
Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership

Helensburgh & Lomond Area Community Planning Group



7 March 2024

UPDATE ON COMMUNITY COUNCIL INTERIM BY-ELECTIONS

This briefing provides an update for partners to note on the membership of community councils in the Helensburgh & Lomond area following the closure of the nomination period for the interim by-elections. The briefing is for noting and relevant discussion.

Summary

Community Council Interim by-elections are taking place on 2nd May 2024. The elections mark the mid-term process. This process required that all vacancies on all community councils were included in the interim by-elections. In addition those who have been appointed by the community council as co-optee will no longer hold office as such on the day of election unless they have successfully stood for election.

Detail

The Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in Argyll and Bute provides for an interim by-election to be held. This generally takes place at the mid-term of the 4 year term. The Returning Officer set the date of 2nd May 2024 for the by-elections.

A nomination process commenced on 7th March and concluded on 21st March. A total of 17 valid nominations were received during that period. This can be broken down as follows:

Rhu & Shandon – 8 candidates for 10 vacancies
Garelochhead – 0 candidate for 7 vacancies
Cove & Kilcreggan – 6 candidates for 7 vacancies
Arrochar, Tarbet & Ardlui – 0 candidates for 5 vacancies
Rosneath & Clynder – 0 candidates for 6 vacancies
Luss & Arden – 0 candidates for 3 vacancies
Helensburgh – 3 candidates for 2 vacancies
Cardross – 0 candidates for 2 vacancies

Partners may note from the above that there were more candidates than vacancies received for Helensburgh Community Council and therefore there will be an election

in this area. In accordance with the provisions in the Scheme, this election will be an all postal ballot.

Prior to the by-election there were 42 vacancies across the Community Councils in the Helensburgh & Lomond area.

Figures throughout the areas don't differ significantly, although in this area there were a higher concentration of new members over fewer community councils, however Helensburgh Community Council is the only contested election in the local authority area.

Conclusion

A total of 16 candidates will be elected to serve on 3 different community councils at 11am on 2nd May 2024. There were no rejected nominations but unfortunately 5 community councils did not secure any additional members through the by-election process.

Those community councils who have vacancies remaining after the by-election will be entitled to fill up to 1/3 of their vacancies by co-option going forward. There were 3 co-opted members across the Helensburgh & Lomond area that did not submit nomination papers. Those members cannot be co-opted again and will be deemed to stand down on the 2nd May 2024.

For further information, please contact:

Melissa Stewart, Governance Officer, Argyll and Bute Council (01546) 604331
Melissa.stewart@argyll-bute.gov.uk