

ELECTORAL REGISTRATION PROCESS REVIEW WORKING PARTY

Minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2016 at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent.

Present: Councillor Ken Gregory (Chairman); Councillors Campbell, Connor, Dawson, Falcon, Grove and Jaye-Jones

63. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor Campbell proposed, Councillor Connor seconded and Members agreed that Councillor K. Gregory be the Chairman of the Electoral Registration Process Review Working Party.

Councillor Gregory in the chair.

64. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Ashbee.

65. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations received at the meeting.

66. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Councillor Campbell proposed, Councillor seconded and Members agreed the minutes of the previous Electoral Registration Process Review Task & Finish Group to be a correct record of the meeting that was held on 11 April 2016.

67. AGREE THE WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE ELECTORAL REGISTRATION PROCESS REVIEW WORKING PARTY FOR 2016/17

Members requested for an item on 'current process for increasing voter awareness, registration and participation in the electoral process' to be added to the agenda and a report be produced by officer for the next meeting of the working party. In response, Tim Howes, Director of Corporate Governance said that officers were going to produce a position statement on the current practice as requested by Members.

One Member shared a resident's concern that the language used on the ballot paper ought to be simpler to help create better understanding of the instructions. However Members were advised that the wording was prescribed by law and is based on plain English and was checked by the Electoral Commission.

The sub-group further requested for an update on current voter registration statistics for the district by ward. Member also agreed the terms of reference.

Meeting concluded: 7.15 pm