

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Chief Executive

Council: 25 March 2009

Subject: Designation of Polling Places

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to allow the Council to consider the designation of polling places for elections to be held in 2009.

2. Background

2.1 Elections to the European Parliament will be held on 4 June 2009. It is also important that contingency plans are made in case of a general election at some time during the year.

2.2 At each of these elections, the Returning Officer is responsible for a single constituency – the West Dunbartonshire County Constituency, which has the same boundaries as the Council area.

2.3 The Council fulfilled its obligation, in terms of the Election Administration Act 2006, to review its scheme of polling districts and places. As part of that review, the scheme was advertised and consultations were carried out with elected members, with interested groups and organisations and with members of the public. At its meeting on 31 October 2007, the Council formally adopted, as its standard scheme, the polling scheme which had been used for the combined local/Scottish Parliament elections in May 2007 and which had worked satisfactorily.

2.4 There have been no further elections since that review. The adopted scheme has been used as the basis for the elections to be held in 2009.

3. Main Issues

3.1 It is important, for the benefit of electors, to maintain continuity of polling places insofar as this is possible. A wide range of types of accommodation is used in this area, ranging from schools, community education premises, libraries and leisure centres to church and halls and other private accommodation.

3.2 The main priority in choosing a polling place is its accessibility. Preference is given to locations which allow a single access suitable for all electors. The accommodation available for polling is also important in that the premises must be large enough to accommodate the appropriate number of polling stations and polling equipment and must offer adequate facilities for polling staff who will be on duty from 6.30 a.m. until after 10 p.m. when the last polling procedures are complete.

- 3.3** The presumption is not to use (and therefore close) a school on election day where suitable alternative premises are available locally. However, alternative premises must be satisfactory in terms of accommodation and access.
- 3.4** Temporary buildings (portacabins or similar) are used only as a last resort for the following reasons – additional cost, reduced accessibility and noise nuisance to neighbours caused by the generators required to provide heating and lighting. There is only one temporary polling place proposed and that is in Milton at Colquhoun Road. This was also used in 2007 as there was no other possible solution in the local area. The Scotland Office will not allow the costs involved in hiring temporary buildings if other suitable accommodation exists locally.
- 3.5** Unfortunately, the Crosslet Centre in Dumbarton, which was used for the first time in 2007, is not available for this election. The polling place used previously for this area is Chili's at the Abbotsford Hotel and it is proposed to revert to this venue as there are no other local premises suitable for polling. The premises offer adequate accommodation for up to two polling stations, access arrangements are good and there is ample parking.
- 3.6** No other changes are proposed to the existing scheme. A copy of the revised scheme, which forms the Appendix to this report, has already been issued to members for their comment.
- 3.7** The final scheme must be notified to the Electoral Registration Officer by 15 April 2009 to allow preparations for the poll to go forward.

4. Personnel Issues

- 4.1** There are no personnel issues arising from this report.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1** There is a cost to the Council of closing premises which is not met in full by the recharge made to the Scotland Office. Councils are allowed to recharge only the costs of heating, lighting and janitation. In addition, the cost of any temporary access ramps is defrayed only by 50%, which means the Council has to bear remaining costs, despite the fact that these are not local government elections.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1** The recommendations are as follows:-

- a)** The Council is asked to approve the list of recommended polling places for use at any elections or by-elections occurring in 2009; and

- b) In the event of any matter arising which cannot be resolved at the meeting, that it be remitted to the Chief Executive, in consultation with local members, to agree the final scheme.

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David McMillan
Chief Executive
Date: 4 March 2009

Wards Affected: All wards

Appendix: Revised Scheme of Polling Places for the West Dunbartonshire County Constituency.

Background Papers: Report to Council by the Chief Executive on 26 September 2007 and minute thereof.

Report to Council by the Chief Executive on 31 October 2007 and minute thereof.

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POLLING PLACES FOR THE WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY**Ward 1 – Lomond**

PD No	Polling Place	No of voters
WD01	Millennium Hall, Gartocharn	535
WD02	Lennox Hall, Carrochan Road, Balloch G83	1,543
WD03	Lennox Hall, Carrochan Road, Balloch G83	903
WD04	Lennox Hall, Carrochan Road, Balloch G83	511
WD05	Vale of Leven Swimming Pool, North Main Street, Alexandria G83 9SJ	762
WD06	St Kessog's Church Hall, Balloch Road, Balloch G83 8LQ	1,196
WD07	Alexandria Parish Church Hall, Lomond Road, Balloch G83 8SJ	685
WD08	Vale of Leven Swimming Pool, North Main Street, Alexandria G83 9SJ	2,293
WD09	Lennox Hall, Carrochan Road, Balloch G83	489

POLLING PLACES FOR THE WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY

Ward 2 – Leven

PD No	Polling Place	No of voters
WD10	Alexandria Community Education Centre, Main Street, Alexandria G83 9BH	902
WD11	Alexandria Community Education Centre, Main Street, Alexandria G83 9BH	1,207
WD12	St Martin's Church Hall, Main Street, Renton G82 4PZ	754
WD13	Renton Primary School, Main Street, Renton G82 4NA	838
WD14	Dalmonach Community Education Centre, First Avenue, Bonhill, G82 9AU	1,355
WD15	Bonhill Community Education Centre, Ladyton, Bonhill G83 9BH	1,093
WD16	Bonhill Community Education Centre, Ladyton, Bonhill G83 9BH	1,513
WD17	Loch Lomond Rugby Football Club, Beechwood Drive, Bonhill G83 9LY	781
WD18	Bonhill Primary School, Main Street, Bonhill, G83 9AF	1,396
WD19	Aitkenbar Primary School, Whiteford Avenue, Dumbarton G82 3JL	2,156
WD20	Aitkenbar Primary School, Whiteford Avenue, Dumbarton G82 3JL	1,121

POLLING PLACES FOR THE WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY

Ward 3 – Dumbarton

PD No	Polling Place	No of voters
WD21	Westbridgend Community Hall, Westbridgend, Dumbarton G82 4EN	863
WD22	United Free Church Hall, Hawthornhill Road, Dumbarton G82 5AS	945
WD23	St Michael's Church Hall, Cardross Road, Dumbarton G82 4JE	1,304
WD24	West Dumbarton Activity Centre, Ardoch Crescent, Dumbarton G82 4EN	926
WD25	Braehead Primary School, Meadow Road, Dumbarton G82 2BL	391
WD26	Braehead Primary School, Meadow Road, Dumbarton G82 2BL	1,658
WD27	Concord Community Education Centre, St Mary's Way, Dumbarton G82 1JL	508
WD28	St Patrick's Church Hall, Strathleven Place, Dumbarton G82 1BA	998
WD29	St Patrick's Primary School, Crosslet Road, Dumbarton, G82 2LQ	1,486
WD30	Knoxland Primary School, Glasgow Road, Dumbarton G82 1QU	1,341
WD31	Chilli's, Abbotsford Hotel, Stirling Road, Dumbarton G82	1,263
WD32	Milton Mobile Polling Place, Colquhoun Road, Milton G82 2TH	476
WD33	Bowling Hall, Dumbarton Road, Bowling G80 1UA	341

POLLING PLACES FOR THE WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY

Ward 4 – Kilpatrick

PD No	Polling Place	No of voters
WC01	Glenhead Community Centre, Duntiglennan Road, Duntocher, Clydebank G81 6AH	2,300
WC02	Glenhead Community Centre, Duntiglennan Road, Duntocher, Clydebank G81 6AH	1,228
WC03	Goldenhill Primary School, Stewart Drive, Hardgate, Clydebank G81 6AH	818
WC04	Faifley Parish Church Hall, Faifley Road, Clydebank G81 5AR	1,912
WC05	St Joseph's Church Hall, Faifley Road, Clydebank G81 5EZ	1,284
WC06	Goldenhill Primary School, Stewart Drive, Hardgate, Clydebank G81 6AH	1,413
WD34	Bowling Public Hall, Dumbarton Road, Bowling G60 1UA	12

POLLING PLACES FOR THE WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY

Ward 5 – Clydebank Central

PD No	Polling Place	No of voters
WC07	Dalmuir Barclay Parish Church Hall, Durban Avenue, Clydebank G81 4JH	1,082
WC08	Dalmuir Barclay Parish Church Hall, Durban Avenue, Clydebank G81 4JH	393
WC10	Parkhall Library, Hawthorn Street, Clydebank G81 3EF	1,215
WC11	St Stephen's Church Hall, Park Road, Clydebank G81 3ED	673
WC12	St Stephen's Church Hall, Park Road, Clydebank G81 3ED	1,033
WC13	Parkhall Library, Hawthorn Street, Clydebank G81 3EF	748
WC14	Kilbowie Primary School, West Thomson Street, Clydebank G81 3AE	1,676
WC15	St Eunan's Church Hall, Gilmour Street, Clydebank G81 2BW	796
WC16	Drumry Bowling Pavilion, Kirkoswald Drive, Clydebank G81 2DA	1,151
WC17	St Eunan's Primary School, Melfort Avenue, Clydebank G81 2HS	1,629
WC18	Linnvale Primary School, Livingstone Street, Clydebank G81 2RL	1,293

POLLING PLACES FOR THE WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY**Ward 6 – Clydebank Waterfront**

PD No	Polling Place	No of voters
WC19	Gavinburn Library, Dumbarton Road, Old Kilpatrick G60 5NE	661
WC20	Napier Hall, Dumbarton Road, Old Kilpatrick G60 5JH	1,673
WC21	Napier Hall, Dumbarton Road, Old Kilpatrick G60 5JH	1,522
WC22	Dalmuir Barclay Parish Church Hall, Durban Avenue, Clydebank G81 4JH	1,261
WC23	Dalmuir Barclay Parish Church Hall, Durban Avenue, Clydebank G81 4JH	2,124
WC24	Abbotsford Church Hall, Abbotsford Rd, Clydebank G81 1PA	1,389
WC25	St Margaret's Church Hall, Sinclair Street, Clydebank G81 1AE	2,931