

## Notice of Meeting and Agenda Council

| Date                       | Time  | Venue  |
|----------------------------|-------|--|
| Thursday, 05 December 2019 | 09:30 | Council Chambers (Renfrewshire),<br>Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire<br>House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN |

KENNETH GRAHAM  
Head of Corporate Governance

### Membership

Councillor Jennifer Marion Adam-McGregor: Councillor Tom Begg: Councillor Derek Bibby: Councillor Bill Binks: Councillor Bill Brown: Councillor Stephen Burns: Councillor Jacqueline Cameron: Councillor Michelle Campbell: Councillor Carolann Davidson: Councillor Eddie Devine: Councillor Andy Doig: Councillor Audrey Doig: Councillor Natalie Don: Councillor Alison Jean Dowling: Councillor Edward Grady: Councillor Neill Graham: Councillor Jim Harte: Councillor John Hood: Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes: Councillor Karen Kennedy: Councillor Scott Kerr: Councillor Paul Mack: Councillor Alistair Mackay: Councillor James MacLaren: Councillor Kenny MacLaren: Councillor Mags MacLaren: Councillor Eileen McCartin: Councillor Colin McCulloch: Councillor Marie McGurk: Councillor John McIntyre: Councillor John McNaughtan: Councillor Kevin Montgomery: Councillor Will Mylet: Councillor Emma Rodden: Councillor Jim Sharkey: Councillor John Shaw: Councillor James Sheridan: Councillor Andy Steel: Councillor Jane Strang: Provost Lorraine Cameron (Convener): Councillor Cathy McEwan (Depute Convener): Councillor Iain Nicolson (Leader): Councillor Jim Paterson (Depute Leader)

### Members of the Press and Public

Members of the press and public wishing to attend the meeting should report to the customer service centre where they will be met and directed to the meeting.

### Chair

### In Attendance

### Additional Item

### Obituary

### Sederunt

## **Sederunt**

### **Further Information**

This is a meeting which is open to members of the public.

A copy of the agenda and reports for this meeting will be available for inspection prior to the meeting at the Customer Service Centre, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley and online at <http://renfrewshire.cmis.uk.com/renfrewshire/CouncilandBoards.aspx>

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### **Webcasting of Meeting**

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<http://renfrewshire.cmis.uk.com/renfrewshire/meetings.aspx> and select the meeting from the calendar.

## Items of business

### Apologies

Apologies from members.

### Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare an interest in any item(s) on the agenda and to provide a brief explanation of the nature of the interest.

#### 1 Minutes of Meetings of Council, Boards and Panels

Council, 26 September 2019, pages 135-160

Special Council 26 September 2019, pages 161-162

Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board, 29 October 2019, pages 163-176

Regulatory Functions Board, 30 October 2019, pages 177-188

Appointment Board, 30 October 2019, pages 189-190

Education and Children's Services Policy Board, 31 October 2019, pages 191-198

Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Board, 4 November 2019, pages 199-206

Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board, 6 November 2019, pages 207-216

Special Council, 11 November 2019, pages 217-218

Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board, 13 November 2019, pages 219-238

Regulatory Functions Board, 14 November 2019, pages 239-246

Appointment Board, 26 November 2019, pages 247-248

#### 2 A Prudential Framework for Capital Finance in Renfrewshire - Progress Report

Report by Director of Finance & Resources

#### 3 Statutory Review of Polling Places and Polling Districts

Report by Director of Finance & Resources (Appendix 5 attached separately)

#### 4 Scottish Household Survey

Report by Chief Executive

#### 5 Clyde Muirshiel Park Authority Joint Committee – Replacement of Council Representative

Report by the Director of Finance and Resources.

#### 6 Notice of Motion 1 by Councillors Mackay and Strang

"Where an Elected Member of Renfrewshire Council chooses not to take a salary, the Chief Executive is to establish how the Elected Member would like their salary allocated and fulfil those wishes where possible.

With regard the pension contributions from both parties, the Chief

Executive is to establish the wishes of the Elected Member and implement them accordingly."

**7 Notice of Motion 2 by Councillors Mackay and McIntyre**

"To enable time for Elected Members to scrutinise the proposed budget, it is to be presented to Elected Members at least 24 hours in advance of the Council Meeting at which it is to be voted."

**8 Notice of Motion 3 by Councillors Mack and Andy Doig**

"As the town which gifted to the Judeo-Christian world the Good Neighbour principle and Duty of Care, we ask the chief executive waives her fee for returning officer duties and set an example for other local authorities to follow setting the tone/lead for a campaign of ending pay inequality."

**9 Notice of Motion 4 by Councillors Andy Doig and Mack**

"Supporting Renfrewshire's Farming Community

Renfrewshire Council notes the concern expressed by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change earlier this year on the detrimental impact of agri-business on global warming, particularly in the meat and dairy sector, and recognises the valuable contribution of Renfrewshire's farming community to locally sourced and produced quality meat and dairy products.

Council further highlights the benefits of quality red meat as a suitable source of zinc, iron, and vitamin B12 and calls on future UK governments to protect and defend the primacy of locally sourced and produced red meat, in areas such as Renfrewshire, when negotiating international trade deals."

**10 Notice of Motion 5 by Councillors Andy Doig and Mack**

"Remembering Renfrewshire's contribution to the Fight against Fascism during the Spanish Civil War

Renfrewshire Council watches with concern the rise of populist and far right parties and governments across Europe, in this, the 80th anniversary year of the beginning of the Second World War against Fascism and Nazism.

Council applauds the contribution against Fascism made by those from Renfrewshire, and across the UK, who served in the International Brigades during the Spanish Civil War, which was in so many ways the precursor of the Second World War.

Council resolves that in honour of the sacrifice of the International Brigades, whom many consider to be the advance guards of democracy, the flag of the Second Spanish Republic (1931-39) shall be flown outside Renfrewshire House every 21st September annually, the date when the Brigades were disbanded."

**11 Notice of Motion 6 by Councillors Kenny MacLaren and**

## **Mags MacLaren**

"Council agrees to investigate the re-instatement of two bus stops located on Well Street, Paisley to their original location. Council also agrees to full engagement and consultation with local residents, local elected members, local businesses and the local community council. These stops were originally moved without prior consultation and require community involvement.

Council calls on SPT to remove all barriers, including financial, to this relocation and assist the council to relocate these bus stops.

Council will contact SPT to seek agreement on the relocation of these bus stops without any financial penalty to the council."

### **12 Notice of Motion 7 by Councillors McCartin and Mack**

"Hawkhead cemetery

This council recognises that £500,000 has been spent on Hawkhead cemetery in the last year. Council also recognises that this work has covered only one part of the cemetery, and that most of the area is still in a shocking state of disrepair.

The council therefore confirms that adequate funding will be included in next year's Administration budget to fully address the problems which have built up in Hawkhead cemetery over the previous decades."

### **13 Notice of Motion 8 by Councillors Mack and Andy Doig**

"Name Change

The area which spans Grahamston Road in the South East of the County of Renfrewshire to Caplethill Road in the West encompassing the area dispassionately referred to hitherto as 'P6' in Ordinance Survey Map No. 100023417 (Printed 14/01/13) be from this day forth, in keeping with the scientific principles of nomenclature, known as '**The Lungs of Paisley.**'"

### **14 Notice of Motion 9 by Councillors Mylet and Kenny**

**MacLaren**

"Council, in recognition of the climate emergency, condemns the excessive use of packaging by local supermarkets and online retailers such as Amazon. Council agrees that whilst there is legislation in place it does not go far enough to deal with the issue of excess packaging. It is clear that climate change is not a priority for Westminster and that these powers should be devolved to the Scottish Parliament to strengthen the legislation to protect our environment

Council also instructs officers in trading standards to investigate this issue within Renfrewshire and take action against retailers who don't comply with the current legislation. The council will also audit our own services to ensure that we are not contributing to this problem."






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**To: Council**

**On: 5 December 2019**

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**Report by: Director of Finance & Resources**

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**Heading: A Prudential Framework for Capital Finance – Progress Report and Treasury Management Strategy Mid-Year Review 2019**

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### **Summary**

- 1.1 The Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 and supporting regulations require local authorities to have regard to the following codes of practice issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA):
- The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (“the Prudential Code”);
  - Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes (“the Treasury Management Code”).
- 1.2 The Council set its prudential indicators for 2019/20 on 28th February 2019 and the purpose of this report is to consider the indicators as they stand at 11th October 2019, approximately halfway through the financial year, and revise them as appropriate.
- 1.3 The Treasury Management Code requires the Council to determine an annual TM Strategy and as a minimum, formally report on their treasury activities and arrangements mid-year and after the year-end. This report covers
- an economic update for the first six months of 2019-2020;
  - a review of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2019-2020,
  - a review of the Council’s investment and borrowing in 2019-2020; and
  - a review of compliance with treasury management indicators for 2019-2020
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## **Recommendations**

- 2.1 It is recommended that members
- consider this report and approve the changes to the prudential indicators as detailed in the report.
  - note the treasury management activity for the period to 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019.
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## **Background**

- 3.1 The key objectives of the Prudential Code are to ensure, within a clear framework, that:
- Capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable;
  - Treasury management decisions are taken in accordance with good professional practice and in full understanding of the risks involved;
  - That these risks will be managed to an acceptable level to the organisation;
  - Capital investment plans are being made in light of the overall organisational strategy and resources, ensuring that decisions are being made with sufficient regard to the long run financial implications and potential risks to the authority.
- 3.2 To demonstrate that local authorities have fulfilled these objectives, the Prudential Code sets out the indicators that must be used and the factors that must be taken into account. The Code does not include suggested indicative limits or ratios. These are for the Council to set itself.
- 3.3 The prudential indicators required by the Code are designed to support and record local decision making. The system is specifically designed to support such local decision making in a manner that is publicly accountable. They are not designed to be comparative performance indicators.

## **Capital Expenditure Indicators**

- 4.1 The Council has a duty to determine and keep under review the maximum amount which it can afford to allocate to capital expenditure.
- 4.2 The Council is required to make estimates of the capital expenditure it plans to incur for the forthcoming financial year and at least the following two years. Separate estimates should be made for Housing and Non Housing services. The Capital Investment Programmes for Housing and Non Housing Capital Investment Programme were approved by Council on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019, the resulting indicators were updated to reflect the approved programme incorporating the decisions taken by the council at the budget meeting.
- 4.3 Council approved the following as an indicator for capital expenditure:-

| <b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</b> |                 |                 |                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                            | <b>2019/20</b>  | <b>2020/21</b>  | <b>2021/22</b>  |
|                            | <b>Estimate</b> | <b>Estimate</b> | <b>Estimate</b> |
|                            | <b>£'000</b>    | <b>£'000</b>    | <b>£'000</b>    |
| Non Housing*               | 64,384          | 104,017         | 85,691          |
| Housing                    | 26,292          | 33,800          | 26,528          |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>90,676</b>   | <b>137,817</b>  | <b>112,219</b>  |

\*The 2019/20 & 2020/21 Non Housing estimate excludes the estimated expenditure in relation to the Private Sector Housing Grant.

4.4 Total capital expenditure to 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019 is £39.111m, of which £23.544m relates to Non Housing and £15.567m relates to Housing.

4.5 A review of the updated capital spending plan for 2019/20 suggests that the indicators need to be revised as follows for the current year. Indicators for 2020/21 and 2021/22 will be reviewed in February 2020 alongside the budget proposals.

| <b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</b> |                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
|                            | <b>2019/20</b>  |
|                            | <b>Probable</b> |
|                            | <b>£'000</b>    |
| Non Housing                | 57,965          |
| Housing                    | 28,941          |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>86,906</b>   |

4.6 The net decrease of £6.419m in the planned Non Housing capital expenditure during 2019/20 is mainly attributable to the net effect of the following factors:

- (i) The carry forward of programmed expenditure from 2018/19 totalling £7.596m.
- (ii) The addition of £3.889m funding for projects approved during 2019/20.
- (iii) The change in the cash flow profile of a number of programmes resulting in a net adjustment of £17.904m from 2019/20 into 2020/21 and future years as reported to relevant policy boards.
- (iv) Reflection of anticipated under-spend on completing programmes.

4.7 The increase of £2.649m in the planned Housing capital expenditure during 2019/20 arises from the net effect of:-

- (i) Expenditure brought forward from 2020/21 into 2019/20 as a result of an acceleration of planned programmes totalling £2.649m.

## 5 CAPITAL FINANCING REQUIREMENT INDICATOR

5.1 *Capital Financing Requirement.* The Council has available to it a number of ways of financing traditionally procured capital investment. The term “financing” does not refer to the payment of cash, but the resources that are applied to ensure that any underlying amount arising from capital payments is dealt with absolutely, whether at the point of spend or over the longer term. A number of financing options involve resourcing the investment at the time that it is incurred. These are:

- Application of useable capital receipts
- A direct charge to revenue for capital expenditure
- The application of capital grants
- Up-front contributions from project partners

5.2 Capital expenditure which is not financed up front by one of the above methods will increase the Capital Financing Requirement of the Council.

5.3 Members approved the following as the indicator for the Capital Financing Requirement at the end of each of the next three years at the Council meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019:

| <b>CAPITAL FINANCING REQUIREMENT</b> |                   |                   |                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                      | <b>31/03/2020</b> | <b>31/03/2021</b> | <b>31/03/2022</b> |
|                                      | <b>Estimate</b>   | <b>Estimate</b>   | <b>Estimate</b>   |
|                                      | <b>£m</b>         | <b>£m</b>         | <b>£m</b>         |
| Non Housing                          | 273               | 333               | 396               |
| Housing                              | 119               | 133               | 136               |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>392</b>        | <b>466</b>        | <b>532</b>        |

5.4 The revised projected capital financing requirement for 2019/20, based on the position at 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019 is noted in the table below. The 2020/21 & 2021/22 requirements will be reviewed in February 2020 alongside the budget proposals:

|              | <b>31/3/20</b>  |
|--------------|-----------------|
|              | <b>Probable</b> |
|              | <b>£m</b>       |
| Non Housing  | 262             |
| Housing      | 115             |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>377</b>      |

5.5 The decrease of £11 million in the probable Capital Financing Requirement at 31st March 2020 in Non Housing services arises from a change in the estimated total financing requirement for City Deal expenditure by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 re-profiled into 2020/21 and also a revision of the debt smoothing strategy through accelerated loan fund repayments made in 2018-19.

5.6 The decrease of £4 million in the probable Capital Financing Requirement at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 in Housing services is a result of a revision of the debt smoothing strategy through accelerated loan fund repayments in 2018-19.

## 6 EXTERNAL DEBT INDICATORS

- 6.1 External debt is referred to as the sum of external borrowing and other long term liabilities (e.g. covenants). The prudential indicators for external debt are set and revised taking into account their affordability. It is through this means that the objective of ensuring that external debt is kept within sustainable prudent limits is addressed year on year.
- 6.2 External debt indicators are set at two levels: an *operational boundary* and an *authorised limit*. Both of these need to be consistent with the Council's plans for capital expenditure and financing and with its treasury management policy statement and practices.
- 6.3 *Operational Boundary*: This is the focus of day-to-day treasury management activity within the Council, and is an estimate of the most likely scenario in terms of cash flow. Risk analysis and risk management strategies have been taken into account; as have plans for capital expenditure, estimates of the Capital Financial Requirement and estimates of cashflow requirements for all purposes. It is possible that this boundary could be breached occasionally and this should not be regarded as significant. However, a sustained or regular trend would require investigation and action.
- 6.4 The Council has set for the current financial year and following two years an Operational Boundary for its total external debt, identifying separately borrowing from other long term liabilities.

| <b>OPERATIONAL BOUNDARY FOR EXTERNAL DEBT</b> |                   |                   |                   |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | <b>31/03/2020</b> | <b>31/03/2021</b> | <b>31/03/2022</b> |
|   | <b>Estimate</b>   | <b>Estimate</b>   | <b>Estimate</b>   |
|   | <b>£m</b>         | <b>£m</b>         | <b>£m</b>         |
| Borrowing                                     | 321               | 397               | 466               |
| Other long-term liabilities                   | 71                | 69                | 66                |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>392</b>        | <b>466</b>        | <b>532</b>        |

- 6.5 The probable outcome for the current financial year is anticipated at £377 million, a decrease in the Operational Boundary of £15 million. This is mainly as a result of a combination of a lower borrowing requirement in 2019-20 and revised debt smoothing position as outlined in paragraphs 5.5 and 5.6 in relation to the Capital Financing Requirement. There have been no breaches during the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 11<sup>th</sup> October which have required action. The 2020/21 and 2021/22 operational boundary will be reviewed in February 2020 alongside the budget proposals.

|                             | <b>31/3/20</b>  |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
|                             | <b>Probable</b> |
|                             | <b>£m</b>       |
| Borrowing                   | 306             |
| Other long term liabilities | 71              |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>377</b>      |

6.6 *Authorised Limit.* This is based on the same assumptions as the Operational Boundary, with sufficient “headroom” to allow for unusual/exceptional cash movements. Headroom of approximately 5% has been added to the Operational Boundary to arrive at an authorised limit which is sufficient to allow for cash flow management without breaching the limit.

6.7 The Council has set for the forthcoming financial year and following two years an Authorised Limit for its total external debt, but identifying separately borrowing from other long term liabilities.

| <b>AUTHORISED LIMIT FOR EXTERNAL DEBT</b> |                   |                   |                   |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | <b>31/03/2020</b> | <b>31/03/2021</b> | <b>31/03/2022</b> |
|   | <b>Estimate</b>   | <b>Estimate</b>   | <b>Estimate</b>   |
|   | <b>£m</b>         | <b>£m</b>         | <b>£m</b>         |
| Borrowing                                 | 337               | 417               | 489               |
| Other long-term liabilities               | 71                | 69                | 66                |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>408</b>        | <b>486</b>        | <b>555</b>        |

6.8 The revised anticipated authorised limit for this financial year is projected at £392 million, a decrease of £16 million to the estimate and in line with the operational boundary reduction as outlined in 6.5. The authorised limit will be reviewed on an annual basis and any changes will require approval by Council.

| <b>AUTHORISED LIMIT FOR EXTERNAL DEBT</b> |                   |
|---|-------------------|
|   | <b>31/03/2020</b> |
|   | <b>Probable</b>   |
|   | <b>£m</b>         |
| Borrowing                                 | 321               |
| Other long-term liabilities               | 71                |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>392</b>        |

6.9 In December 2018 the CIPFA/LASAAC Local Authority Accounting Board confirmed that from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting would be adopting the accounting standard IFRS 16 Leases. The practical effect of adopting IFRS 16 will be to require any contract the Council has signed which provides the right to rent or lease exclusive use of an asset, such as property or vehicles, to be recognised as an asset on the Council's balance sheet with a corresponding debt liability recognised at the present value of the future lease payments. This liability will be treated as additional borrowing, therefore, increasing the Capital Financing Requirement and other associated Prudential Indicators such as Operational Boundary, Authorised Limit and Revenue to Financing Cost ratios. A full review of all contracts that could be impacted by this is currently under way and will be factored into future Prudential Indicators once the full effect is known.

## 7 **LOAN FUND ADVANCES**

- 7.1 Loans fund accounting arrangements are governed by the provisions set in the Local Authority (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Scotland) Regulations 2016.
- 7.2 Repayment of loans fund advances are required to be made in line with the Scottish Government's statutory Guidance on Loans Fund Accounting.
- 7.3 The aim of prudent repayment is to ensure that the Council's net capital expenditure is financed over a period of years in which that expenditure is expected to provide a benefit and that the repayment each year is reasonably commensurate with the period and pattern of benefits. Housing and Non-Housing advances and associated annual repayments are identified separately.
- 7.4 Members approved the 2019/20 policy on loan fund repayments on the 28th February 2019. Statutory guidance requires the policy to be approved each year and the 2020/21 policy will be reviewed in February 2020 alongside the budget proposals.
- 7.5 The Council's current policy is as follows:

For pre-existing loans advances made up to 31st March 2016 and for forward capital expenditure plans made after 1 April 2016, the policy for the repayment of loan advances will be the Statutory Method (option 1), with loan fund advances being repaid by the annuity method.

The repayment of loan fund advances will therefore be equal to the annual amount determined in accordance with Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1975. The Council is permitted to use this option for a transition period only until 31st March 2021 at which time it must change its policy to use alternative approaches based on depreciation, asset life periods or a funding/income profile.

- 7.6 The Council's latest estimates of its loan fund account information are as follows:

| LOAN FUND ACCOUNTING |                    |                   |                    |                    |                     |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Year                 | Opening Balance £m | Advances to GF £m | Advances to HRA £m | Repayment by GF £m | Repayment by HRA £m | Closing Balance £m |
| 2018-19 actual       | 270                | 17                | 8                  | (6)                | (19)                | 270                |
| 2019/20              | 270                | 26                | 25                 | (1)                | (15)                | 305                |
| 2020/21 - 24/25      | 305                | 159               | 58                 | (22)               | (62)                | 438                |
| 2025/26 - 29/30      | 438                | -                 | -                  | (74)               | (28)                | 336                |
| 2030/31 - 34/35      | 336                | -                 | -                  | (77)               | (26)                | 233                |
| 2035/36 - 39/40      | 233                | -                 | -                  | (37)               | (22)                | 174                |
| 2040/41 - 44/45      | 174                | -                 | -                  | (41)               | (25)                | 108                |
| 2045/46 - 49/50      | 108                | -                 | -                  | (40)               | (9)                 | 59                 |
| 2050/51 - 54/55      | 59                 | -                 | -                  | (30)               | (1)                 | 28                 |
| 2055/56 - 59/60      | 28                 | -                 | -                  | (21)               | (1)                 | 6                  |
| 2060/61 - 64/65      | 6                  | -                 | -                  | (6)                | -                   | -                  |

## 8 **INDICATORS FOR AFFORDABILITY**

8.1 A key measure of affordability is the incremental impact of investment decisions on the council tax or house rents. Estimates of the ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream provide an indication of how much of the Council's revenue is committed to the repayment of debt.

8.2 As reported to Council on 28th February 2019 the ratios for the next 3 years are shown in the table below:

| <b>RATIO OF FINANCING COSTS TO NET REVENUE STREAM</b> |                 |                 |                 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|   | <b>2019/20</b>  | <b>2020/21</b>  | <b>2021/22</b>  |
|   | <b>Estimate</b> | <b>Estimate</b> | <b>Estimate</b> |
| Non Housing   | 4.57%           | 4.59%           | 4.87%           |
| Housing   | 42.23%          | 41.44%          | 39.74%          |

8.3 The revised ratios for 2019/20, based on the position at 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019 is noted in the table below. The 2020/21 & 2021/22 requirements will be reviewed in February 2020 alongside the budget proposals;

| <b>RATIO OF FINANCING COSTS TO NET REVENUE STREAM</b> |                   |
|---|-------------------|
|   | <b>31/03/2020</b> |
|   | <b>Probable</b>   |
| Non Housing   | 4.04%             |
| Housing   | 42.17%            |

## 9 **Treasury Management Mid Year Review 2019/20**

9.1 The following paragraphs outline a review of the economy over the first half of 2019-2020.

9.2 UK Consumer Price Inflation (CPIH) was 1.7% year/year in September 2019 unchanged from August 2019. This is below the Bank of England's target of 2%. The most recent labour market data for the three months to August 2019 show that the number of people in work decreased, the number of unemployed people increased and the number of people aged from 16 to 64 not working and not seeking or available to work increased across the period. The unemployment rate was 3.9%, lower than a year earlier (4.0%), but higher than the previous quarter (3.8%). The employment rate was 75.9%, higher than a year earlier (75.6%) but lower than the previous quarter (76.1%). Nominal wages increased by 3.8% for both total pay (including bonuses) and regular pay (excluding bonuses). Real wages excluding bonuses was estimated to be 2.0% and including bonuses was 1.9%.

- 9.3 The Quarterly National Accounts for Q2 GDP confirmed the UK economy contracted by 0.2% following the 0.5% gain in Q1 which was distorted by stockpiling ahead of Brexit. Only the services sector registered an increase in growth of 0.1%, with both production and construction falling and the former registering its largest drop since Q4 2012. Business investment fell by 0.4% (revised from -0.5% in the first estimate) as Brexit uncertainties impacted on business planning and decision-making.
- 9.4 Tensions continued between the US and China with no trade agreement in sight and both countries imposing further tariffs on each other's goods. The US Federal Reserve cut its target Federal Funds rates by 0.25% in September to a range of 1.75% - 2%, a pre-emptive move to maintain economic growth amid escalating concerns over the trade war and a weaker economic environment leading to more pronounced global slowdown.
- 9.5 **Financial markets:** After rallying early in 2019, financial markets have been adopting a more risk-off approach in the following period as equities saw greater volatility and bonds rallied (prices up, yields down) in a flight to quality and anticipation of more monetary stimulus from central banks. The Dow Jones, FTSE 100 and FTSE 250 are broadly back at the same levels seen in March/April.
- 9.6 Gilt yields remained volatile over the period on the back of ongoing economic and political uncertainty. From a yield of 0.63% at the end of June, the 5-year benchmark gilt yield fell to 0.32% by the end of September. There were falls in the 10-year and 20-year gilts over the same period, with the former dropping from 0.83% to 0.55% and the latter falling from 1.35% to 0.88%. Recent activity in the bond markets and PWLB interest rates highlight that weaker economic growth remains a global risk.
- 9.7 HM Treasury implemented a significant change of policy for PWLB loans on 9 October 2019. The margin applied to PWLB loan rates was increased by 1% from 80 basis points to 180 basis points. An increase of this scale will require the Council to consider carefully how this increase in rate will affect investment and borrowing decisions. HM Treasury is keen to ensure borrowing across local government is controlled and recently they have observed a clear correlation between the historically low PWLB rates and the high levels of borrowing undertaken in recent months. HM Treasury increased the overall statutory PWLB limit for local authority borrowing by £10bn to £95bn and they were fearful that at the current rate of borrowing, this could be exhausted in a few months. In order to control the demand for funds they have increased rates.
- 9.8 PWLB borrowing remains available to the Council with most rates at or below 3% and this is still low in absolute or historical terms. However, these levels are expensive when compared to the alternatives and other market rates. Short-term "local to local" funding is available at around Bank Rate, 0.75%, or lower, and long-term market alternatives are likely to be substantially cheaper than current PWLB rates. Given these savings, and the prospects of a potential improvement in PWLB margin over the short to medium term, the Council will examine

alternative sources of long-term funding if the need to borrow arises later in the financial year, however this is not currently anticipated.

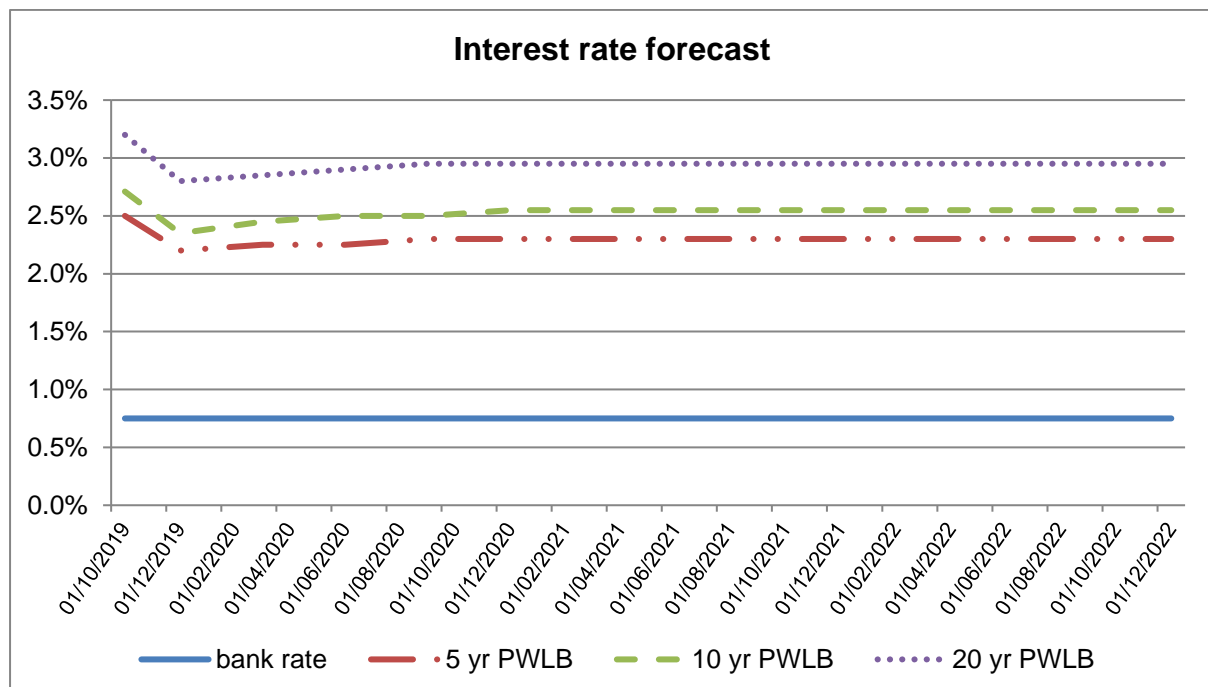
9.9 **Credit background:** There were minimal credit rating changes during the period. Moody's upgraded The Co-operative Bank's long-term rating to B3 and Fitch upgraded Clydesdale Bank and Virgin Money to A-.

## 10 Outlook for the remainder of 2019/20

10.1 The global economy is entering a period of slower growth in response to political issues, primarily the trade policy stance of the US. The UK economy has displayed a marked slowdown in growth due to both Brexit uncertainty and the downturn in global activity. In response, global and UK interest rate expectations have eased dramatically.

10.2 There appears no near-term resolution to the trade dispute between China and the US. Central bank actions and geopolitical risks will continue to produce significant volatility in financial markets, including bond markets.

10.3 Our treasury advisors, Arlingclose, expect Bank Rate to remain at 0.75% for the foreseeable future but there remains substantial risks to this forecast, dependant on Brexit outcomes and the evolution of the global economy. Arlingclose also expects gilt yields to remain low for the foreseeable future and judge the risks to be weighted to the downside and that volatility will continue to offer longer-term borrowing opportunities.



- 11 **Review of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2019-2020 (incorporating annual investment strategy) as at 11th October 2019**
- 11.1 The Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2019-2020 was approved by Council on 28 February 2019. The Council's annual investment strategy, which is incorporated in the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, sets out the Council's investment priorities as follows:
- the security of capital and
  - the liquidity of its investments.
- 11.2 The Council also aims to achieve the optimum returns on its investments commensurate with the proper levels of security and liquidity. Investments and borrowing during the first six months of the year have been in line with the strategy and there have been no changes to the policies set out in the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2019-2020. The details in this report update the position in light of the updated economic position and budgetary changes already approved.
- 12 **Review of borrowing and investments over the period 1 April 2019 to 11th October 2019**
- 12.1 The Council's net borrowing position as at 11th October 2019 is shown in Appendix 1.
- 12.2 During the period 1 April 2019 to 11th October 2019 the Council's total external borrowings have decreased by £1.9 million to £222.72 million, due to the scheduled repayments of PWLB debt.
- 12.3 During the period 1 April 2019 to 11th October 2019, temporary investments have increased from £153.69 million to £171.2 million. The increase in investments is after financing the £1.9 million of debt repayment and reflects:
- the re-profiling of elements of the current capital programme;
  - the "front-loading" (that is, more income being received in the early part of the year) of revenue support grant income and non-domestic rates pool receipts.
- 12.4 The Director of Finance and Resources confirms that, during the period 1 April 2019 to 11th October 2019, the approved limits set out within the annual investment strategy sections of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2019-2020 were complied with. The Council only invested with institutions listed in the Council's approved lending list. Similarly, only permitted investment vehicles were used, mainly call accounts, fixed term deposits and money market funds.
- 12.5 In accordance with CIPFA's Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice, it is the Council's priority to ensure security of capital and liquidity, and to obtain an appropriate level of return which is consistent with the Council's risk appetite.

- 12.6 The table below shows the average interest rate achieved by the Council on its temporary investments during the period 1 April 2019 to 11th October 2019. The table also shows for comparison the benchmark comparator, which is the average 7-day LIBID rate (uncompounded). (The 7-day LIBID rate is the London Interbank Bid Rate, being the rate at which a bank is willing to borrow from other banks, for borrowings of a maturity of seven days.)

| Interest rates achieved on investments | Average value of investments | Actual rate of return | Benchmark return |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Internally managed investments         | £167.72m                     | 0.860%                | 0.57%            |

## 12.7 **Debt rescheduling**

Debt rescheduling opportunities have been limited in the current economic climate and may be impacted by the increased margin applied by the PWLB as outlined at 9.7 above. It is not anticipated that this is likely to change over the short to medium term. However, in conjunction with the Council's treasury advisors, the service will remain alert to any opportunities which may arise.

## 13 **Review of compliance with treasury management indicators for 2019-2020**

- 13.1 During the period 1 April 2019 to 11th October 2019 the Council complied with the approved treasury management indicators as set out in the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2019-2020. These indicators relate to:
- interest rate exposures: the upper limit on the proportion of investments which are exposed to fixed interest rates and the upper limit on the proportion of investments which are exposed to variable interest rates;
  - the maturity structure of borrowing: the lower and upper limits on the proportion of investments which fall into each maturity band.
- 13.2 In addition to the treasury management indicators referred to at 13.1, there are two prudential indicators (as set out in the Prudential Framework for Capital Finance 2016-2018 and Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2019-2020, approved by Council on 28 February 2019) which are of particular relevance to the Council's treasury management strategy:
- operational boundary for external debt;
  - authorised limit for external debt.
- 13.3 During the period 1 April 2019 to 11th October 2019 the Council operated within the operational boundary for external debt, and within the authorised limit for external debt. These indicators, along with the Council's actual external debt, are shown in Appendix 2.

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## **Implications of the Report**

1. **Financial** – Prudential indicators are being monitored by the Director of Finance and Resources throughout the year. They are based directly on the Council's Capital and Revenue budgets, as detailed in the other reports considered by the Council on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019 and reported to the Council's Policy Boards on a regular basis.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None
3. **Community/Council Planning** – None
4. **Legal** – None
5. **Property/Assets** – None
6. **Information Technology** – None
7. **Equality & Human Rights** - The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health & Safety** - None
9. **Procurement** - None
10. **Risk** - The Treasury Management Strategy Statement and treasury management indicators provide a framework to take forward the Council's treasury activities in the context of the effective control of the risks associated with those activities and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks. This mid-year review report demonstrates that the treasury management activities carried out during the period 1 April 2019 to 11 October 2019 have been consistent with the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2019-2020 and have complied with the treasury management indicators set out in the Strategy Statement.
11. **Privacy Impact** – None

- 12. **Climate Risk** – None
  - 13. **Cosla Policy Position** – None
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### **List of Background Papers**

- (a) Non-Housing Capital Investment Programme 2019/20 – 2021/22, Appendix 6: Prudential Framework for Capital Finance 2019-2022 (estimates) and Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2019-22. Council, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019.
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| <b><u>Borrowing and investment position as at 11 October 2019</u></b> |                                 |                                       |                                 |                           |                               |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
|   | <b>balance at<br/>01-Apr-19</b> | <b>new borrowing<br/>in 2019-2020</b> | <b>principal<br/>repayments</b> | <b>debt restructuring</b> | <b>net cash<br/>movements</b> | <b>balance at<br/>11-Oct-19</b> |
| <b><u>Long term borrowings</u></b>                                    |                                 |                                       |                                 |                           |                               |                                 |
| PWLB - fixed  | 171,673,974.45                  | -                                     | (1,865,168.28)                  | -                         | -                             | 169,808,806.17                  |
| PWLB - variable   | -                               | -                                     | -                               | -                         | -                             | -                               |
| Market loans  | 52,916,000.00                   | -                                     | -                               | -                         | -                             | 52,916,000.00                   |
|   | 224,589,974.45                  | -                                     | (1,865,168.28)                  | -                         | -                             | 222,724,806.17                  |
| <b><u>Short term borrowings</u></b>                                   |                                 |                                       |                                 |                           |                               |                                 |
| Temporary loans   | -                               | -                                     | -                               | -                         | -                             | -                               |
|   | -                               | -                                     | -                               | -                         | -                             | -                               |
| <b><u>Total external borrowings</u></b>                               | 224,589,974.45                  | -                                     | (1,865,168.28)                  | -                         | -                             | 222,724,806.17                  |
| <b><u>Investments</u></b>   |                                 |                                       |                                 |                           |                               |                                 |
| Fixed term deposits   | 103,000,000.00                  | -                                     | -                               | -                         | 40,580,000.00                 | 143,580,000.00                  |
| Notice accounts   | 0.00                            | -                                     | -                               | -                         | 0.00                          | 0.00                            |
| Call accounts   | 18,855,000.00                   | -                                     | -                               | -                         | (18,755,000.00)               | 100,000.00                      |
| Money market funds  | 31,830,000.00                   | -                                     | -                               | -                         | 170,000.00                    | 32,000,000.00                   |
| <b><u>Total investments</u></b>                                       | 153,685,000.00                  | -                                     | -                               | -                         | 21,995,000.00                 | 175,680,000.00                  |
| <b><u>Net borrowing</u></b>   | 70,904,974.45                   | -                                     | (1,865,168.28)                  | -                         | 21,995,000.00                 | 47,044,806.17                   |

| Treasury Management Indicators as at 11 October 2019  |                            |                       |                        |                          |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
|   | 2019-2020<br>estimate      | 2019-2020<br>probable | 2020-2021<br>estimate  | 2021-2022<br>estimate    |
| <b><u>Authorised limit for external debt</u></b>  | £408m                      | £392m                 | £486m                  | £555m                    |
| <b><u>Operational boundary for external debt</u></b>  | £392m                      | £377m                 | £466m                  | £532m                    |
| <b><u>Actual external debt at 11 October 2019</u></b>   | n/a                        | £296.99m              | n/a                    | n/a                      |
| <b><u>Upper limit for fixed interest rate exposure (borrowing)</u></b><br>expressed as percentage of total net outstanding principal    | 100%                       | n/a                   | 100%                   | 100%                     |
| <b><u>Upper limit for variable interest rate exposure (borrowing)</u></b><br>expressed as percentage of total net outstanding principal | 25%                        | n/a                   | 25%                    | 25%                      |
| -   | new borrowing in 2019-2020 |                       | total of all borrowing |                          |
|   | value                      | maturity<br>structure | upper limit            | actual at<br>11 Oct 2019 |
| <b><u>Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing</u></b>  |                            |                       |                        |                          |
| under 12 months   | 0                          | 0%                    | 15%                    | 0.65%                    |
| 12 months and within 24 months  | 0                          | 0%                    | 15%                    | 0.55%                    |
| 24 months and within 5 years  | 0                          | 0%                    | 45%                    | 1.59%                    |
| 5 years and within 10 years   | 0                          | 0%                    | 50%                    | 4.50%                    |
| 10 years and above  | 0                          | 0%                    | 100%                   | 92.70%                   |



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**To:** Council

**On:** 5 December 2019

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**Report by:** Director of Finance and Resources

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**Heading:** Statutory Review of Polling Places and Polling Districts

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## 1. Summary

- 1.1 In terms of the Representation of the People Act, 1983, as amended, local authorities are required to divide their area into polling districts for the purposes of parliamentary and other elections and to designate polling places for these polling districts and keep them under review.
- 1.2 The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013, further amended the Representation of the People Act 1983 by introducing a statutory duty for all polling districts and polling places to be reviewed by the end of January 2015 and at least every 5 years thereafter.
- 1.3 The current polling arrangements following the previous statutory review were approved by Council on 27 February 2014, for use in all elections thereafter in the period to the next review. However, the Boundary Commission's Fifth Electoral Review resulted in the creation of an additional Council Ward and consequent significant changes to the Council's Ward boundaries. A revised Polling Plan was therefore adopted by the Council on 15 December 2016.
- 1.4 In conducting the review, authorities must:
- (a) seek to ensure that all electors in the constituency have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances; and
  - (b) seek to ensure that so far as is reasonable and practical, the polling places they are responsible for are accessible to all electors, including those who are disabled, and when considering the designation of a polling place, must have regard to the accessibility needs of persons with disabilities.

- 1.5 In that regard, a notice was published on 1 March 2019 giving details of the timetable for and scope of the review, and the consultation process and inviting comments on the current arrangements. In addition, notice was given to key groups, including councillors, Council departments, community councils, Renfrewshire Valuation Board, the local Disability Liaison Group and Capability Scotland for their interest.
- 1.6 A note of the comments received from the first phase of the consultation and the consideration which was given to them are attached as Appendix 6 to this report. Appendix 6 also set out alternative arrangements for two polling places that had become unavailable since the last review in 2015. These comments, together with the Returning Officer's response thereto, were considered at the meeting of Renfrewshire Council held on 26 September 2019. Council agreed the terms of a draft Polling Plan for further public consultation. A copy of that draft Plan is attached as appendix 7.
- 1.7 The draft Polling Plan was issued for consultation on 10 October 2019. A note of the comments received during this phase of the consultation process, and the consideration which has been given to them in preparing the new draft Polling Plan, are attached as Appendix 1.
- 1.8 Appendix 2 identifies local housing developments that might impact on polling arrangements over the five year period of the Plan.
- 1.9 Following the Scottish Local Government Boundary Review in 2015 there were a number of changes made to the previous polling plan to reflect new ward boundaries. This resulted in the creation of a number of new polling districts. As part of this review Council agreed at its meeting held on 26 September 2019 to rationalise the number of polling districts and to renumber as appropriate certain polling districts to make the numbering more consistent across the wards in which they fall. Appendix 3 sets out the details of these revisions.
- 1.10 The draft Polling Plan is attached as appendix 4, and maps of the Polling Districts are attached as appendix 5, for final approval.
- 1.11 It is a requirement that the Returning Officer shall comment on the proposals. The draft polling scheme presented here has been the subject of consultation with the Returning Officer who has endorsed the proposals.
- 1.12 At the meeting of Council held on 27 June 2019 a revised timetable for the review process was agreed and this is set out in paragraph 3.5 of this report.
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## **Recommendations**

2.1 Council is recommended :

(a) to note the consideration given to the comments set out in Appendix 1 received as part of the second phase of the public consultation; and

(b) to approve the polling districts, polling places and polling stations as set out in the Appendices to this report for use in all elections and referenda from 31 January 2020 until the next review.

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## 2. Background

- 3.1 The Representation of the People Act 1983 as amended by the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013, introduced a duty for all polling districts and polling places to be reviewed by the end of January 2015 and at least five yearly thereafter.
- 3.2 Here in Renfrewshire, the polling districts and polling places were last reviewed and approved by Council in December 2016.
- 3.3 Although the review is conducted on the basis of UK Parliamentary constituencies the proposed polling district boundaries and polling places shown in the appendices to this report also align with the Scottish Parliamentary constituency boundaries and accommodate council ward boundaries, thus avoiding the necessity for differing polling schemes for different types of election.
- 3.4 It should be noted that the Scottish Parliamentary constituency boundaries for Paisley, Renfrewshire North and West, and Renfrewshire South include parts of East Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Councils' areas. These Councils will review the polling districts and polling places for these areas as part of their own authorities' statutory reviews.
- 3.5 As a result of the European Election being held in May 2019, the timetable for the conduct of the review in Renfrewshire was revised as follows:

|   |  |                   |
|---|--|-------------------|
| 1 | Notice Published   | 1 March 2019      |
| 2 | Representations by interested parties were sought by   | 1 May 2019        |
| 3 | Council will consider a report on the initial proposals on   | 26 September 2019 |
| 4 | The Council will consider all representations received and will produce draft proposals for public consultation by | 10 October 2019   |
| 5 | Further comments/suggestions on these proposals must be received by  | 15 November 2019  |
| 6 | Final proposals, having regard to any comments/suggestions received will be considered by Council on               | 5 December 2019   |

3.6 In accordance with the timetable, public notice was given in the week commencing 1 March of the Council's intention to undertake the review and inviting preliminary comments on the existing polling arrangements.

3.7 Public notice was given by advertisement in local libraries, the Council's website, and Council offices, and maps and documents showing the current polling arrangements were made available for public inspection.

3.8 In addition, individual notice was given to councillors, community councils, the local Disability Liaison Group and Capability Scotland, for their interest.

3.9 An inspection of polling places is carried out by officers during each election with regard to location, suitability of access and availability.

3.10 All polling places were found to be fully accessible by persons with disabilities either through existing permanent arrangements in place or enhanced by temporary ramping or additional signage where possible.

3.11 Arising from the preliminary consultation exercise, various comments were received. These comments, and the consideration which had been given to them, was reported to the meeting of Renfrewshire Council held on 26 September 2019. In addition, two polling places used under the previous Polling Plan were no longer available for use as polling places, namely the Church of the New Jerusalem (SP07) and the 7th Paisley Scout Hall (SP12). This is detailed in Appendix 6 to the report.

3.12 A second phase of consultation commenced on 10 October 2019 and concluded on 15 November 2019. Further comments were received and these are attached as Appendix 1 to this report together with the Returning Officer's response.

3.13 Appendix 1 to the report suggests one change to a polling place, Lylesland Church replacing Lochfield Primary School as the polling place for SP16. At its meeting held on 26 September 2019 Council noted a number of proposals for alternative polling places to Bridge of Weir, St Fillan's, Wallace and Barsail Primary Schools. Accordingly, agreeing the polling districts, polling places and polling stations as set out in the Appendices to this report would mean that five local primary schools would no longer be used as polling places.

3.14 Following the Scottish Local Government Boundary Review in 2015 an interim review of the polling plan was carried out. This resulted in a number of changes to the previous polling plan to reflect new ward boundaries involving the creation of a number of new polling districts. Council agreed at its meeting held on 26 September 2019 to rationalise the number of polling districts and to renumber as appropriate certain polling districts to make the numbering more consistent across the wards in which they fall. As an example, Ward 1 contains six polling districts; NN01 to NN05 and NN24. It is suggested that NN24 be renumbered as "NN06". This will then require renumbering of later polling districts. Polling districts SP02 and SP03 both lie in Ward 3 and were subdivided by the change in ward boundaries leaving both considerably smaller than previously. The voters in both polling districts fall in the same Westminster and Scottish Parliamentary constituencies and vote in the same polling place. Accordingly, both have been combined in to one larger polling district. Appendix 3 sets out the details of the proposed renumbering and rationalisation. It also details the changes recommended as a result of the final public consultation on the proposed Polling Plan.

3.15 As part of the interim review in 2016 a decision was taken to restrict the number of changes to voter arrangements to the minimum possible i.e. the vast majority of voters remained allocated to the same the polling places as previously even where they were now allocated to new wards. However, this did result in a small number of

anomalous voting arrangements. In particular, in Ward 5 voters in SP28 (the residents of Finglass Avenue, Glenshiel Avenue, Glenshira Avenue, Glengavin Way, Glenarklet Drive, Glencora Drive and Strathcarron Road) were allocated to vote at Lochfield Primary School which lies in Ward 6. These voters have now been allocated to Todholm Primary School. Accordingly, SP28 has been amalgamated with polling district SP17.

3.16 Since the last statutory review, there has been significant housing development in the Renfrewshire Council Area. Appendix 2 identifies local housing developments that might impact on polling arrangements. It is anticipated that most of these potential increases in the number of voters can be accommodated within existing polling arrangements. However, the development at Dargavel Village has resulted in a significant increase in the number of voters in polling district NN18, with significant further development of the site due to continue throughout the five year period of this Polling Plan. At the meeting of Renfrewshire Council held on 26 September, it was agreed that a new polling district “NN17” be created thereby removing the residents of Dargavel Village from NN18. It is suggested that the voters in the new polling district be allocated to Bishopton Community Centre until such time as the new primary school is built in Dargavel Village, at which time this will become the polling place.

3.17 In terms of the statutory review, the Returning Officer is required to comment on the proposals. Although the location of the proposed polling districts and polling places are the responsibility of the local authority, the number and location of the polling stations within the polling places is the responsibility of the Returning Officer. It is recommended by the Electoral Commission that the review process be undertaken in a joint manner in recognition of the fact that the Returning Officer is a distinct role independent from the local authority while the responsibility for conducting the review rests with the local authority. Accordingly, the proposals presented here represent the joint view of the officers and the Returning Officer.

3.18 Following approval of the proposals, further public notice will be given of the conclusion of the review and the final proposals adopted.

3.19 In conclusion therefore it is recommended that the polling districts, polling places and polling stations included in Appendices 4 and 5 to this report be approved for adoption and the comments received to date, and their disposal, be noted.

3.20 It should also be noted that, in seeking final approval of the polling arrangements it is proposed that the approval extends to the adoption of these arrangements for any election or referendum called from 31 January 2020 until the next review and, in accordance with normal practice, the Chief Executive has delegated to alter or amend any polling place if an approved place becomes unavailable or unviable, e.g. through fire or flood or otherwise.

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## **Implications of the Report**

### **1. Financial – None**

2. **HR & Organisational Development** - None.

3. **Community/Council Planning** – None

4. **Legal** – As detailed in the report.

5. **Property/Assets** – The current Polling Plan involves the use of various council properties and consultation will take place with the appropriate officers as part of review.

6. **Information Technology** – None

7. **Equality & Human Rights** - The recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.

8. **Health & Safety** – The premises currently used as polling places have been inspected and appropriate arrangements and/or adaptations have been made as necessary to obviate risk to staff and voters.

9. **Risk** – N/A

10. **Privacy Impact** – None

11. **Cosla Policy Position** - None

12. **Climate Risk** - None

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**List of Background Papers** - None

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## CONSULTATION SECOND PHASE

| Respondent(s)   | Polling Place                  | Suggestion/Comment   |
|---|--------------------------------|--|
| Fordbank Parent Council   | Fordbank Primary School (SS05) | <p>The Parent Council recognises that the school is the only polling place for the residents of Corseford. However, the school has been used as a polling place a number of times in recent years while neighbouring denominational schools have been kept open. This also causes financial hardship for local families particularly those on low incomes. Fordbank is also a behavioural support base, accommodating children with Additional Support Needs (ASN). The Parent Council suggests that the school closure has a particular detrimental on these pupils and contradicts Scottish Government commitments to improving mental health.</p> <p>The Parent Council intimates that the school closure will also impact on the wellbeing of their children in terms of 'Getting it Right for Every Child' (GIRFEC). Local children who live in poverty often rely on free school meals to remain healthy and some will lose an element of their statutory Physical Education hours, impacting on their ability to be active.</p> <p>The Parent Council has suggested (a) that Spateston Bowling Club instead be used as the polling place for SS05 or (b) as an alternative, St Anthony's Primary School be used on an alternating basis with Fordbank Primary School.</p> |
| <p><b><u>Evaluation</u></b></p> <p>Fordbank Primary School accommodates one polling station.</p> <p>The use of a temporary building such as a portacabin, other alternative venues in the West Johnstone area and the possibility of keeping the school open during polling were all addressed in the report to Council on 26 September 2019 following the first phase of consultation. Spateston Bowling Club was not included in previous considerations.</p> |                                |  |

In terms of the Representation of the People Act 1983 a polling place for any polling district shall be an area in that district, except where special circumstances make it desirable to designate an area wholly or partly outside the polling district.

Taking this into account, whilst the single polling station could be accommodated within the Spateston Bowling Club, such a relocation would result in increased travelling distance for the majority of the voters who use it, namely those who reside in the Corseford area of Johnstone and would not be within a reasonable walking distance. Accordingly, and while sympathising with the Parent Council's concerns, this does not meet the test that special circumstances exist.

With regards to the suggestion that the Polling Place be alternated between St Anthony's Primary School and Fordbank Primary School, St Anthony's Primary School lies within another polling district and is further away from the majority of voters than Spateston Bowling Club. In any event, such an arrangement would be likely to create voter confusion.

### **Recommendation**

That Fordbank Primary School continue to be used as a polling place for Polling District SS05.

| <b>Respondent(s)</b>      | <b>Polling Place</b>            | <b>Suggestion/Comment</b>  |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Councillor James MacLaren | New Polling District - Dargavel | <p>Councillor James MacLaren initially conveyed the views of Bishopton Community Council which had expressed concern about the new Dargavel Primary School being used as a polling place. The Community Council agreed that the Bishopton Community Centre was a far more suitable venue for this. Community Council members felt that the two buildings were quite close to each other and the closure of the school at election times put unnecessary pressure on working parents.</p> <p>Taking into account existing capacity issues at Bishopton Community Centre, Councillor MacLaren has further suggested the use of the Cornerstone Centre as an alternative polling place to the new primary school.</p> |

### **Evaluation**

The development at Dargavel Village has resulted in a significant increase in the number of voters in polling district NN18. At the meeting of Renfrewshire Council held on 26 September 2019 it was therefore agreed that a new polling district "NN17" be created thereby removing the residents of Dargavel Village from NN18.

While it is suggested that the voters in the new polling district (NN17) be allocated to Bishopton Community Centre this will only be until such time as the new primary school is built in Dargavel Village.

Given the number of properties to be built in Dargavel Village in the period to the next statutory review, the voters in the new NN17 and existing NN18 will not be capable of being accommodated at Bishopton Community Centre. The number of polling stations located at the Community Centre has increased from six to seven for the forthcoming UK Parliamentary General Election and all seven of these stations are either close to, or exceed, the recommended maximum of 800 voters to a ballot box.

Accordingly, even excluding further development at Dargavel, Bishopton Community Centre is already at capacity and will exceed it when conducting any election at which 16 & 17 year olds can vote (such as the Scottish Parliament elections in 2021).

Information provided from Communities, Housing and Planning indicates that the total number of homes completed and occupied at Dargavel Village, as at 12 August 2019, was 1,190. The total number of anticipated homes to be built at the site over the entire period of its development is 4,000.

The Cornerstone Centre is a converted building, located within Polling District NN18, with lower and upper halls, either of which could accommodate at least two polling stations. The upper hall is accessed by a lift. Given its location, using the Centre as a polling station would require both Bishopton Village and Dargavel Village to be split between the Cornerstone Centre and the Community Centre.

To assist the Returning Officer in delivering a successful election it is important that as many barriers as possible to voting have been removed. Distance from home to a polling station is one such barrier. Furthermore, in terms of the Representation of the People Act 1983 a polling place for any polling district shall be an area in that district, except where special circumstances make it desirable to designate an area wholly or partly outside the polling district. The relocation of NN17 this does not meet the test that special circumstances exist.

The new Dargavel Primary School will be the one public building within the emerging community at Dargavel and will be within walking distance of all areas of the new development.

The ability of the school to remain open during polling is a matter which will be considered once construction of that building has been completed.

### **Recommendation**

That the decision of Council at its meeting held on 26 September 2019 to create a new polling district "NN17" at Dargavel Village be noted, and that voters in that district be allocated to Dargavel Primary School once it is available for use.

| Respondent(s)   | Polling Place   | Suggestion/Comment   |
|---|---|--|
| (a) Derek Osborne<br>(b) Gillian Dowds,<br>Chair of<br>Williamsburgh<br>Primary School<br>Parent Council<br>(c) Margaret Lickrish<br>(d) Mariane Brownlee<br>(e) Graham Wells | Williamsburgh<br>Primary School<br>(NP01, SP02<br>SP03, SP26<br>and SP27) | All comments relate to the detrimental impact on the Williamsburgh pupils' education compared to pupils in neighbouring schools.<br><br>School trip<br>St. John Ogilvie Primary School<br>Shortening a school holiday by one day<br>Utilise a nearby secondary school such as St Andrew's Academy or Paisley Grammar School<br>Utilise the Lagoon Leisure Centre |

## **Evaluation**

Issues relating to the use of Williamsburgh Primary School were included in the report considered by Council on 26 September 2019.

Williamsburgh Primary School accommodates eight polling stations, more than any other polling place in Renfrewshire and with a combined population of voters and attainers of 6,675 as of May 2019.

The largest single non-educational establishment in the polling area is the Lagoon Leisure Centre. While the Lagoon Leisure Centre would meet the requirements for use as a Polling Place, it is used extensively on polling days for elections. The main sports arena accommodates the counting of ballot papers, unused ballot papers are counted in the sports hall and postal votes are dealt with in one of the fitness suites. Accordingly, it is not recommended for use as a polling place.

St Andrew's Academy is not within easy walking distance of Williamsburgh Primary School. Given that electoral events are traditionally held in May and to avoid disruption during exam times, the P.E. area in the Academy is effectively isolated from the rest of the school and two polling stations are located in the small P.E. classroom. There is no facility to accommodate an additional eight additional polling stations without closing the school on polling days. This could lead to significant disruption during examination periods.

Similarly, there would be no facility within Paisley Grammar School to accommodate eight polling stations without disruption to the wider school, particularly during examination periods.

Both Williamsburgh and St John Ogilvie Primary Schools were used as polling places for the area until a fire closed St John Ogilvy Primary School on the eve of the 2009 European Election. At that time the school accommodated 2,000 voters. The voters at that time were diverted to Williamsburgh Primary School and it became apparent that Williamsburgh Primary School could accommodate all eight polling stations, thereby removing the need for both primary schools to close during polling.

The suggestions to arrange school trips and other activities when the school is being used for electoral purposes or for school holidays to be shortened by one

day when elections have taken place that year are educational matters and outwith the remit of the Returning Officer.

### **Recommendation**

That Williamsburgh Primary School continues to be used as polling place.

| <b>Respondent(s)</b> | <b>Polling Place</b>                     | <b>Suggestion/Comment</b>   |
|----------------------|--|---|
| Joanne McDougall     | Lochfield Primary School (SP16 and SP28) | Ms McDougall has suggested using local community centres such as Hunterhill or local churches such as Lylesland or St Charles' instead of closing the school. |

### **Evaluation**

Lochfield Primary School currently accommodates four polling stations and the school requires to be closed when used as a polling place. In terms of the revised polling district numbers agreed by Council at its meeting held on 26 September 2019, polling district SP28 will be allocated to Todholm Primary School thereby reducing the number of voters allocated to Lochfield Primary.

Hunterhill Community Centre is not within an acceptable walking distance of the SP16 Polling District. However, Lylesland Church is within easy walking distance of the current polling place at Lochfield Primary School.

The church has been inspected and found to have sufficient space to accommodate four polling stations. The church hall has adequate disabled access, ample parking provision and good kitchen facilities for staff. The response from Ms McDougall was received at the very conclusion of the consultation process. While the church has agreed in principle to accommodate future elections, this needs to be ratified by a full session meeting of church members.

### **Recommendation**

That, Lylesland Church be used as a polling place for current Polling District SP16 subject to the agreement of the next church session meeting, failing which, Lochfield Primary School should remain as the polling place.

| <b>Respondent(s)</b>   | <b>Polling Place</b>   | <b>Suggestion/Comment</b>  |
|--|--|--|
| David Macdonald<br>National Parents Forum of Scotland – Renfrewshire | All – general comments regarding the use of schools as polling places. | Mr Macdonald acknowledged the work carried out by Renfrewshire Council Democratic Services to alleviate the impact on school pupils, their parents and carers whose schools are utilised for local and national elections as polling stations. |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <p>He recognised that a balance required to be struck between the democratic process and the availability of local buildings for polling places, as well as the significant impact of parents/carers requiring to establish childcare arrangements on polling days coupled with the disruption to school life both from parental and educational perspectives.</p> <p>Mr Macdonald has requested that Renfrewshire Council consider a policy of amending school 'in service' days to reflect the established calendar of polling days (i.e. the first Thursday in May) which routinely are always used for local and national elections.</p> <p>Mr Macdonald suggests that arrangements to align 'in service' days with polling days has been established by Glasgow City Council. He advises that this has made a difference in limiting the impact on children's education and the impact on child care for families and carers across our communities, whilst ensuring that polling places remain accessible and local for democratic processes.</p> |
| <p><b><u>Evaluation</u></b></p> <p>Mr Macdonald's recognition of the Council's efforts to reduce the number of schools used as polling stations is welcomed.</p> <p>The suggestion that school in service days be aligned with polling days is well made but falls outwith the remit of the Returning Officer.</p> <p><b><u>Recommendation</u></b></p> <p>That Mr Macdonald's comments be noted.</p> |  |   |

## APPENDIX 2

Communities, Housing & Planning Services were consulted to identify planned developments which might impact on polling arrangements.

New dwellings may not necessarily result in a significant increase in electors as the majority of new dwelling sales go to people already resident in Renfrewshire. These changes should also be viewed in the context of the National Records of Scotland population projections which suggest an overall population growth for Renfrewshire of 2.1% over the next ten years.

Against this backdrop, 11 wards have been identified which may experience high levels of new house building over the five year period of this review.

These wards, the number of new dwellings, and the estimated increases in electors are as follows:

| Ward  | New dwellings | New population* | Additional Electorate** |
|---|---------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Renfrew North & Braehead                           | 241           | 496             | 372                     |
| 2. Renfrew South & Gallowhill                         | 79            | 163             | 122                     |
| 3. Paisley Northeast & Ralston                        | 0             | 0               | 0                       |
| 4. Paisley Northwest                                  | 510           | 1051            | 788                     |
| 5. Paisley East & Central                             | 553           | 1139            | 854                     |
| 6. Paisley Southeast                                  | 474           | 976             | 732                     |
| 7. Paisley Southwest                                  | 80            | 165             | 124                     |
| 8. Johnstone South & Elderslie                        | 542           | 1117            | 837                     |
| 9. Johnstone North, Kilbarchan, Howwood & Lochwinnoch | 104           | 214             | 161                     |
| 10. Houston, Crosslee & Linwood                       | 441           | 908             | 681                     |
| 11. Bishopton, Bridge of Weir & Langbank              | 1097          | 2260            | 1695                    |
| 12. Erskine & Inchinnan                               | 245           | 505             | 379                     |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                                    | <b>4366</b>   | <b>8994</b>     | <b>6745</b>             |

Note \* Based on average number of persons per household of 2.06 as per 2017 estimate.

Note \*\* Based on 75% of estimated population.

These increases should be able to be accommodated within the existing arrangements.



## Proposed Revisals and Renumbering of Polling District References and Polling Places

| Existing Polling District Reference           | Existing Polling Place  | Proposed Polling District Reference | Proposed Polling Place   | Comments  |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Ward 1 - (Renfrew North and Braehead)</b>  |   |                                     |  |   |
| NN01  | Renfrew Town Hall & Museum<br>Renfrew Cross Renfrew PA4 8PF               | NN01                                | Renfrew Town Hall & Museum<br>Renfrew Cross Renfrew PA4 8PF            | No change   |
| NN02  | Kirklandneuk Community Centre<br>Ness Road Renfrew PA4 9DE                | NN02                                | Kirklandneuk Community Centre Ness<br>Road Renfrew PA4 9DE             | No change   |
| NN03  | Renfrew Town Hall & Museum<br>Renfrew Cross Renfrew PA4 8PF               | NN03                                | Renfrew Town Hall & Museum<br>Renfrew Cross Renfrew PA4 8PF            | No change   |
| NN04  | McMaster Centre Robertson Park<br>Donaldson Drive Renfrew PA4 8LX         | NN04                                | McMaster Centre Robertson Park<br>Donaldson Drive Renfrew PA4 8LX      | No change   |
| NN05  | King George V Sports Pavilion Dean<br>Park Road Renfrew PA4 0AN           | NN05                                | King George V Sports Pavilion Dean<br>Park Road Renfrew PA4 0AN        | No change   |
| NN24  | St. James' Primary School Brown<br>Street Renfrew Renfrewshire PA4<br>8HL | NN06                                | St. James' Primary School Brown<br>Street Renfrew Renfrewshire PA4 8HL | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place/for<br>voters |
| <b>Ward 2 - Renfrew South and Gallowhill</b>  |   |                                     |  |   |
| NN06  | St Catherine's Primary School 28a<br>Brabloch Crescent Paisley PA3 4RG    | NN12                                | St Catherine's Primary School 28a<br>Brabloch Crescent Paisley PA3 4RG | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place/for<br>voters |
| NN07  | Gallowhill Community Centre 210<br>Netherhill Road Paisley PA3 4SF        | NN07                                | Gallowhill Community Centre 210<br>Netherhill Road Paisley PA3 4SF     | No change   |
| NN08  | Glynhill Hotel 169 Paisley Road<br>Renfrew PA4 8XB                        | NN08                                | Glynhill Hotel 169 Paisley Road<br>Renfrew PA4 8XB                     | No change   |
| NN09  | Arkleston Primary School 125<br>Cockels Loan Renfrew PA4 0EL              | NN09                                | Arkleston Primary School 125 Cockels<br>Loan Renfrew PA4 0EL           | No change   |
| NN10  | Newmains Primary School 8a Lang<br>Avenue Renfrew PA4 0DA                 | NN10                                | Newmains Primary School 8a Lang<br>Avenue Renfrew PA4 0DA              | No change   |
| NN11  | St James' Primary School 10 Brown<br>Street Renfrew PA4 8HL               | NN11                                | St James' Primary School 10 Brown<br>Street Renfrew PA4 8HL            | No change   |
| <b>Ward 3 - Paisley Northeast and Ralston</b> |   |                                     |  |   |
| NP01  | Williamsburgh Primary School Lacy<br>Street Paisley PA1 1QF               | NP01                                | Williamsburgh Primary School Lacy<br>Street Paisley PA1 1QF            | No change   |

| Existing Polling District Reference | Existing Polling Place   | Proposed Polling District Reference | Proposed Polling Place  | Comments   |
|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| NP02                                | Ralston Community Sports Centre<br>Penilee Road Ralston Paisley PA1 3AX          | NP02                                | Ralston Community Sports Centre<br>Penilee Road Ralston Paisley PA1 3AX       | No change  |
| NP03                                | Ralston Community Centre 6<br>Allanton Avenue Paisley PA1 3BL                    | NP03                                | Ralston Community Centre 6 Allanton<br>Avenue Paisley PA1 3BL                 | No change  |
| SP02                                | Williamsburgh Primary School Lacy<br>Street Paisley PA1 1QF                      | SP01                                | Williamsburgh Primary School Lacy<br>Street Paisley PA1 1QF                   | Amalgamate SP02 and SP03 and Renumbered as SP01. No<br>change to polling place/ for voters   |
| SP03                                | Williamsburgh Primary School Lacy<br>Street Paisley PA1 1QF                      | SP01                                | Williamsburgh Primary School Lacy<br>Street Paisley PA1 1QF                   | Amalgamate SP02 and SP03 and Renumbered as SP01. No<br>change to polling place/ for voters   |
|                                     |  |                                     |   |  |
| <b>Ward 4 - Paisley Northwest</b>   |  |                                     |   |  |
| NN12                                | Beechwood Community Centre 26<br>Shortroods Road Paisley PA3 2NT                 | NN13                                | Beechwood Community Centre 26<br>Shortroods Road Paisley PA3 2NT              | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place/for<br>voters  |
| NP04                                | Beechwood Community Centre 26<br>Shortroods Road Paisley PA3 2NT                 | NP04                                | Beechwood Community Centre 26<br>Shortroods Road Paisley PA3 2NT              | No change  |
| NP05                                | Disability Resource Centre Love<br>Street Paisley Renfrewshire PA3 2EA           | NP05                                | Disability Resource Centre Love Street<br>Paisley Renfrewshire PA3 2EA        | No change  |
| NP06                                | St Ninian's Church (St Ninian's<br>Centre) 85 Blackstoun Road Paisley<br>PA3 1NR | NP06                                | St Ninian's Church (St Ninian's Centre)<br>85 Blackstoun Road Paisley PA3 1NR | No change  |
| SP06                                | Martyrs Church Hall 5 King Street<br>Paisley PA1 2LS                             | SP02                                | Martyrs Church Hall 5 King Street<br>Paisley PA1 2LS                          | Amalgamate SP06, SP07 and SP12 and Renumbered as SP02.<br>Church of the New Jerusalem and 7th Paisley Scout Hall no<br>longer available so all voters allocated to Martyrs Church Hall |
| SP07                                | The Church of the New Jerusalem,<br>George Street, Paisley                       | SP02                                | Martyrs Church Hall 5 King Street<br>Paisley PA1 2LS                          | Amalgamate SP06, SP07 and SP12 and Renumbered as SP02.<br>Church of the New Jerusalem and 7th Paisley Scout Hall no<br>longer available so all voters allocated to Martyrs Church Hall |
| SP12                                | 7th Paisley Scout Hall The Bield 40<br>Broomlands Street Paisley PA1 2NP         | SP02                                | Martyrs Church Hall 5 King Street<br>Paisley PA1 2LS                          | Amalgamate SP06, SP07 and SP12 and Renumbered as SP02.<br>Church of the New Jerusalem and 7th Paisley Scout Hall no<br>longer available so all voters allocated to Martyrs Church Hall |
| SP08                                | St Mary's Primary School 4<br>Maxwellton Road Paisley PA1 2RJ                    | SP03                                | St Mary's Primary School 4 Maxwellton<br>Road Paisley PA1 2RJ                 | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place/ for<br>voters   |
| SP09                                | St Charles Church Hall 5 Union<br>Street Paisley PA2 6DU                         | SP04                                | St Charles Church Hall 5 Union Street<br>Paisley PA2 6DU                      | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place/ for<br>voters   |
| SP10                                | St Ninian's Church (St Ninian's<br>Centre) 85 Blackstoun Road Paisley<br>PA3 1NR | SP05                                | St Ninian's Church (St Ninian's Centre)<br>85 Blackstoun Road Paisley PA3 1NR | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place/ for<br>voters   |
| SP11                                | West End Community Centre 5A<br>Underwood Lane Paisley PA1 2SL                   | SP06                                | West End Community Centre 5A<br>Underwood Lane Paisley PA1 2SL                | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place/ for<br>voters   |

| Existing Polling District Reference      | Existing Polling Place  | Proposed Polling District Reference | Proposed Polling Place  | Comments   |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Ward 5 - Paisley East and Central</b> |   |                                     |   |  |
| SP01                                     | St Andrew's Academy 125 Barrhead Road Paisley PA2 7LG                   | SP07                                | St Andrew's Academy 125 Barrhead Road Paisley PA2 7LG                   | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place/ for voters  |
| SP04                                     | Hunterhill Community Centre Blackford Road Paisley PA2 7EP              | SP08                                | Hunterhill Community Centre Blackford Road Paisley PA2 7EP              | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place/ for voters  |
| SP05                                     | Paisley Marriage Suite Renfrewshire House Cotton Street Paisley PA1 1BU | SP09                                | Paisley Marriage Suite Renfrewshire House Cotton Street Paisley PA1 1BU | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place/ for voters  |
| SP17                                     | Todholm Primary School 260 Lochfield Road Paisley PA2 7JE               | SP10                                | Todholm Primary School 260 Lochfield Road Paisley PA2 7JE               | Amalgamate SP17 and SP28 and Renumbered as SP10. No change for voters in SP17. Voters in SP28 change in polling place from Lochfield Primary to Todholm Primary. |
| SP28                                     | Lochfield Primary School Quarry Road Paisley Renfrewshire PA2 7RD       | SP10                                | Todholm Primary School 260 Lochfield Road Paisley PA2 7JE               | Amalgamate SP17 and SP28 and Renumbered as SP10. No change for voters in SP17. Voters in SP28 change in polling place from Lochfield Primary to Todholm Primary. |
| SP18                                     | South End Action Centre Stock Street Paisley PA2 6NL                    | SP11                                | South End Action Centre Stock Street Paisley PA2 6NL                    | Amalgamate SP18 and SP30 and Renumbered as SP11. No change to polling place/for voters   |
| SP30                                     | South End Action Centre Stock Street Paisley PA2 6NL                    | SP11                                | South End Action Centre Stock Street Paisley PA2 6NL                    | Amalgamate SP18 and SP30 and Renumbered as SP11. No change to polling place/for voters   |
| SP26                                     | Williamsburgh Primary School Lacy Street Paisley Renfrewshire PA1 1QF   | SP12                                | Williamsburgh Primary School Lacy Street Paisley Renfrewshire PA1 1QF   | Amalgamate SP26 and SP27 and Renumbered as SP12. No change to polling place/for voters   |
| SP27                                     | Williamsburgh Primary School Lacy Street Paisley Renfrewshire PA1 1QF   | SP12                                | Williamsburgh Primary School Lacy Street Paisley Renfrewshire PA1 1QF   | Amalgamate SP26 and SP27 and Renumbered as SP12. No change to polling place/for voters   |
| <b>Ward 6 - Paisley Southeast</b>        |   |                                     |   |  |
| SP13                                     | Glenburn Community Centre 30 Fairway Avenue Paisley PA2 8DX             | SP13                                | Glenburn Community Centre 30 Fairway Avenue Paisley PA2 8DX             | No change  |
| SP14                                     | Glenburn Resource Centre 19 Donaldswood Road Paisley PA2 8EA            | SP14                                | Glenburn Resource Centre 19 Donaldswood Road Paisley PA2 8EA            | No change  |
| SP15                                     | Bushes Primary School Grampian Avenue Paisley PA2 8DW                   | SP15                                | Bushes Primary School Grampian Avenue Paisley PA2 8DW                   | No change  |
| SP16                                     | Lochfield Primary School Quarry Road Paisley PA2 7RD                    | SP16                                | Lylesland Church, 123 Rowan Street, Paisley, PA2 6RZ                    | Amalgamate SP29 into SP16. Change to polling place/ for voters.  |
| SP29                                     | Lochfield Primary School Quarry Road Paisley PA2 7RD                    | SP16                                | Lylesland Church, 123 Rowan Street, Paisley, PA2 6RZ                    | Amalgamate SP29 into SP16. Change to polling place/ for voters.  |
| SP19                                     | St Charles Church Hall 5 Union Street Paisley PA2 6DU                   | SP17                                | St Charles Church Hall 5 Union Street Paisley PA2 6DU                   | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place/for voters   |

| Existing Polling District Reference           | Existing Polling Place  | Proposed Polling District Reference | Proposed Polling Place  | Comments   |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Ward 7 - Paisley Southwest</b>             |   |                                     |   |  |
| SP20  | Brediland Community Centre 30 Cardell Road Paisley PA2 9AF                          | SP18                                | Brediland Community Centre 30 Cardell Road Paisley PA2 9AF                          | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place for voters |
| SP21  | Brediland Primary School 9 Achray Drive Paisley PA2 9DJ                             | SP19                                | Brediland Primary School 9 Achray Drive Paisley PA2 9DJ                             | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place for voters |
| SP22  | Foxbar Rivers Community Building Spey Avenue Paisley PA2 OPA                        | SP20                                | Foxbar Rivers Community Building Spey Avenue Paisley PA2 OPA                        | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place for voters |
| SP23  | Heriot Primary School 10 Heriot Avenue Paisley PA2 QDS                              | SP21                                | Heriot Primary School 10 Heriot Avenue Paisley PA2 QDS                              | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place for voters |
| SP24  | Foxbar Community Centre 30 Amochrie Road Paisley PA2 OLB                            | SP22                                | Foxbar Community Centre 30 Amochrie Road Paisley PA2 OLB                            | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place for voters |
| SP25  | Langcraigs Primary School 245 Glenfield Road Paisley PA2 8QE                        | SP23                                | Langcraigs Primary School 245 Glenfield Road Paisley PA2 8QE                        | Renumbered Polling District. No change to polling place for voters |
| <b>Ward 8 - Johnstone South and Elderslie</b> |   |                                     |   |  |
| SS01  | Wallace Primary School Greenhill Crescent Elderslie PA5 9AW                         | SS01                                | Elderslie Village Hall.   | Change to polling place.   |
| SS02  | Johnstone Castle Community Centre Pine Crescent Johnstone PA5 OBX                   | SS02                                | Johnstone Castle Community Centre Pine Crescent Johnstone PA5 OBX                   | No change  |
| SS03  | St David's Primary School West Johnstone Shared Campus Beith Road Johnstone PA5 OBB | SS03                                | St David's Primary School West Johnstone Shared Campus Beith Road Johnstone PA5 OBB | No change  |
| SS04  | Cochrane Castle Community Centre 1 Burns Drive Johnstone PA5 OHJ                    | SS04                                | Cochrane Castle Community Centre 1 Burns Drive Johnstone PA5 OHJ                    | No change  |
| SS05  | Fordbank Primary School, 23B Teviot Terrace, Johnstone, PA5 ONP                     | SS05                                | Fordbank Primary School, 23B Teviot Terrace, Johnstone, PA5 ONP                     | No change  |
| SS06  | Spateston Bowling Club Spateston Road Johnstone PA5 OSX                             | SS06                                | Spateston Bowling Club Spateston Road Johnstone PA5 OSX                             | Amalgamate SS19 into SS06. No change to polling place/ for voters  |
| SS19  | Spateston Bowling Club Spateston Road Johnstone PA5 OSX                             | SS06                                | Spateston Bowling Club Spateston Road Johnstone PA5 OSX                             | Amalgamate SS19 into SS06. No change to polling place/ for voters  |
| SS07  | Thorn Primary School 4A Thorn Brae Johnstone PA5 8HE                                | SS07                                | Thorn Primary School 4A Thorn Brae Johnstone PA5 8HE                                | No change  |
| NP07  | Wallace Primary School Greenhill Crescent Elderslie PA5 9AW                         | NP07                                | Elderslie Village Hall.   | Change to polling place.   |
| NP08  | St Ninian's Church (St Ninian's Centre) 85 Blackstoun Road Paisley PA3 1NR          | NP08                                | St Ninian's Church (St Ninian's Centre) 85 Blackstoun Road Paisley PA3 1NR          | No change  |

| Existing Polling District Reference                                  | Existing Polling Place   | Proposed Polling District Reference | Proposed Polling Place   | Comments  |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Ward 9 - Johnstone North, Kilbarchan, Howwood and Lochwinnoch</b> |  |                                     |  |   |
| SS08   | Howwood Village Hall 10 Station Road Howwood PA9 1BB               | SS08                                | Howwood Village Hall 10 Station Road Howwood PA9 1BB               | Amalgamate SS18 into SS08. No change to polling place /for voters |
| SS18   | Howwood Village Hall 10 Station Road Howwood Johnstone PA9 1BB     | SS08                                | Howwood Village Hall 10 Station Road Howwood PA9 1BB               | Amalgamate SS18 into SS08. No change to polling place /for voters |
| SS09   | St Margaret's Church Hall 49 Graham Street Johnstone PA5 8RA       | SS09                                | St Margaret's Church Hall 49 Graham Street Johnstone PA5 8RA       | No change   |
| SS10   | Johnstone High Parish Church Hall Quarry Street Johnstone PA5 8DZ  | SS10                                | Johnstone Town Hall  | Change to polling place   |
| SS11   | Thorn Primary School 4A Thorn Brae Johnstone PA5 8HE               | SS11                                | Thorn Primary School 4A Thorn Brae Johnstone PA5 8HE               | No change   |
| SS12   | McKillop Institute 2 Main Street Lochwinnoch PA12 4AJ              | SS12                                | McKillop Institute 2 Main Street Lochwinnoch PA12 4AJ              | No change   |
| SS13   | Kilbarchan Scout Hall Barn Green Kilbarchan PA10 2HG               | SS13                                | Kilbarchan Scout Hall Barn Green Kilbarchan PA10 2HG               | No change   |
| <b>Ward 10 - Houston, Crosslee and Linwood</b>                       |  |                                     |  |   |
| NN13   | St Fillans Primary School 1a Main Street Houston PA6 7EL           | NN14                                | Houston and Killellan Kirk Halls.                                  | Amalgamate NN13 into NN14. Polling Place chaged.                  |
| NN14   | St Fillans Primary School 1a Main Street Houston PA6 7EL           | NN14                                | Houston and Killellan Kirk Halls                                   | Amalgamate NN13 into NN14. Polling Place chaged.                  |
| NS01   | Tweedie Hall Ardlamont Square Linwood Paisley Renfrewshire PA3 3DE | NS01                                | Tweedie Hall Ardlamont Square Linwood Paisley Renfrewshire PA3 3DE | Amalgamate NS02 into NS01. No change to polling place/for voters  |
| NS02   | Tweedie Hall Ardlamont Square Linwood Paisley Renfrewshire PA3 3DE | NS01                                | Tweedie Hall Ardlamont Square Linwood Paisley Renfrewshire PA3 3DE | Amalgamate NS02 into NS01. No change to polling place/for voters  |
| NS03   | Linwood Parish Church Blackwood Avenue Linwood PA3 3JX             | NS02                                | Linwood Parish Church Blackwood Avenue Linwood PA3 3JX             | Renumbered polling district                                       |
| NS04   | Brookfield Village Hall 45 Woodside Road Brookfield PA5 8UB        | NS03                                | Brookfield Village Hall 45 Woodside Road Brookfield PA5 8UB        | Renumbered polling district                                       |
| NS05   | St Fillans Primary School 1a Main Street Houston PA6 7EL           | NS04                                | Houston and Killellan Kirk Halls                                   | Renumbered polling district                                       |
| SS14   | Linwood Parish Church, Blackwood Avenue Linwood PA3 3PY            | SS14                                | Linwood Parish Church, Blackwood Avenue Linwood PA3 3PY            | Amalgamate SS15 into SS14. No change to polling place /for voters |
| SS15   | Linwood Parish Church, Blackwood Avenue Linwood PA3 3PY            | SS14                                | Linwood Parish Church, Blackwood Avenue Linwood PA3 3PY            | Amalgamate SS15 into SS14. No change to polling place /for voters |
| SS16   | Brookfield Village Hall 45 Woodside Road Brookfield PA5 8UB        | SS15                                | Brookfield Village Hall 45 Woodside Road Brookfield PA5 8UB        | Renumbered polling district                                       |

| Existing Polling District Reference                     | Existing Polling Place  | Proposed Polling District Reference | Proposed Polling Place  | Comments   |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| SS17  | Brookfield Village Hall 45<br>Woodside Road Brookfield PA5 8UB          | SS16                                | Brookfield Village Hall 45 Woodside<br>Road Brookfield PA5 8UB  | Renumbered polling district  |
| <b>Ward 11 - Bishopton, Bridge of Weir and Langbank</b> |   |                                     |   |  |
| NN15  | Cargill Hall, Lintwhite Crescent,<br>Bridge of Weir, Pa11 3LJ           | NN15                                | Cargill Hall, Lintwhite Crescent, Bridge<br>of Weir, Pa11 3LJ   | Amalgamate NN16 into NN15. Change of polling place for NN16.   |
| NN16  | Bridge of Weir Primary School 7<br>Warlock Road Bridge of Weir PA11 3QB | NN15                                | Cargill Hall, Lintwhite Crescent, Bridge<br>of Weir, Pa11 3LJ   | Amalgamate NN16 into NN15. Change of polling place for NN16.   |
| NN17  | Langbank Village Centre 51<br>Middlepenny Road Langbank PA14 6XB        | NN16                                | Langbank Village Centre 51<br>Middlepenny Road Langbank PA14 6XB  | Renumbered polling district  |
| New polling district for Dargavel Village.              | New polling district  | NN17                                | Initially Bishopton Community Centre<br>25 Gledstane Road Bishopton PA7 5AU, moving to Dargavel Primary School when open. | This is the creation of a new polling district for Dargavel Village. Initially there will be no change for voters who will continue to vote at Bishopton Community Centre. However all voters in this district will relocate to Dargavel Primary School once opened. |
| NN18  | Bishopton Community Centre 25<br>Gledstane Road Bishopton PA7 5AU       | NN18                                | Bishopton Community Centre 25<br>Gledstane Road Bishopton PA7 5AU   | No change to voters.   |
| NN19  | Bishopton Community Centre 25<br>Gledstane Road Bishopton PA7 5AU       | NN19                                | Bishopton Community Centre 25<br>Gledstane Road Bishopton PA7 5AU   | No change to voters.   |
| SN01  | Cargill Hall Lintwhite Crescent<br>Bridge of Weir PA11 3LJ              | SN01                                | Cargill Hall Lintwhite Crescent Bridge<br>of Weir PA11 3LJ  | No change.   |
| <b>Ward 12 - Erskine and Inchinnan</b>                  |   |                                     |   |  |
| NN20  | Inchinnan Primary School 96 Old<br>Greenock Road Inchinnan PA4 9PH      | NN20                                | Inchinnan Primary School 96 Old<br>Greenock Road Inchinnan PA4 9PH  | Voters from Niamh Court to be relocated to this polling place.   |
| NN21  | Barsail Primary School 716 Park<br>Moor Erskine PA8 7HL                 | NN21                                | Erskine Baptist Church.   | Change of polling place.   |
| NN22  | St Anne's Primary School 97 Park<br>Drive Erskine PA8 7AL               | NN22                                | St Anne's Primary School 97 Park Drive<br>Erskine PA8 7AL   | No change  |
| NN23  | Bargarran Primary School 4 Barrhill<br>Road Erskine PA8 6BX             | NN23                                | Bargarran Primary School 4 Barrhill<br>Road Erskine PA8 6BX   | No change  |

## **FINAL DRAFT POLLING PLAN**

### **PAISLEY AND RENFREWSHIRE NORTH**

| <b>District</b> | <b>Place name</b>   | <b>Estimated Stations for this district</b>       | <b>Council Ward Number</b> |
|-----------------|---|---|----------------------------|
| NN01            | Renfrew Town Hall & Museum, Renfrew Cross, Renfrew, PA4 8PF   | 2   | 1                          |
| NN02            | Kirklandneuk Community Centre, Ness Road, Renfrew, PA4 9DE  | 2   | 1                          |
| NN03            | Renfrew Town Hall & Museum, Renfrew Cross, Renfrew, PA4 8PF   | 4   | 1                          |
| NN04            | McMaster Centre, Robertson Park, Donaldson Drive, Renfrew, PA4 8LX  | 3   | 1                          |
| NN05            | King George V Sports Pavilion, Dean Park Road, Renfrew, PA4 0AN   | 4   | 1                          |
| NN06            | St James' Primary School, 10 Brown Street, Renfrew, PA4 8HL   | 2   | 1                          |
| NN07            | Gallowhill Community Centre, 210 Netherhill Road, Paisley, PA3 4SF  | 2   | 2                          |
| NN08            | Glynhill Hotel, 169 Paisley Road, Renfrew, PA4 8XB  | 2   | 2                          |
| NN09            | Arkleston Primary School, 125 Cockels Loan, Renfrew, PA4 0EL  | 2   | 2                          |
| NN10            | Newmains Primary School, 8a Lang Avenue, Renfrew, PA4 0DA   | 2   | 2                          |
| NN11            | St James' Primary School, 10 Brown Street, Renfrew, PA4 8HL   | 1   | 2                          |
| NN12            | St Catherine's Primary School, 28a Brabloch Crescent, Paisley, PA3 4RG  | 2   | 2                          |
| NN13            | Beechwood Community Centre, 26 Shortroods Road, Paisley, PA3 2NT  | 1   | 4                          |
| NN14            | Houston and Killellan Church Halls, Main Street, Houston  | 4   | 10                         |
| NN15            | Cargill Hall, Lintwhite Crescent, Bridge of Weir PA11 3LJ   | 4   | 11                         |
| NN16            | Langbank Village Centre, 51 Middlepenny Road, Langbank, PA14 6XB  | 1   | 11                         |
| NN17            | New polling district initially at Bishopton Community Centre and then at Dargavel Primary School, Bishopton     | To be assessed - between 3 and 8 polling stations | 11                         |
| NN18            | Bishopton Community Centre, Gledstane Rd, Bishopton PA7 5AU   | 6   | 11                         |
| NN19            | Bishopton Community Centre, Gledstane Rd, Bishopton PA7 5AU   | 1   | 11                         |
| NN20            | Inchinnan Primary School, 96 Old Greenock Road, Inchinnan PA4 9PH   | 2   | 12                         |
| NN21            | Erskine Baptist Church, Park Hill, Erskine PA8 7HE  | 3   | 12                         |
| NN22            | St Anne's Primary School, 97 Park Drive, Erskine PA8 7AL  | 5   | 12                         |
| NN23            | Bargarran Primary School, 4 Barrhill Road, Erskine PA8 6BX  | 5   | 12                         |
| NP01            | Williamsburgh Primary School, Lacy Street, Paisley, PA1 1QF   | 3   | 3                          |
| NP02            | Ralston Community Sports Centre, Penilee Road, Paisley PA1 1AX  | 2   | 3                          |
| NP03            | Ralston Community Centre, 6 Allanton Avenue, Paisley PA1 3BL  | 2   | 3                          |
| NP04            | Beechwood Community Centre, 26 Shortroods Road, Paisley, PA3 2NT  | 3   | 4                          |
| NP05            | Disability Resource Centre, Love Street, Paisley, PA3 2EA   | 1   | 4                          |
| NP06            | St Ninian's Church, 85 Blackstoun Road, Paisley PA3 1NR   | 3   | 4                          |
| NP07            | Elderslie Village Hall, Stoddard Square, Elderslie, PA5 9AS   | 1   | 8                          |
| NP08            | St Ninian's Church, 85 Blackstoun Road, Paisley PA3 1NR   | 1   | 8                          |
| NS01            | Tweedie Hall, Ardlamont Square, Linwood PA3 3DE   | 4   | 10                         |
| NS02            | Linwood Parish Church, Blackwood Avenue, Linwood PA3 3PY  | 4   | 10                         |
| NS03            | Brookfield Village Hall, 45 Woodside Road, Brookfield PA5 8UB (Registers SS16 & SS17 allocated to this station) | 1   | 10                         |
| NS04            | Houston and Killellan Church Halls, Main Street, Houston  | 3   | 10                         |

| District                                     | Place name  | Estimated Stations for this district | Council Ward Number |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b><u>PAISLEY AND RENFREWSHIRE SOUTH</u></b> |   |                                      |                     |
| District                                     | Place name  | Estimated Stations for this district | Council Ward Number |
| SN01   | Cargill Hall, Lintwhite Crescent, Bridge of Weir, PA11 3LJ                              | 1                                    | 11                  |
| SP01   | Williamsburgh Primary School, Lacy Street, Paisley, PA1 1QF                             | 3                                    | 3                   |
| SP02   | Martyrs Church Hall, King Street, Paisley, PA1 2LS                                      | 3                                    | 4                   |
| SP03   | St Mary's Primary School, 4 Maxwellton Road, Paisley, PA1 2RJ                           | 2                                    | 4                   |
| SP04   | St Charles Church Hall, 5 Union Street, Paisley, PA2 6DU                                | 2                                    | 4                   |
| SP05   | St Ninian's Church, 85 Blackstoun Road, Paisley PA3 1NR                                 | 1                                    | 4                   |
| SP06   | West End Community Centre, 5A Underwood Lane, Paisley, PA1 2SL                          | 1                                    | 4                   |
| SP07   | St Andrew's Academy, 125 Barrhead Road, Paisley, PA2 7LG                                | 2                                    | 5                   |
| SP08   | Hunterhill Community Centre, Blackford Road, Paisley, PA2 7EN                           | 1                                    | 5                   |
| SP09   | Paisley Marriage Suite, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1BU             | 2                                    | 5                   |
| SP10   | Todholm Primary School, 260 Lochfield Road, Paisley, PA2 7JE                            | 3                                    | 5                   |
| SP11   | South End Action Centre, Stock Street, Paisley PA2 6NL                                  | 1                                    | 5                   |
| SP12   | Williamsburgh Primary School, Lacy Street, Paisley, PA1 1QF                             | 3                                    | 5                   |
| SP13   | Glenburn Community Centre, 30 Fairway Avenue, Paisley, PA2 8DX                          | 2                                    | 6                   |
| SP14   | Glenburn Resource Centre, 19 Donaldswood Road, Paisley, PA2 8EA                         | 2                                    | 6                   |
| SP15   | Bushes Primary School, , Grampian Avenue, Paisley PA2 8DW                               | 3                                    | 6                   |
| SP16   | Lylesland Church, 123 Rowan Street, Paisley, PA2 6RZ                                    | 4                                    | 6                   |
| SP17   | St Charles Church Hall, 5 Union Street, Paisley, PA2 6DU                                | 2                                    | 6                   |
| SP18   | Brediland Community Centre, 30 Cardell Road, Paisley, PA2 9AF                           | 2                                    | 7                   |
| SP19   | Brediland Primary School, Achray Drive, Paisley PA2 9DJ                                 | 2                                    | 7                   |
| SP20   | Foxbar Rivers Community Building, Spey Avenue, Paisley, PA2 0PA                         | 2                                    | 7                   |
| SP21   | Heriot Primary School, 10 Heriot Avenue, Paisley PA2 0DS                                | 2                                    | 7                   |
| SP22   | Foxbar Community Centre, 30 Amochrie Road, Paisley PA2 0LB                              | 2                                    | 7                   |
| SP23   | Langcraigs Primary School, 245 Glenfield Road, Paisley PA2 8QE                          | 2                                    | 7                   |
| SS01   | Elderslie Village Hall, Stoddard Square, Elderslie, PA5 9AS                             | 5                                    | 8                   |
| SS02   | Johnstone Castle Community Centre, Pine Crescent, Johnstone PA5 0BX                     | 3                                    | 8                   |
| SS03   | St David's Primary School, West Johnstone Shared Campus, Beith Road, Johnstone, PA5 0BB | 2                                    | 8                   |
| SS04   | Cochrane Castle Community Centre, 1 Burns Drive, Johnstone PA5 0HJ                      | 1                                    | 8                   |
| SS05   | Fordbank Primary School, 23B Teviot Terrace, Johnstone PA5 0NP                          | 1                                    | 8                   |
| SS06   | Spateston Bowling Club, Spateston Road, Johnstone PA5 0SX                               | 3                                    | 8                   |
| SS07   | Thorn Primary School, 4A Thorn Brae, Johnstone PA5 8HE                                  | 1                                    | 8                   |
| SS08   | Howwood Village Hall, 10 Station Road, Howwood PA9 1BB                                  | 3                                    | 9                   |

| <b>District</b> | <b>Place name</b>  | <b>Estimated<br/>Stations for<br/>this district</b> | <b>Council Ward<br/>Number</b> |
|-----------------|--|---|--------------------------------|
| SS09            | St Margaret's Church Hall, 49 Graham Street, Johnstone PA5 8RA         | 2   | 9                              |
| SS10            | Johnstone Town Hall, 25 Church St, Johnstone PA5 8EG                   | 2   | 9                              |
| SS11            | Thorn Primary School, 4A Thorn Brae, Johnstone PA5 8HE                 | 2   | 9                              |
| SS12            | McKillop Institute, 2 Main Street, Lochwinnoch PA12 4AJ                | 3   | 9                              |
| SS13            | Kilbarchan Scout Hall, Barn Green, Kilbarchan PA10 2HG                 | 3   | 9                              |
| SS14            | Linwood Parish Church (nb currently no electors)                       | 1   | 10                             |
| SS15            | Brookfield Village Hall, 43 Woodside Rd, Brookfield, Johnstone PA5 8UB | 1   | 10                             |
| SS16            | Brookfield Village Hall, 43 Woodside Rd, Brookfield, Johnstone PA5 8UB | 1   | 10                             |



## Appendix 6

### Comments arising from the first phase of consultation and which were noted by Council at its meeting held on 26 September 2019

| Respondent   | Polling Place  | Suggestion/Comment   |
|--|--|--|
| Councillor Nicolson  | Barsail Primary School (NN21)<br>Inchinnan Primary School (NN20) | <p>The small number of houses located at Naimh Court, Inchinnan should have their polling station changed from Barsail Primary School to Inchinnan Primary School.</p> <p>The current situation is an anomaly due to house building. Their closest polling station is Inchinnan which is the community they are associated with, it is the only access to drive past to and from their homes.</p>  |
| <p><b><u>Evaluation</u></b></p> <p>Naimh Court is located off the Old Greenock Road, sitting between Erskine and Inchinnan. The development consists of seven properties and includes 15 voters. The development is closer to Inchinnan Primary School and the Old Greenock Road is a logical direct link to that polling place.</p> <p><b><u>Recommendation</u></b></p> <p>That the seven properties located at Naimh Court, Inchinnan be included in polling district NN20 – Inchinnan Primary School.</p> |  |  |
| Respondent   | Polling Place  | Suggestion/Comment   |
| (a) Councillor James MacLaren<br>(b) Carol Mackay<br>(c) Mrs Moira Macdonald<br>(d) Sandra Liddell, on behalf of Bridge of Weir Community Council  | Bridge of Weir Primary School (NN16)                             | <p>Councillor MacLaren has intimated that he believes it is best to avoid closing schools for elections. In relation to Bridge of Weir Primary School, Councillor MacLaren had previously suggested that the British Legion Hall be used. As that has now closed he has proposed that having all voting at the Cargill Hall (NN15) would be better than closing the school. He has suggested that the services of My Bus could be provided for the area for those unable to walk or drive the distance.</p> <p>The other respondents suggest that there is no need for the primary school to be used in Bridge of Weir as a polling station when there is adequate</p> |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | alternative provision in terms of church and community halls. |
|--|--|---|

### **Evaluation**

Bridge of Weir Primary School normally has one polling station and has never had more than two for any electoral event. The school is closed on election days.

Cargill Hall currently accommodates three polling stations.

In terms of available space, the Cargill Hall could easily accommodate at least one additional polling station and further polling stations by utilising the Lesser Hall. In terms of location, moving all voters to the Cargill Hall will mean that voters in the North of the village who currently vote at the Primary School will have further to travel.

### **Recommendation**

That Bridge of Weir Primary School be no longer used as a polling place and that, instead, a fourth polling station (NN16) be located at the Cargill Hall.

| <b>Respondent</b>      | <b>Polling Place</b>                                 | <b>Suggestion/Comment</b>  |
|------------------------|--|--|
| Councillor Audrey Doig | St Fillan's Primary School (NN13), (NN14) and (NS05) | That either Houston and Killellan Kirk Halls or the Carrick Centre be used rather than St Fillan's Primary School. |

### **Evaluation**

St Fillan's Primary School is one of the largest polling places in Renfrewshire area, accommodating six polling stations and requiring the use of the gym and four classrooms. The school is closed to accommodate electoral events.

Both the Carrick Centre and Houston and Killellan Kirk Halls have been inspected and assessed. Both venues could potentially accommodate the required number of polling stations and both had suitable disabled access, parking facilities and adequate space for signage.

While the Carrick Centre would be able to accommodate six polling stations, this would involve utilising at least three rooms in the centre and could create issues for some voters in respect of understanding the layout and where to vote. The Houston and Killellan Kirk Halls could easily accommodate the six stations between the two main spaces in the building.

### **Recommendation**

That the six polling stations located at St Fillan's Primary School be relocated to the Houston and Killellan Kirk Halls.

| <b>Respondent(s)</b>   | <b>Polling Place</b>          | <b>Suggestion/Comment</b>  |
|--|-------------------------------|--|
| (a) Councillor Jacqueline Cameron<br>(b) Mrs Deborah Whyte<br>(c) Ms Sarah Cooper<br>(d) Lynsey Conroy<br>(e) Krista Russell<br>(f) Michelle Black<br>(g) Gary Malcolm<br>(h) Alexis Holmes<br>(i) Susan McKie<br>(j) Kirsten Stobo<br>(k) Lesley Woodhouse<br>(l) Louise Rossi<br>(m) Allison Connelly<br>(n) Tara Gibson<br>(o) Linda F<br>(p) Kenny McGuire<br>(q) Lianne Grieves<br>(r) Claire Brown<br>(s) Charris Malcolm<br>(t) Alan Mitchell<br>(u) Sheila Davies<br>(v) Andrea Ennis<br>(w) Catherine Denholm<br>(x) Lesley Dawson<br>(y) Susan McKie<br>(z) Alexis Holmes<br>(aa) Antonio Aitken<br>(bb) Lesley McGuire<br>(cc) Michelle Black<br>(dd) Gary Malcolm<br>(ee) Scott Mitchell | Wallace Primary School (SS01) | Respondents (a) – (dd) suggested that the polling place be changed from Wallace Primary School to Elderslie Village Hall.<br><br>Respondent (ee) requested that Wallace Primary School continue to be used as a polling place. |
| <b><u>Evaluation</u></b><br><br>Wallace Primary School accommodates five polling stations, four in the gym hall and one in a classroom. The school is closed for elections.<br><br>Elderslie Village Hall is managed by Renfrewshire Leisure Limited. The Hall has been inspected and assessed. It is suitable in terms of accommodation size, disabled access and car parking.  |                               |  |

A similar proposal to change the polling place from Wallace Primary School to Elderslie Village Hall was considered by Council as part of the last review in 2014. At that time the view of the Council was that Wallace Primary School had been used for a number of years as a polling place and was more centrally located within the Polling District and accordingly no change was made.

### **Recommendation**

That Polling Districts NP07 and SS01 be relocated from Wallace Primary School to Elderslie Community Centre.

| <b>Respondent(s)</b>   | <b>Polling Place</b>             | <b>Suggestion/Comment</b>   |
|--|----------------------------------|---|
| Vikki Aitkenhead<br>Chairperson -<br>Barsail Parent<br>Council | Barsail Primary<br>School (NN21) | <p>The respondent advises that Barsail Primary School has been used as a polling station for many years and concerns regarding the school closures have been discussed regularly at Parent Council meetings and also at the wider Renfrewshire Parent Council liaison meetings.</p> <p>The Parent Council asked the wider parent body to suggest potential alternative venues in Erksine, resulting the in the following list:</p> <p>Erskine Baptist Church<br/>The Farmhouse Community Centre<br/>Erskine Library<br/>Erskine Sport Centre<br/>Park Mains High School Sports Hall<br/>St Bernadette's Church<br/>Salvation Army Hall<br/>Bargarran Community Centre<br/>Masonic Hall, Inchinnan<br/>Erskine Bowling Club<br/>Inchinnan Bowling Club</p> |

### **Evaluation**

Barsail Primary School accommodates three polling stations. The school closes for elections.

A number of the locations suggested by the Parent Council have been considered and are not suitable for use as a polling place for NN21 as they are located outwith the Polling District. They are not within easy walking or travelling distance for voters reliant on public transport. These are: Erskine Library, Erskine Sport Centre, Park Mains High School Sports Hall, Salvation Army Hall, Bargarran Community

Centre, Masonic Hall, Inchinnan, Erskine Bowling Club and the Old Farmhouse Community Centre and Innchinnan Bowling Club.

While St Bernadette's Church Hall is also located outwith NN21, it has been inspected and assessed as it lies close to the edge of the Polling District and could be considered to be within reasonable travelling distance. However, is not large enough to accommodate the three stations located at Barsail Primary School. Further, the Church Hall is located next to St Anne's Primary School which is the polling place for NN22. Two polling places in such close proximity could cause voter confusion.

Erskine Baptist Church has been inspected and assessed. The Baptist Church has adequate space to accommodate three polling stations, has suitable disabled access and has a number of parking spaces. While the Church is not central to the NN21 Polling District, it is within walking distance of Barsail Primary School, the current polling place.

### **Recommendation**

That Polling District NN21 be relocated from Barsail Primary School to Erskine Baptist Church.

| <b>Respondent(s)</b> | <b>Polling Place</b>            | <b>Suggestion/Comment</b>  |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Returning Officer    | Bargarran Primary School (NN23) | That the Bargarran and St. John Bosco collocated campus be used as the Polling Place for NN23 and that the schools remain open on election days. |

### **Evaluation**

Bargarran Primary School has been used as a polling place for a number of years. The Primary School accommodated five polling stations and was closed on election days. More recently, the school has been rebuilt and now forms part of a collocated campus that it shares with St John Bosco Primary School.

Prior to the 2019 European Election the new Bargarran Primary School was inspected and assessed to confirm if the premises remained suitable for use as a polling place and in particular whether it provided the required disabled access and was large enough to accommodate the required five polling stations. Having done so it was confirmed that the school remained a suitable location.

Consideration was then given as to whether both schools would require to close in order that the building could be used as a polling place. Children's Services position is that, where a school is used as a polling place, consideration should be given as to whether a school can be used in such a way as to allow the school in question to remain open and cause the least possible disruption to the pupils and their parents. Accordingly, other schools in Renfrewshire are used as polling places while remaining open to pupils. These arrangements have operated successfully for a number of years.

Having assessed the school, it was noted that strict segregation could be maintained between the voting area located in the school dining hall and the rest of the school. This allowed the possibility of keeping the school open to pupils on polling day.

The matter was discussed with Children's Services. Having consulted the Acting Director of Children's Services and the Head of Schools, they wished to follow the model adopted at other schools and keep both Bargarran and St John Bosco open to pupils.

Accordingly, both schools were kept open to pupils on 23 May.

An inspection and assessment has been made of Bargarran Community Centre to assess its possible use as an alternative polling place. While the Community Centre is located in close proximity to the current polling place at Bargarran Primary School, the main hall would not accommodate the required five polling stations. At least one of the five polling stations would require to be located elsewhere in the building. A further issue is that the central access to the main hall is shared with the GP surgery and given that Polling Agents and tellers are allowed in the polling place, they would be in that area. As there is no way to segregate the communal entrance through the use of screens patients attending the surgery would have to pass these campaigners. Accordingly, it is not recommended that the Community Centre be used as a polling place.

### **Recommendation**

That Bargarran Primary School continues to be used as a polling place and in such a way that the both primary schools remain open to pupils during polling.

| <b>Respondent(s)</b>  | <b>Polling Place</b>  | <b>Suggestion/Comment</b>  |
|---|---|--|
| Gillian Dowds, Vice Chair of the Williamsburgh Parent Council | Williamsburgh Primary School (NP01, SP02 SP03, SP26 and SP27) | Ms Dowds asked why other schools in the area could not be used - or why other premises could not be sourced which were less disruptive to the local community. For example, the Sherwood Greenlaw Church, or the Lagoon Sports centre. |

### **Evaluation**

Williamsburgh Primary School accommodates eight polling stations, more than any other polling place in Renfrewshire and with a combined population of voters and attainers of 6,675 as of May 2019.

The largest single non-educational establishment in the polling area is the Lagoon Leisure Centre. While the Lagoon Leisure Centre would meet the requirements for use as a Polling Place, it is used extensively on polling days for elections. The

main sports arena accommodates the counting of ballot papers, unused ballot papers are counted in the sports hall and postal votes are dealt with in one of the fitness suites. Accordingly, it could not be used as a polling place.

While there are a number of smaller halls in the area covered by the Williamsburgh Primary School, other than the Lagoon or one of the other schools in the area, there is no other location which could accommodate the eight polling stations currently located there. For example, while Sherwood Greenlaw Church could be used as a polling place, this venue would only accommodate two polling stations. Other premises would require to be identified and evaluated. This would however mean that the eight polling stations at Williamsburgh would be divided between various locations in the area. This is likely to lead to voter confusion.

Ms Dowds asked why other schools in the area could not be used. St. John Ogilvie Primary School was used as a polling place in the past in addition to Williamsburgh. Whilst there is no reason why St. John Ogilvie Primary School could not be used as an alternative in terms of infrastructure requirements, the ongoing use of Williamsburgh Primary School provides continuity and reduces the risk of voter confusion.

### **Recommendation**

That Williamsburgh Primary School continue to be used as polling place.

| <b>Respondent(s)</b>                                    | <b>Polling Place</b>                | <b>Suggestion/Comment</b>  |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| Iain McMillan, on behalf of Johnstone Community Council | Johnstone High Parish Church (SS10) | That Johnstone Town Hall be used instead as it was very much at the heart of the town and gave election day a bit more importance. |

### **Evaluation**

Johnstone High Parish Church accommodates two polling stations. The Church Hall was agreed as a polling place when the former Johnstone Town Hall was demolished and the current Town Hall building was constructed.

Having been inspected and evaluated, three different areas were identified within the new Town Hall which could accommodate the two polling stations:- the marriage suite; the main hall; and the combined meeting rooms 1 and 2. All these locations are on the ground floor of the new Town Hall building. While car parking tends to be very much in demand in the Town Hall area, additional spaces could be marked off for blue badge holders at the front of the Town Hall.

### **Recommendation**

That the two polling stations currently accommodated within Johnstone High Parish Church be relocated to Johnstone Town Hall.

| <b>Respondent(s)</b>                                    | <b>Polling Place</b>           | <b>Suggestion/Comment</b>  |
|---|--------------------------------|--|
| Iain McMillan, on behalf of Johnstone Community Council | Fordbank Primary School (SS05) | The respondent advised that some concern had been raised with regard to Fordbank Primary School being closed for elections but recognised this was the only building that could be used in Corseford. The use of a portacabin was suggested as an alternative. |

### **Evaluation**

Fordbank Primary School accommodates one polling station.

A temporary building such as a portacabin is not generally recommended for use as a polling place. It creates substantial risks as to electoral process; it may not be possible to source a temporary structure at short notice for snap elections, and it would require the use of portable generators to provide adequate heat and light for voters and staff.

In terms of alternative venues, the Johnstone Community Sports Hub building is within reasonable walking distance of Fordbank School but is outwith the Corseford area. Whilst the polling station could be accommodated easily within the sports hub, such a relocation would result in increased travelling distance for the majority of the voters who use it.

Having been inspected, the layout of the school is such that it was not considered possible to allow the school to remain open during voting.

### **Recommendation**

That Fordbank Primary School continue to be used as a polling place for Polling District SS05.

| <b>Respondent(s)</b> | <b>Polling Place</b>          | <b>Suggestion/Comment</b>  |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|
|                      | 7th Paisley Scout Hall (SP12) | The 7th Paisley Scouts group has advised the hall will no longer be available to be used as a polling place. |

### **Evaluation**

The 7th Paisley Scouts group has advised that the hall will no longer be available to be used as a polling place. The hall accommodates one polling station. While the hall has been used as a polling place for some time, comments had been received previously that its location at the top of an incline was not suitable for voters with mobility issues.

Martyrs Church Hall, King Street, Paisley, accommodates one polling station (SP06). The Hall is large enough to accommodate at least two additional polling stations and is within easy walking distance of the 7th Paisley Scout Hall (SP12). The Hall satisfies all the other requirements associated with a polling place.

St Mary's Primary School (SP08) is also within easy walking distance of the 7th Paisley Scout Hall. The School closes for voting and accommodates two polling stations.

### **Recommendation**

That Polling District SP12 be relocated to Martyrs Church Hall.

| <b>Respondent(s)</b> | <b>Polling Place</b>               | <b>Suggestion/Comment</b>   |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|---|
|                      | Church of the New Jerusalem (SP07) | The Church of New Jerusalem has been sold and is no longer available to be used as a polling place. |

### **Evaluation**

In March 2019 the Local Returning Officer received notification from The Paisley Society of the Church of the New Jerusalem intimating that the church building had been sold and would no longer be available for election purposes,

Martyrs Church Hall, King Street, Paisley, accommodates one polling station (SP06). The Hall is large enough to accommodate at least two additional stations and is within easy walking distance of the Church of the New Jerusalem (SP07). The Hall satisfies all the other requirements associated with a polling place.

St Mary's Primary School (SP08) is also within easy walking distance of the Church of the New Jerusalem Hall. The school closes for voting and accommodates two polling stations.

### **Recommendation**

That Polling District SP 12 be relocated to Martyrs Church Hall.



# **DRAFT POLLING PLAN FOR CONSULTATION APPROVED ON 26/9/2019**

## **PAISLEY AND RENFREWSHIRE NORTH**

| <b>District</b> | <b>Place name</b>   | <b>Estimated Stations for this district</b> | <b>Council Ward Number</b> |
|-----------------|---|---|----------------------------|
| NN01            | Renfrew Town Hall & Museum, Renfrew Cross, Renfrew, PA4 8PF   | 2   | 1                          |
| NN02            | Kirklandneuk Community Centre, Ness Road, Renfrew, PA4 9DE  | 2   | 1                          |
| NN03            | Renfrew Town Hall & Museum, Renfrew Cross, Renfrew, PA4 8PF   | 4   | 1                          |
| NN04            | McMaster Centre, Robertson Park, Donaldson Drive, Renfrew, PA4 8LX  | 2   | 1                          |
| NN05            | King George V Sports Pavilion, Dean Park Road, Renfrew, PA4 0AN   | 4   | 1                          |
| NN06            | St James' Primary School, 10 Brown Street, Renfrew, PA4 8HL   | 2   | 1                          |
| NN07            | Gallowhill Community Centre, 210 Netherhill Road, Paisley, PA3 4SF  | 2   | 2                          |
| NN08            | Glynhill Hotel, 169 Paisley Road, Renfrew, PA4 8XB  | 2   | 2                          |
| NN09            | Arkleston Primary School, 125 Cockels Loan, Renfrew, PA4 0EL  | 2   | 2                          |
| NN10            | Newmains Primary School, 8a Lang Avenue, Renfrew, PA4 0DA   | 2   | 2                          |
| NN11            | St James' Primary School, 10 Brown Street, Renfrew, PA4 8HL   | 1   | 2                          |
| NN12            | St Catherine's Primary School, 28a Brabloch Crescent, Paisley, PA3 4RG  | 2   | 2                          |
| NN13            | Beechwood Community Centre, 26 Shortroods Road, Paisley, PA3 2NT  | 1   | 4                          |
| NN14            | Houston and Killellan Church Halls, Main Street, Houston  | 4   | 10                         |
| NN15            | Cargill Hall, Lintwhite Crescent, Bridge of Weir PA11 3LJ   | 4   | 11                         |
| NN16            | Langbank Village Centre, 51 Middlepenny Road, Langbank, PA14 6XB  | 1   | 11                         |
| NN17            | New polling district initially at Bishopton Community Centre and then at Dargavel Primary School, Bishopton     | To be assessed                              | 11                         |
| NN18            | Bishopton Community Centre, Gledstane Rd, Bishopton PA7 5AU   | 6   | 11                         |
| NN19            | Bishopton Community Centre, Gledstane Rd, Bishopton PA7 5AU   | 1   | 11                         |
| NN20            | Inchinnan Primary School, 96 Old Greenock Road, Inchinnan PA4 9PH   | 2   | 12                         |
| NN21            | Erskine Baptist Church, Park Hill, Erskine PA8 7HE  | 3   | 12                         |
| NN22            | St Anne's Primary School, 97 Park Drive, Erskine PA8 7AL  | 5   | 12                         |
| NN23            | Bargarran Primary School, 4 Barrhill Road, Erskine PA8 6BX  | 5   | 12                         |
| NP01            | Williamsburgh Primary School, Lacy Street, Paisley, PA1 1QF   | 3   | 3                          |
| NP02            | Ralston Community Sports Centre, Penilee Road, Paisley PA1 1AX  | 2   | 3                          |
| NP03            | Ralston Community Centre, 6 Allanton Avenue, Paisley PA1 3BL  | 2   | 3                          |
| NP04            | Beechwood Community Centre, 26 Shortroods Road, Paisley, PA3 2NT  | 3   | 4                          |
| NP05            | Disability Resource Centre, Love Street, Paisley, PA3 2EA   | 1   | 4                          |
| NP06            | St Ninian's Church, 85 Blackstoun Road, Paisley PA3 1NR   | 3   | 4                          |
| NP07            | Elderslie Village Hall, Stoddard Square, Elderslie, PA5 9AS   | 1   | 8                          |
| NP08            | St Ninian's Church, 85 Blackstoun Road, Paisley PA3 1NR   | 1   | 8                          |
| NS01            | Tweedie Hall, Ardlamont Square, Linwood PA3 3DE   | 4   | 10                         |
| NS02            | Linwood Parish Church, Blackwood Avenue, Linwood PA3 3PY  | 4   | 10                         |
| NS03            | Brookfield Village Hall, 45 Woodside Road, Brookfield PA5 8UB (Registers SS16 & SS17 allocated to this station) | 1   | 10                         |
| NS04            | Houston and Killellan Church Halls, Main Street, Houston  | 3   | 10                         |

| District                                     | Place name  | Estimated Stations for this district | Council Ward Number |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b><u>PAISLEY AND RENFREWSHIRE SOUTH</u></b> |   |                                      |                     |
| District                                     | Place name  | Estimated Stations for this district | Council Ward Number |
| SN01   | Cargill Hall, Lintwhite Crescent, Bridge of Weir, PA11 3LJ                              | 1                                    | 11                  |
| SP01   | Williamsburgh Primary School, Lacy Street, Paisley, PA1 1QF                             | 3                                    | 3                   |
| SP02   | Martyrs Church Hall, 5 King Street, Paisley, PA1 2LS                                    | 3                                    | 4                   |
| SP03   | St Mary's Primary School, 4 Maxwellton Road, Paisley, PA1 2RJ                           | 2                                    | 4                   |
| SP04   | St Charles Church Hall, 5 Union Street, Paisley, PA2 6DU                                | 2                                    | 4                   |
| SP05   | St Ninian's Church, 85 Blackstoun Road, Paisley PA3 1NR                                 | 1                                    | 4                   |
| SP06   | West End Community Centre, 5A Underwood Lane, Paisley, PA1 2SL                          | 1                                    | 4                   |
| SP07   | St Andrew's Academy, 125 Barrhead Road, Paisley, PA2 7LG                                | 2                                    | 5                   |
| SP08   | Hunterhill Community Centre, Blackford Road, Paisley, PA2 7EN                           | 1                                    | 5                   |
| SP09   | Paisley Marriage Suite, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1BU             | 2                                    | 5                   |
| SP10   | Todholm Primary School, 260 Lochfield Road, Paisley, PA2 7JE                            | 3                                    | 5                   |
| SP11   | South End Action Centre, Stock Street, Paisley PA2 6NL                                  | 1                                    | 5                   |
| SP12   | Williamsburgh Primary School, Lacy Street, Paisley, PA1 1QF                             | 3                                    | 5                   |
| SP13   | Glenburn Community Centre, 30 Fairway Avenue, Paisley, PA2 8DX                          | 2                                    | 6                   |
| SP14   | Glenburn Resource Centre, 19 Donaldswood Road, Paisley, PA2 8EA                         | 2                                    | 6                   |
| SP15   | Bushes Primary School, , Grampian Avenue, Paisley PA2 8DW                               | 3                                    | 6                   |
| SP16   | Lochfield Primary School, Quarry Road, Paisley, PA2 7RD                                 | 4                                    | 6                   |
| SP17   | St Charles Church Hall, 5 Union Street, Paisley, PA2 6DU                                | 2                                    | 6                   |
| SP18   | Brediland Community Centre, 30 Cardell Road, Paisley, PA2 9AF                           | 2                                    | 7                   |
| SP19   | Brediland Primary School, Achray Drive, Paisley PA2 9DJ                                 | 2                                    | 7                   |
| SP20   | Foxbar Rivers Community Building, Spey Avenue, Paisley, PA2 0PA                         | 2                                    | 7                   |
| SP21   | Heriot Primary School, 10 Heriot Avenue, Paisley PA2 0DS                                | 2                                    | 7                   |
| SP22   | Foxbar Community Centre, 30 Amochrie Road, Paisley PA2 0LB                              | 2                                    | 7                   |
| SP23   | Langcraigs Primary School, 245 Glenfield Road, Paisley PA2 8QE                          | 2                                    | 7                   |
| SS01   | Elderslie Village Hall, Stoddard Square, Elderslie, PA5 9AS                             | 5                                    | 8                   |
| SS02   | Johnstone Castle Community Centre, Pine Crescent, Johnstone PA5 0BX                     | 3                                    | 8                   |
| SS03   | St David's Primary School, West Johnstone Shared Campus, Beith Road, Johnstone, PA5 0BB | 2                                    | 8                   |
| SS04   | Cochrane Castle Community Centre, 1 Burns Drive, Johnstone PA5 0HJ                      | 1                                    | 8                   |
| SS05   | Fordbank Primary School, 23B Teviot Terrace, Johnstone PA5 0NP                          | 1                                    | 8                   |
| SS06   | Spateston Bowling Club, Spateston Road, Johnstone PA5 0SX                               | 3                                    | 8                   |
| SS07   | Thorn Primary School, 4A Thorn Brae, Johnstone PA5 8HE                                  | 1                                    | 8                   |

| <b>District</b> | <b>Place name</b>  | <b>Estimated Stations for this district</b> | <b>Council Ward Number</b> |
|-----------------|--|---|----------------------------|
| SS08            | Howwood Village Hall, 10 Station Road, Howwood PA9 1BB                 | 3   | 9                          |
| SS09            | St Margaret's Church Hall, 49 Graham Street, Johnstone PA5 8RA         | 2   | 9                          |
| SS10            | Johnstone Town Hall, 25 Church St, Johnstone PA5 8EG                   | 2   | 9                          |
| SS11            | Thorn Primary School, 4A Thorn Brae, Johnstone PA5 8HE                 | 2   | 9                          |
| SS12            | McKillop Institute, 2 Main Street, Lochwinnoch PA12 4AJ                | 3   | 9                          |
| SS13            | Kilbarchan Scout Hall, Barn Green, Kilbarchan PA10 2HG                 | 3   | 9                          |
| SS14            | Linwood Parish Church (nb currently no electors)                       | 1   | 10                         |
| SS15            | Brookfield Village Hall, 43 Woodside Rd, Brookfield, Johnstone PA5 8UB | 1   | 10                         |
| SS16            | Brookfield Village Hall, 43 Woodside Rd, Brookfield, Johnstone PA5 8UB | 1   | 10                         |






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**To: Council**

**On: 5 December 2019**

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**Report by: Chief Executive**

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**Heading: Scottish Household Survey 2018**

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## **1. Summary**

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of the Scottish Household Survey (SHS) results for Renfrewshire, as agreed at the Council meeting on 26 September 2019.
- 1.2 The Scottish Household Survey is a continuous survey based on a sample of 10,500 responses from private residences across Scotland. The survey represents a core element of the Scottish Government's approach to population surveys and the gathering of population data in Scotland, and contributes to range of national datasets including the National Performance Framework. In terms of local authority level data, it is also used as a source of data for the Local Government Benchmarking Framework.
- 1.3 The survey gathers information on a range of information including travel and transport, education, demographic data, household composition, housing condition, views on public services and neighbourhood and community topics.
- 1.4 The 2018 annual report on the survey was published by the Scottish Government in September 2019, highlighting a number of findings regarding satisfaction with public services such as schools, healthcare and public transport. In October 2019, the Scottish Government published local authority level data from the Scottish Household Survey.

- 1.5 In 2018, 240 responses were recorded in Renfrewshire as part of the overall sample. This in relative terms is a very small sample size compared to some of the Council's existing survey mechanisms such as the Public Services Panel, where the response levels have typically been in the region of 1000 respondents.
- 1.6 This report seeks to provide a summary of the headline results for Renfrewshire, focusing on those areas raised at the Council meeting in September 2019 around satisfaction with public services including health, transport and education services.
- 1.6 Given both the limited sample size and the breadth of data which is available across the whole survey, it is recommended that a further, more detailed briefing is offered to elected members as part of the ongoing member development programme in order to facilitate the provision of a more comprehensive analysis.
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## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 Council is asked to:
- note the content of this report as requested at the Council meeting on 26 September; and
  - note that detailed briefings on the Scottish Household Survey at a national and Renfrewshire level, will be offered to all elected members as part of the ongoing development programme for members.

## **3. Background**

- 3.1 The Scottish Household Survey (SHS) is a continuous survey based on a random sample of the population in private residencies in Scotland. It is Scotland's largest random pre-selected survey and is at the centre of Scotland's evidence-based approach to policy-making.

#### The Scottish Household Survey is:

- a face-to-face survey of a sample of people in private residences in Scotland
- interviewer-administered in people's homes
- voluntary
- Scotland-wide; it covers all 32 local authorities
- three surveys in one: Transport and Travel in Scotland Survey, the Scottish House Condition Survey as well as the Scottish Household Survey
- long-running since 1999
- wide-ranging in topics covered, including evidence on the physical condition of Scotland's homes
- a provider of robust evidence on the composition, characteristics, attitudes and behaviour of private households and individuals

- 3.2 9,700 adults took part in the SHS 2018, of those 240 were from Renfrewshire. While this can give a good indication of public opinion on the various topics covered in the survey, the results may vary from the opinions of the wider population due to the relatively small sample size.
- 3.3 The data from the SHS is used across a range of different organisations to gain insight across the key themes, informing decisions and policy development. SHS data is used by the Improvement Service for the Local Government Benchmarking Framework to understand and improve local needs and circumstances and is also a key contributor to the Scottish Government's National Performance Framework.
- 3.4 The SHS is a very detailed survey which covers a vast range of themes as well as the composition, characteristics and attitudes of households. The themes surveyed include – housing, neighbourhoods and communities, economic activity, finance, internet, physical activity and sport, local services, environment, volunteering, culture and heritage and childcare.
- 3.5 There is a complex methodology used to ensure the findings are robust and reflect the wider population of Scotland but are also not overly burdensome on the participants, for example, not all households are asked the same questions at the same frequency. The survey also provides a base from which to commission more detailed follow-up surveys of sub-samples of the households in the survey.
- 3.6 The data from the SHS can be examined in many different ways, and when viewed at a local level in order to provide context and comparisons, this can result in quite a complex and lengthy output of data to digest. It is recommended that further data and analysis on the SHS findings is provided to elected members through the member development programme.
- 3.7 Some headline findings for Scotland in 2018 across the themes:
- Nine out of ten households reported that they were very or fairly satisfied with their housing

- One in five adults reported that they had experienced loneliness with the last week
  - 55% of households reported they managed well financially
  - Home internet access reached an all time high of 87% of households
  - 80% of adults had taken part in physical activity or sport in the previous four weeks
  - 52% of adults were satisfied with the three local services (local health, schools and public transport)
  - Four out of five adults felt they can't influence decisions affecting their local area
  - Two thirds of adults viewed climate change as an immediate and urgent problem
  - 48% of adults volunteered (formal and informal) in the last 12 months
  - 90% of adults were culturally engaged in 2018
  - 72% of households with children aged two to five years old said that they did not find it difficult to afford childcare
- 3.8 For the purposes of this report, the focus is on the key results in Renfrewshire as discussed at the Council meeting in September 2019 - satisfaction with public services, in particular schools, healthcare and public transport.
- 3.9 More detailed data on these areas can be found in section 4 below and in Appendix 1. An infographic showing other notable areas of interest for Renfrewshire is provided in Appendix 2.
- 3.10 Further data at local authority level can be found online in:
- the SHS local authority tables
  - the local authority services and performance dashboard
- 3.11 This can be accessed at:  
<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/LAtables2018/Renfrewshire>

#### **4. Local Services and performance - Scotland**

- 4.1 The survey asks a range of questions about satisfaction with local services, with a focus on local health services, schools and public transport. Combined satisfaction with all three is 52%, down from a peak of 66% in 2011, mainly due to a decrease in satisfaction with local schools.
- 4.2 Adults living in urban areas were more satisfied with the quality of the three public services than those in rural areas, which is mainly due to greater satisfaction with public transport in urban areas.
- 4.3 Eight out of ten respondents across Scotland were satisfied with local health services, regardless of whether they used the service or not.

## 5. Local services and performance – Renfrewshire

### 5.1 Percentage of people very or fairly satisfied with the quality of public services delivered (local health services, local schools and public transport).

5.1.1 Satisfaction was higher in Renfrewshire than it was in Scotland for local health services and local schools. Satisfaction with local transport was in line with the Scottish findings, however Renfrewshire has previously demonstrated higher level of satisfaction than the Scottish average. The percentage satisfied with all three services was also higher in Renfrewshire than Scotland in 2018.

5.1.2 Although Renfrewshire demonstrated higher levels of satisfaction with local services than Scotland, satisfaction has declined in 3 out of 4 measures. Local schools are the only area that have seen an improvement on the 2017 survey responses. In Scotland satisfaction with local health services and public transport has declined, satisfaction with local school has increased and the percentage satisfied with all three has stayed the same.

Chart 1: Percentage of people very or fairly satisfied with the quality of public services, by year

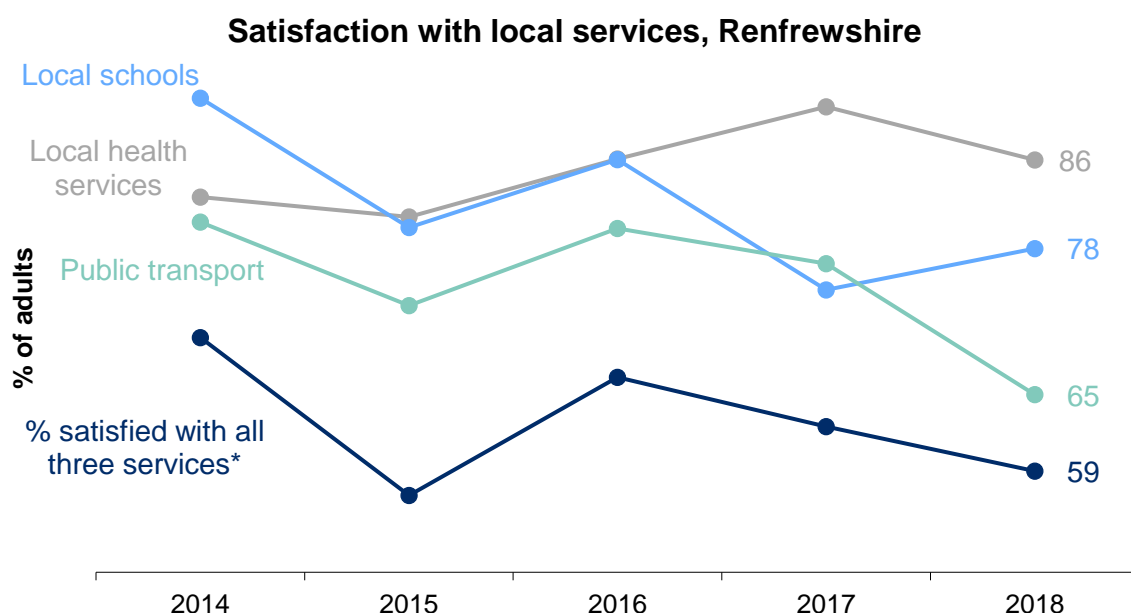
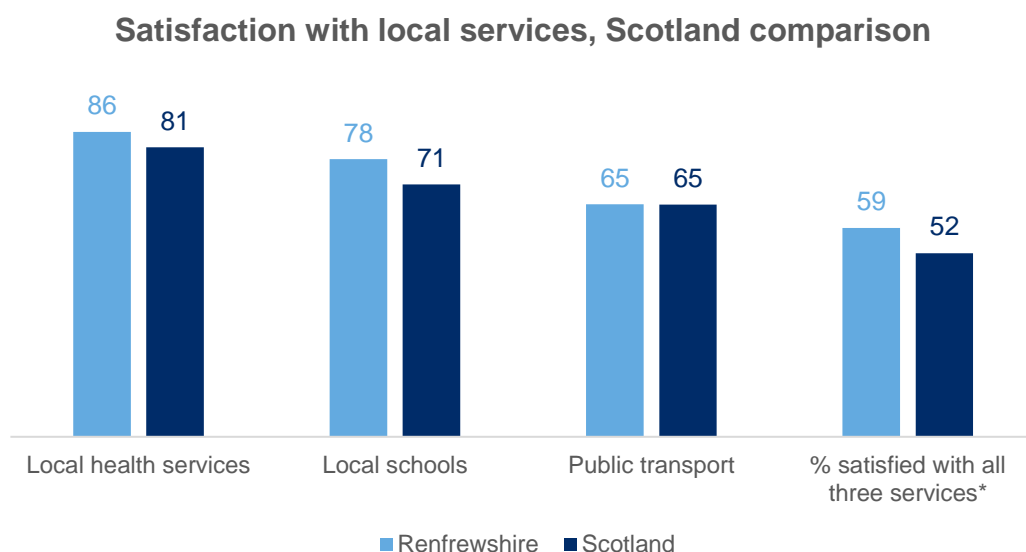


Chart 2: Percentage of people very or fairly satisfied with the quality of public services, Scotland 2018



## 5.2 Percentage agreeing with various statements about local authority services and performance.

- 5.2.1 In 2018, the proportion of Renfrewshire respondents who agreed with various statements about local authority services and performance was, for the most part, in line with the Scottish results.
- 5.2.2 The only statement that differed significantly from the Scottish findings was 'good at communicating performance' which has been rated higher in Renfrewshire for the past nine years.

Table 1: Percentage agreeing with various statements about local authority services and performance, Renfrewshire

|                                      | Renfrewshire |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Good at communicating services       | 46           |
| High quality services                | 44           |
| Good at communicating performance    | 44           |
| Services designed for needs          | 33           |
| Does its best with money             | 36           |
| Addressing key issues                | 32           |
| Good at listening                    | 18           |
| I can influence decisions            | 18           |
| I want more involvement in decisions | 36           |
| <i>Base (minimum)</i>                | 240          |

Table 2: Percentage agreeing with various statements about local authority services and performance, Scotland

|                                      | Scotland     |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Good at communicating services       | 40           |
| High quality services                | 46           |
| Good at communicating performance    | 34           |
| Services designed for needs          | 33           |
| Does its best with money             | 43           |
| Addressing key issues                | 33           |
| Good at listening                    | 22           |
| I can influence decisions            | 20           |
| I want more involvement in decisions | 34           |
| <i>Base (minimum)</i>                | <i>9,700</i> |

5.2.3 Due to the small sample size at a local level it isn't possible to segment this information for Renfrewshire further by locality, age etc.

### 5.3 Percentage of people who agree with the statement 'I can influence decisions affecting my local area.'

5.3.1 The proportion of respondents who agreed with the statement 'I can influence decisions affecting my local area' has been roughly the same for Renfrewshire and Scotland for the last five years – sitting at around 20%.

5.3.2 Within Renfrewshire's Community Plan, there is an indicator to measure perceptions of influence locally which is measured via Renfrewshire's Public Services Panel (and therefore a larger sample size). This was last measured for 2016/17 and at 24% was higher than the Scottish average.

## 6. Other satisfaction measures

6.1 Renfrewshire Council services monitor and benchmark service satisfaction against a range of indicators, such as those contained in Local Government Benchmarking Framework. Analysis of the Council's performance against these indicators is submitted to and scrutinised by the Audit Risk and Scrutiny Board on an annual basis.

6.2 The last update report considered by the board on 18 March 2019, noted a broadly positive position for the Council with 51 out of 70 available indicators improving or maintaining performance in 2017/18. The report noted that the Council is also performing at a level above the national trend for several customer satisfaction indicators in some areas, with increases in customer satisfaction relating to libraries, museums and street cleaning.

- 6.3 At a local level, Renfrewshire's schools collate satisfaction data which broadly indicates a high level of satisfaction. For example, as part of the recent Attainment Challenge inspection a survey of parents was carried out, with parental satisfaction with local schools rated at 91%.
- 6.4 Officers are currently refreshing Renfrewshire's Public Services Panel, which involves in the region of 2000 local people. The panel members are asked to rate their satisfaction with services and with their community. At times the number of respondents in the Scottish Household Survey may only be in the region of 200-300, whereas each panel survey typically receives about 1000 responses, therefore providing a more robust sample. The panel has been retendered, is being refreshed and a survey will be distributed before the end of the financial year.

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### Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – none.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – none
3. **Community Planning** – none.
4. **Legal** - none
5. **Property/Assets** – none
6. **Information Technology** – None
7. **Equality & Human Rights** - the recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health & Safety** – none
9. **Procurement** – none
10. **Risk** – none
11. **Privacy Impact** – none

12. **COSLA Policy Position** – none
  13. **Climate Risk** – note in appendix 2 the first infographic relating to the importance of the climate emergency to respondents.
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**List of Background Papers:**           None

## Appendix 1 – Detailed Tables

**Key:**

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | Significantly greater than Scotland 2018 |
|  | Significantly lower than Scotland 2018   |

*Table 1: Percentage of people very or fairly satisfied with the quality of public services delivered by year*

|                                      | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  | 2018  |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Renfrewshire</b>                  |       |       |       |       |       |
| Local health services                | 83    | 81    | 86    | 90    | 86    |
| Local schools                        | 91    | 80    | 86    | 74    | 78    |
| Public transport                     | 80    | 73    | 80    | 77    | 65    |
| % satisfied with all three services* | 70    | 57    | 67    | 63    | 59    |
| <i>Base (minimum)</i>                | 140   | 180   | 150   | 120   | 130   |
| <b>Scotland</b>                      |       |       |       |       |       |
| Local health services                | 86    | 83    | 83    | 82    | 81    |
| Local schools                        | 79    | 74    | 73    | 70    | 71    |
| Public transport                     | 75    | 74    | 72    | 69    | 65    |
| % satisfied with all three services* | 62    | 57    | 56    | 52    | 52    |
| <i>Base (minimum)</i>                | 5,720 | 5,790 | 6,130 | 6,260 | 5,780 |

*Table 2: Percentage agreeing with various statements about local authority services and performances*

|                                      | Renfrewshire | Scotland |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------|
| Good at communicating services       | 46           | 40       |
| High quality services                | 44           | 46       |
| Good at communicating performance    | 44           | 34       |
| Services designed for needs          | 33           | 33       |
| Does its best with money             | 36           | 43       |
| Addressing key issues                | 32           | 33       |
| Good at listening                    | 18           | 22       |
| I can influence decisions            | 18           | 20       |
| I want more involvement in decisions | 36           | 34       |
| <i>Base (minimum)</i>                | 240          | 9,700    |

Table 3: Percentage agreeing with various statements about local authority services and performances, by year

|   | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  | 2018  |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Renfrewshire</b>                     |       |       |       |       |       |
| Good at communicating services          | 61    | 50    | 49    | 58    | 46    |
| High quality services                   | 42    | 41    | 42    | 41    | 44    |
| Good at communicating performance       | 51    | 51    | 51    | 48    | 44    |
| Services designed for needs             | 45    | 43    | 40    | 39    | 33    |
| Does its best with the money            | 45    | 43    | 46    | 50    | 36    |
| Addressing key issues                   | 47    | 35    | 34    | 39    | 32    |
| Good at listening                       | 28    | 23    | 23    | 19    | 18    |
| I can influence decisions               | 23    | 24    | 21    | 24    | 18    |
| I want greater involvement in decisions | 32    | 30    | 34    | 35    | 36    |
| <i>Base (minimum)</i>                   | 250   | 290   | 270   | 220   | 240   |
| <b>Scotland</b>                         |       |       |       |       |       |
| Good at communicating services          | 49    | 46    | 45    | 43    | 40    |
| High quality services                   | 47    | 46    | 45    | 41    | 46    |
| Good at communicating performance       | 41    | 38    | 37    | 34    | 34    |
| Services designed for needs             | 41    | 40    | 40    | 37    | 33    |
| Does its best with the money            | 41    | 41    | 41    | 39    | 43    |
| Addressing key issues                   | 37    | 36    | 36    | 33    | 33    |
| Good at listening                       | 26    | 25    | 25    | 24    | 22    |
| I can influence decisions               | 23    | 24    | 23    | 23    | 20    |
| I want greater involvement in decisions | 34    | 34    | 34    | 33    | 34    |
| <i>Base (minimum)</i>                   | 9,800 | 9,410 | 9,640 | 9,810 | 9,700 |

Table 4: Percentage agreeing with various statements about local authority services and performances, by age

|   | 16-39 | 40-64 | 65+ | All |
|---|-------|-------|-----|-----|
| <b>Renfrewshire 2018</b>                |       |       |     |     |
| Good at communicating services          | 43    | 45    | 52  | 46  |
| High quality services                   | 48    | 37    | 49  | 44  |
| Good at communicating performance       | 31    | 49    | 57  | 44  |
| Services designed for needs             | 26    | 35    | 43  | 33  |
| Does its best with the money            | 25    | 39    | 49  | 36  |
| Addressing key issues                   | 27    | 35    | 36  | 32  |
| Good at listening                       | 17    | 18    | 21  | 18  |
| I can influence decisions               | 19    | 18    | 18  | 18  |
| I want greater involvement in decisions | 39    | 37    | 30  | 36  |
| <i>Base</i>                             | 80    | 90    | 70  | 240 |

|   |              |              |              |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Scotland 2018</b>                    |              |              |              |              |
| Good at communicating services          | 38           | 40           | 45           | 40           |
| High quality services                   | 46           | 44           | 50           | 46           |
| Good at communicating performance       | 28           | 35           | 42           | 34           |
| Services designed for needs             | 31           | 32           | 37           | 33           |
| Does its best with the money            | 36           | 45           | 52           | 43           |
| Addressing key issues                   | 30           | 32           | 40           | 33           |
| Good at listening                       | 21           | 22           | 26           | 22           |
| I can influence decisions               | 20           | 20           | 20           | 20           |
| I want greater involvement in decisions | 38           | 37           | 22           | 34           |
| <i>Base</i>                             | <i>2,700</i> | <i>3,900</i> | <i>3,100</i> | <i>9,700</i> |

*Table 5: The percentage of people who agreed with the statement “I can influence decisions affecting my local area”*

|              | <b>2014</b> | <b>2015</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2017</b> | <b>2018</b> |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Renfrewshire | 23          | 24          | 21          | 24          | 18          |
| Scotland     | 23          | 24          | 23          | 23          | 20          |

## Appendix 2 – Other Notable Results







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**To: Council**

**On: 5 December 2019**

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**Report by: Director of Finance and Resources**

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**Heading: Clyde Muirshiel Park Authority Joint Committee – Replacement of Council Representative**

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**1. Summary**

- 1.1 Councillor Andy steel has intimated his intention to stand down as one of the Council's representatives on the Clyde Muirshiel Park Authority Joint Committee.
  - 1.2 This report seeks the Council's approval to replace Councillor Andy Steel with Councillor Audrey Doig as a member of the Joint Committee.
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**2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 The Council is asked to agree that Councillor Andy Steel be replaced by Councillor Audrey Doig as a Council representative on the Clyde Muirshiel Park Authority Joint Committee.
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**3. Background**

- 3.1 Clyde Muirshiel Park Authority is governed by a joint committee which comprises of eight elected members from the three constituent councils; Renfrewshire, Inverclyde and North Ayrshire.

- 3.2 Renfrewshire is entitled to appoint four elected members to the joint committee and these are currently:
- Councillor Tom Begg
  - Councillor Bill Binks
  - Councillor Andy Doig
  - Councillor Andy Steel
- 3.3 Councillor Andy Steel has intimated his wish to stand down from membership of the Joint Committee. In terms of the Council decision at the statutory meeting in May 2017, one of the Renfrewshire Council places on the joint committee was allocated to the SNP group and three to the opposition groups. The proposal is that Councillor Audrey Doig replaces Councillor Steel on the joint committee.
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### **Implications of the Report**

1. **Financial - *None***
2. **HR & Organisational Development – *None***
3. **Community/Council Planning – *None***
4. **Legal – *None***
5. **Property/Assets – *None***
6. **Information Technology – *None***
7. **Equality & Human Rights**
  - (a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health & Safety – *None***

- 9.           **Procurement – *None***
  - 10.          **Risk – *None***
  - 11.          **Privacy Impact – *None***
  - 12.          **Cosla Policy Position – *None***
  - 13.          **Climate Risk – *None***
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#### **List of Background Papers**

- (a)           Background Paper 1 – None
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