ANGUS COUNCIL
SECOND STATUTORY REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES
REPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE/PARLIAMENTARY RETURNING OFFICER

ABSTRACT:
This report seeks the Council's approval for the proposed changes to the UK parliamentary polling districts and polling places within the Angus local government area following the statutory review in terms of Section 18(c) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Council:-

(i) Agree to adopt the proposals contained in Appendix 1 for the designation of polling districts and polling places in the Angus local government area.

(ii) Note that the Electoral Registration Officer will make the necessary amendments to the Electoral Register prior to its publication on 1 December 2011.

2. BACKGROUND

Section 18(c) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 places a duty on local authorities to review the UK parliamentary polling districts, polling places and polling stations in their area at least once every four years. The aim of the review is to ensure that every elector in Angus has such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable and to ensure that so far as possible the accessibility needs of persons with a disability have been considered when designating polling places. The last such review was completed in 2007.

The location of proposed polling districts and polling places is the responsibility of Angus Council and the location of polling stations is the responsibility of the Returning Officer. However, for the purposes of this review, all aspects of the process have been undertaken jointly.

The scope of this review does not cover parliamentary or local government boundaries as these are the responsibility of the Boundary Commission and Local Boundary Commission for Scotland.

3. PROPOSALS

3.1 Rationale

This review sought to ensure that the reasonable requirements of the electors in Angus were being met and that sufficient account was taken of the accessibility of polling places for disabled persons.

The timetable for the review was published in local papers, on the Council’s website and was also detailed in the initial consultation document.
3.2 Consultation

The public consultation process for the review began on 1 July 2011 and concluded on 23 September 2011, during which time a wide range of consultees including Elected Members, MP’s, MSP’s, Community Councils, Local Area Partnerships and local disability groups were asked to comment on the existing polling scheme and on the draft proposals which were published on 29 August 2011. Representations were also welcomed from members of the public and any other interested party.

All representations received during the consultation period have been considered and where appropriate have contributed to the final proposals contained in this report.

3.3 Polling Districts

A polling district is defined as the geographical area created by the division of a constituency or ward into smaller parts. In Scotland, each electoral area must be divided into two or more polling districts unless there are deemed to be special circumstances.

As a result of the changes to the local government boundaries in 2006, a full review of the polling districts was undertaken and the current polling districts were successfully introduced for the combined Scottish Parliament/Local Government Election in May 2007.

Since this review there have been a number of minor changes to polling district boundaries to take account of small anomalies and inconsistencies (Reports 240/10 and 893/10 refer).

There have been no significant changes in the electorates of polling districts in the four years since the last review and none are anticipated in the next four years. Major residential development or the cumulative effect of smaller developments is normally the most significant factor affecting the size of the electorate in a particular area. However, what development there has been in recent years has not significantly affected any polling districts.

As a result, it is considered that the majority of polling districts are reflective of the needs of the community. However, a number of changes as outlined in Appendix 1 are proposed to the current polling scheme.

3.4 Polling Places

A polling place is defined as the building or area in which polling stations will be designated by the Returning Officer. Polling Places should be within the polling district unless special circumstances make it desirable to designate an area outside the polling district.

In conducting the review, the Returning Officer sought the assistance of the Angus Access Panel who campaign for, and advise on, improved access for disabled people. They are also responsible for the Rod McFarlane Award which is awarded annually to buildings or premises which they believe have done most to make them accessible for disabled people.

The Panel have previously assisted the Returning Officer by undertaking polling station visits on polling day to assess the suitability of the polling stations in use. A representative from the Panel accompanied the members of the Election Team when visiting proposed polling places and submitted a report on their findings. This report has been considered as part of the review.
The overall suitability of venues used as polling places have been graded by the Returning Officer for the purposes of this review only as A = Very Good; B = Satisfactory and C = Unsatisfactory.

Use of Schools as Polling Places

There are currently 66 polling places in Angus, 19 of which are schools. It is recognised that the use of schools as polling places, with the consequent loss of a day’s education for the children at the affected schools, is far from ideal, and significant efforts have been made over recent years to reduce the numbers of schools that are used on polling day. As local halls and other community facilities have become available, these have been designated as polling places in place of schools, where possible. However, it must also be recognised that in some areas there are no suitable alternative venues.

As a result of this Review, a further 3 venues have been identified as an alternative to using schools as polling places.

The Returning Officer has consulted with the Director of Education on the possibility of fixing one of the school in-service days to fall on polling day to negate the need for schools to be closed for electoral purposes. In-service days have been set till June 2015, however, the Director of Education has indicated that he would be willing to review this and the Returning Officer will actively pursue this matter with a view to having new arrangements in place for the European Parliamentary Election in 2014 (no statutory elections are scheduled for 2013). Special arrangements for the closure of Burnside School in Carnoustie on 3 May 2012 have been agreed and full details of these arrangements are outlined in Appendix 1.

In the interim, the Returning Officer will continue to monitor the use of schools as polling places and as local hall and community facilities are developed will endeavour to relocate polling places away from schools wherever possible.

Use of Polling Places with an Electorate of less than 100

As members will be aware, the geography of Angus has led to the designation of a number of polling places in rural areas where the electorate allocated to that polling place is very low e.g. 13 polling places have an electorate of 250 or less and 2 polling place have an electorate of less than 100.

The increase in the number of postal votes in recent years has meant that the number of electors actually voting at polling places is falling year on year – as low as 16 in one polling place during the last election.

Cost is not a determining factor in agreeing Polling Places however the Returning Officer is subject to the obligation to ensure “Best Value” and it is relevant to note that whilst the average cost per elector (in terms of venue hire and staff costs) actually attending a polling place in Angus to cast their vote is £3.84, costs for the very smallest polling places have risen as high as £33.81 per elector.

After careful consideration and taking account of the very rural location of some of the polling places the Returning Officer is not recommending the closure of any polling place with an electorate of less than 100. However, this situation will continue to be monitored and the current polling arrangements will be revisited should turnout figures continue to fall.

3.5 Final Proposals

The final recommendations for the designation of Polling Districts and Polling Places in Angus are contained in Appendix 1.
The timing of this Review coincides with the annual canvass and the new register will be published on 1 December 2011. The Electoral Registration Officer will make any necessary amendments to the register prior to publication of the 2011/12 Electoral Register.

As a result of the First Periodic Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries a number of changes were made to the polling scheme (Report 893/10 refers) and whilst the majority of amendments were made at the time the formal merging of polling districts ASC/ASD was not completed as the 2010/11 Electoral Register had already been published. This amendment will now be completed prior to the publication of the 2011/12 Electoral Register.

The Returning Officer will also work closely with the Electoral Registration Officer to promote postal voting as a convenient method of voting in very rural locations.

The Returning Officer has taken the opportunity to draft an “Angus Guide to Postal Voting” which will be issued (subject to approval by the Electoral Commission) to electors to ensure that they have a full understanding of the postal voting process.

The final decision of the review, along with the Notice of Review, the consultation documents and all correspondence and representations received will be made available on the Council’s website as required by Schedule A1 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 and The Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (Parliamentary Elections) Regulations 2006.

3.6 Appeals Process

Following the conclusion of this review, certain persons have a right to make representations to the Electoral Commission regarding the designation of polling districts and polling places. The Commission will only consider representations on the following grounds:

- The local authority has failed to meet the reasonable requirements of the electors in the constituency; or
- The local authority has failed to take sufficient account of accessibility to disabled persons of the polling stations within a polling place.

Representations based on any other premise will not be considered. Full details of the Appeals Process are contained in Appendix 3.

3.7 Assessment of Risks

There is a risk that the Council and the Returning Officer do not meet their respective statutory duties regarding the designation of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations in Angus.

4. RISKS

The risks associated with the recommendations are outlined within section 3.7 of this report.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the terms of this report.

6. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no Human Rights implications arising from this report.

7. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

The issues dealt with in this report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective. An equalities impact assessment has been undertaken.

8. CONSULTATION
The Director of Corporate Services, Head of Finance, Head of Law and Administration, Director of Education and the Electoral Registration Officer for Angus have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

9. CONCLUSION

It is considered that the revised proposals for the designation of polling districts and polling places as shown in Appendix 1 are necessary to ensure that all electors within Angus have, as far as practicable, been given reasonable facilities for voting.

RICHARD STIFF
CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND PARLIAMENTARY RETURNING OFFICER

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

- Electoral Administration Act 2006
- Electoral Commission Circular EC19/2010

L&A/SCH/SDC
## Existing Arrangements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Polling District</th>
<th>Polling Place</th>
<th>Polling Station location</th>
<th>Maximum Number of Polling Stations</th>
<th>No of Electors as at 1/12/10</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting at Polling Place</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting by Post</th>
<th>Disabled Access</th>
<th>Accessibility Rating</th>
</tr>
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<td>Glenisla Hall</td>
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<td>N</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>Airlie Village Hall</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Eassie Community Hall</td>
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<td>25</td>
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<td>A</td>
</tr>
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<td>Dining/Games Hall</td>
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<td>Duncan Hall, Kinnettles</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Inverarity Church Hall</td>
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<td>159</td>
<td>²</td>
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<td>B</td>
</tr>
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</table>

¹ Polling Districts ASC/ASD will now be formally combined to create new polling district ASC by the Electoral Registration Officer as per Report 893/10.

² Combined with polling district ASX – no individual figures available

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The following representations were received during the initial consultation period:

- No representations received.

The following representations were received during the second consultation period:

- Cllr Andrews   Objecting to the closure of Kingoldrum Hall.
- Kirriemuir Landward West Community Council Objecting to the closure of Kingoldrum Hall.
- Cllr Mackintosh Objecting to the closure of Kingoldrum Hall. Raised concerns regarding the access to Northmuir Hall.

A petition to maintain Kingoldrum Hall as a polling place signed by 83 local residents was also submitted to the Returning Officer during the second consultation period.
The draft proposals were:

1. To merge polling districts ASE with ASG with Northmuir Hall as the allocated polling place.

The final proposals are:

1. To make no amendments to the current polling arrangements.

The Returning Officer’s comments are:

The Returning Officer has considered all representations received during the second consultation period and notes that there is strong public and member opinion regarding the closure of Kingoldrum Hall as a polling place. The initial proposals were based on a report provided by the Angus Access Panel, a well respected local body who campaign for, and advise on, improved access for disabled people and the Returning Officer is satisfied that the Angus Access Panel's comments regarding the accessibility of Kingoldrum Hall were made with the best interests of persons with a disability in mind. In addition, the Returning Officer draft proposals sought to ensure that the Council complies with its duties under the Equality Act 2010 and the Council’s own Single Equality Scheme.

The Kingoldrum Hall Committee has indicated to the Returning Officer that whilst they believe that the hall is fully accessible to disabled persons they are prioritising improvements to the accessibility of the hall.

The Returning Officer will also undertake to investigate the concerns raised regarding the access road to Northmuir Hall prior to the next election and make further recommendations as necessary.

Recommendations to the Council:

Having considered the risks and having due regard to the representations received, the Returning Officer recommends that Kingoldrum Hall be retained as the polling place for polling district ASE with the caveat that this be monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure that the accessibility needs of the disabled continue to be fully considered.
Ward 2 – Brechin & Edzell

Existing Arrangements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Polling District</th>
<th>Polling Place</th>
<th>Polling Station location</th>
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<th>Total Electorate Voting by Post 5/5/11</th>
<th>Disabled Access</th>
<th>Accessibility Rating</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMD</td>
<td>The Retreat, Glenesk</td>
<td>Community Wing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AME</td>
<td>Lethnot Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMF</td>
<td>Inglis Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Lesser Hall</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>843</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMG</td>
<td>Memus Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMH</td>
<td>Menmuir Village Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<td>321</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMI</td>
<td>Tannadice Church Extension</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<td>323</td>
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<td>42</td>
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<td>Maisondieu Primary School</td>
<td>Allocated Classrooms</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>Hall</td>
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<td>AMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>AML</td>
<td>Andover Primary School</td>
<td>Games Hall</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1891</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following representations were received during the initial consultation period:

Inveresk Community Council has indicated that they consider the current polling arrangements satisfactory.

The following representations were received during the second consultation period:

Representations were made by local members regarding the closure of the polling places at The Retreat, Glenesk and Lethnot Hall.

The draft proposals were:

1. To merge polling districts AMD, AME with AMF with Inglis Memorial Hall, Edzell as the allocated polling place. (New polling district reference AMF)

The final proposals are:

1. To make no amendments to the current polling arrangements.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Returning Officer's comments are:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Returning Officer has considered all representations received during the second consultation period and notes that there is strong member opinion regarding the closure of The Retreat, Tarfside and Lethnot Hall.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendations to the Council:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Having due regard to the representations received, the Returning Officer recommends that The Retreat, Tarfside and Lethnot Hall be retained as the polling places for polling districts AMD and AME respectively. However the situation will continue to be monitored and the current polling arrangements will be revisited should turnout figures continue to fall.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Ward 3 – Forfar & District

Existing Arrangements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Polling District</th>
<th>Polling Place</th>
<th>Polling Station location</th>
<th>Maximum Number of Polling Stations</th>
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<th>Total Electorate Voting by Post</th>
<th>Disabled Access</th>
<th>Suitability Rating</th>
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<td>AMN</td>
<td>Reid Hall</td>
<td>Main Hall</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4526</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMO</td>
<td>Lunanhead Village Hall</td>
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<td>460</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>5/5/11</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMM/AMQ</td>
<td>British Legion</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1855</td>
<td>584</td>
<td>5/5/11</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMP</td>
<td>Lochside Leisure Centre</td>
<td>Drama Studio</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3164</td>
<td>1209</td>
<td>5/5/11</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMR</td>
<td>Guide Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1873</td>
<td>623</td>
<td>5/5/11</td>
<td>Y</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The following representations were received during the initial consultation period:

Forfar & Area Partnership: Amend the boundary for polling district AMQ moving it north from the A932 Arbroath Road to B9113 Montrose Road. Amend the polling place for polling district AMM from the British Legion to Lunanhead Village Hall.

The following representations were received during the second consultation period:

No representations received.

The draft proposals were:

1. To merge the most northerly part of polling district AMM with polling district AMO with Lunanhead Village Hall as the allocated polling place.

The final proposals are:

1. To merge the most northerly part of polling district AMM with polling district AMO with Lunanhead Village Hall as the allocated polling place. Appendix 2, Map 1 refers.

The Returning Officer’s comments are:

After reviewing the comments made by the Forfar Area Partnership, the Returning Officer agreed that the electors located in the northerly part of polling district AMM are better served by Lunanhead Village Hall. However, no changes are proposed to the polling arrangements for the rest of the polling district as after visiting the area it was considered that electors travelling from the southerly part of the polling district would be required to travel the same distance (approximately 5 miles) across two single track roads to arrive at Lunanhead Hall rather than joining the more convenient B9113 Montrose Road which leads directly into Forfar.

Recommendations to the Council:

The Returning Officer recommends that the Council approve this amendment to the polling scheme.
### Existing Arrangements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Polling District</th>
<th>Polling Place</th>
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<th>Disabled Access</th>
<th>Accessibility Rating</th>
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<tr>
<td>WSA</td>
<td>Muirhead &amp; Birkhill Millenium Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td></td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESC</td>
<td>Wellbank Hall</td>
<td>Main Hall</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1553</td>
<td>637</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESD</td>
<td>Gerard Hall, Monifieth</td>
<td>Main Hall</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3427</td>
<td>1494</td>
<td>557</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESE</td>
<td>Grange Primary School Allocated Classrooms</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3303</td>
<td>1412</td>
<td>559</td>
<td></td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following representations were received during the initial consultation period:

No representations received. However, representation had been made to the Returning Officer prior to the commencement of the review regarding the use of Murroes Primary School as a polling place.

The following representations were received during the second consultation period:

No representations received.

The draft proposals were:

1. Relocate the polling place for polling district ESB from Murroes Primary School to Murroes Hall (Accessibility Rating B).

The final proposals are:

1. Relocate the polling place for polling district ESB from Murroes Primary School to Murroes Hall (Accessibility Rating B). Appendix 2, Map 2 refers.
The Returning Officer’s comments are:

Murroes Hall is located a convenient distance from the current polling place of Murroes School. The hall has ample parking, a purpose built ramp of accessible gradient which makes the hall accessible to wheelchair users, disabled toilet and kitchen facilities. There is no disabled parking space but there is ample room for one to be marked off at the front of the building on polling day.

The relocation to Murroes Hall meets the Council’s ongoing commitment to discontinue using schools as polling place wherever possible.

The Angus Access Panel has confirmed that they consider that the venue is accessible to those who are disabled and suitable for use as a polling place.

Recommendations to the Council:

The Returning Officer recommends that the Council approve this amendment to the polling scheme.
### Ward 5 – Carnoustie & District

#### Existing Arrangements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Polling District</th>
<th>Polling Place</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Maximum Number of Polling Stations</th>
<th>No of Electors as at 1/12/10</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting at Polling Place 5/5/11</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting by Post 5/5/11</th>
<th>Disabled Access</th>
<th>Accessibility Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESF</td>
<td>Monikie Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>898</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESG</td>
<td>Phillip Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2289</td>
<td>886</td>
<td>353</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESH</td>
<td>Burnside Primary School</td>
<td>Community Lounge/Dining Hall</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2476</td>
<td>886</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>St Brides Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2951</td>
<td>³</td>
<td>³</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESK</td>
<td>Comrie Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1572</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

³ Combined with polling district AST – no individual figures available

The following representations were received during the initial consultation period:

Cllr Oswald: Requested Returning Officer to consider St Anne’s Church or Panmure Community Centre as an alternative venue for Burnside Primary School.

Cllr Boyd: Requested Returning Officer to consider other venues as an alternative to Burnside Primary School.

Cllr Murphy: Requested Returning Officer to consider other venues as an alternative to Burnside Primary School.

Angus Access Panel: Detailed their concerns regarding the use of St Brides Hall, Carnoustie as a polling place

The following representations were received during the second consultation period:

No representations received.

The draft proposals were:

1. To merge polling districts ESH and ESI with the Beach Hall and Training Studio, Carnoustie Leisure Centre as the allocated polling place (Accessibility Rating A).
The final proposals are:

1. To make no amendments to the current polling arrangements.

The Returning Officer’s comments are:

The Returning Officer received a number of comments regarding the use of Burnside School on polling day during the initial consultation phase and was asked to investigate alternative venues. However, the Election Team was unable to find a more suitable venue within the polling district and the draft proposals were based on merging polling districts ESH & ESI and transferring the polling facilities for both polling districts to the Beach Hall and Training Studio in Carnoustie Leisure Centre. At the time of drafting the initial proposals for consultation the Returning Officer believed that this was the best option available to ensure that electors had as reasonable facilities for voting as were practicable whilst also satisfying the requirement for Burnside School not to be used as a polling place.

However, this would have resulted in a major change for approximately 5,500 electors and the Returning Officer consulted with the Director of Education again regarding the use of Burnside School and the possibility of polling day on 3 May 2012 being designated as a school in-service day. This would allow the school to be used as a polling place without the need for the school to be closed on an additional day during the school year. The Director of Education has indicated that he would be happy to accede to this request on the 3 May 2012 and therefore the Returning Officer believes that the most practical option would be for no amendments to be made the current polling scheme at this time. As previously noted the Returning Officer will be working with the Director of Education with a view to designating polling day for all statutory elections as a school in service day from 2014 onwards.

Recommendations to the Council:

No amendments are proposed to the current polling scheme.
## Existing Arrangements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Polling District</th>
<th>Polling Place</th>
<th>Polling Station location</th>
<th>Maximum Number of Polling Stations</th>
<th>No of Electors as at 1/12/10</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting at Polling Place 5/5/11</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting by Post 5/5/11</th>
<th>Disabled Access</th>
<th>Accessibility Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASX</td>
<td>Inverarity Church Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASP</td>
<td>Carmyllie Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>514</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASQ</td>
<td>Letham Village Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1699</td>
<td>778</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASR</td>
<td>Muirfield Primary School</td>
<td>Games Hall</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1648</td>
<td>713</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASS</td>
<td>Arbirlot Church Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AST</td>
<td>St Brides Hall, Carnoustie</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASU</td>
<td>Timmergreens Primary School</td>
<td>Allocated classrooms</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3422</td>
<td>1189</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASV</td>
<td>Inverbrothock Primary School</td>
<td>Further Education Lounge &amp; Classrooms</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2331</td>
<td>797</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASW</td>
<td>Russell Square Community Lounge</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1645</td>
<td>614</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4 Combined with polling district ASO – no individual figures available
5 Combined with polling district ESH – no individual figures available

The following representations were received during the initial consultation period:

Royal Burgh of Arbroath Community Council has indicated that they consider the current polling arrangements satisfactory.

An elector wished to have their allocated polling place amended from Carmyllie Hall to Colliston Hall.

The following representations were received during the second consultation period:

No representations received.

The draft proposals were:

1. Relocate the polling place for polling district ASU from Timmergreens Primary School to Games Hall, Arbroath Sports Centre (Accessibility Rating B).

2. Relocate the polling place for polling district AST from St Brides Hall to the Carnoustie Leisure Centre.
The final proposals are:

1. Relocate the polling place for polling district ASU from Timmergreens Primary School to Games Hall, Arbroath Sports Centre (Accessibility Rating B). Appendix 2, Map 3 refers.

The Returning Officer's comments are:

Arbroath Sports Centre is located next to Arbroath High School and is a convenient distance from the current polling place of Timmergreens Primary School. The Centre has dedicated disabled parking spaces close to the main entrance. Parking for the able bodied is further away and is shared with the High School. Arrangements would require to be in place during school hours on polling day to ensure that sufficient car parking is made available to voters arriving to cast their vote. Approach to the front entrance is very good with a choice of manual and automatic doors for access. There is a ramp in the corridor leading to area proposed for polling and this could be slightly steep for some wheelchair users if they do not have a carer with them. However, polling station staff will be on hand on polling day to assist wheelchair users if required.

The High School utilise the facilities in the Sports Centre in the area which is being considered for polling and would be unable to use these on polling day. However, this is considered acceptable given that the current arrangements require for a primary school to be closed.

The relocation to Arbroath Sports Centre meets the Council’s ongoing commitment to discontinue using schools as polling place wherever possible.

The Angus Access Panel has confirmed that they consider that the venue is accessible to those who are disabled and suitable for use as a polling place.

Recommendations to the Council:

The Returning Officer recommends that the Council approve this amendment to the polling scheme.
### Ward 7 – Arbroath East & Lunan

#### Existing Arrangements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Polling District</th>
<th>Polling Place</th>
<th>Polling Station Location</th>
<th>Maximum Number of Polling Stations</th>
<th>No of Electors as at 1/12/10</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting at Polling Place</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting by Post</th>
<th>Disabled Access</th>
<th>Accessibility Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASY</td>
<td>Colliston Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>680</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASZ</td>
<td>Frockheim Primary School</td>
<td>Community Lounge</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1335</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATA</td>
<td>Warddykes Primary School</td>
<td>Hall/Dining Hall</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2344</td>
<td>697</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATB</td>
<td>Arbroath Academy</td>
<td>Girls Games Hall</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2052</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATC</td>
<td>Annie Gilruth Memorial Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATD</td>
<td>Inverkeilor Village Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATE</td>
<td>Community &amp; Sports Centre</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2643</td>
<td>707</td>
<td>331</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATF</td>
<td>Hayshead Primary School</td>
<td>Dining Hall</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1939</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following representations were received during the initial consultation period:

Royal Burgh of Arbroath Community Council – satisfied with current arrangements

The following representations were received during the second consultation period:

No representations received.

The draft proposals were:

No changes are proposed to the current polling arrangements.

The final proposals are:

No changes are proposed to the current polling arrangements.

The Returning Officer’s comments are:

The current polling arrangements are considered satisfactory.

Recommendations to the Council:

No amendments are proposed to the current polling scheme.
### Existing Arrangements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Polling District</th>
<th>Polling Place</th>
<th>Polling Station location</th>
<th>Maximum Number of Polling Stations</th>
<th>No of Electors as at 1/12/10</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting at Polling Place</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting by Post</th>
<th>Disabled Access</th>
<th>Accessibility Rating</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMS</td>
<td>Montrose Academy</td>
<td>School Hall</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4056</td>
<td>1217</td>
<td>5/5/11</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMT</td>
<td>Ferryden Primary School</td>
<td>Further Education Lounge/Hall</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1474</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMU</td>
<td>Lochside Primary School</td>
<td>Further Education Lounge</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3535</td>
<td>1246</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMV</td>
<td>Borrowfield Primary School</td>
<td>Gym Hall</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1565</td>
<td>592</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMW</td>
<td>Hillside Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>981</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMX</td>
<td>Craigo Community Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following representations were received during the initial consultation period:

Hillside Dun & Logie Pert Community Council requested the Returning Officer to reconsider the polling arrangements for the area of Dun by reinstating a polling district in the area with voting taking place at Dun Church Hall. Also wished to know why Montrose Academy is still being used as a polling place.

Electoral Registration Officer advised they had received complaints from some residents of Carcary who would prefer to vote at Farnell Hall and not Ferryden Primary School as they are more associated with the Farnell area and object in having to travel to Ferryden in order to vote.

The following representations were received during the second consultation period:

Cllr May  
Request to consider Borrowfield Community Centre, Lochside Nursery and Inchbrayock Hall as alternative polling places.

Cllr Valentine  
Request to consider Ferryden (Inchbrayock Church Hall) as an alternative polling place to Ferryden Primary School. Request to consider if there is a case for voters from Carcary to vote at Dun.

The draft proposals were:

1. Relocate the polling place for polling district AMV from Borrowfield Primary School to Montrose Baptist Church (Accessibility Rating B). Appendix 2, Map 5 refers.

The final proposals are:

1. Relocate the polling place for polling district AMV from Borrowfield Primary School to Montrose Baptist Church (Accessibility Rating B). Appendix 2, Map 4 refers.
The Returning Officer’s comments are:

During the second consultation phase the Returning Officer was asked to review the facilities at Borrowfield Community Centre, Lochside Nursery and Inchbrayock Hall to see if they would be suitable for use as alternative polling places for Borrowfield Primary School, Lochside Primary School and Ferryden Primary School.

The Election Team visited Borrowfield Community Centre with a member of the Angus Access Panel. The Centre is close to the current polling place of Borrowfield School and whilst there are some minor accessibility issues the Centre was found to be suitable for use as a polling place in terms of the facilities available. However, there were a number of issues surrounding the car park which is owned by Angus Council including large pot holes in the car park which would be difficult for elderly or disabled voters to negotiate and a height restriction barrier which may stop larger vehicles entering the car park. The car park is also heavily used by parents dropping off and collecting children from Borrowfield School and therefore car parking may not be available for electors during peak school times. After weighing up the facilities at Montrose Baptist Church and Borrowfield Community Centre there was no discernible difference between the internal facilities, however the Returning Officer believes that the external facilities at Montrose Baptist Church would be more adaptable to the needs of a polling place at this time and has made no changes to the draft proposals.

The Election Team also visited Lochside Nursery and found that unfortunately the Nursery was too small to accommodate the 5 polling places required for polling district AMU. It was felt that the maximum number of polling stations that the Nursery could comfortably accommodate would be 3. There were also a number of issues regarding the entrance to the Nursery which is also used by Lochside Primary School and the absence of any available car parking if the school was open (currently the playground of the school is opened on polling day to allow polling staff and electors to park but this would not happen if the school was open to pupils).

Inchbrayock Hall was originally assessed in 2007 and at that time there were several issues regarding the accessibility of the hall and in light of these issues no changes were made to the polling arrangements. The Election Team revisited Inchbrayock Hall as part of this review along with a representative from the Angus Access Panel to assess its suitability as a polling place. The Post Office are now using the hall two afternoons per week to deliver services, however, they have not upgraded the access to the hall in anyway. The Angus Access Panel have confirmed that they do not believe the hall to be accessible to voters with a disability and therefore the Returning Officer is not recommending that polling facilities be relocated to Inchbrayock Hall.

The Electoral Registration Officer had advised in his representation to the Returning Officer that some electors in Carcary had indicated that they were more associated with the area of Farnell and would like to vote at Farnell Hall. As indicated in the draft proposals the location of their existing polling place is governed by the local government ward boundary between Ward 2 and Ward 8 and local government boundaries are not being considered as part of this review. The Returning Officer has considered the option for voters in Carcary to vote at Dun and believes that this would not satisfy the actual concerns which were outlined in the Electoral Registration Officer’s representation and is therefore not making recommendations in this respect.

Recommendations to the Council:

The Returning Officer recommends that the Council approve this amendment to the polling scheme.
Current Polling Districts and Places

Proposed Polling Districts and Places
The Appeals Process

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

Who is entitled to make a representation to the Commission?

Section 18D(1) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 sets out who may make representations to the Electoral Commission, namely:

- In England, any parish council which is wholly or partly situated within the constituency, or parish meeting where there is no such council;
- In Wales, any community council which is wholly or partly situated within the constituency;
- Not less than 30 registered electors in the constituency (electors registered anonymously cannot make a representation);
- A person (except the Returning Officer) who made representations to the local authority when the review was being undertaken;
- Any person who is not an elector in a constituency in the authority’s area but who the Commission determines has sufficient interest in the accessibility of disabled persons to polling places in the area or has particular expertise in relation to the access to premises of disabled persons.

The Returning Officer may make observations on any representations made to the Commission.

Format for all representations:

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

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

Representations based on any other premise will not be considered.

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

A representation may also include for consideration specific recommendations for alterations to the polling places.

Decision making process of the Commission

Upon receipt of a representation, the Commission will request all relevant documentation from the Council in relation to the polling review.

The Commission will show the Council any representations received.

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

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

The Commission may seek advice from persons with expertise on accessibility issues when making its decision.
The Commission will set out in writing its conclusions and reasons for its decision. The Commission’s
decision will be issued to the person(s) who made the representation, the Council and the Returning
Officer. The decision and related documents will also be published on the Commission’s website and
the Angus Council website www.angus.gov.uk/elections.

In accordance with Section 18D(4) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, the Commission
may direct the Council to consider alterations to the polling places as the Commission deems
necessary under the review. After two months, if the Council has failed to make the alterations the
Commission is empowered by the Act to make alterations themselves as if the Council had
implemented them.

Please send any representations to:

The Electoral Commission
3 Bunhill Row
London
EC1Y 8YZ

Tel: 020 7271 0500
Fax: 020 7271 0505
For information and requests: Email: info@electoralcommission.org.uk