



# Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board

**Report to:** Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board  
**Meeting on:** 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020  
**Subject:** Electoral Update Report  
**Author:** Assessor & Electoral Registration Officer

## 1. Introduction

This report is to provide members with an update on the new Electoral Management System (EMS), the December UK Parliamentary General Election (UKPGE) and the forthcoming changes to the annual canvass.

## 2. Migration to new Electoral Management System (EMS)

As reported in November we have successfully migrated to the new EMS and having run the December UKPGE from it and are pleased with the functionality and results from this new system.

## 3. Delivery of UKPGE

The table below shows the statistics from the register published after canvass.

<b>Constituency - UK Parliamentary</b>	<b>Total Electorate</b>	<b>Of which are Postal Voters</b>	<b>PV as % of Total</b>
East Renfrewshire	71,612	14,266	19.92%
Inverclyde	59,516	10,874	18.27%
Paisley & Renfrewshire North	70,605	12,354	17.49%
Paisley & Renfrewshire South	62,935	11,739	18.65%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>264,668</b>	<b>49,233</b>	<b>18.60%</b>

Given the short notice and the fact that the election was announced in the midst of our annual canvass activity I am pleased to report there were no major issues on polling day. This was in no small part thanks to all the staff working long hours and carrying out tasks which were not in their normal duties. My sincere thanks must go on record to everyone involved as this was very much a team effort and we can take pride in the part we played in delivering a robust election result.

#### **4. Canvass Reform**

- 4.1 Legislation has been made by the UK Government. The Scottish Government, at the time of writing this report, is in the process of laying their legislation to allow canvass reform to become effective for this year's canvass, which starts around early summer.
- 4.2 The main changes under this legislation allows the ERO to decide on different routes for canvassing households and will eventually lead to savings being made on the costs of the annual canvass. Training for this new methodology takes place on 27<sup>th</sup> February for all Scottish ERO's and their teams.

#### **5. Publication of Registers**

- 5.1 Renfrewshire Council have reviewed their Polling Scheme which has been approved. This requires a republication of the Register to reflect these changes, this new register will be published on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March 2020. All interested parties and those legally entitled to the register will be contacted with the updated version.

#### **6. Elections**

- 6.1 There are no planned elections at present, however, should one be called we will be prepared.

#### **General Conclusions**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff in the Joint Board for their hard work and effective management of the migration to the new EMS, the Annual Canvass and the successful delivery of the UKPGE.

#### **Recommendations**

- i. The Board notes the contents of this report.

Kate A Crawford – 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020

For further information please contact Kate Crawford on 0141-618-5903  
Or via e-mail at [kate.crawford@renfrewshire-vjb.gov.uk](mailto:kate.crawford@renfrewshire-vjb.gov.uk)