

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE			
Report Title	The Polling District Review 2018-19		
Key Decision	n/a		Item No.
Wards	All		
Contributors	Jamie Baker, Electoral Services Manager		
Class	Part 1	Date: 19 July 2018	

1. **Summary**

This report gives information on the polling district review.

2. **Purpose**

To advise the committee on the requirements for the review.

3. **Recommendation**

That the Committee make note of this report.

4 **Background**

4.1 It is a legal requirement for Lewisham to complete our next polling district review by 1 December 2019.

4.2 It is our view that the formal stages of the review should take place during the canvass of 2019.

4.3 We would produce the initial proposals for the start of July which would mark the start of the formal consultation period.

4.4 A terms of reference for the review, and methodology, would be produced beforehand to make it clear the steps that will be taken and the criteria for decision making.

4.5 At this early stage it would be useful to hear the thoughts of the committee on the outcomes they would like to see in the review. For example:

- I. What does the committee think about reducing the number of polling places?

- II. Shall we continue the use of schools? If not, what are the alternatives?
- III. What does the committee think about 'super' polling stations?
- IV. Which stations/wards require the most urgent looking at?

6. Legal implications

6.1 None.

7. Equalities implications

7.1 The delivery of elections is subject to the DDA and Equality Act provisions. In particular we must ensure there is equal access to voter registration and voting at elections.

7.2 Polling place provision is central to this. We need to ensure every polling place is fit for purpose: big enough; accessible; well-lit from outside; disabled parking available; central location so people can actually reach it on foot, etc

8. Financial implications

None.

9. Crime and disorder implications

None.

10. Environmental implications

None.

11. Background documents

None.

Jamie Baker
Electoral Services Manager