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**POLLING PLACES FOR BOROUGH AND PARISH ELECTIONS**

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**Responsible Cabinet Member(s) - Councillor John Williams, Leader**

**Responsible Director(s) - Ada Burns, Chief Executive and Returning Officer**

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**Purpose of Report**

1. To approve arrangements for polling places for the Local Elections in May 2007.

**Information**

2. As polling places were last reviewed prior to the General Election in 2005, Officers have, over recent months, been giving attention to the arrangements to be made regarding Polling Stations for the Borough and Parish Council elections.
3. All proposed polling places have been inspected in an attempt to ensure high levels of voter participation. Access issues and compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) have been considered and changes suggested where difficulties have been highlighted or reported previously (e.g. changes are suggested in Hurworth).
4. Alternative venues are also proposed when previous polling places are no longer available (i.e. Linden Court Community Centre, Springfield School, Beaumont Hill School, White Horse Hotel and Rise Carr School). In two of these instances, the only alternatives are mobile units (Beaumont Hill and Springfield Schools). A mobile unit at 'The Brinkburn' on Brinkburn Road was used for the General Election in 2005 and there was no adverse feedback following the election. The Manager of Darlington Association on Disability has agreed to assist with the location of the mobile units at the Beaumont Hill and Springfield sites to keep access issues to a minimum.
5. At Middleton St. George, it is proposed to revert to the former polling place at the Community Centre (which is now DDA compliant). There were a number of complaints at the General Election when the polling place was transferred to Dinsdale Court as the Community Centre had a number of access issues.

**Polling Places**

6. The list of polling places for the whole Borough is attached as an **Appendix**.
7. Where changes are suggested, the electorate will be notified of changes as part of their pre-poll information.

## **Outcome of Consultation**

8. The Leaders of all Political Groups on the Council, Party Agents and the Darlington Association on Disability have been consulted on the proposals and are in agreement with the suggested locations.

## **Legal Implications**

9. This report has been considered by the Borough Solicitor for legal implications in accordance with the Council's approved procedures. There are no issues which the Borough Solicitor considers need to be brought to the specific attention of Members, other than those highlighted in the report.

## **Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998**

10. The contents of this report have been considered in the context of the requirements placed on the Council by Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, namely, the duty on the Council to exercise its functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area. It is not considered that the contents of this report have any such effect.

## **Council Policy Framework**

11. The issues contained within this report are required to be considered by Council.

## **Recommendation**

12. Members are asked to approve the arrangements for polling places as detailed in the Appendix attached to the submitted report.

## **Reasons**

13. To ensure polling places are available for the next Borough and Parish Council elections on 3rd May, 2007.

**Ada Burns,  
Chief Executive and Returning Officer**

## **Background Papers**

No background papers were used in the preparation of the report.

Linda Todd : Extension 2354  
PB

Ward	Polling District	Polling Station
Hummersknott	AA/AB	Carmel R.C. Technology College, (John Caden Hall), The Headlands, Darlington
Mowden	BA/BB	Mowden Infant School, Bushel Hill Drive, Darlington
College	CA	Abbey Junior School, Abbey Road, Darlington
College	CB	Arts Centre (Club Room), Vane Terrace, Darlington
College	CC	Holy Trinity Youth and Community Centre, Pierremont Road, Darlington
Pierremont	DA/DC	Willow Road Community Centre, Willow Road, Darlington
Pierremont/ Northgate	DB/UC	Reid Street Primary School, Reid Street, Darlington
Cockerton West	EA/ED	Mount Pleasant Primary School, Newton Lane, Darlington
Cockerton West	EB	Branksome Community Association, Eggleston View, Darlington
Cockerton West	EC	Cockerton Library, West Auckland Road, Darlington
Cockerton East	FA	Mobile Polling Station, The Brinkburn Public House Car Park, Brinkburn Road, Darlington
Cockerton East	FB	R.A. Social Club, (Snooker Room). Brinkburn Road, Darlington
Cockerton East	FC	Holy Family R.C. (Aided) Primary School, Prior Street, Darlington
Cockerton East/Faverdale	GA/GB/ YC	Alderman Leach Primary School, West Park, Darlington
Harrowgate Hill	HA	Mobile Polling Station, Beaumont Hill School
Harrowgate Hill	HB	Harrowgate Hill Methodist Church Hall, Lowson Street, Darlington
Harrowgate Hill	HC	D.S.R.M. Social Club, Longfield Road, Darlington
Faverdale Sadberge and Whessoe	HD XK/XL	Whessoe Village Hall, Harrowgate Village Darlington
North Road	JA	St. Thomas Aquinas Church Hall, North Road, Darlington
North Road	JB/JC	North Road Primary School, Pendleton Road South, Darlington
North Road	JD	The King's Centre, Prospect Place, off Whessoe Road Darlington
Haughton West	KA	St. Bede's R.C. Primary School, Kingsway, Darlington
Haughton West	KB	Mobile Polling Station, Springfield School Site
Haughton North	LA/LB	Whinfield Primary School, Augusta Close, Darlington
Haughton East Sadberge and Whessoe	MA/ XA/ XB/ XC	St Anne's Church Hall, Welbeck Avenue, Darlington
Haughton East	MB	Red Hall Community Association, Headingley Crescent, Darlington
Lingfield	NA	Eastbourne Sports Complex, Bourne Avenue, (Off Hundens Lane) Darlington
Lingfield	NB	Heathfield Primary School, The Broadway, Darlington
Lingfield	NC	St Herbert's Church Hall, Yarm Road, Darlington
Central	OA	Gurney Pease Primary School, Dodsworth Street, Darlington
Central	OB	Borough Road Nursery School, Borough Road, Darlington

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Polling Station</b>
Central	OC	St. Augustine's Parish Centre, Larchfield Street, Darlington
Eastbourne Bank Top	PA/RC	St Teresa's R.C (Aided) Primary School, Harris Street, Darlington
Eastbourne	PB	Firthmoor and District Community Association, Burnside Road, Darlington
Eastbourne	PC	Community Centre, Pilmoor Green, Darlington
Lascelles	QA	St. John's C.E. Primary School, Fenby Avenue, Darlington
Lascelles/Bank Top	QB/RA	Dodmire Infant School, Rydal Road, Darlington
Bank Top	RB	Community Centre in King William Street, Darlington
Bank Top	RD	Community Centre in Wesley Court, Darlington
Park East	SA	Skerne Park Primary School, Ribble Drive, Darlington
Park East	SB/SC	St. Columba's Church and the Clifton Centre, Clifton Avenue, Darlington
Park East	SD	St Augustine's R C (Aided) Primary, Beechwood Avenue, Darlington
Park West	TA	Abbey Infant School, Cleveland Terrace, Darlington
Park West	TB	All Saint's Millennium Centre, Ravensdale Road, Darlington
Park West/Hurworth	TC/VC	Elm Ridge Methodist Church Hall, Carmel Road South, Darlington
Northgate	UA/UB	Corporation Road Primary School, Corporation Road, Darlington
Hurworth	VA	Hurworth Primary School, Westfield Drive, Hurworth on Tees
Hurworth	VB	Hurworth Community Centre, Hurworth
Hurworth	VD/ VE	The Reading Room, Neasham
Middleton St. George	WA/WB	Middleton St. George Community Centre
Sadberge and Whessoe	XD	Village Hall, Brafferton
Sadberge and Whessoe	XE/ XF	Village Hall, Sadberge
Sadberge and Whessoe	XG/ XH	Village Hall, Great Stainton
Sadberge and Whessoe	XJ	Village Hall, Bishopton
Heighington and Whessoe	YA	Village Hall, Heighington
Heighington and Whessoe	YB/YG/ YK	Walworth Castle Hotel, Walworth
Heighington and Whessoe	YD/ YE	Church Hall, High Coniscliffe
Heighington and Whessoe	YF	Church Hall, Piercebridge
Heighington and Whessoe	YH YJ	Village Hall, Summerhouse