



# Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board

**Report to:** Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board

**Meeting on:** 19 August 2016

**Subject:** Electoral Registration Annual Report 2016

**Author:** Assessor & Electoral Registration Officer

## 1.0 Introduction

This report is an annual update on the work involved in the Electoral Registration process.

This would normally be submitted at the May meeting of the Joint Board but has been delayed this year due to the Scottish Parliamentary Election and the EU Referendum having taken place within a few weeks of each other.

## 2.0 Recommendation

The Board approves this report.

**Note Attachment:** Electoral Registration Annual Report 2016

Alasdair MacTaggart  
Depute Assessor & ERO  
12.08.2016

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# Electoral Registration Annual Report 2016



## **Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board**

Serving:- East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire

Assessor and Electoral Registration Officer  
The Robertson Centre, 16 Glasgow Road, Paisley PA1 3QF



## 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. The transition phase ended in 2015 but there will be further refinement to streamline the Canvass processes and the Door-to-Door Canvass in particular.

## 2.0 The process of Electoral Registration

I must stress at the outset that loss of staff numbers through early retirement, voluntary redundancy and deletion of posts that fell vacant is now having a detrimental effect on this office's ability to undertake all of its statutory tasks to the standard achieved in the past. This is a position not helped by illogical rules on conduct of Canvass which oblige me to spend significant sums on printing, postage and door-to-door canvassing when it is patently obvious that no return will be forthcoming no matter how much time and money is spent. Funding has been provided by the UK Government but the amount now provided is significantly short of that required for the obligatory actions associated with the Annual Canvass. We are in discussions with the Cabinet Office with regard to additional funding but we should assume that no additional funding will be provided.

Choices now have to be made in terms of where best value can be obtained from these dwindling resources and the initial impact will be upon outreach activities and on internal auditing of changes before publication.

The process of electoral registration changed on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014 and there then followed a transitional phase which was designed to ensure that electors have every opportunity to avoid deletion for lack of response. The Transition Phase ended in 2015 and the Canvass carried out in the latter half of 2015 was the first full Canvass under the new legislation. The registers were republished on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015 and the names of the remaining unresponsive electors were removed at that date. The statistics for that Canvass were provided in the Electoral Registration update report for the Joint Board meeting on 20th November 2015.

Under Individual Electoral Registration, the year can be considered as comprising two phases; Canvass and Business-as-Usual. While this might seem familiar in terms of earlier years, the methods of contacting electors have changed as have the ways in which electors can respond. There are now limitations on the use of third-party information to check occupancy of houses and the ERO must now conduct a Door-to-Door Canvass of every property where no return has been made, even where it is quite clear that there can be no response to any visit.

A significant and helpful development is that anyone can now register on-line using a very simple process. There is a separate section, below, that looks at this in more detail.

### 2.1 Canvass Process

#### a) Initial Issue

- a. This is the issue of a Household Enquiry Form (HEF) to all 162,000 (approx) households in the Joint Board area.
- b. On receipt, the person completing the form can complete and return the form by internet, telephone or mail.
- c. If there are any new electors, the form invites that person to make use of the on-line registration process.
- d. Alternatively, the name can be added to the form and a return made. A subsequent Invitation to register will be issued to the person indicated as a new elector.
- e. Deletions, such as someone leaving home, will be identified and confirmed prior to being removed from the register.

**b) First Reminder**

- a. The Initial Issue is repeated and a second HEF is issued to all households where no response was made to the Initial Issue.

**c) Second Reminder and Door-to-Door Canvass**

- a. This repeats the First Reminder exercise for a (hopefully) smaller number of Households.
- b. The Door-to-Door Canvass then comes into play and Canvassers will visit Households where no response was made.
- c. Communal Residential Establishments, Nursing Homes, etc. are dealt with separately using direct liaison with a point-of-contact for each establishment.

**d) Publication**

- a. The Canvass process will close with Publication of Register on 1<sup>st</sup> December each year.
- b. It is important to note that, while notified and confirmed changes are applied, no electors are removed for failure to respond during the Canvass. Instead, a Review Process takes place during the Business-as-Usual phase and any electors who fail to respond to that correspondence will be removed.

2.2 Business-as-Usual

This is similar to the Rolling Registration phase under the former legislative regime. Updates to the Register are published on the first of each month.

During this part of the year we will be looking at Sold Houses, Tenancy Changes, and a miscellany of information that might indicate changes. Any individual can, of course, make application to register at any time and there is always a steady flow of change to deal with.

The List of Absent Voters is also updated on a routine basis and this will include a required refresh of all Absent Voter applications that are more than 5 years old in addition to the routine additions, changes and deletions following from other changes.

Where legislation permits the ERO will write to all Absent Voters where the Returning Officer has rejected an Absent Vote at a Poll. This will take place shortly after the Poll so that the Voter is aware that some error had been made. The Voter can then make a fresh application or allow the facility to lapse.

Elections will occur and there is a steady routine of Westminster, Scottish, Local Government and (at least in the short term) European Elections. Elections or Polls can occur at any time in the form of By-elections and Referendums. Any Poll is accompanied by a significant increase in workload – routine enquiries, panicked enquiries, applications to register, applications for an absent vote, the transfer of data and arranging of printing and posting of several tranches of Poll Cards and the transfer of Ballot Pack data for Absent Voters and, finally, the production of Ballot Box Registers for use on the day of the Poll. The deadlines for each phase do put a strain of staff and systems to ensure that scheduled “slots” for printers and Royal Mail are not missed. Emergency legislation to extend deadlines is, in such circumstances, playing with fire and it is to be hoped that the events surrounding the European Referendum are not repeated.

We will also be involved in “outreach” to groups that are considered to be under-registered. This will include schools, colleges, Help Groups for those less able and Representative Groups

for minorities. It must be emphasized that our ability to undertake this work is now severely limited due to loss of staff in an attempt to make ends meet under significantly reduced budgetary provision.

Less frequently, we will require to implement Boundary Changes following review by the Boundary Commission. The availability of Mapping Tools allows more detailed checks to be carried out more quickly but these changes remain a significant effort. The next changes (to Ward Boundaries) will be implemented during the 2016 Canvass and the Registers published on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 will reflect the revised boundaries. If there is any delay in formalizing the new Ward Boundaries, it may not be possible to reflect these changes in the Registers to be published on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016. If this does happen, the Registers can be republished at a later date on the basis of the new Boundaries.

The Ward Boundary changes will have a knock-on effect on the shape of Polling Districts and that will be reflected in our data although not visible in the Published Registers.

### 2.3 The On-Line Registration Process

This is the one part of the IER changes that has had a beneficial effect in terms of savings of time, printing, posting and processing work. The on-line interface is, quick, simple and easy to use for the potential elector. It is, for the vast majority of applications, a bonus for the ERO staff in terms of time spent dealing with applications, enquiries and correspondence. It is also claimed to be a deterrent in terms of electoral fraud although it will take time to analyse this effect.

It is not without a need for improvement or enhancement and we continue to work with the Cabinet Office to offer suggested changes and improvements.

In summary, any new on-line application will create two messages; one will go to DWP for verification, the other to the appropriate ERO to warn that an application is en-route.

After the application has been scrutinised by DWP, it will be returned to the ERO with a "Red or Green" status. Green is good and the applicant will be added to the Register at the following update and an appropriate notice issued. Red will create a bit more work as staff will enter into correspondence with the applicant. Usually, there is a simple reason such as a clash of names (for example, father and son having same forename) or mistyping of National Insurance Number. If all else fails, the applicant can produce evidence and have the application verified.

### 3.0 **Canvass 2016**

This is now underway; 162,082 HEF Packs were issued on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016.

First Reminders will be issued on or around 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

Second Reminders are dealt with by Door –To-Door Canvass and this will commence on or around 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

Publication will take place on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 (incorporating revised Ward boundaries).

### 3.1 Door-to-Door Canvass:

IER mandates that at least one visit will be made to properties with electors who have made no response. This will be carried out as part of the Second Reminder exercise.



### 3.2 Local Secondary Checks:

Under the legislation in force, local data held by Councils and other bodies including Council Tax Billing records, lists of social tenancies and lists of private tenancies cannot be used for this Canvass. This has added to the complexity and cost of the Canvass.

### 4.0 **Costs:**

As reported to the Board in 2015, the 2015 Canvass was the first “business as usual” Canvass since the introduction of IER. It allowed a comparison to be made in terms of the costs involved in carrying out the work when compared with the last canvass, in 2012, carried out under the previous legislation.

In any Canvass, major costs involved are printing, postage, recovery, scanning and additional, temporary canvassers. In 2012, these costs amounted to £130,000 in round terms.

For the Canvass concluded in December 2015, we incurred costs of £270,000 in round terms. Some but not all of the additional cost was met by funding provided by the UK Government.

It is likely that the overall costs for the 2016 will be in the same order as the 2015 costs. In the 2015 ER Report, I cautioned that there was the potential for a funding shortfall in 2016; this fear has been realised and our allocated funds from the Cabinet Office have declined from £226,708 to £103,680.

This will inevitably push the Board to overspend in 2016/17 as there is no leeway to reduce costs in terms of Annual Canvass and there is no scope to make compensatory savings elsewhere in a budget already under significant pressure as the result of several rounds of cuts to funding. We may be able to make application for additional funding under a “Justification Led Bid” although a positive outcome is not certain nor is the scale of any additional funding.

Representation will be made to the Government.

### 5.0 **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.

## **6.0 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.

## **7.0 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.

Under the previous legislation, the Canvass correspondence and calls could be ignored for a limited period of time before the individual would be removed from the Register under the terms of Reg 34 of the Representation of the People (Scotland) Regulations. Under the new Regulations, failure to respond during the Canvass will not result in an individual being removed from the Register although removal will result from failure to respond to any subsequent review.

Reviews are neither inexpensive nor straightforward and need to be shoe-horned into the period between Publication and planned Elections and between planned Elections and the subsequent Canvass.

During 2016, there was a limited need to issue Review letters as unresponsive electors had been removed when the Registers were republished in December 2015. These were the electors “retained” during the introduction of IER.

A total of 2,175 Review letters were issued and this resulted in the deletion of 2,086 electors. By contrast, 13,467 electors were deleted in the period between 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015 and 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016 – the remaining 11,381 were all normal deletions arising from electors moving home, leaving home or where an elector had died.

A table of deletions due to Reviews and other reasons is at Appendix 2.

The effect of the retention of electors who have not responded is that the Register will become increasingly accurate with the passage of time. We will have no way of knowing if an individual has not responded through lack of interest or as a result of having left the property.

Between Canvasses, we will continue to use external sources of data to ensure that we capture as many changes as possible although it must be stressed that, no matter how many times we ask, a person cannot be obliged to register if he or she does not wish so to do.

The best audit of the Registers is an election. If there was any large scale error or omission in the Registers, this would become apparent at an election. An election will generate increased interest and, up to the last date to register, allows errors and omissions to self-correct. Thereafter the ERO can correct errors where it can be shown that the mistake lay within the process (but not where the individual had neglected to make a return). Such corrections will normally be in single figures for the Joint Board area at any election.

## **8.0 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.

### **8.1 Identification of specific properties for special attention.**

The Joint Board has the advantage of having access to a comprehensive and well-maintained 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.

### **8.1.1 An explanation of property categorisation**

We can exclude those properties where we know that:-

1. The 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.

2. The property is a 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.

3. A newly built or refurbished 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.

4. A 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.

5. Properties that are 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.

6. Properties that are Temporarily Empty :

These are properties vacant at the time of survey but likely to be reoccupied within the coming year. They are a variety of local authority, housing association and privately owned properties awaiting modernisation and reletting.

When the above categories of property are discounted we are left with houses where we have no registered electors and no good reason why there should be no elector at that address. These are the houses that, prior to the introduction of the new rules, would receive the most immediate attention during the Canvass.

### **8.2 Actions taken for Properties with no elector**

We will employ as many temporary canvassers as necessary to make door to door inquiries for houses where no HEF form is returned. This is a mandatory action under the IER Regulations.

The most recent Door-to-Door Canvass took place in October and November 2015 using temporary staff recruited specifically for the purpose.

The ideal strategy would be to target or prioritise properties with no registered elector as noted above. However, the new legislation requires that a visit is made to all properties where no return had been made to the initial or reminder issues of forms.

The October/November 2015 door-to-door canvass looked at 67,205 properties where no return had been made in respect of the HEF Forms issued earlier in the exercise. This is in contrast 20,000 – 25,000 properties in earlier years – which would have been the properties where information was lacking and those where a response had not been made for several years. It is quite likely that we will be facing a similar challenge this year.

## **9.0 Additional action to maximise registration:**

I mentioned at the outset that changes to funding and loss of staff would impact upon “outreach” activities. In earlier years we were able to attend all secondary schools to run workshops to highlight the need to register and to become engaged in the electoral process. I simply cannot now carry out that task on the same scale and I have to limit activity to occasional visits – usually in conjunction with officers of the constituent councils.

We collaborate with neighbouring EROs in terms of Canvass publicity and the current advertising campaign is an example of that.

We will continue to assist where we can in terms of making contact with minority groups and groups where there is a history of under-registration although each event will now have to be considered on a case by case basis.

## **10.0 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.

### **10.1 Registration – Changes to Electorate**

The change to total electorate during the year can be seen in Appendix 1 and by entitlement to vote at a type of election in Appendix 1A

As mentioned at 7.0 above, a major part of the increase can arise from increased interest around elections when individuals check they are on the Register or enquire about, for example, a missing Poll Card. Usually, this is the addition of individuals who had been removed due to lack of response to Canvass or other correspondence.

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

- ◆ The purchaser of every house sold receives a “Welcome to your New Home” card which contains full details on how 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 also receives a “Welcome to your New Home” card 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.
- ◆ We have access, via a data sharing agreement, to School Rolls and will use those to check for gaps in Attainers and to verify applications to register from 14/15 year olds if required.
- ◆ 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.

## 10.2 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 23 June 2016:

**Absent Voters as at 23 June 2016 by Council area**

Unitary Authority	Electorate	Absent Votes Applied for	% of electorate
East Renfrewshire	68,752	15,113	21.97%
Inverclyde	57,961	12,451	21.48%
Renfrewshire	125,709	26,102	20.76%
<b>RVJB Total</b>	<b>252,422</b>	<b>53,666</b>	<b>21.26%</b>

This compares with:

- 8.70% at the 2005 Westminster Election,
- 14.60% at the 2007 Scottish Parliamentary Election,
- 14.83% at the 2009 European Elections,
- 17.21% at the 2010 UK General Election,
- 16.76% at the 2011 Scottish Parliamentary Election,
- 18.80% at the 2012 Local Government Elections,
- 22.10% at the Scottish Independence Referendum,
- 21.37% at the 2015 Westminster Election,
- 20.50% at the 2016 Scottish Parliamentary Election,

## 11.0 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alasdair MacTaggart', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alasdair MacTaggart  
Assessor & ERO  
12<sup>th</sup> August 2016

Comparison of Electoral Registers from 2003 to 2015:

<b>Table 1: 2003 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2003)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of 17 year olds on Register	Total
East Renfrewshire	65,684	1,081	66,765
Inverclyde	60,215	953	61,168
Renfrewshire	125,064	1,894	126,958
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>250,963</b>	<b>3,928</b>	<b>254,891</b>

<b>Table 2: 2004 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2004)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of 17 year olds on Register	Total
East Renfrewshire	64,959	1,047	66,006
Inverclyde	58,729	884	59,613
Renfrewshire	121,808	1,647	123,455
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>245,496</b>	<b>3,578</b>	<b>249,074</b>

<b>Table 3: 2005 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2005)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of 17 year olds on Register	Total
East Renfrewshire	64,610	1,086	65,696
Inverclyde	58,021	822	58,843
Renfrewshire	121,317	1,633	122,950
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>243,948</b>	<b>3,541</b>	<b>247,489</b>

<b>Table 4: 2006 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2006)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of 17 year olds on Register	Total
East Renfrewshire	65,742	1,022	66,764
Inverclyde	59,482	767	60,249
Renfrewshire	125,032	1,483	126,515
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>250,256</b>	<b>3,272</b>	<b>253,528</b>

<b>Table 5: 2007 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2007)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of 17 year olds on Register	Total
East Renfrewshire	66,773	949	67,722
Inverclyde	60,799	794	61,593
Renfrewshire	127,961	1,626	129,587
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>255,533</b>	<b>3,369</b>	<b>258,902</b>



<b>Table 6: 2008 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2008)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of 17 year olds on Register	Total
East Renfrewshire	64,725	902	65,627
Inverclyde	58,139	752	58,891
Renfrewshire	121,763	1,523	123,286
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>244,627</b>	<b>3,177</b>	<b>247,804</b>

<b>Table 7: 2009 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2009)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of 17 year olds on Register	Total
East Renfrewshire	65,573	933	66,506
Inverclyde	58,655	629	59,284
Renfrewshire	124,954	1,538	126,492
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>249,182</b>	<b>3,100</b>	<b>252,282</b>

<b>Table 8: 2010 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2010)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of 17 year olds on Register	Total
East Renfrewshire	67,539	941	68,480
Inverclyde	60,771	592	61,363
Renfrewshire	129,183	1,401	130,584
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>257,493</b>	<b>2,934</b>	<b>260,427</b>

<b>Table 9: 2011 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2011)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of 17 year olds on Register	Total
East Renfrewshire	67,835	902	68,755
Inverclyde	60,580	638	61,218
Renfrewshire	129,307	1,233	130,540
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>257,740</b>	<b>2,773</b>	<b>260,513</b>

<b>Table 10: 2012 Electoral Register (as at 15 October 2012)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of 17 year olds on Register	Total
East Renfrewshire	68,369	1,097	69,466
Inverclyde	60,750	862	61,614
Renfrewshire	129,313	1,689	131,002
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>258,432</b>	<b>3,648</b>	<b>262,082</b>

<b>Table 11: 2014 Electoral Register (as at 10 March 2014)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of 17 year olds on Register*	Total
East Renfrewshire	66,853	1,961	68,814
Inverclyde	57,422	1,406	58,828
Renfrewshire	123,052	3,052	126,104
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>247,327</b>	<b>6,419</b>	<b>253,746</b>

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

<b>Table 12: 2014 Electoral Register (as at 18 September 2014)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of 17 year olds on Register*	Total
East Renfrewshire	70,515	1,414	71,929
Inverclyde	60,721	1,068	61,789
Renfrewshire	130,775	2,310	133,085
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>262,011</b>	<b>4,792</b>	<b>266,803</b>

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

<b>Table 13: 2015 Electoral Register (as at 27 February 2015)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of 17 year olds on Register	Total
East Renfrewshire	68,532	862	69,394
Inverclyde	57,649	615	58,264
Renfrewshire	124,621	1,367	125,988
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>250,802</b>	<b>2,844</b>	<b>253,646</b>

<b>Table 14: 2015 Electoral Register (as at 29 April 2015)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of 17 year olds on Register	Total
East Renfrewshire	129,157	1,131	130,288
Inverclyde	70,477	720	71,197
Renfrewshire	59,687	513	60,200
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>259,321</b>	<b>2,364</b>	<b>261,685</b>

<b>Table 15: 2015 Electoral Register (as at 1 December 2015)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of Attainers**	Total
East Renfrewshire	68,647	457	69,104
Inverclyde	57,585	268	57,853
Renfrewshire	125,340	609	125,949
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>251,572</b>	<b>1,334</b>	<b>252,906</b>

\*\* The registration of Attainers under the age of 15 is now a permanent feature and these electors are now included.

<b>Table 16: 2015 Electoral Register (as at 27 April 2016)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of Attainers**	Total
East Renfrewshire	70,790	429	71,219
Inverclyde	59,471	406	59,877
Renfrewshire	130,047	562	130,609
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>260,308</b>	<b>1,397</b>	<b>261,705</b>

\*\* The registration of Attainers under the age of 15 is now a permanent feature and these electors are now included.

<b>Table 17: 2015 Electoral Register (as at 23 June 2016)</b>			
Council Area	No. of names on Register Electors aged 18 and over	No. of Attainers**	Total
East Renfrewshire	71,865	317	72,182
Inverclyde	60,341	330	60,671
Renfrewshire	132,132	414	132,546
<b>RVJB Area</b>	<b>264,338</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>265,399</b>

\*\* The registration of Attainers under the age of 15 is now a permanent feature and these electors are now included.

## Comparison of Electors and Absent Voters since publication of 2015 Registers

01/12/2015	Westminster Election				Scottish or Local Government Election				European Election			
	Electors	Postal Voters	Proxy Voters	Postal Proxies	Electors	Postal Voters	Proxy Voters	Postal Proxies	Electors	Postal Voters	Proxy Voters	Postal Proxies
Renfrewshire Council	122,435	25,102	74	2	125,173	25,454	44	2	122,437	25,102	74	2
East Renfrewshire Council	67,236	13,877	51	1	68,496	13,972	22	1	67,236	13,877	51	1
Inverclyde Council	56,690	12,128	46	2	57,517	12,204	27	2	56,690	12,128	46	2
<b>RVJB</b>	<b>246,361</b>	<b>51,107</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>251,186</b>	<b>51,630</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>246,363</b>	<b>51,107</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>5</b>

01/01/2016	Westminster Election				Scottish or Local Government Election				European Election			
	Electors	Postal Voters	Proxy Voters	Postal Proxies	Electors	Postal Voters	Proxy Voters	Postal Proxies	Electors	Postal Voters	Proxy Voters	Postal Proxies
Renfrewshire Council	122,800	25,017	74	2	125,896	25,368	44	2	122,802	25,017	74	2
East Renfrewshire Council	67,389	13,828	50	1	68,885	13,922	21	1	67,389	13,828	50	1
Inverclyde Council	56,808	12,071	46	2	57,761	12,146	27	2	56,808	12,071	46	2
<b>RVJB</b>	<b>246,997</b>	<b>50,916</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>252,542</b>	<b>51,436</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>246,999</b>	<b>50,916</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>5</b>

27/04/2016	Westminster Election				Scottish or Local Government Election				European Election			
	Electors	Postal Voters	Proxy Voters	Postal Proxies	Electors	Postal Voters	Proxy Voters	Postal Proxies	Electors	Postal Voters	Proxy Voters	Postal Proxies
Renfrewshire Council	125,286	25,646	176	9	129,828	26,042	149	8	125,288	25,646	176	9
East Renfrewshire Council	68,571	14,694	119	6	70,615	14,804	93	4	68,541	14,694	119	6
Inverclyde Council	57,754	12,319	98	3	59,390	12,417	82	2	57,754	12,319	98	3
<b>RVJB</b>	<b>251,611</b>	<b>52,659</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>259,833</b>	<b>53,263</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>251,583</b>	<b>52,659</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>18</b>

03/06/2016	Westminster Election				Scottish or Local Government Election				European Election			
	Electors	Postal Voters	Proxy Voters	Postal Proxies	Electors	Postal Voters	Proxy Voters	Postal Proxies	Electors	Postal Voters	Proxy Voters	Postal Proxies
Renfrewshire Council	125,709	25,934	156	12	130,299	26,337	127	7	125,711	25,934	156	12
East Renfrewshire Council	68,782	14,999	107	7	70,887	15,098	80	5	68,782	14,999	107	7
Inverclyde Council	57,961	12,358	84	9	59,595	12,441	74	7	57,961	12,358	84	9
<b>RVJB</b>	<b>252,452</b>	<b>53,291</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>260,781</b>	<b>53,876</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>252,454</b>	<b>53,291</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>28</b>

**Electoral Registration Reviews - East Renfrewshire Council**

	Routine Deletions Dec 2015 to Aug 2016	Reviews Issued	Electors deleted by Review	Review deletions as % of total deletions
No. 01 Neilston Uplawmoor and Newton Mearns North	719	94	90	12.52%
No. 02 Barrhead	708	105	101	14.27%
No. 03 Giffnock and Thornliebank	529	66	66	12.48%
No. 04 Netherlee, Stamperland and Williamwood	382	35	34	8.90%
No. 05 Newton Mearns South	537	71	70	13.04%
No. 06 Busby, Clarkston and Eaglesham	490	73	73	14.90%
	<b>3,365</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>12.90%</b>

**Electoral Registration Reviews - Inverclyde Council**

	Routine Deletions Dec 2015 to Aug 2016	Reviews Issued	Electors deleted by Review	Review deletions as % of total deletions
No. 01 Inverclyde East	605	116	114	18.84%
No. 02 Inverclyde East Central	543	148	145	26.70%
No. 03 Inverclyde North	802	170	167	20.82%
No. 04 Inverclyde South	431	92	90	20.88%
No. 05 Inverclyde West	375	55	50	13.33%
No. 06 Inverclyde South West	380	49	49	12.89%
	<b>3,136</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>19.61%</b>

## Electoral Registration Reviews - Renfrewshire Council

	Routine Deletions Dec 2015 to Aug 2016	Reviews Issued	Electors deleted by Review	Review deletions as % of total deletions
No. 01 Renfrew North	548	64	54	9.85%
No. 02 Renfrew South and Gallowhill	574	86	82	14.29%
No. 03 Paisley East and Ralston	823	131	128	15.55%
No. 04 Paisley North West	962	211	201	20.89%
No. 05 Paisley South	797	135	124	15.56%
No. 06 Paisley South West	533	92	88	16.51%
No. 07 Johnstone South, Elederslie and Howwood	669	98	91	13.60%
No. 08 Johnstone North, Kilbarchan and Lochwinnoch	519	111	101	19.46%
No. 09 Houston, Crosslee and Linwood	568	62	61	10.74%
No. 10 Bishopton, Bridge of Weir and Langbank	434	64	60	13.82%
No. 11 Erskine and Inchinnan	539	47	47	8.72%
	<hr/> 6,966	1,101	1,037	14.89% <hr/>