

Report to the Cabinet

Report reference: C/038/2007-08.

Date of meeting: 3 September 2007.



**Epping Forest
District Council**

Portfolio: Leader of the Council.

Subject: Loughton Alderton Bye-Election - 30 August 2007.

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

Democratic Services Officer: Gary Woodhall (01992 564470).

Recommendation:

That, in respect of costs incurred on the District Council bye-election for the Alderton Ward held on 30 August 2007, a revenue DDF supplementary estimate in a sum to be reported at this meeting be recommended to the Council for approval.

Report:

1. A bye-election was held on 30 August 2007 for the Loughton Alderton 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. There is no provision available in the budget for this bye-election. The costings are now being collated and the figure involved will be reported to this meeting or if necessary at the next Council meeting.
3. A supplementary estimate is therefore requested, which must be approved by the Council, dependent on the sum involved.

Statement in Support of Recommended Action:

4. It was a statutory requirement that the bye-election be held once the request from two electors had been made. The Returning Officer therefore had no alternative but to incur 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 T Farr. 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.