

BRECKLAND COUNCIL

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMISSION – 9 AUGUST 2007

REPORT OF THE ELECTIONS REVIEW TASK AND FINISH GROUP **(Author: Mark Broughton, Scrutiny Officer)**

INTERIM REPORT INTO THE DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Summary

This is the interim report of the Commission's Working Group which has taken evidence in relation to the district council elections on 3 May and focuses in particular on the events surrounding the counting of votes.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 At its meeting on 24 May the Commission agreed to set up a small member-led working group to consider the issues surrounding the district council elections on 3 May. An evidence-based review would be undertaken to examine, firstly, the votes counting issue – with particular emphasis on the e-counting pilot – and secondly, other pertinent factors concerning the election.

1.2 After holding several meetings and having invited initial written submissions from all interested parties, the Working Group have issued this interim report, detailing the vote counting arrangements.

2. KEY DECISION

This is not a key decision.

3. COUNCIL PRIORITIES

The matters raised in this report fall within the following Council priorities:

- A well planned place to live which encourages vibrant communities

4. INTERIM REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP

4.1 The interim report of the Working Group is attached at Appendix 1. It is envisaged that further meeting(s) of the Working Group will convene to further consider issues surrounding polling stations and training of polling staff etc, as pertaining to the 3 May elections, with a final report coming forward to the Commission in due course.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the report be noted.