

Meeting of the

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Thursday, 15 November 2007 at 6.30 p.m.

A G E N D A

VENUE

Committee Room, 1st Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove
Crescent, London, E14 2BG

Members:	Deputies (if any):
Chair: Councillor Shafiqul Haque Vice-Chair: Councillor Waiseul Islam	
Councillor Rajib Ahmed Councillor Philip Briscoe Councillor Carli Harper-Penman Councillor Lutfur Rahman Councillor M. Mamun Rashid	Councillor M. Shahid Ali, (Designated Deputy representing Councillors Shafiqul Haque, Carli Harper-Penman, Waiseul Islam and Lutfur Rahman) Councillor Stephanie Eaton, (Designated Deputy representing Councillor Rajib Ahmed) Councillor Peter Golds, (Designated Deputy representing Councillor Philip Briscoe)
[Note: The quorum for this body is 3 Members].	

If you require any further information relating to this meeting, would like to request a large print, Braille or audio version of this document, or would like to discuss access arrangements or any other special requirements, please contact: John Williams, Democratic Services, Tel: 020 7364 4204, E-mail: johns.williams@towerhamlets.gov.uk

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Thursday, 15 November 2007

6.30 p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To note any declarations of interest made by Members, including those restricting Members from voting on the questions detailed in Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992.

Note from the Chief Executive

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, Members must declare any **personal interests** they have in any item on the agenda or as they arise during the course of the meeting. Members must orally indicate to which item their interest relates. If a Member has a personal interest he/she must also consider whether or not that interest is a **prejudicial personal interest** and take the necessary action. When considering whether or not they have a declarable interest, Members should consult pages 195 to 198 of the Council's Constitution. Please note that all Members present at a Committee meeting (in whatever capacity) are required to declare any personal or prejudicial interests.

A **personal interest** is, generally, one that would affect a Member (either directly or through a connection with a relevant person or organisation) more than other people in London, in respect of the item of business under consideration at the meeting. If a member of the public, knowing all the relevant facts, would view a Member's personal interest in the item under consideration as so substantial that it would appear likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest, then the Member has a **prejudicial personal interest**.

Consequences:

- If a Member has a **personal interest**: he/she must declare the interest but can stay, speak and vote.
- If the Member has **prejudicial personal interest**: he/she must declare the interest, cannot speak or vote on the item and must leave the room.

When declaring an interest, Members are requested to specify the nature of the interest, the particular agenda item to which the interest relates and to also specify whether the interest is of a personal or personal and prejudicial nature. This procedure is designed to assist the public's understanding of the meeting and is also designed to enable a full entry to be made in the Statutory Register of Interests which is kept by the Service Head, Democratic Services on behalf of the Monitoring Officer.

3. MINUTES

1 - 6

To agree as a correct record the draft minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 18th October 2007.

4. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

4 .1 Review of Polling Places and Districts

7 - 25

All Wards

4 .2 Establishment of Audit Committee

27 - 31

4 .3 Ocean Regeneration Trust Interim Board

33 - 35

**Mile End &
Globe Town;
St Dunstan's
& Stepney
Green;**

4 .4 Filling of casual vacancies on committees and panels (if any)

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note that the next meeting of the General Purposes Committee is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 13th February 2008, at 7.30 p.m.

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LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

HELD AT 6.30 P.M. ON THURSDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2007

**COMMITTEE ROOM 1, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5
CLOVE CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG**

Members Present:

Councillor Shafiqul Haque (Chair)

Councillor Carli Harper-Penman
Councillor Waiseul Islam (Vice-Chair)
Councillor M. Mamun Rashid

Councillor M. Shahid Ali
Councillor Peter Golds

Other Councillors Present:

Officers Present:

Isabella Freeman – (Assistant Chief Executive [Legal Services])
Mark Redhead – (Democratic Services)
John Williams – (Service Head, Democratic Services)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Philip Briscoe and Councillor Lutfur Rahman. Councillor Peter Golds and Councillor Mohammed Shahid Ali respectively were deputising.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

The Chair **MOVED** and it was

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13 June 2007 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and the Chair be authorised to sign them accordingly.

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

5. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

5.1 Amendments to the Constitution

RESOLVED

- i) To note the changes to the non executive functions set out in the Constitution in consequence of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) (Amendment No. 3) and (Amendment No.4) Regulations 2007 as shown at schedule 1 of the report circulated with the agenda.
- ii) To authorise the Corporate Director, Communities, Localities and Culture, to exercise the Council's powers in respect of the new functions referred to above.

5.2 Appointments to the Shadow Board of Tower Hamlets Homes

RESOLVED

- 1) To note the appointment of Councillors Marc Francis, Alex Heslop and Shafiqul Haque to the Shadow Board of Tower Hamlets Homes (THH) following their nomination by the Majority Group pursuant to the Committee's decision of 29th May 2007.
- 2) To note that no nominations for membership of the THH Shadow Board have been received from the minority groups.
- 3) In view of 2) above, to agree to remove the condition that 2 of the Council representatives be drawn from the minority group(s) and further agree that Councillors Sirajul Islam and Denise Jones be appointed as additional Council representatives to the Shadow Board of Tower Hamlets Homes.

5.3 Appointment of Deputy Electoral Registration Officer

RESOLVED

- i) That the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services) be appointed as Deputy Electoral Registration Officer;
- ii) That training be provided to Members on the changes to election law and the regulations regarding objections to entries on the electoral register.

5.4 Filling of casual vacancies on Committees/Panels

RESOLVED

- i) That Councillor Shahed Ali be appointed the Respect Group representative on the Development Committee, with Councillors Dulal Uddin, Lutfu Begum and Harun Miah acting as substitutes.
- ii) That Councillor Shahed Ali be appointed the Respect Group representative on the Strategic Development Committee, with Councillors Dulal Uddin, Lutfu Begum and Harun Miah acting as substitutes.
- iii) That as per the recommendations in the tabled paper circulated, Councillor Rupert Eckhardt be appointed as an additional Deputy Member for Councillor Simon Rouse on the Strategic Development Committee;
- iv) That as per the oral report given by the Service Head, Democratic Services in respect of the nomination from the Conservative Group, Councillor Tim Archer be appointed as an additional Deputy Member for Councillor Rupert Eckhardt on the Development Committee.

5.5 Appointments to External Bodies

Councillor Golds requested clarification in respect of the Historic Environment Champion appointment, asking whether it was due to administrative oversight that the appointment had not been submitted to the June 2007 meeting of the Committee. This was confirmed to be the case.

In respect of the nominations to the Isle of Dogs Community Foundation, the Committee was informed that the Community Foundation had confirmed that they would be happy to accept the nomination of two Councillors as set out in the report.

The Committee agreed that the Leader of the Council should be requested to write on behalf of the Council thanking Ms Lesley Pavitt, recognising her services to the East London Nursing Society Trust

RESOLVED

- i) To agree the re-appointment of Councillor Denise Jones as Historic Environment Champion for Tower Hamlets for the remainder of the municipal year 2007/08;
- ii) To agree the appointment of Councillors Shiria Khatun and Timothy Archer as the Council's two representatives to the Isle of Dogs Community Foundation for the remainder of the municipal year 2007/08;
- iii) To confirm the appointment of Councillor Rupert Eckhardt to serve as the Council's nominee to the Mudchute Association for the remainder of the municipal year 2007/08;
- iv) To agree the appointment of Councillor Ohid Ahmed to serve on the Thames Gateway London Partnership for the remainder of the municipal year 2007/08;
- v) To agree the nomination of Councillor Ann Jackson as the Older People's Member Champion for Tower Hamlets;
- vi) That Councillor Anwara Ali be appointed as the Council's third representative on the East London Nursing Society Trust, to serve until June 2011 (alongside the existing representation provided by Councillor Oliur Rahman, to January 2009, and Ms Anna Lynch, to November 2010);
- vii) That the Leader of the Council be requested to send a letter of thanks on behalf of the Council to Ms Lesley Pavitt in recognition of her services to the East London Nursing Society Trust;
- viii) That further to the tabled addendum report, to note and agree that the Council support the proposed representative arrangements for London Boroughs on the Princes Trust Futures Charitable Trust; in particular the rotation of Directors, under which the London Borough of Tower Hamlets would nominate a representative from 1 January 2010.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED

That an extraordinary meeting of the General Purposes Committee be held on Thursday 15 November 2007 at 6.30pm.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting ended at 6.50 p.m.

Chair, Councillor Shafiqul Haque
General Purposes Committee

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Agenda Item 4.1

Committee: General Purposes Committee	Date: 15 November 2007	Classification: Unrestricted	Report No:	Agenda Item No:
Report of Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services) Originating Officer: Isabella Freeman Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services)		Title: Review of Polling Places and Districts Ward(s) Affected: All		

Summary

1. This report sets out the Returning Officer's proposals for the review of polling districts and polling places, describes the process of the review including the consultation undertaken and makes recommendations.

Recommendations

2. That the Committee;
 - (1) note the consultative process and the responses received;
 - (2) consider the Returning Officer's revised representations set out in appendix A and recommend that they be adopted by the Council and the polling districts and polling places be formally designated;

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 (SECTION 97)

LIST OF "BACKGROUND PAPERS" USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Brief description of "background papers"

Tick if copy
supplied for
register

If not supplied, name and
telephone number of holder

None

Background

3. In reports to previous meetings on 13th February, 25th April and 13th June 2007, members were advised about the review of polling districts and places which must be completed by the end of 2007 under the new legislation (section 16 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006) and authorised the Interim Electoral Services Manager to take all the necessary steps to achieve this. This report sets out the steps taken in accordance with statutory requirements and the Committee's instructions and brings forward the Returning Officer's representations for the Committee's consideration. Subject to the Committee's views these proposals will be submitted to the Council meeting on 28th November 2007 for final decision.

Definitions

4. To ensure clarity in discussing issues arising from the review the following definitions are used:

polling district; a geographical sub-division of a ward.

polling place; a geographical area in which a polling station is located. however, as there is no legal definition of what a polling place is, the geographical area could be defined as tightly as a particular building or as widely as the entire polling district.

polling station; the actual area where the process of voting takes place, and must be located within the polling place designated for the particular polling district.

Process

5. Following the meeting on 25th April 2007 formal notice of the commencement of the review was published at the Town Hall, at other venues where official council notices are published and on the website and in East End Life on 30th April 2007. The Returning Officer's (RO) representations were published on 30th May and were made available on the website, at Ideas stores, libraries, one stop shops, local housing offices and Town Hall reception. In drawing up the representations the following criteria were used:
 - approximately 1,500 electors per polling station; so there were proposals to have additional polling stations at some venues where space permitted or use of another venue;
 - anticipated growth in the electorate; based on residential units in construction in each current polling district the growth in the electorate was estimated. This was not an exact science but clearly some polling districts & indeed wards will have large increases in their electorates;

- known changes to current venues; (e.g. Cheviot House & Southern Grove) which will not be available in future;
- alternatives to current venues where there is a better alternative;
- projected increases in the population of LBTH assuming that the same % as at present are eligible to go on the register; ONS projections for the next four years are:

2008	222,700
2009	225,600
2010	228,400
2011	231,200

It was therefore prudent to plan for a steady increase in the electorate.

- an increase in the return rate on the canvass would result in an increase in the electorate.
- views put forward previously and by ward councillors.

6. Consultation on the Returning Officer's representations took place with ward councillors, local Members of Parliament, the constituency GLA elected representative, political parties, election agents, the metropolitan police service and groups representing people with disabilities. The authority was required to seek representations from such persons as it thinks have particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for persons who have different forms of disability. Such persons must have had an opportunity to make representations and to comment on the returning officer's representations. The review was also discussed at the Tower Hamlets Access Group on 20th June 2007. Electors generally were invited to comment through East End Life and the website. Consultation also took place internally within the authority particularly with Children's Services regarding the use of schools. The consultation period extended until 31st July 2007.

Response to consultation

7. The following responses were received:

Blackwall & Cubitt Town councillors; additional polling place and reorganisation of polling districts to deal with increased electorate.

Tower Project; no objections to the proposals.

Disability Coalition – Tower Hamlets; comments on Electoral Commission's guidance that although generally helpful for wheelchair users in particular, there is insufficient coverage of a wider range of disabilities. Sight impaired and blind people require good lighting not just in the polling hall itself but also outside by the entrance, inside along corridors, doorways etc. Signage needs to be in large, clear type in colours and backgrounds that are easier

understood – similarly any instructions in the polling booths. Where polling takes place in schools etc where people have to walk along corridors to reach the polling booths, a couple of chairs need to be placed part way along corridors so that those who do not use wheelchairs but have limited mobility can sit down and rest. It is not stated whether induction loops are used in the polling hall so that instructions can be heard by the hearing impaired. Nor is it clear if written instructions are available for the deaf.

Colin Brooking; use Shadwell FE Centre or Bluegate Fields School as alternative to portacabin at St Katherine's Foundation, Butchers Row (Shadwell ward).

Elaine King; use Ogilvie Community Hall as alternative to portacabin at St Katherine's Foundation, Butchers Row (Shadwell ward).

Cllr Marc Francis; use Francis Lee Community Centre as alternative to portacabin at Winford House and consider use of Tredegar Centre, Morville Street as alternative to Bow Community Hall (Bow East ward).

Revised representations

8. Having taken into account the responses made and also having reviewed polling arrangements in Shadwell ward following the by-election on 9th August 2007 the Returning Officer proposes the following arrangements (see Appendix A; changes highlighted):

Bromley-by-Bow; an additional polling station at Clara Grant Primary School to deal with an increased electorate (polling district BBB2) but otherwise no change to the current arrangements.

Blackwall & Cubitt Town; creation of new polling district BCT5 voting at Tower Hamlets Town Hall, reallocation of electors between BCT1, BCT2, BCT3 & BCT 4, and additional polling stations at Llic Centre and St Luke's CE Primary School. The revised polling district boundaries and polling places are set out in appendix B.

Bow East; use the Francis Lee Community Centre, Clare House as an alternative to a portacabin at Winford House (polling district BE1), the Tredegar Centre, Morville Street as an alternative to Bow Community Hall (polling district BE3) and additional polling station at Bow Secondary School to deal with an increased electorate (polling district BE4). The revised polling places are set out in Appendix C.

Bethnal Green North; no changes proposed.

Bethnal Green South; reallocation of electors between polling stations at John Scurr Primary School. No other changes proposed.

Bow West; additional polling station at Malmesbury Primary School to deal with an increased electorate (BW4).

East India & Lansbury; additional polling stations at St Saviours Primary Scholl, Chrisp Street (EIL1) , Brownfield Senior Citizens Club, Burcham Street (EIL3) and Teviot Centre, Wyvis Street (EIL5) to deal with increased electorates.

Limehouse; additional polling stations at Stepney Greencoat Primary School (LI1) and Hind Grove Community Centre (LI2) to deal with increased electorates.

Mile End East; Professional Development Centre, English Street as an alternative to 60 Southern Grove which will no longer be available (MEE1). The revised polling places are set out in Appendix D.

Mile End & Globetown; polling place for MGT1 to be the new Bonner Primary School (two polling stations).

Millwall; two additional polling stations at Seven Mills Primary School (MI1) to deal with the anticipated increase in the electorate.

St Dunstan's & Stepney Green; create new polling district (SDS4) voting at Halley Street Primary School, reallocate some electors from Cayley Primary School (SDS2) to SDS4 and additional polling station at sir John Cass Foundation & Redcoat Secondary School (SDS3). The revised polling district boundaries are set out in appendix E.

Shadwell; new polling station at Bluegate Fields Primary School for polling district SH1B reducing number of polling stations at Bigland Primary School from three to two. Redraw boundaries of SH2, SH3 & SH4 around acceptable polling stations at St Mary & St Michael Church Hall, Glamis Tenants Hall and Ogilvie Community Hall. Investigate possibility of using St Katherine's Foundation for part of existing SH4. The revised polling district boundaries and polling places are set out in Appendix F.

St Katherine's & Wapping; no changes proposed.

Spitalfields & Banglatown; no changes proposed.

Weavers; New polling station at St Matthias CE Primary School to replace William Davis Primary School and to deal with increased electorate (WE3). Polling places are set out in Appendix G.

Whitechapel; additional polling station at Kobi Nazrul Primary School to deal with increased electorate (WH1), new polling station for WH2 at Tower Hamlets Community Housing, 285 Commercial Road to replace Cheviot House which will no longer be available & two new polling stations at Smithy Street Primary School (WH3) to replace Stepney Library which has closed. The revised polling places are set out in Appendix H.

Comments of Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services)

9. It is a legal requirement to carry out the review of polling places this year before 31st December 2007 and thereafter every four years in accordance with the requirements of the Electoral Administration Act 2006 (see appendix I). This does not preclude the Authority carrying out small interim reviews of polling places as and when needs arise. In relation to the comments from disability groups these will be reviewed as far as practicable at each election to implement what changes can reasonably be made. We are grateful for the response provided and will consult further on a regular basis as part of election preparations.

Comments of Chief Financial Officer

10. The costs of the review will be met from within budget.

Equal Opportunities Implications

- 11 It is essential that disabilities issues are taken into account in election matters particularly in the polling station review.

Anti Poverty Implications

12. There are no implications in this report.

Sustainable Action for a Greener Environment

13. Within the constraints of the suitability and availability of the accommodation, polling places are located so as to minimise the distance electors need to travel to cast their vote.

Appendices

- A Returning Officer's proposals
- B Blackwall & Cubitt Town revised polling districts & polling places
- C Bow East revised polling places
- D Mile End East revised polling places
- E St Dunstan's & Stepney Green revised polling districts & polling places
- F Shadwell revised polling districts & polling places
- G Weavers revised polling places
- H Whitechapel revised polling places
- I Schedule A1 of the Representation of the People Act 1983

REVIEW OF POLLING PLACES & POLLING DISTRICTS 2007 – RETURNING OFFICER'S PROPOSALS

appendix A

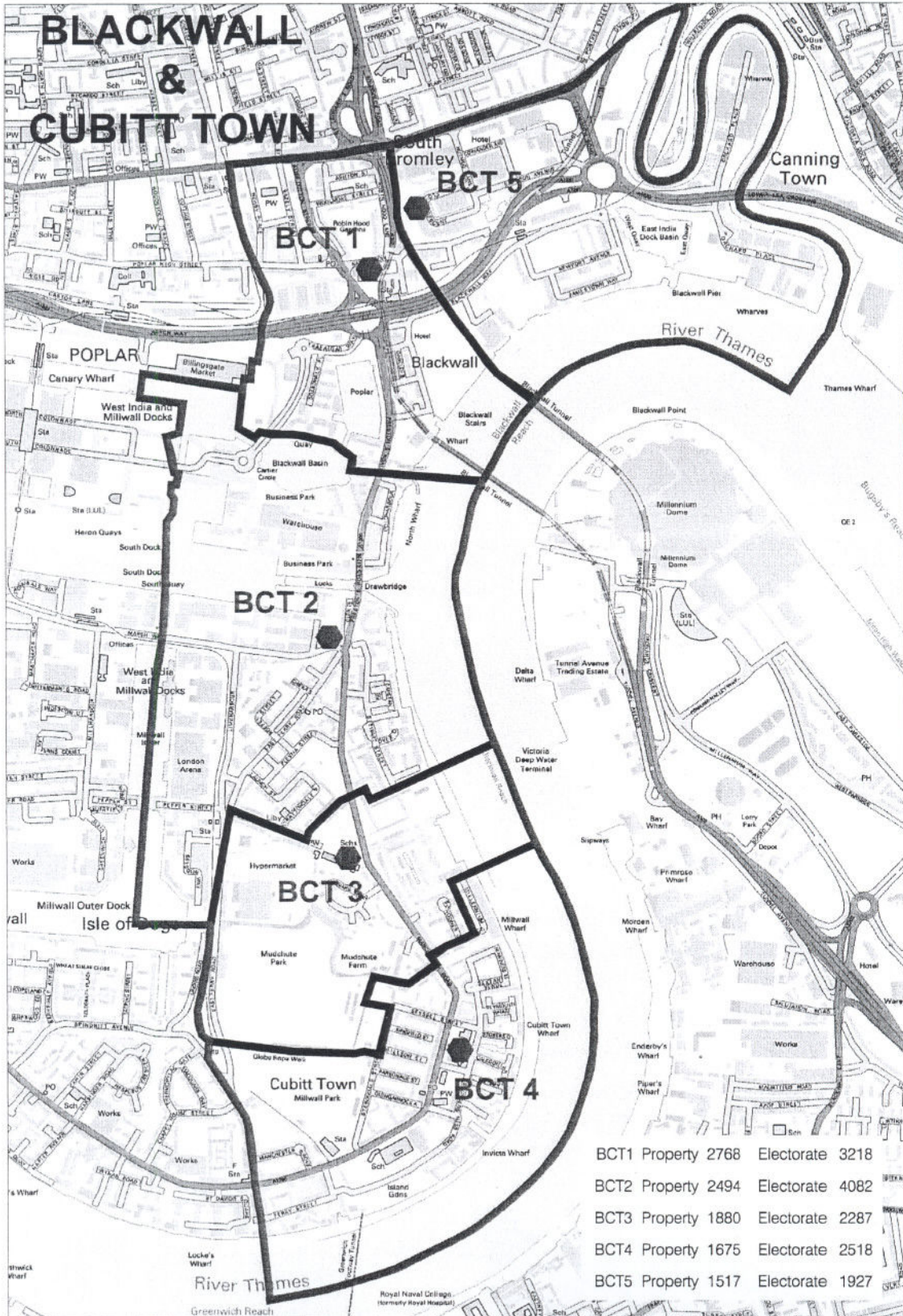
<u>Polling District</u>	<u>Electorate</u>	<u>Polling Station</u>	<u>Changes</u>
BBB1	1167	Old Palace Primary School, St Leonards Street	no change
BBB1	1183	Old Palace Primary School, St Leonards Street	no change
BBB1	1022	Old Palace Primary School, St Leonards Street	no change
BBB2	1693	Clara Grant Primary School, Knapp Road Entrance	) additional polling station to be
BBB2	1688	Clara Grant Primary School, Knapp Road Entrance	) accommodated here; increased electorate
BBB3	1191	Marnar Primary School, Devas Street	no change
BCT1	2114	Llic CENTRE 316 Poplar High St, Ditchburn St Entrance	) additional polling station to be accommodated here;
BCT1	1306	Llic CENTRE 316 Poplar High St, Ditchburn St Entrance	) reallocate some electors to BCT2 & new BCT5
BCT2	1073	The Gallery Jack Dash House, 2 Lawn House Close	) reallocate electors between polling stations; anticipated
BCT2	1060	The Gallery Jack Dash House, 2 Lawn House Close	) significant increase in electorate
BCT3	1550	Cubitt Town Infants School, Manchester Road	) reallocate some electors to BCT4
BCT3	1530	Cubitt Town Infants School, Manchester Road)
BCT4	1638	St.Luke's C.E. Primary School, Saunders Ness Road	additional polling station
BCT5		Tower Hamlets Town Hall	new polling district & polling place; increased electorate
BE1	2203	Francis Lee Community Centre	to replace portacabin at Winford House
BE2	1190	Old Peoples' Club, 41 Wrights Road	no change
BE2	1154	Old Peoples' Club, 41 Wrights Road	no change
BE3	1738	Tredegar Centre, Morville Road	more suitable venue to replace Bow Community Hall
BE4	1886	Bow Sec. School (Paton Close), Bow Road Entrance	additional polling station; space available
BGN1	1165	Pritchards Rd Day Centre, Pritchards Rd Marion Place	no change
BGN2	1510	St.Elizabeth's R.C.Primary School, Bonner Road	no change
BGN2	1494	St.Elizabeth's Primary School, Bonner Road	no change
BGN3	976	Lawdale Primary School, Mansford Street	no change
BGN3	943	Lawdale Primary School, Mansford Street	no change
BGN4	1333	Oaklands Secondary School, Old Bethnal Green Rd	no change
BGN4	1311	Oaklands Secondary School, Old Bethnal Green Rd	no change

BGS1	Bethnal Green South	1456	Hague Primary School, Wilmot Street	no change
BGS2	Bethnal Green South	1471	John Scurr Primary School, Cephas Street)
BGS2	Bethnal Green South	1537	John Scurr Primary School, Cephas Street	) reallocate electors between polling
BGS2	Bethnal Green South	1321	John Scurr Primary School, Cephas Street	) stations if necessary
BGS3	Bethnal Green South	1204	Stewart Headlam Primary School, Tapp Street	no change
BGS3	Bethnal Green South	906	Stewart Headlam Primary School, Tapp Street	no change
BGS4	Bethnal Green South	1198	Whitechapel Sports Centre, Durward Street	no change
BW1	Bow West	1395	Chisenhale Primary School, Chisenhale Road	no change
BW1	Bow West	1381	Chisenhale Primary School, Chisenhale Road	no change
BW2	Bow West	1235	Olga Primary School, Lanfranc Road	no change
BW2	Bow West	1170	Olga Primary School, Lanfranc Road	no change
BW3	Bow West	1182	Central Foundation Sec. School, College Terrace	no change
BW4	Bow West	1751	Malmesbury Primary School, Coborn Street	additional polling station; space available
EIL1	East India & Lansbury	2052	St.Saviour's Primary School, Crisp Street	additional polling station, space available
EIL2	East India & Lansbury	1184	Bygrove Primary School, Bygrove Street	no change
EIL3	East India & Lansbury	1627	Brownfield Senior Citizens Club, 96 Burcham Street	additional polling station if space allows
EIL4	East India & Lansbury	1087	Culloden Primary School, Dee Street	no change
EIL4	East India & Lansbury	1017	Culloden Primary School, Dee Street	no change
EIL5	East India & Lansbury	1647	Teviot Centre, Wyvis Street	additional polling station
LI1	Limehouse	1552	Stepney Greencoat Primary School, Norbiton Road	additional polling station
LI2	Limehouse	1676	Hind Grove Community Centre, 18 Stainsby Road	) additional polling station if space allows
LI2	Limehouse	1456	Hind Grove Community Centre, 18 Stainsby Road)
LI3	Limehouse	914	Holy Family School, Wades Place	no change
LI3	Limehouse	860	Holy Family School, Wades Place	no change
LI4	Limehouse	1603	Cyril Jackson Primary School, 51 Three Colts Street	no change
LI4	Limehouse	1520	Cyril Jackson Primary School, 51 Three Colts Street	no change
MEE1	Mile End East	1620	Professional Development Centre, English Street	60 Southern Grove no longer available
MEE2	Mile End East	1106	Wellington Primary School, Wellington Way	no change
MEE2	Mile End East	1053	Wellington Primary School, Wellington Way	no change
MEE3	Mile End East	992	St.Pauls with St. Lukes School, Leopold Street	no change

MEE3	Mile End East	815	St.Pauls with St. Lukes School, Leopold Street	no change
MEE4	Mile End East	1051	Stebon Primary School, Burdett Estate	no change
MEE4	Mile End East	1004	Stebon Primary School, Wallwood St, Burdett Estate	no change
MGT1	Mile End & Globetown	1419	New Bonner Primary School, Hartley Street	) new venue; space available for 2 polling
MGT1	Mile End & Globetown	1400	New Bonner Primary School, Hartley Street	) stations
MGT2	Mile End & Globetown	1686	The Tramshed, Digby Street	additional polling station; anticipated increase in electorate
MGT3	Mile End & Globetown	1347	Harpley Secondary School, Globe Road	no change
MGT3	Mile End & Globetown	1346	Harpley Secondary School, Globe Road	no change
MGT4	Mile End & Globetown	991	Latimer Congregational Hall, Ernest Street	no change
MGT4	Mile End & Globetown	966	Latimer Congregational Hall, Ernest Street	no change
MI1	Millwall	2691	Seven Mills Primary School, Malabar Street	) 2 additional polling stations; space available
MI1	Millwall	2476	Seven Mills Primary School, Malabar Street	) significant increase in electorate anticipated
MI2	Millwall	1221	St.Edmund's RC Primary School, 297 Westferry Road	no change
MI2	Millwall	1326	St.Edmund's RC Primary School, 297 Westferry Road	no change
MI2	Millwall	1077	St.Edmund's RC Primary School, 297 Westferry Road	no change
MI3	Millwall	1492	Harbinger Primary School, Cahir Street	no change
MI3	Millwall	1409	Harbinger Primary School, Cahir Street	no change
SDS1	St Dunstan's & Stepney Grn	1172	Stepney Green Secondary School, Ben Jonson Road	no change
SDS1	St Dunstan's & Stepney Grn	1082	Stepney Green Secondary School, Ben Jonson Road	no change
SDS2	St Dunstan's & Stepney Grn	1960	Cayley Primary School, Aston Street	retain polling places but reallocate some electors to SDS4
SDS2	St Dunstan's & Stepney Grn	1890	Cayley Primary School, Aston Street	as additional polling station cannot be accommodated
SDS3	St Dunstan's & Stepney Grn	1970	Sir John Cass Foundation & Redcoat Secondary School	) additional polling station, if practicable
SDS3	St Dunstan's & Stepney Grn	1749	Sir John Cass Foundation & Redcoat Secondary School)
SDS4	St Dunstan's & Stepney Grn		Halley Street Primary	additional polling district SDS4 as Cayley Primary cannot accommodate extra station; anticipated increase in electorate
SH1	Shadwell	984	Bigland Green Primary School, Bigland Street	no change
SH1	Shadwell	908	Bigland Green Primary School, Bigland Street	no change
SH5	Shadwell	1550	Bluegate Fields Primary School, St David's Lane	moved from Bigland Green Primary School
SH2	Shadwell	1856	St.Mary & St. Michael Church Hall, Lukin Street	) two polling stations; moved from St Mary & St Michael School; revised polling district boundaries

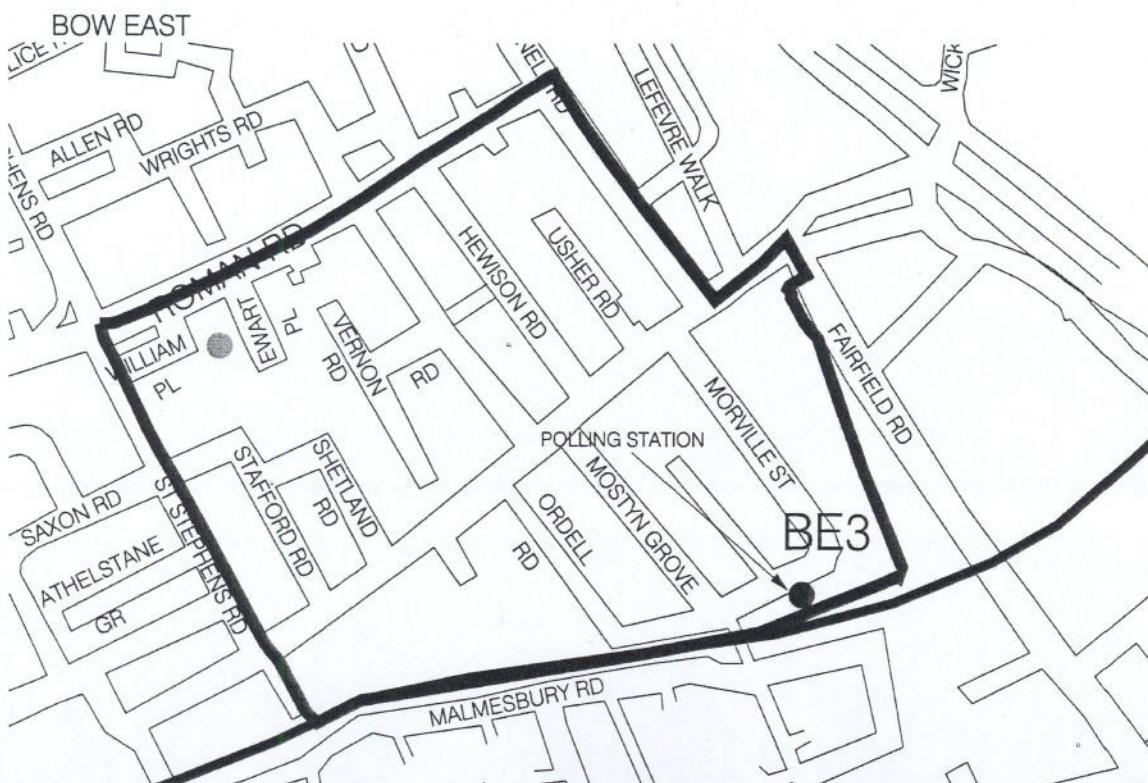
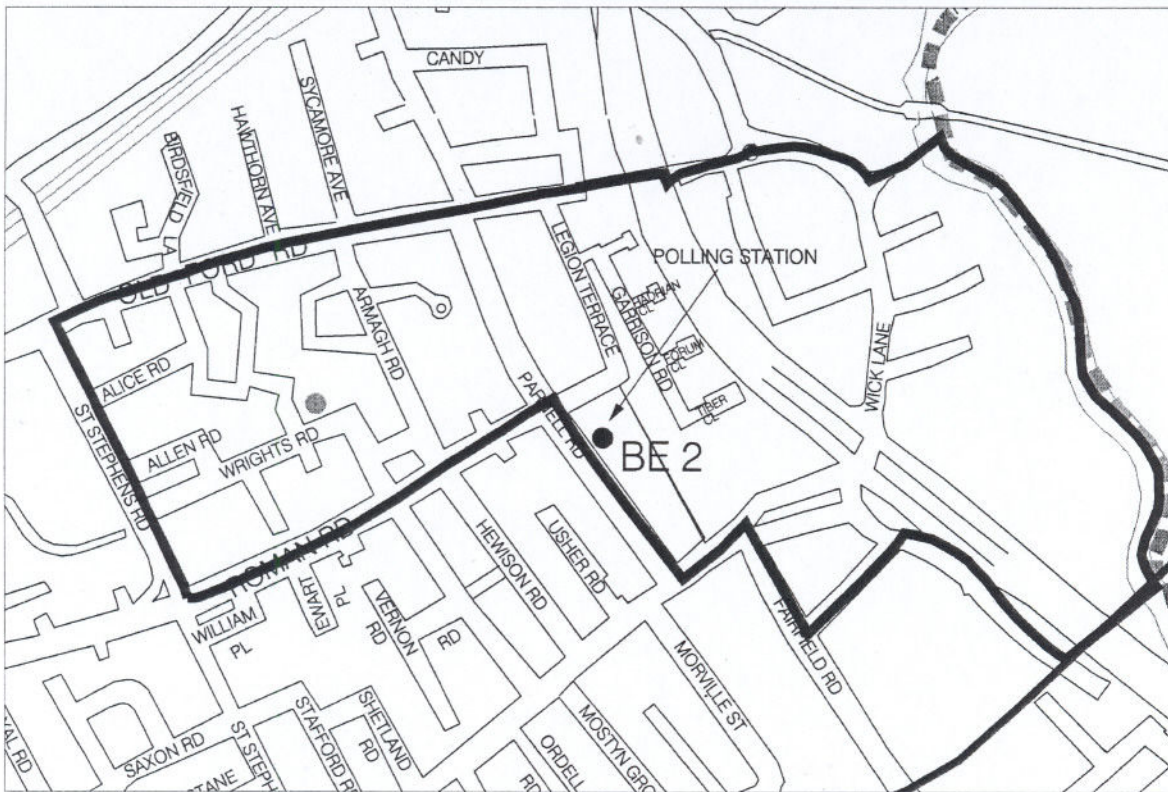
SH3	Shadwell	1602	Glamis Tenants Hall, 414 Cable Street	) revised polling district boundaries
SH4	Shadwell	1871	Portacabin, Royal Foundation of St Katharine's, private access road	) revised polling district boundaries
SH6	Shadwell		Ogilvie Community Hall	) new polling station; revised polling district boundaries
SK1	St Katharine's & Wapping	1131	St. Paul's Primary School, Wellclose Square	no change
SK1	St Katharine's & Wapping	954	St. Paul's Primary School, Wellclose Square	no change
SK2B	St Katharine's & Wapping	1429	St. Peter's Primary School, Garnet Street	no change
SK2B	St Katharine's & Wapping	899	St Peter's Primary School, Garnet Street	no change
SK3	St Katharine's & Wapping	1467	John Orwell Sports Centre, Tench Street	no change
SK3	St Katharine's & Wapping	1437	John Orwell Sports Centre, Tench Street	no change
SK4	St Katharine's & Wapping	1742	Hermitage Primary School, Vaughan Way	additional polling station; space available
SPB1	Spitalfields & Banglatown	979	Christ Church Primary School, 47A Brick Lane	no change
SPB1	Spitalfields & Banglatown	891	Christ Church Primary School, 47A Brick Lane	no change
SPB2	Spitalfields & Banglatown	1383	Osmani Primary School, Vallance Road	no change
SPB2	Spitalfields & Banglatown	892	Osmani Primary School, Vallance Road	no change
SPB3	Spitalfields & Banglatown	1254	Canon Barnett Primary School, Gunthorpe Street	no change
SPB3	Spitalfields & Banglatown	1182	Canon Barnett Primary School, Gunthorpe Street	no change
WE1	Weavers	1221	Columbia Primary School, Columbia Road	no change
WE1	Weavers	1152	Columbia Primary School, Columbia Road	no change
WE2	Weavers	1247	Virginia Primary School, Hocker Street Entrance	no change
WE2	Weavers	1178	Virginia Primary School, Hocker Street Entrance	no change
WE3	Weavers	1824	St Matthias Primary, Bacon Street	) new polling place with additional polling station to cope
WE3	Weavers	1605	St Matthias Primary, Bacon Street	) with increased electorate; replaces William Davis Primary
WH1	Whitechapel	1721	Kobi Nazrul Primary School, Settles Street	additional polling station; space available
WH2	Whitechapel	1719	Tower Hamlets Community Housing, 285 Commercial Road	to replace Cheviot House which will no longer be available
WH3	Whitechapel	2670	Smithy Street Primary	to replace Stepney Library which has closed (2 stations)
WH4	Whitechapel	1515	Harry Gosling Primary School, Fairclough Street	no change
WH4	Whitechapel	1449	Harry Gosling Primary School, Fairclough Street	no change

Blackwall & Cubitt Town revised polling districts & polling places



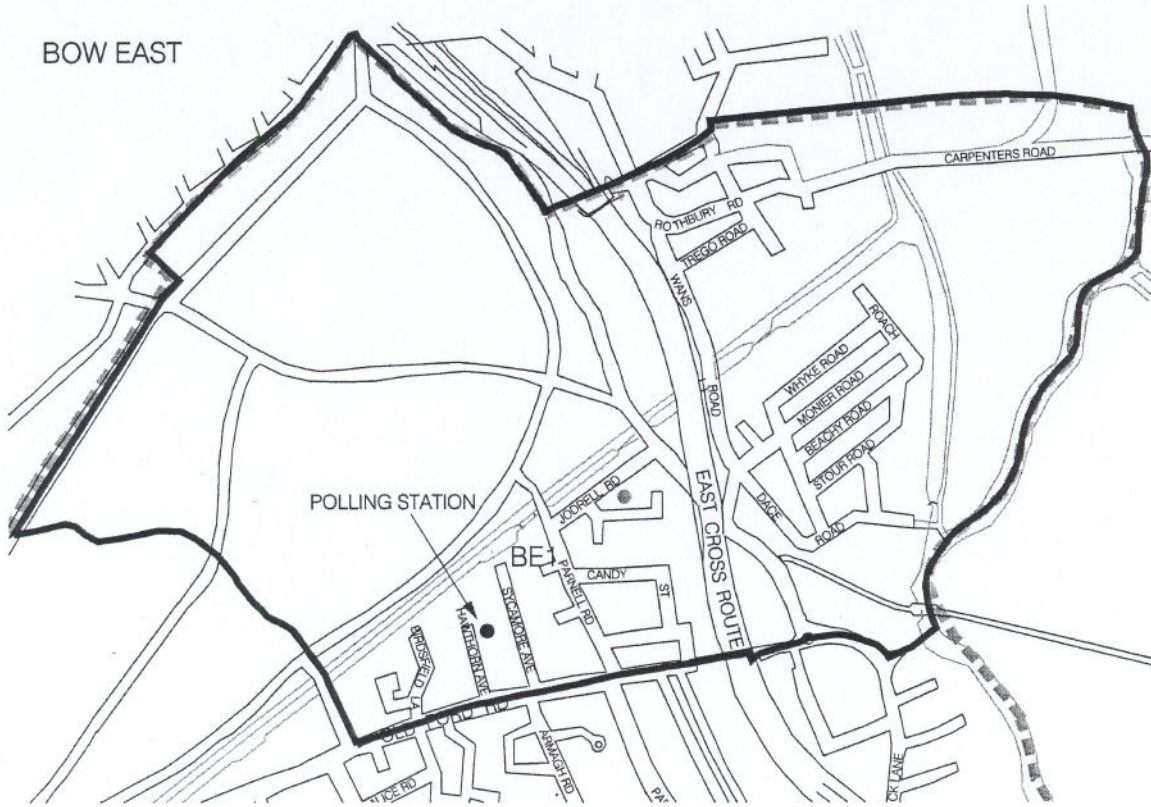
BCT1	Property 2768	Electorate 3218
BCT2	Property 2494	Electorate 4082
BCT3	Property 1880	Electorate 2287
BCT4	Property 1675	Electorate 2518
BCT5	Property 1517	Electorate 1927

Bow East revised polling places



Bow East revised polling places

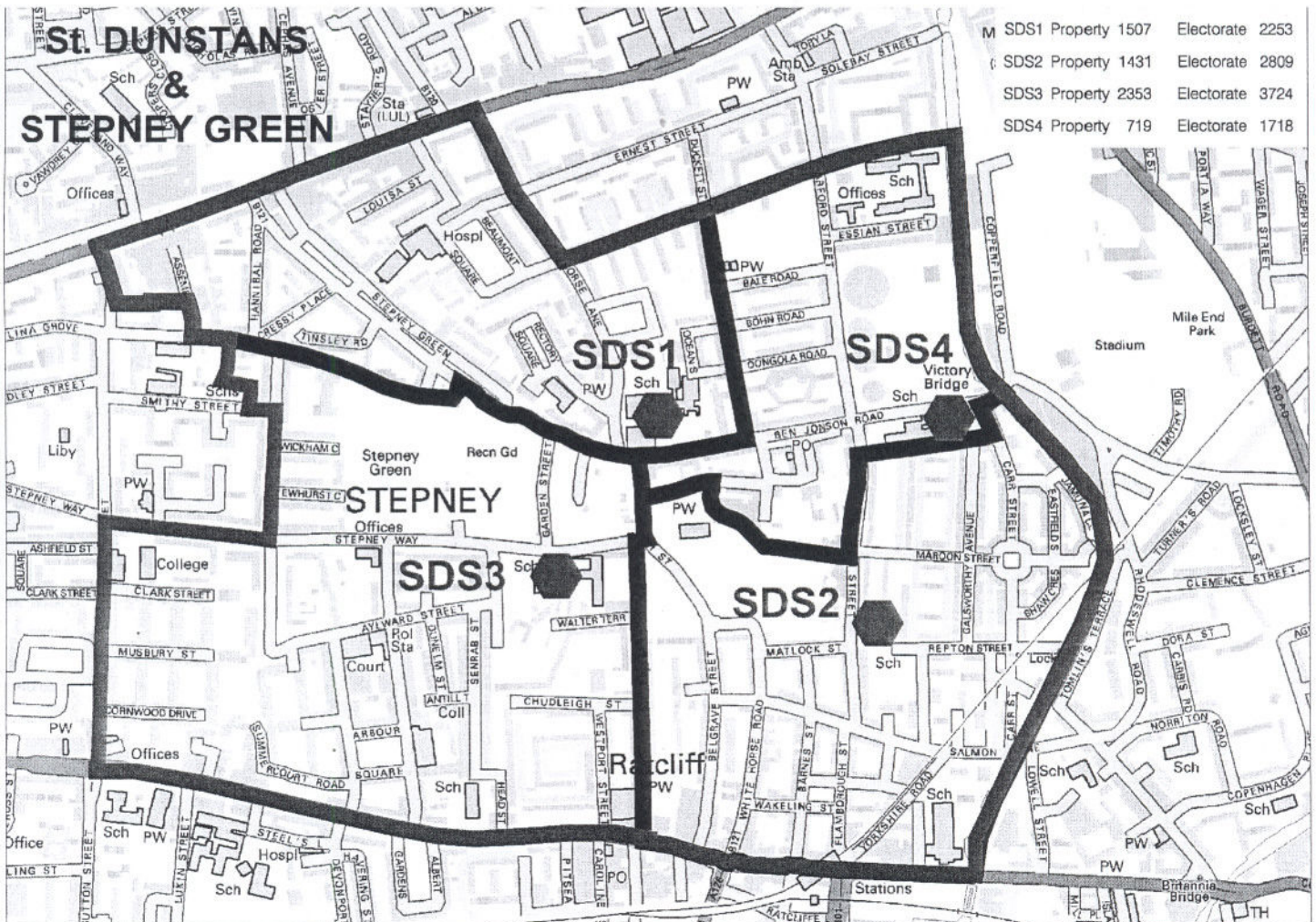
BOW EAST



Mile End East revised polling places

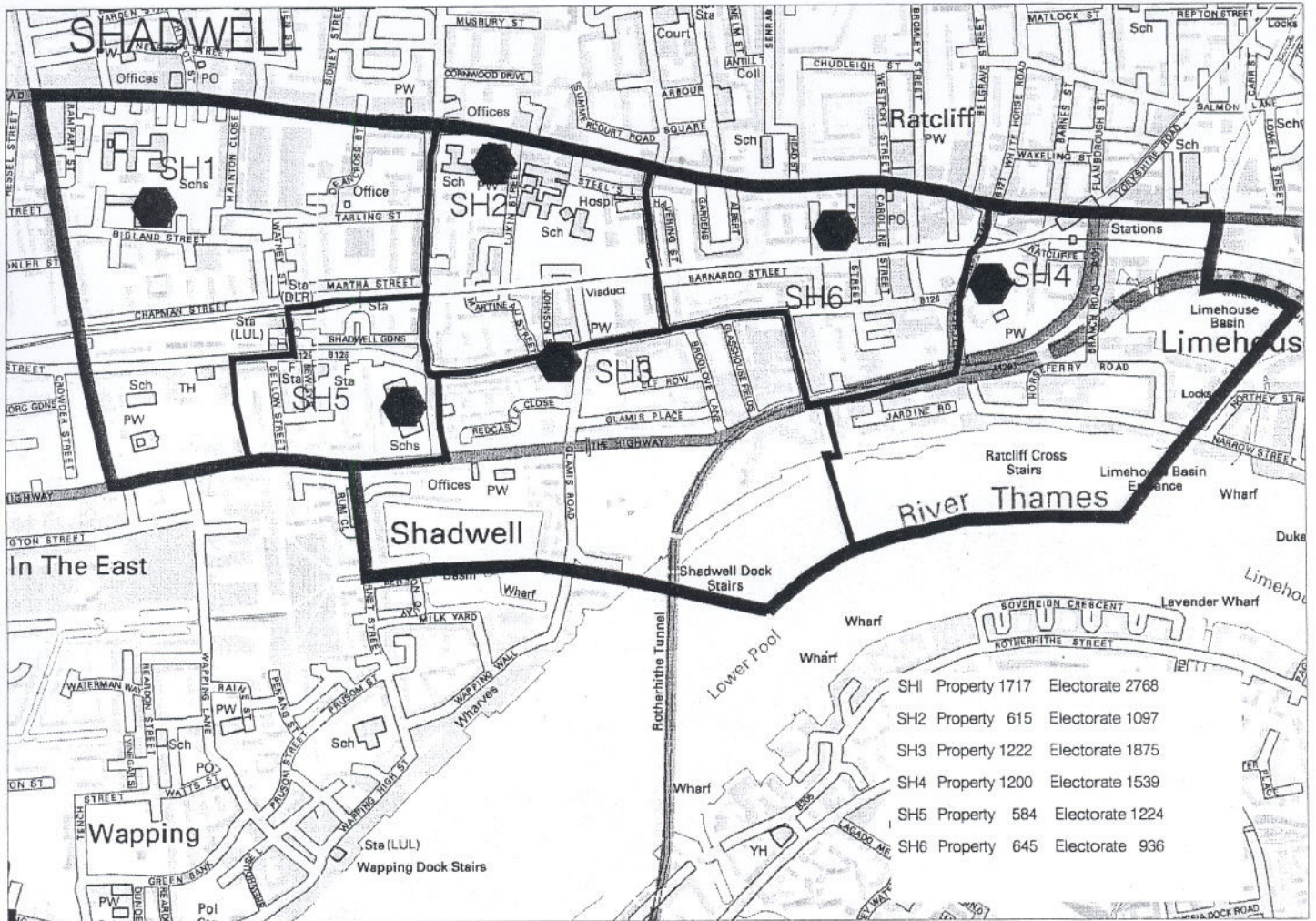


St Dunstan's & Stepney Green revised polling districts & polling places

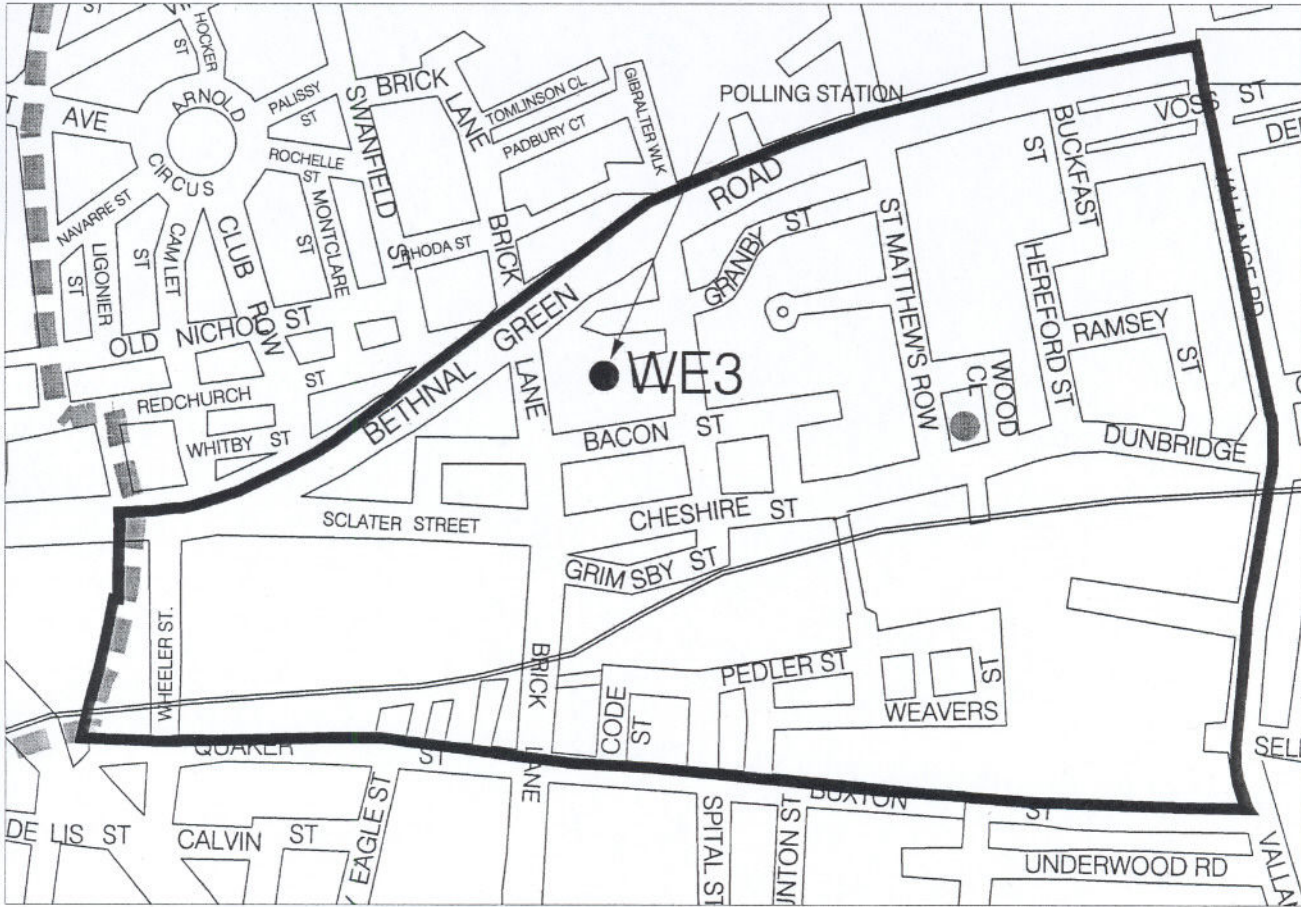


M	SDS1 Property 1507	Electorate 2253
r	SDS2 Property 1431	Electorate 2809
	SDS3 Property 2353	Electorate 3724
	SDS4 Property 719	Electorate 1718

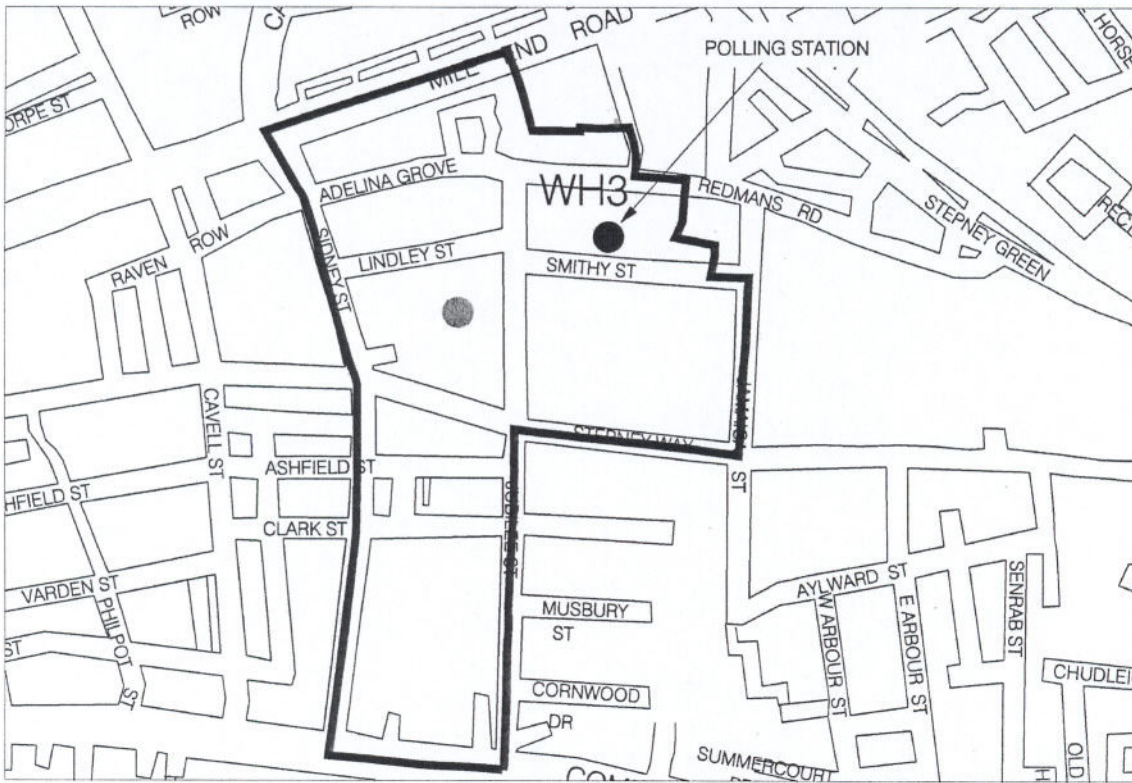
Shadwell revised polling districts & polling places



Weavers revised polling places



Whitechapel revised polling places



Extract from the Representation of the People Act 1983
(as inserted by Section 16 of the Electoral
Administration Act 2006)

SCHEDULE A1 (Section 18C)

REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES

- 1 The relevant authority must publish notice of the holding of a review.
- 2 The authority must consult the returning officer for every parliamentary election held in a constituency which is wholly or partly in its area.
- 3
 - (1) Every such returning officer must make representations to the authority.
 - (2) The representations must include information as to the location of polling stations (existing or proposed) within polling places (existing or proposed).
 - (3) The representations must be published in such manner as is prescribed.
- 4
 - (1) The authority must seek representations from such persons as it thinks have particular expertise in relation to access to premises or facilities for persons who have different forms of disability.
 - (2) Such persons must have an opportunity—
 - (a) to make representations;
 - (b) to comment on the returning officer's representations.
- 5 Any elector in a constituency situated in whole or in part in the authority's area may make representations.
- 6 Representations made by any person in connection with a review of polling places may include proposals for specified alternative polling places.
- 7 On completion of a review the authority must—
 - (a) give reasons for its decisions in the review;
 - (b) publish such other information as is prescribed.

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Agenda Item 4.2

COMMITTEE General Purposes Committee	DATE 15 November 2007	CLASSIFICATION Unrestricted	REPORT NO.	AGENDA NO.
REPORT OF: Assistant Chief Executive	Title: Establishment of Audit Committee			
ORIGINATING OFFICER(S): Interim Service Head Risk Management – Minesh Jani				
		Ward(s) Affected: N/A		

1. Summary

- 1.1. This report seeks agreement to a proposal to alter the composition of the Audit Panel to reflect guidance set out in “Audit Committees – Practical Guidance for Local Authorities” published by CIPFA, by establishing an Audit Committee as part of the Council’s formal committee structure.
- 1.2. This report also recommends a change to the terms of reference for the Pensions and Accounts Committee and to delegate the duty to make proper arrangements for the financial affairs from the Council to the Audit Committee.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. That the General Purposes Committee recommends to the Council to establish an Audit Committee with the terms of reference as set out below: -
 - 1 To consider the Audit Plan and review the performance of Internal Audit against this target;
 - 2 To review internal audit findings and the annual report from the Head of Audit and seek assurance that action has been taken where necessary;
 - 3 To act as a forum for the Audit Commission (external audit) to bring issues to Members’ attention including both specific reports and general item such as the Annual Audit Letter and the Annual Governance Report;
 - 4 To be satisfied that the authority’s assurance statements, including the Annual Governance Statement properly reflect the risk environment and any actions required to improve it;
 - 5 To enable the Council to demonstrate a response to its fiduciary responsibilities in preventing fraud and corruption;

- 6 To consider reports of audit activity together with specific investigations;
 - 7 To monitor the Authority's Risk Management arrangements and seek assurance that action is being taken on risk related issues identified by auditors and inspectorates;
 - 8 To make arrangements for the proper administration of the Council's financial affairs and for the proper stewardship of public funds expect the appointment of the Chief Finance Officer which shall remain the duty of the Council; and
 - 9 To meet the obligations of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 1996 and the various statutory requirements in respect of the duty to approve the Authority's Statement of Accounts, income and expenditure and balance sheet or record of payments and receipts (as the case may be).
- 2.2. To rename the Pensions and Accounts Committee, the Pensions Committee and transfer the second term of reference, that is "To meet the obligations of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 1996 and the various statutory requirements in respect of the duty to approve the Authority's Statement of Accounts, income and expenditure and balance sheet or record of payments and receipts (as the case may be)" to the newly constituted Audit Committee.
- 2.3. That the composition of the Audit Committee be in proportion to the political composition of the Council and comprise 4 majority group members and 3 minority group members, pursuant to the review of the proportionality to be determined at the Council meeting on 28 November 2007.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (AS AMENDED) SECTION 100D
LIST OF "BACKGROUND PAPERS" USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Brief description of "background papers"

Name and telephone number of holder
And address where open to inspection

Minesh Jani, 0207 364 0738

3. Background

- 3.1. The Council made arrangements to operate its business relating to Audit activity by creating an Audit Panel, which is an advisory body outside the Council's formal committee structure. Since its creation however, the Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountant (CIPFA) has produced guidance around the membership and the roles and responsibilities of such bodies in a publication called "Audit Committee – Practical Guidance for Local Authorities". Officers have reviewed the structure of the Audit Panel by comparing current arrangements with the guidance issued by CIPFA. Overall, the review showed that the current structure fulfils the role expected of the Audit Panel. However, the key area for development is the need to demonstrate greater independence of the Panel from the Executive. The recommendations in section 2 seek to deal with this matter and also ensure efficiency of Council business by better aligning any appropriate Council business to this committee, where necessary.
- 3.2. At present, the role of Audit Panel is to provide input to good corporate governance by providing an independent, effective assurance over the adequacy of the financial management and reporting. Specifically, the terms of reference of the Panel are to: -
- Consider the Audit Plan and review the performance of Internal Audit against this target;
 - Act as a forum for the Audit Commission (external audit) to bring issues to Members attention including both specific reports and general item such as the annual audit and inspection letter;
 - Enable the Council to demonstrate a response to its fiduciary responsibilities in preventing fraud and corruption;
 - Arrange proper stewardship of public funds;
 - Consider reports of audit activity together with specific investigations; and
 - Monitor the Authority's Risk Management Arrangements.
- 3.3. The Audit Panel is currently chaired by the Lead Member of Resources and comprises all Members of the Executive (Cabinet Members) plus the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The s151 Officer and the Chief Executive are also members of the Audit Panel.
- 3.4. The functions outlined above have been captured in the terms of reference of the proposed entity with minor changes to reflect any good practice outlined in the guidance from CIPFA and to take account of changes in nomenclature.

4. Proposals

- 4.1. The establishment of an Audit Committee will fulfil financial governance requirements and provide a formal Council committee based on proportional representatives of members comprising 4 members from the majority group and 3 members from the minority groups. The introduction of members from the minority groups will increase the independence of the Audit Committee.
- 4.2. At present, the Council holds the responsibility to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs etc, but it would appropriate to delegate this duty to the Audit Committee save for the appointment of the statutory Chief Finance Officer which should remain a duty of the Council and it is so recommended.
- 4.3. The Audit Committee is also the most appropriate body to receive and approve the council's annual financial statements which at the moment, rests with the Pensions and Accounts Committee. Under the proposals outlined in this paper, the specific requirement for the Pensions and Accounts Committee "To meet the obligations of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 1996 and the various statutory requirements in respect of the duty to approve the Authority's Statement of Accounts, income and expenditure and balance sheet or record of payments and receipts (as the case may be)" would transfer to the Audit Committee and the Pensions and Accounts Committee renamed as the Pensions Committee.

5. Comments of the Chief Financial Officer

- 5.1. The Chief Finance Officer has noted the contents of the report and has no further comments to make.

6. Comments of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal)

- 6.1. Pursuant to the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) the duty to make arrangements for proper administration of financial affairs and the duty to approve the Council's statement of accounts etc are non-executive functions.
- 6.2. Under section 101 Local Government Act 1972 the Council may arrange for the discharge of its functions by a committee and pursuant to Section 15 Local Government and Housing Act 1989 the committee seats should be allocated to the political groups in proportion to the political breakdown of the Council (as far as reasonably practicable).

7. Equal Opportunity Considerations

- 7.1. There are no specific Equal Opportunities issues arising from this report.

8. Anti-Poverty Considerations

8.1. There are no specific anti poverty issues arising from this report.

9. Risk Management Implications

9.1. These are no specific risk management issues arising from this report.

10. Sustainable Action for a Greener Environment (SAGE)

10.1. There are no specific SAGE implications.

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Agenda Item 4.3

Committee: General Purposes	Date: 15 November 2007	Classification: Unrestricted	Report No:	Agenda Item:
Report of: Corporate Director of Development & Renewal Originating officer(s) Matin Miah – Head of Homes & Communities Renewal Programmes		Title: Ocean Regeneration Trust Interim Board Wards Affected: St Dunstan's & Stepney Green, Mile End & Globe Town		

1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 In June 2007 the Cabinet agreed the Ocean New Deal for Communities (NDC) Delivery Plan and the set up of the Ocean Regeneration Trust (ORT) as a special purpose vehicle for delivery of the future regeneration of the Ocean Estate, including the remainder of the NDC programme.
- 1.2 This report sets out the actions needed by the General Purposes Committee to establish an interim board of the ORT.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Committee is recommended to:-

- 2.1 Nominate 2 Council representatives to the interim Board of ORT.

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended) List of "Background Papers" used in the preparation of this report

Brief description of "back ground papers"

Name and telephone number of holder
and address where open to inspection.

Ocean NDC files

Chris Holmes (ext 4987 and Niall McGowan (ext 2538)

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In April 2007 Cabinet agreed in principle to the revised delivery arrangements for the Ocean. The delivery mechanism needed to meet Communities and Local Government Department (CLG) requirements for revised governance arrangements that take forward both the NDC programme and transformational change of the housing estate.
- 3.2 A CLG independent review recommended consideration of a small strategic management group that could take over responsibility of the remaining non-housing NDC programme and provide the NDC input into a housing regeneration programme.
- 3.3 In June 2007 Cabinet agreed the details of the proposed ORT delivery arrangements and the outline of the governance structure. ORT will have a board comprised of 3 residents, 2 council representatives, 2 RSL/developer representatives and 5 specialist independent members. There will also be a number of sub-boards and fora to allow wider community participation and specialist input.
- 3.3 ORT will be an asset management vehicle, which will have the potential to make a significant future contribution to the wider area for the benefit of the local community. It will take on ownership and management of both the housing regeneration and the community facilities developed and funded by the NDC as part of the housing redevelopment programme.

4. ACTION TAKEN

- 4.1 Since the Cabinet approval CLG have written to the Council agreeing the revised governance structure. In June 2007, Ocean NDC Board agreed to disband itself at the instruction of CLG to allow the establishment of the ORT.
- 4.2 Memorandum and Articles of Association for ORT have been drafted in accordance with CLG guidance and legal/tax advice. ORT has been registered and is to be a Community Interest Company (CIC) which is acceptable to CLG and fit for purpose.
- 4.3 Recruitment to the interim ORT board is progressing as planned. In conjunction with CLG a high profile interim independent (non voting) chair has been appointed (for a limited period only) to oversee the setting up of ORT. Once fully established, it is anticipated that the ORT will select a chair from among its voting members. An extensive community engagement/advertising campaign is underway on the estate and nationally to recruit the 3 resident and 5 independent specialist members of the interim board. Closing date for applications is 19 November with assessments/interviews scheduled for first week in December.

- 4.4 The 2 Council nominations are now required in order to set up the appointment panel for the resident and independent specialist members so that the interim board can be operational by the end of the calendar year. The full board will be established when the RSL/development partner has been appointed and nominates two representatives on the ORT board. This is likely to be December 2008, subject to the outcome of the competitive dialogue procurement process.

5. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

- 5.1 The costs of ORT will be covered by NDC funding in the short term, as this is the successor management vehicle, and will be covered in the longer term by the income derived from the investment programme for which development partners are currently being sought via competitive tender.

6. CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (LEGAL)

- 6.1 The terms of reference of the committee empower it to appoint to bodies on which the Council has representation yet outside the Council's formal committee structure. The ORT is such a body and the committee may appoint the Council's representatives to the interim board.

7. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The advertising was widely targeted to maximise participation. A commitment to equalities forms an essential part of the selection criteria.

8. ANTI-POVERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 None directly arising as a result of this report

9. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

- 9.1 None specifically arising as a result of this report

10. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The timely appointment of interim board members is essential for meeting the requirements of CLG and any delay or difficulties in recruitment could impact on this.

