## Electoral Registration Annual Report 2015

## Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board <br> Serving:- East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire

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### 1.0 Introduction

This report has, of necessity, changed from that prepared in earlier years. The process is now quite different, the timing is different and the rules relating to retention of unresponsive electors have changed. Where possible, similar statistics to those presented previously will be included as will additional statistics to highlight the activities involved in IER.

As in the past, the purpose of this annual report is to consider the levels of Electoral Registration in the Joint Board area and to identify the methods employed to ensure that the maximum possible number of citizens are registered to vote.
An important balance must be achieved between quantity and quality in compilation of the Register. It is as important to make sure that there are no names on the register of people who are not entitled to vote as it is to try to get everyone who is entitled to vote onto the register. We need to eliminate the opportunities for electoral fraud.
The report is designed to allow the Board Members, Elected Representatives and Electors an insight to the Joint Board's electoral registration process.

The report will look at:

- The process in outline
- How we can measure accuracy of the Register
- Steps taken to ensure continuous improvement to quality and accuracy of the register.
- Steps taken to address under-registration
- Additional activities proposed to maximise registration
- Other activities associated with registration

The introduction of Individual Electoral Registration (IER) has and will continue to make significant changes to the process of Registration until the transition phase is ended; that will be on a date to be decided by the UK Government.

### 2.0 The process of Electoral Registration

The process of electoral registration changed on $19^{\text {th }}$ September 2014 and, since then, we have been in the transitional phase of Individual Electoral Registration.

The main stages are:

### 2.1 Canvass Process

To account of Scottish Independence Referendum (SIR), the implementation of IER did not begin until the day after the Referendum. The IER Validation process and associated Canvass activities involved the following steps:
a) Transfer of Electoral Registration data to Department of Works and Pensions to allow data matching to commence.
b) On return of verification data the electorate was subdivided into two groups:
a. Verified

These electors were able to be matched against DWP data. They were then advised that their registration had transferred and that they needed to take no further action (save where they wished to opt in or out of the Public Register).
b. Unverified

The electors in this group were taken to "local data matching" (this would have been called "Secondary Checks" in the process prior to IER) which, for example, included Council Tax Billing Records. Those who were matched at this stage transferred to the "Verified" group and were advised as above.

The remaining unverified electors were issued with an "Invitation to Register" which pointed them towards the on-line registration service or to contact the ERO if they were unable to access the internet.

Houses where current information was not held were issued with a "Household Enquiry Form" which was similar to a traditional Canvass Form.
c) Non-responsive electors and households were issued with reminders and any who failed to respond during the reminder phase were paid a visit by a Door-to-Door Canvasser.
d) Individuals who had a current registration in March 2014 but who failed to respond during the Canvass were retained as "unconfirmed" electors. This allowed them to participate in the General Election although they could not make use of an absent vote unless they firstly confirmed their registration.
e) Individuals who did not have a current registration in March 2014 and who failed to respond during the Canvass were removed from the registers with effect from $27^{\text {th }}$ February 2015.
f) A significant change to the registration process has been the introduction of online registration. This facility allows electors to apply for or update registration using an Internet facility. This was extensively used during the Canvass period when a total of 17,861 applications were received and 15,881 ( $89 \%$ ) were on-line.

The availability of the on-line system brings advantages but its ease of use and the absence of an ability to check registration before making an application led to a significant number of duplicate (dual) registrations:


The number "other rejections" in this stage was higher than anticipated and likely arising from the novel system. The reasons included the inability to match name or address details to DWP records, applicants were too young or were ineligible.

The percentage of duplicate registrations increased in the period between the publication of the Register and the publication of the Register for the General Election. Much of this can be attributed to anxiety to ensure timely registration although better informed advice in the media and on social media might have prevented a significant amount of wasted effort. It can also be seen from the following chart that the number of rejections for reasons other than duplicate registration fell markedly:


### 2.2 Outcome and Publication

The process closed for inclusion on 13 February 2015 and the Registers were published on $27^{\text {th }}$ February 2015.

During the period of the Canvass, the numbers of households were processed as shown in the following table...

| Council | Properties | Confirmed <br> Electors | Individual <br> Invitations to <br> Register | Household <br> Enquiry Forms |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| East <br> Renfrewshire | 37,922 | 62,816 | 5,699 | 4,415 |
| Inverclyde | 38,727 | 51,695 | 5,294 | 8,526 |
| Renfrewshire | 84,498 | 112,869 | 10,287 | 18,065 |
| Total | $\mathbf{1 6 1 , 1 4 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 2 7 , 3 8 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 1 , 2 8 0}$ | $\mathbf{3 1 , 0 0 6}$ |

"Confirmed Electors" were those where verification was obtained from DWP or local data matching.
"Invitations to Register" were issued to electors who had failed to match at verification stage.
Household Enquiry Forms were issued to properties without registered electors including those whose registration had lapsed due to failure to respond to several canvass enquiries.

Reminders were subsequently issued as follows:

| Council | Individual Invitations to Register |  | Household Enquiry Forms |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $1^{\text {st }}$ Reminder | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Reminder | $1^{\text {st }}$ Reminder | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Reminder |
| East <br> Renfrewshire | 4,285 | 3,524 | 1,727 | 4,007 |
| Inverclyde | 4,074 | 3,292 | 2,633 | 7,945 |
| Renfrewshire | 7,907 | 6,587 | 5,449 | 16,385 |
| Total | 16,266 | 13,403 | 9,809 | 28,337 |

At Publication, on $27^{\text {th }}$ February 2015, the following numbers of electors were contained within the Registers:

## Electorate at 27 February 2015

|  | Total Electors |  |  | Eligible to Vote at Elections to |  |  |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Adults | Attainers | Total | Local | Euro | Westminster |
| East <br> Renfrewshire | 68,532 | 862 | 69,394 | 68,489 | 68,182 | 68,026 |
| Inverclyde | 57,649 | 615 | 58,264 | 57,634 | 57,407 | 57,313 |
| Renfrewshire | 124,621 | 1,367 | 125,988 | 124,587 | 123,393 | 123,004 |
| Total | $\mathbf{2 5 0 , 8 0 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 , 8 4 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 3 , 6 4 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 0 , 7 1 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 4 8 , 9 8 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 4 8 , 3 4 3}$ |

Within the following two months the number of electors had risen to:

## Electorate at 29 April 2015

|  | Total Electors |  |  | Eligible to Vote at |  |  |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Adults | Attainers | Total | Local | Euro | Westminster |
| East <br> Renfrewshire | 70,477 | 720 | 71,197 | 70,327 | 70,102 | 69,947 |
| Inverclyde | 59,687 | 513 | 60,200 | 59,624 | 59,425 | 59,335 |
| Renfrewshire | 129,157 | 1,131 | 130,288 | 128,993 | 127,786 | 127,409 |
| Total | $\mathbf{2 5 9 , 3 2 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 , 3 6 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 6 1 , 6 8 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 8 , 9 4 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 7 , 3 1 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 6 , 6 9 1}$ |

By comparison, the electorate for the Referendum in September 2014 was:

Electorate at 11 September 2014

|  | Total Electors |  |  | Eligible to Vote at |  |  |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Adults | Attainers | Total | Local | Euro | Westminster |
| East <br> Renfrewshire | 70,515 | 2,310 | 72,825 | 70,495 | 70,163 | 69,999 |
| Inverclyde | 60,721 | 1,414 | 62,135 | 60,712 | 60,460 | 60,363 |
| Renfrewshire | 130,775 | 1,068 | 131,843 | 130,766 | 129,339 | 128,939 |
| Total | $\mathbf{2 6 2 , 0 1 1}$ | $\mathbf{4 , 7 9 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 6 6 , 8 0 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 6 1 , 9 7 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 9 , 9 6 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 9 , 3 0 1}$ |

### 2.4 Maintenance of the Registers

Whilst IER remains in the Transitional Phase, we will not revert to the usual "Rolling Registration" method of adding, changing or deleting registrations. Instead, in the short period before the start of the next Canvass on 3 August 2015, we will undertake a process of "Review" of registrations where we believe that the electors shown at the address are no longer resident. This is similar to the additional Door-to-Door canvasses carried out in earlier years although the process is different.

For the next Canvass will be working towards the extension of the franchise to include those aged 16 and 17. As was the case for the Referendum, this will necessitate gathering information in relation to those aged 14 and 15 years old. This adds complication to the process and to the handling of data with added pressure arising from the short timescale for implementation. This will be an additional task although much of the IT and data handling procedures are already in place thanks to work associated with extension of the franchise for the referendum.

### 2.5 Associated activities

These include:

- The maintenance of the Absent Voter List and collection of personal identifiers for absent voters. The numbers of electors in the Joint Board area who make use of this facility is now at around $21 \%$ of the electorate.
- Working to ensure that groups where there may be under-registration receive additional support. These groups include disabled electors and electors resident in establishments such as care homes or hospitals.


### 3.0 Measurement of Accuracy of the Register

## Comparison with Census and Population Estimates

There are a number of methods that can be used to carry out gross comparisons of electors against the eligible population. The most obvious of these would be to make a comparison with population estimates produced by General Register Office for Scotland (GROS). The GROS estimates are now based on the 2011 census and changes in the subsequent years have been estimated.
It should also be noted that the Census did not achieve a $100 \%$ response rate and a degree of extrapolation will have been carried out by General Registers of Scotland; one of the check sources for information is the Electoral Register so there may be some circularity in the arithmetic.

## Consideration of Number of Properties:

An alternative measurement is to check all of the properties in the Joint Board area and ensure that we can account for those properties where we have no registered electors. This is made easier by the arrangement, unique to Scotland, where Assessors are also appointed as EROs. This allows close integration with property databases compiled and maintained for valuation purposes.

As Assessor, I hold information on every property in the Joint Board area:

- Domestic properties: this is based on the Council Tax list that is compiled in this office.
- Non-Domestic properties: this is the Valuation Roll and will contain a limited number of properties where individual electors may be resident, such as residential homes, hospitals or hotels.
I can, therefore, classify all properties to assist me in determining whether we might reasonably expect electors to be resident. For example, we know that a certain number of properties are temporary/permanently empty or undergoing refurbishment and it is reasonable to assume that we will not receive any return from them. This is further discussed in Section 5, below, and a summary of the numbers of properties in these various categories is shown in Appendices 2 to 5.


### 4.0 Continuous Improvement to Quality and Accuracy of the Register

It is also important at this stage to make comment on the level of confidence in the accuracy of the names shown in the register. Any statistical report would be meaningless if the register contained names of people who were no longer resident in the area.
The fact is that, for every name on the register, I hold a copy of a signed application, canvass return or have an application made via the Government Digital Service. Where no return was made in for a property during the IER process, the elector is retained during the period of transition provided that elector was not already carried forward at the Canvass concluded in March 2014. This will mean that a growing percentage of Register entries will be out of date and these will be identified by the length of time from last response. This is unsatisfactory and increases the risk of fraudulent voting. To reduce this risk we will be undertaking the process of Review as outlined above.

### 5.0 Steps taken to address under registration

As in the preceding system there are two main themes. The first is to make the completion and return of the form as simple and straightforward as possible. The second is to identify specific properties for attention.

The introduction of IER has changed the way that the ERO interacts with electors and potential electors. In many ways, the process is simpler, quicker and has had a high uptake. The use of forms will continue but the availability of improved methods of response will, it is hoped, lead to a quicker, more accurate and higher rate of response.

### 5.1 Identification of specific properties for special attention.

The Joint Board has the advantage of having access to a comprehensive and wellmaintained property database on which to build its electoral database. This has proved invaluable in carrying out this exercise.

In deciding which properties to target, it seemed reasonable to look first at those residential type properties which had no registered elector. A substantial amount of development was carried out to the Joint Board's database to allow all properties to be categorised for electoral purposes. All properties with no registered elector were identified and placed into a number of categories that are detailed below.

Our ability to make quick changes to our database owes much to having a bespoke system where we retain development control; a degree of flexibility difficult to achieve from "off-the shelf" packages. We have direct access to a team within Renfrewshire Council's I.T. Department and they have been invaluable in assisting us in ongoing development. Additional investment in bespoke reporting, scanning and processing applications has allowed rapid processing of the bulk of the forms as they are returned during the annual canvass.

### 5.1.1 An explanation of property categorisation

1. Occupier does not qualify to register :

This term is used where the resident (or all residents) is a citizen of a country with no right to vote in any UK Election national, regional or local. Clearly, this is an acceptable reason for having no registered elector.
2. Second Home :

This term is used where the owner or occupier is resident and registered elsewhere. This could be a holiday home but is sometimes a house owned by a company for housing workers on a short term basis. This is also an acceptable reason for having no registered elector.
3. New Properties :

These are new addresses added to the database for properties recently built or still under construction. There is usually a short timelag between occupancy and
registration. There will therefore always be a small percentage of properties in this category. This is also an acceptable reason for having no registered elector.
4. University owned property :

In addition to halls of residence, the Further Education Establishments own flats which are let to students during term time. Many of these students prefer to remain registered at their "home" address. This is also an acceptable reason for having no registered elector.
5. Permanently Empty :

These are properties lying empty awaiting demolition or properties in such a poor state of repair that major rebuilding would be required to bring them back into use. This is also an acceptable reason for having no registered elector.
6. Temporarily Empty :

These are properties vacant at the time of survey but likely to be reoccupied within the coming year. They are mainly local authority and housing association properties awaiting modernisation and reletting. This is also an acceptable reason for having no registered elector.
7. Failure to return at successive canvasses :

These are properties where electors have been removed following failure to respond to 2 or more successive canvasses as required by statute. While this is a legally acceptable reason for having no registered elector it is an unsatisfactory situation and needs to be addressed.
8. No Known Reason :

These are properties where to date we have been unable to discover a reason why there are no electors. They may after investigation fall into one of the other categories but more work needs to be done with these. For example, these could be properties that were temporarily empty, have now become occupied but have yet to have a registered elector.

Categories 7 and 8 are considered to be unsatisfactory situations and will continue to attract attention as part of the special door-to-door canvass.

### 5.2 Analysis of Properties with no elector

The 40 temporary canvassers made door to door inquiries, for houses where no canvass form is returned. This was a compulsory part of the annual canvass and this process continues to be mandatory under the IER Regulations. The most recent Door-to-Door Canvass took place in January and February 2015 using temporary staff recruited specifically for the purpose. This was not an ideal time to be carrying out such an exercise; it being a part of the year with short days and poor weather.

Using the above categories, properties with no registered elector were analysed along with properties where electors had been deleted for failure to return a form at consecutive canvasses or where no reason had yet been discovered.

The 2015 door-to-door canvass looked at 40,000 properties where there was no satisfactory reason for there being no elector registered or where the electors had been removed or where the electors were in danger of being removed by dint of being carried forward in March 2014. In respect of the names being removed from the Registers, it is worth noting that names will only be removed after five separate letters had been sent to the address, followed by two visits by a canvasser who would leave a warning leaflet on his/her second visit. For the Canvass concluded earlier this year, the correspondence was supplemented by a "Household Notification Letter" which was issued in March - after publication of the Register.

In previous reports, I could identify the level of response to the door-to-door canvass through responses made. The changes introduced by IER mean that information or forms cannot be collected by the canvasser. Instead, the persons at the address canvassed are encouraged to register on-line or to post the required information directly to my office. I can consider the responses made during the period of the door-to-door canvass as an indication but that is not ideal as registrations arising from other changes or activities happened at the same time.

As an exercise in maximising registration, these special door-to-door canvasses have proved successful although significantly more expensive than the main part of a Canvass.

Appendices 2 to 5 show the number of properties having no elector at the date of publication ( $27^{\text {th }}$ February 2015) and again at the $1^{\text {st }}$ May 2014 (the Register published on $29^{\text {th }}$ April 2015).

The proactive approach to rolling registration between canvasses (see 7.0 below) will reduce the number of properties with no elector month on month until the next canvass begins in August 2015. The large increase between February and May is in part due to routine activities and in part due to the increased activity normally associated with an electoral event.

Despite the hard work that has been carried out and the added information that will be available through Individual Registration, early indications are that we will require to carry out a significant number of reviews in the months leading up to August.

While registration remains "optional" we will always have a margin of properties where we will have unsatisfactory information.

## The current figures demonstrate, however, that we hold legally satisfactory information for $\mathbf{9 6 . 7 5 \%}$ of residential properties in the Joint Board area.

### 6.0 Additional action proposed to maximise registration

Over and above the improvements to the registration forms and the special door-to-door canvass, a number of additional actions were identified as possible ways of improving registration:

1. Continue to interact with "attainers" within the schools in the Joint Board area.
2. Working with the Councils and other representative groups.

### 6.1 Targeting Attainers

The Depute ERO leads an ongoing campaign that engages with teachers and senior pupils in schools in the Joint Board area. This will be of significant importance in the next 15
months as the franchise for the Referendum will be extended to include those aged 16 and 17. To achieve our aim, we will have to increase the number of visits and add other ways of interacting with schools and families.

### 6.2 Representative Groups

These are a successful way to ensure that specific groups of individuals are aware of the registration process and that special arrangements can be made to overcome specific disadvantages.

### 7.0 Other registration activity

Registration is a constant, ongoing process and the statistics in this report necessarily represent a snapshot in time. A great deal of work is carried out between canvasses to maintain the register and keep it as accurate as possible, additions and deletions have been made since the register was republished, following the annual canvass, on 10 March 2014. As a consequence, the register which came into force on 24 April 2014 showed a net increase of 1,632 electors.

### 7.1 Registration - Changes to Electorate

Rolling Registration changes by local authority area

| Local Authority | Electorate at <br> 27 Feb 2015 | Electorate at <br> 29 Apr 2015 | Net <br> Change | \% change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | ---: | ---: |
| East Renfrewshire | 69,394 | 71,197 | 1,803 | $\mathbf{2 . 6 0 \%}$ |
| Inverclyde | 58,264 | 60,200 | 1,936 | $3.32 \%$ |
| Renfrewshire | 125,988 | 130,288 | 4,300 | $3.41 \%$ |
| RVJB total | $\mathbf{2 5 3 , 6 4 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 6 1 , 6 8 5}$ | $\mathbf{8 , 0 3 9}$ | $\mathbf{3 . 1 6 \%}$ |

This increase arises as a result of a number of tasks carried out by staff:

- Every elector received a "Household Notification Letter" advising the registration status of all individuals there resident or "No registered Electors" as appropriate. This letter detailed how to obtain a valid registration.
- The purchaser of every house sold receives a rolling registration form inviting them to register at their new address. We receive monthly updates from Registers of Scotland detailing all property sales in the Joint Board area. This is currently between 400 and 600 sales per month.
- Every new tenant of local authority owned social housing receives a rolling registration form inviting them to register at their new address.
- Social Landlords Lists and Private Landlords Lists are requested for the local authority areas and landlords contacted for details of all tenants if no responses are received directly from the tenants.
- There is a rolling programme to ensure that all schools are visited at least once in a school year.
- All establishments are contacted on a routine basis to monitor changes
- Lists of students and their addresses are received from universities in the Joint Board area.


### 7.2 Absent Voters list

A list of absent voters is maintained on an ongoing basis and this includes Postal Voters, Proxy Voters and Postal Proxy Voters. The numbers below are as at 1 May 2015:

Absent Voters as at 29 April 2015 by Council area

| Unitary Authority | Electorate | Absent Votes <br> Applied for | \% of electorate |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| East Renfrewshire | 71,197 | 15,492 | $21.75 \%$ |
| Inverclyde | 60,200 | 13,120 | $21.79 \%$ |
| Renfrewshire | 130,288 | 27,312 | $20.96 \%$ |
| RVJB Total | $\mathbf{2 6 1 , 6 8 5}$ | $\mathbf{5 5 , 9 2 4}$ | $21.37 \%$ |

This compares with $8.7 \%$ at the General Election in May 2005, $14.6 \%$ at the Scottish elections in May 2007, 14.83\% at the European Elections in 2009, 17.21\% at the 2010 UK General Election, $16.76 \%$ at the 2011 Scottish Parliamentary Election, $18.8 \%$ at the Local Government Elections in 2012 and $22.1 \%$ at the Scottish Independence Referendum.

### 8.0 Conclusions

Our commitment is to accuracy of the Electoral Register and maximisation of registration. This is no small task and a great deal of effort is expended by the staff to ensure the accuracy of the register.

We have a process of continuous development and improvement of our current practices and will adapt and develop where appropriate to ensure that the registration process is as accurate and cost-effective as possible.

In the period since the last Annual Report, we have dealt successfully with two major electoral events and the implementation of IER. This has imposed a significant additional burden on staff resources and I would wish to take this opportunity to thank my staff for all of their hard work in support of the Electoral Registration function and to commend them for their patience, diligence and professionalism throughout a difficult year.

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Alasdair MacTaggart
Assessor \& ERO
\(26^{\text {th }}\) May 2015
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Comparison of Electoral Registers from 2003 to 2015:
Table 4: 2003 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2003)

| Council Area | No. of names on Register <br> Electors aged 18 and over | No. of 17 year olds on <br> Register | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| East Renfrewshire | 65,684 | 1,081 | 66,765 |
| Inverclyde | 60,215 | 953 | 61,168 |
| Renfrewshire | 125,064 | 1,894 | 126,958 |
| RVJB Area | $\mathbf{2 5 0 , 9 6 3}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 9 2 8}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 4 , 8 9 1}$ |

Table 5: 2004 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2004)

| Council Area | No. of names on Register <br> Electors aged 18 and over | No. of 17 year olds on <br> Register | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| East Renfrewshire | 64,959 | 58,729 | 1,047 |
| Inverclyde | 121,808 | 884 | 66,006 |
| Renfrewshire | $\mathbf{2 4 5 , 4 9 6}$ | 1,647 | 123,613 |
| RVJB Area | $\mathbf{3 , 5 7 8}$ | $\mathbf{2 4 9 , 0 7 4}$ |  |

Table 6: 2005 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2005)

| Council Area | No. of names on Register <br> Electors aged 18 and over | No. of 17 year olds on <br> Register | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| East Renfrewshire | 64,610 | 1,086 | 65,696 |
| Inverclyde | 58,021 | 822 | 58,843 |
| Renfrewshire | 121,317 | 1,633 | 122,950 |
| RVJB Area | $\mathbf{2 4 3 , 9 4 8}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 5 4 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 4 7 , 4 8 9}$ |

Table 7: 2006 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2006)

| Council Area | No. of names on Register <br> Electors aged 18 and over | No. of 17 year olds on <br> Register | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| East Renfrewshire | 65,742 | 1,022 | 66,764 |
| Inverclyde | 59,482 | 767 | 60,249 |
| Renfrewshire | 125,032 | 1,483 | 126,515 |
| RVJB Area | $\mathbf{2 5 0 , 2 5 6}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 2 7 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 3 , 5 2 8}$ |

Table 8: 2007 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2007)

| Council Area | No. of names on Register <br> Electors aged 18 and over | No. of 17 year olds on <br> Register | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| East Renfrewshire | 66,773 | 60,799 | 949 |
| Inverclyde | 127,961 | 794 | 67,722 |
| Renfrewshire | $\mathbf{2 5 5 , 5 3 3}$ | 1,626 | 61,593 |
| RVJB Area | $\mathbf{3 , 3 6 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 8 , 9 0 2}$ |  |

Appendix 1 (cont'd)

## Table 9: 2008 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2008)

| Council Area | No. of names on Register <br> Electors aged 18 and over | No. of 17 year olds on <br> Register | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| East Renfrewshire | 64,725 | 58,139 | 902 |
| Inverclyde | 121,763 | 752 | 65,627 |
| Renfrewshire | $\mathbf{2 4 4 , 6 2 7}$ | 1,523 | 58,891 |
| RVJB Area | $\mathbf{3 , 1 7 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 4 7 , 8 0 4}$ |  |

Table 10: 2009 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2009)

| Council Area | No. of names on Register <br> Electors aged 18 and over | No. of 17 year olds on <br> Register | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| East Renfrewshire | 65,573 | 58,655 | 933 |

Table 11: 2010 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2010)

| Council Area | No. of names on Register <br> Electors aged 18 and over | No. of 17 year olds on <br> Register | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| East Renfrewshire | 67,539 |  | 941 |
| Inverclyde | 60,771 | 592 | 68,480 |
| Renfrewshire | 129,183 | 1,401 | 61363 |
| RVJB Area | $\mathbf{2 5 7 , 4 9 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 , 9 3 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 6 0 , 4 2 7}$ |

Table 12: 2011 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2011)

| Council Area | No. of names on Register <br> Electors aged 18 and over | No. of 17 year olds on <br> Register | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| East Renfrewshire | 67,835 |  | 902 |
| Inverclyde | 60,580 | 638 | 68,755 |
| Renfrewshire | 129,307 | 1,233 | 61,218 |
| RVJB Area | $\mathbf{2 5 7 , 7 4 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 , 7 7 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 6 0 , 5 1 3}$ |

Table 13: 2012 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2012)

| Council Area | No. of names on Register <br> Electors aged 18 and over | No. of 17 year olds on <br> Register | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| East Renfrewshire | 68,369 | 1,097 | 69,466 |
| Inverclyde | 60,750 | 862 | 61,614 |
| Renfrewshire | 129,313 | 1,689 | 131,002 |
| RVJB Area | $\mathbf{2 5 8 , 4 3 2}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 6 4 8}$ | $\mathbf{2 6 2 , 0 8 2}$ |


| Table 14: 2014 Electoral Register (as at 10 March 2014) |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Council Area | No. of names on Register <br> Electors aged 18 and over | No. of 17 year olds on <br> Register* | Total |
| East Renfrewshire | 66,853 | 1,961 | 68,814 |
| Inverclyde | 57,422 | 1,406 | 58,828 |
| Renfrewshire | 123,052 | 3,052 | 126,104 |
| RVJB Area | $\mathbf{2 4 7 , 3 2 7}$ | $\mathbf{6 , 4 1 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 3 , 7 4 6}$ |

*To give a like-for-like comparison, this is net of any additional young voters added in connection with S.I.R.

| Table 15: $\mathbf{2 0 1 4}$ Electoral Register (as at 18 September 2014) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: |
| Council Area | No. of names on Register <br> Electors aged 18 and over | No. of 17 year olds on <br> Register* | Total |  |  |
| East Renfrewshire | 70,515 | 1,414 | $\mathbf{7 1 , 9 2 9}$ |  |  |
| Inverclyde | 60,721 | 1,068 | 61,789 |  |  |
| Renfrewshire | 130,775 | 2,310 | 133,085 |  |  |
| RVJB Area | $\mathbf{2 6 2 , 0 1 1}$ | $\mathbf{4 , 7 9 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 6 6 , 8 0 3}$ |  |  |

*To give a like-for-like comparison, this is net of any additional young voters added in connection with S.I.R.
Table 16: 2015 Electoral Register (as at 27 February 2014)

| Council Area | No. of names on Register <br> Electors aged 18 and over | No. of 17 year olds on <br> Register* | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| East Renfrewshire | 68,532 | 862 | 69,394 |
| Inverclyde | 57,649 | 615 | 58,264 |
| Renfrewshire | 124,621 | 1,367 | 125,988 |
| RVJB Area | $\mathbf{2 5 0 , 8 0 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 , 8 4 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 3 , 6 4 6}$ |


|  | Total number of properties | Occupier does not qualify to register | Second Home | New house; first elector not yet registered | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { University } \\ & \text { owned } \\ & \text { properties } \end{aligned}$ | Permanently Empty | Temp'ly Empty | Total number of properties where no elector expected | \% where no elector expected | Removed after <br> failure to return form at two successive canvasses | \% where elector removed for failure to respond | No known reason for absence of electors | \% with no elector and no known reason |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mar-15 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| East Renfrewshire | 38,011 | 42 | 80 | 98 | 0 | 0 | 2,737 | 2,957 | 7.78\% | 799 | 2.10\% | 35 | 0.09\% |
| Inverclyde | 38,738 | 26 | 126 | 66 | 0 | 0 | 5,557 | 5,775 | 14.91\% | 1,697 | 4.38\% | 47 | 0.12\% |
| Paisley and Renfrewshire North | 40,928 | 30 | 71 | 126 | 0 | 0 | 4,436 | 4,663 | 11.39\% | 1,563 | 3.82\% | 72 | 0.18\% |
| Paisley and Renfrewshire South | 43,637 | 62 | 73 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 6,489 | 6,724 | 15.41\% | 2,272 | 5.21\% | 59 | 0.14\% |
| Total | 161,314 | 160 | 350 | 390 | 0 | 0 | 19,219 | 20,119 | 12.47\% | 6,331 | 3.92\% | 213 | 0.13\% |
| May-15 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| East Renfrewshire | 38,035 | 40 | 78 | 49 | 0 | 0 | 2,227 | 2,394 | 6.29\% | 619 | 1.63\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Inverclyde | 38,735 | 25 | 125 | 49 | 0 | 0 | 4,861 | 5,060 | 13.06\% | 1,430 | 3.69\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Paisley and Renfrewshire North | 40,947 | 29 | 72 | 78 | 0 | 0 | 3,793 | 3,972 | 9.70\% | 1,276 | 3.12\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Paisley and Renfrewshire South | 43,771 | 58 | 68 | 69 | 0 | 0 | 5,691 | 5,886 | 13.45\% | 1,936 | 4.42\% | 1 | 0.00\% |
| Total | 161,488 | 152 | 343 | 245 | 0 | 0 | 16,572 | 17,312 | 10.72\% | 5,261 | 3.26\% | 1 | 0.00\% |

Analysis of reasons for property having no elector - displayed by Scottish Parliamentary constituency

|  | Total number of properties | Occupier does not qualify to register | Second Home | New house; first elector not yet registered | University owned properties | Permanently Empty | Temp'ly Empty | Total number of properties where no elector expected | \% where no elector expected | Removed after failure to return form at two successive canvasses | \% where elector removed for failure to respond | No known reason for absence of electors | \% with no elector and no known reason |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mar-15 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eastwood | 27,410 | 31 | 69 | 95 | 0 | 0 | 1,643 | 1,838 | 6.71\% | 365 | 1.33\% | 25 | 0.09\% |
| Greenock \& Inverclyde | 36,396 | 26 | 110 | 66 | 0 | 0 | 5,398 | 5,600 | 15.39\% | 1,680 | 4.62\% | 46 | 0.13\% |
| Renfrewshire North and West | 29,721 | 23 | 61 | 105 | 0 | 0 | 2,981 | 3,170 | 10.67\% | 986 | 3.32\% | 43 | 0.14\% |
| Paisley | 36,805 | 63 | 74 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 5,583 | 5,816 | 15.80\% | 1,977 | 5.37\% | 50 | 0.14\% |
| Renfrewshire South | 30,982 | 17 | 36 | 28 | 0 | 0 | 3,614 | 3,695 | 11.93\% | 1,323 | 4.27\% | 49 | 0.16\% |
| Total | 161,314 | 160 | 350 | 390 | 0 | 0 | 19,219 | 20,119 | 12.47\% | 6,331 | 3.92\% | 213 | 0.13\% |
| May-15 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eastwood | 27,433 | 29 | 71 | 46 | 0 | 0 | 1,281 | 1,427 | 5.20\% | 272 | 0.99\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Greenock \& Inverclyde | 36,393 | 25 | 111 | 49 | 0 | 0 | 4,711 | 4,896 | 13.45\% | 1,417 | 3.89\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Renfrewshire North and West | 29,740 | 22 | 61 | 67 | 0 | 0 | 2,556 | 2,706 | 9.10\% | 801 | 2.69\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Paisley | 36,939 | 61 | 69 | 65 | 0 | 0 | 4,881 | 5,076 | 13.74\% | 1,683 | 4.56\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Renfrewshire South | 30,983 | 15 | 31 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 3,143 | 3,207 | 10.35\% | 1,088 | 3.51\% | 1 | 0.00\% |
| Total | 161,488 | 152 | 343 | 245 | 0 | 0 | 16,572 | 17,312 | 10.72\% | 5,261 | 3.26\% | 1 | 0.00\% |

Appendix 3

| Analysis Of reasons for property having no elector - East Renfrewshire Council |
| :--- |

Analysis of reasons for property having no elector - Inverclyde Council

|  | Total number of properties | Occupier does not qualify to register | Second Home | New house; first elector not yet registered | University owned properties | Permanently Empty | Temp'ly Empty | Total number of properties where no elector expected | \% where no elector expected | Removed after failure to return form at two successive canvasses | \% where <br> elector removed for failure to respond | No known reason for absence of electors | \% with no <br> elector and no known reason |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mar-15 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ward 1: Inverclyde East | 7,892 | 1 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1196 | 1216 | 15.41\% | 320 | 4.05\% | 12 | 0.15\% |
| Ward 2: Inverclyde East Central | 6,702 | 5 | 8 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 1162 | 1196 | 17.85\% | 428 | 6.39\% | 13 | 0.19\% |
| Ward 3: Inverclyde North | 8,373 | 11 | 24 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1233 | 1269 | 15.16\% | 344 | 4.11\% | 5 | 0.06\% |
| Ward 4: Inverclyde South | 5,457 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 824 | 832 | 15.25\% | 297 | 5.44\% | 8 | 0.15\% |
| Ward 5: Inverclyde West | 5,317 | 1 | 39 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 569 | 618 | 11.62\% | 135 | 2.54\% | 1 | 0.02\% |
| Ward 6: Inverclyde South West | 4,997 | 5 | 31 | 35 | 0 | 0 | 573 | 644 | 12.89\% | 173 | 3.46\% | 8 | 0.16\% |
| Total | 38,738 | 26 | 126 | 66 | 0 | 0 | 5,557 | 5,775 | 14.91\% | 1,697 | 4.38\% | 47 | 0.12\% |
| May-15 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ward 1: Inverclyde East | 7,892 | 1 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1106 | 1124 | 14.24\% | 272 | 3.45\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Ward 2: Inverclyde East Central | 6,681 | 4 | 9 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 1003 | 1028 | 15.39\% | 357 | 5.34\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Ward 3: Inverclyde North | 8,376 | 12 | 22 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1097 | 1132 | 13.51\% | 308 | 3.68\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Ward 4: Inverclyde South | 5,457 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 697 | 705 | 12.92\% | 251 | 4.60\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Ward 5: Inverclyde West | 5,323 | 0 | 40 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 501 | 546 | 10.26\% | 99 | 1.86\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Ward 6: Inverclyde South West | 5,006 | 5 | 32 | 31 | 0 | 0 | 457 | 525 | 10.49\% | 143 | 2.86\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Total | 38,735 | 25 | 125 | 49 | 0 | 0 | 4,861 | 5,060 | 13.06\% | 1,430 | 3.69\% | 0 | 0.00\% |

Appendix 5

|  | Total number of properties | Occupier does not qualify to register | Second Home | New house; $\quad$ first elector not yet registered | University owned properties | Permanently Empty | Temp'ly Empty | Total number of properties where no elector expected | \% where no elector expected | Removed after failure to return form at two successive canvasses | \% where elector removed for failure to respond | No known reason for absence of electors | \% with no elector and no known reason |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mar-15 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ward 1: Renfrew North | 6,762 | 7 | 20 | 34 | 0 | 0 | 863 | 924 | 13.66\% | 368 | 5.44\% | 10 | 0.15\% |
| Ward 2: Renfrew South and Gallowhill | 7,178 | 13 | 5 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 956 | 985 | 13.72\% | 325 | 4.53\% | 12 | 0.17\% |
| Ward 3: Paisley East and Ralston | 9,629 | 21 | 24 | 29 | 0 | 0 | 1354 | 1428 | 14.83\% | 456 | 4.74\% | 4 | 0.04\% |
| Ward 4: Paisley North West | 10,754 | 23 | 39 | 27 | 0 | 0 | 2087 | 2176 | 20.23\% | 779 | 7.24\% | 22 | 0.20\% |
| Ward 5: Paisley South | 9,043 | 16 | 11 | 33 | 0 | 0 | 1185 | 1245 | 13.77\% | 367 | 4.06\% | 13 | 0.14\% |
| Ward 6: Paisley South West | 7,390 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 962 | 972 | 13.15\% | 375 | 5.07\% | 11 | 0.15\% |
| Ward 7: Johnstone South, Elderslie and Howwood | 8,037 | 2 | 3 | 23 | 0 | 0 | 928 | 956 | 11.89\% | 349 | 4.34\% | 16 | 0.20\% |
| Ward 8: Johnstone North, Kilbarchan and Lochwinnoch | 6,687 | 4 | 16 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 901 | 923 | 13.80\% | 295 | 4.41\% | 9 | 0.13\% |
| Ward 9: Houston, Crosslee and Linwood | 6,977 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 772 | 783 | 11.22\% | 264 | 3.78\% | 17 | 0.24\% |
| Ward 10: Bishopton, Bridge of Weir and Langbank | 5,020 | 1 | 12 | 59 | 0 | 0 | 370 | 442 | 8.80\% | 75 | 1.49\% | 6 | 0.12\% |
| Ward 11: Erskine and Inchinnan | 7,088 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 547 | 553 | 7.80\% | 182 | 2.57\% | 11 | 0.16\% |
| Total | 84,565 | 92 | 144 | 226 | 0 | 0 | 10,925 | 11,387 | 13.47\% | 3,835 | 4.53\% | 131 | 0.15\% |

Page 1 of 2 for Renfrewshire Council by Ward; information for May 2015 is on the following page.
Appendix 5

|  | Total number of properties | Occupier does not qualify to register | Second Home | New house; $\quad$ first elector not yet registered | University owned properties | Permanently Empty | Temp'ly Empty | Total number of properties where no elector expected | \% where no elector expected | Removed after failure to return form at two successive canvasses | \% where elector removed for failure to respond | No known reason for absence of electors | \% with no elector and no known reason |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| May-15 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ward 1: Renfrew North | 6,768 | 7 | 19 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 723 | 779 | 11.51\% | 306 | 4.52\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Ward 2: Renfrew South and Gallowhill | 7,178 | 12 | 6 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 845 | 873 | 12.16\% | 267 | 3.72\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Ward 3: Paisley East and Ralston | 9,765 | 19 | 22 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 1192 | 1247 | 12.77\% | 395 | 4.05\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Ward 4: Paisley North West | 10,752 | 22 | 36 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 1865 | 1937 | 18.02\% | 663 | 6.17\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Ward 5: Paisley South | 9,043 | 16 | 11 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 1013 | 1070 | 11.83\% | 314 | 3.47\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Ward 6: Paisley South West | 7,390 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 817 | 828 | 11.20\% | 311 | 4.21\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Ward 7: Johnstone South, Elderslie and Howwood | 8,039 | 1 | 3 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 822 | 838 | 10.42\% | 292 | 3.63\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Ward 8: Johnstone North, Kilbarchan and Lochwinnoch | 6,687 | 3 | 16 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 784 | 806 | 12.05\% | 249 | 3.72\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Ward 9: Houston, Crosslee and Linwood | 6,974 | 1 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 666 | 676 | 9.69\% | 216 | 3.10\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Ward 10: Bishopton, Bridge of Weir and Langbank | 5,035 | 1 | 13 | 27 | 0 | 0 | 290 | 331 | 6.57\% | 57 | 1.13\% | 0 | 0.00\% |
| Ward 11: Erskine and Inchinnan | 7,087 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 467 | 473 | 6.67\% | 142 | 2.00\% | 1 | 0.01\% |
| Total | 84,718 | 87 | 140 | 147 | 0 | 0 | 9,484 | 9,858 | 11.64\% | 3,212 | 3.79\% | 1 | 0.00\% |

Page 2 of 2 for Renfrewshire Council by Ward; information for February 2015 is on the preceding page.

