

Committee: General Purposes Committee	Date: 25 th April 2007	Classification: Unrestricted	Report No:	Agenda Item No:
Report of Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services)		Title: Electoral Matters – Update		
Originating Officer: Tim Revell Interim Electoral Services Manager		Ward(s) Affected: All		

Summary

1. This report updates members of the Committee on electoral issues.

Recommendations

2. That the Committee note the information in the report which will subsequently be circulated to all members using the Members' Bulletin.

Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries Review

3. In its fifth periodical report submitted on 1st November 2006 the Boundary Commission for England (BCE) proposed that there should be two parliamentary constituencies wholly within Tower Hamlets' boundary. These are:

BETHNAL GREEN AND BOW BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY Nine wards:- Bethnal Green North, Bethnal Green South, Bow East, Bow West, Mile End and Globe Town, St Dunstan's and Stepney Green, Spitalfields and Banglatown, Weavers, Whitechapel.

POPLAR AND LIMEHOUSE BOROUGH CONSTITUENCY Eight wards:- Blackwall and Cubitt Town, Bromley-by-Bow, East India and Lansbury, Limehouse, Mile End East, Millwall, St Katherine's and Wapping, Shadwell.

A map of the proposed constituencies is at appendix A.

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
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None

4. On 28th February 2007 the Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs laid the report before both Houses of Parliament together with a draft Order in Council giving effect, without modification, to the recommendations in the report. The draft order has now been approved by the House of Commons and is waiting to be scheduled in the House of Lords. It is anticipated that the Order in Council will be approved by the late April/early May.
5. On approval of the Order the new constituencies will take effect at the next following general election. Any by-elections that may be held before the next general election will be held on the old (existing) constituencies.

Comments of Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services)

6. There are no specific legal implications in this report.

Comments of Chief Financial Officer

7. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Equal Opportunities Implications

8. There are no equal opportunities implications arising from this report.

Anti Poverty Implications

9. There are no implications in this report.

Sustainable Action for a Greener Environment

10. There are no implications in this report.