

City of Edinburgh Council

10am, Thursday, 4 February 2021

The Designation of New Polling Places as a result of a Statutory Review of Polling Places and Polling Districts

Executive/routine

Wards

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1. Recommendations

1.1 It is recommended that the Council:

1.1.1 Agree to the amendments to current polling arrangements as outlined in Appendix 1;

1.1.2 Note that there are no significant changes to current polling district boundaries;

1.1.3 Note that the Chief Executive has delegated authority to make one-off minor amendments to outlined polling arrangements for the 2021 Scottish Parliament Election should the availability of venues be impacted at short notice by Coronavirus; and

1.1.4 Note that the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) will make any necessary amendments to the Register of Electors.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive and Returning Officer

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The Designation of New Polling Places as a result of a Statutory Review of Polling Places and Polling Districts

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report seeks the Council's approval for the proposed changes to UK Parliamentary polling places within the City of Edinburgh local government area following the completion of a statutory review as per Section 18(c) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

3. Background

- 3.1 Section 18(c) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, as amended places a duty on local authorities to review the UK parliamentary polling districts, polling places and polling stations in their area on a regular basis with an initial review to be carried out between 1 October 2013 and 31 January 2015 and subsequent reviews to be undertaken within a period of 16 months commencing on 1 October every fifth year thereafter.
- 3.2 The location of proposed polling districts and polling places is the responsibility of the City of Edinburgh Council and the location of polling stations within polling places is the responsibility of the Returning Officer. However, for the purposes of this review, all aspects of the process have been undertaken jointly.
- 3.3 The scope of this review does not cover parliamentary or local government boundaries as these are the responsibility of the Boundary Commission and Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland respectively.
- 3.4 A full review of polling arrangements for Edinburgh was completed in 2013 with polling arrangements agreed by Council on 12 December 2013. There was an interim review in 2016 as a result of the City of Edinburgh (Electoral Arrangements) Order 2016 which increased the number of councillors in the city and modified some ward boundaries.
- 3.5 A review for Edinburgh should have been completed between 1 October 2018 and 31 January 2020. The intention was to complete the review within the second half of 2019, with revised arrangements being agreed by Council in December 2019. There were two major unscheduled electoral events in 2019, the European Parliamentary Elections and the UK Parliamentary General Election the delivery of

which meant that there was not sufficient capacity or opportunity to complete the review to schedule. The review was therefore initiated in February 20

4. Main report

- 4.1 The aim of the review is to ensure all electors in the City of Edinburgh have as reasonable facilities for voting as practicable and to ensure that so far as is reasonable and practicable, the accessibility needs of electors who are disabled have been considered when designating polling places.
- 4.2 Local authorities have a duty to divide their area into polling districts and to designate a polling place for each district. The aim is to ensure the optimal facilities for voting in terms of location, accessibility and capacity of the building, to support turnout in electoral events. Arrangements should support participation in the political process.
- 4.3 Council on 21 November 2019 agreed a motion that required this review to consider the current use of schools as polling places as well as the opportunities to reduce or eliminate their use in time for the 2021 Scottish Parliament and 2022 local government elections.
- 4.4 The public consultation phase of the review commenced on Tuesday 7 July 2020 and concluded on Tuesday 4 August 2020. The consultation document was published on the City of Edinburgh Council website on the consultation Hub. Representations were welcomed from all interested parties, including any person or body with expertise in access for persons with any type of disability.
- 4.5 In addition, as part of the consultation process the Returning Officer issued the consultation document to a wide range of consultees including Elected Members, MP's, MSP's, Community Councils, local disability groups and parent councils in schools. Consultees were asked to comment on the existing polling scheme and on the draft proposals which were detailed in the consultation document.
- 4.6 99 comments were received through the Consultation Hub and directly by email. These have been reviewed and their suggestions considered in the proposals.
- 4.7 A polling district is defined as the geographical area created by the sub-division of a constituency or ward into smaller parts. In Scotland, each electoral area must be divided into two or more polling districts unless there are deemed to be special circumstances.
- 4.8 There have been no significant changes in polling districts electorates in the years since the last review and none are anticipated in the next five years. Major residential development or the cumulative effect of smaller developments is normally the most significant factor affecting the size of the electorate in a particular area. However, what development there has been in recent years has not significantly affected any polling districts as yet, although developments in future years will have an impact requiring further review.

- 4.9 It is considered that the current polling districts in the City of Edinburgh are generally reflective of the needs of voters in the local government area and therefore no amendments to the current boundaries are being proposed.
- 4.10 In conducting the review, members of the Election team visited a number of existing and proposed venues. They completed accessibility checklists which were subsequently submitted to the Returning Officer for consideration when drafting the final proposals contained in this report.
- 4.11 This review considered a range of data including:
- Experience of the current polling arrangements in recent electoral events;
 - Feedback from polling staff;
 - Comments and complaints from voters;
 - Advice from the ERO with respect to anticipated changes in the electorate;
 - Proposed housing developments in the City from the Housing Land Audit & Completions Programme 2019;
 - The request to review and minimise the use of schools as requested by the 21 November 2019 motion to Council;
 - Potential need for new school buildings; and
 - Cost of polling place hire.
- 4.12 Alternatives were considered for each of the primary schools that are currently used as polling places to take account of the 21 November 2019 Council Motion. The proposals are shown in Appendix 1. A number of changes are proposed including moving polling places out of 10 of the 35 primary schools that are currently used. Where any change is proposed it has been intended to improve the location, accessibility or capacity of the polling facilities. A number of schools are retained where there are no suitable alternative premises in the area.
- 4.13 As a result of the Coronavirus conditions the election team are having to review all polling facilities to ensure that polling can be undertaken safely, using guidance from the Electoral Management Board for Scotland and the Electoral Commission. As a result of this review there may be further changes required which will be reported to Council.
- 4.14 The Returning Officer will continue to keep the use of schools as polling places under review and will make further recommendations as and when alternative venues are identified.
- 4.15 The Returning Officer's final recommendations for the designation of Polling Districts and Polling Places in the City of Edinburgh are contained in Appendix 1
- 4.16 The outcome of this review, along with the original Notice of Review, the consultation documents and all correspondence and representations received will be made available on the Council's website as required by Schedule A1 of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

- 4.17 Following the conclusion of this review, certain persons have a right to make representations to the Electoral Commission regarding the designation of polling districts and polling places. The Commission will only consider representations on the following grounds:
- The local authority has failed to meet the reasonable requirements of the electors in the constituency, or a body of them; or
 - The local authority has failed to take sufficient account of accessibility for disabled persons of a polling station within a designated polling place.
- 4.18 Representations based on any other premise will not be considered. Full details of the Appeals Process are contained in Appendix 2.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 If Council approves the proposals in Appendix 1 then these will be the designated polling places to be used in elections until the next formal review. Decision is needed by the end of February to allow the ERO to produce poll cards in support of the scheduled Scottish Parliament Election on 6 May 2021.
- 5.2 In preparation for the Scottish Parliament Election and in recognition of the pressures resulting from the current Coronavirus pandemic the Election Team are continuing to review all polling facilities to ensure that they have the capacity to accommodate the required polling stations given the additional hygiene and physical distancing required. This is being reviewed in the context of guidance from the Electoral Management Board for Scotland, the Electoral Commission and Public Health Scotland.
- 5.3 It is anticipated that in order to minimise the potential for queues at polling places due to the limited capacity as a result of Covid restrictions there may be a direction from the Convener of the EMB to limit the number of voters allocated to each station. This may require a review of facilities in some cases.
- 5.4 Council is asked to note that the Chief Executive has delegated authority to make one-off minor amendments to the outlined polling arrangements for the 2021 Scottish Parliament Election should the availability of venues be impacted at short notice by Coronavirus. This will allow changes to be made quickly given the anticipated pressures that may be faced.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 There may be a small increase in hire costs for venues resulting from the proposals contained in this report. This is especially the case where we are moving out of schools. However, it should be noted that these costs are met by the Scottish Government or UK Government for all Parliamentary elections and the Council are only required to meet these costs for local government elections.

7. Background reading/external references

7.1 The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

7.1.1 [Schedule A1 of the Representation of the People Act 1983.](#)

7.1.2 [Electoral Commission Guidance – Reviews of polling districts, polling places and polling stations](#)

7.1.3 [Motion by Councillor Lang to Council 21 November 2019 - By Councillor Lang - Use of Schools as Polling Places](#)

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 City of Edinburgh Council Polling Scheme. Returning Officer's comments and proposed amendments

Appendix 2 Appeals Process

Appendix 3 Notice of Review

Appendix 1 – City of Edinburgh Council Polling Scheme. Returning Officer’s comments and proposed amendments

Ward 1 Almond

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

1	Almond	West	WW01A:	Echline Primary School
1	Almond	West	WW01B:	Queensferry Primary School
1	Almond	West	WW01C:	Dalmeny Parish Church Hall
1	Almond	West	WW01D:	Kirkliston Community Centre
1	Almond	West	WW01E:	Cramond Primary School
1	Almond	West	WW01F:	Holy Cross Episcopal Church Hall
1	Almond	West	WW01G:	Hillwood Primary School
1	Almond	West	WW01H:	Muirhouse Millennium Centre
1	Almond	West	WW01I:	North Edinburgh Arts Centre

Current- 4 schools

Following this review we propose the following.

1	Almond	West	WW01A:	Echline Primary School
1	Almond	West	WW01B:	Queensferry Community Education Centre
1	Almond	West	WW01C:	Dalmeny Parish Church Hall
1	Almond	West	WW01D:	Kirkliston Community Centre
1	Almond	West	WW01E:	Cramond Primary School
1	Almond	West	WW01E	Mobile Polling Place No 2
1	Almond	West	WW01F:	Holy Cross Episcopal Church Hall
1	Almond	West	WW01G:	Hillwood Primary School
1	Almond	West	WW01H:	Muirhouse Millennium Centre
1	Almond	West	WW01I:	North Edinburgh Arts Centre

Proposed – 3 schools

Notes

Queensferry Primary School has been omitted and replaced by Queensferry Community Education Centre due to it being a good replacement polling place able to release a school. It should be noted that it is likely an additional polling place will need to be found to serve Queensferry in coming years due to the potential increase in housing numbers.

An alternative was sought for Cramond Primary School due to the polling place reaching capacity, complaints from parents and the requirement to investigate a school replacement. Unfortunately no suitable alternatives were found. The use of a mobile polling place will serve the Cammo area due to the excessive travel required to the existing polling place and it will ease congestion at Cramond Primary School.

Returning Officer Comments

The Returning Officer agrees with the proposals to amend the polling places as noted above.

Ward 2 Pentland Hills

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02B:	Heriot-Watt University
2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02C:	Juniper Green Parish Church Hall
2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02D:	Clovenstone Community Centre
2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02F:	Gibson Craig Halls
2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02G:	Currie Library
2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02H:	Balerno Parish Church, St Joseph's Centre
2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02I:	Sighthill Primary School
2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02J:	The Bridge Community Café, Holy Trinity Church
2	Pentland Hills	West	WP02A:	Ratho Community Centre

Current– 1 school

Following this review we propose the following.

2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02B:	Heriot-Watt University
2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02C:	Juniper Green Parish Church Hall
2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02D:	Clovenstone Community Centre
2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02F:	Gibson Craig Halls
2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02G:	Currie Library
2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02H:	Balerno Parish Church, St Joseph's Centre
2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02I:	Sighthill Primary School
2	Pentland Hills	South West	SWP02J:	The Bridge Community Café, Holy Trinity Church
2	Pentland Hills	West	WP02A:	Ratho Community Centre

Proposed 1 school – no alternative can be found for Sighthill Primary School.

Notes

There are no changes proposed to the arrangements for Ward 2. No suitable alternative can be found for Sighthill Primary School.

Returning Officer Comments

The Returning Officer agrees with the proposals noting that no amendments are proposed.

Ward 3 Drum Brae/ Gyle

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	South West	SWW03G:	Lothian Valuation Joint Board Office
3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	South West	SWW03H:	Mobile Polling Station No 1
3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	West	WW03A:	East Craigs Church Centre
3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	West	WW03B:	Munro Community Centre
3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	West	WW03C:	Rannoch Community Education Centre
3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	West	WW03D:	Fox Covert Primary School
3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	West	WW03E:	Craigsbank Church Hall
3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	West	WW03F: WW06K:	Gylemuir Primary School

Current 2 schools

Following this review we propose the following.

3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	South West	SWW03G:	Lothian Valuation Joint Board Office
3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	South West	SWW03H:	Mobile Polling Station No 1
3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	West	WW03A:	East Craigs Church Centre
3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	West	WW03B:	Munro Community Centre
3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	West	WW03C:	Rannoch Community Education Centre
3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	West	WW03D:	Fox Covert Primary School
3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	West	WW03E:	Craigsbank Church Hall
3	Drum Brae/ Gyle	West	WW03F: WW06K:	Gylemuir Primary School

Proposed 2 schools

Notes

There are no changes proposed to the arrangements for Ward 2. No suitable alternatives could be found for Gylemuir Primary School or Fox Covert Primary School

Returning Officer Comments

The Returning Officer agrees with the proposals noting that no amendments are proposed.

Ward 4 Forth

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

4	Forth	North & Leith	NN04C:	West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre
4	Forth	North & Leith	NN04D:	Prentice Centre
4	Forth	North & Leith	NN04E:	Royston Wardieburn Community Centre
4	Forth	North & Leith	NN04F:	Granton Primary School, New Annexe
4	Forth	North & Leith	NN04G:	Wardie Residents Club
4	Forth	North & Leith	NN04H:	Inverleith St. Serf's Church
4	Forth	North & Leith	NN04I: NN13A:	Victoria Primary School
4	Forth	North & Leith	NN04J:	Trinity Primary School

Current 3 schools

Following this review we propose the following.

4	Forth	North & Leith	NN04C:	West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre
4	Forth	North & Leith	NN04D:	Prentice Centre
4	Forth	North & Leith	NN04E:/ NN04F:	Royston Wardieburn Community Centre
4	Forth	North & Leith	NN04G:	Wardie Residents Club
4	Forth	North & Leith	NN04H:	Inverleith St. Serf's Church
4	Forth	North & Leith	NN04I: NN13A:	Victoria Primary School
4	Forth	North & Leith	NN04J:	Trinity Primary School

Proposed 2 schools

Notes

The only proposed change within Ward 4 involves the replacement of Granton Primary School with Royston Wardieburn Community Centre. This has been driven by the request to find alternatives to schools and there have been a number of complaints regarding the location of the district polling place given many of the electorate currently walk past Royston Wardieburn to cast their vote. The merging of the districts will produce a large polling district however the centre is centrally located, and the facility can comfortably host additional polling stations as required.

Returning Officer Comments

The Returning Officer agrees with the amendments that are proposed.

Ward 5 Inverleith

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

5	Inverleith	North & Leith	NC05D:	Fet-Lor
5	Inverleith	North & Leith	NC05G:	St. Stephen's Comely Bank Church
5	Inverleith	North & Leith	NC05H:	Stockbridge Library
5	Inverleith	North & Leith	NC05I:	Broughton St. Mary's Parish Church
5	Inverleith	North & Leith	NC05J:	Bristo Baptist Church Hall
5	Inverleith	North & Leith	NN05F:	St. James' Episcopal Church Hall
5	Inverleith	North & Leith	NW05E:	Blackhall St. Columba's Church Hall
5	Inverleith	West	WW05A:	Blackhall Library
5	Inverleith	West	WW05B:	Blackhall Primary School
5	Inverleith	West	WW05C:	Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre

Current 1 primary school

Following this review we propose the following.

5	Inverleith	North & Leith	NC05D:	Fet-Lor
5	Inverleith	North & Leith	NC05G:	St. Stephen's Comely Bank Church
5	Inverleith	North & Leith	NC05H:	Stockbridge Library
5	Inverleith	North & Leith	NC05I:	Bellevue Chapel
5	Inverleith	North & Leith	NC05J:	Bristo Baptist Church Hall
5	Inverleith	North & Leith	NN05F:	St. James' Episcopal Church Hall
5	Inverleith	North & Leith	NW05E:	Blackhall St. Columba's Church Hall
5	Inverleith	West	WW05A:	Blackhall Library
5	Inverleith	West	WW05B:	Blackhall Primary School
5	Inverleith	West	WW05C:	Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre

Proposed 1 school

Notes

The only proposed change within Ward 5 involves the reinstatement of Bellevue Chapel as a polling place following its refurbishment. Bellevue Chapel has been used for polling many times previously. No alternative has been identified for Blackhall Primary School.

Returning Officer Comments

The Returning Officer agrees with the amendments that are proposed.

Ward 6 Corstorphine/ Murrayfield

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	North & Leith	NC06L:	Holiday Inn Edinburgh City West
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WC05L: WC06C:	Holiday Inn Edinburgh City West
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WC06D:	Murrayfield Parish Church Centre
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WC06G:	Saughton Crescent Scout Hall (also known as 150th Craigalmond Scout Hall)
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WC06H:	Roseburn Primary School
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WW06A:	Corstorphine St. Ninian's Church Hall
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WW06B:	St. Anne's Parish Church Hall
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WW06E:	10th Craigalmond Scout Hall
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WW06F:	Carrick Knowe Primary School
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WW06I:	Carrick Knowe Parish Church Hall

Current – 2 schools

Following this review we propose the following.

6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	North & Leith	NC06L:	Holiday Inn Edinburgh City West
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WC05L: WC06C:	Holiday Inn Edinburgh City West
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WC06D:	Murrayfield Parish Church Centre
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WC06G:	Saughton Crescent Scout Hall (also known as 150th Craigalmond Scout Hall)
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WC06H:	Roseburn Primary School
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WW06A:	Corstorphine St. Ninian's Church Hall
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WW06B:	St. Anne's Parish Church Hall
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WW06E:	10th Craigalmond Scout Hall
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WW06F:	Corstorphine Library
6	Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	West	WW06I:	Carrick Knowe Parish Church Hall

Proposed 1 school

Notes

It is proposed that Carrick Knowe Primary School is replaced with Corstorphine Library. The library is out of the polling district however but falls only slightly outside of the polling district and is well located to serve the electorate. No suitable alternative could be found for Roseburn Primary School

Returning Officer Comments

The Returning Officer agrees with the amendments that are proposed.

Ward 7 Sighthill/ Gorgie

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	South West	SWC07D:	Gorgie War Memorial Hall
7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	South West	SWC07E:	Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse Church
7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	South West	SWC07F:	Dalry Primary School
7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	South West	SWP07A:	St. David's Church Hall
7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	South West	SWP07H:	Murrayburn Primary School
7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	South West	SWP07J:	Stenhouse Primary School
7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	South West	SWP07N:	Longstone Primary School
7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	West	WP07B:	Carrickvale Community Education Centre

Current 3 schools

Following this review we propose the following.

7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	South West	SWC07D:	Gorgie War Memorial Hall
7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	South West	SWC07E:	Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse Church
7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	South West	SWC07F:	Dalry Primary School
7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	South West	SWP07A:	St. David's Church Hall
7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	South West	SWP07H:	Murrayburn Primary School
7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	South West	SWP07J:	Stenhouse Primary School
7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	South West	SWP07N:	Longstone Primary School
7	Sighthill/ Gorgie	West	WP07B:	Carrickvale Community Education Centre

Proposed 3 schools

Notes

There are no changes proposed to the arrangements for Ward 7. No suitable alternatives could be found for Murrayburn, Stenhouse or Longstone Primary Schools.

Returning Officer Comments

The Returning Officer agrees with the proposals noting that no amendments are proposed.

Ward 8 Colinton/ Fairmilehead

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

8	Colinton/ Fairmilehead	South	SP08D:	Buckstone Primary School
8	Colinton/ Fairmilehead	South	SP08G:	Fairmilehead Parish Church Hall
8	Colinton/ Fairmilehead	South West	SWP08A:	St. Cuthbert's Episcopal Church Hall
8	Colinton/ Fairmilehead	South West	SWP08B: SWS08H	St. John's Colinton Mains Church
8	Colinton/ Fairmilehead	South West	SWP08C:	Pentland Primary School
8	Colinton/ Fairmilehead	South West	SWP08E:	Dreghorn Loan Church Hall
8	Colinton/ Fairmilehead	South West	SWP08F:	Pentland Community Centre

Current 2 schools

Following this review we propose the following.

8	Colinton/ Fairmilehead	South	SP08D:	Buckstone Primary School
8	Colinton/ Fairmilehead	South	SP08G:	Fairmilehead Parish Church Hall
8	Colinton/ Fairmilehead	South West	SWP08A:	St. Cuthbert's Episcopal Church Hall
8	Colinton/ Fairmilehead	South West	SWP08B: SWS08H	St. John's Colinton Mains Church
8	Colinton/ Fairmilehead	South West	SWP08C:	Oxgangs Library
8	Colinton/ Fairmilehead	South West	SWP08E:	Dreghorn Loan Church Hall
8	Colinton/ Fairmilehead	South West	SWP08F:	Pentland Community Centre

Proposed 1 school

Notes

The only proposed change within ward 8 is the replacement of Pentland Primary School with Oxgangs Library. The library is situated out with the polling district boundary however the district is small and the additional travel distance is minimal. Again this is proposed to secure an alternative to a primary school. No alternative could be identified for Buckstone Primary School.

Returning Officer Comments

The Returning Officer agrees with the amendments that are proposed.

Ward 9 Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

9	Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	South West	SWC09D: SWC11F:	Tollcross Primary School
9	Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	South West	SWP09I:	Kingsknowe Golf Club
9	Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	South West	SWS09A:	St. Cuthbert's Primary School
9	Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	South West	SWS09B:	Craiglockhart Primary School
9	Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	South West	SWS09C:	Fountainbridge Library
9	Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	South West	SWS09E:	Boroughmuir Rugby & Community Sports Club
9	Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	South West	SWS09G:	Craiglockhart Parish Church Hall

Current 3 schools

Following this review we propose the following.

9	Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	South West	SWC09D: SWC11F:	Tollcross Community Centre
9	Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	South West	SWP09I:	Kingsknowe Golf Club
9	Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	South West	SWS09A:	St. Cuthbert's Church Hall
9	Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	South West	SWS09B:	Craiglockhart Primary School
9	Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	South West	SWS09C:	Fountainbridge Library
9	Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	South West	SWS09E:	Boroughmuir Rugby & Community Sports Club
9	Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	South West	SWS09G:	Craiglockhart Parish Church Hall

Proposed 1 schools

Notes

The proposed change From Tollcross Primary School to Tollcross Community Centre is a minimal change as the community centre has been used many times previously serving the same electorate. The school and community centre being part of the same complex.

The second proposal would see the electorate return to St Cuthbert's Church Hall releasing St Cuthbert's Primary School. This has been used many times previously and was only recently replaced by the school. No alternative has been found to Craiglockhart Primary School.

Returning Officer Comments

The Returning Officer agrees with the amendments that are proposed.

Ward 10 Meadows/ Morningside

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

10	Meadows/ Morningside	South	SP10K:	St. Fillan's Church Hall
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South	SS10B:	Polwarth Parish Church Hall
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South	SS10C:	Morningside United Church Hall
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South	SS10F:	Church Hill Theatre - Studio
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South	SS10G:	James Gillespie's Primary School
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South	SS10H:	South Morningside Primary School
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South	SS10I:	Morningside Parish Church Halls
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South	SS10J: SS09H:	Greenbank Church Hall
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South West	SWC10D:	Barclay Viewforth Church
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South West	SWS10A:	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Current – 2 schools

Following this review we propose the following.

10	Meadows/ Morningside	South	SP10K:	St. Fillan's Church Hall
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South	SS10B:	Polwarth Parish Church Hall
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South	SS10C:	Morningside United Church Hall
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South	SS10F:	Church Hill Theatre - Studio
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South	SS10G:	James Gillespie's Primary School
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South	SS10I: SS10H	Morningside Parish Church Halls
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South	SS10J: SS09H:	Greenbank Church Hall
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South West	SWC10D:	Barclay Viewforth Church
10	Meadows/ Morningside	South West	SWS10A:	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Proposed 1 school

Notes

The proposed change from South Morningside Primary School to Morningside Parish Church Halls comes as a result of finding a school alternative and receiving numerous complaints from parents regarding the continued use of the school. Although this new district would be very large the electorate can be accommodated within the church, although additional minor district adjustments may be required with some of the electorate required to vote at Church Hill Theatre and Greenbank Church Hall.

Returning Officer Comments.

The Returning Officer agrees with the amendments that are proposed.

Ward 11 City Centre

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

11	City Centre	East	EC11G:	Lauriston Halls
11	City Centre	East	EC11H:	City Chambers
11	City Centre	East	EC11J: EE11K:	Waverley Court, City of Edinburgh Council HQ
11	City Centre	East	EC11L: EC10E:	Novotel Edinburgh Centre
11	City Centre	East	EC11M:	Braidwood Community Centre
11	City Centre	North & Leith	NC11A:	Assembly Rooms
11	City Centre	North & Leith	NC11B: NC11C:	Cafe Camino
11	City Centre	North & Leith	NC11E:	Walpole Hall
11	City Centre	West	WC11D:	Apex Haymarket Hotel

Current – 0 schools

Following this review we propose the following.

11	City Centre	East	EC11G:	Lauriston Halls
11	City Centre	East	EC11H:	City Chambers
11	City Centre	East	EC11J: EE11K:	Waverley Court, City of Edinburgh Council HQ
11	City Centre	East	EC11L: EC10E:	Novotel Edinburgh Centre
11	City Centre	East	EC11M:	Braidwood Community Centre
11	City Centre	North & Leith	NC11A:	Assembly Rooms
11	City Centre	North & Leith	NC11B: NC11C:	Cafe Camino
11	City Centre	North & Leith	NC11E:	Walpole Hall
11	City Centre	West	WC11D:	Apex Haymarket Hotel

Proposed 0 schools

Notes

There are no changes proposed to the arrangements for Ward 11. .

Returning Officer Comments

The Returning Officer agrees with the proposals noting that no amendments are proposed.

Ward 12 Leith Walk

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

12	Leith Walk	East	EN12G:	Pilmeny Youth Centre
12	Leith Walk	East	EN12H: EN14K: EN12 K	Norton Park Conference Centre
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12A:	Holy Cross R.C. Primary School
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12B:	Ebenezer United Free Church Hall
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12C:	Royal Navy & Royal Marine Association & Club
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12D:	Broughton Nursery
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12E:	Pilrig St Paul's Church Hall
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12F:	Lorne Primary School
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12I:	McDonald Road Library
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12J:	Leith Walk Primary School

Current – 3 schools

Following this review we propose the following.

12	Leith Walk	East	EN12G:	Pilmeny Youth Centre
12	Leith Walk	East	EN12H: EN14K: EN12 K	Norton Park Conference Centre
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12A:	Leith & District Boys Brigade
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12B:	Ebenezer United Free Church Hall
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12C:	Royal Navy & Royal Marine Association & Club
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12D:	Broughton Nursery
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12E:	Pilrig St Paul's Church Hall
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12F:	Out of The Blue
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12I:	McDonald Road Library
12	Leith Walk	North & Leith	NN12J:	Leith Walk Primary School

Proposed – 1 school

Notes

The proposal to move from Holy Cross RC Primary School to the Leith & District Boys Brigade is geographically a very short move but the new venue is now within the polling district and is a viable alternative to a primary school.

The proposed move from Lorne Primary School to Out of the Blue is again a viable proposal to find an alternative to a primary school. The location of Out of the Blue is within Dalmeny Street which is central to the polling district.

Returning Officer Comments.

The Returning Officer agrees with the amendments that are proposed.

Ward 13 Leith

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

13	Leith	East	EN13E:	Hermitage Park Primary School
13	Leith	North & Leith	NN13B:	North Leith Parish Church Hall
13	Leith	North & Leith	NN13C:	St. Mary's (Leith) R.C. Primary School
13	Leith	North & Leith	NN13D:	South Leith Parish Church Halls

Current – 2 schools

Following this review, we propose the following.

13	Leith	East	EN13E:	Hermitage Park Primary School
13	Leith	North & Leith	NN13B:	North Leith Parish Church Hall
13	Leith	North & Leith	NN13C:	St. Mary's (Leith) R.C. Primary School
13	Leith	North & Leith	NN13D:	South Leith Parish Church Halls

Proposed 2 schools

Notes

There are no changes proposed to the arrangements for Ward 13. No suitable alternatives could be found for Hermitage Park or St Mary's RC Primary Schools.

Returning Officer Comments

The Returning Officer agrees with the proposals noting that no amendments are proposed.

Ward 14 Craigentinny/ Duddingston

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14A:	St. Ninian's R.C. Church Hall
14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14B:	Craigentinny Community Centre
14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14C:	Wilson Memorial United Free Church of Scotland
14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14D: EN14L:	Abbeyhill Primary School
14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14F:	Willowbrae Parish Church
14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14G:	Northfield/Willowbrae Community Centre
14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14H:	Parsons Green Nursery School
14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14M:	Restalrig Lochend Community Hub

Current 2 schools

Following this review we propose the following.

14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14A:	St. Ninian's R.C. Church Hall
14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14B:	Craigentinny Community Centre
14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14C:	Wilson Memorial United Free Church of Scotland
14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14D: EN14L:	Meadowbank Church
14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14F:	Willowbrae Parish Church
14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14G:	Northfield/Willowbrae Community Centre
14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14H:	Parsons Green Nursery School
14	Craigentinny/ Duddingston	East	EE14M:	Restalrig Lochend Community Hub

Proposed 1 school

Notes

The only proposed change within Ward 14 involves moving from Abbeyhill Primary School to Meadowbank Church. The location of the church is more central to the polling district and the church has been used many times prior to the 2016 polling review.

Returning Officer Comments

The Returning Officer agrees with the amendments that are proposed.

Ward 15 Southside/ Newington

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

15	Southside/ Newington	East	EC15A:	Southside Community Centre
15	Southside/ Newington	East	EC15C:	Nelson Hall Community Centre
15	Southside/ Newington	East	ES15H:	Cameron House Community Education Centre
15	Southside/ Newington	South	SS15D:	St. Catherine's Argyle Church
15	Southside/ Newington	South	SS15F:	Marchmont St. Giles' Parish Church
15	Southside/ Newington	South	SS15G:	Mayfield Salisbury Church Hall
15	Southside/ Newington	South	SS15I:	Reid Memorial Church Hall
15	Southside/ Newington	South	SS15J:	Liberton Primary School
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16D: SE17L:	Goodtrees Neighbourhood Centre

Current – 1 school

Following this review we propose the following.

15	Southside/ Newington	East	EC15A:	Southside Community Centre
15	Southside/ Newington	East	EC15C:	Nelson Hall Community Centre
15	Southside/ Newington	East	ES15H:	Cameron House Community Education Centre
15	Southside/ Newington	South	SS15D:	St. Catherine's Argyle Church
15	Southside/ Newington	South	SS15F:	Marchmont St. Giles' Parish Church
15	Southside/ Newington	South	SS15G:	Mayfield Salisbury Church Hall
15	Southside/ Newington	South	SS15I:	Reid Memorial Church Hall
15	Southside/ Newington	South	SS15J:	Liberton Primary School
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16D: SE17L:	Goodtrees Neighbourhood Centre

Proposed – 1 school

Notes

There are no changes proposed to the arrangements for Ward 15. No suitable alternatives could be found for Liberton Primary School.

Returning Officer Comments

The Returning Officer agrees with the proposals noting that no amendments are proposed.

Ward 16 Liberton/ Gilmerton

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16D: SE17L:	Goodtrees Neighbourhood Centre
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16F:	Alnwickhill Road Army Reserve Centre
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16G:	South Neighbourhood Office
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16H: SS16E:	Liberton Kirk Halls
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16I:	Liberton Northfield Church Hall
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16J:	Valley Park Community Centre
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16K:	Gilmerton Community Centre
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SS16A:	St. John Vianney R.C. Primary School
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SS16B:	St. Gregory's R.C. Church Hall

Current – 1 school

Following this review we propose the following.

16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16D: SE17L:	Goodtrees Neighbourhood Centre
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16F:	Alnwickhill Road Army Reserve Centre
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16G:	Gracemount Leisure Centre
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16H: SS16E:	Liberton Kirk Halls
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16I:	Liberton Northfield Church Hall
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16J:	Valley Park Community Centre
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SE16K:	Gilmerton Community Centre
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SS16A:	St. John Vianney R.C. Primary School
16	Liberton/ Gilmerton	South	SS16B:	St. Gregory's R.C. Church Hall

Proposed 1 school

Notes

The use of the South Neighbourhood Office has provided a number of challenges recently due to the office's other uses and library the operation of the library. The layout of polling stations within the office is in addition very complicated therefore it is proposed to move back to the leisure centre which has hosted polling many times previously.

No alternative has been found for St. John Vianney R.C. Primary School

Returning Officer Comments

The Returning Officer agrees with the amendments that are proposed.

Ward 17 Portobello/ Craigmillar

Polling places for the 2019 United Kingdom General Election were as follows.

17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17A:	Portobello Community Centre
17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17B:	St. John's R.C. Primary School
17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17C:	Portobello and Joppa Parish Church
17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17D:	Bingham Community Centre
17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17E:	Brunstane Primary School
17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17G: ES17M: EE16L:	East Neighbourhood Centre
17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17J:	Hays Business Centre
17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17K:	Newcraighall Primary School

Current – 3 schools

Following this review we propose the following.

17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17A:	Portobello Community Centre
17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17B:	St. John's R.C. Primary School
17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17C:	Portobello and Joppa Parish Church
17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17D:	Bingham Community Centre
17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17E:	Brunstane Primary School
17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17G: ES17M: EE16L:	East Neighbourhood Centre
17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17J:	Hays Business Centre
17	Portobello/ Craigmillar	East	EE17K:	Newcraighall Primary School

Proposed 3 schools

Notes

There are no changes proposed to the arrangements for Ward 17. No suitable alternatives could be found for St. John's R.C. Primary School, Brunstane Primary School or Newcraighall Primary School

Returning Officer Comments

The Returning Officer agrees with the proposals noting that no amendments are proposed.

Appendix 2

Appeals Process

Following the conclusion of the Council's review certain persons have a right to make representations to the Electoral Commission and this section sets out the Appeals Process which requires to be followed.

Who is entitled to make a representation to the Commission?

- Thirty or more registered electors in each constituency (although electors registered anonymously cannot make a representation);
- A person (except the Returning Officer) who made representations to the local authority when the review was being undertaken;
- Any person who is not an elector in a constituency in the authority's area but who the Commission thinks has sufficient interest in the accessibility of disabled persons to polling places in the area or has particular expertise in relation to the access to premises or facilities of disabled persons.

In addition, the Returning Officer may make observations on any representations made to the Commission.

Format for all representations:

All representations made to the Commission must be made in writing either by post, e-mail or fax. The representation must be as specific as possible and should clearly state the manner in which it is alleged that the Council has failed to properly conduct the review. There are only two grounds on which a representation may be made. These are:

- (a) The local authority has failed to meet the reasonable requirements of the electors in the constituency
- (b) The local authority has failed to take sufficient account of accessibility to disabled persons of the polling station(s) within a polling place

Representations based on any other premise will not be considered.

The representation should include the location and any other relevant information regarding the polling place at issue, stating specifically why it is inaccessible or does not meet the reasonable requirements of the electors.

A representation may also include for consideration specific proposals for changing the place that has been designated as the polling place.

Decision making process of the Commission

Upon receipt of a representation, the Commission will request all relevant documentation from the Council and will show the Council the representation.

The Returning Officer is entitled to make observations on the representation submitted to the Commission and should give a report on the probable polling stations which would likely be used should the representation be successful.

The documentation from the Council, the observations of the Returning Officer and any other relevant information will be taken into consideration, in conjunction with the representation.

The Commission may seek advice from persons with expertise on accessibility issues when making its decision.

The Commission will set out in writing its conclusions and reasons for its decision. The Commission's decision will be issued to the person(s) who made the representation, the Council and the Returning Officer. The decision and related documents will also be published on the Commission's website and the Angus Council website.

The Commission may direct the Council to consider any alterations to the polling places that it deems necessary under the review. After two months, if the Council has failed to make the alterations the Commission can itself make the alterations as if the Council had implemented them.

Please send any representations to:

Legal Counsel
The Electoral Commission
3 Bunhill Row
London EC1Y 8YZ
Tel: 020 7271 0500
Fax: 020 7271 0505
Email: appeals@electoralcommission.org.uk

NOTICE OF REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES

In accordance with The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013, the City of Edinburgh Council is conducting a review of polling districts and polling places.

The review is intended to take account of experience and feedback from recent elections and any recent changes in circumstances. Polling places must be well located and accessible to all electors, including those with a disability, so far as practicable.

Representations on the proposals are invited from elected representatives, political parties, electors within the City of Edinburgh Council area and persons or organisations with particular expertise in respect of access to premises for people with different forms of disability. Those making submissions are welcome to propose alternative venues for polling if they have concerns about current and proposed provision.

Representations should be made in writing (by e-mail) to the address below. The deadline for receipt of representations is **Tuesday 4 August 2020**. Any representations received will be posted on the City of Edinburgh Council website and available for public inspection. After this deadline, and consideration of all representations received, a report containing the final proposals for polling districts and polling places will be submitted for consideration at a meeting of the City of Edinburgh Council.

Chris Highcock
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Tuesday 7 July 2020