

Report to the Cabinet

Report reference: C/107/2006-07.
Date of meeting: 5 February 2007.



Portfolio: Leader of Council.

Subject: Grange Hill Bye Election - 14 December 2006.

Officer contact for further information: Ian Willett (01992 - 564243).

Democratic Services Officer: Gary Woodhall (01992 – 564470).

Recommendations:

(1) That, for costs incurred in respect of the District Council bye election for the Grange Hill Ward held on 14 December 2006, a revenue DDF supplementary estimate in the sum of £4,000 be recommended to the Council for approval.

Report:

1. A bye election was held on 14 December 2006 for the Grange Hill Ward. This followed the resignation of one of the Ward Members and a request by the appropriate number of local government electors for a bye election to be held.
2. A report was submitted to the Cabinet meeting on 9 October 2006 indicating that for 2006/7, in view of other pressures on the election budget, there was no provision available were a bye election to be called. At that time, the estimated cost of such an election was reported as £2,500. However, the costings have now been collated and the figure involved is £4,000.
3. There is no current provision in the budget for this expenditure and a supplementary estimate is therefore requested.

Statement in Support of Recommended Action:

4. It was a statutory requirement that the bye election be held once the request from the electors had been made and the Council therefore has no alternative but to approve the necessary expenditure.

Other Options Considered and Rejected:

5. None.

Consultation Undertaken:

6. The usual consultation arrangements with candidates, election agents and with the Police took place in connection with the bye election.

Resource Implications:

Budget Provision: Nil.

Personnel: Within existing resources.

Land: N/A.

Community Plan/BVPP reference: Nil.

Relevant statutory powers: Representation of the People Acts.

Background papers: Resignation letter of Councillor G Stollar. Letter requesting bye election.

Environmental/Human Rights Act/Crime and Disorder Act Implications: Election processes require that Human Rights considerations be taken into account and Crime and Disorder matters were discussed with the Police as part of the normal security arrangements.

Key Decision Reference (if required): Nil.