

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Chief Executive

Community Participation Committee: 24 January 2007

Subject – Elections to Clydebank East Community Council, March 2007

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the arrangements for the Elections to Clydebank East Community Council due in March 2007.

2. Background

2.1 In terms of the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils, a Community Council can be formed at any time if 20 local electors sign a requisition for a Community Council to be set up in their area.

2.2 Although the Scheme provides for 17 Community Councils, only 9 are currently operative, with the remaining 8 having failed to form during the requisition and election process in 2006.

3. Main Issues

Requisition for Clydebank East Community Council

3.1 A requisition form has been received signed by 20 local electors calling for a Community Council to be set up in the Clydebank East area.

3.2 Accordingly, the Arrangements for Elections to Clydebank East Community Council (attached as the Appendix to this report) allow for the invitation and submission of nominations to form the newly requisitioned Community Council.

3.3 The nomination period extends from 11 January to 1 February 2007.

The Election Process

3.4 Nomination forms will be issued to all those people who signed the requisition form. Nominations will also be available within the Council's Clydebank Area Registration Office and the Council Offices at Garshake Road.

3.5 The closing date for nominations will be 1 February 2007. If, by the closing date, the number of validly nominated candidates does not exceed the number of vacancies, those candidates will be elected unopposed. However, if the number of candidates is less than half the number of places on the Community Council, the Community Council will not be formed.

- 3.6** The elections will be conducted by postal ballot. Each voter will receive a single ballot paper but will be entitled to select a number of candidates up to the total number of vacancies (i.e. if there are 10 vacancies, the elector may put a cross beside up to 10 candidates). The successful candidates will be those who poll the highest number of votes.
- 3.7** Closing date for the poll will be 4.00 p.m. on 8 March 2007, with the count being held that evening or the next day in a convenient location.
- 3.8** The election will be publicised at the appropriate times in the local press; and that posters and fliers will be printed and circulated as widely as possible.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1** There is a budget of £5,000 for Community Council Support in 2006/07.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1** The Committee is asked to note the arrangements for the elections to Clydebank East Community Council.

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Chief Executive

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Background Papers: Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils

Wards Affected: Whitecrook; and Dalmuir/Central [part].