

Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey Chief Operating Officer

52 Derby Street Ormskirk West Lancashire L39 2DF

Monday, 6 November 2023

TO: COUNCILLORS G OWEN, G DOWLING, T DE FREITAS, J REAR AND A YATES

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of the **POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES REVIEW COMMITTEE** will be held in the **CABINET/COMMITTEE ROOM**, **52 DERBY STREET**, **ORMSKIRK L39 2DF** on **TUESDAY**, **14 NOVEMBER 2023** at **7.00 PM** at which your attendance is requested.

Yours faithfully

Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey Chief Operating Officer

AGENDA (Open to the Public)

1. APOLOGIES

2. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

To be apprised of any changes to the membership of the Committee in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

If a member requires advice on Declarations of Interest, he/she is advised to contact the Legal & Democratic Services Manager in advance of the meeting. (For the assistance of Members a checklist for use in considering their position on any particular item is included at the end of this agenda sheet.) 27 - 28

4.	MINUTES	29 - 30
	To receive as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 11 th October 2023.	
5.	INTERIM POLLING REVIEW 2023 - FINAL REPORT Report of the Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing & Resources	31 - 58

We can provide this document, upon request, on audiotape, in large print, in Braille and in other languages.

FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE: Please see attached sheet. MOBILE PHONES: These should be switched off or to 'silent' at all meetings.

For further information, please contact:-Duncan Jowitt on 01695 583495 Or email Duncan.Jowitt@westlancs.gov.uk

FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE FOR: COUNCIL MEETINGS WHERE OFFICERS ARE PRESENT (52 DERBY STREET, ORMSKIRK)

PERSON IN CHARGE:Most Senior Officer PresentZONE WARDEN:Member Services Officer / LawyerDOOR WARDEN(S)Usher / Caretaker

IF YOU DISCOVER A FIRE

- 1. Operate the nearest **FIRE CALL POINT** by breaking the glass.
- 2. Attack the fire with the extinguishers provided only if you have been trained and it is safe to do so. **Do not** take risks.

ON HEARING THE FIRE ALARM

- 1. Leave the building via the **NEAREST SAFE EXIT. Do not stop** to collect personal belongings.
- 2. Proceed to the **ASSEMBLY POINT** on the car park and report your presence to the **PERSON IN CHARGE.**
- 3. **Do NOT** return to the premises until authorised to do so by the PERSON IN **CHARGE.**

NOTES:

Officers are required to direct all visitors regarding these procedures i.e. exit routes and place of assembly.

The only persons not required to report to the Assembly Point are the Door Wardens.

CHECKLIST FOR PERSON IN CHARGE

- 1. Advise other interested parties present that you are the person in charge in the event of an evacuation.
- 2. Make yourself familiar with the location of the fire escape routes and informed any interested parties of the escape routes.
- 3. Make yourself familiar with the location of the assembly point and informed any interested parties of that location.
- 4. Make yourself familiar with the location of the fire alarm and detection control panel.
- 5. Ensure that the zone warden and door wardens are aware of their roles and responsibilities.
- 6. Arrange for a register of attendance to be completed (if considered appropriate / practicable).

IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE, OR THE FIRE ALARM BEING SOUNDED

- 1. Ensure that the room in which the meeting is being held is cleared of all persons.
- 2. Evacuate via the nearest safe Fire Exit and proceed to the **ASSEMBLY POINT** in the car park.
- 3. Delegate a person at the **ASSEMBLY POINT** who will proceed to **HOME CARE LINK** in order to ensure that a back-up call is made to the **FIRE BRIGADE**.
- 4. Delegate another person to ensure that **DOOR WARDENS** have been posted outside the relevant Fire Exit Doors.

- 5. Ensure that the **ZONE WARDEN** has reported to you on the results of his checks, **i.e.** that the rooms in use have been cleared of all persons.
- 6. If an Attendance Register has been taken, take a **ROLL CALL**.
- 7. Report the results of these checks to the Fire and Rescue Service on arrival and inform them of the location of the **FIRE ALARM CONTROL PANEL**.
- 8. Authorise return to the building only when it is cleared to do so by the **FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE OFFICER IN CHARGE**. Inform the **DOOR WARDENS** to allow re-entry to the building.

NOTE:

The Fire Alarm system will automatically call the Fire Brigade. The purpose of the 999 back-up call is to meet a requirement of the Fire Precautions Act to supplement the automatic call.

CHECKLIST FOR ZONE WARDEN

- 1. Carry out a physical check of the rooms being used for the meeting, including adjacent toilets, kitchen.
- 2. Ensure that **ALL PERSONS**, both officers and members of the public are made aware of the **FIRE ALERT**.
- 3. Ensure that ALL PERSONS evacuate IMMEDIATELY, in accordance with the FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE.
- 4. Proceed to the **ASSEMBLY POINT** and report to the **PERSON IN CHARGE** that the rooms within your control have been cleared.
- 5. Assist the **PERSON IN CHARGE** to discharge their duties.

It is desirable that the **ZONE WARDEN** should be an **OFFICER** who is normally based in this building and is familiar with the layout of the rooms to be checked.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DOOR WARDENS

- 1. Stand outside the FIRE EXIT DOOR(S)
- 2. Keep the **FIRE EXIT DOOR SHUT**.
- 3. Ensure that **NO PERSON**, whether staff or public enters the building until **YOU** are told by the **PERSON IN CHARGE** that it is safe to do so.
- 4. If anyone attempts to enter the premises, report this to the **PERSON IN CHARGE.**
- 5. Do not leave the door **UNATTENDED.**

Agenda Item 3

MEMBERS INTERESTS 2012

A Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest in any matter considered at a meeting must disclose the interest to the meeting at which they are present, except where it has been entered on the Register.

A Member with a non pecuniary or pecuniary interest in any business of the Council must disclose the existence and nature of that interest at commencement of consideration or when the interest becomes apparent.

Where sensitive information relating to an interest is not registered in the register, you must indicate that you have an interest, but need not disclose the sensitive information.

	tick relevant boxes	 Notes
	General	
1.	I have a disclosable pecuniary interest.	You cannot speak or vote and must withdraw unless you have also ticked 5 below
2.	I have a non-pecuniary interest.	You may speak and vote
3.	I have a pecuniary interest because	
	it affects my financial position or the financial position of a connected person or, a body described in 10.1(1)(i) and (ii) and the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice my judgement of the public interest	You cannot speak or vote and must withdraw unless you have also ticked 5 or 6 below
	or	
	it relates to the determining of any approval consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to me or a connected person or, a body described in 10.1(1)(i) and (ii) and the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice my judgement of the public interest	You cannot speak or vote and must withdraw unless you have also ticked 5 or 6 below
4.	I have a disclosable pecuniary interest (Dispensation 20/09/16) or a pecuniary interest but it relates to the functions of my Council in respect of:	
(i)	Housing where I am a tenant of the Council, and those functions do not relate particularly to my tenancy or lease.	You may speak and vote
(ii)	school meals, or school transport and travelling expenses where I am a parent or guardian of a child in full time education, or are a parent governor of a school, and it does not relate particularly to the school which the child attends.	You may speak and vote
(iii)	Statutory sick pay where I am in receipt or entitled to receipt of such pay.	You may speak and vote
(iv)	An allowance, payment or indemnity given to Members	You may speak and vote
(v)	Any ceremonial honour given to Members	You may speak and vote
(vi)	Setting Council tax or a precept under the LGFA 1992	You may speak and vote
5.	A Standards Committee dispensation applies (relevant lines in the budget – Dispensation 15/09/20 – 14/09/24)	See the terms of the dispensation
6.	I have a pecuniary interest in the business but I can attend to make representations, answer questions or give evidence as the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose	You may speak but must leave the room once you have finished and cannot vote

'disclosable pecuniary interest' (DPI) means an interest of a description specified below which is your interest, your spouse's or civil partner's or the interest of somebody who you are living with as a husband or wife, or as if you were civil partners and you are aware that that other person has the interest. Interest

Prescribed description

Employment, office, Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain. trade, profession or vocation Sponsorship Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant

authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by M in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of Μ. Page 27

	This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority—
	(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
	(b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to M's knowledge)—
	(a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and
	(b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where—
	(a) that body (to M's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and
	(b) either—
	(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
	(ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

"body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest" means a firm in which the relevant person is a partner or a body corporate of which the relevant person is a director, or in the securities of which the relevant person has a beneficial interest; "director" includes a member of the committee of management of an industrial and provident society;

"land" excludes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for the relevant person (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income; "M" means a member of a relevant authority;

"member" includes a co-opted member; "relevant authority" means the authority of which M is a member;

"relevant period" means the period of 12 months ending with the day on which M gives notice to the Monitoring Officer of a DPI; "relevant person" means M or M's spouse or civil partner, a person with whom M is living as husband or wife or a person with whom M is living as if they were civil partners;

"securities" means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

'non pecuniary interest' means interests falling within the following descriptions:

- 10.1(1)(i) Any body of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management and to which you are appointed or nominated by your authority;
 - Any body (a) exercising functions of a public nature; (b) directed to charitable purposes; or (c) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union), of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management;
 - (iii) Any easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for you (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income.
- 10.2(2) A decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting your wellbeing or financial position or the well-being or financial position of a connected person to a greater extent than the majority of other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward, as the case may be, affected by the decision.

'a connected person' means

(a) a member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association, or

- (b) any person or body who employs or has appointed such persons, any firm in which they are a partner, or any company of which they are directors;
- (c) any person or body in whom such persons have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £25,000; or
- (d) any body of a type described in sub-paragraph 10.1(1)(i) or (ii).

'body exercising functions of a public nature' means

Regional and local development agencies, other government agencies, other Councils, public health bodies, council-owned companies exercising public functions, arms length management organisations carrying out housing functions on behalf of your authority, school governing bodies.

A Member with a personal interest who has made an executive decision in relation to that matter must ensure any written statement of that decision records the existence and nature of that interest.

NB Section 21(13) of the LGA 2000 overrides any Code provisions to oblige an executive member to attend an overview and scrutiny meeting to answer questions.

POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES REVIEW COMMITTEE

HELD: Wednesday, 11 October 2023

Start: 7.00 pm Finish: 7.09 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor:	G Dowling (Chairman)		
Councillors:	V Cummins D Westley	K Juckes	
In attendance:	G Owen (via Teams)	T De Freitas	
Officers:	Thomas Lynan, Electoral Services Manager Duncan Jowitt, Democratic Services Officer		

11 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Owen, who did not participate and observed the meeting virtually.

12 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4, the Committee noted the termination of Councillor Whittington and the appointment of Councillor Juckes and the termination of Councillor Yates and the appointment of Councillor Cummins for this meeting only, thereby giving effect to the wishes of the Political Groups.

13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Juckes declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 5 'Interim Polling Review 2023 - Initial Report', as she had participated in the setting of the precepts for Wrightington Parish Council as a Parish Councillor.

14 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 October 2022 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

15 INTERIM POLLING REVIEW 2023 - INITIAL REPORT

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing & Resources as contained on pages 5 to 26 of the Book of Reports.

The Chairman invited the Electoral Services Manager to present the report, which was seeking the committee's approval to conduct an Interim Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places in line with the Representation of the People Act 1983, as amended (the 1983 Act).

A Motion to amend the Initial Proposals to remove the proposal for a further polling

station at Ormskirk West from the recommendations, was moved and seconded. A vote was taken and, as there were equal numbers of votes for and against, the Chairman used his casting vote in accordance with Procedure Rule 16.2, and the Motion was DEFEATED.

A vote was taken on the recommendations and, as there were equal numbers of votes for and against, the Chairman used his casting vote in accordance with Procedure Rule 16.2, and it was RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Timetable at Appendix 1 of the report for the Interim Review of Polling Districts and Places, be agreed.
- 2. That the Initial Proposals (Appendix 2-4) be noted.
- 3. That at the conclusion of the Review, the Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing & Resources report to the Polling Districts and Polling Places Review Committee with Final Interim Review Proposals for determination.

Chairman



POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES REVIEW COMMITTEE: 14 November 2023

Report of: Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing & Resources

Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor Y Gagen

Contact for further information: Mr Tom Lynan (Extn.5013) (E-mail: tom.lynan@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: INTERIM POLLING REVIEW 2023 – FINAL PROPOSALS

Wards affected: ORMSKIRK WEST, RURAL WEST, SKELMERSDALE SOUTH

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To conclude the Interim Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places in line with the Representation of the People Act 1983, as amended (the 1983 Act).

2.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the consultation responses for each proposal, as set out in Appendix 1, be noted.
- 2.2 That the Committee determine the proposals for each affected Ward (Ormskirk West Appendix 2, Rural West Appendix 3, and Skelmersdale South Appendix 4).

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The 1983 Act (Section 18C (5) and Section 31) allows a local authority to conduct an Interim Review of any Polling District, Polling Place or Polling Station within its area, outside of the timescales for a compulsory review.
- 3.2 Following the all-out elections on the new ward boundaries in May 2023, areas in Ormskirk West, Rural West, and Skelmersdale South have been highlighted for review ahead of the May 2024 elections.
- 3.3 To aid understanding of the report and appendices the following definitions will assist:
 - **Polling District**: a geographical area created by the sub-division of a constituency, ward, or division into smaller parts.
 - **Polling Place**: the building or area, as designated by the Local Authority, in which the Returning Officer will select polling stations.

- **Polling Station**: Chosen by the Returning Officer for the election, a polling station is the room or building within the polling place where the poll takes place.
- 3.4 The responsibility for finalising Polling Stations for each election rests with the Returning Officer for that election.
- 3.5 Delegations within the Constitution allow for the Returning Officer to reassign Polling Places in consultation with the Leader, Shadow Leader, and Ward Councillors, should a Polling Place become unavailable close to an election when there is insufficient time to conduct an interim review.

4.0 INTERIM POLLING REVIEW 2023 – CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The Interim Review formally began on 12 October 2023 with the publication of the Notice of Review and the start of the Public Consultation on the Initial Proposals. The Public Consultation ran until Thursday 26 October 2023.
- 4.2 58 responses were received, of which 12 were invalid as the response was blank. Of the 46 valid responses, some have commented on all three proposals, whereas others have only commented on one or two proposals. The 46 valid responses are included within Appendix 1 for consideration by the Committee.
- 4.3 The Committee must now decide upon appropriate Polling Districts and Polling Places for the affected Wards after considering the consultation submissions received.
- 4.4 If the Committee decides to reject any of the proposals, the status quo would be retained in that area, with the exception of Rural West where a new location must be allocated due to the unavailability of the existing location. Should this be the Committee's decision, an alternative location will be sought through delegated powers for the May 2024 elections, with the area reviewed again as part of the statutory review in 2024.

FUTURE TIMESCALES

- 6.1 Once the Committee has determined the final proposals, the relevant documentation will be made available to the public in accordance with legislation. Any changes will be introduced with the publication of the Electoral Register on 1 December 2023.
- 6.2 West Lancashire will undergo a full Statutory Review in 2024 in line with legislative timescales.
- 6.3 Legislation requires that all Polling Stations be kept under consideration and evaluation. If changes are identified as being desirable, then the interim review process should be initiated.

7.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and, in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder.

8.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The Interim Review is undertaken within existing budgets.
- 8.2 Should all proposals be agreed, the cost of election delivery is estimated to increase by £4000 per election.
- 8.3 Proposals for Ormskirk West (Appendix 2) would increase the cost of election delivery. As a new Polling Place (not replacing an existing location), the cost of the mobile unit, staffing, and other associated costs would be approx. £3000 per election based on current costs.
- 8.4 Proposals for Rural West (Appendix 3) would be cost neutral as a new location would be replacing an existing one at similar cost.
- 8.5 Proposals for Skelmersdale South (Appendix 4) would increase the cost of election delivery. As a new Polling Place (not replacing an existing location), the cost of the new location, staffing, and other associated costs would be approx. £1000 per election based on current costs.

9.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

9.1 The review process has enabled the Council to carry out the Interim Review, although no detailed prescribed review process is identified in legislation. However, the process undertaken has been robust and provided for input from interested parties. A mechanism for an appeal exists through the Electoral Commission.

10.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

There is a direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders, therefore an Equality Impact Assessment is required. A formal equality impact assessment is attached as an Appendix to this report, the results of which have been taken into account in the Recommendations contained within this report

Appendices

- 1. Interim Polling Review 2023 Consultation Responses
- 2. Proposals for Ormskirk West Ward
- 3. Proposals for Rural West Ward
- 4. Proposals for Skelmersdale South Ward
- 5. Equality Impact Assessment

Ormskirk West – Consultation Responses					
Resident Address In Disagre		Comments			
Aughton & Holborn	Disagree	Agree with the new District, do not agree with the mobile unit hire. Shared space with another polling district should be considered firstly or co-ordination with a local school or church or community building.			
Aughton & Holborn	Agree	-			
Burscough Bridge & Rufford	Agree	-			
Burscough Bridge & Rufford	Agree	-			
I feel that people living in the more rural areas have been forgotten completely. I cannot v polling station and negotiate Fish Lane as a pedestrian due to the increased traffic and am coaches using Martin Mere, it's far too dangerous and yet here the council are spending n so people are not too cramped in a polling station. Find an alternative venue for both dist have to utilise postal voting due to the dangers of the road and feel that our postal vote is either being delivered or returned due to an inadequate Postal Service. You are asking per		I feel that people living in the more rural areas have been forgotten completely. I cannot walk to polling station and negotiate Fish Lane as a pedestrian due to the increased traffic and amount of coaches using Martin Mere, it's far too dangerous and yet here the council are spending money just so people are not too cramped in a polling station. Find an alternative venue for both districts. We have to utilise postal voting due to the dangers of the road and feel that our postal vote is often late either being delivered or returned due to an inadequate Postal Service. You are asking people to use cars less so come up with an electronic live voting system. Think outside of the box.			
Burscough Town	Agree	-			
Burscough Town	Agree	-			
Burscough Town Disagree		Another polling booth is not required, the guide hut is perfectly adequate and within easy walking distance.			
Old Skelmersdale	Agree	-			
Old Skelmersdale	Agree	-			
Old Skelmersdale	Agree	-			
Old Skelmersdale	Agree	-			
Ormskirk East	Agree	-			
Ormskirk East	Agree	-			
Ormskirk East	Disagree	-			
Ormskirk East	Agree	-			

Ormskirk East	Agree	-
Ormskirk East Disagree		The number of people who actually vote doesn't warrant another polling station. To pay this amount of money for something the area doesn't need is a disgrace. I'm not sure who comes up with the stupid suggestions, but I think they need to concentrate on what really is required within our town and spend the money on these locations.
Ormskirk West	Disagree	If the unit is to be placed at the small play area on Pine Avenue, our house is very close by, and we would not like all the additional footfall and traffic that would occur.
Ormskirk West	Disagree	Waste of public money as most people travel to poll station by car anyway.
Ormskirk West	Disagree	Can use postal vote if unable to get to polling station.
Ormskirk West	Disagree	I don't feel the extra cost is justified as postal votes are available and most people in the new houses are car drivers or can walk.
Ormskirk West	Agree	-
Ormskirk West	Disagree	To spend £3k for a one-off purpose each year is not cash efficient especially when the money could be spent on defibrillators or bus shelters or a myriad of other uses. You no doubt understand that the cost this time will be £3k but the cost will escalate each year. Also, with the possibility of a general election next year this will result in a further charge of £3k. I disagree on this proposal on the following points: 1) number of users which you can verify from your stats and shows that the guide hut is underutilised 2) increase in postal voters. I'm sure you are aware of government constantly cutting budgets to local councils especially in the budget due on 22nd November and in future budgets whether it be by a labour or conservative government. This is a foolish idea put forward especially when people are under great pressure to feed, clothed and keep themselves warm. This is a proposal put forward by selfish self-indulgent councillors who are out of touch with the real world which people are surviving in. Think again councillors think of people's needs. Be more responsible be more understanding be more imaginative, use some common sense and if you cannot come up with better ideas you should step down. The mobile polling station proposed is not needed so I have not put forward alternative sites, full stop. End.
Ormskirk West	Disagree	Too much money to be spent on mobile unit which could be used elsewhere in the borough. There must be another option that does not cost as much. Why don't the council try hiring a hall or asking a business owner for use of their premises and reimbursing them. I doubt that would come to £3000 fo one day.
Ormskirk West	Disagree	Waste of money - if it works why replace it!
Ormskirk West	Disagree	The cash could be better spent, just rent a room.

Ormskirk West Disagree		We don't need another polling station, Green Lane not very busy. So why take some of the electors away to a possible new polling Station, waste of money. Of the 450 electors, how many would go out and vote, there are postal votes available. Waste of money and not needed.	
Ormskirk West	Disagree	The polling station on Green Lane has adequate space and capacity. I have used this polling station for over 20 years and have never seen more than 4 people in there. More tables to register and more booths, which the room can easily accommodate, is a cost neutral solution.	
Ormskirk West	Agree	Is there additional capacity at West End School or Greetby Hill?	
Rural North East	Disagree	The existing polling station at Green Lane is not unduly busy or catering for a number of polling day voters greater than the published guidelines. The distance to the polling station is acceptable and along roads with pavements and street lighting. Postal voting is freely available to those who have difficulty getting to the polling station. The cost of £3000 is not value for money and any new expenditure requires careful scrutiny in the light of the £1.1 million deficit the council posted in the last financial year. Therefore, I am opposed to this proposal and favour the status quo.	
Rural North East	Disagree	I think it is a lot of money for one day. Sadly, not all voters will bother to vote so I see it as unnecessary	
Rural North East	Agree	-	
Rural South	Disagree	Total waste of money - absolutely unnecessary.	
Rural South	Disagree	Too expensive and not needed!	
Rural South	Disagree	Money can be spent elsewhere.	
Rural West	Disagree	I think it's terrible that another £4k (per election!!) is being incurred potentially by WLBC. Shouldn't they be looking for cost savings, e.g., reducing the number of polling stations.	
Rural West	Agree	-	
Rural West	Agree	-	
Skelmersdale South	Disagree	In my opinion if all the areas are kept on the one site it would make ours busier, making the day quicker. It would be more cost effective too as you wouldn't have to employ more Clerks, porta- cabins etc.	
Up Holland	Agree	_	

	Agree	Disagree	Total
All Responses	19	22	41
	[
Ormskirk West	Agree	Disagree	Total
Residents Only	2	10	12

Rural West – Consultation Responses				
Resident Address In Disagree		Comments		
Aughton & Holborn	Agree	-		
Aughton & Holborn	Agree	-		
Burscough Bridge & Rufford	Agree	-		
Burscough Bridge & Rufford	Agree	-		
Burscough Bridge & Rufford	Agree	-		
Burscough Bridge & Rufford	Agree	-		
Burscough Town	Agree	-		
Burscough Town	Disagree	Have you tried St. Cuthberts CofE school or St. Mary's Catholic school (last one might outside the polling district).		
Burscough Town	Agree	-		
Old Skelmersdale	Agree	-		
Old Skelmersdale	Agree	-		
Old Skelmersdale	Agree	-		
Old Skelmersdale	Agree	-		
Old Skelmersdale	Agree	-		
Ormskirk East	Agree	-		
Ormskirk East	Agree	-		
Ormskirk East	Agree	-		
Ormskirk East	Agree	-		
Ormskirk East	Agree	-		
Ormskirk East	Disagree	Sufficient polling stations. Waste of resources. Concentrate on sending postal vote letters out earlier and perhaps the number of votes missed last time won't happen again.		
Ormskirk West	Disagree	Waste of Money.		
Ormskirk West	Agree	-		
Ormskirk West	Agree	-		

Ormskirk West	Agree	_
Rural North East	Agree	-
Rural North East	Agree	_
Rural South	Agree	_
Rural West	Agree	-
Rural West	Agree	_
Rural West	Agree	_
Up Holland	Agree	_

All Responses	Agree	Disagree	Total
	28	3	31

Rural West	Agree	Disagree	Total
Residents Only	3	0	3

Skelmersdale South – Consultation Responses		
Address In	Agree or Disagree	Comments
Aughton & Holborn	Agree	-
Aughton & Holborn	Agree	-
Burscough Bridge & Rufford	Agree	-
Burscough Bridge & Rufford	Agree	-
Burscough Bridge & Rufford	Agree	-
Burscough Town	Agree	-
Burscough Town	Disagree	Not required, if a voter really wants to vote they will make the effort to go regardless of location.
Old Skelmersdale	Disagree	(Place should have) accessibility so all can use the station.
Old Skelmersdale	Agree	-
Old Skelmersdale	Agree	-
Old Skelmersdale	Agree	
Old Skelmersdale	Agree	-
Ormskirk East	Agree	-
Ormskirk East	Agree	
Ormskirk East	Agree	-
Ormskirk East	Agree	_
Ormskirk East	Disagree	-
Ormskirk West	Agree	-
Ormskirk West	Agree	-
Ormskirk West	Agree	-
Rural North East	Disagree	Concerned about cost and accessibility.
Rural North East	Agree	-

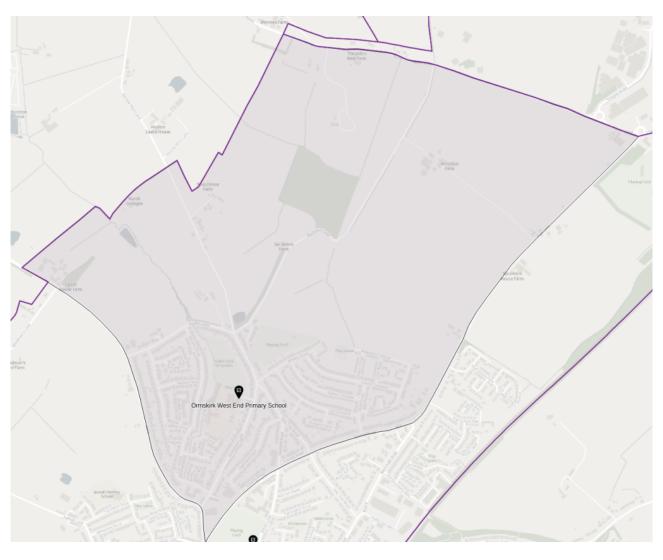
Rural South	Disagree	Money can be better spent elsewhere. Skelmersdale Cricket Club is always extremely quiet and should get better utilised.
Rural West	Disagree	I think it's terrible that another £4k (per election !!) is being incurred potentially by WLBC. Shouldn't they be looking for cost savings, e.g., reducing the number of polling stations.
Rural West	Agree	-
Skelmersdale South	Agree	-
Skelmersdale South	Agree	-
Skelmersdale South	Disagree	Daniels Lane has always been horrendous for parking, and I can't see how you can change anything as since the new houses have been built there it's worse. It's hard to get into the road because it's a tight corner, I would reconsider if I was the council. You need to consult the residents.
Up Holland	Agree	-

All Responses	Agree	Disagree	Total
All Responses	22	7	29
Skelmersdale South	Agree	Disagree	Total

Skelmersdale South	Agree	Disagree	Total
Residents Only	2	1	3

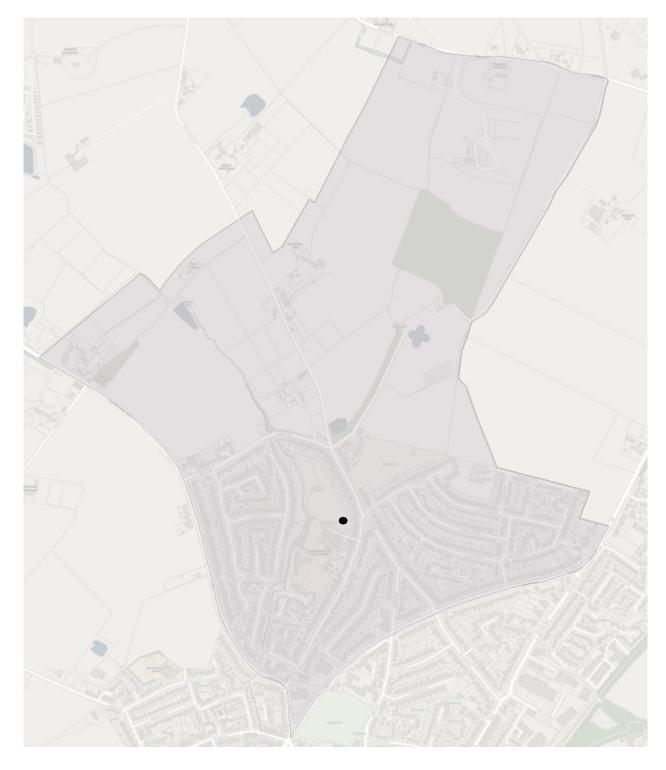
West Lancashire Borough Council Interim Polling Review 2023 – Comments & Initial Proposals – Ormskirk West

Polling District	Electors	Location of Proposed Polling Place	ARO Comments & Initial Proposals
		ORMSKIRK	K WEST
OWA	2395	Ormskirk West End Primary School	Due to development and population growth in the area, existing OWA Polling District to be split into OWA and the new Polling District OWD. OWA Polling Place to be retained as Ormskirk West End Primary School.
OWB	1592	Guide Hut Green Lane	Due to development and population growth in the area, existing OWB Polling District to be split into OWB and the new Polling District OWD. OWB Polling Place to be retained as the Guide Hut, Green Lane.
OWD	735	Mobile Unit, Pine Avenue Park	Due to development and population growth in the area, existing OWB Polling District to be split into OWB and the new Polling District OWD. OWD Polling Place to be designated as a Mobile Unit on Pine Avenue Park.

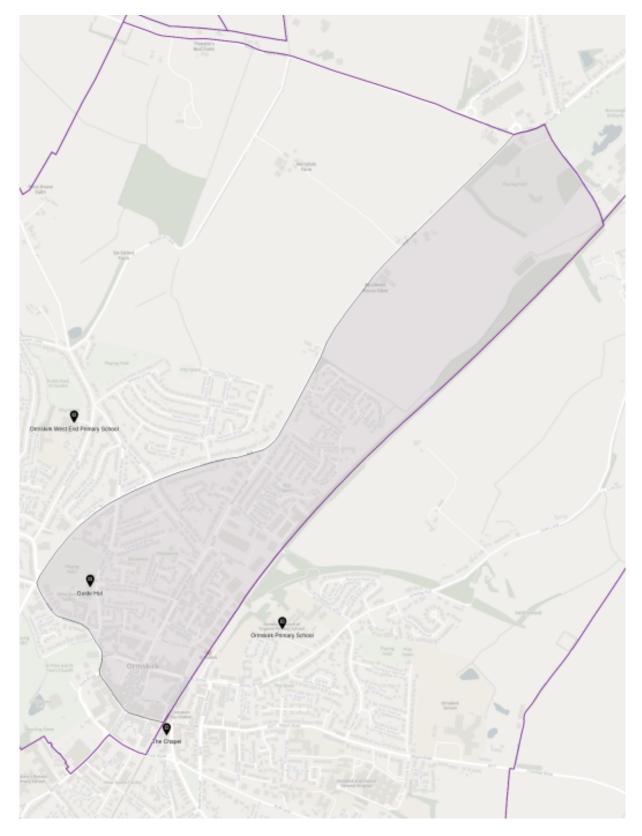


Map of Existing OWA Polling District

Map available at https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/media/546829/owa.pdf

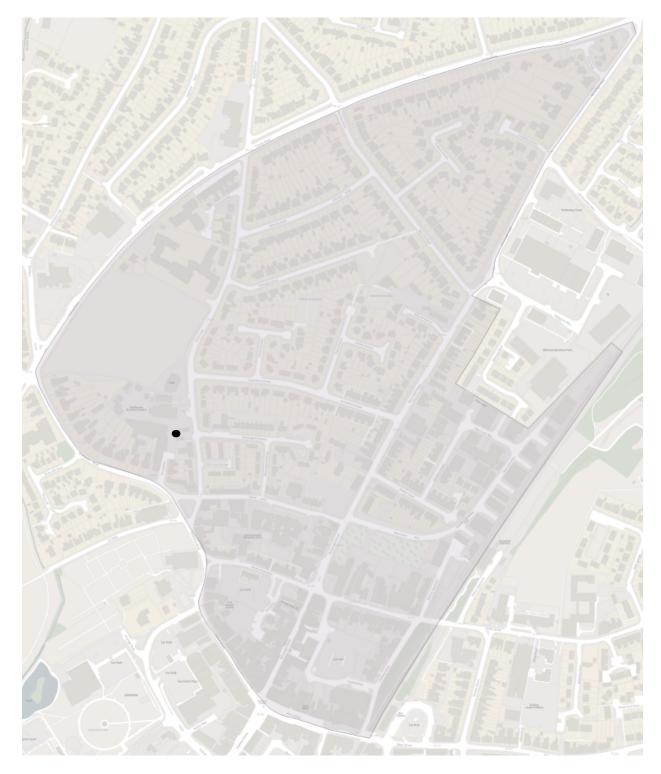


Map of Proposed OWA Polling District

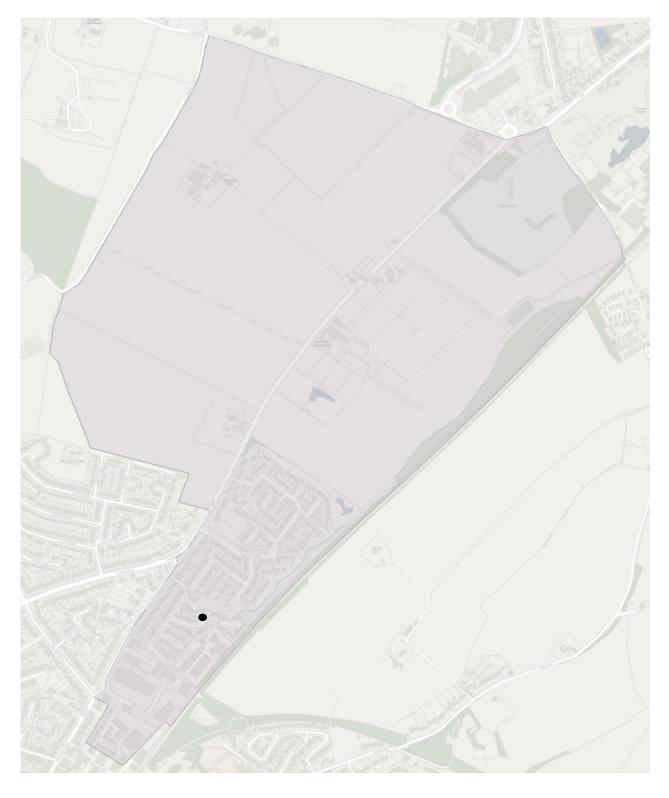


Map of Existing OWB Polling District

Map also available at - https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/media/546830/owb.pdf



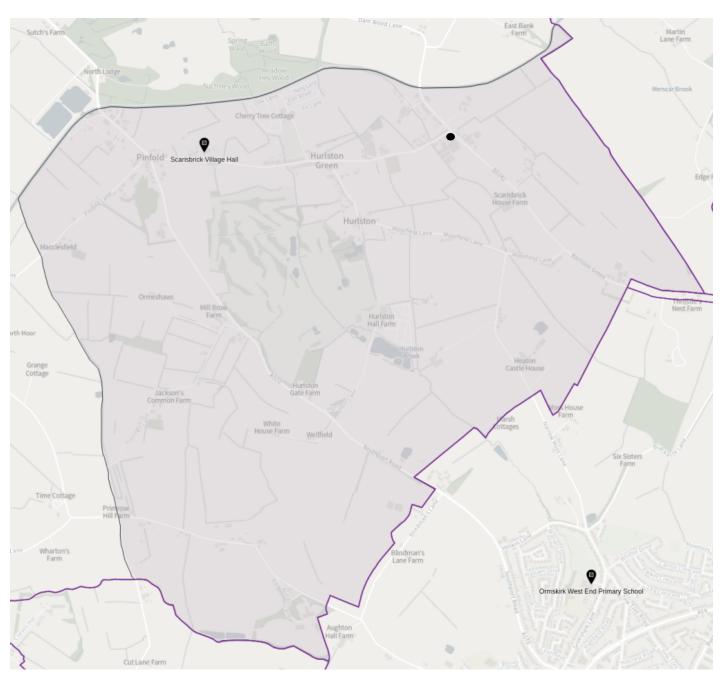
Map of Proposed OWB Polling District



Map of Proposed OWD Polling District

West Lancashire Borough Council Interim Polling Review 2023 – Comments & Initial Proposals – Rural West

Polling District	Electors	Location of Proposed Polling Place	ARO Comments & Initial Proposals	
	RURAL WEST			
RWK	563	Pumpkin Patch Farm Shop	Due to the unavailability of the existing location, it is proposed to designate the Polling Place for RWK as the Pumkin Patch Farm Shop	

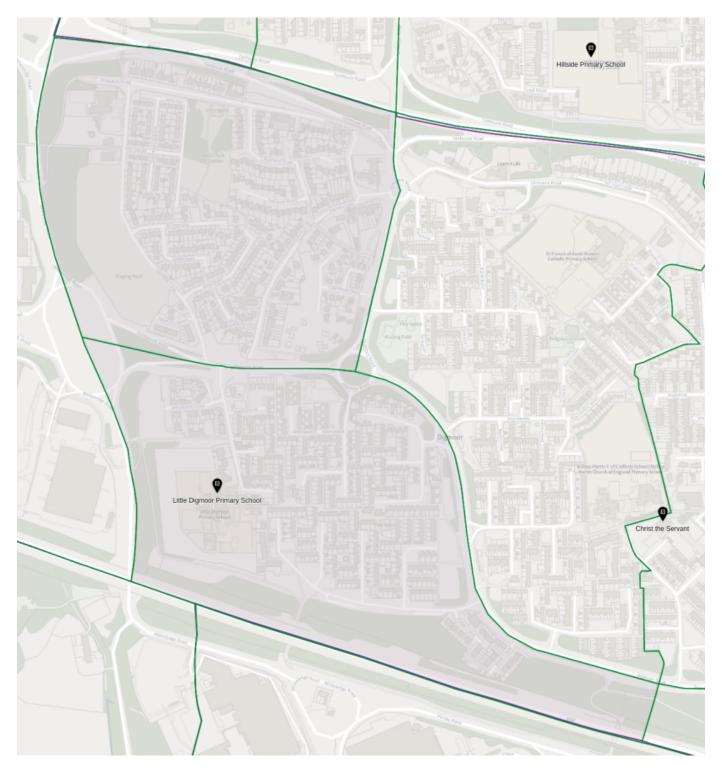


Map of RWK Polling District

West Lancashire Borough Council Interim Polling Review 2023 – Comments & Initial Proposals – Skelmersdale South

Polling District	Electors	Location of Proposed Polling Place	ARO Comments & Initial Proposals
		SKELMERSI	DALE SOUTH
SSB Page	743	Little Digmoor Primary School	Due to the difficulty of access between the two halves of the existing SSB Polling District, it is proposed to be split into SSB and the new Polling District SSG. SSB Polling Place to be retained as Little Digmoor Primary School.
ញ SSG	719	Army Cadet Hut, Daniels Lane	Due to the difficulty of access between the two halves of the existing SSB Polling District, it is proposed to be split into SSB and the new Polling District SSG. SSG Polling Place to be designated as the Army Cadet Hut, Daniels Lane.

Map of Existing SSB Polling District



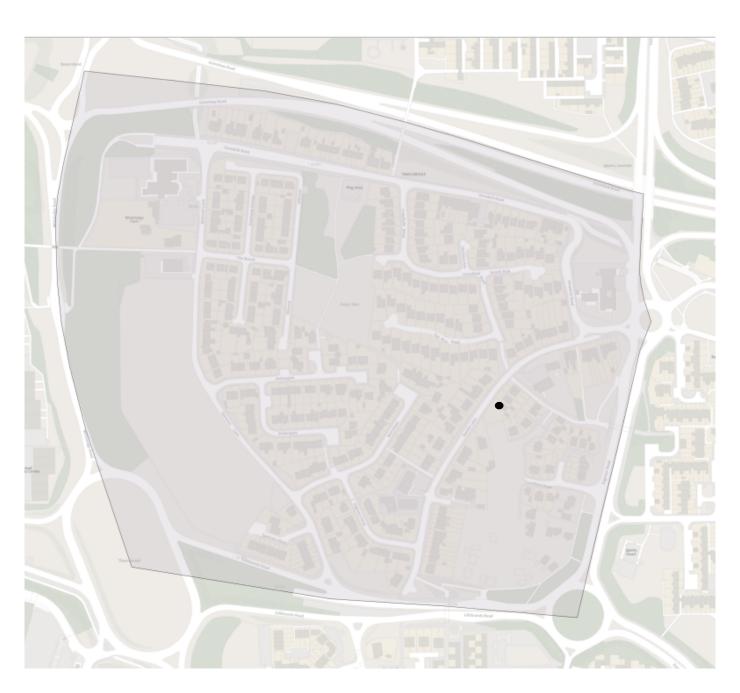
Map also available at - https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/media/546864/ssb.pdf

APPENDIX 4 – Proposals for Skelmersdale South





APPENDIX 4 – Proposals for Skelmersdale South



Map of Proposed SSG Polling District

APPENDIX 5 – Equality Impact Assessment

Equality Impact Assessment Form			
Directorate: Transformation & Resources	Service: Legal and Democratic Services		
Completed by: Thomas Lynan	Date: 03/11/23		
Subject Title: INTERIM POLLING REVIEW 202	3 – FINAL PROPOSALS		
1. DESCRIPTION			
Is a policy or strategy being produced or revised:	No		
Is a service being designed, redesigned or cutback:	Yes		
Is a commissioning plan or contract specification being developed:	No		
Is a budget being set or funding allocated:	No		
Is a programme or project being planned:	Yes		
Are recommendations being presented to senior managers and/or Councillors:	Yes		
Does the activity contribute to meeting our duties under the Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty (Eliminating unlawful discrimination/harassment, advancing equality of opportunity, fostering good relations):	Yes		
Details of the matter under consideration:	Interim Polling Review 2023 – Final		
If you answered Yes to any of the above go straight to Se	Proposals		
If you answered No to all the above please complete Sec			
2. RELEVANCE			
Does the work being carried out impact on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders):			
If Yes , provide details of how this impacts on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders): <i>If you answered</i> Yes <i>go to</i> Section 3			
If you answered No to both Sections 1 and 2 provide details of why there is no impact on these three groups:			
3. EVIDENCE COLLECTION			
Who does the work being carried out impact on, i.e. who is/are the stakeholder(s)?	There is a direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and or other stakeholders.		
If the work being carried out relates to a universal service, who needs or uses it most? (Is there any particular group affected more than others)?	All groups are affected.		
Which of the protected characteristics are most relevant to the work being carried out?			

Age Gender Disability Race and Culture Sexual Orientation Religion or Belief Gender Reassignment Marriage and Civil Partnership Pregnancy and Maternity	No No Yes No No No No No
4. DATA ANALYSIS	
In relation to the work being carried out, and the service/function in question, who is actually or currently using the service and why? What will the impact of the work being carried out be on usage/the stakeholders?	Members of the public currently use the service because it is a universal service integral to the function of the Council. Changes to polling arrangements.
What are people's views about the services? Are some customers more satisfied than others, and if so what are the reasons? Can these be affected by the proposals?	All relevant stakeholders have had the opportunity to express their views through consultation.
What sources of data including consultation results have you used to analyse the impact of the work being carried out on users/stakeholders with protected characteristics?	All relevant stakeholders have had the opportunity to express their views through consultation.
If any further data/consultation is needed and is to be gathered, please specify:	All relevant stakeholders have had the opportunity to express their views through consultation.
5. IMPACT OF DECISIONS	
In what way will the changes impact on people with particular protected characteristics (either positively or negatively or in terms of disproportionate impact)?	Changes to the area in which they vote, and in some cases a change to the Polling Place where they would vote. This is expected to have a neutral or positive impact on electors.
6. CONSIDERING THE IMPACT	
If there is a negative impact what action can be taken to mitigate it? (If it is not possible or desirable to take actions to reduce the impact, explain why this is the case (e.g. legislative or financial drivers etc.).	Changes are expected to have a neutral or positive impact.
What actions do you plan to take to address any other issues above?	All households affected will be written to in early 2024 to advise them of changes to Polling Districts and Places where applicable.
Page 5	6

	If no actions are planned state no actions
7. MONITORING AND REVIEWING	
When will this assessment be reviewed and who will review it?	This assessment will be reviewed as and when further reviews of the polling estate are required.