

**POLICY FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE****26 JANUARY 2011****REPORT OF HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS****EXEMPTION FROM CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES****1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To request permission for printing of election stationery for Borough, Parish Council Elections and the Referendum planned for May 2011 without adhering to Contract Procedure Rules.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 **That exemption from the Contract Procedure Rules for printing of election and referendum stationery be approved to enable use of Print UK.**

**3.0 KEY ISSUES**

- 3.1 Borough and Parish elections and a referendum are planned for May 2011.
- 3.2 There are a limited number of printers available to undertake this type of work and due to previous printing problems it is necessary to ensure the stationery is printed correctly, efficiently and timely.
- 3.3 The accuracy and reliability of the printer is paramount as the consequences of mistakes may result in a breach of legislation and a possible election petition which would be time consuming and costly to the Council.
- 3.4 Due to the limited number of printers able to undertake this work to the required standard it is necessary to book the printer as soon as possible as any delay could have implications to the timescales and we must adhere strictly to the election timetable.
- 3.5 Print UK are tried and tested in elections in the past. They were used by this Council in the General Election in 2010 and the Electoral Register printing. They have proved to be extremely reliable and accurate.

Harborough DC also use these printers due to their reliability and accuracy.

**4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 No direct policy and corporate implications

**5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 It is recognised that it may be cheaper on the face of it to commission the work from another printer but if that printer is untested and mistakes then happen then the overall cost to the Council could far outweigh any initial savings.

**6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS**

- 6.1 There is case law (Warrington Case) that supports ensuring that the printer is reliable.
- 6.2 Mistakes with the printing could lead to a breach in legislation and possible election petition(s).

**7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY**

7.1 No direct implications

**8.0 EQUALITIES**

8.1 An EIA has been completed.

**10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE**

10.1 No direct implications.

**11.0 CONSULTATION**

11.1 No consultation has taken place.

**12.0 WARDS AFFECTED**

12.1 ALL

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Date:                      30 November 2010

Appendices :            None

Background Papers:

Reference :              X : Committees\PFA\2010-11\260111\Item 6 Exemption of CPR for Elections