

DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES WORKING GROUP

12 DECEMBER 2016

Commenced: 4.00pm

Terminated: 4.30pm

Present: Councillors Cooney (In the Chair), Fairfoull, J. Fitzpatrick, K. Quinn, Taylor, Ward and Warrington

Apologies: Councillor P. Buckley

18. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

AGREED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2016 be accepted as a correct record.

19. UPDATE ON ANNUAL CANVASS

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director (Governance, Resources and Pensions), which provided an update on the outcome of the Annual Canvass. Members were reminded that 2016 Annual Canvass of electors had been completed on 30 November 2016, with the new register of electors published on 1 December 2016. It was explained that the overall response rate had been 94.6%. The report stated that the local government electorate had risen to 170,191 and the parliamentary electorate had risen to 167,546

AGREED:

That the update be noted;

20. 2017 GM MAYORAL ELECTION

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director (Governance, Resources and Pensions), which updated members on preparations for the 2017 Greater Manchester Mayoral Election, which was scheduled to take place on 4 May 2017. The report explained that the election would be conducted across the whole of Greater Manchester under the direction of a Combined Authority Returning Officer with the administration in each borough being undertaken by a Local Returning Officer. Voting would be undertaken using the Supplementary Vote (SV) system whereby electors could vote for a first and second preference, with second preferences being included if no candidate gets more than 50% of first preference.

The report set out the assumption on which preparation for the election would be based and provided details of the areas that were likely to be subject to direction. Members considered likely arrangements for

- Ballot Papers
- Poll Cards
- Postal Packs
- Polling Station Staffing Levels
- Royal Mail Sweeps
- Arrangements for Verification and Count

AGREED:

- (i) That the update be noted;
- (ii) That the options of conducting the local verification by ward be pursued.

21. ELECTORAL COMMISSION BULLETINS

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director (Governance, Resources and Pensions) that provided Members with recent copies of the Electoral Commission news bulletin which set out current issues affecting the democratic framework for local government.

AGREED:

That the updates be noted.

CHAIR