# THIS PAPER RELATES TO ITEM 13 ON THE AGENDA

#### **CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL**

Report to Council

Date of Meeting: 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Subject: Polling Districts and Polling Places Review – Final Recommendations

### 1.0 Purpose

1.1 To present the final recommendations resulting from the review of the Polling Districts and Polling Places for the Clackmannanshire Council area.

Report by: Strategic Director, Partnership and Performance

#### 2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 In respect of from the review of the Polling Districts and Polling Places for the Clackmannanshire Council area, Council is asked to:
- 2.1.1 note the consultation results as set out at Appendix 1;
- 2.1.2 agree the recommendations from Polling Districts and Polling Places for the Clackmannanshire Council area as set out in Appendix 2.
- 2.2 It is recommended that Council delegates 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 2023 and January 2025.

### 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 review must be finalised by 31 January 2020.
- 3.3 Council agreed on the 23 August 2018 the timetable and stages for public consultation. Feedback from the first stage of the consultation was presented to Council on 21 February 2019 for their consideration and agreement sought for the final proposals going forward to the second stage.

3.4	The full public consultation is complete and the results analysed – see Appendix 1 and a summary of the recommendation is in Appendix 2.		
4.0	Sustainability Implications		
4.1	There are no direct sustainability implications from this proposal.		
4.0	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 $\Box$		
5.3	Finance have been consulted and have agreed the financial implications as set out in the report. Yes $\Box$		
5.4	Staffing		
5.0	Exempt Reports		
6.1	Is this report exempt? Yes ☐ (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No ☐		
7.0	Declarations		
	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)		
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 \( \Price \) No \( \Price \)		

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 $\Box$			
10.0	Appendices			
10.1	There are two appendices attached to the report:			
	Appendix 1 – Consult	ation Results		
	Appendix 2 – Recom	mendations		
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 X (please list the documents below) No $\square$			
	Responses received from the consultation.			
Author(s)				
NAME		DESIGNATION	TEL NO / EXTENSION	
Annette McEnaney		Governance Officer	2112	

Approved by			
NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE	

Strategic Director

Stuart Crickmar

#### Consultation Results

#### The Consultation

The public consultation was conducted in two parts. The first invited comments on the current arrangements that are in force. The second invited comments on the proposals which were agreed at the Council meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> February.

It was important that stakeholders were aware of the consultation at each stage. To achieve this, the details of the review were published on Clacksweb and submissions via our on-line surveys were invited. Details of the review 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 directly 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 made at both stages

81 submissions were received including the Returning Officer's. 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 are around the disabled entrance which is to the rear of the building and the narrow pathway that leads to it. The buildings suggested as alternative venues were the Town Hall and the Gate.

The Town Hall is already used as the count centre for elections and therefore would not be available for polling. The Gate was contacted and, although they were supportive of the building being used for a polling place, confirmed that they could not allow exclusive use on the day of the poll.

**Recommendation:** In the absence of any buildings that are both suitable and available it is recommended that we continue to use the Alloa Baptist Church Hall.

### Devonvale Hall, Tillicoultry

The concern raised was in relation to the position of the building for voters living at the west end of the village. Alternative venues were suggested, however none of the buildings would be any more centrally situated as Devonvale Hall. Devonvale Hall has available parking nearby and is more than able to accommodate all the voters in Tillicoultry. Use of the hall provides some financial support for this community run venue.

**Recommendation:** To continue to have only one polling place in Tillicoultry and that this is Devonvale Hall.

# Loganlea Tea Room, Forrestmill

One concern was raised with regard to the suitability of this venue, however there are no alternative public buildings within Forrestmill or suitable public space for siting a temporary one.

Recommendation: To continue to use the Tea Room while it is still available.

# • St Mungo's RC Church, Alloa

There were no complaints as to the building itself, but the distance for those voters who had previously voted at the Alloa Old Peoples Welfare Club was raised. As the Club building now satisfies the conditions for use as a polling place, it was proposed that it be reinstated.

**Recommendation:** To reinstate the Alloa Old People's Welfare Club as a polling place for polling district OC465: areas north of Tullibody Road and south of Dovehill - Sunnyside, Forebraes, Ashley Terrace and surrounding streets and Inglewood.

#### Fishcross

Concerns were raised as to the suitability of the bar at Fishcross. At the start of the consultation it was closed and we did not receive any response to our enquiries from the owners. During the second stage of the consultation we were aware that the venue was now occupied and being used as a pool hall. A site visit was made and then followed up in a discussion with a representative of the owners, Iona Pubs.

The owners of the bar have agreed to allow the use of the part of the building which is not currently under lease for a polling place. The long term viability of the bar as a polling place will be closely monitored by the Returning Officer's staff.

**Recommendation:** To continue to use the View Bar as a polling place for the foreseeable future.

# **Polling Districts**

#### Sauchie

We received one submission which addressed the polling district of Sauchie. The suggestion was to split Sauchie into two polling districts and have two polling places. The submission, however broadly reflects the current split. See Appendix 2.

### Tillicoultry and Coalsnaughton

We did not receive any comments in relation to the proposed change to the boundary between Tillicoultry and Coalsnaughton.

**Recommendation:** to implement the proposed boundary change between polling districts of Tillicoultry and Coalsnaughton.

A summary of the recommendations is contained in Appendix 2.

# Appendix 2 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES IN CLACKMANNANSHIRE

Current Polling Place	Recommendation for polling place	Current Polling District	Recommendation for polling district
Dumyat Centre, Main St, Menstrie	Continue to use this building	OC105 All of Menstrie and surrounding area	No change
St. Serf's Church Hall, Menstrie Road, Tullibody, FK10 2RG	Continue to use this building	OC110 Tullibody area north of Stirling and Alloa Roads including Glenochil	No change
Tullibody Civic Centre, Abercromby Place, Tullibody	Continue to use this building	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	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	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	OC240 Tillicoultry and Devonside	Change to the polling district boundary between Tillicoultry and Coalsnaughton. – see attached map

Current Polling Place	Recommendation for polling place	Current Polling District	Recommendation for polling district
Coalsnaughton Village Hall, Main Street, Coalsnaughton	Continue to use this building	OC245 Coalsnaughton area eastwards to Lawmuir	Change to the polling district boundary between Tillicoultry and Coalsnaughton – see attached map
The View Bar &	Continue to use the	OC350	No change
Restaurant, Alloa Road, Fishcross	current building	Fishcross, Devon Village, Howetown, Blackfaulds and Devon Valley Drive area, Sauchie	
Sauchie &	Continue to use this	OC355	No change
Coalsnaughton Church Hall, Main Street, Sauchie	building	Sauchie - Craigbank, Greygoran, Auchinbaird and Lochbrae areas, streets north of Shaw Court and Gartmorn Road, Deerpark area.	
Sauchie Hall, Mar		OC360	No change
Place, Sauchie	building	Sauchie - Fairfield, Branshill, Braeside, Holton Crescent, Hallpark, Posthill, Keilarsbrae, south of Shaw Court and Gartmorn Road. Includes Nevis Crescent, Dovehill and Doo'cot Brae parts of Alloa	
Whins Resource Centre, The Whins, Alloa	Continue to use this building	OC363 The Whins, Hutton Park and Gaberston areas, Hilton Road, Carsebridge area, Greenfield Street and Hillside Terrace	No change

Current Polling Place	Recommendation for polling place	Current Polling District	Recommendation for polling district
St Mungo's RC Church Hall, Mar Street, Alloa	It is recommended that Alloa Old People's Welfare Club be reinstated as a polling place to serve the polling district OC465.	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	Continue to use this building	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	OC475 West Alloa bounded by Ludgate, the Forth and Stirling Road	No change
St Mungo's RC Church Hall, Mar Street, Alloa	Continue to use this building	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	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	OC485 Hawkhill, Clackmannan Road and Hillcrest Drive	No change
Bowmar Community Centre, Scott Crescent, Alloa	Continue to use this building	OC587 Comely Bank to the rear of Morrisons	No change

Current Polling Place	Recommendation for polling place	Current Polling District	Recommendation for polling district
Coronation Hall, Muckhart	Continue to use this building	OC590 Muckhart and surrounding area	No change
Dollar Civic Centre, Park Place, Dollar	Continue to use this building	OC593 All of Dollar and surrounding area includes Sheardale and Dollarbeg	No change
Loganlea Tea Room	Continue to use this building	OC595 Forestmill and landward area towards Clackmannan	No change
Clackmannan Town Hall, Main Street, Clackmannan	Continue to use this building	OC597 All of Clackmannan and surrounding area to the north of Alloa Road	No change

