

Electoral Matters Committee

Dear Member,

You are invited to attend the meeting of the Electoral Matters Committee to be held as follows for the transaction of the business indicated.

David Wilcock
Monitoring Officer

DATE: Wednesday, 17 November 2021

TIME: 2.00 pm

VENUE: Microsoft Teams Meeting

AGENDA

- 1 **Apologies for Absence**
- 2 **Declarations of Interest**
- 3 **To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2021.** (Pages 1 - 2)
- 4 **Matters Arising**
- 5 **Canvass 2021 verbal update.**
- 6 **Feedback on the 4 November Blackfriars & Trinity by-election**
- 7 **Any Other Business**
- 8 **Date and Time of the next meeting - Wednesday 19 January 2022 at 1.30pm**

Contact Officer:
Sara Bennett, Head of Elections

Tel No: 0161 793 3626
E-Mail: elections@salford.gov.uk

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Electoral Matters – 15 September 2021

In attendance:

Sara Bennett
Tom Stannard
Elliot Hogan
Cllr Mullen
Cllr Lancaster
Cllr Saunders
Cllr Shama
Cllr Cusack
Cllr Dickman
Cllr Kelly

Apologies: *As Sara's list*

Declarations of interest: Nothing to declare

Voter ID:

S ran through report notes and explained where this is currently at

Cllr Mullen – asked what consultation Salford has been part of for this?

S & Tom confirmed that it is a government bill, no formal consultation.

Cllr Mullen - LGA & Solace and others raised issue of no consultation.

Cllr Lancaster – can our representatives on the LGA raise this?

Cllr Saunders – Reserve judgement, cannot commit to a view

Cllr Lancaster – Not looking for a view now, but needs discussion

Cllr Cusack – Reservations about this. Only 1 example of personation since 2019.

Already a bill. Hasn't been enacted yet.

Have we had any pilot schemes?

S – Can report on any pilots at next meeting

Can consult with MPs and report back

Tom – Included link to Solace response: https://solace.org.uk/news_and_press/solace-statement-on-the-elections-bill/

S continued to run through report notes

Cllr Dickman – Does it mention putting anything in place on the day. How quickly could this be given to them?

S – Waiting for more information from the commission, but we will be making sure we do what we can such as an advertising campaign.

Cllr Lancaster – write to MPs and see why no consultation.

Cllr Dickman – confirming Rebecca Long Bailey has been vocal against this.

Election 2021 issues

S informed all that we have not had a great response from members regarding any issues or feedback, going to send out reminder.

Confirmed looking into polling stations issues that have been raised and marquee issue.

ClIr Lancaster – On the Saturday no seating as all space needed to be used.

S – won't have this issue at the next election, but noted

Tom – feedback, have had positive from partners at electoral commission and GM.

ClIr Mullen – apologies for not submitting feedback. Raise issue of BW3 – The friars Primary was too far away for those people

ClIr Kelly – Apologies also, no polling station around Alexandra road, had to cross road. (St Michaels Church and Peel Green roundabout)

ClIr Dickman – New Bellway estate. Estate Agents too far.

Canvass update

Elliot – Canvass update, starting on door knock 4 Oct.

Progressing well and less properties outstanding than previous years.

AOB

ClIr Saunders – going back to voter id, helps electors' confidence is the government stance

Tom – Have published casual vacancy notice for Blackfriars

ClIr Lancaster – Flats above shops (*apologies I didn't catch where - Elliot*), possible low response to canvass due to postal issues.

S – Can focus a write out

ClIr Lanc – HMOs, how are they being dealt with

S – treated as usual

Elliot – confirmed we are working with licensing to try and identify HMOs

ClIr Lancaster – Housing companies still helping register?

S – Yes, still ongoing

ClIr Saunders – Next meeting can we leave extra time for people to leave council meeting and get back for this?

ClIr Lancaster – can monitor the situation of venues or time frame.

Meeting Adjourned