

While there has always been a requirement on the relevant local authority to keep local government polling districts and polling places used at parliamentary Registration and Administrative Act 2003 introduced a change to the timing of compulsory reviews of Parliamentary polling stations and polling places. The next compulsory review must now be started and completed between 1 October 2023 and 31 January 2025 (inclusive). In practice in Argyll and Bute, the fixing of polling district boundaries and polling places is delegated to the Chief Executive who also acts as the Returning Officer. A review has now been undertaken based on a range of data and several changes are proposed. These proposals now need to be the subject of public consultation.

The polling districts and polling places were last reviewed in Argyll and Bute in 2008. The polling district boundaries and polling places are the same for elections whether UK Parliamentary, Scottish Parliamentary or local government elections.

2. Definition of terms

Polling district: the area created by the division of a constituency or ward into smaller parts, within or for which a polling place can be designated which is convenient to electors.

Polling place: the building or area in which polling stations are situated. Polling places are normally within the polling district unless it is not possible to find a suitable place within the area or it is more convenient for the majority of voters. Certain types of buildings are not normally designated as polling places, for example, places of worship and licensed premises, and schools are only used where there is no reasonable alternative in order to avoid disruption to pupils' education.

Polling station: the room or area within the polling place where voting takes place. The number of polling stations in a polling place depends on the number and distribution of electors in the polling district.

3. What is not being reviewed

- the boundaries or name of any parliamentary constituency
- the boundaries or name of the Council or electoral wards within Argyll and Bute
- any other aspects of the electoral process.

4. Aim of the Review

- (a) To seek to ensure that all the electors in the constituency have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances

- (b) To seek to ensure that so far as is reasonable and practicable, the polling g aTJET@c

6. Timetable

Any elector or interested party may make representations about the proposed Polling District Boundaries and/or the Polling Places. If you wish to offer any comments or representations please submit them in writing by Monday 30th October 2023 by email to elections@argyll-bute.gov.uk. about k.153519 Td(30 @/2 0 0 72)TJETC