY 2018
TO COUNCIL ON 14 JUNE 2018

CAB12: UPDATE TO THE HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

D Gates, Executive Director presented a report which outlined the authority's statutory obligation to have an appropriate Health, Safety and Welfare Policy. The report highlighted the changes required to the Policy to ensure it remained fit for purpose.

RECOMMENDED: That the revision of the Health, Safety and Welfare General Policy be supported.

Reason for Decision

To ensure that our Policy is compliant with legislative requirements and meets the needs for the policy to be current and relevant to our work.

CAB13: UNCONTESTED PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION COSTS

Councillor Long presented a report which proposed to pass on the full costs of uncontested Parish Council Elections to the Parish Councils concerned, both at the four-yearly Parish Council Elections as well as any Casual Vacancies in between.

Under Standing Order 34, Councillor C Joyce asked who set the numbers for petitioning for an election, to which it was confirmed that all the elements were set out in legislation.

Under Standing Order 34, Councillor Moriarty asked for a precis of the response to Snettisham Parish Council, to which Councillor Long explained that he considered that a parish should fund its own election expenses, and it not be paid for by areas which were not affected by it.

Councillor Moriarty expressed the view that political parties should not put up "paper" candidates for election causing what he considered unnecessary elections. Cabinet considered that candidates standing for election or standing down in Parishes was more prevalent than the Borough positions. It was considered that if standing for a seat the election should be hard fought giving voters the opportunity of choosing from a selection of candidates.

The Chief Executive referred to the letter from Snettisham Parish and commented that the work involved in preparing for an election was far more than listed.

RECOMMENDED: To confirm the proposal to charge Parish Councils for all their own uncontested elections, at a rate not exceeding the actual costs incurred.

Reason for Decision

To re-coup costs incurred by the Borough Council in the organisation of elections on behalf of Parishes.

CAB14: REDUCTION IN PARISH COUNCIL NUMBERS - DERSINGHAM & NORDELPH

Councillor Long presented a report which explained that under Schedule 5 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, Section 4, 3A(b) the number of Parish Councillors for each Parish is fixed from time to time by the Borough Council. The last occasion this matter was reviewed was in 1991, when the following scale was agreed:

Electorate	Number of Parish Councillors
Up to 300	7
For every additional 300 or part thereof	1

Dersingham Parish Council had requested a reduction in its parish council numbers, but with their current electorate the figure should be 19. Therefore the request for a reduction by 2 or 3 councillors was considered too large and therefore recommended against.

Nordelph Parish Council had requested a reduction by 1 councillor which was in line with the formula. It was recommended that this be approved.

RECOMMENDED: 1) That the variation in Parish Councillor numbers for Dersingham not be approved.
(2) That the variation in Parish Councillor numbers for Nordelph be approved.

Reason for Decision

To ensure that the Council meets its statutory obligation, whilst maintaining the scale previously set by the Council.

CAB15: HILLINGTON POLLING PLACE

Councillor Long presented a report which reminded members of the Council's duty to undertake a review of the polling districts and polling places in respect of Parliamentary electoral areas that fall within the boundaries of the Borough. This review was last conducted in 2013, but it is the Returning Officer's responsibility to keep polling stations under review.

Because there are other buildings which were more suitable, accessible and cost effective, the Returning Officer had inspected available premises and makes the proposal that the Polling Place for Hillington be moved from the Ffolkes Arms to Tapping House. This was supported.

RECOMMENDED: The Polling District and Polling Place Review Schedule attached to the agenda incorporating the change to Hillington Polling Place be adopted.

Reason for Decision

To ensure that the Council meets its statutory obligations.