

## **FC68. REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES 2013/14**

Council considered a report by the Chief Executive presenting a revised polling scheme for use at elections, by elections and referendums.

The Council is required by section 18A of the Representation of the People Act 1983 to keep its polling districts under review. The last full review had been undertaken during 2010/11 with a revised polling scheme being agreed in October 2011.

Details were given of a review of the current scheme which was undertaken in 2013. The report detailed feedback received during the consultation stages of the review of polling places and polling districts and highlighted proposed options for consideration.

The Provost proposed that Council consider the proposals as set out in paras 4.3.1 – 4.3.9 of the report on a ward by ward basis and that Council would be guided by the views of the local members in each case.

### **Ward 1 – Bo’ness and Blackness**

The proposals were acceptable to the local members.

### **Ward 2 – Grangemouth**

The proposal for no change was acceptable to the local members

### **Ward 3 – Denny and Banknock**

The local members expressed a preference to retain Fankerton Village Hall as a polling place for the current electorate and for those voters taking up residence in the new housing developments situated within the FW310 polling district with, in due course, consideration being given to moving all of Stoneywood to FW310.

### **Ward 4 – Carse, Kinnaird and Tryst**

The minor amendment in regard to FE406 (to include two properties currently within FE411) was accepted. The local members agreed to discuss the remaining proposals with officers during an adjournment.

### **Ward 5 – Bonnybridge and Larbert**

The local members expressed a preference that the status quo was retained in regard to polling district FW515 where voting currently takes place in a mobile unit situated at the old Torwood Primary School site, and the retention of polling districts FW525 (Bonnybridge Community Centre) and FW530 (Antonine Primary School) as per the current scheme with a mobile polling place located at Antonine Primary School while the school is being refurbished. The local members also asked that consideration be given in future to the potential for voters in Greenhill to use Antonine Primary School and for voters in the Inches to use Kinnaird Primary School.

#### **Ward 6 – Falkirk North**

No changes were proposed; however the local members requested that further consideration be given to establishing a polling station within New Carron Village and agreed to discuss the location of polling places with officers during an adjournment.

#### **Ward 7 – Falkirk South**

The local members recommended no change to the current scheme and requested that a mobile polling place be located at the junction of Parkhead Road and Hallglen Terrace.

#### **Ward 8 – Lower Braes**

The local members recommended no change to the current scheme.

#### **Ward 9 – Upper Braes**

The local members recommended no change to the current scheme.

The Provost, mindful that those local members representing wards 4 and 6 had agreed to discuss issues relating to their wards during the adjournment for lunch, and that the feasibility of siting the mobile polling unit requested in ward 7 was still to be checked, proposed that deliberation on this item be continued after the adjournment.

### **FC70. REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES 2013/14 – CONTINUED**

#### **Ward 7 – Falkirk South**

The Chief Executive confirmed that there was no impediment of siting the mobile polling unit in Glen Village as requested.

#### **Ward 4 – Carse, Kinnaird and Tryst**

The local members recommended no change to the current scheme other than the minor amendment referred to above.

#### **Ward 6 – Falkirk North**

The local members were in agreement that a temporary polling station should be provided for the New Carron Village area and their preference was that Council delegate to local members and the Chief Executive to determine its location. Should an agreement not be reached the status quo would prevail.

#### **Decision**

**Council agreed to:-**

- 1) adopt the revised Polling Scheme subject to the comments of local members set out in the minute, for use at elections, by-elections and referendums held between this review and the next, in five years, subject to**

ad hoc changes being reported to Council in the interim period, the adjusted polling scheme being attached as appendix 2 to this minute, and

- 2) to delegate to the Chief Executive, in consultation with local members, to determine the feasibility preferred, location and electorate for a polling place serving the New Carron Village area (Ward 6 – Falkirk North).