

Subject:	Hollingbury & Stanmer Ward – Change of Name		
Date of Meeting:	18 November 2008		
Further Meeting:	Special Council 4 December 2008		
Report of:	Chief Executive		
Contact Officer:	Name: Colin Burt	Tel: 291997	
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Wards Affected:	Hollingbury & Stanmer		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The committee is being asked to support a change of name for the Hollingbury & Stanmer Ward – to Hollingdean & Stanmer Ward – and to recommend that full council pass the required resolution to bring the new name into effect
- 1.2 The proposal to change the name of the ward emerged from the recent review of polling arrangements in the city.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

- 2.1 That this Committee:
 - (i) Supports the change of electoral area name from ‘Hollingbury & Stanmer Ward’ to ‘Hollingdean & Stanmer Ward’; and
 - (ii) Refers the matter to Full Council for approval by way of a resolution in accordance with Section 59 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007,

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 During the recent review of polling arrangements in the city, a number of representations were received, from councillors and others, requesting that the name of Hollingbury & Stanmer Ward should be changed to “Hollingdean & Stanmer”, or at least that the word “Hollingbury” be removed.
- 3.2 Neither of the areas known as Hollingbury and Hollingdean are specifically defined anywhere and parts of what is known as Hollingbury, such as the Hollingbury Golf Course, are certainly included within the Hollingbury & Stanmer

Ward. In addition, a number of roads to the east of Ditchling Road do contain the word "Hollingbury" in their names. However, the residential area generally known as Hollingbury falls entirely within the Patcham Ward and a good deal of confusion is caused currently when electors living there contact councillors for Hollingbury & Stanmer Ward instead of those for Patcham Ward who represent them.

- 3.3 Until quite recently a change of ward name like this would have been a matter for the Boundary Commission. However, Section 59 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 ('the Act') gives a local authority the power to change the name of any of the authority's electoral areas, by resolution.
- 3.4 Such a resolution must be passed at a meeting specially convened for the purpose of deciding the resolution, with notice of the object; and by a majority of at least two thirds of the members voting on it.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Section 59(3) of the Act prohibits a local authority from passing a resolution for a change of name of electoral area unless it has taken reasonable steps to consult such persons as it considers appropriate on the proposed name. Patcham and Hollingbury & Stanmer Ward Councillors, the city's three Members of Parliament, the Older People's Council and the council's main political groups have all been consulted on this proposal. All those who have replied have fully supported the proposed change of name.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications

- 5.1 There will be some costs associated with Member and Officer time involved in changing the ward name. However, the recommendation is being made following a review of polling arrangements and consultation. The process that has to be gone through is that prescribed by Section 59 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. There are no other direct financial implications of the recommendations in this report.

Finance Officer Consulted: Stuart Taylor

Date: 17 October 2008

Legal Implications

- 5.2 The legal powers to change the name of an electoral area are set out in the body of the report.

Lawyer Consulted: Oliver Dixon

Date: 17 October 2008

Equalities Implications

- 5.3 As this is just a change of name, which does not impact directly on any individual, an Equalities Impact Assessment has not been carried out.

Sustainability Implications

5.4 There are no implications.

Crime & Disorder Implications

5.5 There are no implications.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications

5.6 There are no implications.

Corporate / Citywide Implications

5.7 The recommendations are in line with council priorities, specifically for open and effective city leadership.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

None

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

