

Customer Services

Executive Director: Douglas Hendry

STAKEHOLDER LETTER

Letter to Councillors, CC's, MP, MSPs, Disability Groups, Election Agents, ERO

Kilmory, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8RT
Tel: 01546 604244

e.mail: elections@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Council e.mail: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Direct Line: 01546 604322

Ask For: David Logan

Our Ref: DL/SC/01

Your Ref:

Date: 2 October 2023

Dear Sir / Madam

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL
REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES

I am writing to you as a person, or as a representative of a body, interested in the electoral process in Argyll and Bute. The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 requires Argyll and Bute Council to undertake a review, by January 2025, of polling districts and polling places within the Argyll and Bute UK Parliamentary Constituency for the purposes of UK Parliamentary, Scottish Parliamentary and Local Government elections.

Please find attached documentation relating to the current review. There are a number of changes proposed to the Polling Districts together with alternatives proposed to some of the current Polling Places, these are highlighted in Ward order in the attached proposals for consultation (Appendix 1).

The polling district boundaries and polling places are the same for all elections whether UK Parliamentary, Scottish Parliamentary or local government elections.

The aims of the review are to seek to ensure that:

- (a) all the electors in the constituency have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances; and
- (b) so far as is reasonable and practicable, the polling places are accessible to all electors, including those who may have a disability.

In an ideal world electoral administrators would have the choice of a range of fully accessible buildings, conveniently located for the electors in the area. In practice, however, this is not always the case and there may be little choice available. Where it is necessary to use a place where the access is not ideal then every reasonable adjustment is made to provide access for all electors. The choice of polling place will often be a balance between the quality (access, facilities, etc.) of a building and the distances between the residents and that building compared to other options for polling places. There is no fixed rule on how to decide how this should be done. The legislation provides

that all electors in a constituency should have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances.

I attach for your information, a copy of the formal Notice of Review together with the current and proposed polling districts and polling places. If you wish to offer any comments or representations in regard to the proposals please submit them by e.mail, by 30th October 2023, to elections@argyll-bute.gov.uk or in writing to the Election Office, Legal and Regulatory Support, Kilmory Headquarters, Lochgilphead PA31 8RT.

Further information relating to this review is available online at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/elections including relevant maps.

Yours sincerely

Douglas Hendry

Douglas Hendry
Executive Director with responsibility for Legal and Regulatory Support

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Notice of Review

Proposals for Consultation

Review Notes