

Comments from Stakeholders during Consultation

Representations received from 1 October 2018 to 10 December 2018

REF	DATE RECEIVED	REPRESENTATION MADE BY WHOM	REPRESENTATION / COMMENTS MADE	OUTCOME – STATEMENT OF REASONS
1	1 Oct	Councillor Aileen Morton	At recent elections, many parents of children at Colgrain Primary were unhappy that their children lost a day's schooling because the school was used as a polling station. Can other venue be looked at for future elections. Colgrain Primary School	Recognise the concern and can confirm that whilst the Council is committed to ceasing use of schools wherever possible, there is no suitable alternative that meet current requirements. The RO staff will continue to keep under review options to discontinue the use of schools wherever possible.
2	1 Oct	Ardentinny Hall Committee – Treasurer	The Ardentinny Hall now have a new Committee established and can offer the use of the hall again as a polling station – hall has previously been used for polling. Current polling station is Ardentinny Bowling Club .	The Ardentinny hall was the polling station until the hall committee ceased to function. It is noted that it is now operating again and it is suggested that the polling scheme remain unchanged at present. Officers will however meet with the committee of the hall to consider the invitation.
3	2 Oct	Councillor Anne Horn	I have been contacted several times regarding the lack of a dropped kerb outside of the Templars Arts and Leisure Centre in Tarbert . This can cause difficulties for anyone attempting to vote at the Centre as there are no dropped kerbs right along the footpath.	The comment is noted, whilst outside the remit of the polling scheme review as it is on the public highway, a request will be made to Roads and amenity services to look at feasibility of a dropped kerb option at this location.
4	15 Oct	Dunbeg Community Council - Secretary	Thank you for sending the polling places review. This was discussed at the recent Dunbeg Community Council meeting and I have been asked to write to you pointing out errors in the Dunbeg polling place. As long as I have been in Dunbeg, the polling place has been in Dunbeg Primary school and not in St Oran's church as stated in the paperwork. Also it states new polling place as Kingdom Hall but that this is just a change in name of the hall. Could you please point out to whoever is responsible	Venue has moved out of Dunbeg School to Dunbeg Church after the June 2017 election. The Council are trying to move polling stations out of schools to enable the schools to remain open.

			that these are 3 separate locations in Etive Road - Dunbeg Primary School, St Oran's Church and Kingdom Hall. The current and new polling place should read Dunbeg Primary School and none of these locations have changed their name.	
5	18 Oct	Len Church, Helensburgh	I made a complaint 2 years ago regarding the station at Drumfork Centre, Churchill . The access has no consideration for people with health issues Car park in square leaves a long uphill ramp, and the other access from the lock upside is also difficult. The old station at the side of the shop was better and parking was available beside building. I made the same comments to start at last elections who say this is the only place available. Please consider people like me with health issues.	Previous station was the Naval Families Centre – no longer allowed to use as a polling station. No alternatives; Drumfork being refurbished Jan 2019. The concerns raised are very understandable but there are no viable better alternatives than this. The RO will write to explain the reasoning and outlining options for a postal vote or proxy to assist.
6	29 Oct	Secretary of Strachur Community Council	Strachur Community Council discussed this at a meeting on 17th October 2018. I can report that all members of the Community Council were satisfied with the current polling districts and polling places, and had no further comments to make. Members of the public will be made aware of this consultation by means of articles in the local Newsletter and the Community Facebook page. Strachur Memorial Hall	noted
7	2 Nov	Jessie Church, Helensburgh	Drumfork Centre, Churchill . My husband has copd which creates difficulty in using this polling station as the access from carpark via the ramp to entry is very difficult. We have note the complaint at the last two election and were told by one this was the only place available. Not happy if this is the way.	Previous station was the Naval Families Centre – no longer allowed to use as a polling station. No alternatives; Drumfork being refurbished Jan 2019. The concerns raised are very understandable but there are no viable better alternatives than this. The RO will write explain the reasoning and outlining options for a postal vote or proxy to assist.
8	28 Nov	Linda Floyd	The Focus leaflet from Councillor Ellen Morton this week gave this address for comments regarding the use of	noted

			<p>Colgrain primary School as a polling station. I would like to indicate that I very much hope this will continue, it is convenient, any other likely place would not be possible for me going to work as I do not have a car and even the Civic centre is not practical. I have two kids who attended Colgrain until recently, and the occasional day off has never been a problem as far as I am concerned.</p>	
9	10 Dec	Councillor Alan Reid	<p>At the last election, I got complaints from people in houses on the A880 in Kilmun who vote at Uig Hall, Rashfield, Dunoon PA23 8QU. They said they could walk to the Younger Hall, but not to Uig Hall, and so would prefer to vote at the Younger Hall. Could this request please be considered?</p>	<p>The boundary between AA86 and AA84 falls where the pavement on the A880 ends. This issue has been reviewed in some detail and it is proposed to retain the existing set up as whilst it is acknowledged that there are some people who would be closer to the Younger hall, it is unlikely that access would be taken by many voters on foot given that the hall is on the main road. There is also concern that increasing the number of voters at Younger Hall would impact on parking availability which is on the main road. If there are concerns about distance then the option to have a postal or proxy vote are available.</p>