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; and

(ii) Note that the Electoral Registration Officer will make the necessary amendments to the Electoral Register prior to its publication on 10 March 2014.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Section 18(c) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, as amended places a duty on local authorities to review the UK parliamentary polling districts, polling places and polling stations in their area on a regular basis with an initial review to be carried out between 1 October 2013 and 31 January 2015 and subsequent reviews to be undertaken within a period of 16 months commencing on 1 October every fifth year thereafter.

2.2 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.

2.3 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 respectively.

3. PROPOSALS

3.1 Rationale

The aim of the review is to ensure all electors in Angus have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable and to ensure that so far as is reasonable and practicable the accessibility needs of electors who are disabled have been considered when designating polling places. The last such review was completed in 2011.

3.2 Public Consultation

3.2.1 The public consultation phase of the review commenced on 7 October 2013 and concluded on 15 November 2013. The consultation document was published on the Angus Council website and paper copies were placed in Angus House, Access Offices and public libraries. Representations were welcomed from all interested parties, including any person or body with expertise in access for persons with any type of disability.
3.2.2 In addition, as part of the consultation process the Returning Officer issued the consultation document to a wide range of consultees including Elected Members, MP’s, MSP’s, Community Councils, Local Area Partnerships and local disability groups. Consultees were asked to comment on the existing polling scheme and on the draft proposals which were detailed in the consultation document.

3.2.3 All representations received during the consultation period have been summarised by ward in Appendix 1. These have been duly considered and in some cases have contributed to the final proposals contained in this report.

3.3 Polling Districts

3.3.1 A polling district is defined as the geographical area created by the sub-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.

3.3.2 There have been no significant changes in polling districts electorates in the two years since the last review and none are anticipated in the next five 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 in Angus.

3.3.3 It is considered that the current polling districts in Angus are generally reflective of the needs of voters in the Angus local government area. However, a representation was received from Hillside, Dun & Logie Pert Community Council regarding the polling arrangements in the Hillside area and after due consideration an amendment to the polling district boundary between polling districts AMW and AMU as outlined in Appendix 1 is being proposed.

3.4 Polling Places

3.4.1 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.

3.4.2 In conducting the review, the Returning Officer sought the assistance of the Angus Access Panel who campaign for, and advise on, improved access for persons with different types of disability. They are also responsible for the Rod McFarlane Award which is presented annually to buildings or facilities in Angus which demonstrate the best examples of positive efforts being made to encourage the inclusion of disabled people.

3.4.3 The Panel have previously assisted the Returning Officer with similar reviews and they also undertake polling place visits on polling day to assess the suitability of the venues in use. For the purpose of this review, representatives from the Panel accompanied members of the Election team when visiting existing and proposed venues. They completed accessibility checklists which were subsequently submitted to the Returning Officer for consideration when drafting the final proposals contained in this report.

3.4.4 The overall suitability of venues have been graded by the Returning Officer for the purposes of this review only as A = Very Good; B = Good and C = Unsatisfactory.

3.5 Use of Schools as Polling Places

3.5.1 There are currently 66 polling places in Angus, 16 of which are primary or secondary 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 not ideal, and significant efforts have been made over the past few years to reduce the number of schools in use on polling day.

3.5.2 In 2012, the Returning Officer undertook a major review of the use of schools as polling places in conjunction with the then Director of Education (Report 719/12 refers). As a result of this review, the Returning Officer was able to identify alternative areas in six of the schools which would allow them to remain open on polling day. This has resulted in only seven schools having to close on future polling days.
3.5.3 As a result of this review, a further two venues have been identified as alternatives to schools currently being used and these proposals are outlined in Appendix 1.

3.5.4 The Returning Officer will continue to keep the use of schools as polling places under review and will make further recommendations as and when alternative venues are identified.

3.6 Final Proposals

3.6.1 The Returning Officer's final recommendations for the designation of Polling Districts and Polling Places in Angus are contained in Appendix 1. There are three major elections to be held over the next two years (European, Scottish Referendum on Independence, UK Parliament). The Returning Officer is concerned that any significant changes to the current polling scheme may lead to voter confusion and the possible disenfranchisement of some voters and this has been taken into consideration when drafting these proposals.

3.6.2 The Returning Officer for parliamentary constituencies Dundee East and Dundee West, parts of which fall within the Angus local government area, has been consulted as part of the review process and has indicated that he is happy with the proposals for the area which falls within his remit.

3.6.3 The timing of this review coincides with the annual canvass and the new register will be published on 10 March 2014. Should these recommendations be adopted, the Electoral Registration Officer will make all necessary amendments to the register prior to its publication.

3.6.4 In addition, the Returning Officer will publicise any changes to the location of polling places in the run up to next year's European election to ensure that voters are fully aware of where their polling facilities are located.

3.6.5 The final outcome of this review, along with the original 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.

3.7 Appeals Process

3.7.1 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 a body of them; or
- The local authority has failed to take sufficient account of accessibility for disabled persons of a polling station within a designated polling place.

3.7.2 Representations based on any other premise will not be considered. Full details of the Appeals Process are contained in Appendix 2.

3.8 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 in Section 3.8 of this report.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be a small increase in hire costs for venues resulting from the proposals contained in this report. However, it should be noted that these costs are met by the Scotland Office for all national elections and the Council are only required to meet these costs for local government elections.
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. **ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN AND SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT**

This report contributes to the following local outcome(s) contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2016:

- Individuals are involved in decisions which affect them

9. **CONSULTATION**

The Head of Corporate Improvement & Finance, the Head of Legal & Democratic Services and the Electoral Registration Officer for Angus have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

10. **CONCLUSION**

This report sets out proposals for 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.

**RICHARD STIFF**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**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:

- Representation of the People Act 1983
- Schedule A1 of the Representation of the People Act 1983
- Electoral Commission Guidance – Reviews of polling districts, polling places and polling stations

L&DS/SCH/SDC

**List of Appendices:**

- **Appendix 1** Angus Council Polling Scheme, Returning Officer's comments and proposed amendments:
  - Map A
  - Map B
  - Map C

- **Appendix 2** Appeals Process
## Ward 1 – Kirriemuir & Dean

### 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 1/12/12</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting at Polling Place as at 5/5/12</th>
<th>% of Registered Electorate voting at polling place</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting by post as at 5/5/12</th>
<th>Disabled Access</th>
<th>Accessibility Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASA</td>
<td>Glenisla Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASB</td>
<td>Cortachy Primary School</td>
<td>Dining/Games Hall</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASC</td>
<td>Kilry Village Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASE</td>
<td>Kingoldrum Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASF</td>
<td>Airlie Village Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASG</td>
<td>Northmuir Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1266</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASH</td>
<td>Westmuir Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASI</td>
<td>Kirriemuir Town Hall</td>
<td>Main Hall</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4040</td>
<td>1119</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>517</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASJ</td>
<td>Eassie Community Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASK</td>
<td>Glamis Primary School</td>
<td>Pre school area</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASL</td>
<td>Wharncliffe Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASM</td>
<td>Old School, Oathlaw</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASN</td>
<td>Duncan Hall, Kinnettles</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASO</td>
<td>Inverarity Church Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes

1. Cortachy Primary school is closed to pupils on polling day.
2. Glenisla Hall and Westmuir Hall were revisited in September 2013 by members of the Election team and representatives from the Angus Access Panel. New accessibility checklists were completed for both venues to take account of improvements which have been made to the facilities.
3. Kingoldrum Hall was revisited in September 2013 by members of the Election team and representatives from the Angus Access Panel and the accessibility checklist updated. It is noted that whilst Kingoldrum Hall does not fully meet accessibility requirements there are no other suitable premises in the area. Polling station staff will ensure that all possible efforts are made to assist any elector with a disability visiting this polling place on polling day.
4. The pre-school area of Glamis Primary School will be used with effect from the next statutory election which will allow the school to remain open to pupils on polling day (Report 719/12 refers).
Representations Received

There were no representations received.

Draft Proposals

There were no proposed amendments to the current polling arrangements.

Final Proposals

To make no amendments to the current polling arrangements.

Returning Officer’s Comments

The current polling arrangements are considered satisfactory.

Recommendations

The Returning Officer recommends that no changes are made to the current polling arrangements.
## Ward 2 – Brechin & Edzell

### 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 1/12/12</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting at Polling Place as at 5/5/12</th>
<th>% of Registered Electorate voting at polling place</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting by post as at 5/5/12</th>
<th>Disabled Access</th>
<th>Accessibility Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMD</td>
<td>The Retreat, Glenesk</td>
<td>Community Wing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AME</td>
<td>Lethnot Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMF</td>
<td>Inglis Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Lesser Hall</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>785</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMG</td>
<td>Memus Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMH</td>
<td>Menmuir Village Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMI</td>
<td>Tannadice Church Extension</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMJ</td>
<td>Maisondieu Primary School</td>
<td>Allocated classrooms</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2731</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMA</td>
<td>Stracathro Village Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMB</td>
<td>Aberlemno Village Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMK</td>
<td>Damacre Centre Hall</td>
<td>Hall</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1536</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMC</td>
<td>Farnell Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AML</td>
<td>Andover Primary School</td>
<td>Pre school area</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1809</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes

1. Lethnot Hall was revisited in September 2013 by members of the Election team and representatives from the Angus Access Panel and a new accessibility checklist completed.
2. Maisondieu Primary School is closed to pupils on polling day.
3. The pre-school area of Andover Primary School is to be used with effect from the next scheduled statutory election which will allow the school to remain open to pupils on polling day (Report 719/12 refers).
Representations Received

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

The Honorary Secretary from the Mechanics Institute Trust requested that the Mechanics Institute, Brechin be considered for use as a polling place.

Draft Proposals

There were no proposed amendments to the current polling arrangements.

Final Proposals

To relocate the polling place for polling district AMJ from Maisondieu Primary School to the Mechanics Institute – Accessibility Rating B. (Map A refers)

Returning Officer’s Comments

The Mechanics Institute is located at the junction of St David Street and Church Street and sits just outwith the boundary of polling district AMJ. There is disabled parking located to the rear of the building where a separate disabled access has been created. There is a lift within the building to the upper floor and a disabled toilet is also available on the ground floor. The Angus Access Panel confirmed that they consider the venue to be fully accessible to those persons who have any type of disability and suitable for use as a polling place.

There are 4 areas within the Mechanics Institute which were considered by the Returning Officer; the William Low Hall and the Jenner Room on the ground floor and the Main Hall and the Guildry Room on the upper floor. However, it is considered that the two rooms on the ground floor would be sufficient to house the maximum number of polling stations required with up to 3 polling stations located in the William Low Hall and up to 2 polling stations located in the Jenner Room. Additional polling stations could be located upstairs, if required.

There is a bus-stop directly in front of the Mechanics Institute which is already centrally located. This bus stop is used by local bus services 21, 21A, 30 and 141. There is limited on-street parking available in the near vicinity however public car parks are located nearby in Church Street and Maisondieu Lane (this has a stepped access to St David Street).

Although not located within the polling district, the Mechanics Institute is reasonably close to the current polling facilities and is considered to be as accessible to voters as Maisondieu Primary School. Relocation to this venue would mean that Maisondieu Primary School would no longer require to be closed on polling day which meets the Council’s ongoing commitment to discontinue using schools as polling places wherever possible. No other suitable venues have been identified in the polling district itself however; the Returning Officer will keep this under review and make further recommendations if another suitable venue is found.
The Trust has indicated that the Mechanics Institute would be available for use for unscheduled elections.

**Recommendations**

The Returning Officer recommends that the Council approve this amendment to the polling scheme.
## 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>
<th>No of Electors as at 1/12/12</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting at Polling Place as at 5/5/12</th>
<th>% of Registered Electorate voting at polling place</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting by post as at 5/5/12</th>
<th>Disabled Access</th>
<th>Accessibility Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMN</td>
<td>Reid Hall</td>
<td>Main Hall</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4544</td>
<td>1307</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMO</td>
<td>Lunanhead Village Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMM/AMQ</td>
<td>British Legion</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1731</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMP</td>
<td>Lochside Leisure Centre</td>
<td>Drama Studio</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3100</td>
<td>925</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMR</td>
<td>Guide Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1775</td>
<td>476</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes

1. The British Legion was revisited in September 2013 by members of the Election team and representatives from the Angus Access Panel. A new accessibility checklist was completed to take account of improvements which have been made to this venue.
Representations Received

The Forfar Area Partnership indicated that they consider the current polling arrangements satisfactory and were pleased to note that there were no proposed changes to the polling arrangements in the ward.

Draft Proposals

There were no proposed amendments to the current polling arrangements.

Final Proposals

To make no amendments to the current polling arrangements.

Returning Officer’s Comments

The current polling arrangements are considered satisfactory.

Recommendations

The Returning Officer recommends that no changes are made to the current polling arrangements.
### Ward 4 – Monifieth & Sidlaw

#### 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 1/12/12</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting at Polling Place as at 5/5/12</th>
<th>% of Registered Electorate Voting at polling place</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting by post as at 5/5/12</th>
<th>Disabled Access</th>
<th>Accessibility Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WSA</td>
<td>Muirhead &amp; Birkhill Millennium Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1830</td>
<td>607</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSB</td>
<td>Fowlis Easter Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1039</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSC</td>
<td>Strathmartine Primary School</td>
<td>Dining/Games Hall</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>WSD</td>
<td>Auchterhouse Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESA</td>
<td>Tealing Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESB</td>
<td>Murroes Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESC</td>
<td>Wellbank Hall</td>
<td>Main Hall</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1583</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>312</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>3435</td>
<td>1026</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>563</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESE</td>
<td>Grange Primary School</td>
<td>Allocated Classrooms</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3295</td>
<td>966</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>624</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes**

1. Strathmartine Primary School and Grange Primary School are closed to pupils on polling day.

**Representations Received**

Cllr Hands requested clarification on the continued use of Grange Primary School.

**Draft Proposals**

There were no proposed amendments to the current polling arrangements.
Final Proposals

To make no amendments to the current polling arrangements.

Returning Officer’s Comments

The Returning Officer looked at two alternative venues for Grange Primary School which closes on polling day; the Community Wing of Monifieth High School and the Monifieth Community Cabin.

Monifieth High School is situated off Panmurefield Road in Monifieth and the Community Wing is to the left of the main school building. There is sufficient parking available in front of the Community Wing with dedicated disabled parking spaces. The venue is large enough to accommodate up to six polling stations and would be readily available for unscheduled elections. The Angus Access Panel confirmed that they consider the venue to be fully accessible to those persons who have any type of disability and suitable for use as a polling place. However, there is currently no public transport to this venue, with the nearest bus stop located on Ferry Road. The school is located at the top of Panmurefield Road and the incline of this may be difficult for some elderly or disabled voters to negotiate. Relocation to this venue would meet the Council’s on-going commitment to discontinue using schools as polling places wherever possible, however, this is not considered to be in the best interests of the voters at this time. The Returning Officer will continue to monitor the provision of public transport to this venue and will make further recommendations if this position changes.

Monifieth Community Cabin is situated in Union Street, just off the main high street in Monifieth. There is a car park which is used by staff at Invertay during office hours located next to the venue and there is some on-street parking available on the opposite side of the street from the venue. It was noted that there is no disabled access from the car park directly to the venue and electors would be required to exit via the main entrance of the car park to enter the venue via Union Street, if parking was made available in the car park for polling place use. The nearest bus stop is located on the high street and is reasonably close the venue. However, the venue which would be readily available for unscheduled elections is only considered large enough to accommodate up to 4 polling stations comfortably which does meet the current requirement for five polling stations. The venue is also located outwith the polling district and close to the polling place at Gerard Hall which is likely to cause confusion and is therefore not considered suitable for relocation.

After due consideration, the Returning Officer believes that the current polling arrangements for polling district ESE are the most suitable for electors and is therefore proposing no changes to the current arrangements.

Recommendations

The Returning Officer recommends that no changes are made to the current polling arrangements.
## Ward 5 – Carnoustie & 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>
<th>No of Electors as at 1/12/12</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting at Polling Place as at 5/5/12</th>
<th>% of Registered Electorate voting at polling place</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting by post as at 5/5/12</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>905</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESG</td>
<td>Phillip Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2290</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>381</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>2581</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>349</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>2906</td>
<td>1132</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESK</td>
<td>Comrie Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1619</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes

1. Burnside Primary School which has previously been closed on polling day will remain open to pupils on polling day with effect from the next statutory election (Report 719/12 refers).
2. St Brides Hall was revisited in September 2013 by members of the Election team and representatives from the Angus Access Panel due to some concerns raised by the Panel at the 2012 election regarding the accessibility of this venue. It was noted that a wooden ramp and a portable and adjustable 2 tracked ramp are available to place at the entrance making the venue more accessible for voters with a disability.
Representations Received

There were no representations received.

Draft Proposals

There were no proposed amendments to the current polling arrangements.

Final Proposals

To make no amendments to the current polling arrangements.

Returning Officer’s Comments

The current polling arrangements are considered satisfactory.

Recommendations

The Returning Officer recommends that no changes are made to the current polling arrangements.
### Ward 6 – Arbroath West & Letham

#### 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 1/12/12</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting at Polling Place as at 5/5/12</th>
<th>% of Registered Electorate voting at polling place</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting by post as at 5/5/12</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>182</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASP</td>
<td>Carmyllie Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>96</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>1673</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>265</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>1683</td>
<td>547</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>271</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>238</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>58</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>173</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASU</td>
<td>Arbroath Sports Centre</td>
<td>Games Hall</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3227</td>
<td>808</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>486</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>2348</td>
<td>538</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>275</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>1603</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Notes

1. Muirfield Primary School which has previously been closed on polling day will remain open to pupils on polling day with effect from the next statutory election (Report 719/12 refers).
2. St Brides Hall - please refer to previous comments.
3. Inverbrothock Primary School is closed to pupils on polling day.
Representations Received

The Chair of Letham Village Hall noted his agreement that the hall was the most appropriate polling place for the area.

Draft Proposals

There were no proposed amendments to the current polling arrangements.

Final Proposals

To make no amendments to the current polling arrangements.

Returning Officer’s Comments

The current polling arrangements are considered satisfactory.

Recommendations

The Returning Officer recommends that no changes are made to the current polling arrangements.
## 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 1/12/12</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting at Polling Place as at 5/5/12</th>
<th>% of Registered Electorate voting at polling place</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting by post as at 5/5/12</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>664</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASZ</td>
<td>Friockheim Primary School</td>
<td>Community Lounge</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1339</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATA</td>
<td>Warddykes Primary School</td>
<td>Dining Hall</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2242</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>232</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>2120</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>269</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>262</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>36</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>604</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>99</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>2405</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATF</td>
<td>Hayshead Primary School</td>
<td>Community Wing</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1937</td>
<td>488</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes

1. Friockheim Primary School and Arbroath Academy remain open to pupils on polling day.
2. The dining area of Warddykes Primary School is to be used with effect from the next scheduled statutory election which will allow the school to remain open to pupils on polling day (Report 719/12 refers). A temporary ramp will be installed at the entrance to assist voters with a disability to enter the building.
3. The Community Wing of Hayshead Primary School is to be used with effect from the next scheduled statutory election which will allow the school to remain open to pupils on polling day (Report 719/12 refers). Electors will in future access the polling place via the entrance on Horologe Hill only.
Representations Received

There were no representations received.

Draft Proposals

There were no proposed amendments to the current polling arrangements.

Final Proposals

To make no amendments to the current polling arrangements.

Returning Officer’s Comments

The current polling arrangements are considered satisfactory.

Recommendations

The Returning Officer recommends that no changes are made to the current polling arrangements.
# Ward 8 – Montrose & 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>
<th>No of Electors as at 1/12/12</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting at Polling Place as at 5/5/12</th>
<th>% of Registered Electorate voting at polling place</th>
<th>Total Electorate Voting by post as at 5/5/12</th>
<th>Disabled Access</th>
<th>Accessibility Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMS</td>
<td>Montrose Academy</td>
<td>School Hall</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4000</td>
<td>874</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>459</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>1416</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>190</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>3524</td>
<td>884</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>427</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMV</td>
<td>Montrose Baptist Church</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1574</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMW</td>
<td>Hillside Hall</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>947</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>118</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>395</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes

1. Montrose Baptist Church was revisited in September 2013 by members of the Election team and representatives from the Angus Access Panel and an accessibility checklist was completed to take account of improvements which have been made to the facilities. It was noted that a fully accessible extension has been erected to the rear of the church.
2. Ferryden Primary School and Lochside Primary School are closed to pupils on polling day.
3. Craigo Community Hall was revisited in September 2013 by members of the Election team and representatives from the Angus Access Panel and a new accessibility checklist completed.
Representations Received

The Hillside Community Council noted their support for the current arrangements but commented on the polling arrangements for electors living outside Hillside Village.

The Montrose Together Partnership noted that in principal they were in favour of the proposed polling arrangements. However, they did not feel that Montrose Sports Centre was suitable for elderly or disabled voters unless they have access to a car.

Draft Proposals

To relocate the polling place for polling district AMS from Montrose Academy to Montrose Sports Centre

Final Proposals

To relocate the polling place for polling district AMS from Montrose Academy to Montrose Sports Centre – Accessibility Rating A (Map B refers)

To redraw the polling district boundary between polling district AMW and AMU. (Map C refers)

Returning Officer’s Comments

Montrose Sports Centre

Montrose Sports Centre was previously used as the polling place for polling district AMS and polling was relocated to Montrose Academy in 2010 (Report 893/10 refers) to allow for the building of the new swimming pool. It was noted at the time that polling would revert back to this venue once all construction works were completed and the sports centre had re-opened to members of the public. This move is supported by colleagues in the People Directorate as polling day can clash with exams in May and the hall may be required for exam purposes and this was one of the main reasons for the original relocation of the polling place to the old sports centre.

The sports centre is located on Marine Avenue close to the current polling facilities in Montrose Academy. It has a large public car park with allocated disabled parking, is fully accessible to persons with any type of disability and is proud to have recently been awarded the Rod McFarlane Award by the Angus Access Panel. This venue has been allocated an “A” accessibility rating by the Returning Officer.

Bus services 48 and 52 both stop at the Links Health Centre opposite the Sports Centre. Montrose Together Partnership raised concerns that Montrose Sports Centre may not be accessible to elderly or disabled voters unless they have access to car. The current bus service timetable indicates that Service 48 runs twice hourly from 9.00am to 6.00pm and Service 52 runs at regular intervals between 9.00am and 5.00pm. Although electors would be required to walk from
the Health Centre to the Sports Centre this seems to be more accessible than Montrose Academy where there are very limited school services. Outwith the school bus service the nearest bus stops to Montrose Academy are located at India Street or at Links Health Centre.

The sports centre is large enough to accommodate the maximum 6 polling stations required in the games hall. However, the hall has a special cushioned surface which would need to be protected if it was to be used to accommodate the polling stations and this would result in on-going additional costs to the Returning Officer. In an effort to secure best value, it has been agreed that polling should take place in the GP Room and the 2 squash courts, each of which can accommodate 2 polling stations. This area can be easily accessed via a fire exit to the left of the main entrance which will be used as the entrance to the polling place. This will be clearly signposted on the day of the election to direct voters away from the main entrance to avoid disruption to any members of the public only visiting the centre to use the facilities on polling day.

It has also been agreed that the car parking spaces directly in front of the fire exit can be marked off as disabled parking for the polling place as the allocated disabled spaces are located nearer to the main entrance and therefore not convenient for those only visiting the centre to vote.

The sports centre would be available for use for any unscheduled elections.

The Returning Officer fully supports the proposal to relocate the polling place for polling district AMS from Montrose Academy to Montrose Sports Centre.

**AMW/AMU Polling District boundary**

A representation was received from Hillside, Dun & Logie Pert Community Council supporting the polling arrangements in the area. However, they noted that some voters who live outside Hillside Village vote in Montrose and not at Hillside Hall. The Returning Officer reviewed the polling district boundary between polling districts AMW and AMU and concluded that for the electors living in several properties at the far end of Kinnaber Road who were located in polling district AMU and currently voting at Lochside Primary School, Hillside Hall would be more convenient and accessible for them. It is therefore proposed that the north easterly boundary of polling district AMW is amended to run along the full length of Kinnaber Road, joining the A92 and ending at North Water Bridge (Angus Council boundary with Aberdeenshire Council) as outlined in Map C.

The Returning Officer fully supports this amendment to the polling district boundary and will undertake to write to those electors affected by this change should this proposal be approved.

**Recommendations**

The Returning Officer recommends that the Council approve these amendments to the polling scheme.
- Polling Place Change -
Maisondieu Primary to Mechanics Institute
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?

- In England, any parish council which is wholly or partly situated within each constituency, or parish meeting where there is no such council;
- In Wales, any community council which is wholly or partly situated within each constituency;
- Thirty or more registered electors in each constituency (although 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 thinks 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 or facilities of disabled persons.

In addition, 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 made in writing either by post, e-mail or fax. The representation must be as specific as possible and should clearly state the manner in which it is alleged that the Council has failed to properly conduct the review. There are only two grounds on which a representation may be made. These are:

(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 station(s) 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 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 proposals for changing the place that has been designated as the polling place.

Decision making process of the Commission

Upon receipt of a representation, the Commission will request all relevant documentation from the Council and will show the Council the representation.

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 likely 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/review2013/.

The Commission may direct the Council to consider any alterations to the polling places that it deems necessary under the review. After two months, if the Council has failed to make the alterations the Commission can itself make the alterations as if the Council had implemented them.

Please send any representations to:

Legal Counsel
The Electoral Commission
3 Bunhill Row
London
EC1Y 8YZ

Tel: 020 7271 0500
Fax: 020 7271 0505
Email: appeals@electoralcommission.org.uk