
Report to Council

Date of Meeting: 21 March 2024

Subject: Polling Districts and Polling Places Review – Next Stage

Report by: Chief Executive

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to present the proposals for the next stage in the Polling Districts and Polling Places Review.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that Council approves:

- 2.1.1 Delegation of authority to the Chief Executive (following consultation with all Councillors in the affected Ward) to approve any changes to the scheme which become necessary before the next formal review. The next formal review will take place during the period October 2028 and January 2030.

2.2 It is recommended that Council notes:

- 2.2.1 Progress with the consultation process to date and that a further report will be presented for approval following completion of phase 2 of the consultation (paragraph 3.4)

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1 The Representation of the People Act 1983 places a statutory duty on Local Authorities to carry out periodic reviews of UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling places.
- 3.2 The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 introduced a change to the timing of the reviews. The next compulsory review therefore must take place during the period 1 October 2023 and 31 January 2025.
- 3.3 Council agreed on the 14 September 2023 the timetable and stages for public consultation. The initial consultation invited comments on the current polling arrangements and was open for a period of 8 weeks. It is now complete and the results published. A summary of the results is provided in Appendix 1.

3.4 The next stage is to consult on the proposals contained in Appendix 2. This consultation period will run between 28 March 2024 and 26 April 2024 and the results will inform the final recommendations that will be presented to Council for approval.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

4.1 There are no direct sustainability implications from this proposal.

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1 Financial Details

5.2 The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate. Yes

5.3 Finance have been consulted and have agreed the financial implications as set out in the report. Yes

5.4 Staffing

6.0 Exempt Reports

6.1 Is this report exempt? Yes (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No

7.0 Declarations

7.1 The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities** (Please double click on the check box)

Clackmannanshire will be attractive to businesses & people and ensure fair opportunities for all

Our families; children and young people will have the best possible start in life

Women and girls will be confident and aspirational, and achieve their full potential

Our communities will be resilient and empowered so that they can thrive and flourish

(2) **Council Policies** (Please detail) N/A

8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?
 Yes No

9.0 Legality

9.1 It has been confirmed that in adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes

10.0 Appendices

10.1 There are 2 appendices attached to the report:

Appendix 1 - Consultation Results

Appendix 2 - Proposals for Polling Districts and Polling Places.


11.0 Background Papers

11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)
 Yes (please list the documents below) No

Author(s)

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Approved by

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
Nikki Bridle	Chief Executive	

Consultation Results

The Consultation

The public consultation period ran between 1 October and 1 December 2023. It was important to raise awareness of the consultation with all key stakeholders that may have an interest in responding. To achieve this, the details of the review were published on Clacksweb and an on-line survey was published. Details were circulated to relevant stakeholders and interested parties. A press release and the council's social media were also used to raise awareness of the consultation.

Those contacted included elected members, community councils, residents and Tenants groups, Disability Equality Scotland and third sector groups through CTSI. In addition, contacts for the premises that we currently use were also provided with the information.

Submissions

Sixty six submissions were received including the Returning Officer's. A summary of the responses received is attached to this appendix.

The majority of the buildings currently used were deemed suitable as a polling place. Those where concerns were raised are addressed below.

- **Alloa Baptist Church Hall**
The concerns raised by the Returning Officer's representative are mainly around the disabled entrance which is to the rear of the building and the narrow pathway that leads to it. This does not provide safe access especially when wet and/or dark. It is suggested that AC477 is moved permanently to Alloa Old Peoples Welfare Club.
- **St John Vianney's Church Hall**
One submission was received regarding the accessibility of voters using motorised wheelchairs and access for voters entering and exiting at the same time. Poor lighting was also mentioned. Alternatives could be Alva Bowling Club which is behind the church hall or all voters are moved to Cochrane Hall.
- **Loganlea Tea Room, Forrestmill**
This building has wholly reverted to a private dwelling and is no longer available – all voters have been transferred to Clackmannan Town Hall.
- **Clackmannan Town Hall**
One submission raised poor disabled access suggesting the church hall, scout hall or school gym would be better options. Whilst the disabled access, via a rear door or an external ramp into the library side of the building is not ideal, there are three polling stations in the hall and neither the church hall nor scout hall would support that number of stations. It is a Council decision not to use school properties unless it is the only alternative available.

- **St Mungo's RC Church Alloa**

This was not mentioned but it is recommended that this recommences as a polling station. This was not used during Covid as it was not possible to have a one way system in place as required by Covid restrictions. Also as it is proposed that Alloa Town Hall reverts back to the Count venue, all voters from AC470 will vote in St Mungo's.

It is recommended by the Returning Officer that Alloa Town Hall returns to being the Count venue for all elections as it was only used as a polling place due to Covid restrictions. The polling stations AC470 will go to St Mungo's and AC477 will go to Alloa Old Peoples Welfare Club.

Polling Districts

We did not receive any responses which directly addressed the proposed polling district boundaries which apply to UK Parliamentary General Elections only.

District changes are as a result of UKPGE boundary changes and possible moves due to polling place buildings no longer being available.

**PROPOSALS FOR POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES IN
CLACKMANNANSHIRE**

Current Polling Place	Proposal for polling place	Current Polling District	Proposal for polling district
Dumyat Centre, Main St, Menstrie	Continue to use this building	AC105 (formerly OC105) All of Menstrie and surrounding area	No change
St. Serf's Church Hall, Menstrie Road, Tullibody, FK10 2RG	Continue to use this building	AC110 (formerly OC110) Tullibody area north of Stirling and Alloa Roads including Glenochil	No change
Tullibody Civic Centre, Abercromby Place, Tullibody	Continue to use this building	AC120 (formerly OC120) Tullibody area south of Stirling and Alloa Roads and Cambus area	No change
Cochrane Hall, West Stirling Street, Alva	Continue to use this building	AC230 (formerly OC230) Area to north and South of Stirling Street, West Stirling Street, Stirling Road and to the west of Brook Street	No change
St John Vianney's Church Hall, East Stirling Street, Alva	Continue to use this building at this time but hold consultation on polling day over next two elections to determine voters wishes.	AC235 (formerly OC235) Area north and south of East Stirling Street and to the east of Brook Street	No change
Devonvale Hall, Moss Road, Tillicoultry	Continue to use this building	AC240 (formerly OC240) Tillicoultry and Devonside	No change

Current Polling Place	Proposal for polling place	Current Polling District	Proposal for polling district
Coalsnaughton Village Hall, Main Street, Coalsnaughton	Continue to use this building	AC245 (formerly OC245) Coalsnaughton area eastwards to Lawmuir	No change
Legends Pool Hall, Alloa Road, Fishcross	Continue to use this building.	AC350 (formerly OC350) Fishcross, Devon Village, Howetown, Blackfaulds and Devon Valley Drive area, Sauchie	No change
Sauchie & Coalsnaughton Church Hall, Main Street, Sauchie	Continue to use this building	AC355 (formerly OC355) Sauchie - Craigbank, Greycoran, Auchinbaird and Lochbrae areas, streets north of Schaw Court and Gartmorn Road, Deerpark area.	No change
Sauchie Hall, Mar Place, Sauchie	Continue to use this building whilst asset management review progresses. If required, following the review, future polling stations could be transferred to The Whins and/or Sauchie & Coalsnaughton Church Hall	AC360 (formerly OC360) Sauchie - Fairfield, Branshill, Braeside, Holton Crescent, Hallpark, Posthill, Keilarsbrae, south of Schaw Court and Gartmorn Road. Includes Nevis Crescent, Dovehill and Doo'cot Brae parts of Alloa	No change
Whins Resource Centre, The Whins, Alloa	Continue to use this building	AC363 (formerly OC363) The Whins, Hutton Park and Gaberston areas, Hilton Road, Carsebridge area, Greenfield Street and Hillside Terrace	No change

Current Polling Place	Proposal for polling place	Current Polling District	Proposal for polling district
Alloa Old Peoples Welfare Club, Erskine Street, Alloa	No change	AC465 (formerly OC465) Areas north of Tullibody Road and south of Dovehill - Sunnyside, Forebraes, Ashley Terrace and surrounding streets, Inglewood area	No change
Alloa Baptist Church Hall, Ludgate, Alloa	Discontinue using this building – transfer voters to St Mungo’s RC Church Hall.	AC470 (formerly OC470) Areas south of Tullibody Road and Stirling Road, Mar Place, all of Claremont, Fairyburn, Braehead	No change
Ludgate Church Hall, Ludgate, Alloa	Continue to use this building	AC475 (formerly OC475) West Alloa bounded by Ludgate, the Forth and Stirling Road	No change
St Mungo's RC Church Hall, Mar Street, Alloa	Voters will vote in Alloa Old Peoples Welfare Hall	AC477 (formerly OC477) Area east of Ludgate to ring road. Includes most of the town centre	No change
Bowmar Community Centre, Scott Crescent, Alloa	Continue to use this building	AC480 (formerly OC480) Bowhouse, Bowmar and surrounding area. Bounded by Hawkhill in the north	No change
Hawkhill Community Centre, Hillcrest Drive, Alloa	Continue to use this building	AC485 (formerly OC485) Hawkhill, Clackmannan Road and Hillcrest Drive	No change

Current Polling Place	Proposal for polling place	Current Polling District	Proposal for polling district
Bowmar Community Centre, Scott Crescent, Alloa	Continue to use this building	AC587 (formerly OC587) Comely Bank to the rear of Morrisons	No change
Coronation Hall, Muckhart	Continue to use this building	DC590 (formerly OC590) Muckhart and surrounding area	No change For UKPGE only these are transferred to Dunfermline and Dollar Constituency
The Hive, Park Place, Dollar	Continue to use this building	DC593 (formerly OC593) All of Dollar and surrounding area includes Sheardale and Dollarbeg	No change For UKPGE only these are transferred to Dunfermline and Dollar Constituency
Loganlea Tea Room	Discontinue use of this building – now a private residence. Voters transferred to Clackmannan Town Hall	DC595 (formerly OC595) Forestmill and landward area towards Clackmannan	No change For UKPGE only these are transferred to Dunfermline and Dollar Constituency
Clackmannan Town Hall, Main Street, Clackmannan	Continue to use this building – has sufficient disabled access and other properties in the area would be unable to hold all three stations	AC597 (formerly OC597) All of Clackmannan and surrounding area to the north of Alloa Road	Part of OC597 (20 properties) are transferred to DC595 for UKPGE.

