

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

COUNCIL: 4TH MARCH, 2024

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: 30TH NOVEMBER, 2023

**“C167 VALE OF GLAMORGAN POLLING DISTRICT AND PLACES
REVIEW 2023 (REF) –**

The reference from Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 15th November, 2023 was presented.

The Leader said that a range of comments had been made during the Committee meeting focused around the geography of polling districts themselves rather than the polling stations, in particular polling stations in Cowbridge. It was considered appropriate to await the outcome of the ongoing Community Review before making any minor changes to the make-up of polling districts.

With regard the polling stations themselves, comments had been made concerning the lack of a polling station in Plymouth ward in Penarth for districts JE0 and JF0, and a request made to assess if there were any options that could be included in lieu of stations at Stanwell Road Baptist Church and All Saints Church which were close to the boundary but not in Plymouth ward, however despite best endeavours no alternative had been found and as such the status quo would remain. Subsequently, it had been established that the Windsor Bowling Club was an option that was able to be moved forward. As such, a recommendation when the matter was to be considered by Cabinet could be for the Plymouth ward that the following arrangements be proposed:-

- Lower Penarth Community Hall – would continue to serve polling district JJ0.
- Cwrt-Y-Vil Community Centre – would continue to serve polling district JK0.
- Windsor Bowling Club – would become a new polling station to serve polling district JF0 and JE0, lying immediately adjacent to polling district JE0.
- Stanwell Road Baptist Church – would continue to serve polling district JD0 for St Augustine’s only, rather than a double station.
- All Saints Church Hall – would continue to serve the polling district LA0 for Stanwell only, rather than a double station.

The matter would go to Full Council for a final decision and polling stations were kept under constant review, in particular access to public transport to access polling stations. Councillor Wilson said that transport accessibility was an important consideration and any polling station had to be fully accessible.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the report before Cabinet be referred to Full Council on 4th December, 2023 as an urgent item, whilst recognising that the matter had already been considered by the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee.
- (2) T H A T the comments of the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee be noted, while acknowledging that any changes to polling districts in advance of the outcome of the ongoing Community Review would be premature.
- (3) T H A T in referring the matter to Full Council for consideration on 4th December, 2023, attention be drawn to the amended arrangements for Plymouth ward as set out.
- (4) T H A T the use of the urgency procedure as set out at section 15.14 of the Council's constitution be agreed to refer the report to Full Council on 4th December, 2023 for consideration.**

Reason for decisions

- (1-4) Having regard to the contents of the reference and discussions at the meeting to enable the matter to be considered at Full Council on 4th December, 2023.”