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| Subject: | Patcham Ward and Stanford Ward – Change of Name | | |
| Date of Meeting: | 22 September 2009 | | |
| Report of: | Chief Executive | | |
| Contact Officer: | Name: | Paul Holloway | Tel: 29-2005 |
| | E-mail: | paul.holloway@brighton-hove.gov.uk | |
| Wards Affected: | Patcham Ward and Stanford Ward | | |

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The Governance Committee is being asked to support a consultation exercise for changing the name of two council wards:
 - (i) the current Patcham Ward to become Patcham and Hollingbury Ward.
 - (ii) the current Stanford Ward to become Hove Park Ward
- 1.2 The proposal to change the name of the current Patcham Ward arose following the change of name in the Hollingdean and Stanmer Ward in November 2008.
- 1.3 The proposal to change the name of the current Stanford Ward arose when a petition signed by 21 residents was presented to Council on 4 December 2008.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Governance Committee agrees the consultation exercise regarding the proposed electoral area name changes to the current Patcham and Stanford wards.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION / CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 In November 2008 the Council approved the change of name for Hollingbury and Stanmer, to Hollingdean and Stanmer Ward. The loss of reference to Hollingbury resulted in local residents raising the need to continue to recognise Hollingbury as a district.
- 3.2 It is therefore proposed to put forward a change of Ward name as Patcham and Hollingbury, for consultation. This change should accurately reflect there is no significant change to the current Patcham Ward, and also recognises Patcham forms the greater part of the geographical area of the ward

- 3.3 The proposal to re-name Stanford Ward to Hove Park Ward was put forward in a petition signed by 21 residents, to Council on 4 December 2008.
- 3.4 Any resolution to agree the proposed ward name changes must be passed at a specially convened meeting, where two thirds of members voting need to support the proposal

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 By law, a local authority may not pass a resolution to change the name of a ward unless it has taken reasonable steps to consult with such persons as it considers appropriate on the proposed new name(s).
- 4.2 Patcham and Stanford ward councillors, the council's main political groups, local community groups and organisations within the wards, together with the affected electorate, will be consulted on these proposals.
- 4.3 The timetable for consulting with all of the above will commence on Monday 28 September 2009. The period of consultation will last for 4 weeks, ending on Sunday 25 October 2009
- 4.4 At the conclusion of the consultation process a report will go to the Governance Committee on 17 November 2009 detailing responses and making a relevant recommendation.
- 4.5 If the Governance Committee accepts the recommendation, Members will be asked to make a decision on the ward name changes at a specially convened meeting of Full Council on 10 December 2009.
- 4.6 The Council's Leaders Group fully support the proposed consultation exercise. The relevant ward councillors have been briefed on the proposed consultation process.
- 4.7 The Council is at this stage in a neutral position, and neither supports or opposes the proposed changes. It is simply proposing to ask the affected electorate to indicate their support or opposition to the proposals.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications

- 5.1 Cost for carrying out the consultation will be £2,000. Should the result of the consultation be in favour of a name change then the advertising costs for the public notice will be in the region of £2,000 and will be included in within the Targeted Budget Management forecast . All electronic changes will be carried out within the existing resources

Finance Officer Consulted: Alasdair Ridley

Date: 26/08/09

Legal Implications

- 5.2 The legal powers to change the name of an electoral area, and the statutory procedure for doing so are provided for under section 59 of the Local Government and Public Involvement Act 2007.

Lawyer Consulted: Oliver Dixon Date: 27 August 2009

Equalities Implications

- 5.5 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

- 5.6 There are no implications.

Crime & Disorder Implications

- 5.7 There are no implications.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications

- 5.8 There are no implications.

Corporate / Citywide Implications

- 5.9 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

