## Scottish Local Government Elections 2023 – Publishing Voting Information

In compliance with Rule 61 of the Scottish Local Election Rules the Returning Officer is required to publish within one week of the declaration of the results of the poll in formation detailing:

- the number of first and subsequent preferences for each candidate at each polling station; and

- information for all postal ballots cast in a ward combined as if cast at a further polling station in that ward.

## Maintaining Confidentiality

To ensure that an individual's voter preferences cannot be identified, it has been necessary to aggregate the data where the number of votes cast in a polling station is less than 200. Where aggregation has been necessary this has been identified in the accompanying data. In combining polling station results the Returning Officer has adopted the following criteria recommended by the Electoral Management Board for Scotland, namely:

- votes from the same polling place, have been combined with others at the same polling station;

- no polling place data has been combined with that from another ward

- combined manually entered votes have been combined with the final box for the ward; and

- all postal votes for the ward are combined as one ballot box.

## Data from E-counting System

The data from the E-counting system provides the number of ballot papers that were counted electronically, including any that were entered manually rather than scanned.

## Use of Data

In releasing the data, the Returning Officer is making it freely available for public use. It is not subject to copyright and material may be re-used provided that it is acknowledged, not used in a misleading way and is reproduced accurately. The Returning Officer does not accept responsibility for any alteration or manipulation of the data once released.

## Contact Details

If there are any queries or comments on the data provided, please contact the Election Team at Argyll and Bute Council;
by e-mail elections@argyll-bute.gov.uk or by phone 01546 603264