

The background of the slide features a large, light blue watermark of the City of Vancouver's coat of arms. The crest includes a crown with four maple leaves, a shield divided into four quadrants (top-left: a ship, top-right: a stag, bottom-left: a ship, bottom-right: a grizzly bear), and a banner at the bottom with the motto 'A NE FOR A'.

Agenda Item 6

Community Council Elections 2022 Update

Falkirk Council

Title: Community Council Elections 2022 Update
Meeting: Executive
Date: 17 January 2023
Submitted by: Chief Executive

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the results of the extended Community Council nomination process which closed on 9 December.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Executive is invited to:

- (i) note the outcome of the extended nomination period for the 2022 Community Council elections;**
- (ii) note the formation of Blackness, Camelon, Bantaskine & Tamfourhill and Reddingmuirhead & Wallacestone Community Councils;**
- (iii) permit the formation of the Denny & District and Slamannan & Limerigg Community Councils with the remaining vacancies being filled by co-option;**
- (iv) note that 12 Community Councils did not form as part of the election process, and**
- (v) consider any further actions to be taken.**

3. Climate Change Implications

- 3.1 The recommended decision does not give rise to any material implications for the Council's climate change targets and obligations. Officers' assessment is that the policies and procedures detailed in this report will not lead to changes in service provision or the deployment of resources that would increase or decrease the emission of carbon.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Executive considered the outcome of the Community Council election process at its meeting on 4 October. It noted that one Community Council, Bo'ness, had formed, having received 10 nominations for 10 places, and permitted 5 Community Councils to form on the basis that they had received 2/3, or more, of the required nominations. These were:

Airth Parish
Banknock, Haggs and Longcroft
Brightons
Grangemouth
Polmont

- 4.2 The Executive also agreed in October to extend the nomination period to 9 December to allow further nominations to be made for the following Community Councils:

Avonbridge and Standburn	0 nominations for 6 places
Blackness	0 nominations for 6 places
Bonnybridge	0 nominations for 8 places
Camelon, Bantaskine and Tamfourhill	1 nomination for 9 places
Carron and Carronshore	0 nominations for 7 places
Denny and District	4 nominations for 10 places
Falkirk Central	0 nomination for 7 places
Falkirk South	0 nominations for 7 places
Grahamston, Middlefield and Westfield	0 nominations for 8 places
Langlees, Bainsford and New Carron	1 nominations for 8 places
Larbert, Stenhousemuir and Torwood	1 nominations for 11 places
Lower Braes	0 nominations for 7 places
Maddiston	0 nominations for 6 places
Reddingmuirhead and Wallacestone	3 nomination for 6 places
Shieldhill and California	3 nominations for 7 places
Slamannan and Limerigg	1 nomination for 6 places
Whitecross	0 nominations for 6 places

5. Considerations

- 5.1 During the extended period sufficient nominations were received to allow the following Community Councils to form:

Blackness	6 nominations for 6 places
Camelon, Bantaskine and Tamfourhill	9 nominations for 9 places
Reddingmuirhead and Wallacestone	6 nominations for 6 places

- 5.2 Where the number of candidates is **fewer** than the number of vacancies, Council may permit the Community Council to treat the unfilled places as casual vacancies or may take such other action as it deems appropriate. Previous practice has been to allow, at this stage, those Community Councils with fewer than 1/3 of the positions unfilled to establish and co-opt members to the unfilled places.

- 5.3 With this in mind, those Community Councils where the number of nominations was fewer than the vacant positions can be split into two groups.

Community Councils where nominations for two-thirds or more of the vacancies were received:

Denny & District	8 nominations for 10 places
Slamannan & Limerigg	4 nominations for 6 places

- 5.4 As noted above, it has been practice for the Council to permit Community Councils with this level of nominations to be formed and to co-opt members to the remaining vacancies thereafter. However, this is a matter for the Executive to determine.

Community Councils where the number of nominations is fewer than two-thirds of the number of vacant positions:

Avonbridge and Standburn	0 nominations for 6 places
Bonnybridge	0 nominations for 8 places
Carron and Carronshore	0 nominations for 7 places
Falkirk Central	0 nomination for 7 places
Falkirk South	0 nominations for 7 places
Grahamston, Middlefield and Westfield	0 nominations for 8 places
Langlees, Bainsford and New Carron	1 nominations for 8 places
Larbert, Stenhousemuir and Torwood	3 nominations for 11 places
Lower Braes	1 nominations for 7 places
Maddiston	0 nominations for 6 places
Shieldhill and California	3 nominations for 7 places
Whitecross	0 nominations for 6 places

- 5.6 Having extended the nomination process further, and in light of the outcome, it is not recommended that a further extension is considered. As matters stand these Community Councils have not formed. The Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils sets out a mechanism by which Community Councils can form should there be sufficient local interest and desire.
- 5.7 In the light of these results, there is now also an opportunity to consider the future approach to supporting and working with Community Councils in the context of the Council Plan priority of Supporting Stronger and Healthier Communities and the proposed approach to a new Community Engagement Strategy as set out in item 7 on this Executive agenda.

6. Consultation

There has been consultation on the outcome of extension with nominees. Two of the formed Community Councils, Blackness and Reddingmuirhead & Wallacestone, have met and the third, Camelon, Bantaskine & Tamfourhill will meet early in the new year. Nominees from Denny & Dunipace and Slamannan & Limerigg have been advised of this report and its recommendations.

7. Implications

Financial

7.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Resources

7.2 There are no significant resource implications arising from the recommendations.

Legal

7.3 There are no legal implications.

Risk

7.4 There are no risks arising from the recommendations.

Equalities

7.5 There are no equality implications arising from the recommendations.

Sustainability/Environmental Impact

7.6 There are no sustainability/environment impacts.

8. Conclusions

8.1 Should the Executive agree the recommendations in the report, the outcome of the 2022 Community Council election process will be that 11 Community Councils have formed and 12 will not form.

Chief Executive

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Appendices

None

List of Background Papers:

No papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.